



MAHOVA

News

OF VIRGINIA November 2011

A Monthly Publication of the Masonic Home of Virginia

Veterans Day

In 1621, an American soldier, his name “known but to God,” was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac river and the city of Washington, DC. The Arlington National Cemetery burial site of this unknown World War I soldier became the personification of dignity and reverence for America’s veterans. Similarly ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an “unknown soldier” was buried in each nation’s highest place of honor— England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe. These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, 1918. (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month) The day became known as “Armistice Day.” Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday twelve years later by similar congressional action.

In 1954, President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11th as Veterans’ Day, an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars. On Memorial day in 1958, an unknown soldier from World War II and one from the Korean War were buried at the tomb. Due to the advanced means of identification, the remains of relatively few Vietnam soldiers were unidentified. It was not until Memorial Day of 1984, 11 years after the Vietnam War ended, that an unknown service member of that war was interred at the Tomb of the Unknown. In 1998, this soldier’s remains were recovered and identified as Lt. Michael J. Blassie. He was reburied in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis, MO on July 11, 1998. Every year on Veterans Day at 11:00 AM, a memorial service is held at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Two minutes of silence are observed. Taps is played and the president or one of his representatives places a wreath on the tomb.

In honor of our veterans, please join us on Monday, November 7 at 2:00 PM in the Dining Room for our Veterans Appreciation with Varina High School NJROTC presenting the colors and speaker Frank Rodriguez. On Tuesday, November 8, at 2:00 PM in the Dining Room, Major Scott Nemeth will be speaking about veterans.

In This Issue:

Health Rx

Program Highlights

November Calendar

Book Ends

Behind the Scenes

Anniversary Stories

In Memoriam

Birthdays

Welcome New Residents

Welcome New Employees

Resident Advisory Council

Jim Herring President—
B Wing

Helen Lape Vice President- B Wing

Norma Klebert Secretary- Village

Lovell Harrison Magnolia Court

Catherine Murray D Wing

Walter Olphin D Wing

Judy Burton Village

Health

Here's To Your Good Health!

Getting to your Families Safely

If you're traveling "over the river and through the woods" this holiday season, follow these helpful hints to make sure you're well prepared for the journey:

- Be sure your car has a clean bill of health before taking it on the road. Fluids, belts, wipers, tire pressure and condition should all be inspected by a qualified technician.
- Keep an emergency kit in the trunk, including jumper cables, tools, flares, warning triangles, first-aid kit and a flashlight with fresh batteries. You will also want to have a small shovel, ice scraper and a blanket...just in case.
- Avoid peak travel times on the road, and stay away from major interstates. Side roads can offer local color and interesting sights, and you may avoid many other holiday travelers.

Have You Heard?

Thanksgiving Day, is a national holiday commemorating the harvest reaped by the Plymouth Colony in 1621 after a winter of starvation and privation. Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving, and the feast was shared by the colonists with neighboring Indians. After the American Revolution, the first national Thanksgiving Day, proclaimed by George Washington was November 26, 1789. Abraham Lincoln revived the custom in 1863 on the last Thursday of November. Congress passed a joint resolution in 1941, decreeing that, thereafter, Thanksgiving should fall on the fourth Thursday of November. The customary turkey dinner is a reminder of the four wild turkeys served at the Pilgrims first Thanksgiving feast. The birthstone is opal and symbolizes happiness, faithfulness, and loyalty. The flower is the Marigold.

