

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219

A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 74

Mount Vernon, VA 22121

July 2018 Trestleboard

If you wish to continue to receive a hard copy of the Trestleboard, you must contact the Lodge Secretary before September 2018. The Trestleboard will continue to be emailed, and posted to the Lodge website; however, starting in October hard copies will only be mailed to those brethren who request to receive hard copies.

From the East

Brethren, The year is half over, and we have accomplished a great deal. We are well on our way to achieving the Hillman Award. We have two needed youth visits and one fraternal visit to complete over the coming months. Our attention now turns to our fund raisers, recognizing our community leaders, and beginning to prepare for next year. We do need a brother to learn a lecture – a requirement for the Hillman Award. Thank you to the brethren for your hard work this year! Also, it looks like we will raise 3 new Master Masons at the 1-day conferral on August 4th. All positive events for our Lodge!!

Sincerely & Fraternally

Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master

From the West

Brethren! It's hard to believe the year is already half gone. We are in the midst of summer. Warm nights with stars and fireflies as far as the eye can see. I understand this is the time of year for vacations and extended weekends. However, if you are sitting at home bored, come on down to Lodge! Fellowship is one of the greatest gifts Freemasonry can offer.

Sincerely & Fraternally

John Dahik, Senior Warden

From the South

Brethren, This year the summer solstice occurred on June 21, 2018. In the northern hemisphere, the exact date is decided based on the earth's tilt towards the sun, which hits its maximum of 23° 26' each year between June 20 and June 22. This is the time when Earth's axis is most aligned with the sun, providing the most daylight of any day of the year.

Freemasons mark the summer solstice with the Feast of John the Baptist, which falls on June 24th each year. St. John the Baptist is known as the one who first recognized Jesus as the Messiah and then baptized him in the river Jordan. St. John the Baptist then humbly requested baptism by Jesus who in turn convinced St. John to bestow baptism upon him. Jesus refers to John as "a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light" (John 5:35).

It is no surprise that Freemasonry would adopt St. John the Baptist as a patron saint. He is said to be a man of high integrity, and to have died a martyr for his beliefs in the same vein as Grandmaster Hiram Abif. Scholars note that St. John the Baptist was a stern and just man; intolerant of shame, of pretense, of weakness; a man of strength and fire, uncompromising with evil or expediency, and yet withal courageous, humble, sincere, and magnanimous. These are virtues that we celebrate as Freemasons.

Sincerely & Fraternally

Mike Zarlenga, Junior Warden

From the Secretary

Brethren, Please keep the following members in your prayers who are suffering through an illness:

- John Killian, PM – Back Surgery
- Ron Elliott, PM – Kidney Issues
- Mark Neil – Cancer
- Robert Mertz, PDDGM – Hernia

Please let me know if you or your family are suffering from sickness or distress. The lodge wishes to help when we can, keep you in our prayers and be there in your time of need.

Sincerely & Fraternally

Matt Szramoski, PDDGM, Lodge Secretary

Did You Know?

Bro John Paul Jones, well known as the Father of the US Navy, was born on July 6, 1746. He was initiated into the Craft in St. Bernard Lodge 3122 at Kirkcudbright, Scotland on November 27, 1770. One of seven children in his family, he went to sea at the age of twelve after finishing school, and made his first trip to Fredericksburg, VA before he was thirteen years old! Reading about his life is almost like reading fiction: his lowly birth, his almost meteoric rise in the American Navy, and his attainment of the rank of Rear Admiral in the Russian Navy. On September 23 1779, while in command of the US ship the Richard, he met with the British ship Serapis, a 44-gun man-of-war. During an intense battle that lasted over 4 hours and included massive casualties and hand-to-hand combat between the British and Americans, he stated "I have just begun to fight!" During his naval career, Bro Jones led many naval military engagements and never lost a naval battle. In 1780 he was invited to join the Lodge of Nine Muses in France by then Worshipful Master Benjamin Franklin. On July 18, 1792, Jones breathed his last breathe. He died from dropsy, pneumonia, and a heart condition in Paris, France at the young age of 45. He was buried with full Masonic honors in a lead coffin in a cemetery in Paris. Some 113 years later, under orders from the President of the United States, Bro Theodore Roosevelt, the body of Bro John Paul Jones was recovered from the cemetery and made the long, slow trip across the Atlantic to be placed in a crypt at the US Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. History shows he lived his life according to the Masonic principles that he studied.

Building and Grounds

Our Jobs Daughter Bethel No. 22, has donated \$250 towards the upstairs bathroom renovations. If you would like to make a contribution, please send it to the lodge secretary's attention. We will begin renovations in September.

July Calendar

14 Jul 8:30 AM Lodge breakfast, officers meeting
20 Jul 6:30 PM Fraternal Visit, Dale City Lodge
23 Jul 6:30 PM Dinner/Stated, *Flag Program*
25 Jul 6:30 PM District School, Dale City Lodge

July Masonic Birthdays

David Edward Boothe	07/30/1969
Manuel Mario Cumes	07/20/1977
Ronald Thomas Graves	07/29/1964
James Keith Harmon	07/10/2002
Michael Howard	07/27/2005
Grayson Leroy Koogle	07/08/1970
Kenneth Ray Meade	07/15/1981
Arthur Lynwood Nails, Jr.	07/14/1976
Douglas Eugene Shelton	07/10/1991
David Henry Smith, Jr.	07/29/2004
Mary Ryan Taylor	07/22/2009
John Thomas Tillery	07/22/1972
Donald Walter Wiethuechter	07/01/1964
Covert Wesley Williamson, III	07/26/1972

Deaths

Morris Bruce Taylor

Born: 7/20/1928

EA: 01/02/1952, FC: 03/04/1952, MM: 04/29/1952

Died: 11/29/2017

Rufus Owen Watts

Born: 10/2/1925

EA: 11/04/1960, FC: 01/13/1961, MM: 02/03/1961

Died: 05/30/2018

Cecil Gene Elder

Born: 04/11/1936

EA: 02/20/1980, FC: 05/28/1980, MM: 07/16/1980

Died: 06/15/2018

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/>