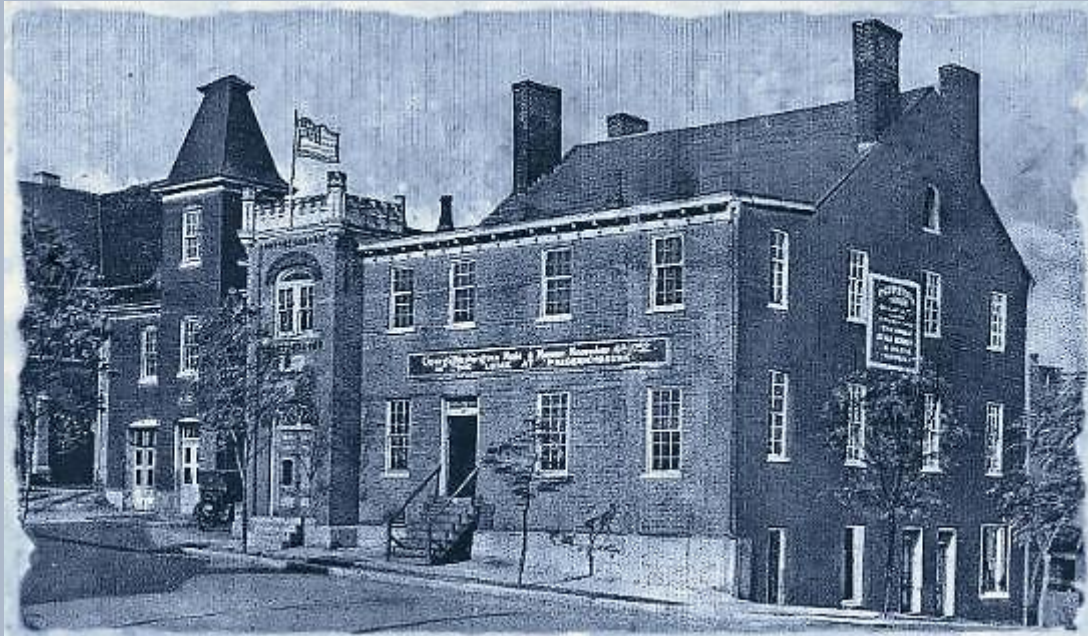


# **FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.**



## **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)

**INITIATED NOVEMBER 4, 1752**

**PASSED MARCH 3, 1753**

**RAISED AUGUST 4, 1753**

**'GUARDIANS OF THE CRAFT,  
BUILDERS OF TOMORROW'**

**AUGUST 2025**

Stated Meeting  
Second Fridays  
(except Nov. 4)

Dinner 6:30 pm  
Meeting 7:30 pm

Degree Work  
Wednesdays 7pm  
(check calendar)

## AUGUST 2025 EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 Pancake Breakfast, 8 am
3	4	5	6 Lodge Clean Up 7 pm	7	8 Stated Comm. Dinner 6:30 pm Meeting 7:30	9
10	11	12 Community Meal 4 pm	13 Degree or Ritual School 7 pm	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Degree or Ritual School 7 pm	21	22	23
24	25	26 Distroct Ritual School 7 pm	27 Degree or Ritual School 7 pm	28	29	30
31						

*Consult calendar on website for event details and updates.*

### Highlights from Last Month:

- Presentation of Community Builder Awards to Clarissa Sanders and Kylie Thomson
- Presentation of Bro. David Rife's 50-year pin.
- Program by Wor. Barry Mensh of Lajeune Lodge No. 350
- Initiated two Brethren (Bros. Max Pate and Joel McKinley)

**Please note that our stated meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup> is Past Master's and Hawaiian Shirt Night!**

## ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

### Masonic Anniversaries for August

Bro. Carlos Melendez	50 yrs.	Bro. George E. Nowacek	17
M.W. Jeffery E. Hodges	40	Wor. Alexander R. VanCuren	14
Wor. Kenneth M. Elliott, III	34	Bro. Luiz F. Hernandez	14
Bro. Christopher K. Aleo	25	Bro. Brendan A. Klei	14
Wor. Jeremy B. Utt	25	Bro. Andrew J. Sanger	14
Bro. Kenneth A. Crampton	22	Bro. Thomas F. Callahan	10
Bro. Peter D. Klei	20	Bro. Paul R. Dooley	10
Bro. Henry H. Knauf	20	Bro. James R. DuBois	10
Bro. Dennis E. Lindsay	20	Bro. Kevin Holyfield	10
Bro. Frederick L. Lentz	19	Bro. Christopher G. Zimmerman	10
Bro. David J. Pompilio	19	Wor. Daniel L. Linnabary	9
Bro. Bob R. Melvin, Jr.	17	Bro. Michael J. Almassy	7
Bro. Timothy A. Bettendorf	17	Bro. Jeffrey A. Harvey	7
Bro. Richard L. Blumling	17	Bro. Ian A. Nunya-Smith	7
Bro. John H. Corderman	17	Bro. Donald L. Powell, Jr.	7
Bro. Timothy A. Gilbert	17	Bro. Karl A. Erickson, Jr.	7
Bro. William W. Gray, II	17	Bro. Paul D. Chewning	7
Wor. Richard A. Klehm	17	Bro. Michael J. Spellman, II	6
Bro. George-Henry H. Knauf	17	Bro. Bruce H. B. Gilkerson	4
Bro. George W. Langford	17	Bro. Kyle A Bockwoldt	2