Program Highlights

Resident Council Meeting

Monday, November 7

9:30 AM

Dining Room

Advisory Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 15

10:00 AM

Private Dining Room

Food Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 17

1:00 PM

Private Dining Room

Activities Committee Meeting

Thursday, November 17

3:45 PM

Solarium

Program Highlights

Friday, November 4	10:00 AM	TV Room	Gentle exercises at Tai Chi with Lily.
Friday, November 4	6:00 PM	TV Room	Tricks and juggling act by Jonathon, the Juggler.
Monday, November 7	2:00 PM	Dining Room	Veterans Appreciation with Varina NJROTC presenting the colors and speaker, Frank Rodriguez.
Tuesday, November 8	2:00 PM	Dining Room	Speaker on Veterans.
Tuesday, November 8	3:00 PM	West Activity Room	Communion with Reverend Elder.
Wednesday, November 9	2:00 PM	TV Room	Performance by the Barksdale Bifocals. "Olives on the Front Porch"
Monday, November 14	11:00AM to 4:00 PM	Gallery	Gift Shop fall sale.
Monday, November 14	2:00 PM	Multipurpose Room	Spouses' Caregivers Appreciation.
Tuesday, November 15	10:00 AM	Gallery	Coffee and donuts from Country Style Donuts.
Thursday, November 17	2:00 PM	TV Room	Presentation by Melanie.
Friday, November 18	6:00 PM	TV Room	Try your luck at a variety of card games at the Card Social.
Monday, November 21	2:00 PM	TV Room	Thanksgiving reminiscing at the MAHOVA Talk Show.
Saturday, November 26	2:00 PM	TV Room	Conversational presentation by local author Rich Babbitt about the nostalgic lifestyle and his book "From Paperboy to Boomer."
Wednesday, November 30	2:30 PM	TV Room	Exercises and stretches with Nancy Glenmore.

Thought of the Day

"To speak kindly does not hurt the tongue."

Music Entertainment

Monday, November 7 7:00 PM TV Room	Performance by Debra and Chester Willis.
Thursday, November 10 2:00 PM TV Room	Performance by the Nostalgia Group.
Monday, November 14 6:30 PM TV Room	Performance by Genie Brickey.
Tuesday, November 15 7:00 PM Dining Room	Performance by the gospel Chicken House Group.
Monday, November 28 2:00 PM TV Room	Vocal and Guitar performance by Susan Greenbaum.
Tuesday, November 29 7:00 PM Chapel	Performance by the choir "Celebration" with Patty Prout.

Movies



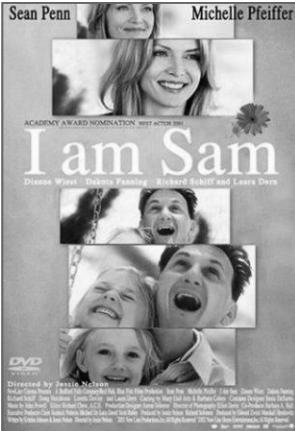
Channel 2 and TV Room



Marley & Me
LIFE AND LOVE WITH THE WORLD'S WORST DOG

Friday, November 11
6:00 PM
“Marley and Me”

A writer becomes successful and learns life lessons from his naughty dog.



Monday, November 21
6:00 PM
“I am Sam”

A mentally disabled man fights for custody of his 7-year-old daughter while his cold-hearted lawyer gets a lesson in life and love.



Friday, November 25
12:00 PM
“Big Fish”

A son tries to learn more about his dying father by reliving the myths and stories he was told as a young boy.

Trips and Outings

Wednesday Shopping Schedule

November 1 Wal-Mart (Tuesday)
 November 9 White Oak Village
 November 16 Kmart
 November 23 Wal-Mart
 November 30 White Oak Village



YMCA Silver Sneakers Fitness Program 9:30 AM	MONDAY	FRIDAY
	November 14	November 4
	November 21	November 18
	November 28	November 25

