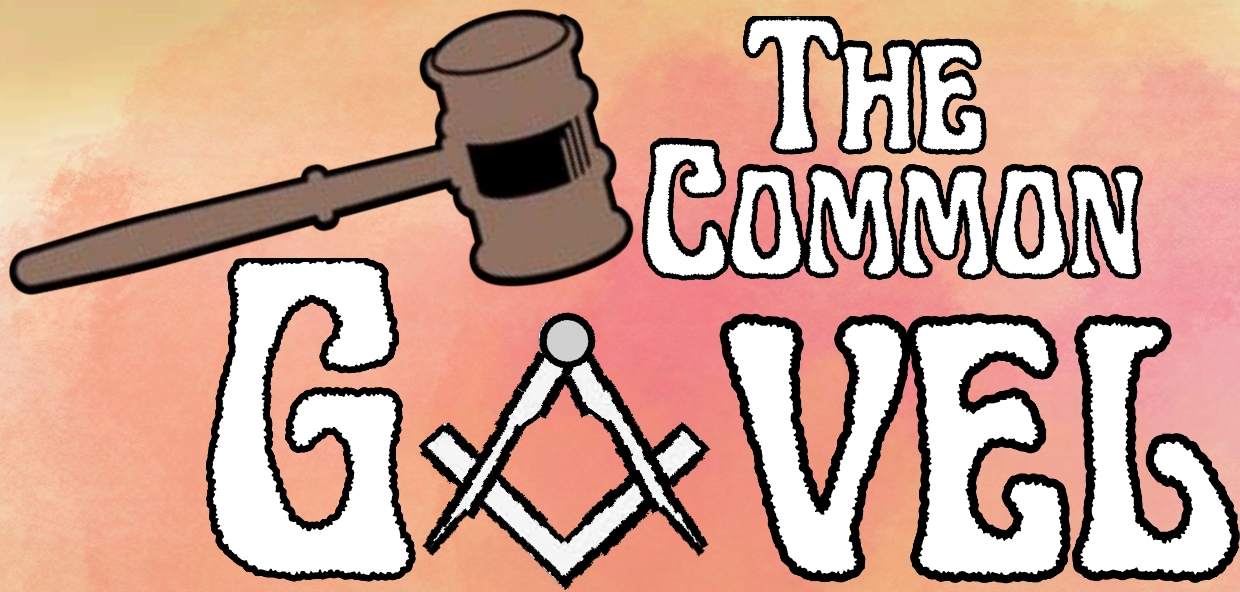


FEBRUARY 2026

ISSUE NO. 013



THE COMMON GAVEL

A UNION LODGE MONTHLY MAGAZINE

ANNUAL LODGE TRIP - ALEXANDRIA

MEET THE MASON

RELIVING ALEXANDRIA 2022

WOR. WILLIAM SAYWARD OF DORCHESTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS



FEBRUARY 18TH

CELESTIAN LODGE REGULAR
COMMUNICATION
JOINT MEETING WITH UNION
LODGE
6PM OPEN 7PM DINNER
CHOCOLATE AND WINE PAIRING

FEBRUARY 28TH

DISTRICT RITUAL WORKSHOP
SECOND DEGREE
8AM BREAKFAST/9AM START

FRATERNAL VISITS

MARCH 9TH ORIENT LODGE - NORWOOD
MARCH 17TH RABBONI LODGE -
WESTWOOD
APRIL 1ST WEST ROXBURY-DORCHESTER
LODGE - WESTWOOD
APRIL 15TH UNION LODGE/CELESTIAL
LODGE - WESTWOOD
MAY 4TH PROSPECT LODGE - WESTWOOD

OTHER MEETINGS IN THE DISTRICT

PROSPECT LODGE - 1ST MONDAY WESTWOOD
WEST ROXBURY-DORCHESTER LODGE - 1ST WEDNESDAY WESTWOOD
ORIENT LODGE - 2ND MONDAY NORWOOD
UNION LODGE - 2ND TUESDAY NORWOOD
RABBONI LODGE - 3RD TUESDAY WESTWOOD
CELESTIAL LODGE - 3RD WEDNESDAY WESTWOOD

