

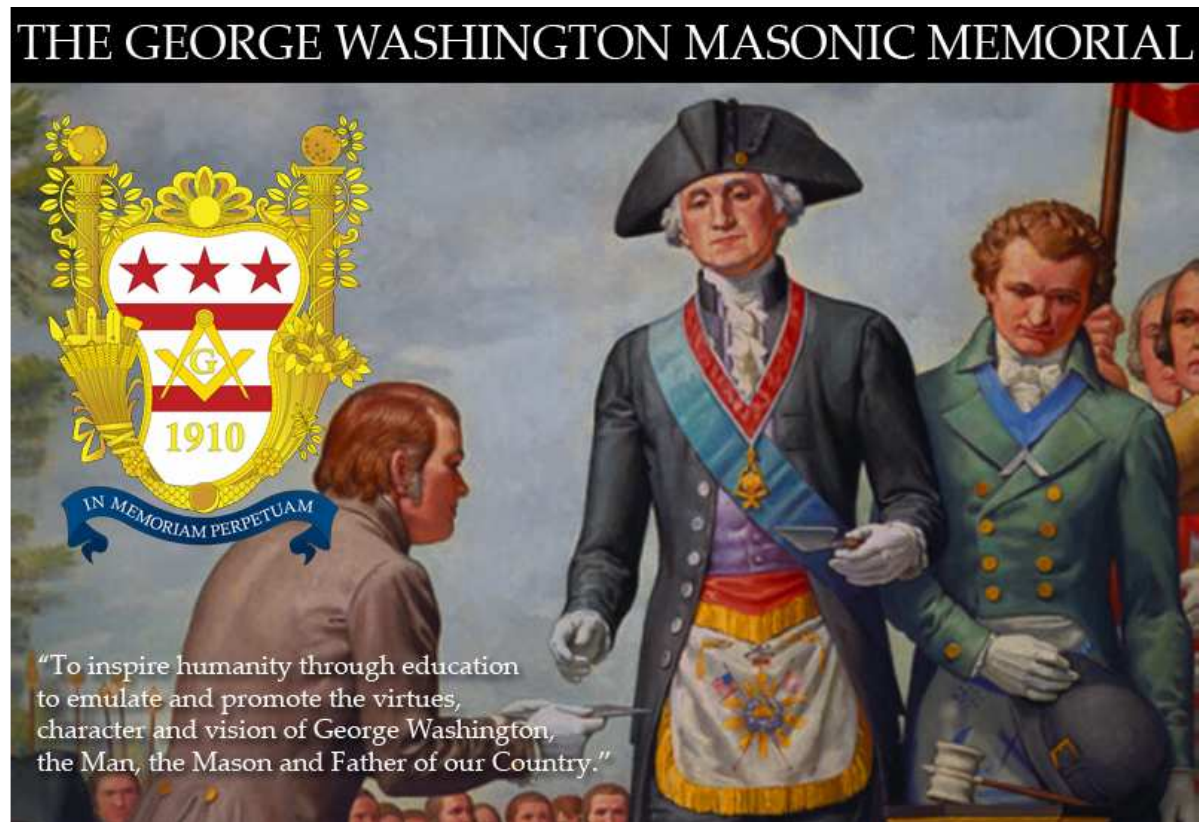


# MASONIC PRESIDENTS



לְבַח הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְבַח הַמֶּלֶךְ, לְבַח הַמֶּלֶךְ

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Doric Lodge No. 42  
Grand Rapids, Michigan  
December 19th, 2010



Name and Title	<p>a. President George Washington First President of the United States, 1789 - 1797 (1789; 1790; 1791; 1792; 1793; 1794; 1795; 1796; 1797)</p>
Political Office	<p>Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 (now Washington Alexandria Lodge No. 22); Alexandria, Va., serving from 1788 to 1799.</p> <p>Representative in the Virginia House of Burgesses, 1759-1774 (1759; 1760; 1761; 1762; 1763; 1764; 1765; 1766; 1767; 1768; 1769; 1770; 1771; 1772; 1773; 1774);</p> <p>Representative in the First and Second Continental Congresses, 1774; 1775</p>
Description and Position Held	<p>In addition to the political offices he held, George Washington also served as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army during the American Revolution from 1775 to 1781 (1775; 1776;</p>



	1777; 1778; 1779; 1780; 1781)
Lodge	Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4
Town and State	Fredericksburg, VA
Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	Royal Arch: It is believed that he was a Royal Arch Mason, initiated either in a military lodge attached to the 46th Regiment, or in Fredericksburg Lodge (since it was being worked by that lodge at the time Washington was raised). Also, in 1784, Lafayette presented Washington with an apron which contained Royal Arch symbolism.
Affiliated Lodge Name Number Town and State	Alexandria Lodge No. 22 (now Washington Alexandria Lodge No. 22); Alexandria, VA
Affiliated Lodge Title and Year	Master; 1788; 1789; 1790; 1791; 1792; 1793; 1794; 1795; 1796; 1797; 1798; 1799
Born	1732, February 22; (1732, February 11; old calendar; The different dates reflect the fact that England did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752. Much of Europe had already adopted the Gregorian calendar in the 1500-s, the rest slowly changing over. When adopted in England, riots broke out because of the days lost changing from the Julian calendar.)
Raised	1753, August 4
Died	1799, December 14
Other 1	George Washington was Initiated as an Entered Apprentice on November 4th, 1752, Passed the Fellowcraft degree on March 3, 1753. "In 1777 a convention of Virginia lodges recommended Washington to be Grand Master of the Independent Grand Lodge of that commonwealth, " but Washington declined.
Other 2	"On February 7, 1780, a convention of delegates from Army lodges met at Morristown, N.J. and suggested to several grand lodges that 'one Grand Lodge in America' be established. On January 13, 1780, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania held a session, and declaring that Freemasonry would benefit by 'a Grand Master of Masons throughout the United States, ' they elected Washington for the position. They then sent minutes of the election to the different Grand Lodges, but when Massachusetts failed to come to any determination on the question, the matter was dropped."
Other 3	"Throughout his career, Washington visited a number of lodges and attended many Masonic functions. His correspondence has many references to Freemasonry."
Quotes 1	"I recognize with pleasure my relation to the Brethren of your Society...an association whose principles lead to purity of morals, and are beneficial of action...I shall be happy, on every occasion, to evince my regard for the Fraternity" [Answering a letter from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, 1791]
	"Being persuaded that a just application of the principles on which the Masonic fraternity is founded must be promotive (sic) of private virtue and public prosperity, I shall always be happy to advance the interests of the Society, and to be considered by them as a deserving Brother." [Writing to the officers and members of St. David's Lodge at Newport, R.I., 1791]
Quotes 2	"My attachment to the Society of which we are members will dispose me always to contribute my best endeavors to promote the honor and prosperity of the Craft." [Writing to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, 1797]

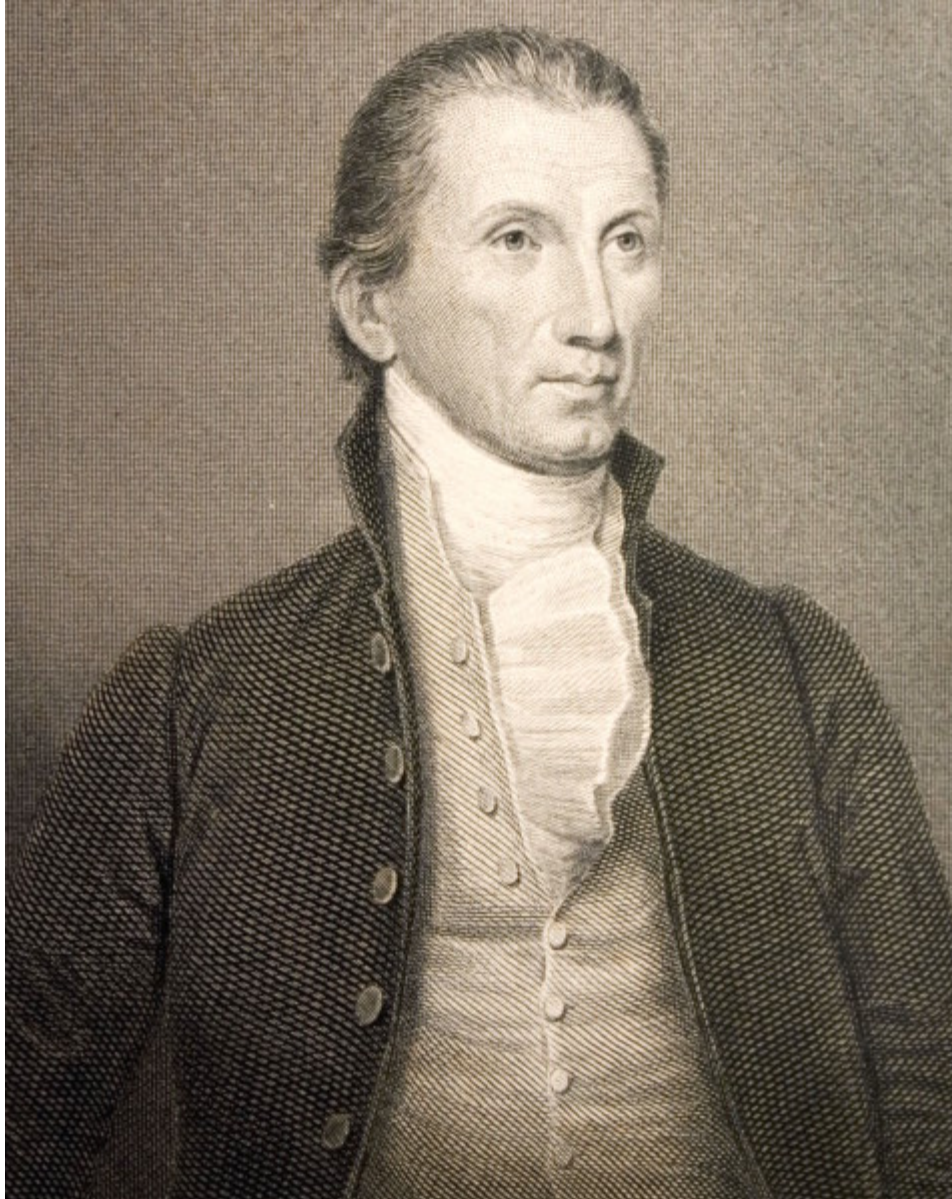
"So far as I am acquainted with the doctrines and principles of Freemasonry, I conceive them to be founded in benevolence, and to be exercised only for the good of mankind. I cannot, therefore, upon this ground, withdraw my approbation from it."[Writing to the Grand Lodge of Maryland, 1798]

#### Image

From the Museum Collection; "Washington as a Mason, " unknown artist, copyright 1868 by Currier & Ives.

#### References

Denslow, William R., "10, 000 Famous Freemasons", Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of Research, Vol. No. 14, Missouri, 1957; Thorne, J. O., M.A. editor, "Chambers's Biographical Dictionary", New York, 1962



Name and Title	b. President James Monroe Fifth President of the United States, 1817 - 1825 (1817; 1818; 1819; 1820; 1821; 1822; 1823; 1824; 1825)
Political Office	United States Secretary of State, 1811-1817 (1811; 1812; 1813; 1814; 1815; 1816; 1817); United States Secretary of War, 1814; 1815; Governor of Virginia, 1799-1802 (1799; 1800; 1801; 1802); United States Senator from Virginia, 1790-1794 (1790; 1791; 1792; 1793; 1794)
Description and Position Held	In addition to the political offices he held, James Monroe helped to finalize the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. During his presidency, Florida joined the United States in 1819, the Missouri Compromise was enacted in 1820 and the Monroe Doctrine was promulgated in 1823.
Lodge	Williamsburg Lodge No. 6

Town and State	Williamsburg, VA
Lodge Title and Year	James Monroe received the Entered Apprentice degree at this lodge when he was 17 years old. It is uncertain where he received the second and third degrees, but it is believed it was either in the Williamsburg lodge in 1776 (where he paid his quarterly dues until October of 1780), or in St. John's Regimental Lodge (which may be more likely, since he left Williamsburg in March of 1776).
Affiliated Lodge Name Number Town and State	Washington Naval Lodge No. 4, Washington, DC
Affiliated Lodge Title (Honorary member, 1825) and Year	
Born	1758, April 28
Raised	1775, November 9
Died	1831, July 4
Other 1	The Monroe Doctrine: "In his December 2, 1823, address to Congress, President James Monroe articulated United States' policy on the new political order developing in the rest of the Americas and the role of Europe in the Western Hemisphere. The statement, known as the Monroe Doctrine, was little noted by the Great Powers of Europe, but eventually became a longstanding tenet of U.S. foreign policy. Monroe and his Secretary of State John Quincy Adams drew upon a foundation of American diplomatic ideals such as disentanglement from European affairs and defense of neutral rights as expressed in Washington's Farewell Address and Madison's stated rationale for waging the War of 1812. The three main concepts of the doctrine--separate spheres of influence for the Americas and Europe, non-colonization, and non-intervention--were designed to signify a clear break between the New World and the autocratic realm of Europe. Monroe's administration forewarned the imperial European powers against interfering in the affairs of the newly independent Latin American states or potential United States territories."
Other 2	"On October 6, 1817, James Monroe participated in the Masonic cornerstone laying of Central College. This school merged into the University of Virginia in 1819." On June 8, 1819, Cumberland Lodge No. 8 of Nashville, Tenn. marched in a body to meet and escort Monroe into town. Later that day he Monroe was given 'a private reception by Masons.' "
Other 3	"On June 24, 1819, Abraham Lodge No. 8 and Clark Lodge No. 51, both of Louisville, Ky., held a joint St. John's Day celebration, and had as guests President Monroe and General Andrew Jackson."
Other 4	"James Monroe was present at the Masonic cornerstone laying of the city hall in Washington, D.C. on August 22, 1820." "On July 25, 1831, Richmond Randolph Lodge and lodges 10, 14, and 54 participated in a funeral procession in honor of James Monroe in Richmond, Va."
Image	From the Charles Looney Engraving Collection Engraving by A. B. Durand from the painting by J. Vanderlyn in City Hall, NY, copyright 1835 by James Herring
References	Denslow, William R., "10, 000 Famous Freemasons", Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of

Research, Vol. No. 14, Missouri, 1957; Thorne, J. O., M.A. editor, "Chambers's Biographical Dictionary", New York, 1962  
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ho/time/jd/16321.htm>





Name and Title	<p>c. President Andrew Jackson</p> <p>Seventh President of the United States, 1829 - 1837 (1829; 1830; 1831; 1832; 1833; 1834; 1835; 1836; 1837)</p>
Political Office	<p>Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, serving from October 7, 1822 until October 1824.</p> <p>United States Senator from Tennessee; 1823; 1824; 1825</p> <p>Governor of Florida Territory, 1821</p> <p>Judge of the Tennessee Supreme Court, 1798-1804 (1798; 1799; 1800; 1801; 1802; 1803; 1804)</p> <p>United States Senator from Tennessee, 1797; 1798</p> <p>United States Congressman, 1796; 1797</p>
Description and Position Held	<p>In addition to serving in the above offices, Andrew Jackson also served as Major General of the Tennessee Militia in 1802. He was made a Major General of the United States Army and assigned</p>

to defend New Orleans in the War of 1812, where he became a national hero for his efforts. In 1814 he defeated the Native American Creek Tribe at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, and in 1818 he fought against the Seminole Tribe.

