

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

www.RichmondRandolph19.com  
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**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

**OCTOBER STATED COMMUNICATION**

**Wednesday October 14th A.L. 6020 at 7 PM.**

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

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

9:00 AM: Open Master Mason Lodge

Discussing our Philosophical Society topic for the month: The Masonic Legacy Society

- 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 10/2-** 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.

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

**Thurs 10/22 -** 6:30 PM Philosophy Night @ Masons Hall. Topic: Thomas Paine’s “The Declaration of the Rights of Man”

**Sat 10/24:** 2-4 PM Lodge Family Day at Humphrey Calder playground (304 N Thompson St, Richmond, VA 23221, USA) Open air family social, meet & greet for prospects, members, and anyone in the community who is interested. Kids are welcome, a playground is nearby. Masks encouraged.

**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)

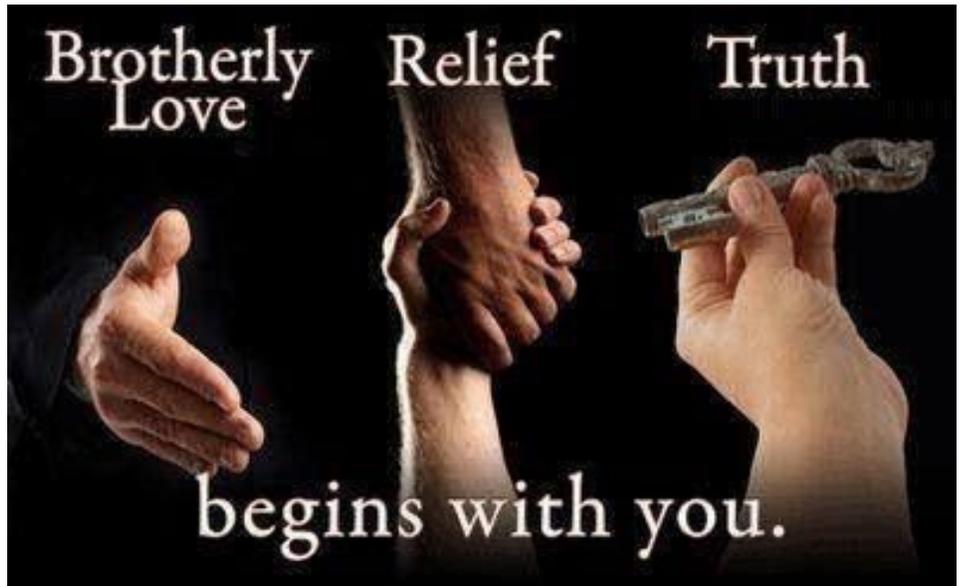
**Masters and Wardens - 3rd Saturday, @** 8:45 AM at Westhampton Lodge, except in December. Breakfast @ 8AM.

## Greetings from the East - Masonic

### Core Values

Wor. Donald Moro

The Civil War Lodge of Research No. 1865 recently met at Masons' Hall. I was in attendance when a paper was read that related the core values of Masonry to an explosion on board the USS Chenango in New York in 1865. What struck me about this paper was how many masons were aboard the ship and how the lodges they belonged to demonstrated the Masonic core values Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. The various lodges banded together to handle the burials of the brothers and take care of the widows and orphans of the men who had been killed in the tragedy.



Do those core values still exist today? In our fractured society, do you find yourself struggling to understand why we can't love our neighbor, stretch forth your hand to sustain someone in need, and speak honestly and truthfully?

I am so thankful that I belong to an organization whose core values match my personal life philosophy. I believe that if we go out of our way to lend an attentive ear, to offer help when it's needed, and to treat everyone on the level, we will stand out in society as exemplary citizens. And isn't that what Masonry is all about?

