

TRESTLE BOARD

Volume 2, Issue 7

ASHBURN-STERLING #288 MASONIC LODGE

July 2014

Upcoming Events:

- Master Mason Degree 7/22 @ 7pm
- Ashburn-Sterling Game Day Fundraiser 7/26
- Reid J. Simmons Academy 7/31-8/2
- August Stated 8/12



FROM THE EAST

Courage. Courage comes in all forms, has many definitions, and means something different to everyone of us.

As a Mason, the process to become a better man involves examining and identifying our own weaknesses. Self reflection and criticism takes courage.

Standing up for one's beliefs or feelings, righting a wrong, apologizing, doing anything beyond your own comfort zone takes

courage. Putting yourself in harms way takes courage.

I know what all of these types of courage feels like, but I can't even begin to comprehend the courage it took for the forefathers of our country to embark on a revolution to gain independence from England. They weren't superheroes, they weren't gods, they were men like you and me. Some of them were even masons.

They were ordinary men willing to risk everything they had for a

bigger cause. Courage when you've got nothing to lose is very different than courage when you've got everything to lose.

What kind of courage do you have?

Jason Matchett

Worshipful Master

ADVENTURES IN MASONRY

On June 22, 2014, Ashburn Sterling Lodge visited the National Cathedral for St. John's Day services and to take a tour of this beautiful national landmark. The National Cathedral is the 6th largest cathedral in the world. It is likely to be the last gothic cathedral ever built. Few people realize that it is the city's highest point.

Our Chaplain, Bro. Bill Buckler, made arrangements with the Great Architect for a gorgeous day and for enthusiastic and delightful tour guides to educate us. While the building sustained immeasurable damage from the earthquake our nation's capital sustained in 2011, repairs are on the way and thankfully, it still maintains its awe-inspiring character. Prominently displayed in the lobby is a statue of President George Washington that was donated by our Fraternity. I overheard a young boy about 11 or 12, after his mother had shown him the statue and upon reading the inscription ask her, "Mom, what are Masons?" There, hopefully, begins a journey...

Several of our group went on the general cathedral tour and found it to be led by an energetic, knowledgeable and personable tour guide who really gave the tour group a detailed understanding of the interior of the Cathedral and its history. Everyone really enjoyed it!

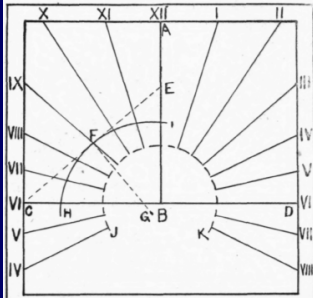
The second tour was the Gargoyle Tour which began on the 7th with an excellent view of the city. There is a slide show with discussion to prepare you for what you are about to experience. Then, those of us that choose to, walked down the interior stairwells and viewed the beautiful behind the scenes stain glass windows that are seldom accessed by the public. We then proceeded outside and received informative and humorous descriptions of various gargoyles selected from the 112 that are on the cathedral. We also learned about some of the grotesques selected from the 1000 plus. There were cheers at the conclusion of the tour as our guide was excellent!!



43881 Waxpool Road
Ashburn, VA 20176
info@ashburnsterling288.org

Stated Communication
2nd Tuesday - 7:30PM

ADVENTURES IN MASONRY (continued)



The cathedral has a different guest speaker each Sunday. Services that morning were presided over by Bishop Gene Robinson, the first openly homosexual bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion. A sermon about shunning bigotry, discrimination and oppression and replacing it with inclusion and acceptance of the diversity of the Great Architects' creations was given by Rev. Dr. Cameron Partridge who is the first openly transgendered priest to speak at the National Cathedral and is the Episcopal Chaplain at Boston University as well as a Harvard Divinity School faculty member.

The message about rejecting bigotry, discrimination and oppression is one that should resonate with all Masons.

Our nation's capital is filled with many beautiful and historic places but certainly a worthwhile investment of your time and consideration is our National Cathedral. Please visit the website (www.nationalcathedral.org) for details about tour times and should you wish to attend, services as well.

Raymon W. Bacchus

Junior Warden

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

RW Kenneth O. Shelton
7/1/1964
James C. Keys, PM
7/13/1972
Clifford E. Delk
7/24/1979
Curtis J. Schwarz
7/31/2007
Dennis J. Diaz
7/29/2008

OFFICERS

Worshipful Master Jason D. Matchett
Worshipful.Master@AshburnSterling288.org
(703) 505-7257

Senior Warden David L. Wang
Senior.Warden@AshburnSterling288.org

Junior Warden Raymon W. Bacchus
Junior.Warden@AshburnSterling288.org

Treasurer Jeffrey J. Schwarz
Treasurer@AshburnSterling288.org

Secretary Vince S. Williams
Secretary@AshburnSterling288.org

Senior Deacon Martin Z. Gruszka
Senior.Deacon@AshburnSterling288.org

Junior Deacon Jeffrey L. Sparrow
Junior.Deacon@AshburnSterling288.org

Chaplain William S. Buckler, PM

Senior Steward John L. Rutan

Junior Steward Jason E. Tayloe

Marshal Collin G. Schwarz

Tiler Douglas R. Mason

HONORARY MEMBERS

Walter O. Harrison	PDDGM
Raymond F. Houser, Jr.	PM
Thomas E. Krouse	PDDGM
Kenneth O. Shelton, Sr.	PDDGM
Richard H. Stuart	PM
John W. Wailes	PDDGM



TRUSTEES

Thomas D. Feeley, PM
S. Kevin Harp, PM
Gregg H. Schwarz, PM
Ivan R. Sumpter, PDDGM