

Fall 2001

Grand Lodge of Alabama Visits the Memorial



The Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons of Alabama held an emergent Grand Lodge Communication at The George Washington Masonic Memorial to inaugurate November 2001 as The Grand Lodge of Alabama Month at the Memorial. Officers of the Grand Lodge of Alabama who participated were: M.W. V. Wayne Causey, Grand Master; R.W. Roger A. Simmons, Deputy Grand Master; R.W. Billy C. Ford, Senior Grand Warden; R.W. Darrell Neill, Junior Grand Warden; M.W. Jerry M. Underwood, PGM and Grand Secretary; W. Lew W. Jones, Junior Grand Deacon; Lyn Emfinger, Senior Grand Steward; and Luther S. (Pythagoras) Holder, Chairman, Committee on Work and Past Junior Grand Steward. Also present at the meeting was R.W. Robert H. Starr, Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and W. George D. Seghers, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of The George Washington Masonic Memorial and Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. The Brethren from Alabama presented an excellent exhibit about the Grand Lodge of Alabama, which was installed in Assembly Hall. The Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers toured The George Washington Masonic Memorial and the House of the Temple, the headquarters for the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A. They also attended the Grand Visitation by M.W. Grant R. Berning, Grand Master and the Officers of the Grand Lodge, F.A.A.M. of the District of Columbia to Potomac Lodge No. 5 in Georgetown. Each month the Memorial recognizes and honors the Grand Lodges that support and sustain the Memorial. The schedule of Grand Lodge Months for 2002 is: January-Missouri, February-Arkansas, March-Michigan, April-Florida, May-Texas, June-Iowa, July-Wisconsin, August-California, September-Minnesota, October-Oregon, November-Kansas, and December-West Virginia.



From The President

M.W. Paul E. Ellis



The most impressive sight in the Memorial is the bronze statue of George Washington standing 17 feet 3 inches high and weighing more than 7 tons at the west end of Memorial Hall.

It depicts our first President dressed in his Masonic regalia standing in front of the Master's chair at the pedestal with a gavel in his hand presiding over his Lodge. It is impressive because it commands the immediate attention of all when they enter the door of Memorial Hall.

The statue is the work of Brother Bryant Baker, a member of Constitutional Lodge No. 294 of Beverly, England, a third generation sculptor. His many renowned works include statues and busts of royalty of England and Europe and of Presidents and famous personalities of this country. Bakers' peers considered him to be one of the finest sculptors of his day.

The statue was a gift of the Order of DeMolay. It was unveiled and dedicated on February 22, 1950 with a large gathering of celebrities led by Most Worshipful Harry S. Truman, President of the United States and Past Grand Master of Missouri. Brother Truman gave the presentation address. Although the event was more than fifty years ago, the address is appropriate and relevant for our times today. Our country was then in the midst of the Cold War defending our democratic institutions against the onslaught of Communism around the globe. The President noted: The task of Americans today is fundamentally the same as it was in Washington's time. We, too, must make democracy work and we must defend it against its enemies. (The full text of the address may be found in the Association's proceedings of 1950).

Times have not changed. Today America still has its enemies, those opposed to our institutions and to our way of life, much like those Washington faced in his day and which were prevalent fifty years ago. Let us today look to the Father of our Country and gain from him the fortitude and resolution to defend the principles for which he fought during the American Revolution.



A Message from the Executive Secretary-Treasurer

George D. Seghers



In 1967 Canada celebrated its Centennial with the following prayer: "We ask for understanding and sympathy for clear vision and sensitivity for wisdom and selflessness for strength and courage. That we may succeed in our awesome task to dignify each one in our land to give him freedom, right, and opportunity to enrich his material, cultural and spiritual mode of life to create unity in the land. For ever and ever, amen." This prayer is especially meaningful and appropriate in these troubled times. It certainly points out and exemplifies the teachings of our Craft. Now more than ever, it is necessary and extremely important to maintain and support The George Washington Masonic Memorial, as a symbol of not only the love and veneration that the Fraternity has for George Washington, but also as a symbol of the ideals and beliefs that were so much a part of Washington and are so important and central to our nation. We must be wary of a universal culture that is always tolerant, accepting everything new or exotic as good. We must be wary of a culture that confuses information with knowledge and that confuses proficiency with

mastery. We must be wary of a culture that glorifies diversity and diminishes unity and a national character. Our national character was developed from the character of George Washington. Perhaps no other American citizen, however distinguished in public life, was ever so completely American. His entire life was lived in his own country. There was no foreign education, habits or tastes acquired abroad. His person, character and his greatness were truly and totally American. He was born and spent his childhood and early youth in Virginia. In his young manhood his first public service was engaging in the defense of his native state. His early manhood was spent in actively managing his estate at Mount Vernon. As a mature man he dedicated his life to his country's defense and to the establishment of this great nation. This wonderful Memorial was designed and built to stand throughout the ages and carry the message of human brotherhood, and perpetuate the attributes of self-denial, patriotism, love of country and of fellow men, typified by the Master Builder of our Nation, George Washington. It is a monument to civil and religious liberty; to a stable and orderly government; and to those principles of Freemasonry of which the "Father of His Country" was an exemplar.



