



Board of Directors Holds Semi-Annual Meeting

On August 22, the Board of Directors of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association came to Alexandria for a Semi-Annual Meeting. Because the Annual Meeting of the Board takes place at the Conference of Grand Masters of North America, meeting midyear at the Memorial allows the Board members a regular opportunity to visit the Memorial personally. Meeting at the Memorial enriches the Board's knowledge of the work being performed daily to educate and inspire the public through greater understanding of our foremost Freemason, Brother George Washington.

During their meeting, the Board received comprehensive reports on the progress of many activities and projects at the Memorial, including building repairs and restoration work, facilities utilization, exhibitions, events, communications and fundraising endeavors. They also reviewed and discussed the Memorial Association's strategic plan, designed to secure increased support for the Memorial in the coming years. In addition, policy governance procedures were introduced to the new Board members and reviewed by current members. The Board reaffirmed its commitment to the \$1 Per Member Per Year campaign—see page 3 for the latest update on this important initiative.



The Memorial Association's current Board of Directors are pictured here in Grand Masonic Hall.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

An Educational Legacy

by Donald G. Hicks, Jr.



Earlier this Fall, Nancy and I had the opportunity to spend some time in Alexandria to attend

two notable events that were happening simultaneously.

The first was the Quarry Project, a conference dealing with topics such as Masonic research methods and the best practices for use in Masonic libraries and museums. The event was organized as a joint project of the Masonic Society, the Masonic Library and Museum Association and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

I'm proud to say that this conference, the first of its kind, was held at the Memorial. Nancy and I both enjoyed hearing many of the presentations. Not only did the Memorial host the event, but our Memorial's staff actively contributed to it: our Director of Collections, Mark Tabbert, chaired a session on museum collections and later delivered a presentation about the library and museum work at the Memorial. Our Director of Communications, Shawn Eyer, served as session chair on a seminar on the avoidance of errors in research, and offered a talk on Masonic historiography. Finally,

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John R. “Bo” Cline, our Board of Directors member from the Grand Lodge of Alaska, chaired the conference’s steering committee as President of the Masonic Society. So we didn’t just host the event physically. We were an integral part of the program.

As the Quarry Project was underway, another magnificent event took place nearby at Mount Vernon: the grand opening of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington. Nancy and I attended the dedication ceremony for this important new center for scholarship on Washington and his impact. And the Memorial Association’s recent contribution to that library—Washington’s personal copy of Dobson’s 18-volume encyclopaedia from 1798—is something of which all Freemasons can be proud.

Both of these events were very well attended by their respective patrons, and clearly demonstrate the importance of our work at the Memorial.

During his lifetime, Brother Washington was a great champion of education, acting as a significant patron of the Alexandria Academy. In these two recent events, we saw his legacy of learning richly illustrated. Our world will always benefit from Masonic Light and research that helps us understand the Craft. And humanity will always draw inspiration from studying the life and virtues of George Washington.

OUR MISSION
To inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country.

The Association Welcomes New Board Members

At our Annual Meeting in Atlanta earlier this year, six members were elected to the Association’s Board of Directors. Three of them are new members. These eminent Brethren will serve until February 22, 2016.



Robert P. Conley, re-elected
*Past Grand Master
Michigan*



John V. Egan
*Past Grand Master
Colorado*



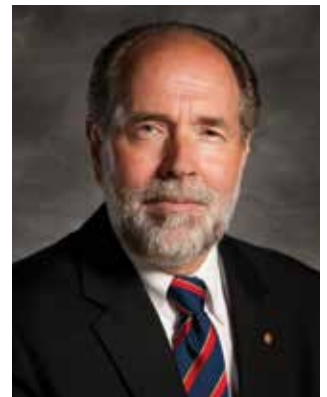
Andrew U. Hammer, re-elected
*Alexandria-Washington Lodge
No. 22, Alexandria, Virginia*



Stephen J. Ponzillo
*Past Grand Master
Maryland*



Gail S. Turner
*Past Grand Master
Missouri*



Claire V. Tusch
*Past Grand Master
Maine*

Thank You to 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, USA, for sponsoring this issue of *LIGHT* and for his continuing support of the Memorial.