Lodge

"It is not certain where Andrew Jackson received his degrees.

It was possibly in Harmony Lodge No. 1, in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was a member as early as 1800. A visit by him to the initial meeting of Polk Lodge, U.D., in Knoxville, whose dispensation was granted on January 15, 1800, records him as, 'Andrew Jackson of Harmony Lodge of Nashville.'

His initiation might have been held in Greeneville Lodge No. 23, Tennessee, where it states he was a member on September 5, 1801.

Others have stated he was made a Mason in Philanthropic Lodge No. 12 at Clover Bottom, Tennessee.

Jackson was present at the first meeting of Tennessee Lodge No. 2 in Knoxville on March 24, 1800."

Lodge Title and Year

"Jackson was credited as being a Past Master in the 1822 proceedings of Harmony Lodge No. 1, but no record has been found of when he served as Master. In 1808, Harmony Lodge lost its charter and all record of Jackson's Masonic affiliation ceases until 1822."

Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number

RoyalArch: Grand Chapter of Tennessee; No record of his affiliation with any one chapter has been found.

Royal Arch Title and Year

Deputy Grand High Priest; 1826

Grand Lodge Office and Year

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, serving from October 7, 1822 until October 1824

Award and Year

"For his victory over the British in the Battle of New Orleans in January 1815, he received the thanks of Congress and a gold medal by resolution of February 27, 1815."

Born

1767, March 15

Raised

It is uncertain when or where he was raised, but certainly before 1800.

Died

1845, June 8

Other 1

Andrew Jackson "contributed \$35.00 in 1818 to the erection of a Masonic temple in Nashville; he requested two lodges to perform funeral services and he introduced Lafayette to the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1825.

"On May 6, 1833, while serving as President of the United States, he assisted Washington's mother lodge to lay a cornerstone of a monument to Washington's mother in Fredericksburg.

"On January 11, 1836, he assisted in the Masonic laying of the cornerstone of Jackson City.

In 1839, he attended the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, as well as visiting Cumberland Chapter No. 1 of Nashville to assist in the installation of their officers."

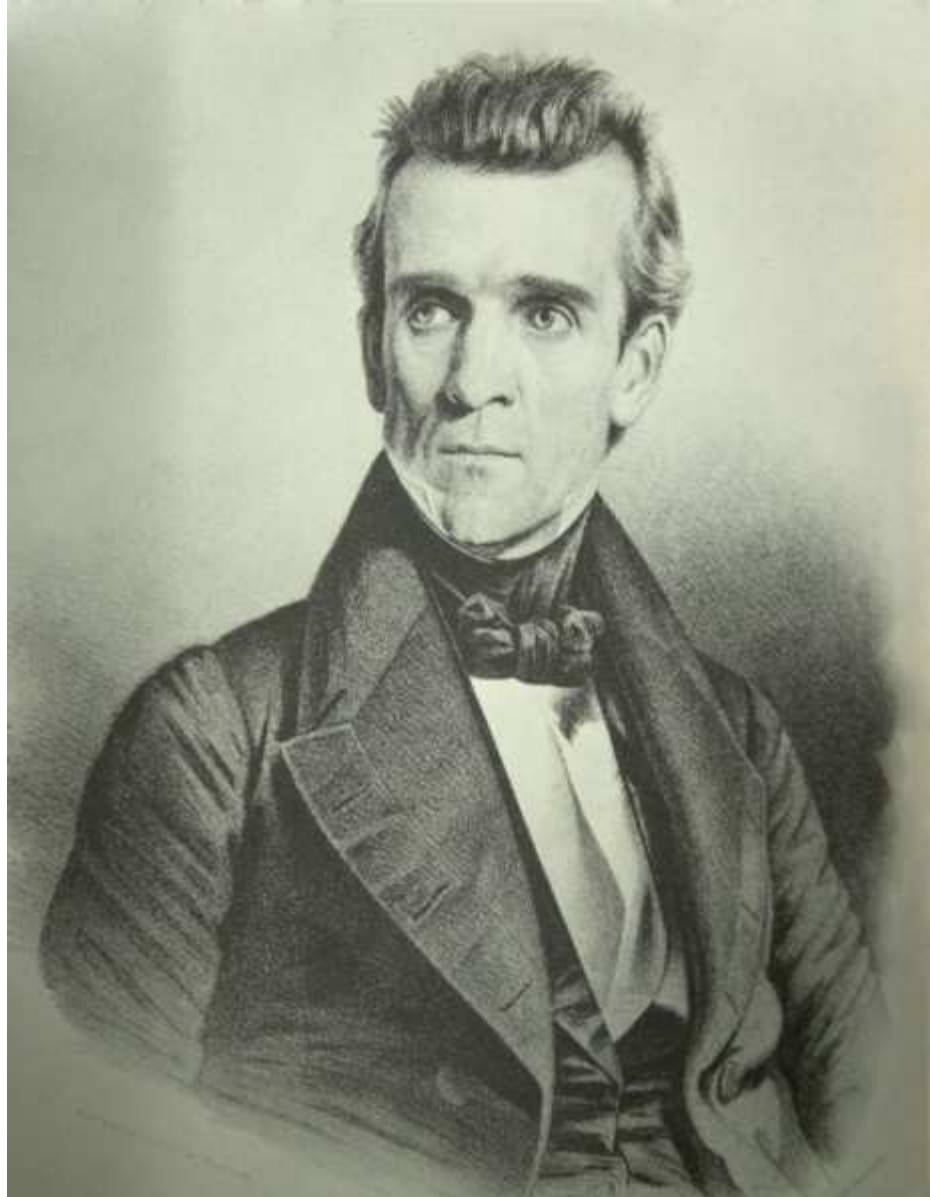
Image

From the Biography Files. Photograph by Norris Collins Photographers, Nashville, Tenn., of a painting by an unknown artist.

References

Denslow, William R., "10, 000 Famous Freemasons", Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of Research, Vol. No. 14, Missouri, 1957; Thorne, J. O., M.A. editor, "Chambers's Biographical Dictionary", New York, 1962

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=j000005>



Name and Title	d. President James K. Polk Eleventh President of the United States, 1845 - 1849 (1845; 1846; 1847; 1848; 1849)
Political Office	Captain of the Host, pro-tem; 1825; Junior Warden; 1821; Junior Deacon; 1820 Governor of Tennessee; 1839; 1840; 1841 Speaker of the House, United States Congress; 1835; 1836; 1837; 1838; 1839; Representative from Tennessee to the United States Congress, 1825-1839; (1825; 1826; 1827; 1828; 1829; 1830; 1831; 1832; 1833; 1834; 1835; 1836; 1837; 1838; 1839) Representative in the Tennessee State Legislature; 1822; 1823
Description and Position Held	James K. Polk was an opponent of Tennessee's state banks and land speculators. He was a supporter of President Andrew Jackson, who was his father's friend. During his own run for

president, James K. Polk was not expected to succeed, but his expansionist policies won him the election. One of the greatest territorial increases during a presidential term in United States history was during Polk's time in office.

"His term as president saw Texas admitted to the Union; the War with Mexico; the threatened war with England over the Oregon question; creation of the territorial governments of Oregon, New Mexico, and California, and the troubles of the rising question of slavery." (Denslow, 1957)

Lodge	Columbia Lodge No. 312
Town and State	Columbia; TN
Lodge Title and Year	Junior Warden; December 3, 1821; Junior Deacon; October, 1820
Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	Cumberland Chapter No. 1; Nashville; TN; Mark Master Degree, January 17, 1821 Lafayette Chapter No. 4; Columbia; TN; Past Master Degree, April 5, 1825; Most Excellent Master Degree, April 22, 1825; Royal Arch Master Degree, April 24, 1825
Royal Arch Title and Year	Captain of the Host, pro-tem; September 8, 1825
Born	1795, November 2
Raised	1820, September 4
Died	1849, June 15
Other 1	Initiated; August 7, 1820; Passed; August 7, 1820
Other 2	"On June 24, 1840 (St. John's Day), James K. Polk attended the Masonic procession to the Methodist church at Nashville, Tenn. with Cumberland Lodge No. 18 and Hiram Lodge No. 7." (Denslow, 1957) "On May 1, 1847 President Polk attended the Masonic cornerstone laying of the Smithsonian Institution. In his diary of this day, Polk wrote, 'About 12 o'clock a large procession, consisting of the military, Masons, the order of Odd Fellows, and citizens appeared at my door. Accompanied by the members of my Cabinet who were present, I took the place which had been assigned to me in the procession, and moved with it to the site of the building of the Smithsonian Institution on the public mall. The Vice-President, the Secretary of War and my private secretary took seats in my carriage.'" (Nevins, 1929, pg.223)

[Vice-President George Mifflin Dallas was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, 1835 and member of Franklin Lodge No. 134, Philadelphia, PA;

Secretary of War William Learned Marcy was the judge who presided over parts of the trial of the abductors of William Morgan (1827) and who was highly commended for his impartial decisions and firmness during the trial. He also served as a United States Senator (1831) as well as Governor of New York State (1833; 1834; 1834; 1836; 1837; 1838). Marcy's Masonic affiliation is uncertain, with conflicting data. In one source, it states that "...Judge Marcy was not a mason, " (Jenkins, 1851, pg. 572), but that he prevailed in his election against an anti-mason, Francis Granger. However, William Marcy is found in another source, this Library's card catalog of "Prominent Masons, " but any lodge affiliation he may have had has not been located at this time. Additional evidence of his possible membership comes with a report that he owned a cane that



had a 'head of heavy gold and bore a massive Masonic emblem' (Gregg, 1936, pg. 113).

The third occupant of Polk's carriage was Polk's nephew, Joseph Knox Walker, who served as Polk's private secretary. No record of any Masonic affiliation has been found for him.]

Other 3

To continue with the events on June 24, 1840, Polk wrote:

"Delegations of the Masonic lodges of Pennsylvania and Maryland were present, as also a large number of the Masonic fraternity and the Odd Fellows of the District of Columbia. The occasion on the ground opened and closed with prayer. The ceremonies of laying the cornerstone of the building were performed chiefly by Benjamin B. French, Esquire, Grand Master of the Masonic fraternity of the District of Columbia." (Nevins, 1929, pg.224)

Other 4

"On July 5, 1847 , President Polk was in Portsmouth, N.H. where his reception included a Masonic procession under the direction of the Grand Master in New Hampshire." (Denslow, 1957)

Other 5

Almost a year after President Polk died, "his remains were removed from their temporary resting place in the Nashville cemetery on May 22, 1850, and re-interred on the capitol grounds with Masonic ceremonies.

"When the General Grand Chapter, R.A.M. of the U.S. met in Nashville, Tenn., in 1874, Polk's widow invited the members to her home for a reception." (Denslow, 1957)

Quotes 1

In James Madison Porter's 1849 eulogy of James K. Polk, it was said, "James K. Polk, whose memory we would this day honor, won not his way to the Presidency by the glare of military fame and glory. He slowly and steadily mounted the ladder of fame and political fortune, by honest and laborious effort and steady perseverance. He affords a beautiful illustration to the rising and future generations of our country, of the blessings of that form of government, which opens the way to its highest honor to the virtuous and deserving, and requires not the adventitious aid of family influence or wealth to press them forward." Polk had "retired to private life and the pursuit of his profession, with which he was fully engaged until nominated by the Democratic Republican Convention...a nomination...wholly unlooked for by him." In fact, when he first heard of the nomination, he thought it was a political hoax. In winning the presidency, he was considered a "dark horse", but he won over his competitor, Henry Clay [Past Master of Lexington Lodge No. 1, Lexington, KY], with 170 electoral votes to Clay's 105. Polk had, "from the day of his nomination, declared he would not be a candidate for re-election, and he steadily carried out this resolution." (Porter, 1849, pg. 10-15) He returned to Tennessee on March 4th of 1849, ready to continue his private life, but he became sick and died suddenly on June 15th of the same year.

Quotes 2

"Of the political character of Mr. Polk, it is proper to say that he was a strict and unfaltering democrat, of the Jeffersonian school. That he favored a strict construction of the Constitution of the United States, and steadily opposed the exercise of all the power by the general government by loose implication. That he was opposed to a National Bank and to the general government making grants or appropriations to purposes of internal improvement, as well as to having any greater revenue than was necessary for the absolute wants of the government, in an economical administration of its duties."

His conduct, character, and success, are calculated to encourage the young to lives of blameless rectitude and persevering energy. From a farmer's son we behold him winning the first honors of

his Alma Mater - taking a distinguished stand among the learned and eloquent in that profession, which, of all others, best tries and tests a man's capacity. Mingling in the public councils of the State and Nation, we find his course is still upward and onward until he reaches the goal, the highest and most honorable station which this world knows.

