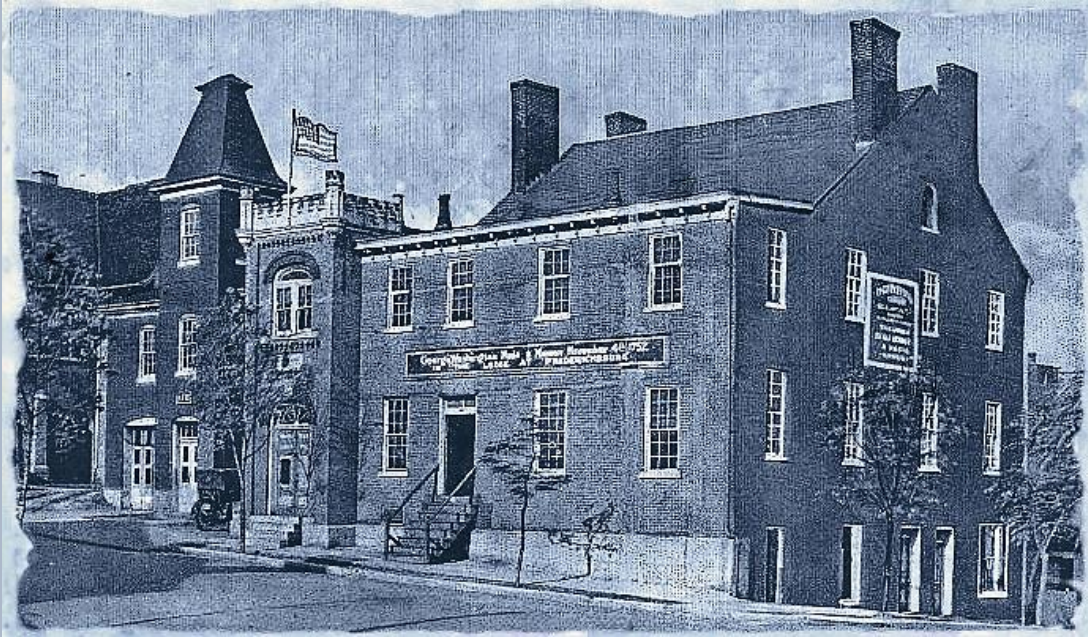


# FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



## TRESTLE BOARD

FIRST RECORDED MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1, 1752

SCOTTISH CHARTER - JULY 21, 1758

VIRGINIA CHARTER - JANUARY 30, 1787

### MOTHER LODGE OF ILL.: BRO.: GEORGE WASHINGTON

803 Princess Anne St.  
Fredericksburg,  
VA 22401

[Masoniclodge4.org](http://Masoniclodge4.org)

(540) 373-5885

INITIATED NOVEMBER 4, 1752

PASSED MARCH 3, 1753

RAISED AUGUST 4, 1753

**'A TEMPLE OF LIVING STONES'**

Stated Meeting  
Second Fridays  
(except Nov. 4)

Dinner 6:00 pm  
Meeting 7:30 pm

Degree Work  
Wednesdays 7pm  
(check calendar)

MARCH 2021  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3* Ritual Practice (FC) 7pm	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Ritual Practice 7pm	11	12 Zoom Call 6:30 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	13 Education 8am Meal Delivery 4:30pm (FUMC)
14	15	16	17 Ritual Practice 7pm	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Ritual Practice 7pm	25	26	27 Education 8am Easter Lilies to Widows
28	29	30	31 Ritual Practice 7pm			

Consult calendar on website for details and updates.

## ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

Robert Spencer Lawrence	60 years	John Thurston Mullins	58 years
Harvey Wayne Parrish	54 years	Leslie Albert Dickerson	52 years
Kenneth Earl Brown	49 years	James Gordon Brown	48 years
Roderick Lynn Cutright	46 years	David Alan Brooks	33 years
John Howard Sweton	31 years	George Douglas Seghers	31 years
Donald Homer Saucier Jr	29 years	Dwight Wayne Rose	25 years
Jene Gordon Parrotte	23 years	Broaddus Posey Sullivan III	22 years
Thomas Keith Staples Jr.	22 years	Shelby Lee Chandler II	16 years
Luis Jose Benitex	13 years	Daniel Thomas Goodwin	11 years
William Franklin Oliver	11 years	Michael Patrick Esler	10 years
Cornelius Jerome Coverson	10 years	Derek Alexander Mahin	9 years
Kenneth Irvine Davidson	9 years	Troy Lyman Carter	9 years
Michael Felix Scullin	8 years	Justin Christopher Garrett	7 years
Charles Louis Dirienzo Jr.	5 years	James Gerald Smith	4 years
John Clark Saunders Jr.	4 years	Vitali Maya	3 years
Brandon A. DAndrea	3 years	Michael Wayne Shaner	1 year

