

JUNE 2020

ISSUE 5 - VOLUME 95

# ALMAS

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# ALBI

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## MASONS SUPPORTING CHILDREN

**Phone: 202.898.1688 - Fax: 202.789.1148**  
**[almasshriners.org](http://almasshriners.org)**

# FROM THE POTENTATES'S DESK

## History: The Search for Enlightenment



Nobles,

I hope you and your families find yourselves well and in good spirits.

Freemasons educate their members about the principles of personal responsibility and morality, and how to put the lessons of the Craft into practice in our daily life. Our goal as Freemasons is to make our society and our world a better place, one man at a time. Through our symbols and allegories, we provide the tools needed to understand our society and its history.

History is the study of people, societies, events, and difficulties of the past;

and we are challenged to understand them. It is a quest we should all undertake for fear of repeating the worst of times. Thus, both, Masons and historians, have a similar goal, which is enlightenment for a better world.

Most people have heard of Jorge Agustín Nicolás Ruiz de Santayana y Borrás (or in English and thankfully much shorter as George Santayana) as having said, "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it". In fact, history repeating itself is a common warning to humanity to learn from our mistakes. Regrettably, our history proves this reminder is often ignored or forgotten.

History explains what it means to be human; highlighting us to the achievements and errors of humanity. History, as does our Craft, teaches us through example and offers hints about how we can better shape and manage ourselves and society for the benefit of all.

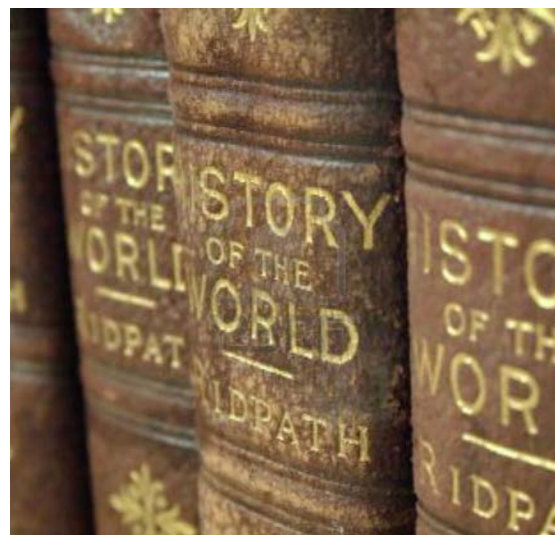
Some individuals frequently think history and the past are the same. This is not the case. The past refers to an earlier time, its people and societies who inhabited it, and the events which took place during that time. History as with Masonry, describes our attempts to research, study, and explain the past. History is a collection of stories about the past, communicated by various people. Masonry is a collection of allegories also communicated by various men to enable us to understand history.



# FROM THE POTENTATES'S DESK

The subtle difference between history and the past is an important one. What happened in the past is a fixed moment in time and cannot be changed. But history in contrast, changes regularly with its ongoing conversation about the past and its meaning.

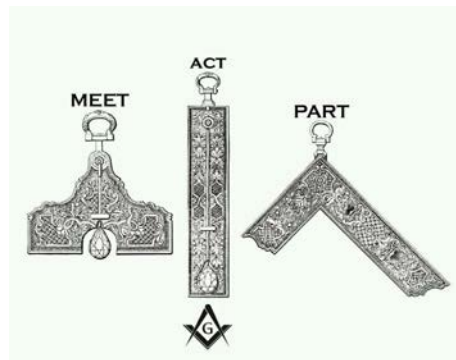
Masonry teaches us to dwell deeper into facts and events which will enlighten us to build. Applying Masonic symbols and teachings to historical narratives helps our understanding of what history is and the events which evolved our society to its present. Masons and historians have presented different ideas about how the past should be




studied, constructed, written, and interpreted. This is an art which must be preserved and gifted to all those who travel after us. Masons, as with historians, should make every effort to continue to learn and to pass these findings along. We may express history differently, but the lessons are the same.

We know not what our fate is. But, history helps us with the choices we make today. Learn and choose wisely.

S&F,  
George Perez  
Potentate



## ALMAS SHRINERS BUSINESS COMMUNICATION




GEORGE E. PEREZ  
POTENTATE

JUNE 4, 2020  
7:30 PM GAVEL  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
VIA ZOOM

THE MEETING INFORMATION AND  
LINK WILL BE EMAILED.

