

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

Greetings Brethren,

Our next CWLR #1865 meeting will be in Waynesboro, Virginia on October 12th. We will be meeting at Lee Lodge #209 (1600 W. Main Street, Waynesboro, VA 22980) and there will be a program on Brother William H. Harmon, who was Grand Master of Masons in Virginia two times and the only sitting Grand Master to be killed in the war between the states. There are an abundant number of hotels in the area to suit your taste and we are not picking any particular one as the prices widely vary. Dinner Friday night will be at 6 pm at The Heritage on Main Street (309 W. Main Street) as well as lunch on Saturday as no meals can be held at the lodge. We hope to see you out for a weekend of fellowship and masonic light!

Sincerely & Fraternaly,
Brother John Butler, Worshipful Master

Secretary Sez'



CWLR Team at Reid Simmons Academy. Congrats W Creighton for now having your Wardens Certificate !! (Bennett Hart, Creighton Lovelace, Phil Garnett COW, William Hare, Alan Hawk).

Best Fraternal Regards,
Bennett

CWLR Store

(Available at all meetings or email hart.bennett@gmail.com)

Hats

Camo, Grey, Blue
\$15 each (plus \$7 S&H
\$10 S&H overseas)



Medals (left to right)

Member, Manassas
\$10 each (plus \$7 S&H
\$10 S&H overseas)



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

Trestleboard

Itinerary for our October 12, 2024 meeting

Lodging:

Dealer's Choice

There are an abundant number of hotels in the area to suit your taste and we are not picking any particular one as the prices widely vary.

Friday, October 11th

Dinner 6:00 pm – The Heritage on Main Street

309 W. Main Street, Waynesboro, VA 22980
540.946.6166

Saturday, October 12th

Lee Lodge #209

1600 W. Main Street, Waynesboro, VA 22980
540.942.1400

9:00 am – coffee and donuts

10:00 am – Lodge meeting

11:30 am – Lunch (TBD)

Afternoon:

Presentation on Brother William H. Harmon, who was Grand Master of Masons in Virginia two times and the only sitting Grand Master to be killed in the war between the states

Dinner 6 pm – TBD

Upcoming Schedule:

December 7th – Wilmington, NC

April 12th, 2025 – Charleston, SC

July 12th, 2025 – Chattanooga, TN

October 11th, 2025 – Montgomery, AL

December 6th, 2025 – Highland Springs, VA (Tentative)

Call For Papers

If you are interested in doing a CWLR Paper or Article for the Trestleboard, contact W Andy Martinez of W Bennett Hart.



Images from WBro. Hochberg's article (page 3) is here and on the next page.

(left)

Charles M. Horton, of the Crescent Regiment, carrying a Hall breech-loading rifle with bayonet, wearing a bayonet scabbard, sword, haversack, and knapsack.

2024 OFFICERS

Worshipful Master-	John Howard Butler PM/PDDGM
Senior Warden-	Creighton Lee Lovelace PM
Junior Warden-	William Chester Hare, Jr.
Treasurer-	Mark Stephen Lentz
Secretary-	Bennett Richard Hart PM
Senior Deacon-	Alan James Hawk
Junior Deacon-	Cliton C. White
Chaplain-	Wayne Eugene Price PM / PDDGM
Tyler-	Gary Lloyd Laing PM
Marshal-	Richard Wayne Burkman PM
Senior Steward	David Simcox
Junior Steward	Vacant
Ritual-	Wayne Eugene Price PM/PDDGM

District Deputy Grand Master Shelby L. Chandler II

**MOST WORSHIPFUL
JACK KAYLE LEWIS
GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN VIRGINIA**

Passed to the Celestial Lodge Above

Curtis Noel Balmer 1939 -2024
Ridgley Edward Davis 1929 -2024



Call for Officers!

Brethren, if you are interested in serving as a Line Officer for our Civil War Research Lodge for 2025, please drop Brother Secretary (hart.bennett@gmail.com) a note. We will happily get you involved!



(above left) Display of Charles M. Horton artifacts, donated by his brother, R.M. Horton.

