

JULY 2020

ISSUE 6 - VOLUME 95

ALMAS

ALIBI

**MASONS SUPPORTING
CHILDREN**

Phone: 202.898.1688 - Fax: 202.789.1148

almasshriners.org

FROM THE POTENTATES'S DESK



Nobles,

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

The current COVID 19 pandemic has created a reality distinct to anything most have experienced before. Our Masonic activities have been, in many respects, suspended. Social distancing has become part of the American language and the main topic of conversations. Sheltering at home and refraining from activities, family, and friends has created an additional layer of tension to a difficult set of circumstances.

There is no question, this abrupt moment of isolation and uncertainty is

stressful and overwhelming. Adapting to our new living conditions and assuming different responsibilities is a challenge none of us expected. But, we will overcome this challenge as we have conquered the challenges of the past.

During this time, we should take the opportunity to focus on our health. Not only is it important to our long-term fitness but being in the best strength helps our body fight off colds, flus, and viruses. But, do not limit this to just the physical. The psychological and the emotional health are even more important. Take notice to where you are physically and emotionally what thoughts you are having, what stories are you telling yourself, and what sensations you are feeling in your body. Once you know where you are, take steps to manage your health.

Unquestionably the dust will eventually settle, and we will find a new normal. But right now, it is especially important to notice, honor, and release our difficult emotions and feelings. We can still visit with each other and remain safe as long as we do it with some degree of precaution.

May you and your family stay safe and healthy.

S&F,
George Perez
Potentate

From The Recorder's Desk



The contractor who has been awarded the project for the ballroom renovation is HITT Contracting out of Falls Church, VA. They have started replacing equipment in the kitchen. The wrap around the columns have been removed in the ballroom. The DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs did a pre project inspection on June 25th. The contractor will start on June 29th and have 13 days to demolish the ballroom and have the opening between the hotel and the ballroom complete. As of now the entire project is due to be complete on November 7th. Every Monday we have a Skype call with everyone involved with the project to discuss progress and delays. I will keep everyone posted as the project progresses.

S&F,
Donald R. Ferguson Sr. P.P
Recorder



THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



In a June 7th, 1776 session, in the Pennsylvania State House, eventually renamed Independence Hall, of Virginia the Second Continental Congress committee presented a resolution (known as the Lee Resolution):

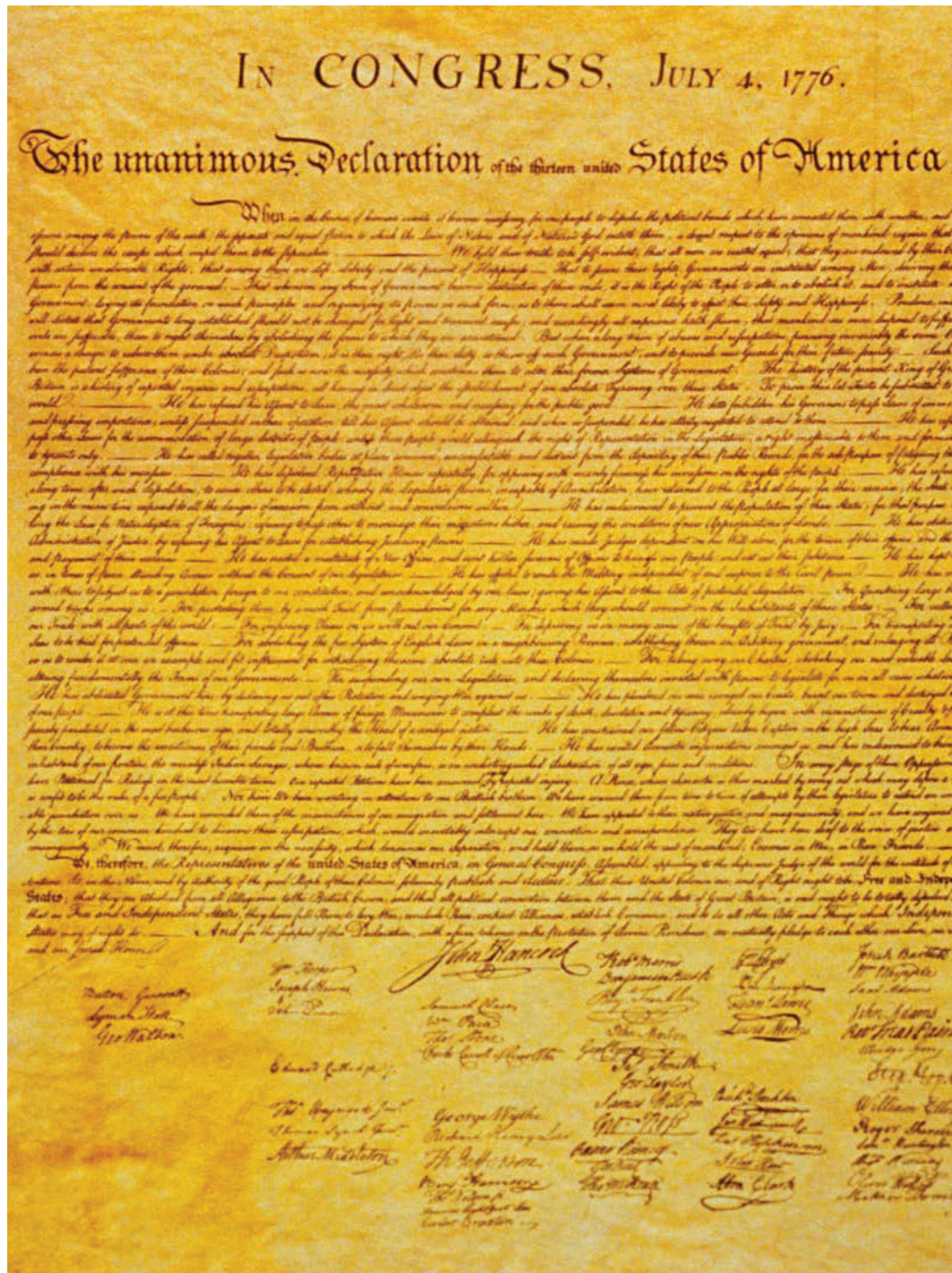
"Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states. That they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown. And, that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."