ATTEST



DONALD R. FERGUSON  
SR. P.P.  
RECORDER

# Flag Day



The first celebration of the U.S. Flag was held in 1877 on the 100th anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777. However, there is believed the first annual recognition of the flag's birthday started in 1885 when school teacher, BJ Cigrand, organized a group of Wisconsin school children to observe June 14 as the anniversary of the official adoption of the Flag's Birthday. Cigrand, became known as the 'Father of Flag Day,' he continued to publicly advocate the observance of June 14 as the flag's 'birthday', or 'Flag Day' for years.

In addition, a few years later the efforts of another school teacher, George Balch, led to the formal observance of 'Flag Day' on June 14 by the New York State Board of Education. This began a trickle affect with as many as 36 state and local governments joining to adopted the annual observance. This day of observance remained as such for over 30 years.

In 1916, the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 became a nationally observed event by a proclamation by President Woodrow Wilson. But, was not designated as National Flag Day until August 3rd, 1949, when an Act of Congress designated June 14th of each year as National Flag Day.

Today, Flag Day is celebrated with parades, ceremonies, and picnics sponsored by veterans, schools, and groups such as the National Flag Day foundation whose goal is to preserve the traditions, history, pride, and respect which are due to our nation's symbol, Old Glory. Our flag stands for more then freedom, it stands for all those who gave their lives so that we, while here on earth, may live in peace.

Each year, we can enjoy Federal Holidays set aside specifically to honor our veterans. Sadly, too many of us often overlook these opportunities to pay our respect and recognize the sacrifice and service of these individuals. These days are intended to, express the sentiments of a grateful nation. Thus, I ask, what does it say of us when we forget, overlook, or simply brush aside the opportunity to honor the best among us?

I hope each of us are able to honor all our heroes, but not just on Veteran's Day, but this and any other day as well.



# American Eagle Day



The first American Eagle Day was proclaimed by President Bill Clinton in 1995. Since then, 41 American States have made the day an official observance. From 2007 onward, the US Senate has also passed resolutions to mark June 20th of the year as American Eagle Day.

The Bald Eagle was selected as the National Emblem by our country's Founding Fathers on June 20, 1782 by the Second Continental Congress.

For over 200 years, it has served as the pride of America and the living symbol of all we Americans stand for: Freedom, Courage, Strength, and Excellence.

The eagle is placed on the front side of the Great Seal of the United States and holds an olive branch in its right talon and 13 arrows in its left. The olive branch symbolizes the United States' commitment to peace and the arrows its readiness for war; the number of arrows refers to the original 13 states.

