

Summer 2000

From The President



One year ago, on June 26, 1999, Freemasons from all parts of the United States assembled at the Memorial to dedicate a Square and Compasses emblem, sixty by seventy feet, constructed in front of the Memorial to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the death of our first President and America's foremost Mason. This clearly identifies the Memorial as Masonic. The view from the air is impressive according to travelers in and out of the Reagan National Airport.

Preparation for Commemoration Day featured extensive landscaping, including planting of shrubbery and flowers and grass re-seeding. Trees were trimmed and some removed. A protective wrought iron fence was erected around the Square and Compasses.

Unfortunately, the full import of the landscaping and improvements was not visible on Commemoration Day because of the dry spring last year when nothing was green unless it was watered. To rectify that problem, the Memorial has installed a sprinkler system, which has greatly enhanced the appearance of the Memorial. The grounds are now a luscious green!

Your support made all of this possible. The officers and the Board of Directors appreciate your contributions. Remember: the Memorial belongs to all American Freemasons. Let us continue to support the Memorial as a fitting tribute to the Father of Our Country.



Scottish Rite Valleys in Virginia Make Annual Contribution



I. David Kruger, 33°, Grand Secretary General and, S.G.I.G. in Virginia presented a check for \$2,176.05 to M.W. Paul E. Ellis, PGM, President of The George Washington Masonic Memorial Association. The check was the result of the \$0.15 per member assessment that all eight Scottish Rite Valleys in Virginia contribute to the Memorial. The Orient of Virginia is the only Orient that has established an assessment to contribute to the maintenance and operation of the Memorial.

II. Kruger presented the donation to M.W. Ellis in The George Washington Museum which is located on the fourth floor of the Memorial. The George Washington Museum is a gift on behalf of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry by The Supreme Council, 33°, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. (Mother Council of the World) and The Supreme Council, 33°, Northern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

**The George Washington Museum was
dedicated February 22, 1966.**



The National Sojourners Donate to the Square and Compasses

The National Sojourners, Inc. , though small in numbers, is truly huge in charity and support. We are pleased and proud to have an exhibit at the Memorial which presents the many worthy causes and campaigns of the National Sojourners, Inc. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the National President, Officers and Members of The National Sojourners, Inc., and especially to Past National President George F. Harrington for being the driving force in making this \$5,000 donation possible.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial was erected and is maintained through the combined efforts of America's Freemasons as an everlasting tribute to the memory of George Washington. Your continued support enables us to maintain the Memorial in a manner that reflects honor and dignity on Brother Washington and the Fraternity.



A Message from the Executive Secretary-Treasurer



The following is taken from "History of The Ancient Mother Lodge of Scotland, Mother Kilwinning No. 0." The origin of Mother Kilwinning is uncertain, however, by 1598 it had become one of three lodges mentioned in the Schaw Statutes of that year.

"The bond of Freemasonry was a bond by which vast numbers of men throughout the whole world had bound themselves to promote that which was good. No doubt it was sometimes asked - Do you think Freemasons are one bit better than anyone else? Well, if Freemasons were not really better than other people, they ought to be, because they bound themselves by solemn vows to be better than other men. Certain implements have been used in laying the Memorial-stone, the level, the square, the plumb-line and the compass. The level was an emblem of the equal, and level condition in which all men entered the world. It might also be said to be an emblem of the great and terrible equality of Death. The square was an emblem of rectitude in action - that was to say, according to the common phrase, that they should 'do everything on the square.' Whether they did so or not, all civilized men, no doubt, hoped at some period of their lives to attain that object. The Plumb-line was an emblem of upright conduct, because they knew if the line was not plumb, in building an edifice, the chances were that the structure would not last very long. Besides these emblems, they laid on the stone, corn, wine and oil, which as they all knew, were symbolical of prosperity."

From the earliest records of Freemasonry to the present we have been teaching and practicing these same lessons and attempting to improve ourselves and our world. A recent example of this can be found in "A Trilogy: Inner Journey to the East; Meditations of a Master Mason Along the Way; Masonry for the Millennium" by George R. Adams, 33°, Past Grand Master of The Grand Lodge FAAM of the District of Columbia. The first book in this one volume trilogy explains and interprets many of the symbols used in the teachings of Freemasonry for the inner development and enlightenment of the individual. The second book uses the symbols and teachings of the craft in a series of 40 daily meditations. The third book presents the author's views on the effects of the rapid and worldwide transmission of information on the Craft, and the ways that Freemasonry can continue to be an uplifting and enlightening force in the present and the future. This trilogy is an excellent introduction to Freemasonry, a source of inspiration for daily practice and meditation

and a guide for the future. It can be obtained through the Alexandria-Washington Gift Shop at the Memorial.

As Freemasons, we are bound by our obligations and vows to be better; not better than our neighbor, but better than we are. Our Masonic journey should be one of improvement and advancement in understanding and tolerance. This improvement should be evidenced in our actions as well as in our words. In a letter to John Sullivan, dated December 15, 1779, George Washington wrote. . . "A slender acquaintance with the world must convince every man that actions, not words, are the true criterion of the attachment of his friends, and that the most liberal professions of goodwill are very far from being the surest marks of it, I should be happy that my own experience had afforded fewer examples of the little dependence to be placed on them."