Sons of America, if you would win the success that James K. Polk attained, you must, like him, seek it by lives of probity and industry - improving all the opportunities afforded you, and always remember, that it is not the erratic son of genius, but the quiet and persevering votary of application that reaches the highest point in science and in station." (Porter, 1849, pg. 15-16)

Associated Names 1 George Mifflin Dallas; William Learned Marcy; Benjamin B. French; Joseph Knox Walker; Francis Granger

Image Image of a lithograph by Charles Fenderich, 1893; copyright Library of Congress, printed in the book, James K. Polk, Jacksonian, Vol. 1 - 1795-1843, " by Charles Grier Sellers, Princeton University Press, NJ, 1957

References Denslow, William R., "10, 000 Famous Freemasons", Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of Research, Vol. No. 14, Missouri, 1957  
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 Sellers, Charles Grier. James K. Polk, Jacksonian, Vol. 1 - 1795-1843. Princeton University Press, NJ, 1957  
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 'William Learned Marcy, ' published in 'United States Army Recruiting News, ' Recruiting Publicity Bureau, Governors Island, NY, April 15, 1932 (no author listed)



Name and Title

e. President James A. Buchanan  
Fifteenth President of the United States, 1857 - 1861  
(1857; 1858; 1859; 1860; 1861)

Elected Life Member of Lodge No. 43; 1858  
First District Deputy Grand Master for the District comprised of Lancaster, Lebanon and York  
Counties, Pennsylvania; 1823; 1824  
Master of Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pa.; 1822; 1823

Political Office

United States Minister to England; 1853; 1854; 1855; 1856; Secretary of State in President Polk's  
Cabinet; 1845; 1846; 1847; 1848; 1849; United States Senator from Pennsylvania; 1834-1845 (1834;  
1835; 1836; 1837; 1838; 1839; 1840; 1841; 1842; 1843; 1844; 1845); United States Minister to Russia;  
1832; 1833; 1834; United States Representative in Congress from Pennsylvania; 1821-1831 (1821;

1822; 1823; 1824; 1825; 1826; 1827; 1828; 1829; 1830; 1831)

Description and  
Position Held

James Buchanan was a strong supporter of Andrew Jackson. After Jackson's defeat in the presidential election of 1824, Buchanan became one of a committee of five that worked hard to bring about Jackson's victory in the 1828 presidential race. Appointed as the United States Minister to Russia, Buchanan negotiated a favorable commercial treaty with Czar Alexander II's government. As the United States Senator from Pennsylvania, he helped President Polk win in that state, and as the Secretary of State for Polk, Buchanan helped in the settlement of the Oregon dispute with Great Britain. (Hubbard, 1969, pg. 49)

Two days after President Buchanan's inaugural address, the U.S. Supreme Court reached the Dred Scott decision, which furthered the rift between the states on the issue of slavery. Buchanan was obliged to uphold the law of the land as decided by the Supreme Court, despite his personal opposition. (Hubbard, 1969, pg. 51)

"Buchanan tried by conservatism, compromise conferences, and constitutionalism to prevent a war Southern and Northern hawks were touting. But before he left office the majority of the Confederate States had seceded; the U.S. Flag, flying from the mast of the 'Star of the West,' was fired upon; ports, ships, arsenals, and the U.S. Mint were seized; and the Confederate States of America came into being at Montgomery, Alabama." (Hubbard, 1969, pg. 51)

Lodge

Lodge No. 43;

Town and State

Lancaster; Pennsylvania

Lodge Title and Year

Master; 1823; Junior Warden; 1821; Life member; March 10, 1858

Royal Arch Chapter  
Name and Number

RoyalArch; Royal Arch Chapter No. 43; Lancaster; Pa.; May 20, 1826

Born

1791, April 23

Raised

1817, January 24

Died

1868, June 1

Other 1

Lodge No. 43:

Petitioned - November 13, 1816; Elected and Initiated - December 11, 1816; Passed and Raised - January 24, 1817; Elected Junior Warden - December 13, 1820; Elected Master - December 23, 1822; Installed as Master - March 12, 1823; Elected Life Member - March 10, 1858

Other 2

James Buchanan never thought he would have a political career. However, in December of 1819, his betrothed, Anne C. Coleman, died suddenly. "Conversing once in London with an intimate friend...Mr. Buchanan said: 'I never intended to engage in politics, but meant to follow my profession strictly. But my prospects and plans were all changed by a most sad event which happened...when I was a young man. As a distraction from my great grief, and because I saw that through a political following I could secure the friends I then needed, I accepted a nomination.' " (Curtis, 1883, pg. 22)

Other 3

"A history of Perseverance Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg, Pa., states that Buchanan never failed to visit Perseverance during the earlier days of his life if [he was] in town." (Denslow, 1957, pg. 149) On February 22, 1860, President Buchanan assisted in the Masonic ceremony which dedicated a statue of George Washington. Located in Washington Circle in Washington, D.C., President Buchanan delivered the dedicatory address. (Boyden, 1927, pg. 7)



Other 4	<p>Shortly after retiring from the office of President, James Buchanan began to receive threats from those in his area that thought he had done a poor job with the issue of the impending Civil War. "Now the ugly mutterings that he had better not show his face in the city began to be heard, and every day there were 'violent, insulting and threatening letters, ' especially from Philadelphia. Miss Hetty found anonymous notes stuck under the back door of Wheatland [the President's home near Lancaster, Pa.] which warned that the house would be set on fire some night. Buchanan refused to hire a guard of detectives because he did not want to broadcast his plight, but he did accept help from the local Masons. Lodge No. 43 of Lancaster, of which he had been past master, held a special meeting at which each member pledged 'to protect his person and his property from injury.' From that day until the course of the war diverted the public interest, several Masons stood guard at his home." (Klein, 1962, pg. 408-409)</p>
Other 5	<p>"President Buchanan was given a Masonic burial by his home Lodge at Lancaster, Pa., on June 4, 1868. Four thousand persons attended the funeral." (Denslow, 1957, pg. 149)</p>
Quotes 1	<p>"A letter of Masonic interest written by President Buchanan was acquired by the Library of the Supreme Council. It reads:</p> <p>My dear Sir and Brother, I should esteem it a privilege to accept your kind invitation to be present tomorrow at the centennial anniversary of the Masters' Lodge at Albany; but both the state of the weather and of my health render this impossible. Devoutly wishing that for centuries to come, your ancient and venerable Lodge may continue to shed forth the light of Masonry and still increasing usefulness and renown, I remain yours very respectfully, James Buchanan."</p> <p>(R.B.H., 1951. pg.338)</p>
Quotes 2	<p>The Master of Lodge No. 43, Lancaster, Pa., spoke at the funeral of President Buchanan as follows; "We meet today to attend the funeral of the Hon. James Buchanan, Past Master of the Lodge...From the time he was first raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, he exhibited great admiration for the tenets of Freemasonry, and made marked progress in our mysteries. In 1822, he was elected Worshipful Master...[and] he discharged his duties with fidelity, leaving, when he retired from his honorable position, a trestle-board which would bear most critical inspection." (R.B.H., 1951. pg.338)</p>
Image	<p>Engraving by J. C. Buttre, NY;</p> <p>Printed in "Life of Buchanan, Vol. 2, " by George Ticknor Curtis, Harper + Bros., NY, 1883</p>
References	<p>Boyden, William L. Masonic Presidents, Vice-Presidents and Signers. Washington, D.C., 1927;</p> <p>Curtis, George Ticknor. Life of James Buchanan. Vol. 1, Harper &amp; Brothers, New York, 1883;</p> <p>Denslow, William R., "10, 000 Famous Freemasons", Transactions of the Missouri Lodge of Research, Vol. No. 14, Missouri, 1957;</p> <p>Hubbard, Walter W., James Buchanan. New Age, December, 1959;</p> <p>Klein, Philip Shriver. President James Buchanan, A Biography. The Pennsylvania State University Press, 1962;</p> <p>R.B.H., "President Buchanan's Masonic Letter", printed in The New Age. June, 1951, pg. 338</p>



Name and Title

f. President Andrew Johnson  
Seventeenth President of the United States, 1865 - 1869  
(1865; 1866; 1867; 1868; 1869)

Political Office

Andrew Johnson was the first President to receive the Scottish Rite Degrees, which were communicated at the White House on June 20, 1867. (Barrett, 1939)

United States Senator from Tennessee; 1875;  
Military Governor of Tennessee; 1862;  
United States Senator from Tennessee; 1857; 1858; 1859; 1860; 1861; 1862;  
Governor of the State of Tennessee; 1853; 1854; 1855; 1856;  
United States Representative from Tennessee; 1843; 1844; 1845; 1846; 1847; 1848; 1849; 1850; 1851;  
1852; 1853

Description and Position Held	Andrew Johnson was fifty-seven when he was elected Vice President. Six weeks later, when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, Johnson was made President. (Barrett, 1939) He was the first United States President who was impeached by Congress, an impeachment fueled by anti-Masons and focused on presidential power of appointments. Johnson was not convicted and was later vindicated in 1875 by being re-elected to the Senate. He was also vindicated posthumously, by the 1926 Supreme Court finding that the law he had refused to follow, the Tenure of Office Act, was, in fact, unconstitutional.
Lodge	Greenville Lodge No, 119
Town and State	Greenville; Tennessee
Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	RoyalArch
Knights Templar Commandery Name and Number	Knights Templar; Nashville Commandery No. 1
Scottish Rite Degree and Consistory Name	Scottish Rite
Scottish Rite Title and Year	1867, June 20
Born	1808, December 29
Raised	1851
Died	1875, July 31
Other 1	"Andrew Johnson was a tailor by trade, and he didn't learn to read or write until after his marriage. All his life he cast in his lot with the working classes [and though] he harped incessantly on his humble origin, ...his enemies generally began it. His defense of underdogs is visible in that when"...the Know-Nothing movement, the ancestor of the present Ku Klux Klan, threatened to sweep the country, Johnson fought it tooth and nail. Running for Governor of Tennessee, he shouted at a Know-Nothing audience: "Show me a Know-Nothing and I will show you a loathsome reptile, on whose neck every honest man should set his feet.' In the uproar that followed pistols were cocked and aimed, while the crowd stormed at him to retract. Johnson stood calmly waiting till he could be heard, and went deliberately on with his speech." (Thompson, 1928)
Other 2	Despite his reputation of being a 'ruffian', "the testimony of friends and enemies alike is that he was dignified and pleasant in manner, extraordinarily correct in dress, and in all respects a gentleman. However, unafraid, "Johnson was always taking his life in his hands. In his gubernatorial campaign, the Know-Nothings threatened to assassinate him if he made one of his scheduled speeches defending Catholics and immigrants. Johnson appeared on the platform, with his hand on his pistol, and announced that the threatened assassination was the first business in order. He said this calmly and serenely, surveying the crowd for a few moments, and then, bringing his hand out of his hip pocket, said quietly, 'Gentlemen, it appears that I have been misinformed..." (Thompson, 1928)
Other 3	"On the night of [President] Lincoln's assassination, [John Wilkes] Booth had told [Lewis] Paine to

murder [Secretary of State William] Seward, and [George] Atzerodt to kill then Vice-President Andrew Johnson." (Thompson, 1928) While Atzerodt took a room in the same hotel Johnson was staying in, he never made the attempt on Johnson's life.

Other 4

"When Lincoln was murdered, the Radicals in Congress had already begun to take steps to fight him on his reconstruction policy...[and] they counted on his successor's joining with them in their plans to treat the South as Cromwell treated Ireland. Instead, [Johnson] took up the work Lincoln had laid down, and the batteries [the Radicals] had erected against Lincoln were trained on [Johnson]....They succeeded in wrecking Johnson and turning the South into paths more horrid than those of the war [by overturning Johnson's vetoes of their harsh reconstruction programs, which they then implemented]. [Johnson's] defects were those of a fighting man. But he was sincere, he was right, he was brave as a lion and he was farsighted....In 1926, the Supreme Court...declar[ed] unconstitutional the law...which Johnson was impeached [for refusing to obey]. It was precisely because he saw it to be unconstitutional that he disregarded it; and again he was prophetic." (Thompson, 1928, pg. 3)

Other 5

During Andrew Johnson's presidency, he "put diplomatic pressure on Maximilian and Napoleon III to persuade them to leave Mexico, " where Maximilian had arrived in 1864 "to take over 763, 000 square miles, keeping the Mexicans in subjection." On December 16, 1865, Johnson gave them an ultimatum to leave.

Johnson also purchased Alaska for the United States, persuading Czar Alexander II of Russia to sell the land, and increasing the size of the United States by over 571, 000 square miles. (Hubbard, 1966)

In 1875, when Johnson ran again for Senator and won, "the state of Tennessee received the news...with keen satisfaction...He had, declared the New York Herald, "fortunately lived to see his vindication...Because the American people know him so well, because he was impeached and hounded as a traitor and chained and handcuffed by Congress, the contest in the Tennessee legislature possessed a national interest and is really a national victory. He is the best man Tennessee could have chosen, not merely for herself but for democracy of North and South...The Senate needs men who have the courage to speak the truth, and besides, Mr. Johnson has probably profited by time and experience...It is now generally conceded that the imaginary misdemeanors of 1868...were in fact official merits." (Stryker, 1929, pg. 808, quoting The New York Herald, January 27, 1875)

Other 6

When President Johnson died, "the Andrew Johnson Tailor Shop [was] draped with mourning on the day that the seventeenth president was laid to rest in Greeneville. The entire town wore mourning attire. Thousands of visitors came to this city for the funeral which was held on one of Greeneville's sun-kissed hills, now marked by an impressive monument. The hill, then a family graveyard, is now a national cemetery." (Greeneville Democrat Sun. 1929, pg. 4) "At the request of his lodge, Greeneville Lodge No. 119, George C. Connor, [then] Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee [Grand Master, 1878], conducted the Masonic burial service, and Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 9, Knights Templar of Knoxville, gave the Templar burial service." (Denslow, 1957, pg. 298)

Quotes 1

After the Civil War was over, when Johnson insisted that the Southern States had the right to representation, he said, "The Constitution imperatively declares...that each state shall have at least one Representative...It also provides that the Senate...shall be composed of two senators



from each state and adds, with peculiar force, that no state without its consent shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate...The President of the United States stands toward the country in a somewhat different attitude from that of any member of Congress...the President is chosen by all the people of all the states. As eleven states are not at this time represented in either branch of Congress, it would seem to be [the President's] duty to present their just claims to Congress." (Stryker, 1929, pg. 273-274)

## Quotes 2

After his presidency, Johnson returned to Tennessee. Speaking to the crowd that had gathered, Johnson said, "When I was inaugurated President, I felt that if the destruction of the government could be arrested...until the whole American people could be aroused, that they...would...come to the rescue and save the Constitution and the country...I feel prouder today, standing in your midst, privileged and authorized to advocate those great principles of free government, than I would of being President on the ruins of the Constitution...I accepted the Presidency as a high trust...not...as a horn of plenty; with sugar plums to be handed out here and there to that individual that had presented the greatest gift...I stand before you unscathed, and put the whole pack at defiance...I can stand before the people of my state, and lift up both my hands and say, in the language of Samuel, 'Whose ox have I taken...? At whose hands have I ever received bribes, and had my eyes blinded?' If there is any, let them answer and I will return it. Thus I return to you, feeling in my own conscience that I have discharged my duty as a faithful man." (Stryker, 1929, pg. 777-778)

## Image

From the Biography Files;

Image of a photograph donated by Stanley L. Horka, Passaic Lodge No. 67, F. & A. M., Passaic, NJ (original photographer unknown at this time), original photograph owned by Nashville Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar

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Name and Title

g. President James A. Garfield  
 Twentieth President of the United States, 1881  
 (1881);  
 Assassinated, 1881

Chaplain at various times of Garrettsville Lodge No. 246, Ohio; 1868; 1869; 1870; 1871; 1872; 1873;  
 Charter Member of Pentalpha Lodge No. 23, Washington, DC  
 The Sixth to the Thirteenth Scottish Rites degrees were communicated to him by Grand  
 Commander Albert Pike.

