

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219

A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 74

Mount Vernon, VA 22121

June 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, Memorial Day is upon us which signals the beginning of summer. This is a time for family, friends and vacations. I always look forward to spending some downtime with my wife, and some nice days at the beach with my children and their spouses. I hope everyone gets a chance to enjoy this summer and create some new, lasting memories.

I encourage you as you travel to take a few minutes and search the web for a local lodge that may be in the area of your travel, and perhaps they will have a stated communication during your time in their area. Stop in – it is a great way to make some new friends, and to see other lodge traditions and ritual.

We labored hard in the Lodge during the first 5 months this year, and we are having a great year. We have completed many fraternal visits, held several fun events, met our goal for donations to MAHOVA, supported our District Chip event, made 2 scholarship award decisions, worked hard on our ritual, and hopefully shared a good bit on Masonic Education. It is a good time for us to take some downtime, enjoy this time of year, and be with family and friends. Our calendar of events will slow in pace now, and with just a few more events this summer, we will be able to enjoy some ‘refreshment.’

Sincerely & Fraternally
Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master

Masonic Education

“Have you searched the Web?”.....is a common question/phrase in today’s world. And for Masons, it can be a wonderful 24/7 way to explore and learn more about Masonry in other states and countries . . .at no cost, from the comfort of your home, and at a time convenient to your personal schedule. I encourage you to surf the Web.... perhaps starting with Grand Lodges of other states as a starting point. I never fail to find some interesting reading in my web searches. A few months ago, I was exploring the site of the Grand Lodge of California and discovered their wonderful magazine, “California Freemason” which is published every two months in electronic form. They also have a free mobile app (CFM) which you can download to your smartphone (Apple and Android) or iPad . . . and enjoy reading the current and past issues. In the January/February 2018 edition, the California Grand Secretary has written a good article entitled “The Power of Freemasonry.” There were a few simple sentences that really struck a chord with me relating to what Freemasonry means to me, and maybe they will strike a chord with you as well. Here are two quotes from his article.

“The power of Freemasonry lies in our connection to each other. We are brothers not by bloodline, but because we share the same sense of purpose. We hear the same call for something more; feel the same instinct to do good. Like stones that support each other in an arch, we support each other in this purpose.”

“Quality men are joining who seek to make true friends, learn and improve themselves, and impact society in positive ways.”

I will share more educational notes and maybe a couple more interesting websites in the next Trestleboard.

Sincerely & Fraternally
RWB Grayson Koogle, PDDGM, LEO

Did You Know?

Bro Audie Leon Murphy was one of the most decorated American combat soldiers of World War II, receiving every military combat award for valor available from the U.S. Army, as well as French and Belgian awards for heroism. Murphy received the Medal of Honor for valor demonstrated at the age of 19 for single-handedly

holding off an entire company of German soldiers for an hour at the Colmar Pocket in France in January 1945, then leading a successful counterattack while wounded and out of ammunition. He was born into a large sharecropper family in Hunt County, Texas, and his skill with a hunting rifle was a necessity for feeding the family. His father abandoned the family, and his mother died when he was a teenager. Murphy dropped out of school in fifth grade to pick cotton and find other work to help support his family. His older sister helped him falsify documentation about his birth date to meet the minimum age requirement for enlisting in the military. After the war, Bro Murphy enjoyed a 21-year acting career. He played himself in the 1955 autobiographical film *To Hell and Back*, based on his 1949 memoirs of the same name, but most of his roles were in westerns. Bro Audie received his 3 degrees in 1955 in North Hollywood Lodge No. 542. He became a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason in Dallas, TX Scottish Rite Temple. He was also a Shriner, member of the Royal Arch, and decorated a Knight of the Court of Honor. He remained very active in Freemasonry until his death in 1971. In 2000, during the November Ladies Night Dinner of the Valley of Long Beach, Bro Audie Murphy was recognized by local Scottish Rite members who presented to his widow, Mrs. Pamela Murphy, a 33rd degree cap in honor of the posthumous election of her husband to that degree at an earlier Biennial Session of the Supreme Council of the Scottish Rite. Bro Murphy died in a plane crash in Virginia in 1971, which was shortly before his 46th birthday. He was interred with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. His grave is one of the most visited sites in the cemetery.

June Masonic Birthdays

Douglas Preston Adkins	06/13/1973
Robert Carl Berger	06/19/2001
James Edward Coffey	06/30/1956
Christian Ray Glad	06/21/2010
Harrison Rudolph Jones, Sr.	06/20/1959
John David Killian	06/20/1969
Gabriel Gerrado Mariscal	06/21/2006
James Owen Shepard, Jr.	06/29/1983

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

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 & Fraternaly
 Matt Szramoski, PDDGM, Lodge Secretary

Building and Grounds

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.

June Calendar

15 Jun	Grand Master OV, Alexandria Scottish Rite All officers should plan to attend
23 Jun	8:00 AM Flea Market
23 Jun	8:00 AM WHW Academy (we must cover both flea market and WHW)
24 Jun	2:00 PM Visit Bethel 22, MVL (Bethel is honoring us, all please attend)
25 Jun	6:30 PM Dinner/Stated, ‘Saint John’s Night’
27 Jun	6:30 PM District School, Elmer Timberman

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