First Night Alexandria 2001 When the City Becomes a Stage



The Memorial will once again participate in First Night Alexandria, a family New Years Eve celebration showcasing the area's best singers, dancers, actors, magicians, visual artists and musicians. The Memorial will host several performances and presentations in various rooms of the Memorial. First Night Alexandria is a non-alcoholic, accessible, affordable and safe celebration that culminates with a fireworks display in front of the Memorial.

"Projects That Need Funding - 2001"

The following projects need funding before they can be accomplished. The Memorial does not have funds to complete these projects. If you would like to sponsor one or more of the following please contact George Seghers at 703-683-2007 or Email: gseghers@gwmemorial.org

Install Room Dividers in the Dining Room	\$7,200
Refinish Stage Flooring in the Theatre	\$2,500
Replace Sidewalks at the Square and Compasses	\$5,000
Structural Engineer Survey of the Memorial	\$30,000
Install Dampers on the 12th Level	\$42,000
Install Emergency Lighting in the Memorial	\$35,000
Install Emergency Generators in the Memorial	\$125,000
Install Security Cameras and Monitors	\$35,000
Install Security Lighting on North Parking Lot	\$7,000
Replace Shrubbery on North Side of Grounds	\$6,000
Sponsor one edition of the Newsletter	\$9,750
Remove and Reset the Front Steps	\$250,000

Memorial Introduces Tree Program



This year the Memorial introduced a Dedicatory Tree Program. For a donation of \$500.00 a tree will be planted on the Memorial grounds in honor or memory of an individual or organization. Seven trees have been planted and seven more will be planted in the spring. A granite marker will be installed near each tree to identify the donor and honoree. For information, or to participate in this program, contact George Seghers at 703-683-2007 or Email: gseghers@gwmemorial.org

Bryant Baker

By J.P. Riddell



A colossal statue of George Washington presiding as Master of his Lodge dominates the vast Memorial Hall of The George Washington Masonic Memorial. This statue is the result of three years labor by its sculptor Bryant Baker - also a Freemason. The statue was officially unveiled before a distinguished audience, February 22, 1950. Our President, Most Worshipful Harry S. Truman, was the most honored of those present, and gave the presentation address, following the unveiling. Present also was Worshipful Godfrey P. Runaldue, Master of Alexandria-Washington Lodge No.22. Baker, one of the most gifted sculptors of his time was commissioned by the Memorial in 1947 to execute the statue -costing \$85,000.



After two years of research and construction of several models, the full size statue in clay was shipped from Baker's studio in Windsor, Connecticut to the Gorham Foundry in Providence, Rhode Island for casting. The Superintendent and eight Craftsmen, using methods little changed since the company turned out its first statue in 1885, accomplished the casting. The plaster figure was first changed into a mold of French Sand, and ultimately into heroic bronze. The statue group was divided into three parts; the statue, the chair and the pedestal. This was necessary so that it might fit through the doors of the Memorial. Final assembly took place in the Memorial where its heroic proportions catch the visitor's eyes on their first entrance into the Memorial.

Baker's statue represents Washington wearing his black velvet dress coat reserved for portrait sittings and state occasions. His face is an exact enlargement of Houdin's bust done in 1783 when the General was 55 years old. The chair podium, jewel and apron are exact in all details to the originals now on display in the Replica Lodge Room.

Baker was born in England of a long line of sculptors and builders. He was a member of Constitutional Lodge No. 294 at Beverly, Yorkshire, England. He studied at the City and Technical Institute and at the Royal Academy of Arts, where he won first place honors for two consecutive years and was awarded five principal prizes in 1910. The same year he was commissioned to do a heroic marble bust of King Edward VII. Another Royal Commission was a marble bust of Crown Prince Olav of Norway.

Coming to the United States, Baker continued the series of memorials and statues that marked his career in England. Exhibitions of his work were shown in 1919 in the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington and in 1923 at the Anderson Galleries in New York. Eventually, three Presidents sat for Baker - William Howard Taft, Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover. All three either officiated at ceremonies or visited The George Washington Masonic Memorial.

The concept of a Washington statue had been firmly established by the Memorial Association - and they obviously would select only the most talented artist to create this grand centerpiece of the Memorial. They could have selected no one more brilliant than Bryant Baker.

Capital City Opera Presents "Hansel and Gretel"



"Then from the starry sky above the angels come with peace and love and bring the children happy dreams while watch they keep." Capital City Opera, our resident Opera Company, presents a family holiday tradition, "Hansel & Gretel." The Memorial's relationship with Capital City Opera began with sold-out performances of "Hansel & Gretel" last year and followed with performances of Mozart's "Cosi fan tutte" in June, which resulted in rave reviews. "Hansel & Gretel" will be presented this season with performances on December 15, 16, 22 and 23, 2001. "La Traviata" will be presented June 1, 7 and 9, 2002. For information call 703-683-1220.

