



TRESTLEBOARD

ANDREW JACKSON LODGE NO.120 A.F. & A.M.

March2017

Recent Success

Thank you all for your support and upcoming help in 2017!



George Washington
National Masonic Memorial
(North Room)
101 Callahan Drive
Alexandria, Va. 22314

Brethren,

February has been an interesting month with all the warm weather. Can we hope for an early Spring?

February has been busy. Our Stated Communication featured a pre-meeting presentation by RW Shelley Richmond on the Masonic Home. The Masonic Home is one of only a handful of such facilities in the nation. We are fortunate in Virginia to have this wonderful home available to Masons and their families. Ladies Night was well attended on the 18th and on the 25th the George Washington Masonic Memorial celebrated George Washington's birthday in fine style. February 27 evening is the District Ritual School to be held at Andrew Jackson Lodge. All brothers are encouraged to attend so that our Lodge is well represented. Sadly, the afternoon of February 27 we will bid farewell to our departed Brother Roger Baker with a Masonic Funeral.

March will be an even more active month so plan your calendars well. We will be marching on the Alexandria St. Patrick's Day parade on March 4. RSVP to the Worshipful Master immediately if you plan on attending the parade. An Entered Apprentice Degree will be held Monday March 6.

Please mark your calendars for our March Stated Communication on March 16th. The Grand Master of Virginia will be visiting our Lodge to help us celebrate Andrew Jackson's 250th birthday. We will hold a short Lodge meeting at 5:00pm to officially receive the Grand Master. Then close the Lodge to enjoy a wonderful banquet at 6:30pm. During the Lodge meeting a tour of the Memorial will be conducted for our spouses and guests. Please RSVP to the Worshipful Master if you plan to attend and the number of spouses and guests who will be with you. It promises to be a splendid evening!

On March 20 we will hold a Lodge Visit to Elmer Timmerman Lodge #54 in Annandale, VA to celebrate Tiler Pablo Rocha receiving his Masonic 25-year award. Pablo has given much to Masonry over the years. Let's all go out and celebrate this milestone with him!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,

Robert Tallent, Master



NEWS & EVENTS CALENDAR

OFFICERS MEETING

Date: April 3, 2017
Time: 6:30pm
Location: AJ 120

STATED COMMUNICATIONS

All members and visiting guest are invited to join us for our monthly stated communication.

February

Stated Communication
Date: March 16, 2017
Open Lodge at 5:00 PM

Open dinner at 6:30 PM
GWMM

LODGE RITUAL SCHOOL

Date: March 20th, 2017
Time: 7:00pm
Location: AJ 120

DISTRICT 1-A RITUAL SCHOOL

Fourth Monday of the Month
Date: March 27th
Time: 7:00
Location: John Blair Lodge 187

District Instructor of Works (DIW) is Brian King
Contact: Brian King, PM
DIW, Masonic District 1A
brianmitchellking@gmail.com
(703) 509 2218

SPECIAL EVENTS

St. Patrick's Day Parade – March 4
Entered Apprentice Degree - March 6
Visit – Elmer Timmerman Lodge – March 20

OFFICERS

Master, Robert Tallent
Tallent.robert@verizon.net

Senior Warden, Antoine
Charles akcharle@yahoo.com

Junior Warden, Mark Franklin
mark_cathy1@verizon.net

Treasurer, Dave Williams
disciplined@verizon.net

Secretary, Adam C. Duncan
adamcduncan@yahoo.com

Senior Deacon, Glenn Amodeo
glenn.amodeo@gmail.com

Junior Deacon, Gregory Mack
demack2@gmail.com

Chaplain, Jerry Cottrell
marlyn103@aol.com

Senior Steward, Rick Cady
rickcady@gmail.com

Junior Steward, Andrew Westrum
awestrum@gmail.com

Marshal, Jason Pettengill
pettengilljb@gmail.com

Tiler, Pablo Rocha
pablorocha1992@outlook.com

TRUSTEES

) B. Richard Laaken, PM, 2017
) Mike Silverman, PM, 2018
) David Benjamin Browning, PDDGM, 2019
) Edmund Cohen, PGM, 2020
) Sheldon B. Richman, PDDGM, 2021

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

) Lodge Instructor of Work – Dave Williams, PM
) Lodge Education Officer – Dick Laaken, PM
) Degree Coordinator – Mark Franklin
) Archivists – Wor. Pablo Rocha, Kelly Cochran
) Photographers – Antoine Charles, TBD
) Investigation Committee – Antoine Charles
) Widows & Orphans – Ben Browning, PDDGM
) Events and Activities – JaceMcFerran, PM, Sheldon Richman, PDDGM



FROM THE SECRETARIES DESK

By Law Proposal Change to be voted on at the April 20th Stated Meeting. It was read for the first time at the February meeting with discussion by the Brethren. Addition information is provided below.

Dues Increase proposal, note that the COLA addition to the proposed Dues increase is already approved by Grand Lodge and adopted in the Methodical Digest.

