

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 219

A.F. & A.M.

P.O. Box 74

Mount Vernon, VA 22121

December 2018 Trestleboard

From the East

Brethren, The holidays are upon us, and the end of another Masonic year as well.

I pray all of you have a wonderful holiday season with family and friends, filled with peace, joy and happiness. The Supreme Architect of the Universe has blessed us all, and this is the time to give thanks, reflect, and enjoy all of those blessings!

I want to thank the brethren for the privilege and honor you gave me to serve you this year as your Worshipful Master. Your support was heartfelt. Make no mistake – while the Worshipful Master wields the gavel, he is called to serve the Lodge as a leader, and that service means promoting and supporting the will of the Lodge; not his own personal interests. In this respect, I pray I have been a faithful servant to each of you and the Lodge in general.

Our final stated communication this year is on December 17th. We will be electing and appointing our new officers for next year. We will pay the bills and read the minutes, but the focus for this stated communication is the election of our new line. The Lodge Audit Report and Trustees Report will be read, I will give my final remarks, and as my final act will close the Lodge of Sorrow. Please join us – dinner is at 6:30 PM and we open the Master Mason Lodge at 7:30 PM prompt.

The installation of officers will be on Saturday, December 22 at 10:00 AM. Breakfast will be served at 8:30 AM prior to the installation. This will be an open installation. Bring your family and friends – it is a beautiful service, and your presence shows your support for the Lodge leadership for the ensuing year.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, Happy Holidays to all. May 2019 bring you peace, prosperity and harmony in your lives.

THANK YOU FOR THIS MEMORABLE YEAR!

Sincerely & Fraternaly

Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master

From the Secretary

Brethren, In your dues notice (which will go out on December 1) you will notice an increase in the amount. This is due to a \$10 increase from the Grand Lodge and an \$18 increase by the lodge. This amount was approved by a change to the bylaws at the September stated communication. This is the first dues increase the lodge has had in a decade and was necessary to meet rising costs due to inflation. Annual dues are now \$135, including all Grand Lodge fees and assessments. Please let me know if you have any questions. I encourage you to consider the Life Membership in Perpetuity Program to avoid any increases in the future. For more information on this program or if you have any questions on annual dues please contact me.

Sincerely & Fraternaly

Matt Szramoski, PDDGM, Lodge Secretary

Did You Know?

Brother George Catlett Marshall Jr. was born on December 31, 1880 and was an American statesman and soldier. He was made a Mason at Sight by the Grand Master of the District of Columbia on December 16, 1941, about a week after the Pearl Harbor attack, when General Marshall (then a 4 star general) was Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army. He rose through the United States Army to become Chief of Staff under Presidents & Brothers Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, then served as Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense under Brother Harry S. Truman. Brother Winston Churchill lauded Brother Marshall as the "organizer of victory" for his leadership of the Allied victory in World War II, although Marshall declined a final field leadership position that went to his protegee, later U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower. After the war, as Secretary of State, Brother Marshall advocated a significant U.S. economic and political commitment to post-war European recovery, including the Marshall Plan that bore his name. In recognition of this work, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953. Brother Marshall passed away on October 16, 1959.

Two of Brother Marshall's notable quotes are:

“Passive inactivity, because you have not been given specific instructions to do this or to do that, is a serious deficiency.”

“Don't fight the problem, decide it.”

December Calendar

17 Dec 6:30 PM Stated, Election of Officers
19 Dec 7:00 PM Installation Practice
22 Dec 10:00 AM Open Installation (*breakfast will be served at 8:30 AM before the installation, so come early*)

December Masonic Birthdays

Alfred Lawrence Glaeser, III	12/13/2012
Charles Robert Wallace	12/18/1968
Michael William Zarlenga	12/05/2016

Masonic Education

A Sampling of Masonic Podcasts: For a long time Masonic education has been offered/presented in the several “traditional” forms,,,books, brochures, lectures, workshops, conferences, etc. But in today’s world of cyber technology, podcasts have become increasingly popular not only for entertainment but for education as well...and lately it has really grown in the area of Masonic education. And why not?..... One of the great benefits of listening to Masonic Podcasts is that you can increase your Masonic Education at any time that best fits your schedule and/or your location . . . and even while you are doing other mundane tasks like doing chores around the house. Thought I would share a few of the podcast/sites that I have found interesting in recent months. Check them out with your computer or smartphone and enjoy some interesting sessions...at a time convenient to your schedule.

Whence Came You

www.wcypodcast.com

(Check out Connecting Masons Through Technology)

The Masonic Roundtable

www.TheMasonicRoundtable.com

(Check out Episode 235-Brother Houdini)

X-Oriente, The New Level of Brotherhood

www.Xorient.com

(Check out Episode 113-Are you a traveling man?)

Sincerely & Fraternally
Grayson Koogle, PDDGM, LEO

Lodge Officers

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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/>

Community Builders Awards



On Nov. 19, Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master of Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 219, awarded Art Blakey of the Hollin Hall Barbershop its Community Builders Award for his over 50 years of service to the families of the Mount Vernon area.

The award certificate was signed by the head of Virginia Freemasons, Most Worshipful Gary Wallace Taylor. Blakey has cut the hair and dispensed wisdom and sports talk with fathers who became grandfathers and their sons who are now bringing their sons in for haircuts. No politics or religion spoken here, just sports and local news while listening to the golden oldies.

“I have never met a bad young man while cutting hair here. That says something about the families who live here,” said Blakey of his Mount Vernon customers.

The Community Builders Award recognizes non-Masons who are positive and notable contributors to the welfare of their community. Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge is located on Fort Hunt Road and is the only Masonic Lodge on George Washington’s Mount Vernon Estate. President Washington was the first Master of Alexandria Washington Masonic Lodge No. 22.



The Masonic Community Builders Award recognizes non-masons who are positive and notable contributors to the welfare of their community. On December 5, 2018, Mr. Al Glaeser, Worshipful Master of Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 219, awarded Dr. Douglas Bradburn, President and CEO of Mount Vernon, the Masonic Community Builders Award to recognize his significant contributions to the Mount Vernon community over the past five years.

Dr. Bradburn, a noted American history scholar, became the Founding Director of Mount Vernon’s Fred W. Smith National Library for the study of George Washington in 2013. The library has not only served as a tremendous addition to our local community, it has also served our Nation in its outreach and education to all who seek information and history surrounding our first President. On January 1, 2018, Dr. Bradburn assumed his current role as President and CEO of George Washington’s Mount Vernon, the iconic bedrock of our community and one of the most notable historic landmarks of our nation.

President George Washington became a Freemason at the age of 20, and was a faithful member of the fraternity for over 47 years until his death in 1799. In retirement President Washington became charter Worshipful Master of the newly chartered Alexandria Washington Lodge No. 22. In death President Washington was buried with Masonic honors. The award certificate was signed by the head of Virginia Freemasons, Most Worshipful Gary Wallace Taylor, and the head of Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge, Worshipful Al Glaeser. Mount Vernon Masonic Lodge No. 219 is located on Fort Hunt Road and is the only Masonic Lodge on George Washington’s Mount Vernon estate.