

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 | Email: hart.bennett@gmail.com

Worshipful Master's Message

Brethren,

I first want to thank everyone who came out to the Installation of Officers in December at Williamsburg Lodge No. 6. I have to "rub it in" a little and say to those who weren't able to make it, you missed seeing a beautiful and amazingly historic Lodge. If you ever get a chance to see the inside of the Lodge, please do so, you will not be disappointed.

I'd like to give you a brief synopsis of the next 3 meetings for 2023. The next meeting will be on April 1 at Fredericksburg Lodge No.4, with a tour of Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park & The Mule Show. July as everyone knows brings the 160th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. Unfortunately, due to the overwhelming attendance and crowds of people from all around the world and it being Independence Day weekend, we are unable to move the meeting to coincide with the anniversary date. Our July meeting will be on the 8th at Good Samaritan Lodge No. 336, located in the town's Historic Lincoln Square. Some of the Lodge members will give us a personal tour of the battlefield and surrounding interests. As a side note, some of the CWLR Brethren are also going to the Anniversary festivities on the 1st. If you are able to make it, please post to our FaceBook page when you are there and maybe we can all find each other. For our October meeting, I plan to have it on the 21st at either Monocacy Battlefield or Harpers Ferry, the jury is not quite out on that on yet.

I do hope to see each and every one of you at one, or all of our meetings. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, jump back in and pack your bags, wives too, for a weekend full of fellowship, history, and fun. Thank you all for your support and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Andy Wilson
Worshipful Master
410-241-4100
Hornet350@yahoo.com



Trestleboard

Itinerary for our April 2023 Meeting

Listed below is the researched/recommended Hotel for the APRIL CWLR meeting. There are cheaper and/or closer hotels, but this hotel was researched on many travel sites for cleanliness, comfort, service, and location (safety).

Lodging:

Comfort Suites Fredericksburg NORTH

541 Warrenton Road, Fredericksburg VA 22406

4.1 miles from the Lodge, Choicehotels.com = \$115/night reg rate
\$98/night Gov Rate

Friday, March 31, 2023

6:30pm – Dinner - **Capital Ale House** (4.1 miles from Hotel)
1917 Caroline St. Fredericksburg VA 22401
9:00pm – Late refreshment at the Hotel

Saturday, April 1, 2023

Fredericksburg Lodge #4

803 Princess Anne St, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

<https://masoniclodge4.org/>

8:00am - Pancake Breakfast at Lodge - \$5 all you can eat. We will provide Coffee & Donuts for those not wanting pancakes.

*Officer Rehearsal if time allows (9:00 am)

10:00am – Lodge Meeting

12:00pm – Lunch – TBD

1:00pm – Civil War Tour – Spotsylvania /Fredericksburg National Military Park & Tour of The Mule Shoe
(~5 miles from the Lodge)

6:00pm – Dinner – **Tapa Rio**

(Downtown about 4 miles from the Hotel – 1101 Sophia Street, Fredericksburg VA 22401)

8:00pm – Late refreshment at either **Red Dragon Brewery** (1419 Princess Anne St., 4 blocks N from the restaurant, or back at the Hotel)

2023 CWLR Schedule

April 1 – Fredericksburg -

July 8 – Gettysburg

October 21– Harpers Ferry or Monocacy Battlefield

December 2 – Farmville, Va. – Sailors Creek Battlefields

Secretary Sez' on Page 3

2023 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master-	Andrew Nottingham Wilson PM
Senior Warden-	John Howard Butler PM/PDDGM
Junior Warden-	Creighton Lee Lovelace PM
Treasurer-	Mark Stephen Lentz
Secretary-	Bennett Richard Hart PM
Senior Deacon-	William Chester Hare, Jr.
Junior Deacon-	Alan James Hawk
Chaplain-	Wayne Eugene Price PM / PDDGM
Tyler-	Gary Lloyd Laing PM
Marshal-	Richard Wayne Burkman PM
Senior Steward-	To Be Determined
Junior Steward-	To Be Determined
Ritual-	Wayne Eugene Price PM/PDDGM
Secretary Emeritus -	Richard Constantino Radi*

District Deputy Grand Master Brian R. Croteau

**MOST WORSHIPFUL
DONALD ELLIS STREHLE
GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN VIRGINIA**

Call for Research Papers and Articles!

