



Spring 2000

## Paul E. Ellis Elected President

M.W. Paul E. Ellis, former First Vice President, was elected President of The George Washington Masonic Memorial Association at the annual meeting held in Savannah, Georgia on February 21. Brother Ellis, of Seaford, Delaware, replaces outgoing President M.W. Edgar N. Peppler, who served for five years and who will remain a member of the Board of Directors until his term expires in February 2001. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Memorial Association since 1988 and was elected First Vice President six years ago.

Brother Ellis chaired the Planning Committee for Commemoration Day last June 26, making the necessary arrangements and decisions to ensure the event proceeded seamlessly and successfully. The highlight of that day, which honored the 200th anniversary of the death of George Washington - the nation's first President and foremost Freemason - was the dedication of the Square and Compasses on the terrace in front of the Memorial.

M.W. Ellis served as Grand Master of Masons in Delaware in 1972-1973. Brother Ellis was coroneted a 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason in 1975. He served as Secretary of Gethsemane Lodge in Reliance, Delaware for 20 years.

Brother Ellis, a graduate of the University of Delaware and the University of Maryland School of Law, served as a Judge of the Delaware Court of Common Pleas from 1973-96. In addition to his 23 years on the bench, he served as an attorney for the Delaware Senate and as the state's Deputy Attorney General for Sussex County. He is a past president of the Seaford Lion's Club and the Seaford Public District Library.

"I'd like to enhance the image of the Memorial and encourage stronger financial support among the Grand Lodges," Brother Ellis said, referring to a primary goal for his tenure as President.

As Brother Ellis has stated in the past, "Every Grand Lodge is an owner of a piece of property in Alexandria." He would like to increase the approximately \$12 million in the Endowment Fund by encouraging and inspiring his Brothers to make provisions to contribute towards the Memorial, thus continuing the tradition of the Planned Giving Program developed under the direction of R.W.W. Scott Stoner. Brother Ellis, recovering from recent surgery, said he expects to be back on his feet in short order and reinvigorated to accept fresh challenges.

In addition to his specific goals as the new President, he intends to continue pursuing a grander objective that he has diligently pursued throughout his Masonic career. "I've always encouraged the practice of brotherhood," Brother Ellis said, "And I will continue to do so to the best of my abilities."

## Memorial Unveils Display at Conference



The George Washington Masonic Memorial unveiled a new and redesigned display at the Conference of Grand Masters in Savannah, Georgia in February. The display is free-standing, eight feet tall and 10 feet wide. The two center panels feature new photographs of the exterior of the Memorial and the Washington Statue located in Memorial Hall. The side panels are a montage of the various rooms in the Memorial.



## Memorial Selected for Live Broadcast

The Memorial was recently used as the broadcast site for the Fox Channel 5 Morning News program. The Secretary- Treasurer and the Replica Room Curator were interviewed and included in the broadcast. The coverage was very favorable and presented the Memorial and Freemasonry in a positive manner. The program highlighted the Masonic activities and attributes of George Washington and some of the many artifacts of his life that are on display in the Memorial. A brief tour of portions of the Memorial was also shown with references to the many charities of Freemasonry



## A Message from the Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Masonic Fraternity includes men from all walks of life - professionals, tradesmen and laborers. Freemasonry teaches the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God. It brings together men of all creeds and teaches the many aspects of the Great and Golden Rule common to all Faiths.

One of the stated goals of Freemasonry is to "make good men better." The following statement clarifies the process and outlines one way of looking at the three degrees of Freemasonry: "A good man is one who treats others as he would like to be treated. A generous man is one who treats others better than he expects to be treated. A wise man is one who knows how he and others should be treated: in what ways, and to what extent.