Rising Readers—Highland Springs Elementary School
 Thursdays at 9:45 AM

Tuesday, November 1 1:30 PM	Trip to Ben Franklin Crafts.
Wednesday, November 2 10:00 AM	Riverside dinner theater in Fredericksburg to see “Dream Girls.”
Thursday, November 3 12:00 PM	Lunch at Tara Thai Restaurant in Short Pump mall.
Saturday, November 5 12:30 PM	Trip to Williamsburg Winery.
Friday, November 11	Grand Lodge Luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel.
Wednesday, November 16 9:00 AM	Trip to Graves Mountain.
Thursday, November 17 10:30	Red Hat’s ladies are going out to eat at Feathernesters. Remember to wear your red and purple.
Friday, November 18 2:00 PM	Trip to the Post Office.
Saturday, November 19 1:00 PM	Trip to Manchester Lodge for their 225 Anniversary Lodge Chartering.
Tuesday, November 22 10:00 AM	Lunch trip to the Bavarian Chef Restaurant in Fredericksburg, VA
Monday, November 28 1:00 PM	Shopping at VA Center commons.
Monday, November 28 4:45 PM	Dinner trip to Calabash Seafood Restaurant.
Tuesday, November 29 10:00 AM	Trip to the DMV to get state identification cards.

Book Ends

By Wanda Lucey

Thank you, Richard Neiswander, in advance for reading and reviewing this book. Written by Laura Hillenbrand (the author of “Seabiscuit”), it is a world War II story of survival, resilience, and redemption (940.54/HIL). You will find this book in the Lilac Gardens’ Hall. Just sign the clipboard.

Louie Zamperini grew up in depression-era California. In elementary school, he was anything but a model scholar, earning bottom grades. When he entered high school his older brother, Pete, started him in track and field. Again, he started as a failure, finishing in last place. He spent the summer running and the training was good. His first race in the fall found him winning, actually breaking his brother Pete’s school record. While runners did not hit their prime until their late twenties, Louie was good enough to make the 1936 Olympics in the 5000 meter run. He did not medal, but Pete felt he would be able to take gold in 1940. Then in 1939 came WWII and the Olympics were cancelled. He enrolled in the University of Southern California and ran ‘the mile’, and when his class graduated he was short of a degree by three credits. In early 1940 Louie enlisted in and ‘washed-out’ in the Army Air Corps. He then took a job as a movie extra, the Draft Board catching up with Louie before the film finished. He found a way to flunk his physical and completed the movie, earning a bonus. Re-taking the physical landed him in the Army. After basic training Louie found that the Army Air Force had ‘prior call’ on him and were going to make him a bombardier on a B-24 Liberator. Louie trained in the U.S., and then his crew was posted to Hawaii. They participated in several successful missions, and in April 1943, the B-24s took off to bomb the island of Nauru. All 23 men returned, but the defense was so stiff that nearly all were injured. Louie’s plane was turned in to scrap, the crew counting 594 holes. A short time later flying a spare B-24, the remainder of Louie’s crew, with new fill-ins, were sent on a search mission for a lost airplane. During this mission, they were forced down by mechanical problems, with only three making it to the life raft. They floated for 48 days, surviving on rain water, fish and two birds.

Eventually they were rescued by the Japanese and taken to Kwajalein called “Execution Island” by the U.S. military men. Louie experienced beating and starvation rations on Kwajalein before being sent to Japan where he spent the next years as slave labor in the Japanese war industry, undergoing treatment similar to that received on Kwajalein. It was interesting to learn of the POW’s survival techniques and the joy of learning the war was over.

Louie still had many problems for he had never been registered as a POW by the Japanese. Thus, he was held on Okinawa before being sent home. Another problem was his psychological damage in the prison camp. He battled alcohol while meeting Cynthia Applewhite and making her his wife. She was responsible for his attendance at the Billy Graham Crusade. After giving his life to Christ. Louie was able to put himself back together and was able to return to Japan, meet his former prison guards and forgive them. Then, in 1998, at 80 years of age, Louie ran the Olympic Torch through the city which contained the town of Noaetsu, the location of his former prison camp.

For me, this book brought back memories of WWII. Louie’s story brought back things I had forgotten. I now understand that the Pacific War was not only a clash of two nations, but of two radically different cultures. Being 65 years older, it points out to me that we need to not only understand, but to forgive our enemies.

Behind the Scenes

Get to know Angela Pisano!