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### October 22nd Philosophical meeting Study Materials

The subject for October's philosophical meeting is Thomas Paine's Short Book on "The Declaration of the Rights of Man" and the French Revolution. The declaration was written by Lafayette and Thomas Jefferson at the onset of the French Revolution. 2 people close to our lodge's history. And Lafayette is a member. Here's a link to an abridged version (and the full version) <http://sqapo.com/paine.htm>

And here's a fair use public domain audio book link

[https://librivox.org/search?title=Rights+Of+Man&author=PAINE&reader=&keywords=&genre\\_id=0&status=all&project\\_type=either&recorded\\_language=&sort\\_order=catalog\\_date&search\\_page=1&search\\_form=advanced](https://librivox.org/search?title=Rights+Of+Man&author=PAINE&reader=&keywords=&genre_id=0&status=all&project_type=either&recorded_language=&sort_order=catalog_date&search_page=1&search_form=advanced)

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### October, The Month that Laid The Foundation for both Masons' Hall and Richmond Randolph No.19

By Jake Crocker, Senior Warden (who happens to have been born in October)

The month of October not only marks the beginning of a new season in Virginia, it marks significant beginnings in both the history of Masons' Hall and of Richmond Randolph No.19. It was in October of 1785 that the cornerstone of Masons' Hall was laid and it was October of 1787 when Richmond Randolph No.19 was chartered as a result of the actions made during that October two years prior by the initiative of The Richmond Lodge.

According the account documented in History of Richmond Lodge No.10 by Rev. David K. Walhall PH.D. on October 5<sup>th</sup> 1785, the Lodge took action with reference to the laying of the corner-stone of the Masonic Hall as stated in the minutes of the Richmond Lodge, which at the time was under then under the number 13, rather than 10:

To His Excellency the Rt. Worshippful  
 Edmund Randolph esq: Governour of the  
 Commonwealth of Virginia and Grand Master of  
 the most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of  
 Free Masons in Grand Lodge Opened  
 The Humble Petition of David Lambert William Waddill  
 John Dixon for themselves, John McColl and the  
 other Officers of the Richmond Lodge N<sup>o</sup> 10 for  
 in behalf of the aforesaid David Lambert & others  
 Humbly Shew.

That your Petitioners being Masons  
 are desirous of forming a new Lodge, have desired  
 the concurrence and assistance of the Richmond  
 Lodge N<sup>o</sup> 10 to that end, which they have been  
 to obliging Grant, by that you would be  
 graciously pleased to Congregate them by Charter  
 into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted  
 Masons agreeable to the Constitutions of the  
 Grand Lodge, by the title of the Richmond  
 Randolph Lodge, & your petitioners as in  
 & by bound must ever pray

w<sup>th</sup> affidavits

Richmond 29 Oct. 1785.

John McColl.

“The Lodge being called for the purpose of adopting some mode of laying the foundation of the New Lodge Room to be immediately built in consequence of former Resolutions of this Lodge and the Business being communicated from the chair, it was Resolved that Bro. Randolph, Bro. Buchanan and Bro. Montgomery should be appointed a committee for the purpose of composing an inscription to be engraved on a silver plate to be deposited under the corner stone thereof, the expense of which plate to be defrayed by funds of the Lodge.”

The plot of land where Masons’ Hall would rest was purchased from Gabriel Galt, a member of the lodge. Galt was also one of the original members who petitioned for a lodge to be chartered in Richmond at the Grand Lodge of Virginia’s 1780 meeting in Williamsburg held at the Raleigh Tavern. Brother Galt, who had been a member of the Williamsburg Lodge No.6, was at the time also the proprietor of City Tavern, located at the corner of 19<sup>th</sup> and Main Street on the southeastern corner of the same square block. This was the tavern Benedict Arnold and his British forces commandeered from Galt to make his headquarters after his raid and occupation of Richmond in 1781 and where he issued the order for the City of Richmond to be burned.