## Celebrating Fellowship, Legacy, and Service at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4

### Reflections on Our July Stated Communication

*By the Worshipful Master*

The July Stated Communication of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 was a truly memorable evening, one filled with celebration, fraternity, history, and heartfelt recognition.

Among our most vibrant gatherings of the year, the meeting served as a shining example of Masonic fellowship and community engagement!



## A Night Dedicated to Our Appendant Bodies

The evening was designated as *Appendant Bodies Night*, and what a night it was. The Baker Room was transformed into a vibrant hub of Masonic activity as various appendant organizations set up beautifully curated tables, eager to share their unique contributions to the wider Masonic family. Guests and Brethren alike had the pleasure of learning from and engaging with representatives of:

- Royal Arch
- Commandery
- Scottish Rite
- Shriners
- Grotto
- Eastern Star



- National Sojourners
- Heroes of '76
- Job's Daughters

The strength and diversity of our extended Masonic family were proudly on display, reinforcing the many paths one can travel within the Craft to continue the journey of Light.



A special thank you is also extended to Right Worshipful Shelby Chandler for delivering the *Toast to the Flag* during our Appendant Bodies Night. His presentation, as always, was a stirring and humbling reminder of the patriotism and devotion we hold dear, not only as Masons, but as citizens. His words added a noble and heartfelt touch to an already unforgettable evening.

### **Honoring Community Builders: A Surprise Presentation**

In the true spirit of Masonic values and brotherly love, the Lodge prepared a surprise presentation, one that underscored our enduring commitment to service and gratitude.

We were joined by two extraordinary partners from the Fredericksburg Area Museum:

- **Clarissa Sanders**, Director of Interpretation & Programs
- **Kylie Thomson**, Curator of Collections

Unknown to them, we had arranged a special honor, the Community Builder Award, one of the most meaningful recognitions a Lodge can bestow upon a non-Mason. This award is reserved for those who exemplify, through selfless service and unwavering dedication, the very principles we as Freemasons hold sacred: *Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth*. Clarissa and Kylie have done just that.

Their tireless commitment to preserving the legacy of our ancient and honorable fraternity has been nothing short of inspirational. From cataloging and photographing fragile artifacts, to helping us scan documents and research the deeper layers of Masonic history, they have approached our heritage with care, passion, and precision. Their work has elevated our mission far beyond what we could have imagined and in doing so, they have become not only trusted allies, but true friends of the Lodge.

With heartfelt appreciation, we presented them with the Community Builder Award as a symbol of our respect and enduring gratitude. Through their efforts, they have helped us build a bridge between past and future, and we are deeply honored to call them our partners.



## Milestones of Dedication and Service

The evening also provided an opportunity to celebrate two incredible Masons whose actions speak volumes:

- **Brother David Rife**, of McDowell Lodge No. 112 in Welch, West Virginia, was presented with his *50-Year Veteran's Pin and Certificate*. This milestone is a testament to a lifetime of devotion to the Craft, and it was our distinct privilege to share in the recognition of his legacy!
- **Brother Edwin "Rand" Sompayrac** was recognized for his awe-inspiring record of blood donations over **163 units**, equating to more than **20.4 gallons**! His selfless contributions at countless blood drives reflect the highest ideals of service and charity. Brother Sompayrac, your example inspires us all.





## An Evening of Education

We were blessed to hear from our very own LEO Brother Bob Melvin who never disappoints, with an enriching presentation to the Brethren, but our evening was even further enriched by a stirring and thought-provoking address delivered by Worshipful Brother Barry A. Mensh, Past Master of Springfield Lodge No. 217 and John A. Lejeune Lodge No. 350, and current District Educational Officer for Masonic District 1B. His presentation, *"Be Ever-Governed and Never Take For Granted, Our Three Masonic Charges,"* served as both a solemn reminder and an educational gift, reaffirming the core duties and responsibilities we owe to the Craft, to each other, and to ourselves. Thank you to both of our speakers!