The first man is a civilizing influence. The second man is a refining and spreading influence. The third man is a higher-development influence." Everyone should go through the three phases typified by those three men. To believe that goodness or generosity are ends in themselves may be good or it may be generous. It is, however, not an informed attitude - and that is the most good and most generous we can be about it. If someone asked: "Is it better to be good, generous or wise?", one would have to reply: "If you are wise, you do not have to be obsessed by being 'good' or 'generous.' You are obliged to do what is necessary." This reflects the real work of Freemasons which is on the inner man, on our character and our development as human beings and as caring, productive and contributing members of our society. Freemasonry is intertwined with the creation and development of our great nation. George Washington wrote in his Farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States, November 2, 1783 "... the private virtues of economy, prudence, and industry, will not be less amiable in civil life, than the more splendid qualities of valour, perseverance, and enterprise were in the Field." In a letter to George Steptoe Washington dated December 5, 1790, Washington wrote "...a good moral character is the first essential in a man ... It is therefore highly important that you should endeavor not only to be learned but virtuous."

As the world's oldest fraternal organization, Freemasonry has persevered through the years because it teaches toleration of all faiths, acceptance of all men of good character, and support of free government institutions.



## Projects in Progress - 2000

The following projects are scheduled for completion in 2000. If you are interested in sponsoring a project or projects please contact the Secretary-Treasurer.

- Seal Stone Work on Portico & Tower
- Curb & Gutter Replacement - South Driveway
- Install Handicap Ramp in Auditorium
- Upgrade Computer System
- Re-tube both Boilers in Heating Plant
- Re-point Stonework - King St. & Callahan Dr.
- Upgrade Elevator Operating System
- Install Irrigation System on Front Terraces.



## **Where There's a Will, There's a Way**

### **By Malcom Wernick**

Your will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. To avoid problems, consider the following:

1. Do it now. The worst thing you can do in creating a will is to procrastinate. A will delayed is a will not done. Now is the time—while you are able—to plan for the future.
2. Seek professional assistance. Saving a few dollars by writing your own will or using a mass-produced generic form will not provide the level of inner peace and confidence you and your family deserves. A qualified estate planning attorney who knows how to draft a will that meets the specific requirements of your state of residence will meet your individual needs.
3. Don't rely on it solely. Your will needs to be considered along with other transfer documents, such as life insurance policies, joint-ownership accounts and retirement accounts. Other estate planning documents might include: power of attorney, appropriate health care provisions and a living will.
4. Revisit your will periodically. Things change. Children grow up. New laws are passed. New developments occur regarding health issues and financial resources. It's a good idea to review your will every year.
5. Keep a copy with your lawyer.

A will is worthless unless it can be located and duly recorded at your passing. Let someone know where it is. A little foresight can spare your family added stress during their time of grief. A copy can go in your files at home, but your lawyer should have the original. We at the George Washington Masonic Memorial want you and your loved ones to be protected with a thorough up-to-date estate plan. If you need help in finding an estate attorney in your area, we will assist you in any way we can. And if you are interested in contributing to the future of the George Washington Masonic Memorial, an estate gift would be greatly appreciated.

For planned giving information, write to W. Scott Stoner, Chairman, Planned Giving Committee: 998 Nissley Road, Lancaster, PA 17601; or call 717-898-2185 (Fax 717-898-8956).

## Memorial Hall By J.P. Riddell, Curator, Replica Lodge Room



Memorial Hall - its expansive floor area, flanked by massive granite columns, murals and stained glass windows' provides a truly grand first impression to the George Washington Masonic Memorial. The principal entrance to the Memorial is by way of the second floor through a vestibule formed in front by eight granite columns of the Doric order; each 32 feet high and weighing 63 tons. Its floors are of Tennessee marble laid in geometrical figures. The walls are faced with Missouri marble. The central area is flanked on either side by eight polished New Hampshire green granite columns of Corinthian design. These beautiful columns are 38 feet, six inches high, four feet wide at the base and weigh 68 tons.



Matching the palmetto decorative feature of the columns are four 8-foot bronze lamps placed in the corners of Memorial Hall; these were given to the Memorial by the General Grand Chapter, Order of The Eastern Star. In the canopied recess at the west end of the room is a bronze statue of Washington that is 17 feet, three inches in height, showing him as presiding officer of his Alexandria Lodge; this was the work of Bryant Baker, and was contributed to the Memorial in 1950 by the Order of DeMolay.