On October 12, 1785 the lodge was called to order to lay the cornerstone. Those attending were Grand Master James Mercer, the officers of the lodge, which included Secretary William Waddill who would go on to be a catalyst for forming Richmond Randolph No.19 and its first Worshipful Master two years later. Others in attendance were the officers of the Richmond Lodge, 31 other members and three visitors. The official records (with spelling from the time) state:

“This Lodge being called for the express purpose of laying the Foundation of the New Lodge, the Lodge proceeded in procession to the place where the Hon. Jas. Mercer, G.M. of the State of Virginia, laid the Corner Stone of the Building, which had the following inscription upon a place of Silver inclosed therein” (translated from original Latin inscription by Rev. Walhall): And there at that moment on that October day in 1785 Masons’ Hall began its two year construction journey. A journey which had many trials and tribulations in itself and one that also almost proved to be burdensome to the brethren of the Richmond Lodge. The lodge’s history notes that it “would have been far more happy and conditions greatly more prosperous. Masonically, had the Lodge not undertaken this work”. An achievement the lodge despite leaving Masons’ Hall has been nonetheless proud of in their history as builders of what the author of that history refers to as “the first Masonic Edifice in America”.

## **OCTOBER MASONIC BIRTHDAYS**

Walter Henry (60 yrs)  
Jimmy Ketron (39 yrs)  
Tracy Burgess (24 yrs)  
Michael Joyner (19 yrs)  
John White (10 yrs)  
Jamie Jordan (5 yrs)  
Brian Shapiro (5 yrs)  
Alex Stojodinovich (5 yrs)  
Ned Martin (2 yrs)  
John Horner (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  
Bro. Bedros Bandazian

### **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

### **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

Prior to building Masons' Hall the brethren of Richmond No.13 had met at various nearby locations. Most of the members had been members of the Williamsburg Lodge and moved to Richmond when Thomas Jefferson relocated Virginia's capital here. In an article written by Worshipful D.C. Richardson at least one of its meeting places was in "McGuire's school-house" which was located next to the present site of Masons' Hall. Another location prior was at a place near the intersection of 18<sup>th</sup> and Cary Streets known as the "Vendue Store", which according to the lodge records from November 28, 1785 the terms had expired and the lodge should "remove this evening to the house before named", which would have been to the school-house while work was newly underway in the construction of Masons' Hall.

The disharmony created during the process of completing Masons' Hall also created another October occasion in 1787 with the founding of our lodge, Richmond Randolph No.19. That summer several members of the Richmond Lodge withdrew their membership. Without details the history of the Richmond Lodge says "Evidences of dissension are painfully perceptible" with the most important withdrawal being that of the sitting Secretary of the Richmond Lodge and Grand Secretary, the aforementioned William Waddill.

On October 18, 1787 Waddill, along with John Dixon, Sr. (another former Williamsburg Lodge transplant whose son would later be a master of No.19) and Daniel Lambert would file a petition (the original which is still hanging in the lodge) for a charter for a new lodge to be named after Edmund Randolph, the sitting Grand Master and Governor of Virginia. According to the History of Richmond Randolph No.19 by Worshipful Charles P. Rady the petitioners were:

"Moved by a desire to extend the area of masonry, and thereby aid in the dissemination of her time-honored principles, as embodied in the truly Masonic virtues of Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love, united themselves together, and formally requested requested the Grand Lodge of Virginia to issue them a Charter of Incorporation for Richmond Randolph Lodge A.F. and A.M."

The charter would be immediately granted by Most Worshipful Edmund Randolph with William Waddill, who's initiative birthed our lodge, elected as the first Worshipful Master of Richmond Randolph No.19. The first in a line that continues to this day at that same illustrious old masonic hall where both the building and the lodge came to life on cool October days centuries ago in Richmond, Virginia.

"In the year of Light 5785, in the year of Christ 1785, in the year of the Republic the tenth, and on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month of October, a Society of Masons, called The Richmond Lodge, No.13, Alexr. Montgomery, Master in festive procession, went forth to lay their foundations with songs, and, the command being given, James Mercer, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Virginia Brethren having performed the proper rites, laid the first stone.

Far hence, O be far hence, ye profane."