## In Closing

Our July Stated Communication was more than a meeting, it was a celebration of Masonic unity, service, and legacy. From the energy of our appendant bodies, to the surprises and honors bestowed, and the wisdom shared through education, it was an evening that truly captured the spirit of Freemasonry.



To all who attended, participated, and made the evening so special, thank you. It was a humbling experience to witness such fellowship and commitment to the Craft. May we continue to build upon these moments, strengthening the bonds of our Brotherhood and carrying the Light forward. We are truly builders of tomorrow and this is the path.

Sincerely,  
Mike



## ORDER

Order is defined (A) as the arrangement or disposition of people or things in relation to each other according to a particular sequence, pattern, or method; (B) a state in which everything is in its correct or appropriate place; (C) a state in which the laws and rules regulating the public behavior of members of a community are observed and authority is obeyed.

Considered individually, each definition of Order, A,B, C are parts of the moral and social virtues which unite and cement Freemasons. Order, when used as a verb, can also be found in the Lodge, but only in one place and is reserved for the gavel, whereas Order as a noun in any of its defined forms is universal in the Lodge. Order is such a universal theme that it can be considered a core tenant and a defining feature of Freemasonry.

Freemasonry is not easily done either for the non-Mason or by the Regular Mason. Countless books, authors, advertisements, pamphlets, Masons and non-Masons have defined Freemasonry with eloquence and brevity alike. No two definitions are the same. Freemasonry has been defined as: a fraternity, a society with secrets, a place to make good men better, an order, a guild, a fellowship of learning, a system of moral and ethical principles expressed through symbolic rituals, ceremonies, and allegories, and many other things both decent and indecent. The afore mentioned definitions, as descriptive and emotive as they are, do not quite capture the quintessence of Freemasonry, as Order does.

Order is so well suited to define Freemasonry because it captures both the purpose of Freemasonry in general and the practice of the Freemason himself. Order answers the How for the Mason, the What of the Lodge and the Why of Freemasonry. In Geometry we find Order as only the Great Architect of the Universe could create. In Order we find the disposition of the Lodge and the arrangement of the Temple. In Order we find the Freemason in his appropriate place among his Brothers and Society. Stated differently, the Freemason stands just and upright in all his interactions with mankind. In Order we find the whole of the Lodge, regulating the rules of its members where both divine and earthly rules are obeyed. In Order we find Harmony and Peace and Justice.

May brotherly love prevail.  
Do good unto all, etc. etc.,  
Bro.: Seth Roderick

post script:

Please pray for our Brothers, their families and friends of Fairfax Lodge #43 in Culpeper as they recently suffered a devastating fire in their Temple. Thankfully no one was harmed and the Culpeper Fire Department bravely and swiftly acted to stop the fire before it could totally consume the Temple and their tenants.

## **Secretary's Corner**

Brethren,

First this month, we'd like to call your attention to and congratulate those who are celebrating Masonic Anniversaries this month. August has truly been an active month for our Lodge! In particular, there are many Brethren celebrating key anniversaries – with special congratulations to Bro. Carlos Melendez, celebrating 50 years in the Fraternity, Most Worshipful Jeffery Eugene Hodges, celebrating 40 years, Bro. Chris Aleo and Wor. Jeremy Utt, celebrating 25 years, and others listed celebrating 20 years or 10 years in the Craft, among others. Congratulations to all! It's also worth noting that August has historically been a month when there have been One-Day Conferrals, explaining some (but not all) of the Brethren with the same length of service.

We have recently had the sad duty of reporting several delinquent Brethren to the Grand Lodge. They will soon be receiving letters from the Grand Master. To make all aware, it is a long and arduous process before a Brother can be suspended for non-payment of dues. Following notification to the Grand Lodge, the next step is to send the Brother in arrears a citation by personal service or certified mail. After the prescribed waiting period, the Lodge may then vote to suspend. At any time during this process, the Brother can make payment or reach out to the Lodge for payment arrangements or to request his dues or a portion thereof be remitted due to financial hardship. We'd always rather retain a Brother's membership than see him suspended. Please note that a Brother who is suspended loses all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry, which results in suspension from all Lodges of which he is a member as well as all Appendant Bodies. Of course, a suspended

Brother has the right to apply for restoration upon payment of his outstanding dues, both to the Lodge that originally suspended him and to any other Lodges where he owes dues. He must first apply to the Lodge that originally suspended him for reinstatement to the rights and privileges of Freemasonry as well as for reinstatement to membership in that Lodge. Both are subject to a unanimous ballot, and restoration does not automatically restore his membership in his other Lodges. Please see Methodical Digest Sect. 2.146 – 2.158 for more detail. It brings us no pleasure to bring this up, but we want to make everyone aware of the dire consequences of losing your membership and the multiple opportunities to avoid this. So please reach out if you find yourself in this situation.

