



GREENEVILLE LODGE NO. 3 F. & A. M.

IN THIS ISSUE: DR. JOSEPH WARREN

Guiding Light

March 2015

Greenville Lodge News

March is upon us, and that means it is time for Grand Lodge week in Nashville. This year marks the 201st Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee F&AM. Greenville Lodge No. 3 was well represented at the first meeting in Knoxville in December of 1813, and all our local Masonic bodies will be well represented this year.

If you have never been to Grand Lodge week, you owe it to yourself to attend. One of the best parts about being a Mason is the fellowship. Fellowship is the best way to describe the annual meetings in Nashville. There will be more than a thousand Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights from across the state of Tennessee in attendance, and when you bump into someone you haven't seen in a year or more, it honestly seems like it was just last week that you were sitting together and swapping stories.

The pageantry of Grand Lodge week is something to behold. First of all, we have one of the nicest Grand Lodge buildings in the Nation. Most states don't even have a

regular Grand Lodge building; they rent out space in a conference center. We have an ornate building right on Broadway in our state capital. It's a busy place in the main lobby with registration going on and groups gathering to discuss key issues about Masonry. The main auditorium is a sight to behold, and the trip isn't complete unless you check out the museum and library.

The high point of this year's communication for Greenville Lodge No. 3 will be our own Billy Ray Cutlip being installed as Deputy Grand Master.

Grand Lodge week begins on Sunday, March 22 with the annual York Rite memorial service and banquet. On Monday and Tuesday, the Grand Chapter, Council, and Commandery will hold their meetings and installation of officers. The Grand Lodge of Tennessee will hold its 201st Annual Communication on Wednesday and Thursday, March 25 and 26.

Remember, if you are going to Grand Lodge this year take your own apron. The free, disposable paper aprons will no longer be provided.

February was yet another busy month for our lodge. We conferred one Fellow Craft degree and raised two new Master Masons.

Despite having to reschedule their degrees twice because of snow, Dwayne Drew Wells and Sean Keith Dolan are Greenville Lodge No. 3's two newest Master Masons (see photo inside).

Please make every effort to attend March's stated meeting. Some important information will be discussed concerning dues. A vote to change the by-laws could be taking place.

Dr. Joseph Warren

by Joe Byrd (Past Master)



Many of us know about the connection between Freemasonry and the Founding Fathers of our beloved country. All of us know George Washington, commanding general of the Continental Army and first President of the United States. Most of us know about Paul Revere and his midnight ride, have read about Benjamin Franklin and his efforts as a statesman, and are familiar with John Hancock and his famous signature on the Declaration of Independence.

How many of us know about Dr. Joseph Warren, one of the most influential Patriots and Masons in our nation's history?

Joseph Warren, before being killed at age 34 at the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775, had already served as Provincial Grand Master of Masons in Boston and was even given the title "Grand Master of Masons for the Continent of America" by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Warren's writings before his death were some of the most important penned in terms of igniting the fire to cast off the yoke of British oppression.

For those of us who have seen 34 summers come and go, ask yourself this: Were you the kind of man at that age who could have influenced the birth of a nation? Brother Joseph Warren was such a man.

Warren was born in Massachusetts in 1741 and became a doctor after graduating from Harvard. At a young age, Warren was one of the foremost doctors in all of Boston. This gave him access to not only his fellow Patriots but to leading Loyalists as well, access he used to gather information on British sentiments and movements. Warren began his heavy involvement in the independence movement in 1767 with Great Britain's passage of the Townshend Acts, a series of tax regulations designed to raise revenue for the crown and punish certain colonies for what was perceived as a lack of recognition of the authority of the British Parliament.

In response, Warren wrote a series of newspaper articles speaking out against the taxes. Warren's words struck such a chord with the public that the royal governor of Boston sought to have Warren and the

publishers of the newspaper thrown into prison. After this, Warren became a major figure in the movement to separate from England, joining such leading figures as Samuel Adams and fellow Masons Revere and Hancock.

Warren was an active and leading Mason up until the time of his death. Warren was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in the Lodge of St. Andrew in Boston. In 1769, he was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Masons in Boston. Three years later, the Grand Lodge of Scotland proclaimed Brother Warren "Grand Master of Masons for the Continent of America."

Massachusetts Freemasons played a major role in igniting the spark of rebellion against Great Britain. Warren was no exception; in fact, he was a driving force. It was Warren who dispatched Brother Masons Paul Revere and William Dawes to raise the alarm that British soldiers were marching on Lexington and Concord. St. Andrews Lodge owned and met in a tavern named the Green Dragon. Because it was the largest meeting place in the area, several groups gathered there. The Green Dragon Tavern, where Warren presided over both St. Andrew Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, has been called the "headquarters of the American Revolution." In fact, on the night of the Boston Tea Party, the members of St. Andrews Lodge were scheduled to have their regular meeting at the tavern, but the minutes say "Lodge closed on account of few members present." It seems Revere, Warren (both Past Masters), and the other Masons were busy that night with their friends the Sons of Liberty down at the waterfront.

