

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219

A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 74

Mount Vernon, VA 22121

February 2018 Trestleboard

From the East

Our Illustrious Worshipful Brother George Washington was born February 22nd, 1732. He was initiated on November 4th, 1752, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft March 3rd, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason August 4th, 1753. In 1788, our Illustrious Brother became the first Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22. On January 6, 1759, George Washington married Martha Dandridge Custis. The newlywed couple moved to their beloved Mount Vernon Estate.

In February 1960 a group of dedicated Masons met to begin the task of establishing a new lodge on the original land tract owned by WB George Washington. The name selected for the new lodge was Mount Vernon Lodge. The name was selected due to the significant ties of Mount Vernon to our departed Illustrious Worshipful Brother General George Washington.

Over the past several months a group of officers of Mount Vernon Lodge began discussing the need for a long-range strategy to ensure the Lodge remains strong and vibrant well in to the future, and continues to honor our heritage and tie to Mount Vernon and our Illustrious Worshipful Brother. The charter members of our Lodge wished to honor George Washington and his Masonic history by establishing the only Masonic Lodge located on the original land tract of the Mount Vernon Estate. We also looked to the Mission and Vision statements of the Grand Lodge to formulate our own Lodge Mission and Vision statements. These statements will instruct the long-range strategic planning committee as we begin to develop specific plans on our future, to include efforts to upgrade and renovate our grounds and facilities. Please see the Mission and Vision statements attached and feel free to offer your comments and feedback to me at wm@mtvernon219.org.

Sincerely & Fraternally
Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master

Masonic Education

Have you ever wondered the origins or meaning of the phrase “on the square?” When a stonemason cuts a block to use in the construction of a building, it must be perfectly shaped so it will support the other blocks that surround it. The block’s sides must be perfectly straight with no faults, so it will do its part as just one small piece of a much larger building. To check the reliability of his workmanship, the stonemason uses a tool shaped like a right angle to determine whether the sides and angles of the stone are perfect. Freemasons use the term “on the square” to describe their trust in each other. A man who is “on the square” is honest and reliable, and is a strong part of the whole community around him. It follows that this term is also used to mean “just between you and me.” When one Mason tells another something he’d like to be kept private, he’ll often say “this is on the square.”

Where in the world is Brother Charlie?

Have you as a Master Mason ever heard the phrase “I see you are a traveling man?” Well, our Brother Charlie Cleveland has started a journey where he will definitely be able to say ‘Yes, I am !’ On January 11th Brother Charlie and his wife Mary Ann onboard their vessel *Anne Marie Rose* got underway from Solomons, MD to complete the “Big Loop.” This trip will take them up the east coast, across the Great Lakes, down the Mississippi, around the coast of Florida, and back to their starting point. Brother Charlie plans to fly the Masonic Square and Compasses pennant, take a few pictures, and send them to us so we can track their voyage. We will have a Big Loop chart posted in the Lodge, mark his progress as we hear from him, and post updates in the trestleboard under the byline “Where in the Big Loop is Brother Charlie?” Please keep Brother Charlie and his wife in your thoughts and prayers for a safe and wonderful voyage. **Fair Winds and Following Seas Brother!**

February Calendar

- 6 Feb** Fraternal Visit, Springfield Lodge
 - 10 Feb** Lodge Breakfast/Officer Meeting @ 8:30 AM
 - 10 Feb** Springfield Lodge 60 Yr Anniversary Event, 7:00 PM, Hilton Alexandria Mark Center
 - 19 Feb** Fraternal Visit, Elmer Timberman Lodge
 - 26 Feb** Stated Communication, DDGM Official Visit
- Generally, Monday nights are ritual practice, and Wednesday nights are Wardens Work. Both nights are perfect for catechism work at the Lodge as well.*

From the Secretary

Brethren, Please provide me any updates/changes to your address, phone number or e-mail so I can keep your records correct and up to date. It is important we maintain communication with you to ensure there are no membership issues. If you do not possess a 2018 dues card you need to send in your payment as soon as possible. Dues are \$107.00 and checks should be made payable to Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219 and mailed to P.O. Box 74, Mount Vernon, VA 22122. Also, please let me know if you are willing to receive your trestleboard by E-Mail or are satisfied with reading it on the Lodge web site.

