

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219

A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 74

Mount Vernon, VA 22121

September 2018 Trestleboard

This will be the last mass hard copy mailing of the Trestleboard. We will continue to mail hard copies of the Trestleboard to the following brethren only: Philip S. Downs Jr., Mark J. Eggerstorfer, James E. Jewell, Earl Magill, and William T. Spencer. If you wish to receive future hard copies of the Trestleboard in the mail, please contact the Lodge Secretary.

From the East

Brethren, We raised 3 new Master Masons on August 4th, and welcome our new brethren to our fraternity (Bro's Brandon Cooper, Zachery Brantley, and Mike Braun). We also have 1 candidate to schedule for their EA degree. And I have heard talk of a couple more good men who have inquired about the Lodge and Freemasonry. Your Lodge is alive and well.

At our August stated communication we heard a proposed revision to our Lodge dues. Please see the attached proposed resolution. We laid the proposed revision over for 30 days until our September stated communication when we will ballot on this revision. See the attached proposed revision to our dues, and plan to attend our September stated communication to vote on this proposed resolution.

One of the greatest joys of Freemasonry is spending time with your brethren. The September stated communication will include WB Barry Mensch, who will be traveling up from Fredericksburg to join us. I will again call off from labor to refreshment for WB Barry's program so brethren can bring a friend to learn a little more about Freemasonry. We also have a Lodge picnic planned for 15 September - I hope to see all there.

Sincerely & Fraternally
Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master

From the Lodge Education Officer (LEO)

Extract – “Your Online Image: You Are What You Post” (May 2018 Edition of *The Pennsylvania Freemason Magazine*)

“A Mason should conduct himself on social media in the same way he would as a representative of the craft. You're a Mason 24/7, regardless of whether or not you're wearing your apron, so you become others' impression of Freemasonry whether you're at work, at a community event or online. Therefore, your individual postings not only reflect your own character, but that of Freemasonry.

As Freemasons, we need to remember that while social media can be casual, our Masonic protocol does not relax with it. For example, it's not ok to discuss on social media the business of a lodge, including applicants and candidates, ritual or “tyled” information. Don't identify any Freemason as a member of the craft, unless he has provided his consent or has already identified himself as such. It's not acceptable to use social media to contact other Grand Jurisdictions.

So, what should you post on Masonic-related social media? Certainly, anything that supports or promotes the fraternity and its members; upcoming events, such as open houses, and fundraisers; highlights of past events; and videos and photos that show fellowship, charity and family fun events. Post about what Freemasonry means to you.”

For more information please read the Grand Lodge of Virginia's Social Media policy at: <https://policy.vamasons.org/>.

Sincerely & Fraternally
Grayson Koogler, PDDGM, LEO

Building and Grounds

Brethren, we are taking inputs for the development of a master plan to guide the fundraising activities of our Lodge for the future. We need your thoughts on improvements needed for the Lodge yard and building exterior. If you have not already done so, please send your thoughts to RW Mike King at mjking6@verizon.net.

From the Secretary

Brethren, Please keep the following in your prayers:

- WB John Killian – loss of his wife Barbara and continued recovery from back surgery
- WB Ron Elliott – continued recovery from surgery
- Bro Mark Neil – continued recovery from Cancer

Have you paid your 2018 dues? If you haven't please make your payment of \$107.00 to Mount Vernon Lodge as soon as possible to avoid suspension for nonpayment of dues. If you are having financial difficulty, please contact the Secretary for a confidential resolution.

Sincerely & Fraternaly

Matt Szramoski, PDDGM, Lodge Secretary

Did You Know?

