

March 2018



**Hamilton-Thompson  
Lodge No. 37  
Consolidated in 1994**

**Message from the East**

Greetings Brethren,



We have finally entered into the Spring weather season with Easter just around the corner. I want to wish you all a safe and happy Easter weekend.

We have scheduled a Fellow Craft degree and a practice for the first week of April (see the Lodge Announcements page for the specifics). As this is our first degree work for this year, I would like to see a nice attendance for this degree, so come on out if you are within the length of your cabletow.

I want to have a lodge cleanup and some light maintenance done on one of the weekends in April. I am planning on having an open house in May (see the Lodge Announcements page for further details). The open house we had a couple of years ago was a success since a couple of brothers joined as a result.

If your travels take you out of town this week or next, or any other time, consider purchasing a passport of freemasonry if you wish to visit a lodge out of the area, especially in another state. I believe that those passports can be purchased on the Grand Lodge of Virginia website. I have been out of town all week in West Virginia and visited two lodges earlier this week. A good time was had and I also had the opportunity to see one of the lodges conduct a master mason degree. I had the designated areas in my masonic passport filled out by both lodges so I have a record of when I was there. It is always nice to visit a lodge far from home and be taken in as one of the family. What a great fraternity this is!

Take care and see you at the next Stated and/or upcoming events.

Worshipful Master Jason Wolfe, HT-37



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## Message from the West



Brethren,

I found my lost Day-Timer, so, as promised in last months' Trestle Board, I would like to confer belated gratification on Joshua Goff for the exquisite cabinet that greets all those who enter through the front door of the lodge, and contains the aprons to be worn during the lodge meeting. It is a superb work of restoration. I would also like to offer more timely gratitude to the following: Brother Larry Brissing for the fellowship meal of regular and spicy hot dogs and fixings, Worshipful David Bolton Marsh, for filling the Secretary's chair in Brother Comer's absence, Worshipful Don Young for fulfilling the Tiler's duties while Brother Haas continues his recovery, also for his website maintenance that enables us to now view the Trestle Board at the lodge website, and finally for all the other brothers, both visitors and members, who attended our stated and made it another enjoyable experience.

Pertaining to the three types of Master Mason wages mentioned in the February Trestle Board, the first of which being gratitude, the second form of payment that the Senior Warden makes to a Master Mason is Respect. Respect has provided me with a bit of an enigma as to determine how to disperse it in the form of a Masonic Payment. To me, respect is something one earns, not something one is paid. Quite a paradox of a statement, if I do say so myself, but please allow me to explain. Although, one can, or does, "pay ones respect", this is usually done by attendance at a funeral service and is thus lost on the one who earned it, but it is instead bestowed on, and may I say appreciated by those closest to the deceased. In this regard, Respect is paid by some type of outward nonverbal expression and is usually not perceived by the receiver unless he is aware of the curious windings and secluded recesses of the person bestowing the respect. People do not go around proclaiming "I respect you." They show respect in more subtle ways. Holding the door open for someone is one way. Taking your hat off when you enter a church. As for me, I hate wearing ties or for that matter buttoning the top two buttons on my shirt. When you see me wear a tie, it is to show respect, by way of enduring an unpleasantly, in order to be more appropriately attired as those whose company I am enjoying. Now I know that I do not have to get dressed up but I do, to show respect for Masons and Masonry. As Lodge Chaplain, I would wear business casual for an EA degree, business casual with a tie for FC, and full suit and tie for Master Mason degrees. That was my way of showing increased respect for the man as he traveled through the preliminary stages of Free Masonry. I may resume this practice next year. Respect is given by a person in whatever personal way he wishes to present it, to the person he intends it for, and usually without that person having any knowledge that it has been given. In fine, I disagree with Masonry. Respect is not paid out by the Senior Warden but by every individual, Mason or not, who freely bestows this prized gift on those who have unknowingly earned it.

Westpectfully Yours,

Brother Ed Ziemba, Senior Warden, HT-37

## Message from the South



Brethren,

Making good men better....via Monday Morning Memo by Roy H. Williams

**Shortest Book Ever:**

### **CHAPTER ONE**

“Circumstances” are where you are right now. “Choices” are what you will make. “Consequences” are what will happen as a result. Sometimes your circumstances are the consequence of your choices, but not always. The circumstances of your birth and your childhood, such as your nationality and your ethnicity, and whether or not your family had money, are not the consequence of any choice you made. It is foolish to feel pride about circumstances that are not the result of your choices. It is foolish to feel shame about circumstances that are not the result of your choices.