We would like to hear from you, especially with respect to significant life events. We can pray for you in times of need, provide assistance when possible, and share your joy during an event worthy of celebrating! If you have not been to Lodge in some time, come join us for great fellowship, a good meal and an opportunity to meet new brethren.

Sincerely & Fraternally
Matt Szramoski, PDDGM, Lodge Secretary

Did You Know?

Brother Omar Bradley was born on February 12th, 1893. General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley was a highly distinguished senior officer of the United States Army during and after World War II. Brother Bradley was the first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and oversaw the U.S. military's policy-making in the Korean War. Brother Bradley graduated from West Point. While at the academy, Brother Bradley's devotion to sports prevented him from excelling academically, although he was 44th in a class of 164. He was a baseball star and often played on semi-pro teams for no remuneration (to ensure his eligibility to represent the academy). He was considered one of the most outstanding college players in the nation during his junior and senior seasons at West Point, noted as both a power hitter and an outfielder with one of the best arms in his day. He rejected multiple offers to play professional baseball, choosing to pursue his Army career. While stationed at West Point as an instructor in 1923, Brother Bradley became a Master Mason and member in good standing of West Point Lodge #877, Highland Falls, New York until his death in 1981.

Building and Grounds

We plan on renovating the upstairs bathrooms this Spring. We are looking for sponsors for the following:

- New Toilets (total of 3 plus 1 urinal): \$250 each
- Light fixtures (total of 5): \$45 each
- New sinks/vanity (2 needed): \$350 each
- Sheetrock/tape/mud: \$300
- Flooring: \$1,000 (multiple sponsors appreciated!)
- Mirrors (2 needed): \$65 each

If you would like to assist by making a financial contribution to the bathroom renovation, please make your check payable to "Mount Vernon Lodge" and indicate that the check is for "Lodge Bathroom Renovation."

We anticipate all building and grounds renovations needed over the long term to exceed \$300,000. More information will follow as we complete our long-range strategic plan. However, donations can be made now. Simply indicate that your check is for the "Lodge Permanent Fund." All gifts, large and small, are very much appreciated.

Send all payments and donations to the Lodge Secretary at the PO Box address.

February Masonic Birthdays

John Stewart Dahik	02/16/2011
Fredi Gerd Guerke	02/27/1974
Arthur Clinton Harrold	02/03/1961
Randall Dmytro Ivanciw	02/27/1980
William Dale Judy	02/18/1974
Mark Morse Neil	02/16/2011
Charles Edward Shepard	02/10/1999
Rufus Owen Watts, Jr.	02/03/1961

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master- Al Glaeser

wm@mtvernon210.org

(C) 703-595-3200

Secretary- Matt Szramoski, PDDGM

secretary@mtvernon219.org

(O) 202-777-3143 (H) 703-347-9549

Please see the Lodge web site for a complete list of officers and other information for our Lodge:
<https://mountvernonlodge219.wordpress.com/>

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219
Long Range Strategic Plan
Draft Mission & Vision Statements

Below are the Mission and Vision Statements drafted out of the Long Range Strategic Planning Committee. The statements are derived from the Grand Lodge of Virginia Mission and Vision Statements which can be found on the Grand Lodge web site. The Grand Lodge statements were modified to apply to a Lodge, and more specifically Mount Vernon Lodge, by honoring our unique heritage as the only Lodge located on the original Mount Vernon Estate.

*The **Mission** of Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219 is to teach and perpetuate a way of life that promotes the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God; to assist our Lodge brethren to learn and grow in our Fraternity; and to bring honor to our Lodge through the proper stewardship of our unique resources.*

*The **Vision** of Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219 is to be the premier organization composed of men of integrity and character, who: strive to learn and grow in Freemasonry; are honest; are true to their word; have a strong belief in God; are devoted to family; are charitable in their community; promote our ties to Worshipful Brother George Washington and the Mount Vernon Estate; are courteous and helpful to each other; and continually search for opportunities to build upon our Lodge reputation and history.*

The Mission and Vision Statements will guide the future plans of the Lodge, to include any grounds and facilities renovations and upgrades. We welcome feedback from the brethren. Comments can be sent to the Worshipful Master at [**wm@mtvernon219.org**](mailto:wm@mtvernon219.org).