

[View this email in your browser](#)



**February, 2022 | Issue 1**

## RECENT DEGREE WORK

**Congratulations to Stephen White-Berry, our Newest Fellowcraft**



Back Row: Rt. Wor. Donald Cunningham, Bro. Matthew Maggy, Wor. Donald Moro, Wor. Paul Rinko, Wor. Michael Joyner.

Front Row: Bro. Richard Meador, Wor. Chandos Carrow, Bro. Stephen White-Berry, Bro. Kyle Bourne, Rt. Wor. Bill Heltzel, Bro. David Allen

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ***Royal Arch Degree Conferral***

The first two degrees of the Royal Arch will be conferred on Monday, January 31, 2020 at 6:30 PM at the Petersburg Masonic Temple, 115 S. Sycamore St., Petersburg.

### ***Called Communication***

A Called Communication of Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 for work in the Entered Apprentice Degree will be held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at 6:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM. Dress is coat and tie.

### ***First Friday***

A First Friday Social will be held on Friday, February 4, 2022 at 6:30 PM at Nick's Roman Terrace, 8051 W. Broad St., Henrico. Prospective masons, spouses, and significant others are welcome.

### ***Stated Meeting***

A Stated Meeting of Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 will be held on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 9:00 AM. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 AM. Dress is coat and tie. District Deputy Grand Master Rt. Wor. Donald Cunningham will be making his official visit.

### ***Masters and Wardens Meeting***

All Masons of any degree from District 15a and 15b are invited to meet at Tuckahoe Masonic Lodge, 5500 Bethlehem Rd, Richmond on February 19, 2022 at 8:45 AM for district-wide fellowship and information sharing. Breakfast is served at 8:00 AM. Dress is casual.

### ***Philosophical Society***

A meeting of the Richmond Randolph No. 19 Philosophical Society will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM at a location to be determined (check the website). The topic for discussion is Dwight L. Smith's 1963 treatise, "Whither Are We Traveling." Dress is casual.

### ***Wednesday Night Practice and Social***

All members are invited to meet at Masons' Hall each Wednesday night at 6:30 PM for ritual practice. Following the practice at 8:00 PM, we adjourn to Rosie Connelly's Pub for refreshment and fellowship. Dress is casual.

## FROM THE TREASURER

Brethren! I've stepped out of the East and a couple of steps over and into the Northeast corner to take over the responsibilities of being your Treasurer. My first thing to do is to remind you that your 2022 dues are now due. They're \$290 this year and they can be paid via our website [richmondrandolph19.com](http://richmondrandolph19.com)



Worshipful Jake Crocker

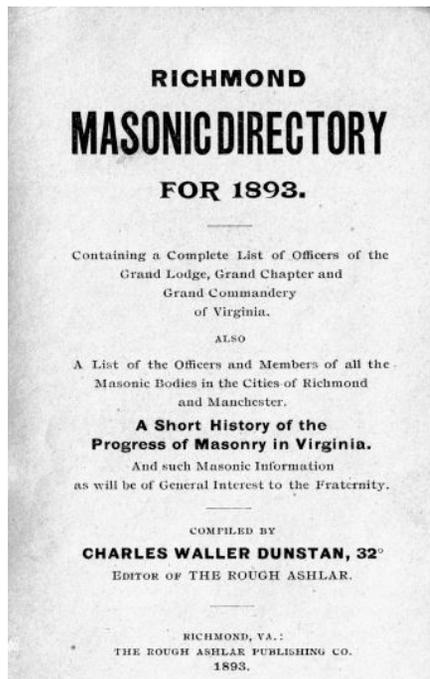
under the "store" tab, via Venmo @richmondrandolph19, or by check mailed to the Lodge's P.O. Box address.

Please note the lodge voted at our November stated communication to no longer absorb associated fees when paying through the website via PayPal or Venmo. If you would prefer to avoid fees then please remit payment by way of cash or check.