“This valuable support of our work communicating with our brethren and friends is deeply appreciated,” said George D. Seghers, Executive Director of the Memorial. “The Royal Order of Scotland shares our view of how important the Memorial’s mission is.”

The Royal Order of Scotland is an invitational Masonic Order that preserves and confers two beautiful degrees. Historical records trace the Order’s activity as far back as 1741, and it arrived in the United States in 1878. To learn more about the Royal Order of Scotland, visit their website at <http://www.yorkrite.com/roos/>.



MESSAGE FROM ALEXANDRIA

Religion and Morality, the Pillars of Human Happiness

by George D. Seghers



In his Farewell Address, September 19, 1796, President Washington wrote, *“Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of Patriotism, who should labour to subvert these great Pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of Men and citizens. The mere Politician, equally with the pious man, ought to respect and cherish them. A volume could not trace all their connections with private and public felicity. Let it simply be asked where is the security for property, for reputation, for life, if the sense of religious obligation desert the oaths, which are the instruments of investigation in Courts of Justice?”*

This wise counsel from our first and greatest President is most relevant today. The modern world seems to be marked by chaos, violence and a common disregard for the necessity of religion and morality in a civil society.

As Masons, we are taught and we understand the importance of religion and morality, not only for a stable society, but also for a meaningful life. We are taught to follow the example set by Brother Washington to live an upright, honest, moral, and virtuous life, treating all those we meet with dignity and respect. As Freemasons, we have the opportunity to set an example for our fellow citizens, to help raise the level of civility, morality and integrity in our nation. We believe in the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God. We believe that we are responsible for each other and that all mankind has a claim upon our kind offices. By living lives that strive to follow the example of Washington, we can promote high standards of civility and personal responsibility to our nation.

Washington and our Founding Fathers risked everything to establish a nation that provides the most freedom, security and opportunity that has ever existed. America’s Freemasons have always known this, so at the beginning of the twentieth century they erected the Craft’s remarkable Memorial to George Washington. They intended it to be a Memorial that would stand through the ages to inspire humanity through education to emulate and promote the virtues, character and vision of George Washington, the Man, the Mason and Father of our Country.

The Board of Directors of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association are carrying forward the commitment and vision of their predecessors who conceived, financed and constructed the Memorial. They are reviewing and updating our strategic plan for the perpetual life of the Memorial. They are committed to ensuring the future of the Memorial, both fiscally and physically, so that all future generations will have the opportunity to visit and be inspired by this temple that perpetuates the memory and example of Brother Washington. Our Board of Directors is drawn from across the nation and truly reflects the diverse yet united Masonic Fraternity. They are men of character who have risen to the highest level in their Grand Lodges, and they understand the great responsibility they have for our mission.

Washington distinguished religion from morality in his Farewell Address: *“... let us with caution indulge the supposition, that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that National morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle.”*

Washington’s life was a journey of self-improvement and continues to be an example for all to follow. The George Washington Masonic National Memorial was created to ensure that his example would not disappear. Thank you for your support of the Memorial and our crucial work.

\$1 Per Member Campaign

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is grateful to announce that the Grand Lodges of Maine and Kentucky have voted to adopt a \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution to the Memorial.

Our fraternal thanks are extended to all of the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Maine for unanimously adopting the \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution in May. Special appreciation is due to M.W. Bro. Claire V. Tusch, a Member of the Board of Directors of the Memorial Association, for his work toward this important goal.

Just four months later, the Grand Lodge of Kentucky voted to adopt the \$1 Per Member Annual Contribution as well as a \$5 contribution to be made at the raising of each new Master Mason. Our thanks and appreciation go out to every Freemason within the

Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and we particularly recognize the efforts of M.W. Bro. Todd Eastham, a Member of the Board of Directors, and of Bro. Chris Stout.