Political Office

United States Senator; 1880 (He never served in this office, as he was inaugurated President of the  
 United States on the day his term would have begun.) (Meese, 1958);  
 United States Congressman; 1863; 1864; 1865; 1866; 1867; 1868; 1869; 1870; 1871; 1872; 1873; 1874;

	1875; 1876; 1877; 1878; 1879; 1880 (Served as leader of the Republican party in Congress from 1876-1880)
	Ohio State Senator; 1859
Lodge	Magnolia Lodge No. 20; 1st + 2nd degrees; Columbus Lodge No. 30; 3rd Degree
Town and State	Camp Chase, west of Columbus Ohio; Columbus; Ohio.
Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	Columbia Chapter No. 1; April 18, 1866; Mt. Vernon Chapter; No. 3
Knights Templar Commandery Name and Number	Columbia Commandery No. 2; May 18, 1866
Knights Templar Title and Year	Honorary Member of Hanselmann Commandery No. 16, Cincinnati, OH; July 19, 1881 (Honorary Membership conferred upon him after he was shot but before his death.) (Meese, 1958; Denslow, 1958)
Scottish Rite Degree and Consistory Name	14th Degree; January 2, 1872; Mithras Lodge of Perfection; Washington; DC; May, 1871; The 6th to the 13th Degrees were communicated personally to him between May of 1871 and January 2, 1872 by Albert Pike, 33rd Degree, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction.
Affiliated Lodge Name Number Town and State	Garrettsville Lodge No. 246; Garrettsville; Ohio; Pentalpha Lodge No. 23, Washington, DC
Affiliated Lodge Title and Year	Chaplain of Garrettsville Lodge No. 246; 1868; 1869; 1870; 1871; 1872; 1873; Charter Member of Pentalpha Lodge No. 23; Washington; DC; 1879
Born	1831, November 19
Raised	1864, November 22
Died	1881, September 19
Other 1	James A. Garfield began his life working on his mother's farm, his father having died before James was two. He then worked driving a mule along a towpath of the Ohio Canal. In school, he was a serious student, and became a teacher once he graduated. After teaching locally for a time, he went to Williams College, and, upon graduating in 1856, began to teach ancient languages at Hiram College. He was soon appointed president of Hiram College, holding that position until 1859, at which time he was elected to the Ohio Senate. In 1861, Brother Garfield became a Lieutenant Colonel in the 42nd Ohio. In 1862, he was promoted to Brigadier General, and in 1863, to Major General. (Denslow, 1958)
Other 2	Brother Garfield was Initiated in Magnolia Lodge No. 20 on November 22, 1861, and Passed in the same Lodge on December 3, 1861. He then served during the Civil War in numerous battles. In 1863, he resigned his military commission and returned to his Congressional seat. (Baird, 1920) He was then Raised in Columbus Lodge No. 30, by request of Magnolia Lodge No. 20. As a Congressman, he spoke on tariff revision and against inflation of the currency. (Baird, 1920) "During his 17 years in the House, he accomplished the bill to create the Office of United States Commissioner of Education, he successfully opposed Rep. Benjamin Butler's bill to raise the

House members' salaries by 50 percent and he supported specie payments against greenbacks. He did not vote to impeach President Johnson." (Hubbard, 1970) "Within a period of six years, he had been a college president, a state senator, a major general and a National Congressman. He had also been married, became a father and been made a Freemason." (Cole, 1959) After leaving the army, he was able to continue receiving his Masonic degrees, and was raised in 1864. "On April 10, 1871, Brother Garfield attended the banquet held by the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia that was given in honor of the Earl de Grey and Ripon, then Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England." (Denslow, 1958)

In 1880, James Garfield attended the Republican convention in Chicago, in support of John Sherman. However, he himself reluctantly became the nominee, by virtue of the convention representatives demanding he accept their nomination. At one point, he stood and declared that "no man had a right, without the consent of the person voted for, to announce his name and vote for him." (Lyons, 1931) He was overruled and named the party nominee and was then elected President. (Baird, 1920)

Other 3

Two months after his inauguration, he reviewed, in front of the White House, the following Knights Templar commanderies: Demolay Commandery, Boston, Mass. and St. John's Commandery No. 1, Providence, R.I., and from Washington D.C., Washington Commandery No. 1, Columbia Commandery No. 2, Potomac Commandery No. 3 and DeMolay Mounted Comandery No. 4. The next day, May 21, 1881, he gave a reception at the White House for the Boston and the Providence Commanderies.(Royal Arch Mason, 1957; The New Age, 1932)

"During his short administration, he ended corruption in the Post Office Departments, he refused demands to let Senators and Congressmen make appointments, the American Red Cross was organized with his encouragement and he asserted that any European agreement to jointly guarantee the De Lesseps Panama Canal would be regarded by the United States as unfriendly." Hubbard, 1970)

Four months after Brother Garfield's inauguration on March 4, 1881 as President of the United States, he was shot in the back on July 2, 1881 by a bitter, unsuccessful office-seeker named Charles Julius Guiteau. He was transferred from the hospital to his ocean home at Franklin Cottage, and "nearly 2, 000 men, including every Mason in the area, worked day and night to build a spur, " (Hubbard, 1970), so that the President could be transported directly to the cottage. President Garfield died two and a half months later on September 19th, 1881.

Other 4

When Brother Garfield's body was brought to Cleveland for burial, a memorial arch was raised in Public Square bearing these words: "Love Was the Source: Duty the Law of His Life." (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 1927)

"Columbia Commandery No. 2 part of the guard of honor and escorted his remains from Washington to Cleveland, Ohio. At the funeral, September 26, nearly all the officers of the Grand Commandery of Ohio, 14 commanderies of that state, and eight commanderies from adjacent jurisdictions were present an participated in the funeral cortege. Benjamin Dean, the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, U.S.A. was also present." (Denslow, 1958)

The Masonic fraternity laid the cornerstone of The Garfield Monument, with an escort of Templars. Construction was begun in 1885 and the dedication was on Decoration Day, 1890. The cost of the James A. Garfield Memorial was \$225, 000, and was designed by the architect George Keller of Connecticut. Approximately 100, 000 visitors attended the dedication of the memorial,

and the procession was one of the largest Cleveland had ever seen. It consisted of 12 divisions led by Garfield's own 42nd regiment, then came 39 carriages carrying President Benjamin Harrison and his party, and then 1, 000 Knights Templars." (Royal Arch Mason, 1957)

Quotes 1

"I regard my life as given to my country, and I am only anxious to make as much of it as possible before the mortgage on it is foreclosed." August, 1861 (Townsend and Wallace, 1888);

"We stand to-day upon an eminence which overlooks a hundred years of national life - a century crowded with perils, but crowned with the triumphs of liberty and law. Before continuing the onward march, let us pause on our height, for a moment, to strengthen our faith and to renew our hope by a glance at the pathway along which our people have traveled." Brother Garfield described the elevation of the blacks from slavery to citizenship as "the most important political change...since the adoption of the Constitution" and declared that no thoughtful man could fail to appreciate "its beneficent effects upon our institutions and people....those who resisted the change should remember that in our institutions there was no middle ground for the [black] race between slavery and equal citizenship. There can be no permanent disfranchised peasantry in the United States. Freedom can never yield its fullness of blessing as long as law or its administration places the smallest obstacle in the pathway of any virtuous citizenship." Acknowledging the danger arising from the ignorance of voters, he offered his remedy: "the saving influence of universal education." Inaugural address, March, 1881 (Leech and Brown, 1978; Ridpath, 1881)

Quotes 2

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Associated Names 1

Albert Pike; Benjamin Butler; Andrew Johnson; John Sherman; Ferdinand De Lesseps; Charles Julius Guiteau; George Keller; Benjamin Harrison

Image

From the Biography Files:

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Name and Title

h. President William McKinley  
 Twenty-fifth President of the United States, 1896 - 1901  
 (1896; 1897; 1898; 1899; 1900; 1901)  
 Assassinated, 1901

Charter Member of Eagle Lodge No. 431 (later re-named William McKinley Lodge No. 431);  
 Canton; OH  
 Gave a White House reception to members of the Supreme Council 33rd Degree, Southern  
 Masonic Jurisdiction, October 23, 1899;  
 Gave a White House reception to members of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the  
 Mystic Shrine, "Shriners," May 23, 1900.

Political Office

Governor of the State of Ohio; 1891; 1892; 1893; 1894; 1895; 1896



	Permanent chairman of the Republican State Convention in Cleveland, OH; 1884 United States Congressman; 1876; 1877; 1878; 1879; 1880; 1881; 1882; 1883; up to May 27, 1884; after March 3, 1885; 1886; 1887; 1888; 1889; 1890; Prosecuting Attorney, Stark County, OH; 1869
Description and Position Held	William McKinley was one of the most beloved Presidents of the United States. (Royal Arch Masons, 1949) He "had the respect, the confidence and the affection of all people who came into contact with him. Men and women in every walk of life, high and low, rich and poor, strong and weak - all felt bound to him by ties of affection and admiration [and], ..hypocrisy and sham were contrary to his nature. He was so affable and genial, so friendly and sincere, so kind and generous, so humble and genuine that people who differed with his policies did not for an instant distrust him...his integrity was beyond dispute; his sincerity was never questioned, his word was sacrosanct. (Eversull, 1943)
Lodge	Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21
Town and State	Winchester; VA
Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	RoyalArch: Canton Chapter No. 84; December 28, 1883
Knights Templar Commandery Name and Number	KnightsTemplar: Canton Commandery No. 38; December 23, 1884; Washington D.C. Commandery No. 1
Knights Templar Title and Year	Life Member, Washington D.C. Commandery No. 1; December 23, 1896; Honorary Member, Hanselmann Commandery No. 16, Cincinnati, OH
Grand Lodge Office and Year	GrandLodge-Office: Grand Orator, GLOH, on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the Masonic Temple in Canton, OH
Affiliated Lodge Name Number Town and State	Mahoning Lodge No. 394; Niles; OH (Archives, Livingston Library); Canton Lodge No. 60; Canton; OH; August 21, 1867; Eagle Lodge No. 431 (later re-named William McKinley Lodge No. 431); Canton; OH; Honorary Member, Illinois Masonic Veteran Association
Affiliated Lodge Title and Year	Charter Member of Eagle Lodge No. 431; June 2, 1869
Born	1843, January 29
Raised	1865, May 3
Died	1901, September 14
Other 1	William McKinley "was the seventh of nine children and was of Highland Scottish ancestry. His father was an operator of charcoal furnaces. William McKinley worked as a schoolteacher and as a clerk in a postal office before the Civil War broke out. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union Army. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on September 24, 1862, to 1st Lieutenant on February 7, 1863 and to Captain on July 25, 1864. He became Brevet Major for Gallantry in 1865. After the War, in 1867, he was admitted to the Ohio Bar. In 1869 he was elected to be Prosecuting Attorney of Stark County, OH. He then served in Congress from 1876-1890 (1876; 1877; 1878; 1879; 1880; 1881; 1882; 1883; up to May 27, 1884; after March 3, 1885; 1886; 1887; 1888; 1889; 1890). He was then elected in 1891 as Governor of Ohio, and was re-elected in 1893. He was elected President of the United States in 1896 and was re-elected in 1900. On September 6, 1901, he was shot by an assassin in

Buffalo, NY at the Pan American Exposition in the Temple of Music." (Swartz, 1947)

Other 2

President McKinley was of "such noble character" that it was said he "was the most beloved president, while in office, of any man since Washington." During his administration, notable events included the annexation of Hawaii in 1898...the [establishment] of more cordial relations with Britain...the Klondike gold rush...and, of course, the war with Spain...[begun] with the sinking of the Battleship Maine at Havana, Cuba." (Cole, R.G., 1947)

Other 3

Initiated: May 1, 1865; Passed: May 2, 1865; Raised and Demitted: May 3, 1865

"Captain William McKinley of Sheridan's Army was made a Mason in Winchester Hiram Lodge in the Spring of 1865...The Officers of the Lodge at that time who conferred these degrees were not 'members of the Confederate Army, ' They were elected after all able-bodied men of the town had joined the Confederate forces. These officers were either too old to be in service or were Northern sympathizers, of which, I am sorry to say there were a few in the town...

"In the fall of 1864, conditions in Winchester were relatively quiet. [The Junior Warden of Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21, ] Brother Edwin S. Brent, returned to Winchester. He and...George M. Leggee, the [Lodge] Secretary, endeavored to get permission to open the Lodge...The request was peremptorily refused by Sheridan...At this point a surgeon on Sheridan's staff, Dr. C. H. Allen, of Aurora Lodge of Vermont...told General Sheridan that he thought it would be a wise move to allow this Lodge to be opened, as it would allow many of the officers and soldiers in his army...to mingle in a fraternal way with local people and thereby remove some of the bitter feeling which was being exhibited by the local inhabitants toward members of the Federal Army; [Brother Brent asserted] that he was a Mason...and promised that he would be present at every meeting and would see that nothing inimicable to the Government of the United States would occur in these secret meetings. He stated in addition that he realized there were officers in Sheridan's army who were desirous of receiving Masonic degrees while encamped in the neighborhood of the city.

"In this way permission was gained...and the lodge was opened in December, 1864. Meetings were held almost daily, sometimes afternoon and evening sessions, and several hundred young officers and soldiers were made Masons in the Lodge under war conditions...Captain William McKinley was one of these...In common with all of those receiving degrees in the period of about six months, he took a demit to his home lodge..." (Eddy, C. Vernon, 1944)

Other 4

On May 19, 1899, President and Brother McKinley visited his mother Lodge in Winchester, VA. On December 14, 1899, Brother McKinley "participated in the Masonic ceremonies at Mount Vernon incident to the Centennial Observance of the death of George Washington, and used the same gavel which Washington used in laying the cornerstone of the United States Capitol in 1793 (this gavel was loaned for the occasion by Potomac Lodge No. 5, D.C.).