### **From the Archives: A Tribute Worth Sharing**

Brethren and Friends,

As many of you know, we often find ourselves delving into the Lodge archives, preserving, exploring, and occasionally uncovering treasures that simply must be shared.

Recently, while working through some of our records, I came across a heartfelt note written by a fellow Lodge Secretary, none other than our distinguished Brother, PDDGM Ralph A. Hicks.

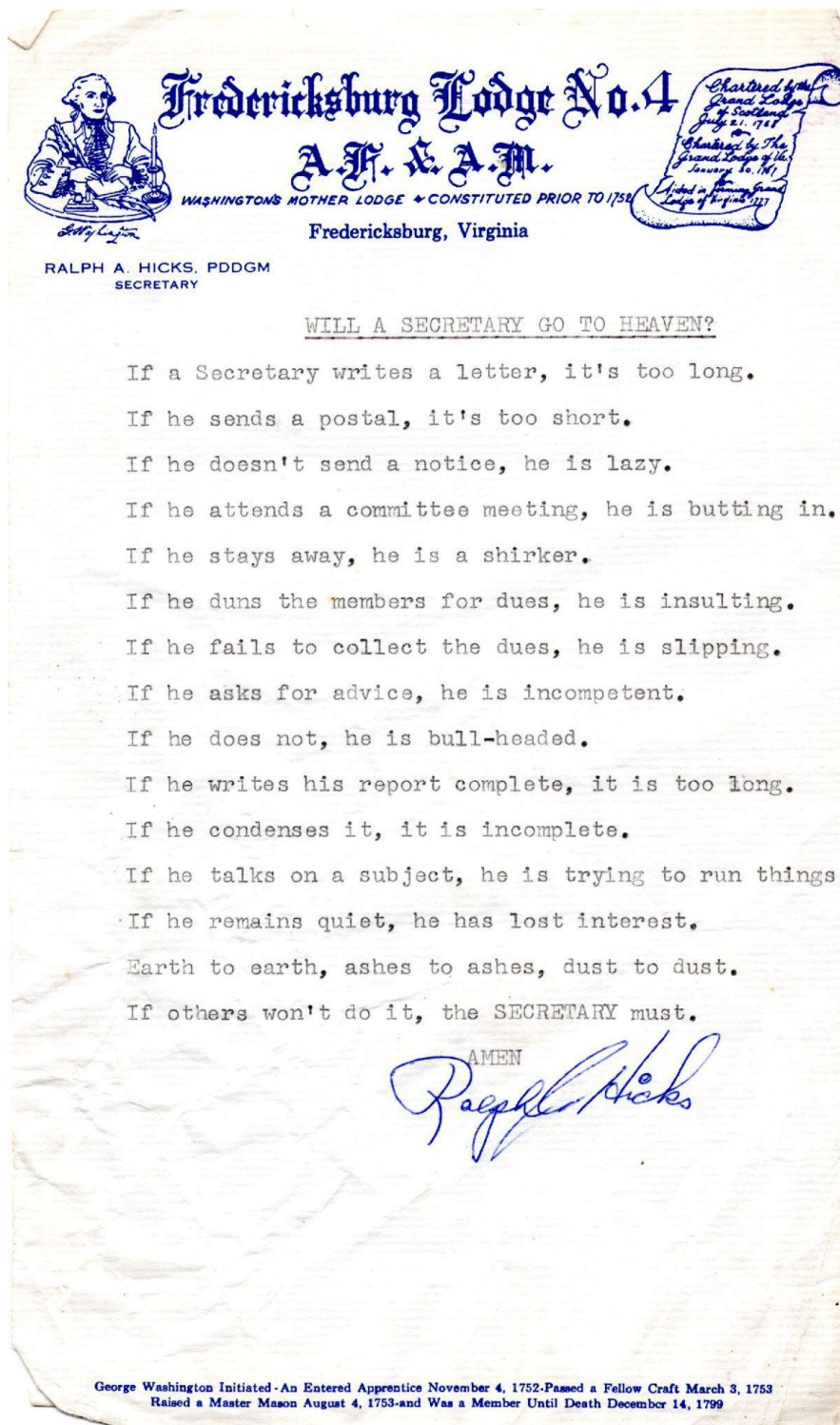
It was a reflection on the unique and often unsung role of a Lodge Secretary, words that immediately brought to mind the tireless service of our own Worshipful Secretary, Bro. Chris Tripp.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: Worshipful Brother Tripp is the linchpin of our Lodge. The steady hand behind the scenes. The keeper of our records, our rituals, and often our sanity. And while it's not always an easy role, balancing tradition, administration, and the occasional friendly reminder, he does it with grace, commitment, and Brotherly love.

So today, inspired by those archived words and the legacy of Secretaries past, I offer a sincere and public "Thank you" to our present one! We see you, Worshipful. And we appreciate you more than you know.



