

# CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH #1865 A.F.&A.M.



Chartered  
November 14th, 1995

9638 Park Street, Manassas, VA 20110 | (571) 271-2730 | [www.cwlr.org](http://www.cwlr.org) | Email: [hart.bennett@gmail.com](mailto:hart.bennett@gmail.com)

## Worshipful Master's Message

Brethren,

Warm fraternal greetings from the East! I pray that this trestleboard again finds you and yours healthy as our great nation emerges from the pandemic wilderness. Our next meeting will be in person at **Perseverance Lodge #21** in Harrisburg, PA (2701 N 3rd St. Harrisburg, PA 17110) on July 10th 2021 at 10:00 am. We have a fun day of fellowship in store and we hope to see you there!

Our trip to Spurmont Lodge #98 in Strasburg, VA was blast! It was so nice to see so many Brothers in person again! Dinner at the Larrick Tavern was very well attended and the fare was fantastic. We even ran into a Brother who was at the Wayside Inn doing re-enacting. We shifted gears on Saturday night and went to the Box Office Brewery for more tavern fare and a very good cover band.

Our Officers have been busy doing some fraternal visitations and presentations. A reminder that we are looking for Officers to join us in the line and we have had one Brother reach out to us already.

Our planned meeting schedule for the rest of 2021 is on our website main page at [www.cwlr.org](http://www.cwlr.org) but as a reminder:

**September 18<sup>th</sup>** – Fredericksburg, VA. Fredericksburg Lodge #4  
**December 4<sup>th</sup>** – TBD – Installation of Officers

Please note our 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the year will be on September 18<sup>th</sup> instead of October 2<sup>nd</sup> due to some schedule conflicts.

I hope to see you at our next Communication. If you are planning to attend the July 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in Harrisburg, PA, please send me an email so we can track numbers: [g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com](mailto:g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com).

Sincerely & Fraternaly,  
Andy  
Worshipful Master

## Secretary Sez'

Currently there are 299 Brothers on our rolls plus two waiting.

I hope many of you will take advantage of the summer and the great opportunity to make the trip to Harrisburg !! I really look forward to seeing you all there !! There is quite a bit to see in the area and of course it is near Amish Country.

We are giving a number of presentations to Masonic Bodies – If you know of some Lodge / organization that would like receive on, please put them in contact with me.

Dues are coming in slower – about 55 outstanding. Let's get them in.

Please let me know if there is anything I can do !!!!

Best Fraternal Regards,

**Bennett**

## TRESTLEBOARD

### *Harrisburg, PA Itinerary*

**Accommodations:** Econo Lodge, 495 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA 17111.

(<https://www.choicehotels.com/pennsylvania/harrisburg/econo-lodge-hotels/pa428>)

Prices very reasonable. Also, check Expedia, Travelocity, etc. for best rates. There are several other hotels very close by also if needed.

### Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup> 2021

#### **Dinner (5:30 pm):**

Capitol Diner, 800 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA 17111

(<https://capitoldinerpa.com/>)

**RSVP requested** ([g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com](mailto:g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com)).

### Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> 2021

**Meeting:** Perseverance Lodge #21

**Address:** Scottish Rite Temple, 2701 N 3rd St. Harrisburg, PA 17110 (<https://valleyofharrisburg.org/>)

9 am – Fellowship

10 am – Stated Communication & Presentation

12 pm - lunch (will be at the Temple right after the meeting)

**Field Trip** (after lunch): National Civil War Museum, 1 Lincoln Cir, Harrisburg, PA 17103

(<https://www.nationalcivilwarmuseum.org/>)

**Dinner (arrive 5-5:30 pm):**

Lancaster Brewing Company, 469 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA 17111 (<https://www.lancasterbrewing.com/>)

**RSVP requested** ([g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com](mailto:g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com)).

**JULY 21, 2021, OLD DOMINION NO. 364 NATIONAL SOJOURNERS**

**JULY 23, 2021, MT. VERNON LODGE NO. 219**

**AUGUST 27, 2021, MT. VERNON LODGE NO. 219**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2021, FREDERICKSBURG NO. 4 – STATED**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2021, GM VISIT RESEARCH DISTRICT + 1A/1B**

**FALL XX, 2021, ZOOM MEETING**

**DECEMBER 4, 2021, TBD – STATED**

### Call for Research Papers!

One of our charters is to provide research to our members. We have an annual data call to do at least one research paper per year. If you are interested in submitting a paper, please refer to the guidelines on our website [www.cwlr.org](http://www.cwlr.org) or send a note to our Worshipful Master ([g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com](mailto:g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com)). Your efforts will be shared at a future meeting or in the Trestleboard!

## The Story of the SS Sultana

On this day in 1865, the SS Sultana explodes as it steams north up the Mississippi River. The loss was the biggest maritime disaster in U.S. history, yet the event received relatively little news coverage at the time. Instead, the story got lost amid news of Robert E. Lee's surrender, President Lincoln's assassination, and John Wilkes Booth's death.

