

**SEPTEMBER STATED COMMUNICATION**

**Saturday September 12th A.L. 6020 at 9 AM.**

Masons Hall, 1807 E Franklin St., Richmond, Virginia

Dress: Tuxedos for Officers; Dark Suits & Ties for others

9:00 AM: Open Master Mason Lodge

Balloting on two petitions for affiliation

Presenting a 50 year pin to Wor. Charles Hundley

Discussing our Philosophical Society topic for the month: the Origins of Freemasonry.

- Social distancing will be observed, as will enhanced sanitizing and the use of the new "contactless" protocols for taking up the Word and other rituals.
- Everyone will be required to wear a mask at all times in the Lodge.
- There will be no refreshments other than bottled water.
- Members who are in the at-risk category for Covid-19, or who are not comfortable attending, should avoid the meeting.

**Upcoming Richmond Randolph # 19 Events**

**Fri 9/4**- First Fridays @ 6 PM Brambly Park Winery (1708 Belleville St, Richmond, VA 23230). Face Masks are required when entering the restaurant and may be taken off once at the table. Social gathering open to spouses and people interested in masonry.

**Thurs 9/24** - 6:30 PM Philosophy Night @ Masons Hall. Topic: TBD

**Sat 9/26** - 9 AM to Noon: The Civil War Lodge of Research will hold its September Meeting at Masons Hall. Guests are limited to five. Contact Wor. Michael Joyner to attend.

**Sat 10/3** - District One-Day Conferral (RR#19 will have 4 candidates)

**Every Wednesday Night**- 7PM Lodge Ritual Practice at Masons Hall

**Every Saturday**, The Robert Lewis Gibbs Masonic Ritual class meets at the Scottish Rite Temple Except on days for Masters and Wardens. @ 9AM Catechism coaching; 10 AM Ritual practice.

**Every Sunday @ 5PM**, Warden's Certificate Class@ Tuckaho Temple (5500 Bethlehem Rd, Richmond)

**Masters and Wardens - 3rd Saturday**, @ 8:45 AM at Westhampton Lodge, except in December. Breakfast @ 8AM.

Ancient Free and Accepted  
Masons  
Est. Anno Lucis 5787 Oct 29th  
September A.L. 6020

www.RichmondRandolph19.com  
PO Box 23160  
Richmond, VA 23223  
[Secretaryrr19@gmail.com](mailto:Secretaryrr19@gmail.com)  
804-980-4697

**2020 Lodge Officers**

**Wor. Donald Moro**  
**Worshipful Master**  
(804)652-9311

- Bro. Jake Crocker** Sr. Warden
- Bro. Zachary James** Jr. Warden
- Bro. Lane Pearson** Treasurer
- Bro. Matthew Maggy** Secretary
- Bro. Kyle Bourne** Sr. Deacon
- Bro. Shane Flansburg** Jr. Deacon
- Rt. Wor. Bill Heltzel** Chaplain
- Bro. John Sibley** Sr. Steward
- Bro. David Allen** Jr. Steward
- Bro. Chandos Carrow** Marshall
- Bro. Earl Sale** Tiler

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES-**

Rt. Wor. William Heltzel, Wor. Paul Dierickx, Wor. Charles Hundley, Wor. Michael Joyner, Wor. Lee Oppenheim

**ILL and/or DISTRESSED –**

Bro. Zach James

**PROPERTY –** Bro. Kyle Bourne

**MAHOVA Rep –**

**BLOOD COORDINATOR –**

Bro. David Allen

**LODGE INSTRUCTOR of WORK –**

Rt. Wor. William Heltzel

**LODGE EDUCATION OFFICER –**

Rt. Wor. William Heltzel

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION–**

Bro. Don Cunningham

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH -** Wor. Michael Joyner

## Greetings from the East - Put Your Mask on First

Wor. Donald Moro

### Put Your Mask on First

Anyone who has flown a commercial airline has heard the familiar phrase “put your mask on first before assisting others.” In this time of pandemic, I am sure you have been hearing about the various ways we can care for ourselves physically and mentally as we forego our normal routines. But have you thought about the ways you can care for yourself *masonically*? Here some ideas for your consideration.

### Learn New Ritual

Some parts of the ritual are written in the Manual of Work. Pick a part and take some time to learn it. For example, Lodges are always looking for someone to give the opening and closing prayers. As these are written in the manual, they would be a great place to start your learning. If you are a line officer, don't fall out of practice just because you can't attend meetings in person. Review your part of the ritual in your head daily. Some have found that reviewing the ritual while exercising improves retention.

### Take Advantage of Virtual Events

Some Lodges continue to hold their events virtually or even in a hybrid manner (both in-person and “Zooming”). Even if your Lodge is not doing this, there are countless Masonic podcasts and virtual events being held every day. Just Google “Masonic Roundtable” or “Whence Came You” podcasts for enjoyable listening at any time, day or night. Also, the Grand Lodge of Virginia's On-Line Correspondence Course is a great way to learn about the laws, rules and regulations of our craft....and you can earn a certificate suitable for framing!