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 or articles for the trestleboard, please look at guidelines on our website www.cwlr.org or send a

Passed to the Celestial Lodge Above

Richard Constantino Radi
Honorary Member
Secretary Emeritus



Call for Officers!

Brethren, if you are interested in serving as a Line Officer for our Civil War Research Lodge for 2024, please drop Brother Secretary (hart.bennett@gmail.com) a note. We will happily get you involved!

CWLR Store

(Available at all meetings or email 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 & 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 “Micky” Moats (VA)
- 2012 & 2013 – Gary L. Laing (DE)
- 2014 – Wayne E. Price (VA)
- 2015 – Peter Jensen (VA)
- 2016 – Chris Chrzanowski (VA)
- 2017 & 2018 – Bennett Hart (VA)
- 2019 – Richard Burkman (MD)
- 2020 & 2021 – G. Andrew Martinez (MD)
- 2022 – Gordon Allen Munholland (MD)

(* – deceased)

HONORARY MEMBERS

- MW William F. Perdue-VA
- MW Thomas F. May- VA*
- John P. Westervelt-VA
- PPGM James L. Jack- Scotland
- PM Paul M. Bessel-MD*
- PM Allen E. Roberts-VA*
- MW Kenneth D. Fuller- DC*
- Jules Saul Tepper-MD
- MW Gregory A. Allen-WV
- 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
- MW James Winfield Golladay, Jr.-VA
- Richard Constantino Radi-VA*
- MW Louis Richard Youngblood-WV

The Battle of Spotsylvania Court House May 8-21, 1864

On March 9, 1864, Gen Ulysses S. Grant took command of the Union Armies. He took the field at Culpepper, VA arriving on March 26. He was a different type of commander and believed in aggressively pursuing Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia (65k) without a break until he achieved a victory in a series of three campaigns across the South. He sent his armies in motion only one month later and departed on May 1st to cross the Rapidan (120K) on May 3rd. By the 5th Lee had moved and the Battle of the Wilderness was underway. (Gen. Longstreet wounded on the 6th). There were about 30k casualties and both sides had an opportunity to win, but neither took it. Instead of retreating to regroup, as previous Northern Commanders had, Grant tried an enveloping movement to cut off Gen Lee at Spotsylvania Court House. Lee got there first and the battle was enjoined again. Grant’s campaign marks the beginning of the end for the Army of Northern Virginia, moving on to Cold Harbor, Petersburg / Richmond and eventually Appomattox Court House.

Secretary Sez' - Civil War Lodge of Research 1865 Statistics

Bennett Hart, Sec / PM

Since our last meeting at Williamsburg, the Supreme Architect called our Brother Rich Radi to the Celestial Lodge Above. Rich was our Secretary form many years and given the title of Secretary Emeritus and made an Honorary Member. No one can ever forget his wit and unique charm. He will be sorely missed by all.

This year we have been working with the Grand Lodge to make Grand View more accessible and address our needs. Much progress has been made thanks to the Grand Secretary, his staff (Cindy Drew) and B Buddy Pate. One of the changes being made is in order to properly help guard the West Gate, the Grand Lodge is now requiring a background check on all new members (This has been in place in Virginia for some time). This will now apply to out-of-state new Brothers applying for affiliation. Our petition is being changed to reflect this. Please use the new form. A present cost of \$35 will be charged with the background check when you are called to fill out the form from Grand View.

CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH DEMOGRAPHICS

2023 – 317 Members

108 Lodges in VA Represented of the 291 Lodges	37% Representation
5 Lodges over 300	98th Percentile
28,689 Members in Virginia	CWLR is 1% of Virginia Masons CWLR is 48% of Research District

CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH DEMOGRAPHICS BY STATE

VA	108	34%	2/3 Out of State
8 States + Foreign	137	43%	
MD	FOR	PA	SC
34	19	15	14
11%	6%	5%	4%
			OH
			NC
			NJ
			WV
			DE
			9
			3%
			3%
			3%

CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH DEMOGRAPHICS BY AGE

M>90	70-90	50-70	30-50	M<30
11	139	127	36	4

Harry Allen Ohrt 1/19/1924 is 99 and will turn 100 next year. Take due notice thereof and govern yourself accordingly.
 2812 27th Street, S.W., Fargo, ND 58103-5033 aloht@gmail.com 701-235-7078

CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH PAST MASTERS

22 DIFF / 28 YRS	11	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1995 -2023	VA	MD	DE	DC	NJ	NY	NC	SC	

CIVIL WAR LODGE OF RESEARCH HONORARY MEMBERS

20	10	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
15 PGMs	VA	MD	DE	DC	WV	RI	NC	SCOTLAND	

The Strange Story of Wilmer McClean



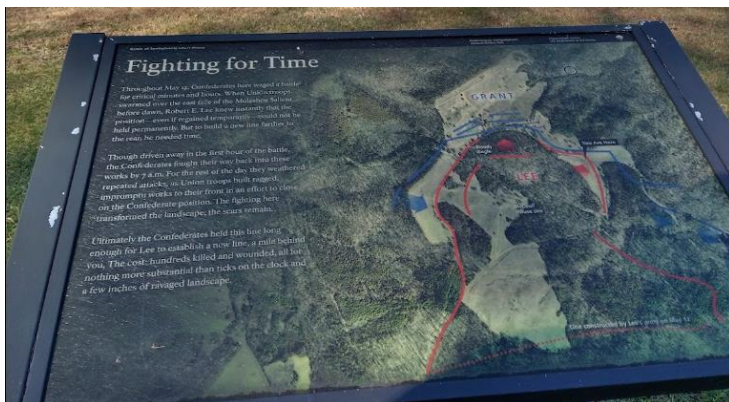
At left, Wilmer McClean's house where the Civil War 'began.' At right, Wilmer McClean's house where the Civil War ended.
 (111-B-4756 and 111-B-6333, National Archives)

On July 18, 1861, during The Battle of Bull Run, Confederate General Beauregard was sitting down for supper in the home of a Manassas Wilmer McClean, who had purchased the property in 1854. Beauregard had commandeered the property as his headquarters and hospital for Confederate troops. By the time the Second Battle of Bull Run, McClean had had enough and decided to move south to get out of the line of fire of battles involving his home.

In 1863, Wilmer McClean settled on a quiet property over 100 miles south of the Virginia battlefields. Then on April 9, 1865, Charles Marshall, Gen. Robert E. Lee's aide, asked McClean to show him a house that was suitable for Lee and another general to meet. Lee arrived at McClean's Appomattox Court House property at about one o'clock in the afternoon in a crisp, grey uniform. General Ulysses S. Grant would arrive wearing his muddied field uniform. The two met in McClean's parlor and minutes later Lee would surrender the Confederate Army.



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THE MULE SHOE



THE BLOODY ANGLE

Battle of Mule Shoe May 12, 1864 – Spotsylvania Court House May 8-21, 1864

Sheridan’s Cavalry was not sent from the Wilderness to Spotsylvania Court House, so Lee got to the key crossroads first and had time to set up a solid defensive position that took the shape of a mule shoe. Lee’s Army was very good at setting up breast works and defensive position quickly. The battle was on beginning on the 8th and the Union Army made numerous attacks with the most famous coming on the 12th. Gen Hancock’s II Corps (Charity #190, Norristown, Pa) had initial success but were thrown back in viscous counterattack in some of the bloodiest fighting in the Civil War. Numerous Southern units had Masonic Lodges (* designates) and many of these units suffered so badly they had to be combined. During to regrouping after the battle, on May 14th, SO 126 reorganized Jones (Stonewall Bde*) and Stuerts* Brigades containing the 2nd*, 4th*, 5th*, 10th*, 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th*, 33rd*, 37th, 42nd, 48th and 50th Virginia Regiments. This sill only numbered about 600 effectives. By the 21st Grant was again moving to envelope Lee – North Anna River – then Cold Harbor and then Richmond / Petersburg. Lee was always on the defensive from this point on.

Casualties at The Mule Shoe: ~32,000 overall which Lee could not replace his portion.