



# TRESTLE BOARD

Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19, AF&M

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
Est. Anno Lucis 5787 Oct 29th  
May A.L. 6021

## Events This Month

### Stated Meeting

Saturday, May 08 at 9:00 AM  
Breakfast at 8:00 AM  
Dress: Coat and Tie  
Location: Masons' Hall  
1807 E. Franklin St.  
Richmond, VA

### Ritual Practice

Every Wednesday Night  
6:30 PM at Masons' Hall

### Lodge Cleanup Day

Saturday, May 1 at Noon

### First Friday Social

May 7, 6:30 PM at Brambly Park  
1708 Belleville St., Richmond

### Masons Hall Plaque Unveiling

May 8, 11 AM at Masons' Hall  
Sponsored by Daughters of the  
American Revolution

### Masters & Wardens Meeting

Saturday, May 15 at 8:30 AM  
email [rwmawyer@comcast.net](mailto:rwmawyer@comcast.net)

### Philosophical Society

Thursday, May 27 at 6:30 PM  
at Masons' Hall



## FROM THE EAST

by Worshipful Jake Crocker

Brethren,

Happy May! Spring is in full bloom for Richmond Randolph No.19 and this promises to be very momentous month at Masons' Hall!

Our stated on May 8th and the event that will follow will be the highlight of the month and likely the highlight of my term as the Master of your lodge. Our stated will be the official visit of the Grand Master of Virginia Masons, Most Worshipful Douglas Vernon Jones, as well as other grand line officers. The stated will be held at its usual 9am start time and be preceded by our 8am breakfast. Please RSVP to me directly at [jake@crockerstrategy.com](mailto:jake@crockerstrategy.com) to ensure a space.

Following our stated we move the festivities outside at 11am to unveil our new bronze historic marker in front of Masons' Hall. This marker is being dedicated by the Commonwealth Chapter of the Daughter of The American Revolution (DAR) and their members will be on hand for the ceremony along with representatives from preservation groups and media.

*Continued...*

In addition to the marker unveiling, DAR will be presenting our lodge with an award for our diligence in preserving Masons' Hall as well a check from their fundraising efforts on our behalf. The proceeds of that fundraising effort will go toward building a new retaining wall and fence on the west side of the property, restoration of the front doors and additional window restoration. It will be an exciting day indeed and I'm grateful to all of those who have continued the great work on behalf of the lodge and the historic edifice we call home.

To prepare for those activities we're holding a lodge cleanup day on Saturday, May 1st at noon. Please join us for a couple of hours if you can.

We're also excited to now get back to degree work! After more than a year we're finally allowed to initiate, pass and raise worthy and well qualified men again in our lodge room. We have a significant number of prospects who have knocked on our door over the past several months and we're excited to now be able to move them along in the process.

I would like to thank our Junior Deacon Bro. Matthew Maggy for his work procuring resources and estimates for our upcoming renovation projects and navigating the complicated approval process. I would also like to thank our Marshal Bro. Zach James for coordinating our lodge's volunteer efforts as ushers at Richmond Raceway during April's NASCAR race. This event raised funds for our lodge and we greatly appreciate the brethren and prospects that volunteered their valuable time. I'd also like to thank Bro. David Allen for his blood drive coordination efforts, please make sure you help him out on May 6th if you can!

It is the efforts of so many members of our lodge who kept the light in our lodge alive during a dark time and for that I am very thankful. It is through their efforts that instead of struggling to get back on our feet we're reemerging rising with a hurricane of momentum behind us as the world continues to return to normal.

Fraternally,

Jake Crocker  
169th Worshipful Master  
Richmond Randolph No.19

## THE ESOTERIC CORNER

By Former Brother Laurence Gardner  
City of London Lodge, 1966-1986

From *The Shadow of Solomon*, published in 2005 and available in our Lodge library.



Nature (which is still referred to in the female sense) had long been venerated as the great beneficial Mother, but the Mother was shunned by a society which held the male godhead supreme - an unapproachable, unseen, solitary godhead, whose name could not even be uttered out loud. In Solomon's day, the High Priest of the Jerusalem Temple was the only one permitted to say the divine name - and that only once a year on the Day of Atonement. In fact, he could only say the ineffable word within the Holy of Holies (the inner sanctum of the temple), and even then it had to be under his breath, beyond the earshot of others.

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2021 Lodge Officers

Wor. Jake Crocker Worshipful Master  
Bro. Chandos Carrow Senior Warden  
Bro. Kyle Bourne Junior Warden  
Bro. Lawrence Pearson Treasurer  
Wor. Donald Moro Secretary  
Bro. Shane Flansburg Senior Deacon  
Bro. Matthew Maggy Junior Deacon  
Rt. Wor. William Heltzel Chaplain  
Bro. John Sibley Senior Steward  
Bro. Sami Dodhy Junior Steward  
Bro. Zachary James Marshall  
Wor. Donald Cunningham Tiler

May Masonic Birthdays

M. Wor. Frederick Martin Rt. Wor. William Heltzel  
Bro. Bedros Bandazian Wor. Gregory McCarney  
Wor. Robert Bedell Bro. Zachary James  
Bro. Paul Chapman Bro. M. David Allen

50 Year Members

Bro. Bedros Bandazian  
Bro. Irvin Beadles  
Wor. Robert Bedell  
Wor. Lothar Bernhard  
Wor. George "Skip" Brooks  
M.W. Stuart Cook  
Rt. Wor. Wade Evans  
Wor. Charles Hundley  
Wor. Waverly Marshall  
M.W. Frederick Martin  
Bro. James Owens  
Bro. William Perkins  
Bro. John Stenstrom

