

Preface To Volume IV

It gives me a great deal of pleasure and pride to introduce Volume IV of the Transactions of A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research No. 1949, A.F. & A.M.

The lodge of research has several meaningful purposes. One is to bring together brethren interested in increasing their own light in Masonry and facilitating the dissemination of Masonic knowledge to others. The membership of A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research continues to grow and the members continue to submit interesting and meaningful presentations and papers of interest to the Craft on diverse Masonic subjects. Although our original intent was to publish transactions every few years, the amount of material received warrants publishing Volume IV at this time. In our attempts to share this information with as many interested Masons as possible, we have not copyrighted the material, only the compilation or style of presentation. However, several of the authors have copyrighted their works, so the reader is advised to check with an author before using a particular paper from these Transactions.

A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research meets in the North Room of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial on the fifth Saturdays of the year. Membership is open to any Mason in good standing in a Blue Lodge. We have members on the rolls from all over the world. Anyone wanting to contribute material is welcome to submit papers to the Secretary.

This publication represents an enormous effort both by those that presented papers and presentations and for those that spent the many hours organizing it and preparing it for publication. Recognition goes to RW Mickey Ander, Wor. John Shroeder, and Wor. Kwame Acquah for serving on the Publications Committee. A special thanks to Wor. G. William "Bill" Miller for again spending the countless hours assembling the papers and

preparing them for publication; it is his attention to detail that makes this such a meaningful effort.

We hope you find this collection of information enjoyable and educational. Please use it to increase your own Masonic enlightenment and share it with other members of your lodge.

Fraternally,

Richard K. Thompson, PDDGM
Worshipful Master

Fairfax, Virginia
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