Bro Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert du Motier (ie. Marquis de Lafayette), was born into a family of noble military lineage on September 6, 1757, in Chavaniac, France. Inspired by stories of the colonists' struggles against British oppression, Lafayette sailed to the newly declared United States in 1777 to join the uprising. His first major combat duty came during the September 1777 Battle of Brandywine, when he was shot in the leg while helping to organize a retreat. General George Washington requested doctors to take special care of Lafayette, igniting a strong bond between the two that lasted until Washington's death. Following a winter in Valley Forge with Washington, Lafayette helped to draw more French resources to the colonial side. As commander of the Virginia Continental forces in 1781, he helped keep British Lieutenant General Lord Cornwallis's army pinned at Yorktown, Virginia, while divisions led by Washington and France's Comte de Rochambeau surrounded the British and forced a surrender in the last major battle of the Revolutionary War. Brother Lafayette entered the Grand Lodge Above on May 20, 1834.

September Calendar

8 Sep 8:30 AM Lodge Breakfast, Officers Meeting
15 Sep 3:00 PM Lodge Potluck Picnic
22 Sep 7:00 AM Flea Market/Yard Sale
24 Sep 6:30 PM Stated, *US Constitution, Bring-a-Friend*

Brethren – the September stated communication program is being presented by WB Barry Mensch. He will be discussing the US Constitution and the influence Freemasonry may have had on the drafting of that document. This will be an open program and is perfectly suited for bringing a friend. Please reach out to other good men that you know and ask them to join you for this program.

September Masonic Birthdays

Armand Ambrose Scott Cerrone	9/12/2001
Jose Antonio Diaz	9/11/2017
Arthur Cardosa Ferreira	9/25/1974
Richard Allen Gipson	9/24/1969
Guy Bradley Glean	9/13/1972
Otto Henry Kittel, Jr.	9/15/1982
Richard Thomas Purkins	9/20/1989
William Arthur Shorty	9/13/1955
Henry Hensley Ward, Jr.	9/23/1948

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/>

PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO AMEND OUR BYLAWS AND INCREASE OUR ANNUAL LODGE DUES. ATTEND THE SEPTEMBER STATED COMMUNICATION ON 24 SEPTEMBER TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THIS RESOLUTION.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO OUR LODGE DUES

Brethren, The Grand Lodge assessment is rising by \$10 starting with 2019 dues. Therefore, a proposed resolution was made by our Finance Committee to raise our Lodge portion of our dues at the same time. Currently we pay \$45 in Grand Lodge assessments, and an additional \$62 for our Lodge dues. That is \$107 in current annual Lodge dues per member ($\$45 + \$62 = \$107$). The Grand Lodge assessment is going from \$45 to \$55 (an increase of \$10), and this is automatic and requires no resolution to change our Bylaws. The proposed resolution would also raise our Lodge portion of the dues by \$18, from \$62 to \$80. This would allow us to fund annually per member the Lodge Maintenance and Lodge Permanent Trustee funds \$5 and \$4 respectively as adopted by resolution of the Lodge on November 3, 1993 (we have not been honoring those resolutions for the past several years). And it would provide some relief from inflationary pressure on our Lodge operating expenses. Therefore, our new annual Lodge dues would go from the current \$107 to \$135 per member ($\$107 + \$10 + \$18 = \135). We laid over the proposed resolution at our August stated communication and will open it up for discussion and a vote at our September stated communication. Please see the below proposed revisions, in proper format for the changes to the Lodge dues as contained in our Lodge Bylaws.

Current bylaws read:

Article II

Every member of this lodge except N/A shall be charged by the Secretary with the sum of Sixty-two dollars (\$62.00) plus Grand Lodge dues and assessments as Annual dues.

Proposed Amendment is:

Article II

Every member of this lodge except N/A shall be charged by the Secretary with the sum of ~~Sixty-two~~ eighty dollars (~~\$62.00~~ \$80.00) plus Grand Lodge dues and assessments as Annual dues.

Change would thus be:

Article II

Every member of this lodge except N/A shall be charged by the Secretary with the sum of Eighty dollars (\$80.00) plus Grand Lodge dues and assessments as Annual dues.

Reason:

This will allow the lodge to properly fund the two standing resolutions which ensure we maintain funding for building repairs and renovations and provide the Lodge with additional income to cover expenses. We have not had an increase of Lodge dues since 2011.