### **CHAPTER TWO:** (45 words)

Will you allow yourself to choose contentment? Or do you believe contentment to be shameful? What is it about their native discontent, their refusal to be satisfied, their undying hunger for more, that makes us admire an ambitious person? Contentment is a choice, not a consequence.

### **CHAPTER THREE:** (60 words)

Guilt is about what you have done. Shame is about who you are. You choose shame when you continue to do what you know is wrong. Feelings of guilt are beneficial when they cause you to make better choices. When you make better choices, you are no longer who you were. So let the shame go. It isn't yours anymore.

### **CHAPTER FOUR:** (26 words)

You can evaluate a man's ethics by the condition in which he leaves a public restroom. I don't know how to evaluate the ethics of women.

### **CHAPTER FIVE:** (68 words)

The angels in the sky sang to the shepherds, “All is forgiven.” A star in the sky whispered to the wise men, “Follow me.” The message was clear to the shepherds. But the wise men had to figure it out on their own. “What's it all about?” ask the wise men, the entrepreneurs, inventors, artists and kings. But the shepherds – underpaid nurses, caretakers, guardians, and teachers – already know.

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## Message from the South (Continued from Previous Page)

### **Shortest Book Ever (continued):**

#### **CHAPTER SIX:** (69 words)

Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) worked as a telegraph messenger 169 years ago. Books were expensive in those days and there were no public libraries. But a Pittsburg man, Col. James Anderson, opened up his collection of 400 books every Saturday to local boys who wanted to expand their minds. Carnegie later donated \$56.5 million to open more than 2500 libraries in a dozen countries, saying, "The man who dies thus rich, dies disgraced."

#### **CHAPTER SEVEN:** (40 words)

Julius Rosenwald (1862-1932) was a Jewish garment manufacturer who quietly donated more than \$50 million in matching funds to construct 5,357 schools in African-American communities across the impoverished Southern States. "He who gives while he lives, knows where it goes."

#### **CHAPTER EIGHT:** (42 words)

Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965) left us his best advice, "I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."

#### **CHAPTER NINE:** (83 words)

Billionaires Bill and Melinda Gates (\$88.5 billion) have been joined by Warren Buffett (\$74.2 billion) and 158 other billionaires in an effort to remedy society's most pressing problems by committing to give more than half their wealth to philanthropy or charitable causes, either during their lifetime or in their will. The current pledge total is now more than \$365 billion. Imagine spending a billion dollars a day – a thousand million dollars – every day for a year, in an effort to change the world.

#### **CHAPTER TEN:** (19 words)

The wisest of the wise men always become shepherds in the end. The shepherds were the first to know.

S&F,  
Brother Jeff Ebersole, Junior Warden, HT-37

## Moments in History

### Masonic Dates

Below are historical events that have taken place in the masonic world in the month of April, as follows:

- April 4, 1778 - Voltaire was initiated and entered apprenticeship in "Les Neuf Soeurs" Lodge in Paris. His conductors were Benjamin Franklin and Count Gebelin.
- April 5, 1886 - Rudyard Kipling was initiated as an apprentice.
- April 8, 1790 - The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was founded.
- April 18, 1850 - The Grand Lodge of California was founded.
- April 19, 1787 - The Grand Lodge of Maryland was founded.
- April 20, 1884 - Pope Leo XIII issued a famous Papal Bull against Freemasonry, titled Humanum Genus.
- April 21, 1821 - The Grand Lodge of Missouri was founded.
- April 22, 1785 - Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was raised a master mason.
- April 24, 1901 - President Theodore Roosevelt was raised a master mason.
- April 28, 1738 - Pope Clement XII issued the first Papal Bull attacking Freemasonry.
- April 28, 1840 - The Grand Lodge of Illinois was founded.