The number of Grand Lodges participating in the Memorial’s \$1 Per Member Per Year Campaign is now 26. The participating Grand Jurisdictions are: District of Columbia, North Dakota, Michigan, Alaska, Virginia, Maryland, Washington, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Wisconsin, Utah, Oregon, Wyoming, Alabama, Rhode Island, Indiana, Idaho, Nevada, Delaware, Connecticut, Maine and Kentucky.

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is grateful for these important contributions to our mission. Thank you for your continued support.



A harpist plays beautiful music in Memorial Hall in a scene from last year's celebration of Washington's Birthday at the Memorial.

Celebrate Washington's Birthday at the Memorial in February

Each year, Freemasons, their friends and families gather at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial to honor the life of Brother Washington on the anniversary of his birth. The program for the 2014 celebration is as follows:

Friday, February 21

- *Called Communication Honoring Brother George Washington*, Alexandria-Washington Lodge N^o 22, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 22

- *Wreath Laying at the Tomb of Brother Washington*, Alexandria-Washington Lodge N^o 22 at Mount Vernon, 8:00 a.m.
- *George Washington Symposium*—Memorial Theater, 1:00 p.m.
- *Reception*—Memorial Hall, 6:00 p.m.
- *Concert*—Memorial Theater, 7:00 p.m.
- *Banquet*—Grand Masonic Hall, 7:45 p.m.
- *Presentation of the George Washington Memorial Award*—Grand Masonic Hall, 9:00 p.m.

Tickets for the Saturday evening black-tie events are \$125, and may be purchased on our website, <http://gwmemorial.org>. Limited seating available. For more information, contact Shawn Eyer, Director of Communications, via e-mail at seyer@gwmemorial.org.

The Quarry Project

More than 100 Masonic researchers, writers, librarians and curators gathered at the Memorial for the Quarry Project, a conference held September 27–29. The event was jointly organized by the Masonic Society, The Masonic Library and Museum Association and the Memorial Association.

The Quarry Project had a dual purpose, reflected by its two workshop tracks. The writing and research presentations were designed to serve as a primer for new Masonic researchers and a refresher course for the more experienced. The Masonic museums and libraries track covered procedures to catalog, inventory, display, preserve and photograph a variety of artifacts and collections.

Among the scholars and presenters were: Michael Brumback (Past President of the Memorial Association), Shawn Eyer (the Memorial's Director of Communications), Michael Halleran, Andrew Hammer (a member of the Memorial Association's Board of Directors), Christopher Hodapp, S. Brent Morris, Aimee Newell, Susan Summers, Mark Tabbert (the Memorial's Director of Collections), and Tim Winkle (Curator for Alexandria-Washington Lodge N^o 22).



John "Bo" Cline, Chairman of the Quarry Project's steering committee, President of the Masonic Society, and member of the Memorial's Board of Directors; Donald G. Hicks, Jr., President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association; and Adam Kendall, President of the Masonic Library and Museum Association, and Collections Manager of the Henry W. Coil Library & Museum of Freemasonry.

What If ...?

by Mark A. Tabbert

A game historians sometimes like to play is “What If.” What if George Washington had allowed himself to become king? What if the Confederacy had won the Civil War? What if President Kennedy had not been assassinated? Masonic historians also like to play this game. What if a National Grand Lodge had been established in the 1780s? What if Albert Pike had never met Albert Mackey? And what if the Shrine had never built children’s hospitals? Historians, like detectives, sometimes use hypothetical questions like these to discover greater historical forces, or hidden motives, that make real history or secure convictions.

Can we even ask, “What if the George Washington Masonic National Memorial had never been built?” Before we do, perhaps we need to consider a second question: “What forces, national and local, caused American Freemasons to build it between 1910 and 1932 and before?” After all, in the 1820s, a hundred years prior, New Hampshire Freemasons proposed a monument to be erected over Washington’s tomb at Mount Vernon. Although several Grand Lodges supported the project, the Fraternity soon came under widespread political criticism from the Anti-Masonic Party, and the initiative became unviable in that atmosphere.