### Read Great Books

Visit the local Library and check out a Masonic book. You might be surprised at what you will learn. Also, thanks to our Immediate Past Master, Worshipful Don Cunningham, Masons' Hall is blessed with a library abundantly filled with Masonic texts that have been carefully curated. Just sign out a book and enjoy!

### Reach Out

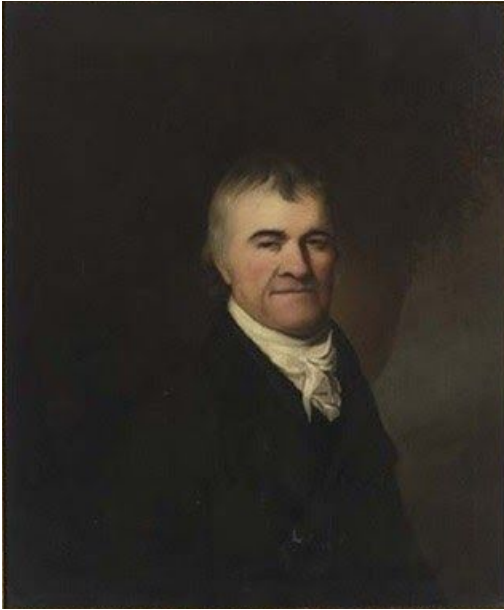
Finally, it goes without saying that we are all feeling isolated these days. Any brother would be willing to stretch forth his hand to sustain you. Reach out to someone to talk about what's happening in your life. Ask him about his. In a few short minutes you'll be on your way to a great conversation. And if you know of an older member of our Lodge (or his widow), consider reaching out to him or her. Just pick up the phone and call.

In closing, I can't stress enough the power of a positive attitude. You won't effectively help others if you, yourself, are feeling down. Improve your Masonic mood by taking advantage of some of my ideas presented here, and remember to put your mask on first before assisting others!

## Meet The Past Master - Wor. John K Read

By Jake Crocker, Senior Warden

In the inaugural edition of Meet The Past Master of Richmond Randolph No.19 we introduce you to Worshipful Brother Dr. John Koyall Read, the Third Master of Richmond Randolph No.19. Brother Read served in the East at Masons' Hall from June 23, 1793 until June 22, 1795, after having previously served a two year term as Deputy Grand Master of Virginia Masons from 1790 to 1792.



Brother John Read was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1746. His father was James Read, the younger brother of Brother Benjamin Franklin's wife Deborah Reed, whose father was also named John Read. In addition to his uncle Ben, his father James was an important connection for John and to our country's founders and delegates as he was employed by the Continental Congress to sign the continental currency. This would prove to be a critical relationship in the early history of the United States Navy, resulting in its first hero.

John became a physician and to Virginia, residing in Hanover and then Goochland Counties. During his time in Virginia he became an active Mason and took interest in a wayward Mason, John Paul Jones, who had recently arrived in Fredericksburg. A new face in a new town that looked suspiciously upon strangers, Jones was welcomed with open arms by Fredericksburg Lodge No.4 and found a friend there with another mason named John... John Read.

The two Johns were of similar age and became fast friends. Jones would spend significant time at Read's plantation "The Grove" where he would fascinate his new friend with tales of his adventures during his former life in King George's Navy as "Capitan Paul". It was here Jones would become acquainted with the ways of Virginia's landed gentry and learn from Dr. Read how to be a gentleman. According to the book *John Paul Jones: Sailor, Hero, Father of The American Navy*, during those solitary hours spent with Dr. Read at the Grove, "Jones read a great deal. He was self-educating."

It was during his time in Hanover County with Read where not only was he forming a friendship and self-educating with his host's robust library, he was also looking for love. He began a relationship with Dorothea Spotswood Dandridge, which her influential father did not approve of. Later, after Jones' departure, John K. Read would have to break the bad news to his friend in a letter that Ms. Dandridge was to become Mrs. Patrick Henry. He reports "Mis Dandridge is no more! She a few months since gave herself into the arms of Gov. Henry."

In 1775, desirous of a naval commission, Jones left for Philadelphia in hopes to join the continental navy that was to be formed. He was put in contact with and hosted by John's father, James Read and introduced to the influential members of congress that could sponsor his commission, including Benjamin Franklin. These efforts were successful and Jones received his appointment as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant. Year later in a letter to Franklin, John Paul Jones said, "I can mention a person whom I very much esteem, and who has always expressed great obligation to you. I mean Dr. John K. Read."

While Jones went to sea, Dr. Read stayed in Virginia supporting the cause for independence by serving the cause as a surgeon for the Virginia Militia. Read and Jones would maintain a correspondence throughout the war and after. After the Revolutionary War John K. Read would become an influential presence in Virginia politics and would continue his involvement and dedication to freemasonry.