Sources disagree on the exact number of casualties, but pretty much everyone agrees on one thing: More people died in the Sultana explosion than in the Titanic tragedy. Like the Titanic, the Sultana was considered to be a state-of-the-art vessel, complete with many safety features that should have protected it. The steamboat had departed New Orleans on April 21 with about 100 passengers. It was headed to Vicksburg, where it intended to pick up former Union POWs and transport them back to the northern states. The government would pay \$5 per man! It was a hefty sum back then.

On the trip to Vicksburg, an engineer noticed a leaking boiler. When the ship's captain had it checked out, he was told that a proper repair would take three or four days. Alternatively, the boiler could be patched in just one day, and a real repair could be obtained later. The captain, concerned about losing his \$5 per man bounty, opted for the easy patch. An unreliable boiler wasn't the Sultana's only problem, though.

The Sultana was designed to carry 376 people. Nevertheless, more than 2,000 POWs were crowded onto the steamboat before its departure. Remember, more POWs meant a higher pay day for the ship's crew! The Sultana also carried a handful of paid passengers and a cargo of goods. The ship was beyond crowded.

Indeed, the ship was so burdened with people that the decks sagged, and beams were put in place in an attempt to reinforce the overburdened decks. Reportedly, one of the paid passengers balked at getting on the ship, but she was eventually offered enough reassurances that she and her family continued their journey. Her husband and 7-year old daughter would later drown.

By April 26, the steamboat was pulling into Memphis. It unloaded its cargo, then headed upstream to pick up another cargo of coal. Unfortunately, disaster struck in the early morning hours of April 27.

At about 2:00 a.m., one of the ship's boilers exploded. The explosion ripped through the ship and caused the smokestacks to fall over, instantly killing many of the men on the top deck. Those who survived the explosion panicked and began jumping into the river.

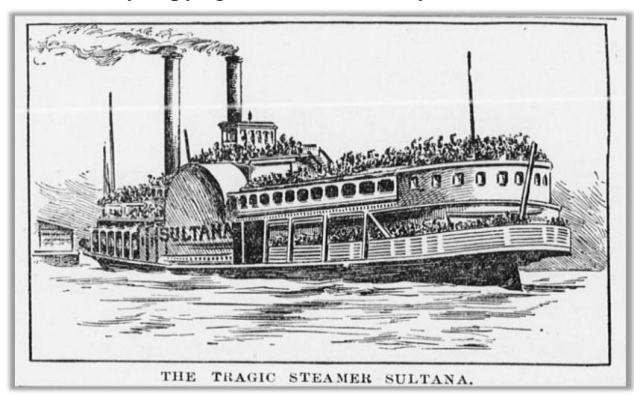
Many died in the explosion. Many more died in the water afterwards. Survivors clung to portions of the boat that were floating in the river. In the days and weeks after the disaster, rumors swirled. Had someone loyal to the Confederacy sabotaged the ship? The Secretary of War, Edwin Stanton, investigated the matter, but sabotage was never proven.

Instead, the cause of the explosion was found to be insufficient water in the boilers. Surely the patch on the boiler and the overcrowded ship couldn't have helped matters?

The size of the tragedy was enormous, but the country was just then emerging from a bloody Civil War—AND it had just received news of the first presidential assassination! News of a huge maritime disaster was barely a blip on the screen.

How sad that the country was then so desensitized to bad news that a Titanic-size disaster went by, barely noticed.

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## OFFICERS FOR 2021

Worshipful Master-	George Andrew Martinez PM
Senior Warden-	Gordon Allen Munholland PM
Junior Warden-	Andrew Nottingham Wilson PM
Treasurer-	Mark Stephen Lentz
Secretary-	Bennett Richard Hart PM
Senior Deacon-	Gregory Scott Trivette
Junior Deacon-	John Howard Butler PM / PDDGM
Chaplain-	Wayne Eugene Price PM / PDDGM
Tyler-	Gary Lloyd Laing PM
Marshal-	Richard Wayne Burkman PM
Senior Steward-	Alan James Hawk
Junior Steward-	Robert Edward Schindler, Sr. PM
Ritual-	Wayne Eugene Price PM / PDDGM
Secretary Emeritus -	Richard Constantino Radi
District Deputy Grand Master	Marc Allen Hone DDGM

**MOST WORSHIPFUL  
DOUGLAS VERNON JONES  
GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN VIRGINIA**

## Passed to the Celestial Lodge Above

Brother George Cronin  
Brother Berkley Bristow







### CWLR #1865 Happenings!

A lot to unpack in these pictures! Past Master Bennett Hart presents Most Worshipful Past Grand Master (MD) Ken Wyvill (tan jacket, upper left) his 50 year Masonic Service Award at Fairfax Lodge #43. PGM Ken is a proud member of our research lodge. Past Master Richard Burkman received his 50 Masonic Service Award at his home lodge, Glen Burnie #213 (tan jacket, upper right). Glen Burnie #213 is the home lodge of our two current Wardens and one of our members, Brother Bruce Colburn, who were all present with our current Worshipful. The banner above was spotted at the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation, which is renovating their museum section. The plaque shows our contribution to their museum.