In Memoriam William Adrian Brown



Born June 1, 1912, Cleveland, Ohio • Died February 28, 2000, Alexandria, Virginia

William Adrian Brown moved with his parents to Alexandria, Virginia when he was only two weeks old and remained a lifetime resident. Bill initially joined Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 120, and later affiliated with Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. He participated regularly in both Lodges until a few weeks prior to his passing. He was active in Mt. Vernon Royal Arch Chapter No. 14; Old Dominion Commandery, Knights Templar; Kena Shrine Temple; and Temple Forest No. 136, Tall Cedars of Lebanon. Bill became District Deputy Grand Master of Masonic District No. 1 and in 1969 served as Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Mason of Virginia.

He was a skilled musician who played in the Kena Temple Oriental Band and served as organist for both his Masonic Lodges until shortly before his death.

Bill's contributions to Freemasonry were many and varied. He was a prolific writer and published several books relating to Freemasonry. His History of The George Washington Masonic Memorial, published in 1980, was probably the most valuable of his rich legacies. The original manuscript and photographs of this work have been designated the property of the Memorial.

He was the author of hundreds of papers relating to a variety of subjects: George and Martha Washington; Mount Vernon; Washington's Mother, Mary Ball; the concept and origin of the Memorial and its location on Shooters' Hill; a history of Masonic ritual; Masonic cornerstone ceremonies, etc. Bill Brown was exceptionally versatile; he even produced a five-act play dramatizing the formation of The George Washington Masonic Memorial Association. "Brownie", as he was affectionately known as to most of us, lived in the vicinity of the Memorial, and while a teenager, observed with awe the final years of its construction. Later, during his adult years and after closing his jewelry store on Mount Vernon Avenue, he accepted the responsibility as Curator of the Memorial Museum. It was during those years as Curator that he became consumed with the splendor, the architectural dignity and historical significance of the Memorial. Bill once remarked that he had developed such an intimacy with the Memorial that it had become a part of his psyche, a vital force in his life. Those who knew Bill personally and observed his activities would fully endorse the assessment. Bill was survived by his wife Gertrude, and two daughters, Delores and Dawn.

by J.P. Riddell, Curator, Replica Lodge Room

Ongoing at Memorial

January 2000 marked the beginning of the "Grand Lodge Month" program at the Memorial. Each month a different Grand Jurisdiction is featured and honored. The State Flag of the Grand Jurisdiction is flown over the Memorial for the entire month. The flag is then presented to the Grand Lodge at its next Grand Lodge session. A display is set up in Assembly Hall featuring The Grand Lodge History, Officers, programs, charities and so forth. If the Grand Lodge has a video, it is played as part of the exhibit.

The Grand Lodges being recognized this year are:			
January	Delaware	July	South Carolina
February	Pennsylvania	August	Connecticut
March	New Jersey	September	New Hampshire
April	Georgia	October	Virginia
May	Massachusetts	November	New York
June	Maryland	December	North Carolina



Projects in Progress

The following projects are scheduled for completion 2000. If you are interested in sponsoring one or more of the following, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer.

Curb & Gutter and Asphalt Replacement - South Driveway	\$35,000.00
Upgrade Computer System	\$13,000.00
Install Handicap Ramp in Auditorium	\$13,080.00
Re-tube Boiler in Heating Plant	\$11,978.00
Upgrade Elevator Operating System	\$275,967.00
Re-point Stonework - King St. & Callahan Dr.	\$9,800.00

Planned Giving Program

We at the Memorial want you and your loved ones to be protected with a thorough up-to-date estate plan. If you need help in finding an estate attorney in your area, we will assist you in any way we can. And, if you are interested in contributing to the future of The George Washington Masonic Memorial, an estate gift would be greatly appreciated.

For Planned Giving information, write to:

W. Scott Stoner, Chairman, Planned Giving Committee
998 Nissley Road, Lancaster, PA 17601 or call 717-898-2185 (Fax: 717-898-8956).

Memorial Windows Available For Dedication

To dedicate a window in honor of an individual or organization requires a donation of \$7,500.00. The Memorial will install a dedicatory plaque at, or near, the designated window stating for whom the window is dedicated and by whom it was presented. This is an excellent way to support the Memorial and perpetuate the memory of an individual or organization.

Memorial Introduces Holiday Ornament for 2000

The Holiday Ornament for 2000 is in the shape of The Memorial and will be available this fall through the Alexandria-Washington Gift Shop. The Gift Shop can be contacted by telephone at 703-549-9234, or by writing to:

Gift Shop – GWMM • 101 Callahan Drive Alexandria, VA 22301



21st Century Members

*Walter C. & Margaret A. Davis	VA by Walter C. Davis, Jr.	VA
*Frank R. Dunaway, Jr.	VA by Frank R. Dunaway, III Phillip D. Goss	VT
Lafayette Lodge No. 27		NJ
Joel L. Lorenz		PA
Richard M. Luther		SD
Edgar N. Peppler		NJ
William Homer Young, Jr		NM
Phillip D. Goss - put on separate line -		VT.

***In Honor of**

Life Members

Clarence W. Braswell	VA
*Raymond V. Capella	PA
*Glen Davis Eckman	PA
*Carlos Ferrer, Sr.	PA
*Robert Thomas Shubert by Philadelphia-Potter Lodge No. 72	PA
Jack P. DeBruin	IL
Herbert C. Hale, Jr.	TX
Dean M. Lindahl	MT
York Lodge No. 563	OH

***In Honor of**