

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon	Nov 8	7:30 pm	Lodge Instruction School at ACGL
Thur	Nov 11	7:30 pm	CPR Lifesaving Class at ACGL
Mon	Nov 15	7:30 pm	Lodge Instruction School at ACGL
Sat	Nov 20	5:00p – 7:00p	Bethel 1 - Annual Lobster Dinner at Cherrydale Methodist \$20 – RSVP req'd by Nov. 11 - mary2104@aol.com
Mon	Nov 22	7:30 pm	November Stated Meeting at ACGL - Dinner at 6:30pm
Wed	Nov 27	7:00 pm	District Instructor of Work School at Sharon Lodge
Mon	Dec 6	8:00 am	December Stated Meeting at ACGL - Dinner at 6:30pm

BRETHERN WHO HAVE DEPARTED IN 2010

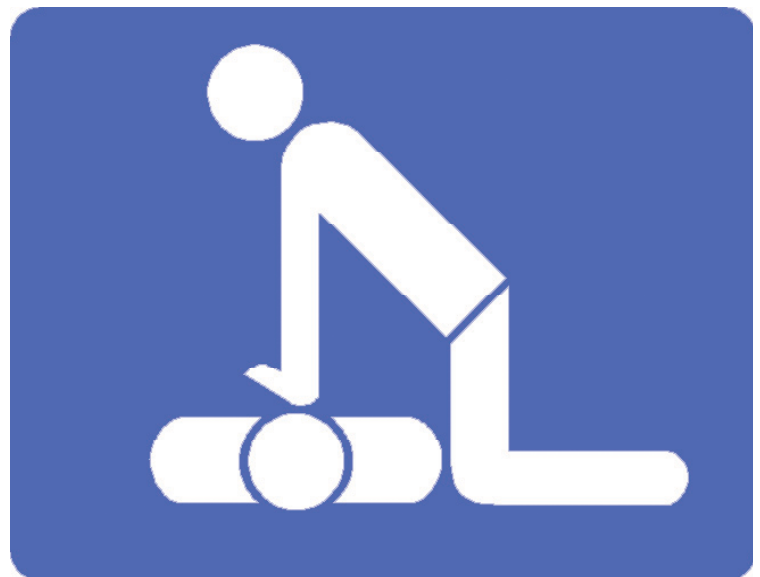
These brethren have laid down their working tools and have been called to receive their wages.
Please keep their memories and the welfare of their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Name	MM Date	Age	Name	MM Date	Age
James L. Yates, PM	8 / 15 / 1958	75	David H. Graham, PM	2 / 8 / 1950	91
William F. Wiseman	5 / 2 / 1951	94	Charles H. Carlin	9 / 17 / 1952	93
James F. Purdham, Sr.	8 / 17 / 1970	89	John G. Fox, Jr., PM	6 / 15 / 1950	90
Robert O. Harrison	12 / 4 / 1963	74	John E. Stewart	1 / 15 / 1964	87

CPR Lifesaving Class at ACGL
Thursday, November 11th - 7:30p
~ All are welcome to attend! ~
\$30 for Masons and their families
\$60 for everyone else

Certification in both
CPR lifesaving
and
Automated External Defibrillator
(AED) machines

Please RSVP: Bro. John Smith
JD@ACGL81.com



FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brethren,

I am pleased to inform you that our two Entered Apprentice candidates have demonstrated proficiency in their EA Catechisms at the September stated meeting. RW Cameron Bruce Palmer praised their recital as flawless. Bro. Adam Z. Koros and Bro. Eugene Nelson St.Clair were passed to the Second Degree this past Thursday and are now working on their Fellowcraft Degree Catechisms with the same fervency and zeal. Many thanks to RW Clark Andrew Anderson for his time and effort in mentoring these two candidates. We are well on our way to joining the other lodges in Virginia that have decided to take up the catechisms again rather than rely on the Alternate Method.

As a reminder, The Grand Lodge Grand Annual Communication is coming up in November. There will be a ballot cast at the GAC to raise Grand Lodge dues by \$10.00 per year. This increase, if adopted, will affect Grand Lodge Dues only for next year and beyond. Currently our dues are \$55.00, which consists of \$27.00 for the Grand Lodge and \$28.00 for our Lodge. This increase would change the Grand Lodge dues from \$27.00 to \$37.00. At our October Stated Meeting, the assembled members discussed this dues increase. Several brothers questioned the need for such an increase and voiced their concerns about the Grand Lodge budget. Following discussion, a voice vote was taken and the assembled Lodge members unanimously voted in opposition to this increase. I will cast our Lodge's vote with the will of the members.

My work schedule has me on the road quite a bit from August through December. One of the benefits of travel is the ability to visit Masonic Lodges in other jurisdictions. I had the pleasure of visiting Mizpah Lodge No. 302 in Omaha, Nebraska for their September stated meeting. I bring you fraternal greetings and best wishes from their Worshipful Master. Mizpah Lodge is one of the oldest Lodges in Nebraska. They had 3 tracing boards on the wall that were dated from 1882 and have been hanging in their Lodge since that date! I know that many of us who work in the DC area have the opportunity to travel. Take the time to check the Grand Lodge website for the jurisdiction you will be traveling to and find a local lodge meeting to attend. You won't regret it.