### U.S. Presidents who were Masons

I have heard in the past that many U.S. Presidents were masons, but only 14 that we know of were members of our fraternity. There are other presidents, especially some from the early years of our nation, that may have been masons, but there is not sufficient evidence to support that was the case. Records were somewhat poor and/or poorly stored in those days and may have been lost to fires or floods. Below is a list of the 14 U.S. Presidents who were Masons, as follows:

- George Washington
- James Monroe
- Andrew Jackson
- James K. Polk
- James Buchanan
- Andrew Johnson
- James A. Garfield
- William McKinley
- Theodore Roosevelt
- William H. Taft
- Warren G. Harding
- Franklin D. Roosevelt
- Harry S. Truman
- Gerald R. Ford

## Lodge Announcements and Monthly Events

- 4/2 Fraternal Visit to Olive Branch 114, Leesburg at 7:00 pm
- 4/3 Practice for Fellow Craft degree at Hamilton-Thompson 37 at 7:00 pm
- 4/5 Fellow Craft Degree (replaces Monthly Workshop) at Hamilton-Thompson 37, Purcellville at 7:30pm with dinner at 6:30pm
- 4/6 Fraternal Visit to Freedom Lodge 118, Lovettsville at 8:00pm
- 4/8 Alexandria Scottish Rite Friends and Family Charity Dinner at Fairview Park Marriot Hotel, Falls Church, 3:30pm— 7:30pm, charity is Scottish Rite's Rite Care Childhood Language Disorders Program
- 4/10 Fraternal Visit to Ashburn-Sterling Lodge 288, Ashburn at 7:30pm
- 4/16 Stated at Herndon Masonic Lodge 264, Herndon at 7:30pm
- 4/19 Stated at Hamilton-Thompson Lodge 37, Purcellville at 7:30pm
- 4/25 Monthly District Masters & Wardens Meeting, Olive Branch 118, Leesburg at 7:00pm
- 4/28 HT-37 lodge cleanup and light maintenance (tentative date)
- 5/12 HT-37 Open House (tentative date)

**HT37 Breakfast Workshops are held every Sunday 8:30-10am and Practices on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm**

**(Note that the practice on the 1st Thursday of April will be substituted with a Fellow Craft degree)**



## HT37 Officers

2018 Worshipful Master —

Jason Wolfe

Senior Warden — Ed Ziemba

Junior Warden — Jeff Ebersole

Senior Deacon — Larry Brissing, Jr.

Junior Deacon — Justin Bradd

Secretary and District Blood Coordinator — RW Jim Cromer

Treasurer — Greg Levine

Senior Steward — Joshua Goff

Junior Steward — Bill Craig

Chaplain — Tommy Chapman

Tiler — George Haas

Marshal — Kurt Struder

Lodge Education Officer — LEO  
RW Christopher Thompson

Lodge Instructor of Work — LIW  
RW Jeffrey Gould

Lodge VACHIP Coordinator —  
Greg Levine

Mentor / Coaching Program —  
Bro. Larry Brissing, Jr. and  
Bro SW Ed Ziemba

Lodge MHOVA Representative —  
Bro. Justin Bradd

Lodge Widow's Program —  
Bro Tommy Chapman and  
Bro. Joshua Goff

Board of Trustees —  
RW Gary Williams  
WB David Jacobini  
Bro Eric Reffett

District Deputy Grand Master —  
RW Alan "Odie" Case

District Instructor of Work —  
RW Christopher Thompson

## Our Lodge Updates

WiFi Password:  
"ht37guest"

## March Masonic Birthdays

Ryan P. Guillory  
George J. Haas  
William A. Hurst  
Eric A. Reffett

## 2018 Grand Master

### Most Worshipful Gary Wallace Taylor



Our 2018 Grand Master of Virginia is Most Worshipful Gary Wallace Taylor who is the 173rd Grand Master of Masons. The GM's official visit will take place during the District Picnic in Manassas on July 21st, which is a combined visit with Districts 2 and 3.



Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No. 37  
**Meets Every 3rd Thursday, Dinner at 6:30pm, Stated at 7:30pm**  
320 West Main Street  
Purcellville, Virginia 20132

Jason Wolfe, Worshipful Master  
hamiltonthompson37@gmail.com

Visit us on Facebook at Hamilton-Thompson Lodge No.37  
WM Wolfe can be reached at 571-243-3500 (cell) or 540-338-5693 (home)