In 1790, with the Grand Lodge of Virginia now firmly established in Richmond at Masons' Hall, Read was elected Deputy Grand Master of Virginia Masons. As Deputy Grand Master in 1791 and a member of Richmond Randolph No.19, Dr. Read would author and publish the Grand Lodge's first Methodical Digest under the lengthy title and description *Ahiman Rezon: Containing the Laws and Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. To which is added the history of masonry, from creation, to the death of Queen Elizabeth. Also illustrations of the royal art, and a variety of other matter relative to that institution. Carefully collated, from the most approved authors, ancient as well as modern.*

## **AUGUST MASONIC BIRTHDAYS**

Charles Hundley (50 yrs)  
John Emory (31 yrs)  
John Eisenburg (12 yrs)  
Thomas Flanagan (3 yrs)  
Lane Pearson (3 yrs)  
Matt Madison (2 yrs)

### **50 yr members**

Bro. Bedros Bandazian  
Wor. Robert Bedell  
Bro. Ralph Braun  
Bro. Horace Dowdy  
Bro Walter Henry Jr.  
Bro. William Perkins  
Bro. John Stenstrom  
MW Fred Martin  
MW Stuart Cook  
Wor. Waverly Marshall  
Wor. George "Skip" Brooks  
Wor. Charles Hundley

### **60 yr members**

Wor. McClellan Burgess  
**RR #19 Living Past Masters**  
McClellan W Burgess 1966  
Robert G. Bedell, 1971  
Lothar A. Bernhard, 1988  
Larry Johnnie Dixon, 1995  
Anthony Charles Pearce, 1997  
Marc Daniel Graham, 1999  
Gordon Hector Sprigg, Jr., 2000  
Barrye Lane Absher, 2005  
Thomas Edward Breeden, 2006  
Wade Vestal Evans, Jr., 2007  
Edward Keith Winder, 2008  
Charles Thomas Sykes, 2009  
William B. Heltzel, 2010  
James H. Duke, 2011  
Paul A. Dierickx, 2012, 2013  
Lee Oppenheim, 2014  
Michael Joyner, 2015, 2016  
Charles Hundley, 2017  
Chad Vanderpool, 2018  
Don Cunningham, 2019

### **Honorary Members**

Rt. Wor. Wade Evans Jr.  
Rt. Wor. Charles Sarbaugh  
Most Worshipful Stuart Cook  
Bro. Earl Sale  
Most Worshipful Bill Hershey  
RW Larry Dixon  
MW Fred Martin

### **LIFE MEMBERS IN PERPETUITY**

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

Read remains credited in the current and all subsequent editions including in the editions later authored by No.19's own Dr. John Dove. The book was enormously influential in the organization of Virginia masonry during the early republic as the current edition acts as the foremost guideline for today's lodges. Kentucky also adopted Read's first edition in 1792 to establish its Grand Lodge and govern its subordinate lodges.

The original edition also credits the printing to John Dixon, a charter member and first Senior Warden of Richmond Randolph No.19, who had published the Virginia Gazette in Williamsburg before relocating to Richmond with the capital. In addition to his DGM title it should be noted John K. Read also lists himself as a member of the "Lodge of Perfection, Charleston, SC" "an important component of the Scottish Rite which credits its Southern Jurisdiction founding to 1801, interesting enough a decade *after* the initial publication of this Ahiman Rezon.

Read would dedicate this first edition to George Washington and would send him a copy before it went to press. In a letter to George Washington accompanying his work and preserved in the National Archives Read writes: "If you should find on perusal of the preface, (which will give you the outlines of the work) that there is utility in the production, I flatter myself the obscurity of my name will not militate against the success of my application—I beg leave to refer you to my friend the honble Mr Lyons, for my character as a *Man*—as an *Author* my claim to your attention, can only be, in proportion to the merits of the work."

After his term as Deputy Grand Master instead of becoming Grand Master of Masons in Virginia as is the practice today, Dr. Read would instead take his position in the east at Masons' Hall in 1793 as the third Worshipful Master of Richmond Randolph No.19. The Read administration appears to have been a harmonious one according to the activity referenced in the lodge's published history from 1887. Of note as master, Read receives a communication from the Grand Master that William Waddill, a charter member and first master of No.19 would be appointed "Inspector General of the Lodges", an important office at that time. Waddill, also and Past Master of Williamsburg No.6 had previously played an important role in the proceedings establishing the Grand Lodge of Virginia in Williamsburg.

After his service to Richmond Randolph No.19, Dr. Read would marry for the third time and relocate to Norfolk, where he would serve as an Alderman and in 1799 was elected Mayor of the City of Norfolk. In addition to his service to the City of Norfolk, Read would finally decades later follow his friend John Paul Jones into naval service. President John Adams commissioned him as a surgeon to serve as the quarantine inspector for the United States Navy fleet in Norfolk during the Quasi-War with France.

John Koyall Read, Sr. passed in 1805 at just 50 years of age. He rests in the church yard of Norfolk's historic Saint Paul's Episcopal Church where his grave marker describes him as a man of "distinguished reputation" and "uncommon ability" that "won the esteem of all".