Spontaneous Patriotism

On Monday, October 8, 2001, just four weeks after the tragic events at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, a tour bus containing forty visitors from California arrived at the Memorial. As customary, a Tour Guide went to the north entrance to welcome them. Usually passengers would disembark from the bus, ascend a short flight of steps and walk directly through the north entrance and into the Memorial. Our Tour Guide observed that these visitors had not followed the usual routine, but rather had assembled on the lawn and were singing our National Anthem.

Collector's Edition for 2001

The Tall Cedars of Lebanon are sponsoring the 2001 Masonic Holiday Ornament. Each ornament is crafted in America and comes with a beautiful 24kt gold finish. A booklet with historical and educational information is enclosed in each gift box. The ornament is available through the Memorial Gift Shop at 703-549-9234 or the Memorial Website at: [Gift Shop](#)



[Click Here](#) To Order

Memorial Windows Available For Dedication

To dedicate a window in honor or memory of an individual or an organization requires a donation of \$7,500. 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. For more information contact George Seghers at 703-683-2007 or Email: gseghers@gwmemorial.org.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MEMORIAL

Window Dedications

*Bernard (Bud) Korman Reichel - TX by his Wife, Sarah and Children, Betty Alice and Bernard, Jr.
*Grover Travis Halbrooks - CA by his Wife, Vir Jean, his Son Knick and his Daughter Blair
*Guy Simons - UT by Blaine M. Simons, Blaine H. Simons and Richard H. Simons
*GS Pham Kim Vinh - CA by his Son Tuoc Kim Pham
**Lial H. "Dad" Hendershot - WA by Alice L. Hendershot
*John M. Nichols and - NJ
**Edgar N. Pepler and Malcolm B. Wernik by James S. and Frederick C. Nichols

Tree Dedications

*John G. Eshleman - PA by Trinity Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine
**Members and Friends of Paradise, California, HI-12 Club #275 - CA
**Our Friends - CA by Tony and Marilyn Wordlow
*R.W. Charles P. Hooker, II - MA by his Family
**The Grand Lodge of Alabama - AL
**June R. Pfeifer, Grand Matron,OES New Jersey 2004-5 - NJ by her Husband
**Edgar N. Pepler, PGM New Jersey, Past President GWMMA - NJ by his wife Jackie
**Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Wordlow - CA by Mr. and Mrs. Walter D. Hanisch
*Michael and Susan Tinsz - CT by Arthur R. Tinsz

21st Century Members

H. Robert Schroeder - NJ
Joe E. Worthington - OH

Life Members

James P. Hodges - TX
James A. Cliff Lodge No. 424 - MI
Alma Lodge No. 244 - MI
LeRoy W. Walton, Jr. - WA
Whittemore Lodge No. 471 - MI

Bequests

Estate of Herbert F. Stewart - MD

Sustaining Members

**Kern and Mary Chew - CA by Tony and Marilyn Wordlow
**Robert and Muriel Gill - CA

by Tony and Marilyn Wordlow
**Richard and Elaine Tarke - CA by Tony and Marilyn Wordlow
**Ray and Margaret Erickson - CA by Tony and Marilyn Wordlow
Fick & Sons, Inc. - MI
**W.E. (Bill) Hulen - FL by Donald W. Voelkle
Ray Lovelace - TX
Thomas M. Paglia - NY
Howard G. Thompson - NC
Thomas H. Burgess - PA

*In Memory Of ** In Honor Of

**For information about Planned Giving contact:
W. Scott Stoner at 717-898-2185**

YES! I would like to help with the Perpetual Maintenance of The George Washington Masonic Memorial.

21st Century - \$1,000 Donation - You will receive a 21st Century Membership Certificate and a bronze lapel pin, plus your name will be cast in bronze and placed in the Main Lobby of the Memorial.

Life Membership - \$250 Donation - You will receive a hand-lettered Life Membership Certificate sealed with the GWMMA official seal and a bronze lapel pin.

Sustaining Membership - \$100 Donation - You will receive a Sustaining Membership Certificate and a bronze lapel pin.

Planned Giving Information Other Amount All donations are sincerely appreciated and acknowledged.
Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Lodge Name
Phone

-All contributions are tax deductible.

Officers

Association Officers

Elected February 19, 2001:

Paul E. Ellis President

Warren D. Lichty First Vice President

W. Scott Stoner Second Vice President

Michael D. Brumback Third Vice President

George D. Seghers Exec. Sec.-Treasurer

Marvin E. Fowler Sec.-Treas. Emeritus

Donald M. Robey Sec.-Treas. Emeritus

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*Members of Executive Committee

Term expires February 22, 2002:

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Warren D. Lichty * Lincoln, NE

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Larry C. Schafer Phoenix, AZ

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Term Expires February 22, 2003:

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Aaron W. Harvey Portland, OR

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Charles H. Penn, III Keithville, LA

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Term Expires February 22, 2004:

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Bryce E. Lundell Cheyenne, WY

Donald R. Salmon Rapid City, SD

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Anthony P. Wordlow* Sacramento, CA

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