Sincerely,  
Mike



## George Washington's Masonic Raising at Lodge of Fredericksburg(h)



Charles Willson Peale painted this retrospective portrait of George Washington, depicting him as a young officer during the French and Indian War (circa 1754–1758)

### **Washington's Initiation and Masonic Birthday Month!**

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Our Illustrious Brother, George Washington joined our Fraternity of Freemasons at age 20 in his hometown of Fredericksburg(h), Virginia. The local Masonic group, known then simply as *the Lodge at Fredericksburgh* (later we were chartered as Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4), was a young lodge founded in 1752 by merchants and Scottish immigrants. Meetings were held in taverns. The earliest certain meeting site was at Charles Julian's tavern, which stood across the street from

Jones' tavern, in 1756. It is unknown whether the Lodge had any fixed meeting site prior to this. Starting on St. John the Evangelist's Day (December 27th) in 1763, the Masons occupied the old Town Hall/Market House until it was torn down in 1814. The new Market House was completed in 1816 and now houses the Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center.

On **November 4, 1752**, *"Mr. George Washington was initiated as an Entered Apprentice"* in the lodge, and he paid an entrance fee of £ 2 3s. Ten days after his 21st birthday, on **March 3, 1753**, Washington advanced to the second degree of Fellow Craft. Finally, on **August 4, 1753**, Brother Washington was "raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason", the third and highest degree of Craft.

All three of these milestone ceremonies, his Initiation, Passing, and Raising, were recorded in the lodge's first minute book, which with a great deal of fortune and foresight by Worshipful Brother William Ware, survives till this day today, amongst other things saved.

Washington's raising on August 4 made him a Master Mason at just 21 years old. Notably, 1752 had been a year of calendar reform in the British Empire (adopting the Gregorian calendar), so although the lodge record lists his initiation when he was only 20, he was actually 21 years of age by the new calendar.

After receiving the Master Mason degree, Washington's participation in Fredericksburg Lodge's meetings became infrequent, as he soon left to serve in the French and Indian War. The lodge's minute book indicates he attended only two more meetings in Fredericksburg, on September 1, 1753 and January 4, 1755 before wartime duties intervened.

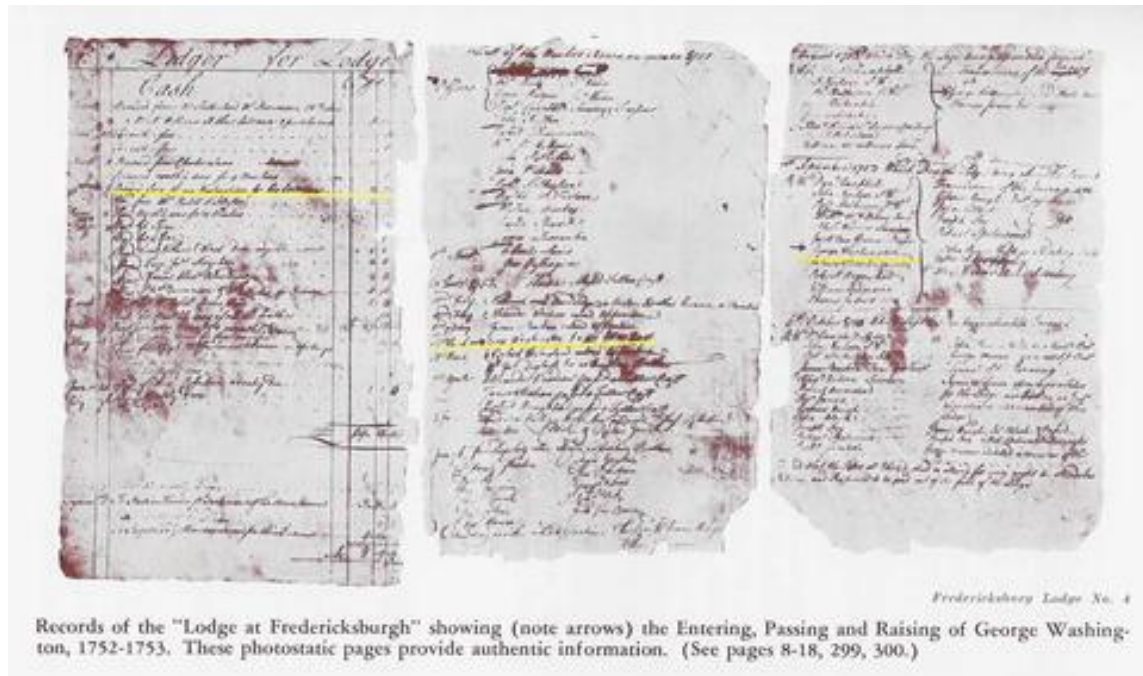
Nonetheless, he remained a lifelong member of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 until his death in 1799. In fact, when Washington died, the Grand Lodge of Virginia's 1800 proceedings listed him in the lodge's necrology of recently departed brethren, confirming he was still considered a member of his "Mother Lodge."