"On May 22, 1901, he attended a reception given in his honor by California Commandery No. 1 at San Francisco." (Mellny, 1948)

Other 5

At President McKinley's funeral, "there were seven divisions in the funeral procession, the fourth being composed entirely of Masons, led by Eminent Commander A. B. Foster. There were twenty-two commanders, K.T. in line - Louisville, Canton, Massillon, Toledo, Lima, Evansville, Stubenville, Cleveland, Painesville, Cincinnati, Youngstown, Pomeroy, Akron, Marion, Circleville, Warren, Hamilton, Salem, Wooster, Marietta, East Liverpool, Uhricksville -- with the Grand Lodge of Ohio following." (Swartz, 1947)

Other 6	Please copy and paste AssociatedG6748 into the search box on the upper right in order to view associated artifact.
Quotes 1	On why he became a Mason, William McKinley said, "After the battle of the Opequan, I went with the surgeon of our Ohio Regiment to the field where there were about 5, 000 Confederate prisoners under guard. Almost as soon as we passed the guard, I noticed that the doctor shook hands cordially with a number of Confederate prisoners. He also took from his pocket a roll of bills and distributed all he had among them. Boy-like, I looked on in wonderment; I didn't know what it meant. On the way back to our camp I asked him, 'Did you know those men or ever see them before?' 'No, ' replied the doctor. 'I never saw them before.' 'But how did you know them, and why did you give them money?' I asked. 'They are Masons, and we Masons have ways of finding that out.' 'But, ' I persisted, 'you gave them a lot of money, all you had about you. Do you ever expect to get it back?' 'Well, said the doctor, 'if they are ever able to pay it back, they will. But it makes no difference to me; they are Brother Masons in trouble, and I am only doing my duty.' I said to my self, 'If that is Masonry, I will take some of it myself.' (McKinley, 1900)
Quotes 2	<p>"Mr. Chairman, Sir Knights, Ladies and Gentlemen: I thank you for this fraternal welcome. I had no conception that I was to be treated to such a scene as is presented here today, and I want to thank my Brother Masons and their families and friends for this more than gracious greeting which is quite unique, differing from any of our receptions in the long journey which we have made from the Capitol City of the Nation to this city by the sea.</p> <p>"We have every variety of association in the United States. In this land of Liberty we enjoy the freedom of association together for noble and worthy purposes. We have our fraternal societies; we have our church associations, but we all belong to a brotherhood to which we are strongly attached, which commands love and devotion - the brotherhood of American citizenship under a common Constitution engaged in securing the highest rewards for a free people by pursuing the paths of duty and honor. A brotherhood that represents the highest hopes, not of the people of the United States alone, but, we believe, the best hopes of humanity. A brotherhood that can never be broken. It stood a great trial thirty-nine years ago. It was tried in the awful crucible of war, and the fraternity dedicated to freedom gloriously triumphed. So now, it is closer, dearer, more sacred than it has ever been before in all our history...</p> <p>"And it is to this government, my fellow citizens, this government of the people, by the people, and for the people, that is committed to the safe and sacred keeping of the men of this generation, and the women of this generation. And good Masons make good citizens, and good citizens everywhere, Mason or no Mason, will forever preserve this jewel of Liberty in the family of nations." (McKinley, 1901)</p>
Image	From the Museum Collection, donated by Charles Looney; Copyright Selmar Meyer, October 7, 1901
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Name and Title

i. President Theodore Roosevelt, 1901 - 1908  
 Twenty-sixth President of the United States, 1901 - 1908  
 (1901; 1902; 1903; 1904; 1905; 1906; 1907; 1908)

While Brother Roosevelt never filled any Masonic office, he brought honor to the Fraternity as a whole by becoming a Freemason after he was Vice President of the United States and by remaining active in Masonry after becoming President.  
 (The photo shown here with Brother Roosevelt wearing the regalia of a Lodge's Master was staged in 1912 at Oriental Lodge No. 74 in Spokane, Washington. The regalia he wore belonged to Spokane Lodge No. 34.)

Political Office

United States Vice President; 1901; Governor of the State of New York; 1899; 1900; Assistant Secretary of the Navy; President of the New York City Police Board; 1895; U.S. Civil Service

Commission; 1888; Republican National Convention delegate, (where he refused to support the Republican candidate Blaine); New York Congressman; 1882; 1883; 1884

Lodge	Matinecock Lodge No. 806
Town and State	Oyster Bay; NY
Affiliated Lodge Title and Year	Honorary Member: Illinois Masonic Veterans Association; Pentalpha Lodge No. 23, Washington, D.C.;
Born	1858, October 27
Raised	1901, April 24
Died	1919, January 6
Other 1	Initiated: January 2, 1901; Passed: March 27, 1901; At Brother Roosevelt's Initiation ceremony, there were 400 members present and more than twice that number unable to get into the building. (Masonic Standard, 1901) It was said that during his degrees, he knew the work so well that "he corrected those conducting the examination when they erred." (Hammond, 1992) "In 1902, Brother Roosevelt gave a Masonic speech at the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania's 150th Anniversary celebration of George Washington's initiation. "In 1903, he spoke at the Grand Lodge of District of Columbia's cornerstone laying of the Army War College. Also in 1903, he assisted at the cornerstone laying of the new Masonic Temple in Tacoma, Washington and broke ground for a Masonic temple in Spokane, Washington. "In 1906, he spoke at the cornerstone laying for the office building of the U.S. House of Representatives. "In 1907, he spoke at the Grand Lodge of D.C.'s cornerstone laying for the new Masonic Temple in D.C., as well as speaking during the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts' cornerstone laying of the Pilgrim Memorial Monument at Provincetown. "After his Presidency, he apparently made Masonic contacts in Africa, as well as in South America in 1913 and 1914. "In 1917, he spoke at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York. (Walker, 1958)

The regalia worn in the Masonic photograph of Brother Roosevelt seen here belonged to Spokane Lodge No. 34, F.& A. M., Washington. Roosevelt consented to pose for the picture in the main lodge room of Oriental Lodge No. 74 on July 12, 1912. (Tatsch, 1926)

Other 2	Theodore Roosevelt was a very sickly child who became extremely athletic as an adult, due to his father who "fitted up a gymnasium in the basement of the home and informed the lad, 'you have brains, but you have a sickly body. In order to make your brains bring you what they ought, you must build up your body; it depends on you.' It was said of him in later life that no other boy enfeebled by a distressing chronic disease, resolved as did he to conquer such a weakness by a wisely planned and unceasing course of exercises. Roosevelt became in time a man of powerful physique." (Delzell, 1932) "Few presidents have reflected the dominant temper of their times as vividly as Theodore Roosevelt. Both America and Roosevelt at the turn of the century were prosperous, confident, energetic, expansionist and experimentally minded. He established the principle that the people
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of the United States, acting through their government, have a right to regulate the private economy in the public interest...Probably nobody ever enjoyed being president more than Roosevelt. As a public figure he was part symbol, part caricature." [His refusal to shoot a bear cub became the start of the "Teddy bear"] "...a staple of American childhoods ever since. He could be bellicose and self-infatuated, but his views on any topic were delivered in a refreshingly unambiguous fashion. His laugh was unique, 'a hearty 'ah!' that roared from behind his famous clenched teeth.

"...He disgusted some critics by the difference between his radical rhetoric and his expedient performance. His penchant for impulsive actions and his bullying of small nations and individuals too helpless to reply infuriated others. Historians, by and large, however, are impressed with the new spirit he brought to the federal government and with the legislative achievements that laid the groundwork for the solution of many modern problems." (GLPA, 1998)

Other 3

During his political career, Theodore Roosevelt fought "for the conservation of natural resources. He was the First President to win a Nobel Peace Prize, ride in an auto, visit a foreign country while in office, fly in a plane, explore Africa and South America, represent the United States at a British monarch's funeral and appoint a Secretary of Commerce and Labor.

"...Roosevelt opened the Army War College; prosecuted or regulated monopolistic trusts, created the Census Bureau; continued the Chinese Exclusion Act to protect labor; repealed Spanish-American War taxes; aided Cuba's first presidential installation; encouraged Federal building of irrigation dams; gave amnesty to Philippine insurrectionists; appointed Oliver Wendell Holmes to the Supreme Court; settled coal strikes; ended the Franco-German war threat in Morocco; and squashed...Germany's Monroe Doctrine violation in blockading Venezuelan ports." (Hubbard, 1971)

Other 4

"Roosevelt...completed Pacific cables to Guam, Honolulu, Manila and Tokyo; arbitrated boundary, water, and fishing rights disputes with Great Britain and Canada; signed Cuban treaties for Commerce and Guantanamo Base; congratulated the Wrights for their Kitty Hawk flights; sent Gorgas to Panama to end yellow fever; named Taft Secretary of War; demanded 'neutrality and administrative integrity' for China as the Russo-Japanese War erupted; established pensions for Mexican and Civil War veterans; rescued an American citizen from a Morocco brigand...; urged Hague peace conferences; helped Santo Domingo to financial stability; opened Lewis and Clark Exposition; sponsored the Portsmouth Treaty between Japanese and Russians; secured delegate to Congress from Alaska; granted I.C.C. rate-making powers; started constructing Navy dreadnaughts; passed Meat Inspection and Pure Food and Drug Acts; name Goethals to build a lock-type canal; landed Marines in Honduras to protect American lives; opened Jamestown Tercentenary Exposition; admitted Oklahoma to the Union; established the F.B.I.; signed 21 arbitration treaties;...sent the 'Great White Fleet' around the world on a peace mission; barred non-medical opium importation; reorganized consular services; acquired Samoa; and began the use of 'In God We Trust' on America's coins....Roosevelt, a pro-American and law-and-order man, believed in a public schools system and the sole use of the English language." (Hubbard, 1971)

Other 5

In 1895, as President of the then-corrupt Police Board, Roosevelt "abolished at once the system of admission and promotion by pay or influence; he stood by his men when influential wrong-doers

attempted to discredit them for doing their duty. Within six months he had put new spirit into the force and brought the law once more into repute. But in so doing he had stirred the anger of the politicians of both parties and of all the sinister forces which depended for their livelihood on vice and crime. His motives were misrepresented, his methods were ridiculed...the newspapers attacked him savagely...'It is a grimy struggle, but a vital one,' he wrote at the time...to one of his sisters, 'The battle for decent government must be won by just such interminable, grimy drudgery.'" (Hagedorn, 1919)

Other 6

In 1898, Roosevelt "offered his services to the President [Brother William McKinley] in raising the cavalry regiments which Congress authorized...Early in May the Rough Riders, as they were nicknamed, began to gather from all parts of the country, at San Antonio, Texas...Six weeks after the regiment was organized, it stood trained and equipped on the firing line outside of Santiago de Cuba, " (Hagedorn, 1919) during Cuba's war for freedom from Spain.

Quotes 1

"One of the things that attracted me so greatly in Masonry that I hailed the chance of becoming a Mason, was that it did really live up to what we as a government are pledged to - of treating each man on his merits and as a man. When Brother George Washington went into a Lodge of the Fraternity...he went into the one place where the idea of our government was realized as far as it is humanly possible for mankind to realize a lofty ideal. And I know that you will...sympathize with me, when I say that great though my pleasure is in meeting you here as your guest in this beautiful temple...I think my pleasure would be even greater in going into some little lodge where I meet the plain, hard-working men - men who work with their hands - and meet them on a footing of genuine equality...depending on each man to be a decent man and fair-dealing Mason.

"Masonry should make...each man who conscientiously...takes its obligations the best type of American citizenship, because Masonry teaches him his obligations to his fellows in a practical fashion. Masonry teaches and fosters more than the qualities of self-respect and self-help; the qualities that make a man fit to stand by himself, and yet it must foster in everyone who appreciates it as it should be appreciated the beautiful and solemn ritual; it must foster in him a genuine feeling for the rights of others." (Roosevelt, 1902)

Quotes 2

"I violate no secret when I say that one of the greatest values in Masonry is that it affords an opportunity for men in all walks of life to meet on common ground, where all men are equal and have one common interest. For example, when I was President, the Master of my Lodge was Brother Doughty, gardener on the estate of one of my neighbors, and a most excellent public spirited citizen, with whom I liked to come in contact. Clearly I could not call upon him when I came home - it would have embarrassed him - neither could he, without embarrassment, call on me. In the lodge it was different. He was over me, though I was President, and it was good for him and good for me.

"I go to the Lodge, and even the folks who do not belong to or believe in the order, rather like it that I should go. They seem to feel it's part of the eternal fitness of things. Whenever I return from one of my journeys I always go there to tell of the Lodges I have visited, in Africa, in Trinidad, or in the quaint little Lodge I found away up on the Ascuncion River. They sort of feel I am their representative to these Lodges and they like it. There's a real community of interest...That is the way to make people work together. Get them on common ground, get them together through some interest in common. There social lines fade out and you get results." (Roosevelt, published

1926)

Image

From the Museum Collection;

Copyright Hagen's Studio, Spokane, April 11, 1949;

Used in Life Magazine, March 26, 1949

Note: This photograph, showing him as Master of the Lodge, was a staged portrayal.

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Name and Title

j. President William H. Taft  
Twenty-seventh President of the United States, 1909 - 1913;  
(1909; 1910; 1911; 1912; 1913)

William Howard Taft was "Made a Mason at Sight" as the President-elect, after having wanted to join for over a year.