For a National Masonic Memorial to be built, the right combi-

nation of Masonic strength, patriotism, leadership and wealth was a necessity. These qualities came together between 1870 and 1910. The Civil War industrialized America on a vast scale, bringing great economic prosperity and supporting a large urban middle class. The transcontinental railroad was completed in 1869, allowing resources to move more freely and efficiently. Throughout this growth, Freemasonry became stronger in numbers. Masonic membership doubled from 1870 to nearly 1 million by 1900 and doubled again to over 2.4 million by 1910, and to 3.2 million in 1920.

A New Era of Industry & Tourism

America’s great industrial projects, communication networks and transportation systems heralded a new era of travel and tourism. Patriotism was widespread, and a national enthusiasm was pervasive. America’s upper and middle classes improved their communities by building parks, resorts, museums and other attractions. The Daughters of the American Revolution and other hereditary orders preserved historic sites and erected patriotic monuments. America’s Gilded Age was characterized by middle class families happily riding trains and trolleys to national conventions, commemorations, and sightseeing trips. During this



This image from the archives of the Library of Congress shows the immense crowd gathered for the 1923 cornerstone ceremony at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. In the nine decades since, the Memorial has inspired generations of Americans. But what if it had never been built?

period, Freemasons began to erect larger and more ornate temples than ever before. Kentucky established the first Masonic home for orphans and the elderly in 1866, and by 1893, eleven more Grand Lodges had established similar facilities.

All these trends had their effects on Alexandria, Virginia. The city had been established in the 1740s as a seaport. In 1783, a group of Freemasons began meeting in Alexandria under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. This Lodge was re-chartered in 1788 by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, with Alexandria's most eminent citizen, President George Washington, as its Charter Master. Brother Washington passed to the Celestial Lodge in 1799. Soon after, the Lodge opened one of America's first public museums, where, for over a century, they preserved many of his important relics.

Alexandria's story is one of challenges overcome. Occupied during the American Civil War and then supplanted by larger east coast port cities, the town languished for over 30 years. But Alexandria's fortunes improved in 1892, with the opening of a railroad line connecting the District of Columbia to Mount Vernon. The 1899 Masonic Commemoration of Washington's death and funeral brought hundreds of Freemasons from around the country to Alexandria-Washington No. 22's temple and museum. Gilded Age sightseers toured Washington, D.C., made the pilgrimage to Washington's home at Mount Vernon, and enjoyed stopping at historic Alexandria and its Masonic museum along the way.

The Memorial's Visionaries

One might say that the local and national forces that combined to make the Memorial possible were nearly personified by two distinguished brethren: Charles Callahan (1858–1944) and Thomas Shryock (1851–1918).

Bro. Callahan served as Alexandria's Commissioner of Revenue for more than 40 years. He had a deep and abiding respect for George Washington, the Charter Master of his Lodge. He understood the need to not simply preserve the Lodge's relics, but to use them for promoting Washington's virtues to all of humanity. In 1910, as Worshipful Master and with the full support of the Grand Master of Virginia, he organized the first meeting of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association.

M.W. Bro. Thomas Shryock [*profiled in the previous two issues of LIGHT—Ed.*] attended and was elected President of the new Association. Grand Master of Masons in Maryland for over 30 years, Shryock was a highly successful man—in business, politics and community affairs—and he understood the resources that would have to be brought to bear in order to construct a truly spectacular memorial to George Washington.

Although Bro. Shryock died while Grand Master and Association President in 1918, certainly the eight years that these two men worked together set the Association's cornerstone upon a firm

foundation. Indeed, the Association that they created is essentially the same 100 years later. Among their most important early accomplishments were the Association's constitution, bylaws, name and seal. Together, they persuaded individual Masons, local Lodges and the Grand Lodges of the United States to support their dream of a great and inspiring Memorial within a garden, high on a hill.