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE 6TH





UPCOMING 6TH EVENTS

MON
MARCH
09

ORIENT LODGE -NORWOOD

6:30 PM DDGM RECEIVED

50 YEAR VETERANS MEDAL PRESENTATION
TUXES REQUIRED TO BE ON SUITE

TUES
MARCH
17

RABBONI LODGE - WESTWOOD

6:30 PM DDGM RECEIVED

50 YEAR PAST MASTER DIPLOMA PRESENTATION
TUXES REQUIRED TO BE ON SUITE

WED
APRIL
1

WEST ROXBURY-DORCHESTER - WESTWOOD

8:00 PM DDGM RECEIVED

TUXES REQUIRED TO BE ON SUITE

WED
APRIL
15

UNION & CELESTIAL LODGE - WESTWOOD

8:00 PM DDGM RECEIVED

JOINT MEETING
TUXES REQUIRED TO BE ON SUITE

THURS
APRIL
23

2ND DEGREE DISTRICT EXEMPLIFICATION

6PM DINNER 7PM OPEN
WESTWOOD LODGE
SUITS

MON
MAY
04

PROSPECT LODGE - WESTWOOD

8:00PM DDGM RECEIVED

TUXES REQUIRED TO BE ON SUITE

MAY 1-3



EST. COST
\$300

PER PERSON
IF YOU SHARE
A ROOM

UNION LODGE'S

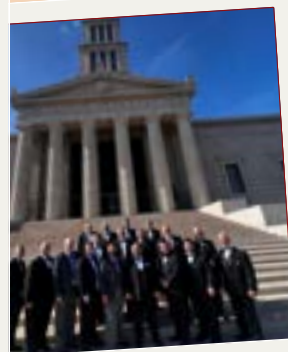
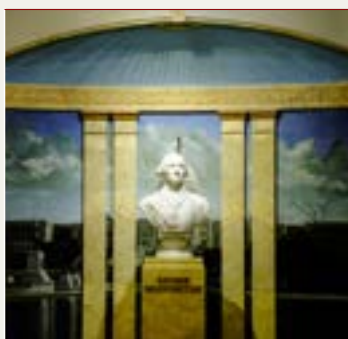
TRIP TO ALEXANDRIA

A WEEKEND OF FRATERNALISM IN VIRGINIA/WASHINGTON DC

ITINERARY:

- Friday 5/1: Leave from Westwood 5AM, 10 hour drive, explore in groups
- Saturday 5/2: Tour of Washington Masonic Monument, explore in groups, dinner
- Sunday 5/3: Depart in the morning back to MA

RSVP: APRIL 10TH, 2026



Contact R.W. Shawn Robichaud for more information:

PHONE: 508-326-5652

-

EMAIL: DDGM6THDISTRICT2024@GMAIL.COM

PHOTOS FROM ALEXANDRIA

2022



TEXT ORIGINALLY POSTED IN THE ***TROWEL***

Union Lodge (D) - Norwood is always coming up with ways to think outside of the box when it comes to Freemasonry and Masonic Events.

This year, Wor. Shawn Robichaud, came up with the idea to join the “Society of Washington Lodges”. By doing so, it helps support the Washington Masonic Memorial. Our members were very supportive of this idea, however, it grew from there. Shawn brought forth the idea of a group trip to Alexandria, Virginia to perform a 3rd degree in the Memorial’s Lodge room. On November 4th, Union, accompanied by members of Lafayette-Dover Lodge and guests, traveled to Virginia. Eighteen brothers made the trip.





On November 5th at 9:00am, the lodge was organized and the degree began. In attendance was the Grand Master of Virginia, Most Worshipful James Winfield Golladay, Jr. After the degree, the visiting brethren were given a private tour of the memorial which included a full replica of George Washington's lodge. The lodge housed a lot of items from his time, as well as his personal chair which sat in the East. Each floor of the memorial had information and artifacts regarding the different branches of Masonry. The top of the monument had a wrap-around balcony with gorgeous views of the city.

The weekend was packed full of fraternalism, history, and friendship. If you're ever in the Virginia/Washington, D.C. area, it is highly recommended to take a tour of the monument and the Masonic history contained therein.