A committee of five was appointed to draft the declaration, and the task of writing fell on Thomas Jefferson. Discussions of Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence resulted in minor changes. The process by the Continental Congress began July 1st and continued through to July 4th, 1776, when the Declaration was officially adopted.

Philadelphia held the first annual commemoration of independence on July 4, 1777, while Congress was still occupied with the ongoing war.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



George Washington issued double rations of rum to all his soldiers to mark the anniversary of independence in 1778. And, in 1781, several months before the key American victory at Yorktown, Massachusetts became the first State to make July 4th an official state holiday.

After the Revolutionary War, Americans continued to commemorate Independence Day every year. These celebrations allowed the new nation's emerging political leaders to address citizens and create a feeling of unity. Families often celebrate Independence Day by hosting or attending a picnic or barbecue to gather with relatives or friends. Decorations are colored red, white, and blue; the colors of the American Flag.

Masonic Friend to Friend Monument



The Battle of Gettysburg which took place from July 1st through July 3rd, 1863, is the most famous, most bloodied battle of the U.S. Civil War. Robert E. Lee lead his Confederate Army of Northern Virginia and invaded the Northern States.

Abraham Lincoln appointed Union Major General George G. Meade to lead the United States Army, with orders to prevent any attack on Washington, D.C., or Baltimore, Maryland.

On July 1st, the battle became a very large battle, and hard fought by both sides; which resulted in a Confederate victory that day. The Union Army regrouped on the hills and ridge south of Gettysburg, under the leadership of Major General Winfield Scott Hancock, one of the most widely admired generals of the Civil War and a brother of the Craft.

On July 2nd, General Lee attempted to defeat the Union Army by attacking both flanks in an enormously brutal battle resulting in thousands of casualties. One of the most significant events of the day was the defense of a hill called Little Round Top by a Maine regiment commanded by Brother Colonel Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain. His men ran out of ammunition and understanding a retreat may result in the defeat of the Union, Bro. Chamberlain ordered a bayonet charge and was victorious. For his efforts, he was awarded the Medal of Honor and gained the notoriety which resulted in his being later elected Governor of Maine four times.

The battle climaxed on July 3rd. General Lee ordered a massive cannon attack and about 12,000 men to attack the center of the Union position. Among the leaders of this final battle, known as Pickett's Charge, was Confederate Brother Brigadier General Lewis Addison Armistead and Union Brother Major General Winfield Scott Hancock. Both career soldiers and friends before the war.

When the Confederate attack reached the Union line at Gettysburg, there was fierce fighting. Brother Armistead was shot twice and as he fell, gave a Masonic sign asking for assistance. A fellow Mason, a Union Brother Captain Henry H. Bingham came to Brother Armistead's assistance and offered to help. Brother Armistead reportedly asked to see and talk with his friend Brother Hancock, but he was informed, Brother Hancock had been badly wounded just a

Masonic Friend to Friend Monument

few minutes earlier. Union Brother Bingham then helped Confederate Brother Armistead off the field and to a hospital, where he passed away two days later.