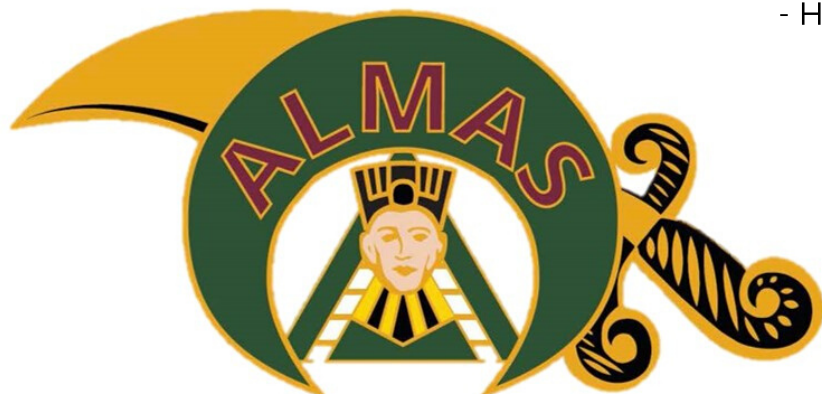
## Quote of the Month

Henry Ford

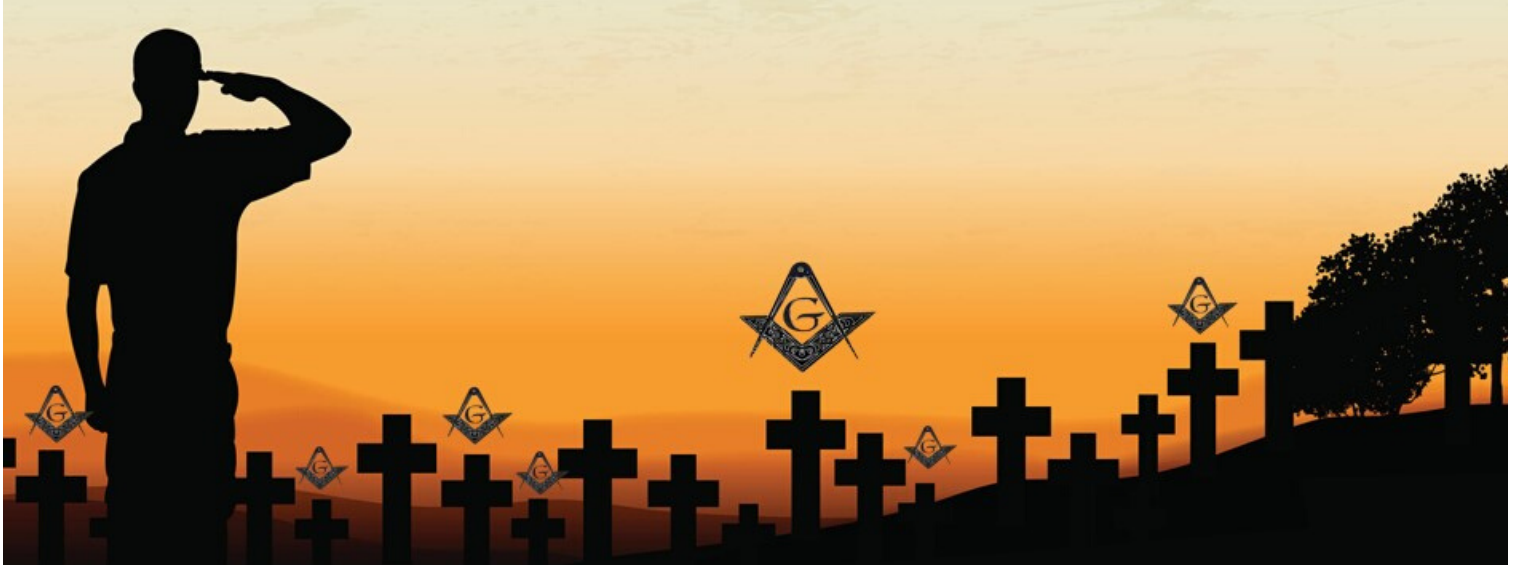


The object of education is not to fill a man's mind with facts; it is to teach him how to use his mind in thinking.

- Henry Ford



# D-Day



D-Day was the first day in one of the largest amphibious invasions to have ever been undertaken. It began on June 6, 1944, and launched Operation Overlord – an invasion against the Nazi-held Normandy coastline during World War 2 (1939-1945). It was launched with 160,000 troops, over 13,000 aircraft, and 5,000 ships. By the end of the day, American and Allied Soldiers had broken through the Nazi defenses and had a foothold in Normandy. This endeavor came at a great price. This day left over 9,000 Allied Soldiers and Paratroopers either wounded or killed, sacrifices which allowed the other 100,000 soldiers to complete the mission.

In the United States, D-Day is an observance day not a federal holiday. Most Americans observe this holiday by visiting museums with D-Day exhibits, or watch and participate in memorials and ceremonies given all over the country on June 6th.

## Joke of the Month

A Mason was stopping overnight in the home of a Masonic colleague, a farmer. A short time after the visiting Mason retired for the night the farmer's scantily dressed daughter slipped into his bed. The Mason shoved her out of his bed saying, "I am a Mason. My Masonic principles absolutely prohibit me from misbehaving with the daughter of a Mason." The following morning the daughter went out to the farmyard where her father was attempting to coax his bull to satisfy the obvious yearnings of a neighboring farmer's young heifer. The bull refused to cooperate, wandered away and lay down in the hay. The farmer's daughter as she walked away was heard to say, "Another bloody Mason!!!"

- Unknown

## Friends of the Temple

# ***Alan L. Gordon, CPA, P.A.***

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Rockville, MD 20850

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Fax: 301-762-8847

E-mail: [info@algcpcpa.com](mailto:info@algcpcpa.com) ■ [www.algcpcpa.com](http://www.algcpcpa.com)

***Remember a loved one or a friend, donate to the Almas Hospital Transportation Fund.***

Make checks payable to: Almas Hospital Transportation Fund  
mail to: Almas Shriner's,  
Address: 1315 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20005.

Donations to the Transportation Fund are tax deductible.

Date..... Amount \$.....

In Memory of.....

In Honor of.....