(above and right) Display of Gen. Braxton Bragg artifacts. For a time during the Civil War, he commanded the Army of Louisiana. After the war, he served as a civil engineer for New Orleans.

PAST MASTERS

(* – deceased)

- 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. Lang (DE)
- 2014 – Wayne E. Price (VA)
- 2015 – Peter S. Jensen (VA)
- 2016 – Christopher R. Chrzanowski (VA)
- 2017 & 2018 – Bennett R. Hart (VA)
- 2019 – Richard W. Burkman (MD)
- 2020 & 2021 – G. Andrew Martinez (MD)
- 2022 – Gordon A. Munholland (MD)
- 2023 – Andrew N. Wilson (MD)

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*
- MW Jules Saul Temper - DC
- MW Gregory A. Riley, Sr. - 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
- MW Louis Richard Youngblood-WV
- Richard Constantino Radi*- VA
- MW Alan Wayne Adkins – VA
- RW Wayne Eugene Price - VA
- RW Raymond “Mickey” Moats - VA
- MW Jack Kayle Lewis - VA



Freemasonry and Louisiana's Civil War Museum

By W. Bro. Jay Hochberg

While it is among the smaller museums in a historic city that offers countless places to visit, Louisiana's Civil War Museum at Confederate Memorial Hall in New Orleans houses the second largest collection of Confederate items in the world. Established in 1891, it is Louisiana's oldest museum and it is filled with artifacts donated by men who fought in the War Between the States, and the families who survived them.

And there are several items of Masonic interest.

One enters the cathedral-like Romanesque entrance of the sandstone structure and beholds a gorgeous space crafted of Louisiana cypress with meticulously arranged exhibits. Not a cubic inch is fallow, as the walls display battle-torn flags, and numerous display cases exhibit uniforms, an arsenal of firearms and bladed weapons, and personal items of legendary leaders and regular soldiers alike.

There is a helpful staff who can field most questions, but a visitor is free to enjoy a self-guided walk around. It is recommended that one begin with an introductory video that is screened in a small room off the main hall. It was there where I encountered the first Masonic reference. The short video tells the story of the museum's origins, including how some of the original artifacts came into its possession.

Part of the narrative involves a letter and a box of personal effects sent in 1867 to the mother of a slain Confederate officer. Eliza Crosby Field, of Mansfield, Louisiana, wrote to the late Lt. Charles Horton's mother in New Orleans. Excerpted:

Dear Mrs. Horton,

I send by my Uncle, Mr. E.H. Crosby, a box Lt. Horton used during the war. I thought you would like it simply because it belonged to your dear son, and also as a relic of Confederate times. I think such things are heirlooms in a family that should be transmitted from one generation to another through all coming time. There were so few things I had to pack, put straw in with them. In a little book, the "Masonic Manual," you will find a lock of his hair which I know from experience you will prize above all things.

That parcel contained insignia off Horton's uniform, remnants of the Confederate flag and regimental colors he was believed to have held aloft when he was cut down in the Battle of Mansfield on April 8, 1864, and other militaria and personal items. Many of these pieces are displayed inside a glass case, with his uniforms, sword, and a photo of Horton, in the screening room. The Masonic Manual is not among them, unfortunately, so we cannot see any possible inscription therein that may have identified Horton's lodge or other clues.

I believe the Masonic Manual most likely was that published by Robert Macoy, a pocket-sized monitorial book of exoteric parts of our degrees and other useful literature. There were several editions of that during the Civil War era, the first in 1857. Earlier this year, Macoy Masonic Supply Co. in Virginia published a painstaking reprint of the 1867 edition. Not merely a facsimile reproduction, but an actual reprinting in a limited edition, handmade on their 1850s letterpress, employing the original hand-carved wooden dies for the illustrations. There were other Masonic monitors in that period, but Macoy's showed the title "Masonic Manual" boldly across the front cover.

Among the items of more prominent Confederate warriors is a collection that had belonged to Gen. Braxton Bragg. The namesake of Fort Bragg (now Fort Liberty) is not remembered kindly by history, as he is blamed for repeated defeats during the Civil War and had earned a reputation for disharmony among the officer corps throughout his career in the American and Confederate armies. He was even court-martialed in 1844, but received easy punishment.