This is a moment in time that is a well recorded example of Freemasonry. This day, a Union soldier aided a Confederate soldier; both brothers of the Craft whom exemplified our masonic ideals.



In 1993, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania completed and dedicated a monument on the Gettysburg National Cemetery, with the cooperation and support of the United States Government. It memorializes Brother Bingham assisting Brother Armistead. This statue is called the "Masonic Friend to Friend Memorial".

Should you find yourself in Pennsylvania, make the time to visit and Honor these men and our Craft.

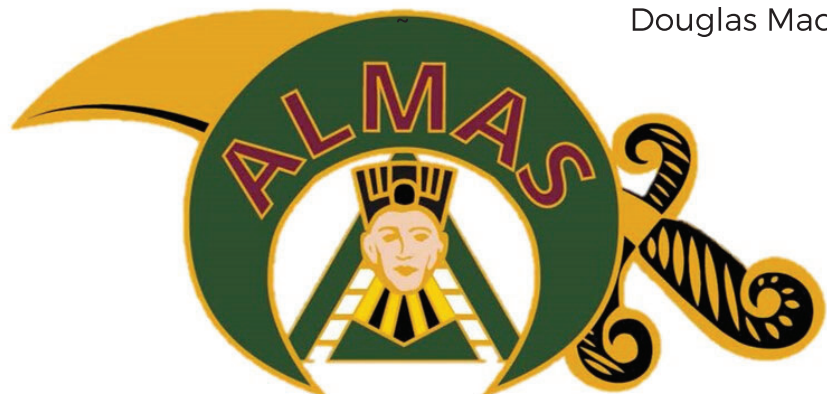
Quote of the Month

Douglas MacArthur



Freemasonry embraces the highest moral laws and will bear the test of any system of ethics or philosophy ever promulgated for the uplift of man.

Douglas MacArthur



In Remembrance

LOVE LIVES ON

THOSE WE LOVE ARE NEVER REALLY LOST TO US - WE FEEL THEM IN SO MANY SPECIAL WAYS-THROUGH FRIENDS THEY ALWAYS CARED ABOUT AND DREAMS THEY LEFT BEHIND, IN BEAUTY THAT THEY ADDED TO OUR DAYS... IN WORDS OF WISDOM WE STILL CARRY WITH US AND MEMORIES THAT NEVER WILL BE GONE... THOSE WE LOVE ARE NEVER REALLY LOST TO US - FOR EVERYWHERE THEIR SPECIAL LOVE LIVES ON.

-A. BRADLEY

REMEMBERING

NOBLE JOHN & LADY
MARION RANDALL

NOBLE HAROLD A. STEIN



Parents' Day



Parents' Day is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July each year. Citizens, organizations, and federal, state, and local governmental and legislative entities are encouraged to recognize Parents' Day through proclamations, activities, and educational efforts to recognize, uplift, and support the role of parents in bringing up their children. Parent's Day can be traced back to 1994 when then U.S. President William Jefferson Clinton signed into a law a resolution that made the fourth Sunday of July Parent's Day.

Joke of the Month

A very old and wizened gentleman arrives on the night of the Lodge's monthly meeting and asks to become a Fellowcraft. When advised he would have to become an Entered Apprentice first, the old man nods "I was entered as an apprentice in this Lodge 86 years ago." He gives the date and the records are examined. Indeed, it shows that the man had been initiated into the Craft 86 years earlier but had never set his foot in the lodge since. When asked why he had not been there in 86 years, the old man smiled and said, "I've been learning to subdue my passions!"

- Unknown

Klowns Korner



WANTED

**A FEW KLOWNS IN FUNNY
COSTUME TO ENTERTAIN
CHILDREN AND LOVE BEING
FUNNY.**

**PARTICIPATE IN PARADES
AND ALMAS TEMPLE
ACTIVITIES.**

**SHOW YOUR INNER AND
OUTER SELVES AND MAKE
CHILDREN AND ADULTS SMILE.**

**DRIVE THE KLOWN FIRE
ENGINE OR BE A HOSE MEN.**

**CONTACT WALTER SIMON,
WEIRD WALLY
AT 301-318-2685**

Friends of the Temple

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Rockville, MD 20850

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Fax: 301-762-8847

E-mail: info@alqcpa.com ■ www.alqcpa.com



Happy 4th of July!

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

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# _____