During his term as President he was often in attendance at Masonic Lodges. As he traveled over the country he addressed many Masonic functions. (Fellowship Forum, 1930)

Political Office

Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court; 1921; 1922; 1923; 1924; 1925; 1926; 1927; 1928; 1929; 1930 (appointed Chief Justice by President Harding);

Secretary of War; (appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt); 1903; 1904; 1905; 1906; 1907; 1908

Lodge

"Occasional Lodge"; Scottish Rite Cathedral [Degrees exemplified by Kilwinning Lodge No. 356]

Town and State	Cincinnati; OH
Affiliated Lodge	Kilwinning Lodge No. 356; Cincinnati; OH
Name Number Town and State	(Brother Taft petitioned for affiliation on February 18, 1909, the same day he was raised. He was elected to membership of Kilwinning Lodge No. 356 on April 14, 1909.) Honorary Member; Crescent Lodge No. 25; Cedar Rapids; IA (June 5, 1918) (Palmer Templegram, 1930)
Born	1857, September 15
Raised	1909, February 18
Died	1930, March 8
Other 1	<p>William Howard Taft graduated from Yale in 1878. He was appointed Judge of Superior Court at Cincinnati in 1887 and re-elected to the position in 1888. In 1890, he was appointed as Solicitor General, representing the government in all cases which came before the Supreme Court. (Duffy, 1930)</p> <p>In 1892, Brother Taft was appointed to the Federal Circuit Court in Ohio. In 1900, United States President and Brother William McKinley appointed William Taft to be the head of the Second Philippine Commission. He was charged with the task of creating a civil government in the Philippine Islands, after the open rebellion against Spain which had begun after the execution of beloved Philippine and Brother Jose Rizal on December 30, 1896.</p> <p>After much hesitation, Brother Taft accepted the appointment, leaving the post of Federal judge that he loved. The difficult task of subduing the rebellious factions and set up a government was complicated, but was carefully managed by Taft's legal mind. Two hundred and forty-eight laws were passed during the first year of the Commission, as "they slowly constructed out of chaos a functioning governmental machine." The people of the Philippines grew to love Taft, and "went wild with joy" when he returned to them after a leave of absence to attend hearings in Washington and to travel to Rome to discuss with the Pope the issues facing the Church in the Philippines.</p> <p>When, in 1902, President Roosevelt offered him a position on the United States Supreme Court, one of Taft's life-long ambitions, Brother Taft reluctantly declined, deciding that conditions in the Philippines were not yet stable enough for him to leave. In February of 1903, Roosevelt's desire to have Taft back in Washington resulted in his offering Taft the post of Secretary of War, which he accepted, as the situation in the Philippines was finally stable enough for a successor to take up the work. In 1905, Roosevelt again offered Taft a position on the Supreme Court, but Taft again refused, believing the work he was involved in as Secretary of War would suffer if he were to leave at that juncture. Taft was sent to Cuba, to help regulate a transfer of power, which resulted in Taft assuming control of Cuba for a short time until Roosevelt could appoint a Provisional Governor. Roosevelt had also given the task of overseeing the negotiations to create the Panama Canal to Taft. When Roosevelt's time as President was drawing to an end, he was divided between supporting Elihu Root, his Secretary of State or William Taft, his Secretary of War, as the next Republican candidate for President. He chose Taft, based on his popularity. (Duffy, 1930)</p>
Other 2	During his Presidency, Brother William Howard Taft "alienated [his former ally, President Roosevelt, as well as] many liberal Republicans who later formed the Progressive Party, by defending the Payne-Aldrich Act which unexpectedly continued high tariff rates. A trade agreement with Canada, which Taft pushed through Congress, would have pleased eastern

advocates of a low tariff, but the Canadians rejected it. He further antagonized Progressives by upholding his Secretary of the Interior, accused of failing to carry out Roosevelt's conservation policies. In the angry Progressive onslaught against him, little attention was paid to the fact that his administration initiated 80 antitrust suits and that Congress submitted to the states amendments for a Federal income tax and the direct election of Senators. A postal savings system was established, and the Interstate Commerce Commission was directed to set railroad rates. In 1912, when the Republicans renominated Taft, Roosevelt bolted the party to lead the Progressives, thus guaranteeing the election of Woodrow Wilson." (The White House, 2009)

"During his four years as President, [Taft] appointed six [Supreme Court] justices, [and] the excellence of his judicial appointment has been universally recognized." (Duffy, 1930)

After serving as President, Brother Taft worked as a Professor of Law at Yale University from 1913 to 1921 (1913; 1914; 1915; 1916; 1917; 1918; 1919; 1920; 1921), at which time he accepted appointment by President and Brother Warren G. Harding to serve as Chief Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States. (Tri-State Mason, 1930)

Other 3

"Making a Mason at sight means that the balloting is dispensed with and the three degrees are conferred consecutively without the necessity of examination on the catechism... [At the ceremony which made William Howard Taft a Freemason, ] Grand Masters from 18 states attended. The General Grand Chapter was represented by its General Grand High Priest; [the] Grand Master...of the Grand Encampment; five active members of the Northern Supreme Council were there [and] 302 of the 514 Masters of Ohio lodges were present." (Royal Arch Mason, 1956)

Brother Taft had chosen Kilwinning Lodge No. 356 because it was the same Lodge that his father, Judge Alphonse Taft, had belonged to. Additionally, Brother Taft's desire to join Kilwinning Lodge No. 356 over any other was that, in 1871, his father had raised William's two brothers, Charles P. Taft and Peter Taft, into the lodge.

Having won the Presidency, William Taft's "time immediately after the...election had been highly occupied with public business matters which kept him away from the city, so it was impossible to confer the degrees in the usual manner, which would have required at least two weeks between degrees. When President-elect Taft was returning home from a trip to Panama, it was learned he would be in Cincinnati for a day or two. Accordingly a petition was signed...requesting [Grand Master Charles S. Hoskinson] to exercise the extraordinary prerogative vested in him as Grand Master by making this splendid and learned gentleman a Master Mason 'at sight' during the time of his brief visit to the city." (Brown, September, 1934)

Other 4

After the ceremonies, "the degree team of Kilwinning Lodge...that evening present[ed] a drama entitled, 'The Widow's Son.'" Brother Taft inscribed upon the flyleaf of an new morocco-bound Bible, used in the ceremonies, "To Grand Master Hoskinson, with the gratitude and fraternal good wishes of William H. Taft, made a Master mason February 18, 1909." (O.R., 1930)

Other 5

"William Howard Taft, A.B., LL., LL. D., D. C. L., ...was an honorary member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, and of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution." (Brown, July 1934)

Other 6

Brother Taft's funeral was held at his church, the All Soul's Unitarian Church, in Washington, D.C. During the funeral, his pastor, Dr. Ulysses G. Pierce, "called attention to the former President's favorite Bible verse, (found in the sixth chapter of Micah), as follows: 'What doth the



Lord require of thee, but do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God?'  
"From the church the body was carried to Arlington...Mr. Taft is the first President to be buried in the National Cemetery and the second to be buried in Washington. (President Wilson is buried in the National Episcopal Cathedral..) The catafalque on which the coffin was placed while in the Capitol is said to be the same used for President Lincoln. Subsequently the same honors were accorded to Presidents Garfield, McKinley and Harding." The Fellowship Forum, 1930)

#### Quotes 1

"My brethren (applause and cheers), I have stood in many presences and have felt embarrassed at the lack of anything appropriate to say, but never have I stood in any presence with such fear of saying something inappropriate. The territory into which you have led me was until now a terra incognita (unknown territory), and I lift my foot in hesitation as to where to plant it. There is one consideration, however, which gives me confidence - the consciousness that many years ago my father stood in the same place and expressed his love and admiration for the fraternity.

"I can only envy my brother in Masonry (his brother was Charles P. Taft), and in the fact that it was given to him to be received under the auspices of that good old man. I would feel strange among this assemblage but for the fact that numerous members are present with whom I have had close relationship in daily life, which has robbed me of the terrors of initiation which otherwise it would have had for me.

"And I am grateful at the presence of my three classmates from distant cities who came for the ceremonies, showing the attachment of the members for the fraternity, and I am indeed grateful to them. I thank you and congratulate myself upon being one of you, and I am very grateful for being received among you." (Taft, 1909)

#### Quotes 2

"I always come into the presence of a Masonic body with a feeling deeply apologetic, on looking into the faces of men who were put through a character-making experience, before they were permitted to become Master Masons; for I was taken in, as the saying is, at sight. Therefore, at times I have felt as if I could not be inspired with the proper Masonic feeling. And yet I think that those who made an exception in my behalf, after all, had the right idea, - that it really made little difference whether the agony of preparation and the purgatory through which one ought to pass before coming into the heaven of Masonry came a little afterward, rather than before; for I was about to enter upon the presidential office, and if there is any greater agony of spirit than a man goes through in that service, I have never been made aware of it.

"...My father was Master of Kilwinning Lodge, and my brothers were before me, and I feel, therefore, as if I had breathed a family atmosphere of Masonry, in spite of my lack of the normal preparation.

"Since becoming a Mason it has been my good fortune to be in all parts of this country, and to attend the lodges in most sections. Living in the White House, near Alexandria, I had the great honor of having the Master of that lodge bring Washington's apron up to me, and by lengthening out the ribbons to wear it for a few honorable moments.

[This apron he wore is called the 'Watson and Cassoul apron.' Washington's Masonic letter thanking Watson and Cassoul for the apron is part of the holdings of the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Masonic Library of Grand Lodge. Images and data relating to this letter can be seen in the Museum Highlights Collection in the Online Museum.]

"Masonry is democratic, in that it insists upon equality of opportunity. It is not democratic in that it insists that we are all equal, whether we have the same character, the same experience, the

same ability, the same spirit of self-sacrifice. That kind of inequality is essential, if we are going to have progress. In that respect one man is better than another, and the rewards that come from that inequality are the rewards that stimulate action among men to become better men. When you have a dead level of man, when you have no recognized leadership, then you have stagnation and no progress. Respect for authority, respect for leadership, is essential, if we are to have progress, and it is more essential in a republic than it is in a monarchy...Such an organization as this, one with high ideals, one that seeks comradeship, one with a view of standing together for the best, is a body that can exert its influence throughout the country, and is doing so, for the betterment of the individual and so the betterment of the community."

#### Image

From the Biography Files;

Reproduction of a photograph taken (at the Executive Mansion in Washington D.C., [Brown, July 1934]) on May 9, 1911 and printed in "The Royal Arch Mason", 1950s, as part of an article titled, "How William Howard Taft was made a Freemason, " written by an unknown author.

Note:

President Taft is shown wearing President George Washington's "Watson and Cassoul" apron and sash, and holding Washington's trowel. The letter that Washington wrote to Watson and Cassoul to thank them for this apron belongs to this Library and Museum and can be seen in detail on the website in the 'Highlights of the Museum' sub-collection.

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Name and Title	<p>k. President Warren G. Harding</p> <p>Twenty-ninth President of the United States, 1921 - 1923 (1921; 1922; 1923)</p> <p>While Brother Harding never filled any Masonic office, he became a Master Mason after having been chosen as the Republican candidate for President.</p> <p>As President-elect, he became a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite 32nd Degree. He joined the Knights Templar on March 1, 1921, three days before taking the oath of office of President of the United States.</p>
Political Office	<p>United States Senator from Ohio; 1915; 1916; 1917; 1918; 1919; 1920; Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio; 1904; 1905; Ohio State Senator; 1900; 1901; 1902; 1903; Marion County Auditor; 1895</p>
Lodge	<p>Marion Lodge No. 70</p>
Town and State	<p>Marion; Ohio</p>

Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	RoyalArch; Marion Chapter No. 62; January 11th and 13th, 1921 Honorary Member; Columbia Chapter No. 1; DC
Royal and Select Masters Council Name and Number	RoyalAndSelectMasters: Marion Council No. 22; He was elected to receive the degrees but died before they could be conferred.
Knights Templar Commandery Name and Number	KnightsTemplar; Marion Commandery No. 36; March 1; 1921 Honorary Member: Columbia Commandery No. 2; Washington; DC; March 4, 1921
Mystic Shrine Name	MysticShrine; Aladdin Temple; January 7, 1921 Honorary Member; Almas Temple; DC; March 21, 1921
Scottish Rite Degree and Consistory Name	ScottishRite; 32; January 5; 1921; Scotio Consistory; elected on September 22, 1921 to receive the 33rd degree, however, he died before receiving the degree.
Affiliated Lodge Title and Year	Honorary Member; Albert Pike Lodge No. 36; Washington; DC; May 4, 1921; Washington Centennial Lodge No. 14; Washington; DC (Now Washington Daylight Lodge No. 14); February 16, 1922; America Lodge No. 3368; London; England
Born	1865, November 2
Raised	1920, August 27
Died	1923, August 2
Other 1	Warren Gamaliel Harding was born into a large family that lived on a farm. As a child, he worked on the farm. He was the oldest of eight children, and when his father, who was a doctor, became part-owner of a local weekly paper, the 'Argus', Warren worked at the print shop. When he was fourteen, he went to college, graduating three years later in 1882. He tried working in a few different professions, those of school teacher, law student and insurance salesman but was then hired by a newspaper. Shortly thereafter, he convinced "two unemployed friends to purchase with him for \$300 a newspaper, the 'Marion Star.' " He brought the paper from "a bankrupt daily into an independent, profitable and influential newspaper." (Hubbard, 1971) President Warren G. Harding "lived the classic story of a farm boy ascending to the presidency, a successful newspaper publisher who rose through state politics to be elected to the United States Senate in 1914. In 1920, as a dark horse candidate, Harding won the Republican nomination for president, [promising a 'return to normalcy'] and went on the win a landslide victory in November." (Payne, 1971)
Other 2	"Harding was the first President to go to his inauguration in an automobile; to be a newspaper publisher and honored in the Hall of Fame as a distinguished Ohio journalist; to visit Canada while in office; to speak on radio; to tour Alaska; to watch demonstrations of warship sinkings by United States Aviation Service bombers; to vacation, swim, fish and golf at Miami, and to be survived by his father.  "Despite a short White House term, Harding corrected irregularities in the Veterans' Bureau he established; set first immigration quotas; signed treaties with Austria, Columbia, Hungary and Japan; created the United States Budget Bureau; scheduled protective tariffs to benefit labor and manufacturers; dedicated the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Lincoln Memorial; refused recognition of Soviet Communist government; declared end to war with Germany; urged

industry to lower the 12-hour work day; protested the increase in Japanese forces in Siberia; named General Leonard Wood to be Governor of the Philippines; called Unemployment Conference; established the Narcotics Control Board; sent United States observers to Lausanne Oil Conference; ended a railway strike [and] convened a nine-nation Limitation of Armaments Conference in Washington resulting in the Five-Power Treaty by France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and the United States." (Hubbard, 1971)

Other 3

"In 1923, while convalescing from influenza, Harding embarked on a 'voyage of understanding,' a transcontinental rail trip and sea voyage to Alaska...The many public appearances and speeches, coupled with news seeping through that some of his subordinates had betrayed the integrity of his administration had left him depressed and exhausted. Returning to San Francisco, he suffered a coronary attack and bronchial pneumonia, " and died shortly thereafter. (Hubbard, 1971)

"A great outpouring of grief swept the country as a train carried Harding's body back to Washington and then to Marion...