Bro. Shryock underwrote Callahan's magnificent 1913 book, *George Washington: The Man and the Mason*. This beautiful volume served as the major fundraising tool in the first fragile years. Shryock also established the Ways and Means Committee, which led the Association's effective fundraising endeavor. In 1916, he approved purchasing Shuter's Hill upon which to build the Memorial. Starting in 1910 with only an idea, when he died the Association had over \$119,000 in cash and pledges—nearly \$2 million in 2013 dollars.

Shryock and Callahan harnessed national and local forces to bring the Memorial to fruition. But by the 1932 dedication of the Memorial, those forces were already fragmenting. The onset of the Great Depression, World War II, the creation of new Masonic philanthropies in the 1950s, the 1960s social upheaval, and the membership challenges faced by the Fraternity in the last decades of the twentieth century suggest that the Memorial could have only been built between 1910 and 1932.

The Big Question

So, what if Callahan and Shryock had failed and the Memorial had never been built? Certainly Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22 would have built a new temple in the 1920s. Charles Callahan would have at least seen to that. It is also possible, as happened to so many other 1920s Masonic temples, the Lodge may have later sold that building and would now be meeting in another community or within a local Scottish Rite or Shrine building. Its priceless Washington relics may be safe, but seen by only a few, and unappreciated by the Craft or the American people.

And if Shryock had not led the association, then it is certain he would have found many other worthy endeavors. Noble projects always find energetic, visionary and patriotic leaders. These are the same Freemasons who also built so many great Masonic temples, homes and orphanages, Scottish Rite cathedrals and Shrine hospitals between 1910 and 1932.

But even if the Memorial had never been built, and history had passed Callahan, Shryock and the Craft by, it would not excuse us, as freemen, as Americans and as Freemasons from honoring, supporting and perpetuating the virtues of our illustrious Brother, George Washington. What if we were to stop doing so? Then we would, indeed, no longer be freemen, Americans or Freemasons.

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

Family of Freemasonry Exhibit Expands with New Material

On August 26, two displays opened within *The Family of Freemasonry* exhibition on the third floor of the Memorial. This exhibit is used to educate our visitors about the diverse nature of the American Masonic experience as it developed in the centuries after Washington's life and up to today, as expressed through the various appendant and concordant bodies, adoptive orders and youth orders.

This exhibit originally opened in 2012 with displays on the Grotto, the Tall Cedars of Lebanon and the Order of the Eastern Star. The recent expansions add the York Rite and the Masonic Youth Orders. Several Grand Masters, as well as leaders of Masonic appendant and affiliated bodies, participated in the ribbon cutting ceremonies.

The York Rite section includes five display cases and three mannequins. The first case introduces the history of the Rite and displays key items from the formation of the General Grand Chapter of the Royal Arch, the General Grand Cryptic Council and the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. Two cases are divided between Royal Arch and Cryptic Masonry and the many images and items include a Past Illustrious Grand Master's jewel and an early Royal Arch apron. Two cases devoted to the Knights Templar contain items related to the chivalric Orders and ceremonies. A High Priest ceremonial costume, an Illustrious Master's purple blazer and a Virginia Past Eminent Commander's uniform are displayed on the mannequins. A colorful window and archway with York Rite emblems compliment the display.

The three Masonic Youth Orders display also contains five cases and three mannequins. An introductory case includes one of Frank Land's briefcases, a book by Ethel Mick and a gavel used by Mark Sexson. The two cases containing items relating to Job's Daughters and Rainbow for Girls include historic photos, a covered Rainbow "pot of gold" and a 1960s Bethel Senior Princess crown. The two DeMolay cases include a Walt Disney cartoon and a 1920 DeMolay Dance card. A second case includes a Crown of Youth and, on loan from the Grand Lodge of California, Roy Rogers' (1911-1998) Honorary Legion of Honor with cordon. The three mannequins present the ritual dress and regalia of a DeMolay Master Councilor, a Job's Daughters' Honored Queen and an Order of the Rainbow Worthy Advisor.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, working through the Pennsylvania Masonic Youth Foundation (PMYF), underwrote the fabrication of the Youth Order display. The Memorial Association is especially grateful for the support and guidance of R.W. Grand Master Jay Smith of Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and W. Bro. Thomas LaBagh, Executive Director, PMYF. The exhibition was curated by Director of Collections Mark A. Tabbert.