Person(s) to whom acknowledgment is to be sent:

Name.....

Address.....

City & State..... Zip.....

Name of Donor(s).....

Address.....

City & State..... Zip.....





## Nobles Ill or Homebound

Call our Brother, they are eager to hear from you.  
If you know of a Noble in this condition, please let us know at: 202.898.1688



### Paul Adams

2101 Deyerle Ave. No. 318  
Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
540.333.5822

### Scott Miskovic

Summit Place Assisted Living  
491 Highway 17, No. 29566  
Little River, SC 29566  
843.658.5554

## LIVING PAST POTENTATES



1982 Donald P. McDade  
1995 Charles W. Corey, III  
1998 Grant R. Berning  
1999 Ralph F. Connolly  
2000 William M. Lanham  
2001 Anthony S. Murray  
2002 Donald M. Holliday, Sr.  
2003 David W. Finn  
2004 Kenneth J. Collins  
2006 Lonnie L. Ramos  
2007 Jeffrey G. Bodie  
2009 Donald R. Ferguson, Sr.

2010 Paul Friedlander  
2011 Alan L. Gordon  
2012 Ricardo Rodriguez Kroger  
2013 Rick Hall  
2014 John R. Garrison  
2015 Luis G. Cisneros  
2016 Fred W. Evans  
2017 Michael A. Gordon  
2018 Jeffrey D. Holt  
2019 Frank Ireton



# ALMAS SHRINER'S DIRECTORY

## ELECTED DIVAN/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GEORGE PEREZ .....202-999-0327  
Potentate george-perez@outlook.com

GEORGE STOKLAS, JR. ....202-256-7448  
Chief Rabban embcamera@aol.com

JESSE VILLARREAL .....703-282-6366  
Assistant Rabban jv1301@aol.com

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High Priest & Prophet jcarpa@hotmail.com

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MICHAEL A. GORDON, P.P. ....817-366-6377  
Treasurer almas@michaelgordon.com

DONALD R. FERGUSON, SR. P.P. ....202-898-1688  
Recorder dferguson@almasshriners.org

## MEMBERSHIP

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Scott Farrell .....662-889-9221  
Geoff Newman .....301-452-5841

## POTENTATE'S ADVISORS

Fred W. Evans, P.P.  
Melvin E. Harrison  
Edwin J. Whitcomb

## FINANCE AND REAL ESTATE COMMITTEE

Mike Gordon, P.P. Chairman  
Fred W. Evans, P.P.  
Geoffrey Newman

## APPOINTED DIVAN

DEREK M. RIVAS.....757-632-8647  
First Ceremonial Master iemailedderek@gmail.com

SCOTT FARRELL .....662-889-9221  
Second CeremonialMaster farrellalabama@gmail.com

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Marshall larryavp@gmail.com

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Captain of the Guard cpojake@gmail.com

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Outer Guard omarlorenzo@hotmail.com

WALTER F. SIMON .....301-318-2485  
Chaplain velvel13@yahoo.com

JEFFREY G. BODIE, P.P. ....240-477-0058  
Chaplain senicajgb@comcast.net

## COLONEL'S STAFF

PAUL FRIEDLANDER, P.P. ....301-949-6211  
Colonel of the Units eod1blue@aol.com

FRANK IRETON, P.P. ....301-254-5893  
Lt. Colonel of the Units fireton@mac.com

## EMERITUS MEMBERS

Raymond F. McMullen .....Recorder  
George E. Whetzel .....Recorder  
Anthony S. Murray, P.P. ....Trustee  
Melvin E. Harrison .....Treasurer  
Alan L. Gordon, P.P. ....Treasurer

# ALMAS SHRINER'S DIRECTORY

## COMMITTEES

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 100 Million Dollar Club, Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P. ....     | 202-898-1688 |
| 50 Year Members & Past Potentate's Lunch, .....                 | 202-999-0327 |
| By Laws, Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P. ....                     | 202-898-1688 |
| Children's Holiday Party, George Perez .....                    | 202-999-0327 |
| Custodian of Candidates, William M. Lanham, P.P. ....           | 301-622-0492 |
| Endowment, Wills & Gifts, Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P., .....  | 202-898-1688 |
| Financial Oversight & Real Estate, Michael A. Gordon, P.P. .... | 817-366-6377 |
| Golf Tournament, Anthony S. Murray, P.P. ....                   | 301-648-0800 |
| Hospital Representative, Paul Friedlander, P.P. ....            | 301-949-6211 |
| International Member Relations, Michael A. Gordon, P.P. ....    | 817-366-6377 |
| Installation, Anthony S. Murray, P.P. ....                      | 301-648-0800 |
| Potentate's Tea, George Perez .....                             | 202-999-0327 |
| Memorial Service, Walter Simon & Jeffery D. Bodie, P.P. ....    | 301-318-2485 |
| Potentate's Ball, George Perez .....                            | 202-999-0327 |
| Public Relations, Lawrence S. Farrell .....                     | 662-889-9221 |
| Photographer, Larry Villegas-Perez .....                        | 202-421-4652 |
| Sick & Shut-In, Bruce D. French .....                           | 301-942-0364 |