"He was hailed for successfully calming the nation after World War I, restoring effective government after the ratification fight over the Treaty of Versailles, and promoting international peace through the Washington Conference, which resulted in a series of arms limitation treaties.

"Yet Harding is remembered today more as an embarrassment to the office of the presidency than for his achievements...Revelations of fiscal scandals, favoritism, and irregularities in his private life that emerged after his death cast into question his achievements and revealed his weaknesses." (Payne, 2000) Three of Harding's appointments became infamous for corruption. But "the accomplishments that supporters could have used to offset the scandals were neglected in favor of slogans and anecdotes. Harding's reputation suffered from an extended degradation...Gary Alan Fine places the source of Harding's poor reputation with... people exploiting the scandals for profit, and with people who used Harding's shortcomings to critique 'the nation that elected him.'" (Payne, 2000)

Other 4

"The names and services of our Presidents are a testimony to all the world that the plain, common people can be trusted, while showing what kind of men a democracy can discover and develop. Most of the great Presidents revealed their greatness after the wise ones wondered why they had been elected. What was then the future and now the past has vindicated the intuition of the nation, in an almost miraculous manner.

"Into this great tradition of honor and service came President Harding, at a time of disillusion and confusion, in the wake of a gigantic war, when the world was feverish and almost fanatical with shell-shock; a quiet, gently-hearted man, of fraternal instincts and humanitarian sentiments, having the wisdom of patience and the patience of love; conservative, conciliatory, seeking to plant seeds in the good soil of understanding; friendly of spirit, gracious of temper, faithful of heart; a man of haunting sympathy and healing goodwill; a small-town man, who loved all kind of folk, at once our neighbor and our President; honored for his character, beloved for his simple, unveneered humanity, and to be remembered as a man in whom the spirit of our Republic revealed itself as a great Friendship." (Short Talk Bulletin, 1923)

Other 5

Brother Harding was initiated on June 28, 1901 and was passed, nineteen years later, on August 13, 1920.

Associate honorary member, Imperial Council of the Shrine; June, 1923;

Member, Kallipolis Grotto M. O. V. P. E. R.; The degrees were conferred on him at the White House; May 11, 1921;

Member, Evergreen Forest No. 29, Tall Cedars of Lebanon; June 9, 1923 (Denslow, 1958)

Other 6

"On May 12, 1921, [Brother Harding] addressed the National League of Masonic Clubs in Washington at the Willard Hotel. On October 26, 1921, he laid the cornerstone of the Masonic Temple at Birmingham, Alabama. On July 8, 1923, he laid the cornerstone of Ketchikan, Alaska. On August 2, 1923, he was scheduled to deliver an address to Hollywood Commandery No. 56, on the occasion of the presentation to them by his own commandery, Marion No. 36, of the International Traveling Beauseant. He was on death's doorstep, and his secretary, Sir Knight George B. Christian, delivered the address. This was his last message to the American People. He died on August 2, 1923 and on August 8, the body was conducted from the White House to the Capital with the six commanderies of Knights Templar of Washington, D.C. being in the funeral cortege. The asphalt container in which his body was placed was the gift of Boumi Shrine Temple of Baltimore, Md." (Denslow, 1958)

Quotes 1

"I have been a better citizen for being a Mason. There is nothing in Masonry that a free, religious and just American could not be proud to subscribe to, and be a better citizen for so doing."

(Harding, at the cornerstone laying in Birmingham, Alabama, printed in Denslow, 1958)

"No man ever took the oaths and subscribed to the obligations with greater watchfulness and care than I exercised in receiving the various rites of Masonry; and I say it with due deliberation and without fear of breaking faith, I have never encountered a lesson, never witnessed and example, never heard an obligation uttered, which could not be openly proclaimed to the world. More, if the lessons taught were heeded, if the obligations read were assumed, if the relationships urged were adopted, men would be infinitely better in their relationships.

"There is an honest and righteous and just fraternal life in America. It embraces millions of men and women, and a hundred fraternal organizations extend their influence into more than a third of American homes, and make ours a better Republic for their influence. Fraternity is inherent in man. It is our obligation to make the most of it for human betterment...In the lodge room there is moulded what becomes public opinion, and contributes to the moving forces of developing civilization.

"I wish somehow we could have fraternity among nations, as it is taught in America among men. I do not mean to employ sign, grip and password, which afford an appealing mystery to our relationship, but the insistent demand for just dealing, the respect for the rights of others, and the ideals of brotherhood recited in the Golden Rule, and the righteous fellow-relationship which every man knows his God approves. Under such a reign of fraternity cruel human warfare will never come again." (Harding, addressing the Imperial Council of the Shrine, printed in The Short Talk Bulletin, 1923)

Quotes 2

"Sir Knights: It seems for a moment as though Masonry must have been designed for my helpfulness at this particular time. If I have had a thought that I believed was my own, in all sincerity of a man's soul I believe that I have had the thought of approaching my great responsibility [of President of the United States] in great humility and faith, and I come tonight to the temple of this splendid knighthood and find it teaching me and emphasizing those things I have been thinking. And so I have come to the new assurance and new confidence in the knowledge that the manhood of America which bears the stamp of Masonry is back of me.



"... I am mindful tonight that three days hence I am to take an oath - a solemn one, one that no man can approach without solemn thought [that of the United States President]. I mean to take that obligation to defend and preserve in humility and faith, and in love of truth. I want your help. I want you to realize that the next administration of the greatest land on earth is yours, not mine; it's that of one hundred million, and I want the help of all of them." (Harding, addressing the Knights Templar, Marion Commandery No. 36, after having the Order of the Temple conferred upon him, three days before his inauguration as United States President, printed in The Short Talk Bulletin, 1923)

Image

Image of a photograph printed without a photographer credit in the periodical "Almas Alibi, " August, 1923, pg. 142. It shows President Harding reviewing the Shriners parade during the Imperial Council Convention held in Washington, D.C. during the first week of June, 1923. The hat he is wearing is from Aladdin Shrine, of which he was a member.

References

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Warren G. Harding, The Short Talk Bulletin of the Masonic Service Association of the United States; published by the Masonic Service Association of the United States, Vol. 1; No. 9, September, 1923



Name and Title

I. President Franklin D. Roosevelt

Thirty-first President of the United States, 1933 - 1945

(1933; 1934; 1935; 1936; 1937; 1938; 1939; 1940; 1941; 1942; 1943; 1944; 1945)

Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, near the Grand Lodge of New York; 1930, September 22.

Raised his son Elliott in Architect Lodge No. 519, New York, NY; February 17, 1933;

Raised his two sons, James and Franklin D., Jr., in Architect Lodge No. 519, New York, NY; November 7, 1935

Political Office

Governor of New York State; 1929; 1930; 1931; 1932; Assistant Secretary of the Navy; 1913; 1914;

	1915; 1916; 1917; 1918; 1919; 1920; Senator of New York State; 1910; 1911; 1912; 1913
Lodge	Holland Lodge No. 8
Town and State	New York; NY
Mystic Shrine Name	MysticShrine: Cyprus Temple; Albany, NY; March, 1930; Honorary membership: Almas Temple, Washington, D.C.; May 26, 1933
Scottish Rite Degree and Consistory Name	ScottishRite: 32; February 28, 1929; Albany Consistory; NY
Grand Lodge Office and Year	GrandLodge-Office: Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia near the Grand Lodge of New York; 1932; 1933; 1934; 1935; 1936; 1937; 1938; 1939; 1940; 1941; 1942; 1943; 1944; 1945
Affiliated Lodge Name Number Town and State	Honorary Membership: Architect Lodge No. 519, New York, NY; November 7, 1935  "Literally hundreds of offers to make the President an Honorary Member of Masonic organizations were made to the White House. In a number of instances, the President accepted, but the standard response to hundreds of offers was: 'The President has adhered strictly to a course of not accepting honorary memberships in any organization with whose work he is not actively associated. The Shriners...did not make an offer of honorary membership, but just did it and then sent F.D.R. a letter and/or a card stating that the President was an honorary member. Below is a partial list of honorary memberships given to the President... "Stansbury Lodge No. 24, Washington, D.C.; 1919; Honorary Grand [Councilor], The Grand Council of the Order of DeMolay; 1934; Independent Royal Arch Lodge No. 2, New York, NY; 1942; Honorary Grand Master of Masons in the State of Georgia; Theodore Roosevelt Lodge No. 661, A.F. & A. M., St. Louis, Mo.; March, 1933; Manhattan Club, New York, NY; January 12, 1933; Al Bahr Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; San Diego, Ca., 1933; Almas Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Washington, D.C.; May 26, 1933; Mirza Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Pittsburg, Kan.; 1933; India Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; John Hancock Lodge No. 70; New York; NY; Pasedena Pyramid No. 44, Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots; February 12, 1934; Tebala Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Rockford, Ill.; 1935; Zor Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Madison, Wis.; Masonic Stamp Club, New York, NY; 1935; Ben Hur Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Austin, Tex.; 1935; Austin Order No. 16, Sword of Bunker Hill, Chicago, Ill.; November 1935; Ancient and Effervescent Order of Yellow Dogs of Texas; April, 1936; Arabia Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Houston, Tex.; 1936; Washington Centennial Lodge No. 14, Washington, D.C.; 1937; Maskat Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Wichita Falls, Tex.; 1938; Eno Lodge No. 20, A. F. & A. M., Durham, N.C.; 1940; Karnek Temple, A.A.O.N.M.S., Montreal, Quebec, Canada; 1941; Honorary Chairman of Grand Chapter, R.A.M. of New York, for Committee for Benefit of Tubercular Relief (Ress, 1973)
Associated Artifacts	Please see P64-71 in the Photograph Collection to view the image and history of Franklin Delano Roosevelt raising his sons James and Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Jr., at Architect Lodge No. 519, New York, NY on November 7, 1935
Born	1882, January 30
Raised	1911, November 28
Died	1945, April 12
Other 1	Franklin Delano Roosevelt was born in Hyde Park, Dutchess County, New York. "The early life of Bro. Roosevelt was ideal in...its opportunities to 'learn by doing' and in the stern teaching of

personal devotion to duty. Even those who know him best often wonder that one man can so perfectly understand the viewpoint of the dirt farmer and the city laborer, the man in the street and the one in high places - and can so quietly, impartially, firmly, uphold the rights of each and achieve a fair deal for all....As a boy, young Franklin roamed the woods, read in the well-stocked library, rode horseback and took a child's eager interest in all that pertained to the management of a large and prosperous farm...At the age of fourteen, he sailed his own 21-foot boat across the Bay of Fundy and learned navigation by experience as well as theory. He traveled abroad, cycling from country to country and showing such interest in all about him that once, in Germany, he was arrested four times during one day. At school, he broke athletic records...Early taught by his illustrious cousin [Brother and U.S. President] Theodore [Roosevelt] that good citizenship demands both an interest in politics and an active share in its burdens, he used his position as editor of the college paper to preach this doctrine." (The Kraftsman, 1932)

Franklin Delano Roosevelt "graduated from Harvard with an A.B. degree in 1904 and attended Columbia University Law School from 1904 to 1907 [1904; 1905; 1906; 1907]. Admitted to the New York State Bar in 1907, he practiced law with Carter, Ledyard & Milburn in New York City until 1910; then joined the firm of Roosevelt and O'Conner in 1924. F. D. R. was elected to the New York Senate in 1910 from his home District, Dutchess, which was...overwhelmingly Republican. He resigned on March 17, 1913 to become Assistant Secretary of the Navy and served until 1920. He was the Democratic nominee for Vice-President of the United States in 1920. Then, on August 12, 1921, he contracted 'infantile paralysis, ' which left him partially paralyzed the remainder of his life. F.D.R. was elected Governor of New York State twice, 1929-1933. He was elected President of the United States in 1932, 1936, 1940 and 1944, having served in that office longer than any other man, for a total of 12 years plus." (Ress, 1973)

Other 2

"Governor Roosevelt, who next Sunday will be initiated into the Loyal Order of Moose couldn't recall today to how many organizations he belonged. It 's an impressive list, and of fraternal orders includes the Masons, the Odd Fellows, Elks, and Eagles. The Governor wears the key of the Phi Beta Kappa...and also is a member of Alpha Delta Phi....[His] clubs are the Harvard, Knickerbocker and Century. He has memberships in half a dozen golf and country clubs in several states. He belongs, also, to the Naval History Society and the New York Historical Society. The Governor is a trustee of Vassar College, St. Stephens College and Cornell University. He formerly was an overseer of Harvard, his alma mater. He is a trustee and one of the founders of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and he is a trustee and has been head of the Seamen's Institute. The Boy Scout foundation of New York and the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation have him as president." (Gloversville (N.Y.) Leader, 1932)

Other 3

Initiated: October 10, 1911; Passed: November 14, 1911;  
Member of Greenwood Forest, Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Warwick, NY;  
Made a Prophet at Sight and Life Member of Tri-Po-Bed Grotto in Poughkeepsie, NY by Grand Monarch, Charles C. Minsinger who traveled from Portland, Oregon to confer the honor on the (then) Governor. "Robert Stevens was Monarch at the time and he later became Mayor of Poughkeepsie. U.S. Congressman Hamilton Fish, Sr., and State Senator J. G. Webb were in attendance. There were 65 candidates in the class that evening, among them Henry Morgenthau, Jr., (then New York State Conservation Commissioner), and State Trooper Sergeant Earl R. Miller, Governor Roosevelt's personal bodyguard. Miller later became Warden of Dannemora State

Prison, and subsequently Chief Inspector of Prison Guards in New York State." (Ress, 1973) In 1933, August A. Gennerich, then personal bodyguard of then President-elect Roosevelt, and a member of Architect Lodge No. 519, proposed Elliot Roosevelt for membership, and in 1935, proposed both Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr. and James Roosevelt for membership. John A. Roosevelt joined Triune Lodge No. 782 in 1953, eight years after the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and was raised on November 25, 1953.