Shown after cutting the ribbon on the new exhibit for Masonic Youth Orders are Christopher M. LaBaw, International Congress Secretary of DeMolay International; Susan Rennagel, Supreme Charity, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls; and R.W. Bro. Jay W. Smith, Grand Master of Pennsylvania.



Pictured just after the ribbon cutting for the York Rite displays are David D. Goodwin, Grand Master, Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, U.S.A.; Lawrence O. Weaver, General Grand Master, General Grand Council Cryptic Masons International; Donald G. Hicks, Jr., President of The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association; and Edmund D. Harrison, General Grand High Priest, General Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons international.

Contributors

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 by Cayce Lodge N° 384
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 Dean Rust VA
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 Peter E. & Barbara G. Spalding CA
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 Tipton Lodge N° 226 TN
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 Jerry S. Whitlock VA

Tree Dedications

Ed & Judy Bousquet OR
 Ann E. Clark * NJ
 by Chester H. Clark
 Kenneth D. "Ken" Crawford * MO
 by George D. & Louise G. Seghers

Grand Lodge of Oregon OR
 St. Jóhannesarstúkan Iceland
 Hamar Lodge N° 6
 Cecil W. Stoughton * FL
 by James A. Stoughton
 V. L. George Washington Gabon
 N° 21

Patrons

Millennium Grand Master Builder

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 W. David Hanisch CA

Millennium Master Builder

W. Lee Long NC

Millennium Builder

H. Malvern Marks TX
 Stanley A. Raley CA
 Loren E. Schrock OR

Millennium Master Architect

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*In Memory of **In Honor of



This limited-edition jewel is reserved exclusively for the Charter Members of the George Washington Memorial Society.

George Washington Memorial Society Membership

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

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

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

Applications for both types of membership are available on the Memorial's website, gwmemorial.org. For more information about the George Washington Memorial Society, contact the Memorial's Executive Director George D. Seghers at 703.683.2007 or gseghers@gwmemorial.org.

Join the GWMNM Today!

Yes! Count on me to support our Memorial. Enclosed is my 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**
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Mail to GWMNM Membership, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, VA 22301-2751 or fax to 703.519.9270



Archaeology: A Window to the Past

On a cool but sunny day this Fall, I had an opportunity to attend an event on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Or rather, in the grounds and just a bit under the grounds, because the event was Archaeology Day at Shuter's Hill, conducted by Alexandria's city archaeologists and George Washington University field school students.

Many are unaware of the archaeological work taking place at the Memorial. Since 1995, our grounds have been investigated by the Alexandria Archaeological Commission. The city has its own archaeological team and an archaeology museum near the Potomac. Given the region's rich history, there is plenty to study. Shuter's Hill, the location of our Memorial, is no exception. In fact, it's currently the site of the field and laboratory course for The George Washington University. Students come here to obtain a hands-on introduction to the discipline, including fieldwork, laboratory analysis and public interpretation.

Historians know that, before our Memorial was built in the 1920s, Shuter's Hill was the site of a plantation in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. After that, during the Civil War, it was the location of Fort Ellsworth. The area that archaeologists have been examining is defined by the stone foundation of a house that was part of the old plantation. Through careful excavation and research, archaeologists have learned that it was a laundry house.

At Archaeology Day, the city's archaeologist and members of the GWU team educated members of the public about the work being done on the Memorial grounds. Attending this presentation took me back to my own days as an archaeological field tech, searching for traces of prehistoric habitation on land that was under consideration for the federal highway system. A field archaeologist uses many tools: a map for orientation, a surveyor's transit to make a

three-dimensional plot of the landscape, a compass to establish bearing, and a shovel to . . . well, that one's obvious. But the handiest of all the tools I used to carry—and certainly the most often used—was an implement well-known to Freemasons: the trowel!