Current By Laws Section 2:

ARTICLE II

Every member of this Lodge except the Treasurer, Secretary, Tiler, and one Chaplain, shall be charged by the Secretary with the sum of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) Annual Dues; plus Grand Lodge Per-Capita and any other Assessments.

Proposed By Laws Section 2:

ARTICLE II

Every member of this Lodge except the Treasurer, Secretary, Tiler, and one Chaplain, shall be charged by the Secretary with the sum of Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) Annual Dues. **A Dues increase of \$50.00 shall be incurred in 3 three consecutive years starting Dec 1, 2017 dues will be \$80, Dec 1, 2018 dues will be \$130 and Dec 1, 2019 dues will be \$180 in addition to Grand Lodge Per-Capita and any other Assessments.**

Effective Dec 1, 2020, A Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) to be determined annually by the Gross Domestic Product Deflator Inflation Calculator, which can be found at <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/cpicalc.pl>. This annual adjustment will be added to the base dues amount, rounded to the nearest dollar.



Information was originally provided in the October 2016 Trestleboard as a catalyst for recommending a dues increase to ensure a strong financial future for Andrew Jackson Lodge # 120

Brethren,

I wanted to share some details regarding the financial outlook for the Lodge. We have benefitted for far too long from the Trust investment income and the strong efforts of our investment advisory team to ensure that we have enough dividend income for fixed and discretionary Lodge expenses. The \$30 dollars per year per dues paying Mason is not enough to cover the Lodge's expenses. Realistically, it is barely enough to cover the dinner expense for one person in this metropolitan area.

However, with the current economic uncertainty and many years of dues not adjusted for inflation we are tasked with ensuring that Andrew Jackson Lodge # 120 remains a strong Masonic institution for the future. I am submitting a request for consideration that the Lodge increase its annual dues to cover the Lodge's fixed expenses.

The following provided information is to create a basis for Lodge discussion and any potential Lodge vote to increase dues would occur no earlier than 2017 with the earliest implementation on Dec 2017 for 2018 dues. There are several approaches to consider like an incremental approach over a period of 3-5 years.

Andrew Jackson 120 Income - 2015

LMIP Income & 50 Year Veteran Credit	\$	5,242
Dues Collected (Estimated)	\$	6,000
	\$	11,242

Andrew Jackson 120 Fixed Expenses

Grand Lodge Annual Return	\$	9,400
Rent	\$	3,000
Building repairs (average over 10 years)	\$	5,000
Salaries	\$	8,200
Trestleboard & Candidate Supplies	\$	1,800
Misc/Other (Postage, Bank fees, etc)	\$	800
	\$	28,200

Fixed Expense Operating Deficit

	\$	(16,958)
Fixed Expenses to be covered by dues	\$	16,958
Estimated 100 Dues paying members		100
Additional dues increase recommended	\$	170
Current Lodge Dues	\$	30
Recommended New Lodge Dues	\$	200
Grand Lodge Assessment	\$	45
Total new dues covering fixed expenses	\$	245



District Deputy Grand Master Nominations & District Consolidation

Planning for the 2019 Masonic year has already begun. Big changes will be taking place as District 1A and District 54 will merge. The nominating process for District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM) in 2019 will begin at the February Stated Communication, with a final balloting at the April Stated Communication. Traditionally, Masonic District 1A has used a rotational system where each of the four regular lodges in the district took turns sending a nomination to the Grand Master and the other lodges voter their approval. Masonic District 1A, however, will be significantly different in 2019 when the DDGM will take office. Following the close of the 2018 Grand Annual Communication, 1A will welcome the entirety of Masonic District 54 and Elmer Timberman Lodge from Masonic District 1B. With 11 nominating lodges in total, the District has to reconsider the nominating process. The Masters and Wardens Association of District 54 generously invited the Masters and Wardens from 1A and Elmer Timberman to join them Tuesday, January 24, to discuss the 2019 nomination process. While a very lively and productive exchange occurred at the meeting, it is clear that all of the impacted lodges are still considering what the district consolidation process means for their lodges and our operations as a district.

Ultimately, the lodges present decided to make individual nominations directly to the Grand Lodge for 2019. Whether this decision was made out of expediency to meet the May 1 nomination submission deadline or to inundate the Grand Lodge with multiple nominations as a quiet protest for the consolidation process is up for debate. Andrew Jackson Lodge will consider potential nominees from our lodge and consult with other lodges in the future District 1A. The final candidate for nomination from our Lodge will be voted on at the April Stated Communication. All Brethren are requested to attend both the February and April Stated Communications to be part of the discussion and balloting. No business will be taken up during the March Stated as that will be our Andrew Jackson Birthday celebration with the Grand Master. Moving forward, the lodges that will be part of the future District 1A have many more items to discuss. Will we formalize a DDGM policy? What expectations does the Grand Lodge have for the “super-districts” they are creating as compared to the more moderately sized districts across the Commonwealth? How will the work of the other district officers be distributed? All Masons should be most concerned with the future of the Craft. Are we allowing ourselves to get too mired in the arbitrary bureaucracies we have created over the years? Do not be afraid to question and respectfully debate the Grand Lodge and each other as we consider the next five, ten, and fifty years of Masonry in Virginia.



AJ 120