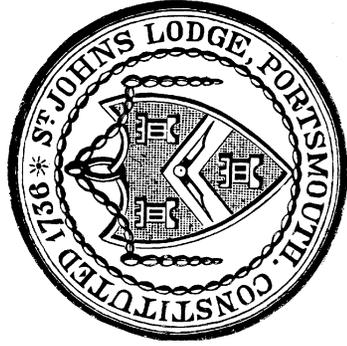
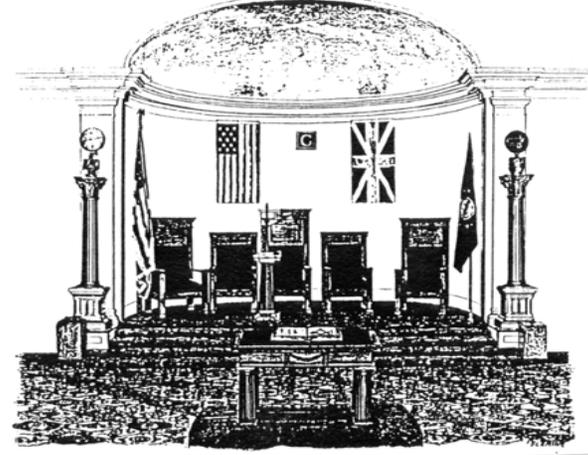


St. John's Lodge, No. 1, F&AM
280 Bayside Rd
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February 2013



February 2013 Trestle Board

St. John's Lodge No. 1
Portsmouth, NH

The Master's Message

Dear Brethren,

February is when we reflect upon and honor our most revered and most famous American Freemason, George Washington. Along with an entrance fee of 2 pounds and 3 shillings, young Mr. Washington was initiated into Fredericksburg Lodge on November 4th, 1752 and would be raised to the sublime degree the following August.

As Masons we would like to think that the tenets of our venerable institution molded our brother into a great and formidable leader. Perhaps, but Brother Washington had already been adhering to a set of learned principles before reaching the altar. When he was sixteen years of age, Mr. Washington had copied by hand a set of *Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior in Company and in Conversation*. 110 rules to be exact, many borrowed from a set of principles first transcribed by French Jesuits in 1595. Historians have postulated that he reviewed these principles at the end of each day that he might correct his actions upon awakening to the next.

If true, then no doubt he reviewed his Masonic tenets and obligations with equal rigor. There is one oft' repeated story about the General's men returning from the defeat of the British 46th regiment. With them, a chest of regalia, furniture and implements belonging to a travelling military lodge constituted under the Grand Lodge of Ireland. Washington ordered for its immediate return; likely a confusing and awkward turn of event for some of his men.

But I digress. Brethren, if we remove our rose-colored spectacles we can see that Brother Washington was not the infallible and perfect specimen of humility as he is often portrayed. Some of his decisions as a General, President and a privileged Virginian were and still are "controversial". But what I feel is important to note is that he worked diligently at identifying and then correcting those flaws he was able to, leaving the rest to providence to iron out in the end. We all have our ghosts, but through corrective actions we needn't dwell upon them. What better model can a Mason have than that?

By the way, I highly recommend reading the *Rules of Civility & Decent Behavior*. It is entertaining, insightful, and sometimes comical like rule # 95:

Put not your meat to your Mouth with your Knife in your hand neither Spit forth the Stones of any fruit Pie upon a Dish nor Cast anything under the table.

Fraternally Yours,

Wor Jonathan Weihart

2013



The 7th Annual Out of Hibernation 5K Road Race Saturday, April 13th



This year, proudly supporting the Wounded Warrior Project. As usual, we need your help.

We need brothers to help solicit sponsors for the race, particularly from other lodges in our area. Please contact Dan Stolworthy to volunteer to attend any of the following Stated Communications:

New Hampshire Lodges

Monday	2/4	Gideon Lodge #84	Kingston
Thursday	2/7	Major General John Sullivan Lodge #2	Epping
Monday	2/11	St. Andrew's Lodge	Portsmouth
Wednesday	2/13	Strafford Lodge #29	Dover
Wednesday	2/13	Rising Star Lodge #47	Newmarket
Thursday	2/14	Star in the East Lodge #59	Exeter
Thursday	2/21	St. James Lodge #102	Hampton
Thursday	2/21	Moses Paul #96	Dover
Tuesday	2/26	Tucker Lodge #99	Raymond

Maine/Massachusetts

Thursday	2/7	St. John's Lodge	Newburyport
Tuesday	2/5	St. Aspinquid #198	York Village
Wednesday	2/6	Naval Lodge #184	Kittery
Monday	2/18	St. John's Lodge #51	S. Berwick

Historical Sketch

.....continued from page 5

Lake Golf Course. He and his family requested that he only have a Masonic funeral service, and so on August 29, we traveled over to the Wilson-Cooper Funeral Home in Kittery where we presented a very special and emotional Masonic service in celebration and appreciation of our brother's life.

Wor. Charlie Nutter's Past Masters Jewel was returned to the Lodge after his passing and today it is worn by a distinguished brother of our Lodge who wears it for a very special reason; do you know who wears it and why? I'll answer that question next month when we complete the recap of 1988, a very memorable year in the history of our Lodge.

Alan Robinson
Historian



From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren:

Keep the dues coming in Brothers!

For any brother interested in life membership, please see me. The 2012 period has closed but we'll be able to accept 2013 life memberships soon. For more information, please contact me.