In Freemasonry, the trowel is a symbol of brotherly love. In Solomon's Temple, no mortar was needed. The perfect ash-lars were made to fit together with precision. But to unite *rough* ash-lars together requires a layer of cement. The trowel in Masonry reminds us that brotherly love and fraternal affection can overcome the friction that might otherwise result when rough ash-lars are closely arranged. Of course, the trowel has another meaning in Freemasonry owing to its important use in our ceremony of dedicating a cornerstone. Either way we consider it, in Freemasonry the trowel is a tool that adds to our edifice. It is constructive.

In archaeology, the trowel is used very differently. It becomes a combination of shovel and knife. The edges are filed sharp. Using the trowel, the archaeologist carefully removes layers of soil, a fraction of an inch at time. This subtractive process "destroys" the site. But it also reveals the past. It brings light to what had long lain in the darkness.

It strikes me that the way the archaeologists who are researching the history beneath the Memorial's grounds use the trowel is illustrative of the Masonic principle of bringing light out of darkness, of valuing the past and treasuring its legacy. Just as local archaeologists come to this hill to examine the past, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial inspires us to remember a great man of the past . . . and apply the things that made him great to our lives.

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

MEMORIAL GIFT SHOP FEATURED ITEMS



Centennial Medallion

A beautiful two-sided keepsake, featuring Washington's profile on the obverse, and the Memorial's striking crest on the reverse. 1½" diameter. Base Metal \$35. (Nº 439) Gold Plate \$75. (Nº 433) Sterling Silver Gilt \$150. (Nº 434)



NEW — Washington as Past Master

An original bust by Alexandria artist Christopher Erney. Perfect for any desk or bookshelf. Painted cast resin, hand-finished. 6¾" tall. \$37. (Nº 768)



NEW — 2013 Holiday Ornament

The Memorial's top pyramid and keystone finial shine with Masonic brilliance. Made in the USA. \$25. (Nº 795)



Memorial Crest Cufflinks

These beautiful cufflinks featuring the Memorial Association's Crest are the perfect way to show your support. Post Fasteners; ½" tall. \$45. (Nº 604)



Centennial Tie, Washington Signature

100% silk tie features white and burgundy stripes, profiles of Washington, and Washington's distinctive signature. \$38. (Nº 698) *More ties available at our website.*

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LIGHT

of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial

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2013 COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENT A Lighthouse for Humanity

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association is pleased to announce the newest addition to our commemorative holiday ornament series: *A Lighthouse for Humanity*, representing the topmost elements of the Memorial.

The Memorial's design was inspired by famous lighthouses of the ancient world. An exquisite example of neoclassical design, the building is topped by a pyramid and finial that represent a beacon of light, expressed in architecture.

The temple's nine-stepped pyramid leads the eye upward and reminds us of Bro. George Washington's lofty ideals, especially his unshakable faith in the benevolent hand of Divine Providence. At the very top, we see a striking cast aluminum double-keystone design that brings the height of the temple to an awe-inspiring 333 feet. Visible for miles, the top of the Memorial is a landmark of the region.



A central element within the Masonic teachings that Bro. Washington so valued and encouraged is the symbol of Light. In Freemasonry, Light represents knowledge of the most important things in life, and Masons seek that Light through the pursuit of knowledge and the cultivation of virtue.

To order your 2013 ornament, use the order form on page 11, call 703.549.9234, or visit our website at <http://gwmemorial.org/shopping/>.

One of the most exalted desires of man is for light—physical light to guide the body, intellectual light to guide the mind, spiritual light to guide the soul.

M.W. Bro. Melvin M. Johnson
Memorial Dedication Address
May 12, 1932

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Photography: Arthur W. Pierson, Shawn E. Eyer
Illustration: Christopher Erney