

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219

A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 74

Mount Vernon, VA 22121

March 2018 Trestleboard

From the East

Brethren: Why did you become a Mason?

At our last stated communication, our Lodge Education Officer, RWB Grayson Koogle, presented the Canadian Walking Charge. Reflect on the words spoken by the Worshipful Master at the beginning of this charge:

It must indeed be gratifying to know that you are at last a Master Mason, and that you have now sealed your allegiance to the oldest and greatest fraternity in existence, one that encircles the globe and whose influence for good is never ending.

The particular reason that you chose to become a member of this grand and noble order is known only to yourself.

It might have been the prompting of idle curiosity. That being true, you should now be well satisfied.

It might have been for financial reasons. That being true, be at once undeceived for Freemasonry offers no financial benefits to any of its members.

It might have been for social aspirations. That being true, you are now afforded the opportunity to acquaint yourself with many interesting and intelligent gentlemen.

It might have been because a relative or close friend is a Mason and expressed a desire that you should become one also and follow in their footsteps. That being true, it is not only an honor to yourself, but to the fraternity as well.

But, be the reason that it may, there are two great questions that still confront you:

Will you be worth anything or nothing to Freemasonry and . . . will Freemasonry be worth anything or nothing to you?

Take time to reflect brethren. Why did you join this fraternity? The answer lies in your heart. Reflect . . . and rededicate yourselves to our great precepts. Come back to your Lodge and join us at our stated communications. If you no longer live in the area, attend the same at a local lodge near you. The Brethren look forward to enjoying your company in the near future!

Sincerely & Fraternally
Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master

From the West

Brethren. We are nearing the end of another month, and we have already accomplished a lot. We have 2 EAs in the pipeline now with more potential candidates on the way. We have made 3 fraternal visits (Fort Hunt Skidmore Daytime Lodge, Springfield and Elmer Timberman Lodges) with at least 8 members present. We need to continue this trend. It is a great way to make ourselves known in our district. Furthermore, I am available for catechism coaching to those who are interested. Look well to the west!

Sincerely & Fraternally
John Dahik, Senior Warden

March Calendar

3 Mar 6:00 PM Ladies Night, Mount Vernon Inn
4 Mar 4:00 PM Woodlawn DeMolay Visit
10 Mar 8:00 AM District Leadership Conference
19 Mar 6:30 PM Frat. Visit John A. Lejeune
25 Mar 2:00 PM Bethel 22 Jobs Daughters Visit
26 Mar 6:30 PM Dinner/Stated, 'Masons in Congress'
28 Mar 7:00 PM District School

Generally, Monday nights are ritual practice, and Wednesday nights are Wardens Work. Both nights are perfect for catechism work at the Lodge as well.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – 23 APRIL:

**Most Worshipful Gary Wallace Taylor,
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of
Virginia, will be visiting Mount Vernon
Lodge at our April stated communication.**

From the Secretary

Brethren, If you do not have a dues card that reads 2018 you have not paid your current dues. Please do so as soon as possible to assist the lodge in meeting its financial responsibilities. Dues are currently \$107.00 per year. Your check should be made payable to Mount Vernon Lodge and mailed to P.O. Box 74, Mount Vernon , VA 22121. If you are having financial difficulty and need assistance with your dues please contact me and your situation will be kept confidential. If you would like information about the Life Membership in Perpetuity program (LMIP) I will be glad to assist you. The current cost for this program, which frees you from any future dues billings (as well as any increases) is 20 x our annual dues, or 20 x \$107 = \$2,140.

If you have a positive story to share or need our prayers for a difficult tie in life please let me know so I can share it with the brethren.

Sincerely & Fraternaly

Matt Szramoski, PDDGM, Lodge Secretary

Did You Know?

Most Worshipful Andrew Jackson was an American soldier and statesman who served as the seventh President of the United States from 1829 to 1837. Before being elected to the presidency, MWB Jackson gained fame as a general in the United States Army and served in both houses of Congress. As president, Jackson sought to advance the rights of the "common man" against a "corrupt aristocracy" and to preserve the Union. He seems to have been a member of St. Tammany Lodge No. 1 (later changed to Harmony Lodge No. 1), Nashville, Tennessee, as early as 1800. MWB Jackson was the sixth Grand Master of Masons of Tennessee, serving two consecutive terms from October 7, 1822 until October 4, 1824. Known as a fighter both on the battlefield and in the White House, his nickname was 'Old Hickory.' MWB Jackson's slogan was "Let the people rule." He was elected President in 1828, and reelected in 1832. Under his administration the spoils system was introduced, the national debt paid off, and the United States Bank overthrown. MWB Jackson was widely revered in the United States as an advocate for democracy and the common man, but his reputation has

declined since the civil rights movement, largely due to his role in Indian removal and support for slavery. None-the-less, surveys of historians and scholars have ranked MWB Jackson favorably among United States presidents.

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.

March Masonic Birthdays

Charles James Allen	3/14/1973
Richard Charles Allen	3/31/1999
Gerald Dennis Badinger	3/13/2002
Gary Lester Binge	3/10/2004
Gordon Robert Craig	3/16/1984
Mark John Eggerstorfer	03/30/2010
William Doyle Hoffman Francis	3/18/2016
Jay Edward Garbus	3/25/2009
Charles Cecil Hinkle	03/14/1973
Charles Joseph Hinkle	3/31/1999
Christopher James Macey	03/21/2012
Billy Lee Pritchett	3/12/1986
Justin Keith Ratley	3/30/2012
James Vernon Rewis	3/29/1972
Jack Ernest Snyder	3/14/1985
William John Wilson	3/21/2012

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master- Al Glaeser

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