Angela has been working at the home for two months. She works in the Babcock Building as an Accounting Assistant; she is one of the first people you see when you enter the Babcock Building. Angela was a bookkeeper for ten years prior to coming to the home. She has also worked as an assistant and studied nursing for two years. Angela enjoys everything about her job. She said, "I especially like working with the residents and my coworkers are great." She is from Richmond, has been married for 16 years, and has two sons. When away from work, she enjoys spending time with her family, hunting, fishing, and camping.

Anniversary Stories

11/4/1950 Edwin and Juanita Ragsdale
11/18/1956 James and Novella McDonough

How We Met!

Jim and June McDonough will be married for 55 years this month. At the age of 16, June was working as a bookkeeper for a moving company in Alexandria, VA and decided she wanted to change jobs. She walked to the Hot Shop in red platform heels with an ankle strap to get a job as a waitress. One day while she was working at the bakery, behind the swinging doors Jim walks in wearing a hat. June saw him and immediately said, "He's the man I'm going to marry." Jim was working as a car hop at the restaurant part-time while he was stationed at Ft. Belvoir. Jim and June dated for four years and got married in Wisconsin, Jim's home state, at the minister's home. June always wanted to get married in a church and at their 50th anniversary Jim and June renewed their vows in a church. Jim's brother and sister-in-law made it to both the wedding in Wisconsin and the 50-year-renewal in Virginia, and June was walked down the aisle by her grandson. Jim and June have three daughters, five grandchildren, and one great grandchild. They have been residents of the Masonic Home for four years.



Maintenance Week

November 18 - November 25

Thank you to everyone in maintenance for your hard work!

Residents' "Appreciation Awards"



The Masonic Home is a caring community. In the past weeks, we have recognized some of our fellow residents who have shared their talents with us. The residents received plaques in honor of their hard work.

These are: Nancy Walker, Sam Cason, and Gordon Paschall who work to beautify our surroundings with flowers; John Long and Whitney Bohannon for being our "Mr. Fix-Its"; and to Yvonne Olphin for her leadership in making crafts of all kinds.

In order to continue this, we need you to make your nominations via the *Suggestion Box* in the Reading Room.

Cooking Class

Cooking class will resume in January in the main dining room kitchen.

Election day is Tuesday, November 8.

In Memoriam



Forever in Our Hearts

Eloise Mosby
Thomas Benton
Elva Rollins
Carl Torrence
Valerie Stokes

Happy Birthday to You!

Happy Birthday to the following residents who celebrate their birthdays:

11/3 Mildred Butler 11/14 William Martin
11/4 Catherine Busbee 11/19 Glenn May
11/4 Julius Friis 11/23 Martha Sugg
11/5 Margaret Jordan 11/24 Walter McCuiston
11/9 Hope Cluverius 11/24 Helene Peters
11/9 Louise Gooding 11/26 Hallie Gunn
11/9 Betty Lide
11/10 Lois Roan

Employee Birthdays

11/3 George Bey
11/5 Audrey Puentes
11/6 Sarah Ferrell
11/7 Kelly Anderson
11/9 Georgette Washington
11/12 Janice Curry
11/14 Melissa Ponce
11/15 Shirley Thompson
11/16 Amy Spalek
11/18 Regina Pettaway
11/18 Elizabeth White
11/19 Mary Gibson
11/22 Benjamin Payne
11/23 Wendy Henderson
11/24 Lee Byrd
11/26 Adam Artis
11/27 Tiara Churchwell

Welcome New Residents!

James and Betty Goodman
Jean Learnard

Welcome New Employees!

Letitia Cline	Nursing	FT
Mary Phillips	Nursing	FT
Alda Anthony	Nursing	PRN
Sadonna Robinson	Nursing	PRN
Debra Taylor	Nursing	PRN
Vanessa Wilson	Nursing	PRN

Masonic Home Census -- 224

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Jennifer Burton
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Justin Carwile
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