UNION LODGE (D)

AF&AM

CHARTERED 1796



Alexandria Trip

2/16/2026

Brethren,

I invite you to reminisce about our unforgettable trip to Alexandria in November of 2022—a journey that truly stands out.

This initial trip led us to explore D.C.'s magnificent monuments, (some of us) ride electric scooters, have deep conversations and tour the Monument which had Washington's Masters chair, an elevator which ascended at a slope and had magnificent views of the city.

During this visit, we had the honor of raising a brother on behalf of Lafayette-Dover Lodge, an event that sparked a tradition within Union Lodge, turning into an annual trip and a cherished staple.

In the time since, we've explored the resplendent Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New York, strengthening our bonds and expanding our fraternal horizons.

As we face a busy merger schedule, we've decided to transform our next trip into a more relaxed social gathering, focusing on the camaraderie that binds us. This time, leave your regalia and tuxedos at home; just pack a backpack and find a roommate.

Together, we'll have ample opportunities to explore the historical richness of Washington D.C., Alexandria, Virginia, and enjoy a tour of the Washington Masonic Memorial.

Come and join us in celebrating the fellowship that defines us!

Fraternally,

Andy Knight

William Henry Sayward (1845–1934)

A Dorchester builder, civic leader, and Masonic historian

William Henry Sayward (1845–1934) was a lifelong resident of Dorchester whose life and work became closely associated with the building trades, civic leadership, and Freemasonry in Boston's southern neighborhoods. Over nearly a century of life, Sayward helped shape both the physical development of Dorchester and the preservation of its institutional memory.

Early Life in a Changing Dorchester

Born in 1845, Sayward grew up at a time when Dorchester was transitioning from an independent town into an increasingly urbanized district. Following its annexation to Boston in 1870, the area experienced significant residential and commercial expansion. Streets were laid out, homes constructed, and public buildings erected. Sayward would devote much of his professional life to this period of transformation.

Leadership in the Building Trades

Sayward became a respected and influential figure in Dorchester's construction community. For more than fifty years, he served as secretary-treasurer of the Master Builders Association, an organization central to coordinating and professionalizing the region's construction industry during Boston's rapid growth.

In 1912, he also helped organize the Society of Masters and Craftsmen, further strengthening collaboration among skilled tradesmen. These roles placed him at the administrative and organizational heart of the building trades at a time when standards, contracts, and professional identity were becoming more formalized.

His public service extended beyond trade organizations. Sayward represented the 20th Suffolk District in the Massachusetts legislature during the 1880s. His legislative service coincided with a period of industrial expansion and urban development, when infrastructure and labor issues were critical to the Commonwealth's future.

Freemasonry and Union Lodge

Sayward was deeply involved in Freemasonry, particularly through Union Lodge of Dorchester. Founded in 1796, Union Lodge was one of the area's long-standing Masonic bodies and served as a center of fraternal, civic, and charitable life.

His most significant Masonic contribution was historical rather than ceremonial. Sayward served as a compiler and contributor to *A Historical Sketch of Union Lodge, Dorchester: From 1796 to 1876*, published in 1877. This work preserved early records, membership rolls, committee reports, and accounts of lodge activity spanning eighty years.

WILLIAM SAYWARD, DORCHESTER, DEAD

Was Master Builders Ass'n
Sec-Treas

Funeral services for William Henry Sayward, who died last night at his home, 69 Monadnock st, Dorchester, will be private out of respect for his often-expressed wish. Members of his family will be the only persons present.

Mr Sayward was born in Boston, Feb 20, 1845, and lived all his life in



WILLIAM H. SAYWARD

this city, where he became the outstanding figure in the building trades. He was chosen secretary-treasurer of the Master Builders' Association when it was formed in 1885, and held the post until his death. He was secretary for 15 years before that of the organization out of which the Master Builders' Association grew.

In 1912 Mr Sayward organized the Society of Masters and Craftsmen and was active for many years in that organization. He was constantly called upon to help settle labor disputes in both this city and New York.

Mr Sayward was active in politics in his earlier years, and served as a member of the Legislature in 1883. At that time he was a vigorous opponent of woman suffrage.