### CWLR Store

(Available at all meetings  
or email  
[hart.bennett@gmail.com](mailto:hart.bennett@gmail.com))

#### Hats

Camo, Grey, Blue  
\$15 each (plus \$5 S&H -  
\$10 S&H overseas)



#### Medals (left to right)

Member, Manassas  
\$10 each (plus \$5 S&H -  
\$10 S&H overseas)



#### Pin

\$10 each (plus \$5 S&H)



### PAST MASTERS

1995 – Allen E. Roberts \* (VA)  
1996 – Keith A. Hinerman (VA)  
1997 – Paul M. Bessel (DC)  
1998 – Paul M. Bessel (DC)  
1999 – David J. Roberts (VA)  
2000 – Robert E. Schindler, Sr.\* (VA)  
2001 – Michael E. McCabe \*(NJ)  
2002 – Charles R. Joseph \* (MD)  
2003 – John Shroeder (VA)\*  
2004 – Lauris M. Eek, III \* (VA)  
2005 – Gary L. Laing, (DE)  
2006 – Stephen M. Whitaker (SC)  
2007 – Michael E. McCabe \* (NJ)  
2008 – J. Sherrell Hurley (NC)  
2009 – Wayne E. Price (VA)  
2010 – M Phillip Brown (NY & DE)  
2011 – Raymond “Mickey” Moats (VA)  
2012 – Gary L. Laing (DE)  
2013 – Gary L. Laing (DE)  
2014 – Wayne E. Price (VA)  
2015 – Peter Jensen (VA)  
2016 – Chris Chrzanowski (VA)  
2017 – Bennett Hart (VA)  
2018 – Bennet Hart (VA)  
2019 – Richard Burkman (MD)  
2020 – Richard Burkman (MD)  
(\* – deceased)

### HONORARY MEMBERS

MW William F. Perdue-VA  
Thomas F. May\*  
John P. Westervelt  
James L. Jack  
PM Paul M. Bessel  
PM Allen E. Roberts  
Ken Fuller  
Jules Saul Temper  
Greg Riley  
MW Kenneth S. Wyvill, Jr.-MD  
MW Herbert Richard Hoffman-DE  
MW George Bernard Dungan, Jr.-VA  
MW James Edward Litten-VA  
MW William T. Ellison, Jr.-VA  
MW Thomas Warren Gregory-NC\*  
MW Vernon Stuart Cook-VA  
MW Steven Edward Smith – RI  
James Winfield Golladay, Jr  
Louis Richard Youngblood  
Richard Constantino Radi

### Call for Officers!

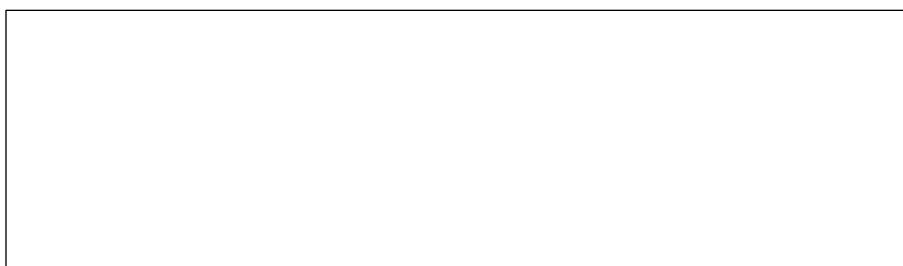
Brethren, if you are interested in  
serving as a Line Officer for our Civil  
War Research Lodge for 2022, please  
drop the Worshipful Master  
([g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com](mailto:g.andrew.martinez@gmail.com))  
and/or Brother Secretary  
([hart.bennett@gmail.com](mailto:hart.bennett@gmail.com)) a note.

July 2021



Civil War Lodge of Research No.1865 A.F. & A.M.  
9638 Park Street  
Manassas, VA 20110

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#### **Gilmor's Raid (Jerusalem Mills)**

Jerusalem Mill Village is located in Harford County, Maryland along the Little Gunpowder Falls River. It functioned as a Quaker village where black walnut stocks and assembled rifles for the Continental army. On July 11, 1864, during the Civil War, Confederate Army Major Harry W. Gilmor sent a cavalry unit to the McCourtney's General Store in Jerusalem Mill to capture supplies and horses, which became known as Gilmor's Raid. Maj. Gilmor's cavalry detachment had moved undetected through Baltimore County and into Harford County as part of Gen. Jubal Early's movements North. As part of Gilmor's Raid, his troops captured two trains, cut the telegraph communications lines along the bridge, and captured Union Maj. Gen. William B. Franklin. Only one man was lost in Gilmor's detachment during the raid, Sgt. Field. Gilmor's Raid was re-enacted pre-Covid the first Saturday in June. (For more details on this living history village, <https://jerusalemmill.org/>)