## OF MASONIC INTEREST

### Reading Masons

*From the Richmond Masonic Directory  
for 1893,  
Compiled by Charles Waller Dunstan, 32°*



The Masonic Brotherhood ought to be made up of reading people, and Masons are supposed to be a select people, chosen with much care from the common mass of mankind; sound in body and mind, who have a desire for knowledge, that they may be serviceable to their fellowmen. And our art is

But it is a lamentable fact that multitudes of the members of our institution are not reading men. If they ever had any thirst for knowledge it must have died out, or it lies as dormant as does the latent heat in a bar of frosted iron, and requires quite as hard blows to incite it to action. Ask them to suscribe [*sic*] for a journal or purchase a book, and they show no interest whatever. Press the matter and you will soon discover that they have no interest in journals or books. It is true that they will tell you that they are fully supplied - have even more than they can possibly find time to read. But converse with them on topics of interest to the man of intelligence, and you will soon discover the utter bareness of their minds, if they read at all their reading is made up of the light, frothy fiction which affords no work for the intellectual faculties, and is not calculated to improve either mind or morals.

Now we do not mean to insinuate that there are no reading Masons, far from it. There are not a few who are students indeed. They are often found among the most busy of men; those who rise early, and retire late, and eat not the bread of idleness. But they rightly devide [*sic*] their time and sacredly set aside a portion for mental and oral culture, and thus find time for business, for society, for the study and reading needful in order to their keeping pace with the intelligence and progress of the age.

calculated to stimulate rather than stultify a growth of intellect and foster a love for learning.

*"But converse with them on topics of interest to the man of intelligence, and you will soon discover the utter bareness of their minds..."*

Now, in order to acquire knowledge, study is requisite; hence it might be readily interred that Masons would be students - not only readers of books but students of them, and of that class of books which afford food for the intellectual faculties. That they would devote at least some time to those works of science which are calculated to reveal the hidden truths of nature, and lead the mind up through nature, into communion with the Great First Cause - the God who dwelleth in secret, and yet He is not far from him who searcheth after Him.

**THE**



**TRADE MARK, PATENTED.**

Is for the cure of disease without medicine. To its efficacy many Richmond people testify, the names of a few are given below:

**Dyspepsia**—Gervas Stores, 1107 E. Cary Street.  
**Torpid Liver**—E. T. Jordan, 1109 E. Main Street, now of Chase City, Va.  
**Sciatic Rheumatism**—A. J. Lechler, 605 Albemarle St.  
**Insomnia**—Thos. Booker, 1112 Capitol St.  
**Nervous Prostration**—W. Y. Mordecai, Young's Pond.  
**Paralysis**—H. T. Miller, 906 E. Main St.  
**Catarrh**—Thos. Poindexter, 305 E. Grace Street.  
**Colds and Sore Throats**—A. B. Guigon, 911 E. Main St.; M. L. Dawson, 1002 E. Main St.  
**Tonic Effects**—G. Julian Snyder, 1008 E. Cary St.; Prof. C. Hahr, now of Petersburg, Va.

The agent will be glad to give any information on the subject. He will also give special directions for the use of the Electropoise to those who wish them Free!

**PAUL PRATT,**  
 Co-Agent with Atlantic Electropoise Co.,  
 for Virginia.  
**409 E. Grace Street,**  
 OFFICE HOURS:  
 9 to 10 A. M.; 12 to 2; 4 to 5 P. M.  
**RICHMOND, VA.**

## THE ROSTER

### **Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 AF&AM**

#### ***Meeting Location***

Masons' Hall  
1807 E. Franklin St., Richmond, VA

#### ***Mailing Address***

P.O. Box 23160, Richmond, VA 23223

#### ***Email Address***

secretaryr19@gmail.com

#### ***Website***

www.richmondrandolph19.com

#### ***2022 Lodge Officers***

Wor. Chandos Carrow	Worshipful Master
Bro. Kyle Bourne	Senior Warden
Bro. Lawrence Pearson	Junior Warden
Wor. Jake Crocker	Treasurer
Wor. Donald Moro	Secretary
Bro. Matthew Maggy	Senior Deacon
Bro. Sam Dodhy	Junior Deacon
Bro. William Heltzel	Chaplain
Bro. John Sibley	Senior Steward