## MASTER'S CORNER

This month I'd like to draw your attention to something that's very obviously on everyone's mind—when will our Lodge return to normal? There are encouraging signs we may be nearing the end of the tunnel. The Grand Master's letter of February 1<sup>st</sup> is looking ahead to a time beyond the pandemic when we can meet and fellowship as before. As it says in our Ritual, man was *formed for social and active life, the noblest part of the work of God*. The Grand Lodge is looking ahead to the summer and fall and planning some big events to help us celebrate reuniting and getting us “fired up” for Masonry. As with everything in Masonry it's a matter of balance, but the message is clear—“Now is the time for us to start digging out, with safety and prudence absolutely at the forefront.” Vaccines are being distributed, case numbers are falling, and while we're still limited to 10, the Governor is starting to ease other restrictions. I believe it's only a matter of a little more time and when we're able to open up more fully, we'll be ready.

A few other items. We're looking at a costly repair to the flat roof over the Main Lodge Room, and the Masonic Cemetery—the oldest in the Western Hemisphere—is greatly in need to repair. Last year, the FMMA put a proposal before the Lodge to install a series of columbaria at the Cemetery, for the purpose of establishing a trust to provide for its upkeep in perpetuity. There are many complex questions involved and I have appointed a committee to those questions and to coordinate between the Trustees, the FMMA, and the Lodge. The Columbarium Committee consists: Bros. Huey Allen, Pat McConnell, and Michael Spellman, and Wor. Bros. Chris Decker, Dan Goodwin, and Jamie Snyder. Please reach out to me or any of them with your questions. Over the coming months, the Committee will give monthly reports and hold one or more meetings with the Brethren. A Lodge vote is anticipated later this year. One thing is certain—we must begin to think strategically about the long-term sustainability of both the Cemetery and Building.

Lastly, planning for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Lafayette's visit to the Lodge, in November 2024, has begun. One of the first milestones is the Lodge will receive a marker and be placed on the Lafayette Trail. Before that, the Lodge will be very much involved in commemorating the Centennial of the laying of the cornerstone of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in 2023. You can see that exciting times lay ahead in the coming years. We can't know the future with certainty, of course. But I believe we will soon emerge from the hardship of the past year and that better days lie right around the corner.

## SECRETARY'S CORNER

Thank you to all the Brothers who have paid their dues. There is now a link on the new website to pay your dues via PayPal. Don't let yourself get behind, and if you are having troubles please let us know.

Did you know: Andrew McNair, a Philadelphia Mason, rang the Liberty bell in Independence Hall of July 8, 1776 to call the people together to hear the reading of the Declaration of Independence. The bell developed a crack when it was rung for the death of Chief Justice Marshall, the Past Grand Master of Virginia.

## **FROM THE WEST**

We will be resuming Lodge training on Wednesday evenings. While we are still under the Grand Masters restrictions of 10 MAX, please let me know if you plan on attending and what you might be interested in covering. We will be starting back on the Entered Apprentice degree. All EAs and above are welcome to attend. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday at 7:00 PM. We will also meet at J. Bryan's at 5:00 for supper before the training.

## **FROM THE SOUTH**

Brethren, I hope this finds all of you and your loved ones well. Looking forward to seeing you in Lodge once we are cleared to return.

## **LODGE WEBSITE**

If you haven't checked out the Lodge website in a while, you may want to have a look. The website has a whole new look to it, courtesy of our Webmaster, Bro. Dennis David. The website will soon include a membership portal where you can safely and securely track all your information. The Lodge store is also going online with a new line of Lodge 4-specific merchandise, thanks to Bro. Spellman and the Stewards.

Our Lodge Historian has also been doing research to learn more about our Past Masters, which is contained in an interactive slide show also on our website. Please see below for one of them...

