



ALEXANDRIA-WASHINGTON LODGE N° 22
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
HOLDEN UNDER THE GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA

The George Washington Masonic Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22301
E-mail: secretary@aw22.org Website: <http://aw22.org>

To Masons Wishing to Affiliate with Our Lodge

Dear Brother:

The purpose of this letter is to inform Master Masons who are seeking information about affiliating with Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22. If you meet the requirements as stated below and are interested in pursuing membership further, you will need to request an application form from the Lodge Secretary.

The first thing that any prospective affiliate member must understand about our Lodge is that it is not to everyone's taste. We interpret the three pillars of wisdom, strength and beauty literally, and manifest them thus:

Wisdom: Our Lodge is dedicated to the pursuit of meaning and understanding found in the philosophies that inspire and have been inspired by Masonry. Without this pursuit, Masonry is nothing more than another social club. Philosophy in practice is the means and method of perfecting the ashlar, thereby developing the very wisdom we seek in all things in life.

Strength: The discipline of Brothers in maintaining decorum and respect for the Lodge is the strength and support of the Lodge. Brethren are expected to dress and comport themselves appropriately in our Lodge at all times. The Masonic temple is a sacred place, and one's dress and comportment must reflect that fact. A suit and tie are standard attire for meetings of our Lodge.

Beauty: Masonic ritual outwardly manifests the beauty of the Craft. Therefore, our Lodge places the utmost emphasis on perfection in ritual. Nothing less than a commitment to excellence is required from our officers, and an equally reverent attitude is expected from all brethren in attendance during all elements of ritual.

The second thing the prospective affiliate must understand is that he will be interviewed by a membership committee to determine if his path in Masonry is compatible with that of our Lodge. Our Lodge is no better than any other Lodge, nor do we think ourselves to be; all Masons are on the level. We do, however, have a way of doing things in our Lodge that is different from many other Lodges, and choosing members who share our vision of Masonry is one way of upholding our traditions. There are many other Lodges in our area comprised of fine Brothers who meet in a most friendly environment and ask nothing more of a Brother than good fellowship and commitment to their obligations. We openly encourage Brothers to consider affiliating with

those Lodges in the event that our Lodge is not right for you. Of course, the best way to find out if our Lodge suits you is by attending our meetings, and we welcome you to visit us at one of our stated communications.

After your compatibility with our Lodge has been established, you must satisfy the following legal requirements in accordance with the Grand Lodge of Virginia:

- Be a Master Mason in good standing in a Lodge that is recognized by the Grand Lodge of Virginia or have a valid Demit from a Lodge recognized by the Grand Lodge of Virginia.
- Belong to a Lodge in a jurisdiction that allows dual or plural membership.
- Must have two Masons who are members in good standing in their Lodge recommend you for membership.
- Must submit an Application for Affiliation to the Lodge.

The Lodge meets at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia. The Lodge By-Laws specify the fees required to join the Lodge; dues are paid on an annual basis. If your current Lodge is a Lodge in Virginia, there is no fee required to affiliate with our Lodge. If your Lodge is outside Virginia, the fee to affiliate with our Lodge is \$100.00.

The annual dues are \$136.00, with an additional assessment by the Grand Lodge of \$33.00, for a total annual amount of \$169.00. This amount is due on the first day of the year for the current year. In the year you become a member of the Lodge, the amount is pro-rated and you pay only for those entire months that you are a member, e.g., if you are elected to membership in September you would owe \$42.25 dues (3 months at \$14.08 per month) for October, November and December.

If you would like to pursue membership in Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, the first step is to send an letter of inquiry to the Secretary of the Lodge, including the following information:

- Your full Name.
- Your current residential mailing address.
- Your contact Phone Number and E-mail address.
- Your current Lodge name and location.
- Your occupation.

Upon receiving your information the Secretary will send an Affiliation Application Form to you to complete and return for review.

We thank you for your interest in our Lodge.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,



Michael L. Bailey
Master, Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, A.F. & A.M.
A.L. 6012