#### ***50 Year Masonic Veterans***

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

#### ***60 Year Masonic Veterans***

Bro. Walter Henry

#### ***RR19 Living Past Masters***

Robert Bedell, 1971  
 Lothar Bernhard, 1988  
 Larry Dixon, 1995  
 Anthony Pearce, 1997  
 Marc Graham, 1999  
 Gordon Sprigg, Jr., 2000  
 Barrye Absher, 2005

Bro. Christopher Martone Junior Steward  
 Bro. Zachary James Marshall  
 Bro. Ryan Mumby Tiler

**February, 2022 Masonic Birthdays**

Bro. Earl Clark 49 Years  
 Bro. Kenneth Wright 42 Years  
 Wor. Chad Vanderpool 11 Years  
 Bro. Brent Arnold 9 Years  
 Bro. Jesse Wingate 8 Years  
 Bro. Chris Martone 5 Years  
 Bro. Jacob Allen 4 Years  
 Bro. Matthew Murcin 4 Years  
 Bro. J. Scott Tucker 4 Years  
 Bro. Joseph Alapatt 2 Years

*A Bag of Tools, by R. Lee Sharpe*

Isn't it strange  
 That princes and kings,  
 And clowns that caper  
 In sawdust rings,  
 And common people  
 Like you and me  
 Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools,  
 A shapeless mass,  
 A book of rules;  
 And each must make—  
 Ere life is flown—  
 A stumbling block  
 Or a steppingstone.

Thomas Breeden, 2006  
 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  
 Jacob Crocker, 2021

***Life Members in Perpetuity***

Rt. Wor. Barry Absher  
 Bro. Jacob Allen  
 Bro. Benjamin Barrett  
 Bro. Ronald 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

TWO POINTS OF THE SAME COMPASSES



*Brother Ryan Mumby*

*Editor's Note: In 2021, Brother Mumby affiliated from Sodus Lodge No. 392 in Sodus, NY.*

The largest differences in New York Masonry and Virginia Masonry I have noticed come from the day to day action and culture. Virginia Masonry is very public and uses a lot of words to express proudly and frequently what masonry is. New York Masonry on the other hand seems to be based on the daily actions we execute consistently and quietly. Virginia Masonry exemplifies pride in the craft. Virginia Masons are extremely proud to be Masons—to the point of something akin to jingoism at times. The sincere zeal they bring to the craft when verbally inculcating you with the practice and principles makes it all the more enjoyable.

*They take that zeal, enthusiasm,*

Masonry has spread to almost every corner of the globe and like all things that spread to new regions and cultures, a certain amount of evolution and adaptation takes place as it enters those new areas. Masonry in New York is no exception to the rule. Although Masonry started in America via Virginia—or at least so I am told so proudly by so many Virginia Masons—it eventually found its way to New York, and there isn't anything a New Yorker doesn't think they can't make better. Don't believe me? Just ask a New Yorker and they'll be happy to tell you.

*Although it means more words to memorize, it provides a more enriching experience. For this reason I have grown to appreciate the Virginia Ritual, and ritual in general, much more.*

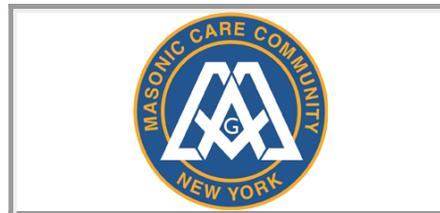
I wanted to discuss, from an outsider's perspective, some of the key differences I have observed practicing both New York and Virginia Masonry. I am no expert in either and make no claim to be. These are just humble observations and opinions presented for the reader to do with as they please. There are a multitude of obvious surface level differences in Lodge structures, operations and rituals. You Virginians have this funny habit of using more and different words than we do in the New York Rituals. Virginia Ritual often has more colloquial words in it—especially when describing the working tools at each degree. Although it means more words to memorize, it provides a more enriching experience. For this reason I have grown to appreciate the Virginia Ritual, and ritual in general, much more.