In addition to the written minutes, artifacts from the event still exist. Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 to this day retains the very Holy Bible upon which



Washington took his Masonic oaths. This Bible, a King James Version printed in 1668, was already nearly a century old when Washington's hands rested upon it during the rituals. It's known as the *George Washington Masonic Bible*, and the lodge jealously guards it as a priceless relic. (It is occasionally lent out for display at notable events or on request. When the bible travels it is under strict security and conservation rules.)

The lodge also possesses its original minute book and other related relics, such as an 18th-century portrait of Washington in Masonic regalia and even a lock of Washington's hair, all of which were for a long time kept at the lodge's building in Fredericksburg. In 2002, to mark the 250th anniversary of Washington's initiation, many of these items (the Bible, minute book pages, etc.) were publicly exhibited for the first time at the Fredericksburg Area Museum, a significant departure from past secrecy the *Washington Post* wrote. This exhibition let the public see, up close, the aging pages where "*G. Washington*" is listed among the brethren, and the very Bible used in 1752. Such original records and artifacts provide a tangible link to the night of August 4, 1753, offering direct evidence of Washington's Masonic rites.





## **The Significance of Washington's Masonic Raising**

George Washington's raising as a Master Mason has been the subject of considerable historical commentary, given Washington's later prominence. Scholarly analyses generally agree that his early involvement in Freemasonry was an important influence on his social development and values. At the time Washington joined, the Fredericksburg Lodge was a meeting place for the local *gentry* and military men, one of the very few forums in colonial Virginia where men of different backgrounds (including colonials and British officers) could mingle as equals.

Lodge meetings exposed the young Bro. Washington to Enlightenment ideas, cosmopolitan etiquette, and networks of influence beyond what he had encountered in his rural upbringing. Now Lodge No. 4 included or would soon include comrades who served with Washington in the militia and Continental Army (such as Brothers Hugh Mercer and George Weedon).

Historian John Kaminski notes that Masonic ideals permeated Washington's worldview: in his writings and speeches, Washington often invoked "the Great Architect of the Universe" and used metaphors of building and brotherhood, rather than more sectarian religious language. Indeed, Washington's correspondence rarely mentions "Jesus" or overt Christian doctrine, but frequently reflects Deist and Masonic terminology emphasizing providence, virtue, and universal brotherhood. This suggests that his Masonic experience reinforced the Enlightenment-driven religious tolerance and civic morality that became hallmarks of his character.

## **A Living Light: Honoring Brother Washington Through the Craft Today**

As we commemorate the anniversary of Brother George Washington's Masonic raising here in Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4, we are reminded that the virtues instilled in him through Masonry, tolerance, humility, service, and the pursuit of

moral excellence, are as essential today as they were in 1753. His example calls us to rise above division, to seek truth in unity, and to labor for the good of all.

In an age often marked by noise and haste, Freemasonry continues to offer a sanctuary where character is built through silent symbols, shared ritual, and the steady hand of brotherhood. Like the young Washington shaped within these very walls, we too are called to be builders, not just of stone, but of community, of virtue, and of peace.

Let us honor our Illustrious Brother not merely with ceremony, but by striving daily to emulate his steadfast dedication to liberty, reason, and fraternal love. In doing so, we reaffirm that the Craft remains a living light, capable of shaping hearts and guiding nations, just as it once helped shape the man who would become the father of ours.

Happy Masonic Birthday !



## Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 to Be Featured on Fredericksburg Area Museum Podcast

### What Remains

By Fredericksburg Area Museum

Welcome to What Remains: A FAM Podcast. Join Kylie Thomson, FAM's Curator of Collections, as she dives into FAM's collections. Explore the history and impact of the objects left behind, and sometimes the thing that aren't.

Representing the Lodge will be Brother Senior Warden Seth Roderick and Worshipful Master Michael Dove, who will join the program as featured guests.

Stay tuned for the episode's release as Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 continues to illuminate the path of Masonic heritage through public outreach and historical engagement.

<https://creators.spotify.com/pod/profile/fxbg-area-museum/>



### **Supporting Our Youth**

This year, our lodge proudly sponsored three Little League teams as part of our commitment to supporting the youth in our community. But this effort goes beyond simply helping kids play baseball—it's also about raising awareness of Freemasonry among a younger generation, including both the children and their parents.



Among these families could be a future Brother, a Job's Daughter, or a Rainbow Girl. Perhaps some of the young men may even be inspired to start a DeMolay chapter. We often talk about the importance of supporting youth, yet we see fewer young people getting involved. That's why we're actively seeking new ways to expand our reach and strengthen the connection between our lodge and the next generation.