## **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

This month we'd like to showcase our Past Master from 200 years ago. Wor. Samuel Howison served as Master of Fredericksburg Lodge for a total of 8 years, second only to M.W. Benjamin Day (16 years). He served from 1820 to 1822, 1827 to 1831, and 1832 to 1834. His first term ran from 1820 – 1821. The most significant event in 1821 was the death of M.W. Day. In those days, the Lodge held its installations in June, on St. John the Baptist Day (June 24<sup>th</sup>). It was common for Masters to serve two consecutive terms until Wor. Alvin Embrey, 1900 – 1902. The last to serve for two, nonconsecutive years was Wor. William MacKenzie in 1938 and 1945.

Wor. Howison (1779 – 1845) was a banker and notary public in Fredericksburg. With his wife Helen Rose Moore he had 12 children. Theirs was a distinguished family—his son John would build Braehead, while his daughter Jane Howison Beale would become a famous Civil War diarist. On his death, the Alexandria Gazette reported that he was “long a respectable and highly esteemed resident of Fredericksburg, Va.” He is buried at Fredericksburg City Cemetery.

## 2021 LODGE OFFICERS

Christopher S. Tripp, PM	<a href="mailto:wm@masoniclodge4.org">wm@masoniclodge4.org</a>	(540) 424-5767	Worshipful Master
Charles L. Dirienzo	chuckdirienzo@1976.usna.com	(571) 524-9585	Senior Warden
Joseph Gilkerson	gilkerson@hotmail.com	(540) 907-7404	Junior Warden
Charles Cooper, PM	ccooper627@cox.net	(540) 371-5652	Treasurer
Chris Decker, PM	<a href="mailto:secretarylodge4va@gmail.com">secretarylodge4va@gmail.com</a>	(540) 424-1028	Secretary
James Snyder, PM	jamie-snyder@usa.net		Asst. Treasurer
Michael Spellman	mspellman@sigmapest.com		Asst. Secretary
Kevin Valentine	vak242@yahoo.com		Senior Deacon
Michael Perry	mikeperry1965@hotmail.com		Junior Deacon
Michael Spellman	mspellman@sigmapest.com		Senior Steward
Michael Shaner	miwash6mm@gmail.com		Junior Steward
Shawn Bryar	asbryar@verizon.net		Chaplain
Patrick McConnell	patmccnll@gmail.com		Marshal
Shelby Chandler, PM	schandler@epaladin.us		Tiler

## TRUSTEES

Dennis Berry, PM – 2021  
Vacant – 2024

Chris Decker, PM – 2022

Dan Goodwin, PM – 2023  
Dennis David - 2025

## PROGRAM OFFICERS

**Lodge Blood Coordinator**  
Jeff Mikulas

**Lodge Instructor of Work**  
Charles L. Dirienzo

**Lodge Education Officer**  
Bob Melvin

**Masonic Home Ambassador**  
Ross Upchurch

**Lodge Catechism Chair**  
Huey Allen

**Lodge Almoner**  
Richard Klehm, PM

## LIVING PAST MASTERS

Wor.: Carter. G. Wells.....	1963	Wor.: Jene G. Parrotte.....	2004
Wor.: Rudolph E. Griffith.....	1974	R.:W.: Steven W. Sanford.....	2005
Wor.: Henry W. Baker.....	1975	Wor.: Richard D. Dey.....	2006
Wor.: Edward L. Donalson.....	1983	Wor.: Anthony L Rudder.....	2007
Wor.: Carlton D. Beach.....	1985	R.:W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
Wor.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.: Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	Wor.: Shelby L. Chandler.....	2011
Wor.: William J. White.....	1989	Wor.: Christopher J. Decker.....	2012
Wor.: James R. Adams.....	1992	Wor.: Christopher R. Wilson.....	2013
Wor.: Robert W. Benish.....	1993	Wor.: Jeffrey L. Mitchell.....	2014
Wor.: Michael J. McCray.....	1995	R.:w.: Jeffrey P. VanCuren.....	2015
Wor.: Steven M. Gallahan.....	1996	Wor.: James L. Ragsdale.....	2016
Wor.: Charles B. Pasto.....	1998	Wor.: Michael T. Moses.....	2017
Wor.: J. Travis Walker.....	2000	Wor.: Daniel T. Goodwin.....	2018
Wor.: Daniel W. Thompson.....	2001	Wor.: James M. Snyder.....	2019
R.:W.: W. Robert Brammer.....	2002	Wor.: Stanley R. Kennedy.....	2020
Wor.: Sheridan G. Harrod.....	2003		