This museum exhibits an assortment of Bragg's belongings, all attractively presented behind glass: a dress uniform frock coat; his sword, scabbard, and sword belt; a telescope; his Bible; a toothpick; and more. That sword and, oddly enough, the toothpick are the Masonic pieces. Within the decorative metalwork that fills the weapon's guard, the Square and Compasses are visible. I wouldn't say prominently—you really have to look at it—but the initiated eye can discern it easily enough. The toothpick looks to be made of ivory and is in the shape of a pistol. Plainly seen on the "grip" of the pistol is the Square and Compasses in red.

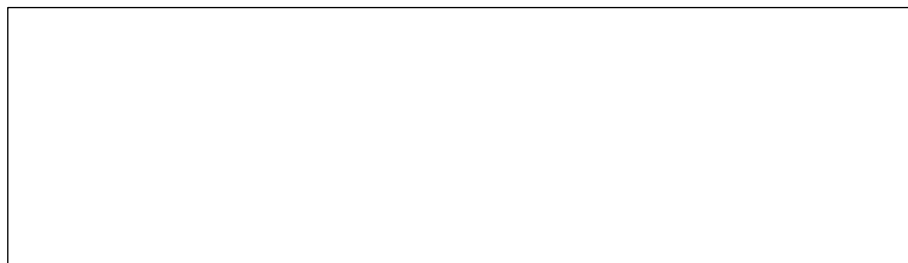
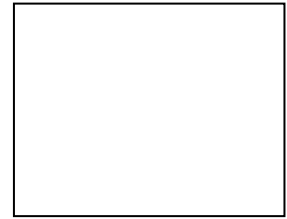
The potential for more Masonic content in Louisiana's Civil War Museum at Confederate Memorial Hall is great, especially when considering Freemasonry's history and diversity in the Pelican State, but the truth is this museum originated as a meeting place for Civil War veterans, so it is not a large place. (The nearby National WWII Museum spans 33,000 square feet in comparison.) But Freemasons who cherish the study of the Civil War, especially from the Southern point of view, will love this museum regardless of any alleged paucity of Masonic memorabilia. It is located at 929 Camp Street in New Orleans. Visit confederatemuseum.com for more information and beautiful photos.

Bro. Jay Hochberg is Worshipful Master of The American Lodge of Research in New York City.



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

October 2024



Battle of Fisher's Hill (September 21-22, 1864)

The Battle of Fisher's Hill was part of the Shenandoah Valley Campaign of 1864 and was fought two miles from Strasburg, VA where the Shenandoah Valley is split in two by Massanutton Mountain, crossable only by a steep pass halfway down, a perfect natural defensive position. Lieutenant General Jubal Early (above, left) wanted to use this position to hold off Major General Philip Sheridan (above, right) or force him and his 29,500 men into a costly frontal assault. Early didn't have enough men (9,500) to fully man the four miles of line and was forced to string out dismounted cavalry to cover the gap, hoping the Union troops would not advance through heavily wooded country on his far flank. Major General George Crook recognized the Confederate weakness and sent in his Eighth Corps who had spent the war campaigning in the mountains of West Virginia. Crook went to Sheridan with a plan for the main army to threaten the head on attack Early while Crook's men quietly flanked. Crook erupted on Early's flank and rear as the main army attacked, taking the Confederates from two sides. Crook's attack went exactly as planned and as his men came over the mountain slopes, Early's cavalry dissolved. Sheridan's then attacked from Early's front and Early's men fled to the rear with Crook's men in pursuit. Early fell back 75 miles back to Waynesboro, leaving the Valley wide open for The Burning; the torching of the Valley that destroyed the breadbasket of the Confederacy. Eighty-one men were killed at Fisher's Hill – 30 Confederates (200 wounded) and 51 Federals (40 wounded). Early also had 1,000 men and 14 guns captured. Amazingly, Early's forces would reconstitute and re-emerge at Cedar Creek less than a month later