**Guardians of memory, presenting Most Worshipful Brother.  
Benjamin Day**

*Preserving the Legacy of Fredericksburg Masonic cemetery  
by Sr. Warden, Bro Seth Roderick*

**Most Worshipful, Major Benjamin Day (1752–1821)**



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Most Worshipful, Major Benjamin Day (1752–1821) was a significant figure in early Virginia and Fredericksburg history, whose contributions as a Revolutionary War veteran, merchant, Vestryman for St. George's Church, Mayor, Freemason and community leader left a lasting legacy and inspiration for the ages. Born in London and later a prominent citizen of Fredericksburg, Day's life intertwined military service, commercial success, social influence and Freemasonry.

MW Benjamin Day was born on September 24, 1752, in London, England, to John Day and Elizabeth Russell. His family relocated to Virginia during his childhood, settling in Fredericksburg, where he established his roots and later prominence.

In 1778, MW Day married Mary Ann Thompson, and they had three daughters: Sarah, who married Thomas Cary Nelson; Christiana Yates, who married John B. Benson; and Maria Russell Day, who remained unmarried. These marriages tied MW Day to influential Fredericksburg families, strengthening his ties to Fredericksburg and establishing roots in the community.

MW Day's residence, known today as the Benjamin Day House, stands as a testament to his social prominence. Built in 1807 by Richard Johnson and James Young at the corner of Prince Edward and Amelia streets, Day purchased it in 1811. The Day house, surviving The Late Unpleasantness, is adorned with original

features like wood clapboards and plaster ceiling medallions, and stands today as a remarkable architectural gem.

MW Benjamin Day attended Westminster School in London before his family's move to Virginia. This prestigious education immersed him in classical studies and Enlightenment philosophy, shaping his values; lifelong pursuit of knowledge, reason, civic duty, regard for his fellow man and leadership. These influences are evident in his military service, merchant career, and later civic roles in Fredericksburg, reflecting a commitment to building economic and cultural prosperity and community welfare. After the 1807 fire which devastated much of Fredericksburg's citizens, he led The Committee to Aid Sufferers of the Late Fire, providing relief to hundreds citizens who lost their homes.

MW Day served a vital role in the American Revolutionary War, serving in multiple capacities within the Continental Army, notably, Deputy Quarter Master General. His military career began as an aide-de-camp to General William Woodford, a Brother from Lodge 4 and General William Alexander Lord Stirling, positions that demanded trust and organizational prowess. General Lord Stirling, although not proven to be a Freemason himself, sources say his grandfather, William Alexander, 1st Earl of Stirling, was one of the first speculative Freemasons in Scotland. General Lord Stirling was very close to Brother James Monroe and Brother Lafayette, a relationship cultivated by MW Day. In 1777, Day was appointed adjutant of the Second Virginia Regiment, handling essential administrative tasks.

By May 1778, he advanced to Brigade Major under Brother Gen. Woodford but soon resigned to take up the role of Deputy Quartermaster General at Williamsburg, serving until the war's conclusion. This shift is documented in a letter to George Washington dated May 11, 1778. MW Day's record proves him to have been very competent and organized, as one fellow officer, Royal Parris, providing witness testimony for MW Day's pension request from his descendants in 1838 said, Maj. Day was an "extremely particular man" and a "man of great respectability."



After completing his military service, MW Day established himself as a successful merchant in Fredericksburg, specializing in importing goods from England and the West Indies. His store and warehouse supported the local economy, contributing to Fredericksburg's growth as a commercial hub. Leveraging his wartime experience as deputy quartermaster general, MW Day's mercantile success provided financial stability and enabled philanthropy, such as his management of the Male Charity School from 1796 until his death in 1821.

MW Day's trustworthy and noble reputation extended to his relationships with notable figures of his time. His military service connected him to Brother General William Woodford and Lord Stirling, while his Fredericksburg residency placed him in the same social sphere as George Washington, a fellow member of Fredericksburg Lodge. Additionally, MW Day engaged with James Monroe and Thomas Jefferson through trade and civic interactions. His positions as mayor (two terms) and Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia (elected November 27, 1797) further highlight his influence among contemporaries and his nature as a trusted leader and civic minded citizen.

MW Major Benjamin Day's life captures the essence of early Virginia and American leadership, marked by military valor, economic contribution, and civic duty. His Revolutionary War service, detailed in pension records, reflects his dedication to American independence. His family life, bridging London and Fredericksburg, underscores his personal legacy through his daughters' marriages. MW Day's intellectual grounding informed his multifaceted career. As a merchant and mayor, he fueled Fredericksburg's economic vitality, while his relationships with figures like Washington, Monroe, and Jefferson affirmed Fredericksburg's influence in the early Commonwealth.