Another extreme difference in the ritual is how Master Masons and Fellowcrafts wear their aprons. In New York Master Masons wear their Aprons like Virginia Fellowcrafts and New York Fellowcrafts wear their aprons like Virginian Master Masons. However, fear no evil Virginia Masons! You seem to correct this silly mistake in Lodge meetings and us New York Masons will not hold it against you...that much. The aprons in Virginia are also worn under one's suit coat and not over as we do in New York. I can only surmise it is because New Yorkers are louder and prouder to be masons.

*and loud pride out and make the world a whole heartily better place to live through being more than a man, but a Mason.*

That enthusiasm does not stop at the Lodge either. Virginia Brothers openly and loudly advertise their involvement in masonry through social media and their public interactions; something that is kept almost to oneself in New York Masonry. And something we New Yorkers should take note of: the vast majority of Masons I meet in Virginia are fantastic upstanding men who I am proud to be brothers with. They take that zeal, enthusiasm, and loud pride out and make the world a whole heartily better place to live through being more than a man, but a Mason.

However, I have noticed themes of Virginia Masonry prevalent enough for me to identify as underlying trends that I am yet to be fully satisfied with. These portions of masonry in Virginia are not the majority, but exist to a degree that I had to adjust them, as I had not experienced it in my New York Masonic involvement. The first was talking ill of other brothers. In my New York Masonic career I had never heard a brother speak ill of another behind their back. If there was an issue they addressed it head on with the assistance of the other brethren of the lodge in a meaningful and productive way.

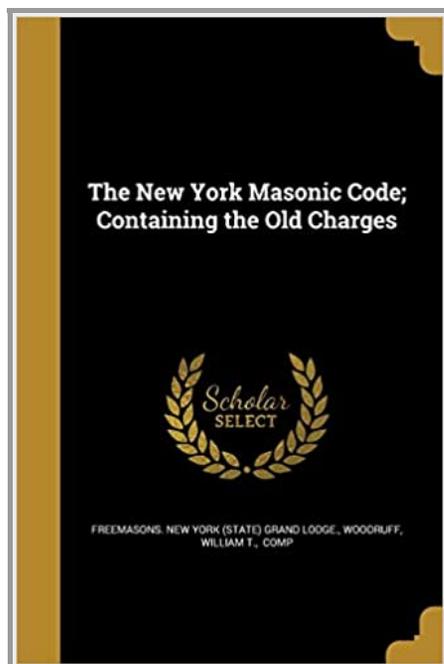


Later on I began to realize my Richmond Lodge, and many surrounding Lodges, are not as active within their communities. Many Lodges in New York take an extremely active role volunteering, supporting, fundraising, and helping run community events. It is common for the lodges to open the doors to host an event that has no direct benefit to the lodge. Brothers of the Lodge often volunteer their time and efforts at local centers, schools, and colleges by helping students learn new skills that they themselves have expertise in, tutoring, or just providing general mentorship and guidance. Brothers and Lodges provide or organize volunteer hour opportunities to these local students to



While on the topic of Masons in Lodge, I noticed we salute differently in New York. When addressing the Worshipful Master, any other Lodge Officer, or anyone you would like to express respect to, we use The Sign of Fidelity. It can be done by placing your right arm across your abdomen as if you were about to take a bow, but don't bow. Your palm, fingers, and arm should be rigid and flat with the thumb up. We also use this sign whenever performing any task, except addressing the flag, that requires utmost dignity—attending prayer for example.