## UNIT HEADS

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Klowns, Walter F. Simon (Director) .....        | 301-318-2485 |
| Greeters, Alan L. Gordon, P.P. ....             | 301-570-8865 |
| Legion of Honor, Scott Jacobs (Commander) ..... | 443-878-2042 |
| Motor Corps, Eddie Dixon (Director) .....       | 301-254-2087 |
| Provost Guard, Fred W. Evans, P.P. ....         | 301-460-1982 |

## CLUB HEADS

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Cast, Jean Paul Dongmo (Director) .....                          | 240-375-4581             |
| Cabiri, Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P. (President) .....          | 202-898-1688             |
| Northwest-BCC Shrine Club, George Stokals, Jr. (President) ..... | 202-256-7448             |
| Peruvian Shrine Club, Jose Boggio (President) .....              | 703-930-4007             |
| Southeast Shrine Club, Fred W. Evans, P.P. (President) .....     | 301-460-1982             |
| Shepherds Club, Carlos Landazuri (President) .....               | 703-282-7612             |
| Yacht Club, Jesse Villarreal (Commodore) .....                   | 703-282-6366             |
| Club Shriners del Uruguay  |                          |
| Alfonso Manuel Perez Cobas (President) .....                     | aperezcobas@gmail.com    |
| Club Shriners Brazil-ES, Brazil                                  |                          |
| Eduardo Antonio Bertacchi Uvo (President) .....                  | 5527-99874930            |
| Almas Brasilia Shriners Club                                     |                          |
| Germano Cesar de Oliveira .....                                  | germanocesar@hotmail.com |
| Austria Shrine Club, Johannes Kollar (President)                 |                          |
| UK Shrine Club,  |                          |

## INSURANCE ADVISORY

Scott Wallace, Chairman  
Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P.,  
Donald M. Holliday, Sr. P.P.,  
Alan L. Gordon, P.P.,

## JURISPRUDENCE AND LAW

Donald Hadley, Temple Attorney

## WAREHOUSE

Paul Friedlander, P.P. Manager  
Frank Ireton, P.P. Asst. Manager

## SPHINX CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President

Bruce McMullen,  
Vice President

Richard E. Hassler,  
2nd Vice President

Mike Gordon, P.P.

William D. Hines

George Perez, Potentate

George Stoklas, Chief Rabban

Alan L. Gordon, P.P., Treasurer

Donald R. Ferguson, Sr., P.P.,  
Secretary



# Petition for Initiation and Membership

## *Almas Shriners*

To the Potentate, Officers and Nobles of Almas Shriners, situated in the Oasis of Washington, Desert of the District of Columbia: I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge # \_\_\_\_\_ Located in \_\_\_\_\_. Which is a lodge recognized by or in amity with the conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than six (6) months, as required by the By-Laws of Shriners International. I respectfully pray that I may be made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine and become a member of your Temple. If I am found worthy and my request granted, I promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and the By-Laws of Shriners International and the By-Laws and Ceremonies of your Temple.

Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you ever a DeMolay? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, what was the Chapter Name and Location? \_\_\_\_\_

Profession or Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously applied for admission to any Temple of the Order? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, to what Temple? \_\_\_\_\_ When? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Residence Address:**

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Business Address:**

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hat Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouses Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Initials are not sufficient)

### **Recommended and vouched for on the honor of:**

Noble: \_\_\_\_\_ Shrine # \_\_\_\_\_  
Noble: \_\_\_\_\_ Shrine# \_\_\_\_\_

**Almas Alibi**  
**1315 K Street, NW**  
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# **Almas Alibi**

**Volume 95 - Issue 5 - June 2020**

**Almas Temple Chartered June 14, 1886**  
**134 Years of Service**