We need your help in strengthening our ritual Brethren. Memorizing Masonic ritual has long been an integral part of carrying on the work of Freemasonry. Those that masterfully perform Masonic lectures have long been revered as prestigious members of the fraternity and have been pointed out as men worthy of emulation. However, while many Masons have relished the opportunity to memorize one of the lectures, many have avoided such an undertaking. In modern times, it isn't unusual to hear Masons say things like "*I sure wish I could perform lectures like that*" or "*I'm going to memorize that lecture one of these days*" without ever taking the time to actually do so. Some cite the inability to memorize, which is true in some cases, while others claim that they don't have the time. It often seems like the few Brothers that are willing to memorize a large part in the ritual end up memorizing all of these parts, while the majority of Masons avoid memorizing anything above and beyond the minimum requirements.

The point of this isn't to demean the Brothers that haven't learned a lecture. Instead, it is meant to show those Brothers that haven't done so what they can gain by making the effort to learn one of the prominent parts in Masonic ritual. The key to becoming motivated to memorize ritual is simple: learn it for your own benefit, not for the benefit of the Lodge.

But what do I mean by this?

In all Masonic degrees, the lecture contains a vast amount of information that explains the ritual. In the three symbolic degrees, the lectures actually contain the majority of information given to the candidate in the degree. Like with all orations, the listener retains very little information from the lecture given to him when he receives the degree. This is a travesty, since this limits a Mason's understanding of the symbolism of the ritual. To illustrate this point, think about a lecture that you have not memorized and then consider how much of that lecture you can actually recall. Chances are that it is little to none. In order to properly grasp the degrees of Masonry, learning the lectures is essential.

The Mason that has memorized a lecture has its teachings impressed upon his mind and his heart. The slightest reference to the symbolism of the lecture that he knows brings the explanations of Masonry's allegories to the front of his mind. A person that has not learned a lecture can never understand the full benefit of having this information memorized. It expedites and enhances Masonic study and often serves as a reminder when we are about to do something of an un-Masonic nature.

There is also another benefit to memorizing ritual. Most Masons regard their passage through the degrees of the order as one of the most impressive and influential experiences of their lives. However, there is a Masonic experience that supersedes receiving the degrees - it's conferring the degrees. Most Masonic lecturers have had the special experience when they see the light of Freemasonry shining in the eyes of the men to which they are reciting the ritual. To see the new candidates "get it" is an incredible feeling. It is the most fulfilling of any opportunities afforded in the fraternity.

Learning a lecture is hard work. There is a misconception that those who learn lectures just read them once and are able to perform them. However, most men that have taken it upon themselves to memorize large parts of the ritual spend months memorizing the work and perfecting their recitation. But the work is worth it and learning a bit of Masonic ritual is like riding a bike, you never lose the ability to perform it.

Our lodge needs brothers who can confer the Master Mason's Lecture, the Fellowcraft's Lecture, the Fellowcraft's charge, and most importantly the Masonic Funeral Service. But any lecture that you chose to learn will be of great benefit to both yourself and the fraternity. You may ask "where do I start?" The answer is simple - anywhere. There is a lot that can be learned straight out of the Manual of Work. The information that isn't there can be taught to you by a brother who has previously learned the material.

If you need help finding a brother to learn a particular part, contact the District Instructor of Work - RW C. Bruce Palmer and Lodge Instructor of Work - RW Brian Block. They will be happy to help.

Understanding Masonic symbolism and transmitting the lessons of Masonry from the instructive tongue to the attentive ear are the actions that preserve Masonry. Do yourself and Masonry a favor and dust off that ritual and take some time to learn a lecture. You will reap what you sow.

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2010 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS

After reviewing numerous applications, the Scholarship Committee has awarded \$500 scholarships to the following students who have outstanding academic records and a demonstrated commitment to service. While these awards are not large, they do help make college more affordable for the students and their families.

And the winners are.....

Ms. Jamie Marshall is a long time member of Bethel 1 and has held many stations including Honored Queen. She recently graduated from James Madison High School in Vienna, VA. Jamie plans to attend the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg VA and hopes to pursue a Masters degree in Elementary School Education. Ms. Marshall is the daughter of Bro. Jim Marshall of ACGL.

Ms. Riana Lynn Medelsohn is a former member of Bethel 1 and has held all the stations including Honored Queen. Ms. Medelsohn continues to support Bethel 1 activities now as an adult. She is about to begin her final year at George Mason University where she is majoring in Sociology with a minor in Business. Riana plans to pursue a career in marketing. Ms. Medelsohn is the granddaughter of RW Danny Levin of ACGL.

Ms. Nathalie Spita is also a member of Bethel 1. Ms. Spita graduated from Annandale High School in Annandale, VA this year and will be attending Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA in the fall. Nathalie plans to major in biology and aspires to continue on to medical school.

Congratulations and best of luck to these outstanding scholars. As well as a very special thanks to Bro. John Rand and Bro. Robert Cooper for their dedication and hard work on the Scholarship Committee.

Thank you to all who have donated to the Daniel L. Levin Scholarship Fund to make these awards possible.

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