Two magnificent murals adorn the full width of both the North and South walls. The mural on North wall depicts George Washington and Brethren attending a Saint John's Day Observance, Christ Church, Philadelphia, December 28, 1788. The mural on the South wall shows George Washington laying the Cornerstone of the National Capitol, September 18, 1793. These majestic murals were the work of Allyn Cox, one of the most talented muralists in America. Cox worked for approximately 30 years at the Capitol building; he painted 26 murals in the House side, one in the Senate side and the frieze on the Capitol dome. The Grand Lodge of California contributed the murals in our Memorial Hall. High over the murals are six historically significant stained glass windows. These were designed by Allyn Cox. There is, however, little mention of the artist, Robert Metcalf, who installed these beautiful windows. Yet, Metcalf was one of the finest artists in stained glass in the world. His reputation was so outstanding that following World War II, he was called upon to replace or repair the many stained glass windows in the cathedrals which had been damaged during the bombings throughout England, France, Germany and other areas of Europe.



## Murals in Memorial Hall Photographed for the First Time

The 18 by 46-foot murals located behind the columns on the north and south walls of Memorial Hall have been photographed and digitally composed to present the first actual photographs of the murals. Until now the only renderings that were available of the murals were artists' drawings. For the first time the exquisite colors, lighting and details can be seen and appreciated.





## "Grand Lodge Month" Program Instituted at Memorial

January 2000 marked the beginning of the "Grand Lodge Month" program at the Memorial. Each month a different Grand Jurisdiction is featured and honored. The State Flag of the Grand Jurisdiction is flown over the Memorial for the entire month. The flag is then presented to the Grand Lodge at its next Grand Lodge session. A display is set up in Assembly Hall featuring The Grand Lodge History, Officers, programs, charities and so forth. If the Grand Lodge has a video, it is played as part of the exhibit.

**The Grand Lodges being recognized this year are:**

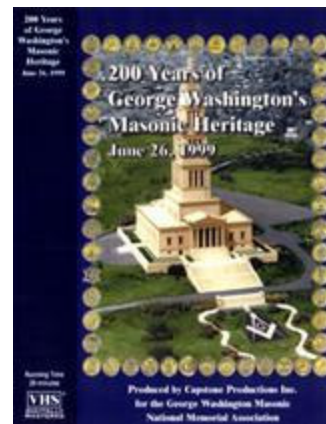
<b>January</b>	<b>Delaware</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Pennsylvania</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>New Jersey</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Georgia</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Massachusetts</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Maryland</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>South Carolina</b>
<b>August</b>	<b>Connecticut</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>New Hampshire</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Virginia</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>New York</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>North Carolina</b>

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## GWMM Gifts

"Two Hundred Years of George Washington's Masonic Heritage" The Commemoration Day, June 26, 1999 video is available through the GWMM Gift Shop. The Gift Shop can be contacted by telephone at 703-549-9234 or by writing to:

Gift Shop – GWMM  
101 Callahan Drive  
Alexandria, Virginia 22301



## 21st Century Members

Charles A. Brigham, Jr.	OH
Columbia Lodge No. 388	CA
Walter C. Davis, Jr.	VA
Jim Emery	VA
Gerald H. Grosskopf	NJ
J.N. Highsmith, Jr.	VA
*David Jacobs by Temple-Melita Royal Arch Chapter No. 183	PA
Emil J. Klingenfus	IL
Oscar A. Line	DC
George S. Martin	NJ
Harlan E. Phelps, Jr.	VA
Raytown Lodge No. 391	MO
Robert M. Stutz	NJ
*In Honor of	

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## Life Members

S. Warren Alvis	NC
Robert Cannady	NY
Roy William Evans	CA
John Greenwood	DC
William P. Maxam	IN
Norman H. Peek	NJ
James F. Penman	CA
Richard C. Smith	MA/ME
*Lee and Joan Stafko by Tony and Marilyn Wordlow	CA
Benson Taylor, Jr.	VA

\*In Honor of