Other 4 "Masons in President Roosevelt's Cabinet: Hon. Bro. Claude A. Swanson, Secretary of the Navy; Hon. Bro. Henry A Wallace, Secretary of Agriculture; Hon. Bro. Daniel C. Roper, Secretary of Commerce; Hon. Bro. George H. Dern, Secretary of War , and Hon. Bro. Homer S. Cummings, Attorney General." (Outlook, 1933)

Other 5 Brother Roosevelt spoke at the laying of the cornerstone of the Masonic Temple of Stansbury Lodge No. 24, Washington, D.C., on November 21, 1919, at which "the Grand Master, F.D.R., General J. Pershing and P.M. Benjamin W. Summy each spread a trowelful of cement for the occasion....[At that event] Roosevelt stated, "I am proud to say that no family in the country, as a whole, is more closely identified with Masonry, that the Roosevelt family." (Ress, 1973) Franklin Delano Roosevelt also spoke on "Constitution Day, " at a special communication of Jephtha Lodge No. 494, Huntington, NY, on September 17, 1931. At that event, F.D.R....declared, '...The fundamentals of good citizenship are to be found in Masonry.' " (Ress, 1973)

Quotes 1 "Architect Lodge has made me very happy. Let me say from my heart that tonight has meant very much to me. All my life I shall cherish the thought of coming here to Architect Lodge tonight to take part in the world of the Third Degree for my own sons. And, of course, this last act of you good people in making me an Honorary Member, giving opportunity to be a member of the same lodge to which my boys belong--that is something I shall never forget.

"To me the ceremonies of Freemasonry in this State of ours, especially these later ones that I have taken part in, always make me wish that more Americans...could become connected with our Fraternity.

"Since I have seen you last I have travelled in many foreign lands. I have come in contact with Brother Masons throughout this country, and I have seen the splendid work that Masonry is doing for our fellowmen. I have seen that same work in our distant possessions, in our territories; I have seen it even in those lands in the Pacific to which I have travelled during these past two years.

"The more I come in contact with the work of the Masonic Fraternity the more impressed I am by the great charitable work and the great practical good which we are carrying out, especially in that line which is so close to my heart--the care of little children.

"Not only that work, but also in acting as a leaven for a better society and better citizenship wherever it may be. I violate no confidence in saying that I wish the same could be said of Masonry in other lands. Today, as you doubtless know, we in our own nation are still proceeding under orderly government, under the same form of government which our fathers lived, and so far as the broad affairs of government are concerned, we are making definite progress from day to day.

"I wish that this could be said of all other nations. It is unfortunate for us that in certain other nations Freemasonry, sometimes through no fault of its own, sometimes because of the rise of new forms of government, has lost much of its strength and force for a good civilization which it

possessed several generations ago.

"And so I am not heartened by what is occurring in other nations. Because of this leaven of Masonry throughout our own country, because of the opportunity given to pursue an even course in a democratic society, the way of Masonry in this country constantly grows smoother.

"And that is why I feel we can give thanks for living in America. And in giving thanks we should...help...less fortunate fellow citizens. That is the rule we must follow as Freemasons. We are approaching Thanksgiving, and I believe that we should give thanks, and at the same time pray that our nation may grow more and more a force for peace in the rest of the world.

"I have missed here tonight some of the faces I have known in former years. I am especially sorry that a very old friend and associate of mine, Charles H. Johnson, our Grand Secretary, is not with us tonight...I do not believe there is a man in this State who is loved by a greater circle of friends than Charlie Johnson.

"And so I can say to you good Brethren of Architect Lodge, and to your Worshipful Master, that I am very grateful to you, and I have had a wonderful party tonight." (Outlook, 1935)

"In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms.

"The first is freedom of speech and expression - everywhere in the world.

"The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way - everywhere in the world.

"The third is freedom from want - which, translated into world terms, means economic understandings which will secure to every nation a healthy peacetime life for its inhabitants - everywhere in the world.

"The fourth is freedom from fear - which, translated in to world terms, means a world-wide reduction of armaments to such a point and in such a fashion that no nation will be in a position to commit an act of physical aggression against any neighbor - anywhere in the world."

(Roosevelt, 1941, contained in Gassman, 1946)

From the Museum Collection;

Taken during "Roosevelt Night at Architect Lodge No. 519, New York, NY, November 7, 1955"

Archives of the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Masonic Library of Grand Lodge, New York - Biography Files;

Gassman, Benjamin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt - A Citizen of the World 1882-1945, quoting Franklin Delano Roosevelt from his message to Congress on January 6th, 1941, published by the author, 1946;

Gloversville (N.Y.) Leader, Gov. Roosevelt Regular 'Jiner', Gloversville, NY, April 7, 1932;

The Kraftsman, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, National League of Masonic Clubs, Washington, D.C., Vol. XIII, No. 5, November, 1932, pg. 1;

The New York State Masonic Outlook Magazine, April, 1933 pg. 235 and December, 1935 pg. 69,

The Grand Lodge of New York, Booneville, NY, 1933 and 1935;

Ress, George, "F.D.R. - The Mason", Transactions - The American Lodge of Research Free and Accepted Masons, Published by the Lodge, New York, Volume XII, No. 2, January 29, 1973 - December 27, 1973, pg 280-290

Quotes 2

Image

References



Name and Title	m. President Harry S. Truman Thirty-third President of the United States, 1945 - 1953 (1945; 1946; 1947; 1948; 1949; 1950; 1951; 1952; 1953)
	Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, serving from September 1940 until September 1941. Founder, first and fifth Worshipful Master of Grandview Lodge No. 618, Mo.; 1911; 1917
Political Office	United States Vice President; 1944 United States Senator from Missouri; 1934; 1935; 1936; 1937; 1938; 1939; 1940; 1941; 1942; 1943 Presiding Judge of the Jackson County Court, Mo.; 1926; 1927; 1928; 1929; 1930; 1931; 1932; 1933; 1934 Judge of the Jackson County Court, Mo., 1922; 1923; 1924
Lodge	Belton Lodge No. 450
Town and State	Grandview; MO
Lodge Title and Year	Junior Warden; 1910
Royal Arch Chapter Name and Number	RoyalArch: Orient Chapter No. 102; Kansas City; Mo.; November 15, 1919
Royal and Select Masters Council Name and Number	RoyalAndSelectMasters: Shekinah Council No. 24; Kansas City; Mo.; December 8, 1919
Knights Templar Commandery Name	KnightsTemplar: Palestine Commandery No. 17; Independence; Mo.; June 15, 1923



and Number

Mystic Shrine Name MysticShrine: Ararat Temple; Kansas City; Mo.; February 2, 1917

Mystic Shrine Title Honorary member, Irem Temple, Pa.

and Year

Scottish Rite Degree ScottishRite: 33; 1945; Valley of Kansas City; October 19; 1945

and Consistory Name

Scottish Rite Title and Emeritus Member of Honor of the Supreme Council of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction; 1948  
Year

Grand Lodge Office GrandLodge-Office: Grand Master; 1940; 1941; Junior Grand Steward; 1934; Senior Grand  
and Year Marshal; 1933; Junior Grand Marshal; 1932; Grand Sword Bearer; 1931; Grand Pursuivant; 1930;  
Grand Lecturer; District Lecturer and District Deputy Grand Master, 29th Masonic District of  
Missouri; 1925; 1926; 1927; 1928; 1929; 1930

Affiliated Lodge Grandview Lodge No. 618; Grandview; MO

Name Number Town

and State

Affiliated Lodge Title Founder, first and fifth Worshipful Master of Grandview Lodge No. 618, Missouri; 1911; 1917;  
and Year Secretary of Grandview Lodge No. 618; 1913; Honorary Life Membership, Grand Lodge of  
Florida; Honorary Member, Grand Lodge of Scotland; 1945

Award and Year The Gourgas Medal, Scottish Rite, 1946; Fifty-year button, Grand Lodge of Missouri; 1959

Associated Artifacts E67-39; T77-47 ab

Born 1884, May 8

Raised 1909, March 9

Died 1972, December 27

Other 1 Brother Truman came from a family of Freemasons, as both of his grandfathers were active in  
their lodges in Westport and Raytown. (New Age, 1945)  
Harry Truman was initiated on February 9, 1909 and was passed on March 9, 1909.  
In 1950, President Truman was in St. Louis, Mo., to attend his sister Mary Jane Truman's  
installation as Grand Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star of Missouri. (Archives, Livingston  
Library)

Other 2 Brother Truman's middle initial "S" (which is sometimes shown with a period after it and  
sometimes without) was given to him in honor of his grandfathers, one of whom was named  
Solomon and one whom was named Shippe. (New Age, 1945) His first job was at a drug store  
when he was eleven years old. He continued working for various businesses for several years. In  
1905, Harry S Truman enlisted in the army, training and serving with distinction. He returned in  
1906 to work the family farm in Grandview with his father, where he stayed until he joined the  
Army in 1917. He was made Regimental Artillery Instructor prior to his regiment's engagement  
in the battle of St. Mihiel, Alsace, during World War I. In 1918, he retired with the rank of Major,  
but continued as a Reserve Officer and as a full Colonel in the Reserve Corps of the 379th Field  
Artillery. (New Age, 1945)  
After serving during World War I, Harry Truman returned to open a haberdashery mercantile  
business in Kansas City. In 1918, Brother Truman married Elizabeth Virginia Wallace, his  
childhood sweetheart, with whom he had one daughter, Mary Margaret.

Brother Truman's first political office was as an Associate Judge followed by serving as the Presiding Judge of the Jackson County Court. During this period, a system of public roads was built throughout Jackson County. In 1934, he was elected as a United States Senator by a landslide. During his second term as Senator, he became Vice President. (New Age, 1945) He served as Vice President for only a short time before becoming President after Brother and President Roosevelt died.

Other 3 During President Truman's term, outstanding events included "the termination of World War II including the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the granting of independence to the Philippines, the Truman Doctrine to aid Greece and Turkey followed by the Marshall Plan to restore economic health to Europe, the recognition of the new state of Israel, the Berlin Airlift, the adoption of the North Atlantic Treaty, his early championship of the civil rights of [African-Americans], years before the Supreme Court decided Brown against the Board of Education, the Korean War and a more or less continuous cold war that flung its icy threats into the news during much of his administration." (Archives, Livingston Library)

Other 4 On February 22, 1941, Brother Harry S Truman "delivered, at the request of our Grand Commander, a radio address...which was carried by 103 stations. His subject was "Washington as a Man and as Mason." (New Age, 1945)

Other 5 In 1945, Baylor University, Tx. conferred upon Brother Truman the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws. (Texas Grand Lodge Magazine, 1945)  
Brother Truman chose the epitaph on his gravestone from a frontier grave, "I did what had to be done." (Archives, Livingston Library)

Quotes 1 During Brother Truman's address as Grand Master in 1941, he said, "We are living in a period of the world's history which makes those of us who believe in morality and free government thankful that we live in the United States of America. The Masonic Fraternity on the European Continent has been suppressed. It has been suppressed because it stands for freedom of thought and freedom of expression; for government of the people, for the people, by the people, and for freedom of worship...

"We are facing a solemn and serious period...in fact, the most serious emergency we have ever faced. As Freemasons we must continually endeavor to instill appreciation of free government and free expression; freedom of thought and freedom of worship...I thank God every day that I am a citizen of the greatest and freest country on earth, and that I have the privilege of worshipping as I please, of acting with complete liberty, so long as I do not infringe upon the rights of others, and of having the right to belong to any organization or fraternity I choose, so long as it does not foster treason against the Government. We can not really appreciate these privileges because we have always had them. But, our brethren in Denmark, Holland, Norway, and all those other countries which have come under the heel of the totalitarian dictators are either in concentration camps or have forsworn their liberties and their fraternal obligations. "It is a most difficult matter for me, as Grand Master of the Freemasons of the great State of Missouri - an honor which I believe is greater than any other which can come to me - to stand here and discuss this situation with you without getting upon political grounds. I have been extremely careful in my Grand Lodge career, as a member of this Grand Lodge Line, to stay entirely clear of political actions and political utterances, where the interest of the Grand Lodge have been concerned. Brethren, we should be thankful for the privileges we enjoy. We must put

forth every effort possible to maintain them with everything we have." (Grand Lodge of Iowa Bulletin, 1945)

Quotes 2

"Masonry has always meant much in my life...When I served as Grand Master in 1945 I was at that time a United States Senator...but even with [the distance], I managed to make an average number of visitations.

"Although I hold the highest civil honor in the world, I have always regarded my rank and title as a Past Grand Master of Masons as the greatest honor that has ever come to me. I value it above all others because to be a Grand Master of Masons one must be more than a good public relations man - he must have a background based upon the noblest of principles, and he must bear the respect and esteem of the good men who make up the Craft.

"Freemasonry takes good men and endeavors to make them better. Its principles, which are taught in the Book which we open on our altars, are the principles which make for good citizenship and upright living. During my life I have made a study of the Bible, and the more I have studied it the more I have been convinced that its lessons, which we teach around our Masonic altars, are the lessons mankind must learn if civilization is to endure.

"This is a beautiful ring given you by your parents, and I hope you will wear it with pride that you are a Freemason. Regardless of the number of additional degrees you may receive in the future, regardless of the different emblems you may be entitled to wear, I hope you will always wear this. The Square and Compass[es] is the essence of Masonry. All other bodies, while helpful and valuable, are but elaborations on the great lesson of life, death and immortality through which you have passed. The Square and Compass[es] is the emblem of Freemasonry and may these emblems ever remind you of the proud title that is yours - a man and Mason." (Indiana Freemason, 1948)

Image

Reproduction of Greta Kempton's 1949 portrait of Truman in Masonic regalia (as Grand Master of Missouri) presented to the President, Hotel Statler, Washington, DC

References

Archives of the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Masonic Library of Grand Lodge, New York, Biography Files;

Grand Lodge Bulletin, 'Harry S. Truman --13th Mason to Become President of United States, " Iowa Masonic Library, The Grand Lodge of Iowa, Vol. XLVI, No. 5, May 1945;

<http://www.trumanlibrary.org/hstpape/kempton.htm>;

The Indiana Freemason, "Beech Grove is Host to President", Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana, Vocational School of Printing at the Indiana Masonic Home, Franklin, Indiana, Vol. 26, No. 6, pg 4, November, 1948;

The New Age, "Our 33rd President, " The Supreme Council of the Thirty-Third Degree Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, Washington, DC, Vol. LIII, No. 5-6, May-June 1945, pg. 207



Name and Title

n. President Gerald R. Ford  
Thirty-eighth President of the United States, 1974 - 1977  
(1974; 1975; 1976; 1977)

Image

Photograph taken circa 1977 by Robert C. Carmen of Athelstane Lodge No. 839, when President Ford attended a ceremony in the Scottish Rite Building at 2800 16th Street, Washington, D.C.