MW Day's legacy endures as a patriot, businessman, and community leader in Fredericksburg's history and a Brother of the Craft worthy of imitation and tribute.

This concludes the seventh installment of our *Guardians of Memory* series. We hope you have found this journey through history both enriching and inspiring. In the enduring pursuit of further light, we warmly encourage all who are so inclined to explore history's timeless lessons and its profound influence on our shared legacy.



Purchase a brick through [BricksRUs](http://BricksRUs.com) to help  
maintain our Historic Home!

[Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4 Friends of Fredericksburg Donor Site \(bricksrus.com\)](http://FredericksburgMasonicLodge#4FriendsOfFredericksburgDonorSite)

## 2025 LODGE OFFICERS

Michael Dove	<a href="mailto:Michaeldove79@gmail.com">Michaeldove79@gmail.com</a>	(540) 388-1001	Worshipful Master
Seth Roderick	<a href="mailto:Sethroderick@protonmail.com">Sethroderick@protonmail.com</a>	(703) 935-9781	Senior Warden
Jeff Adams, Sr.	<a href="mailto:jadams@rosendin.com">jadams@rosendin.com</a>	(571) 643-3962	Junior Warden
James Snyder, PM	<a href="mailto:jamie-snyder@usa.net">jamie-snyder@usa.net</a>	(540) 903-2937	Treasurer
Thomas Baker	<a href="mailto:Baker8359@gmail.com">Baker8359@gmail.com</a>		Asst. Treasurer
Christopher Tripp, PM	<a href="mailto:Secretarylodge4va@gmail.com">Secretarylodge4va@gmail.com</a>	(540) 424-5767	Secretary
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John Lapke	<a href="mailto:Lapke.j@gmail.com">Lapke.j@gmail.com</a>		Junior Deacon
Kyle Olesevich	<a href="mailto:Kyle.olesevich@gmail.com">Kyle.olesevich@gmail.com</a>		Senior Steward
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Justin Garrett	<a href="mailto:Jaygarrett0214@gmail.com">Jaygarrett0214@gmail.com</a>		Chaplain
Robert Breitenbach	<a href="mailto:Robertjbreitenbach@icloud.com">Robertjbreitenbach@icloud.com</a>		Marshal
Michael Scullin	<a href="mailto:mscullin@gmail.com">mscullin@gmail.com</a>		Tiler

### TRUSTEES

Dennis David – 2025	Dennis Berry, PDDGM – 2026	Chris Decker, PM – 2027
Dan Goodwin, PM – 2028	Christopher Tripp, PM – 2029	

### PROGRAM OFFICERS

<b>Lodge Blood Coordinator</b> Jeff Adams	<b>Lodge Instructor of Work</b> Christopher Tripp, PM	<b>Lodge Education Officer</b> Bob Melvin
<b>Masonic Home Ambassador</b> Joseph Ilk	<b>Lodge Catechism Chair</b> Justin Garrett	<b>Widows Program Coordinator</b> Robert Breitenbach
	<b>Lodge Scholarship Coordinator</b> David Smith	

### LIVING PAST MASTERS

Wor.: Carter. G. Wells.....	1963	Wor.: Anthony L Rudder.....	2007
Wor.: Rudolph E. Griffith.....	1974	R.: W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
Wor.: Henry W. Baker.....	1975	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.: Edward L. Donalson.....	1983	R.: W.: Shelby L. Chandler.....	2011
R.: W.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	Wor.: Christopher J. Decker.....	2012
Wor.: Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	Wor.: Christopher R. Wilson.....	2013
Wor.: William J. White.....	1989	Wor.: Jeffrey L. Mitchell.....	2014
Wor.: James R. Adams.....	1992	M.: W.: Jeffrey P. VanCuren.....	2015
Wor.: Michael J. McCray.....	1995	Wor.: James L. Ragsdale.....	2016
Wor.: Steven M. Gallahan.....	1996	Wor.: Michael T. Moses.....	2017
Wor.: Charles B. Pasto.....	1998	Wor.: Daniel T. Goodwin.....	2018
Wor.: J. Travis Walker.....	2000	Wor.: James M. Snyder.....	2019
R.: W.: Daniel W. Thompson.....	2001	Wor.: Stanley R. Kennedy.....	2020
R.: W.: W. Robert Brammer.....	2002	Wor.: Christopher S. Tripp.....	2021
Wor.: Sheridan G. Harrod.....	2003	Wor.: Joseph K. Gilkerson.....	2023
Wor.: Jene G. Parrotte.....	2004	Wor.: Patrick F. McConnell.....	2024
R.: W.: Steven W. Sanford.....	2005		
Wor.: Richard D. Dey.....	2006		