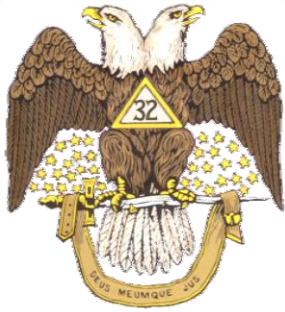
Warren undoubtedly based his writings on what he believed a new nation should be on the principles he found in his Masonic lodge.

It was written of Warren that he "knelt at the altar of Masonry and took upon himself its binding obligations not from selfish, sordid motives, but because of the highest esteem in which he held our ancient and honorable order, and he went forth into the world an embodiment of the ennobling principles of the institution." Warren knew first hand that democratically electing leaders, allowing for religious freedom, and every man having an equal voice worked. It worked in the lodge, and it would work for the 13 colonies.

Warren never got to see the 13 colonies come together officially as the 13 United States. He was killed more than a year earlier at the Battle of Bunker Hill (actually fought on Breeds Hill). Although Warren held the rank of Major General with the militia, he volunteered to shoulder a musket as a private in the thickest part of the fight. Warren helped hold the militia's position until the Patriots ran out of ammunition. He stayed behind so that others might escape when the British made their third and final charge up the hill. After the battle, it is believed Warren was recognized by some of the British officers and shot through the head with a pistol, execution style, by one of them. Before being dumped unceremoniously into a shallow grave, Warren's body was repeatedly bayoneted and mutilated. Warren was such a polarizing figure, two days after the battle some British officers went back and unearthed the body for the singular purpose of committing further atrocities on his corpse. So much was done to Warren's body it could only be later identified by Revere, who had done some reconstructive dental work on his Masonic brother. Revere and members of St. Andrews Lodge afterward laid Warren to rest with full Masonic honors.

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Greenville Scottish Rite Club



SCOTTISH RITE SHOE PROGRAM

200

Monthly Report

200

Year to Date Report

LODGE OF SORROW
2015

New Brothers

by John Sayne (Editor)

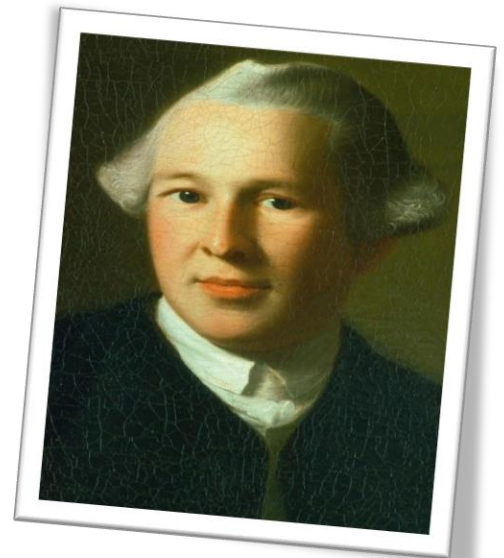
The Master Masons' degrees conferred in February were a family affair. Dwayne Drew Wells and Sean Keith Dolan are Greenville Lodge No. 3's newest Master Masons. Wells is the cousin of Past Master Joseph Byrd. Dolan is the brother of Scott Dolan, who joined the Lodge two years ago. Wells and Dolan got their degrees on Saturday, Feb. 28 after recent snowfall forced the postponement of the degrees twice. The third time was the charm for the third degree as several members and visitors braved the winter weather to help raise these two new Master Masons.

Dr. Joseph Warren Continued

by Joe Byrd (Past Master)

Warren's death was not in vain. Because of what Warren meant to the Patriots' cause, British commanding general Thomas Gage reportedly commented that killing Warren was as good as killing 500 men. In life, Warren was an active leader in the push for American independence. In death, Warren became a martyr who rallied thousands to the cause. John Trumbull's painting *The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775* (pictured above) is one of the most iconic images in American history and for generations has fueled American patriotism and sentiment. Two years after the battle, Congress voted to erect a memorial to Warren, but it was never built, so in 1794, the members of King Solomon's Lodge took it upon themselves to build a monument on the spot where their Masonic brother fell while fighting for the cause of American liberty.

Had Warren lived, the pages of American history would read much differently. Some of the names famous to us all would without question be overshadowed by that of Dr. Joseph Warren.



As men and Masons, we all know the greatest source of inspiration is to seek the blessing of the Grand Architect of the Universe. As Americans, we can also look to the life of Brother Joseph Warren.



Pictured are (from left): Joe Byrd (Past Master), Dwayne Wells, Sean Dolan, and Scott Dolan.

Announcements

*~ Greenville Lodge Stated Meeting –
March 3rd (Important Lodge Business)*

*~ Chapter / Council Stated Meeting –
March 9th*

*~ Order of the Eastern Star Stated
Meeting – March 12th*

*~Greene County Scottish Rite Club
Meeting – March 19th*

*~Commandery Stated Meeting –
March 16th (Changed for Grand Lodge
Week)*

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March, 2015
Issue 12

Please feel free to submit articles, pictures, news, favorite quotes, ect. This applies to all Bodies that meet at Greenville Lodge No. 3 F. & A. M. Submissions can be sent to the Editor.

All submissions will be reviewed and approved by the Editor before publishing. Having a steady flow of content is crucial for the success of this newsletter. Thank you for your contribution and support.

John Sayne (Editor)

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