

Preface

Serving as the thirty-seventh Master of A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research No. 1949, A.F. & A.M., it is my honor and privilege to present this introduction to Volume VIII of the Transactions which cover the period from 2014 to 2021.

This is a storied Lodge, whose namesake, founding members, Masters through the years and membership have demonstrated a commitment to bringing more light to our gentle Craft. Being formed in 1982 the Lodge is now in its thirty-ninth year of existence having been constituted on April 30, 1983. Both within and without the research Lodge community, this Lodge has been steadily gaining ground in attracting more Brethren to what she has to offer. Inspired papers and presentations on many varied topics created and presented by a number of Brothers, both members and non-members alike, have served to increase the lure of Masonic research.

This release of the Lodge Transactions is made available on our website: www.adslor.org. The previous seven volumes are also available there for the benefit of the Craft.

The members of A. Douglas Smith, Jr., Lodge of Research No. 1949 include many of the hardest workers in the quarries of Masonry. In fact, we have had a number of Past Grand Masters as well as other heads of organizations from various jurisdictions who were members of the Lodge. At present we are proud that our newly installed Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, James Winfield Golladay, Jr. is counted among our

membership. Congratulations Most Worshipful Golladay and all the best as you serve the Craft in 2022.

For those who are not members, membership is open to Masons in good standing in a Lodge whose Grand Lodge is in Amity with the Grand Lodge of Virginia. At a cost of fifteen dollars (\$15) for annual dues, it is arguably the best return on investment in Masonry. A life membership may also be purchased for three hundred and seventy-five dollars (\$375). We meet on the fifth Saturday of months containing the same, with our annual meeting being on the third Saturday in December. We are privileged to meet in the beautiful North Lodge Room of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial located in Alexandria, VA. Lodge opens at 10AM and our Stewards typically serve a light breakfast before the meeting followed by a delicious lunch immediately after.

Thank you to all of those who served on the Lodge leadership team this year. Without your commitment and dedication, we would not have accomplished all that we did. To the authors and presenters, we have been privileged to enjoy, it is by your generosity that we are availed of more light and we are deeply grateful for your kindness.

Finally, it is my fervent hope that the works contained in this VIII Volume of our Transactions will meet or exceed your expectations. Please let it increase your store of knowledge and share it as far and wide as you are able.

Sincerely and fraternally yours in Friendship
and Service,

Ray

Raymon W. Bacchus
Worshipful Master
A. Douglas Smith Jr. Lodge of Research No.
1949
December 2021
Potomac Falls, Virginia