60 Year Members

Bro. Walter Henry  
Bro. William Perkins

RR #19 Living Past Masters

Life Members in Perpetuity

Robert Bedell, 1971  
Lothar Bernhard, 1988  
Larry Dixon, 1995  
Anthony Pearce, 1997  
Marc Graham, 1999  
Gordon Sprigg, Jr., 2000  
Barrye Absher, 2005  
Thomas Breeden, 2006  
Wade Evans, Jr., 2007  
Edward Winder, 2008  
Charles Sykes, 2009  
William Heltzel, 2010  
James Duke, 2011  
Paul Dierickx, 2012, 2013  
Lee Oppenheim, 2014  
Michael Joyner, 2015, 2016  
Charles Hundley, 2017  
Chad Vanderpool, 2018  
Donald Cunningham, 2019  
Donald Moro, 2020

Rt. Wor. Barry Absher  
Bro. Jacob Allen  
Bro. Benjamin Barrett  
Bro. Ronnie Childs  
Wor. Paul Dierickx  
Rt. Wor. James Duke Jr.  
Bro. Peter Francisco  
Rt. Wor. William Heltzel  
Bro. Douglas Mack  
Bro. Ian Nelson  
Bro. Anthony Pearce  
Bro. Francis Romero  
Rt. Wor. Charles Sarbaugh  
Bro. Christopher Shuman  
Wor. C. Thomas Sykes  
Bro. Curtis Thompson

# FROM THE TREASURER

by Brother Lane Pearson



To receive your 2021 Dues Card, please send your dues payment of \$275 to the Lodge using the Store link on our web page, by Venmo (scan the QR code), by check mailed to P.O. Box 23160, Richmond, VA 23223 or you can pay the Secretary at the next meeting. Please support your Lodge and pay your dues as early as possible.

## A LITTLE MASONIC HUMOR

Bob and Bill were brother Masons and great friends for most of their lives. Each had agreed that when one of them passed on to that Grand Lodge above, he would attempt to make contact with the other and tell him all about what heaven was like.

As so happened, Bill went to heaven, first.

One night Bob was just drifting off to sleep when he heard Bill's voice calling to him. "Is that you, Bill?" "Yes, Bob. I am honoring our agreement."

"Oh, MY,... what's it like?" Bob asked with some anticipation.

"It's like nothing you could ever imagine. The lodge here is fantastic,... better than any lodge we ever saw on Earth. The meetings are always well attended, the ritual is letter perfect, the friendship nights always have tons of new people just itching to join, and the spirit of fellowship blankets the entire place."

Bob's eyes teared up.

"Oh, my, it's just like we'd hoped. I'm so happy for you. But I have to ask,... that sounds really great, but you didn't really seem all that excited. What's wrong?"

"Well, I have some good news and some bad. The good news is that we're raising a fellow to the third degree next Wednesday."

"That's fantastic. What's the bad news?"

"Your name is on the list to be the Senior Deacon."



# THE OLD CHARGES

by Brother David Allen

*Discussion Topic for the May Philosophical Society Meeting*

Our meeting will focus on the old charges; these Old Charges (or Old Masonic Manuscripts) form the basis of modern Masonic Constitutions, and therefore, each Grand Lodge. They establish the continuity of the Masonic Institution through six centuries and prove the antiquity of Masonry by written documents. The Old Charges are traditional and legendary in format and are not normally read by the amateur due to arcane Olde Englishe wording. Also, many of the words written 600 years ago mean something quite different in our language of today. Fortunately, Masonic historians through the years have studied them and written much about them in layman's language that we can understand. Here, for example is a small excerpt, which you may connect to modern requirements of Freemasonry.

*Fifth article. The fifth article is very good: That the apprentice must be of lawful blood, The Master shall not, for any reason, Make one an apprentice who is deformed; It is necessary, as you know, That all of his limbs are whole. It would be a great shame on the Craft To make a lame or limping man an apprentice, Because such an imperfect man Would be of little good to the Craft; Everyone must know this. The Craft should have a sound worker; A crippled man cannot work well, This will be obvious right away. -- The Regius Manuscript*

Questions to structure the discussion, and consider before you come:

1. What practical problems would these documents solve for the men of the day?
2. Which parts of the text are purely "operative" Masonry, and which are more related to speculative Masonry?
3. How did the political structure of the day impact how the Craft was organized?
4. What are the similarities and differences between a guild of stonemasons and a labor union?
5. What are the similarities and differences between a guild and a Grand Lodge of speculative freemasons?
6. The Old Charges are the basis for the Craft. What was their basis?

Resources for background reading & listening prior to the meeting

- [List of, and text of all the old Charges](#); a recommended starting point is the [First Shaw Statutes](#) or the [Regius Manuscript](#).
- [Summary of all of the Old Charges](#)
- [More information on, and a summary of the Regius Manuscript specifically](#).
- [The Old Constitutions of Freemasonry](#), by J Roberts (Dated 1722, re-printed 1917)

## MASONIC PODCASTS

by Worshipful Donald Moro, P.M.

Masonic podcasts are an entertaining way to pass the time when you are stuck in traffic or just looking for some Masonic enlightenment. Here are three that I enjoy:

- Whence Came You
- Meet, Act, and Part
- Short Talk Bulletin

The last podcast is a reading of actual Short Talk Bulletins as published by the Masonic Service Association.