Sincerely yours,

Wor. Brother Gib Palmer
Secretary

**Contact
Information:**

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Gib Palmer
Secretary
Gilbert.Palmer@assurant.com
(603) 601-2294

February 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Stated Communication—Open in EA

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Dinner—Breakfast for Dinner

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Officer dress— White tie and tails

Annual Report of the Audit Committee and the St. John the Evangelist Fund

Program “Master Mason Mystery Men”

A quiz game presented by DEO Wor. Rod MacDonald

Four Square

Monday, February 18, 2013

St. James Lodge

(Supper 6:30, Program 7:30PM)

Special Communication—Master Mason Degree

Brother Eric Arnold

Wednesday, February 20, 2013

(Dinner 6:00, Open 7:00)

Dinner—Lasagna

Officer dress— White tie and tails

Masonic Education and Game Night

Wednesday, February 27, 2013

5:45—6:30PM **Education**

How to give a tour of the Hackett House and St. John's Lodge

All brothers are welcome, officers are required

7:00-9:30PM **Game Night**

Open to all and any Good Men

Pizza provided, BYOB

Remembering 1988 – Part 2

In this month's article we are continuing our review of the activities of our Lodge during the year 1988.

On Friday, May 27, 1988, a bus full of brethren and their spouses left the Masonic Temple parking lot on a trip to Quebec. We had accepted the invitation of St. John's Lodge No. 1 of Quebec City to attend their 200th Anniversary celebration on that Saturday afternoon. We had a great time riding in our motor coach with Bro. John Pearson and his wife sitting in the front seat. When we arrived in Quebec, we had a bus tour around the old city and then arrived at our hotel. That night and on Saturday morning we were free to explore the city on our own. In the afternoon we assembled as a group to attend the Anniversary celebration and banquet of the City's historic Lodge. They invited me to sit at their head table and the rest of the delegation from Portsmouth sat together and had a great time! That Saturday night some of us ventured out to enjoy the Quebec night life. We sampled the local fare and laughed so hard as we tried to drink beer from a 'Yard Glass'. We were all especially happy to share the weekend with Wor. Michael and Suellen Goodman who had recently become newlyweds, and I was especially privileged to share accommodations with our Tyler, Wor. Arthur P. Tibbetts. We walked all over the place that weekend and even though Art's legs were tired by the end of the evening, he didn't miss any of it – including drinking from the Yard Glass! He brought his own supply of Bag Balm and he plastered it on his legs before bed... The smell of it filled the room and it made him and all of us laugh all weekend long. For all of us, it was a wonderfully memorable trip, and one that we will never forget, especially Wor. Jack and Roxy Hartman.

At the Stated meeting in June 1988, with 27 members present, Bro. Joe Frost gave an enlightening talk on New Hampshire's involvement in the ratification of the Federal Constitution. A week later on June 8, we received our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Philip L. Hall, into the Lodge. 109 brethren, ladies and friends joined us that evening as we honored our Masonic Veterans. That evening, Wor. Edgar Warren Anderson was presented the Major General John Sullivan Distinguished Service Medal.

On the morning of Sunday, June 26, we opened the Lodge at the Masonic Temple, and after having pastries and coffee in the auditorium, we assembled the brethren and processed to St. John's Church for the 233rd annual St. John's Sunday observance. With flags flying high, DeWitt Clinton Commandery, Knights Templar, escorted the brethren of St. John's, St. Andrew's, Naval, and several other seacoast Lodges through the streets of Portsmouth. Father Gor-

don Allen, Rector of St. John's Church and his many parishioners welcomed us as we marched up Chapel Street, and we entered the Church to the tune of Onward Christian Soldiers. Reverend Brother John C. Lombard, the minister of the North Church of Portsmouth was the guest preacher and he delivered a superb sermon about Masonry and its connection with the Holy Saint John whose birthday we were honoring. The Portsmouth City Band that included Wor. A. Kenneth Day on clarinet and Bro. Nelson Ramsdell on trumpet, provided their usual excellent marching music that helped draw a crowd on State Street on the way to church, and in Market Square as we passed through town on our return to the Masonic Temple. As we had for many years, the Masters of St. John's and St. Andrew's Lodges were dressed in Morning Suits with Top Hats which were generously provided by Bro. Melvin Goodman, proprietor of Goodman's Men Shop in downtown Portsmouth.

Sadly, tragedy struck just after we arrived in St. John's Church that morning. Right before the service was set to begin, in the quiet solemnity of the moment, our friend and brother Norman F. Clark succumb to a massive heart attack and passed from labor to refreshment while seated in the middle section of the Church. At the Stated meeting on July 6, Wor. Roland H. Ripley proposed and the Lodge unanimously supported the placing of a bronze tablet at the back entrance to the William Pitt Tavern in honor of Bro. Norm Clark. Bro. Norm has been singularly instrumental in the restoration effort of the recently completed tavern, a meeting place of our Lodge, and the birthplace of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. Next time you're at the Tavern, look for Bro. Norm's plaque.

On a hot August 3 evening in Portsmouth, we honored Bro. Percy Ripley who had generously replaced the air conditioners in the Lodge room, and to the delight of the cool brethren present, we presented a detailed history of two of our brothers, it being their birthday – Wor. Roland Ripley and Wor. Arthur Tibbetts. On August 24, we held an Entered Apprentice Degree with Wor. George N. Flanders in the East. Also in August we hosted a very successful clam bake in the Temple auditorium in which more than 100 hungry eaters dined on lobsters and clams. Our Secretary, Wor. Raymond E. Bemis, and our Treasurer, Wor. Curt J. Ford, wore their festive Hawaiian shirts for the occasion!

On August 26, we lost our Chaplain, Wor. Charles Collins Nutter, as he passed from Labor to Refreshment at the age of 80. He was born February 22, 1908 in Concord, NH and was Raised a Master Mason in St. John's Lodge on June 23, 1943. He was Master of our Lodge in 1962. Bro. Charlie was a dear friend and mentor and he and I enjoyed golf outings at Nippo

Continued on page 6.....