Outside of the thousands of ritual differences the lodge is operated differently. New York Lodges go dark in the summertime. Once it is over 72 Degrees it is too hot for New Yorkers to function in an unairconditioned space, which is most lodges in New York. So around June many lodges will install their officers for the following year then close the lodge until late August or early September. To make up for lost time, we have two stated meetings a month during the open months.



Another operational difference that is sure to rub many the wrong way: candidates do not

help them meet certain graduation criteria. My mother lodge sponsors and pays for a scholarship at the local high school every year.

While I don't believe Lodges should over exert themselves in an attempt to be community stewards, I do believe it is a part of any healthy lodge to look outside itself from time to time. The lodges in New York aren't only more purposeful in their communities, but with their brethren as well. While in Virginia I have seen and experienced the dedication you brethren show to each other right up to the point where their brother's body is committed to the ground. I commend you all on that active and important participation. However, New York Masons, I have observed, seem to remember more actively and in greater numbers the part in their obligation that calls on them to care for distressed brother masons, their widows, and orphans. Many New York Masons have contacted or stopped to visit the widow or child of a deceased master mason within the last month or so. My grandmother cannot go longer than a month without one of my grandfather's brothers, my brothers, stopping in to chat, calling to check in, or delivering some food. The last update I got was that a brother of the lodge had fixed the leaky bathroom faucet he noticed during his last visit.

*With the limitations of what can be done in a lodge, Grand Lodge places a level of seriousness on the entire building, which I believe New York Masons reserve only for the Lodge Room itself.*

The last action and culture based difference in the two is the fellowship. New York Masons seem to prioritize fellowship more frequently than Virginia Masons. Richmond Randolph does a superb job of trying to incorporate a fellowship into the craft, which most certainly is a part of any healthy lodge. However, I do believe they and other lodges are hindered by the atmosphere the Grand Lodge pushes onto lodge buildings. With the limitations of what can be done in a lodge, Grand Lodge places a level of seriousness on the entire building, which I believe New York Masons reserve only for the Lodge Room itself. This difference is shown clearest in the policies on

have to fully memorize their catechisms. We are given cipher books as an aid in learning them [Pause for gasps of astonishment]. Most candidates memorize their ritual with use of the cipher book and then are tested on key parts and portions of the catechism—grips, signs, word, and working tools being the most common. Notice how I didn't say obligation? Some lodges require it, some do not. New York's process seems to emphasize learning the lessons and virtues taught in the ritual rather than perfecting the ritual itself, which is still good.

This is not to imply New Yorkers are not word perfect in their ritual. Many brothers put in a great amount of effort to learn and perfect their ritual, and should be commended for their efforts and dedication. I appreciate Virginia for standing firm on this difference. I think the time, dedication, and discipline required to obtain your degrees through the standard or alternative method is a good judge of the man you are bringing into your lodge. By memorizing it word for word it allows the candidate more ability to draw out the symbols, virtues, and lessons being expressed in each. With that ability the candidate can truly reflect and develop their own sense of deeper understanding.

alcohol. In New York alcohol and drinking are allowed in any part of the ledge except the lodge room [Pause for gasps and screams of outrage]. While I firmly believe alcohol is not needed for a good time, I believe by allowing it in the lodges has fostered more relaxed and open atmospheres for meaningful fellowship. In New York it is not uncommon to find a billiards room, poker room, dart room, or bar full of master masons on any given night in many lodges.

Masonry is a very important and integral part of many peoples lives, so I would like to close this with a few simple statements: These are the differences, as I see them, and my own observations and opinions on those differences. They are not facts. If you disagree that is fine, if you agree that is also fine. However, I would encourage you to think the truth falls somewhere in the middle. Too often in life we unknowingly discredit the opinions we find hard to swallow and credit those that fall in line with our personal paradigms of the world. While ritual and the lessons learned from it are important, masonry does not live and die with word perfect execution of the ritual. It lives by the character of its brothers and dies in the absence of said character.



*Copyright © 2022 Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19, AF&AM, All rights reserved.*

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Grow your business with  **mailchimp**