On his 75th birthday, Mr Sayward was tendered a banquet at Young's Hotel by a delegation of architects and builders, and again on his 80th birthday. In August, 1929, he and Mrs Sayward celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding with their three children, Dr William H. Sayward Jr, Percival and Miss Margaret Sayward.

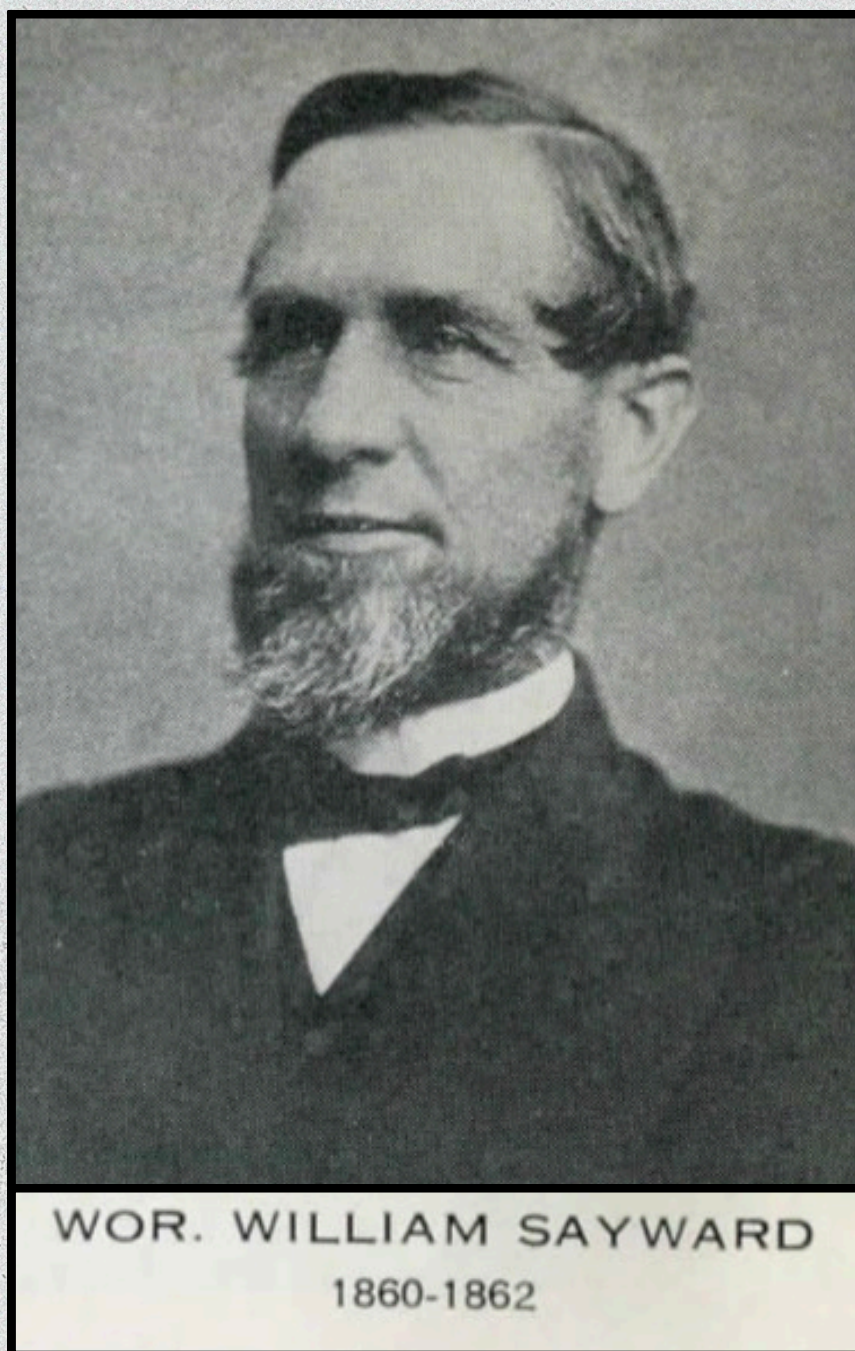
By helping document the lodge's history, Sayward ensured that future generations would have access to its institutional memory. His efforts reflected a broader 19th-century Masonic commitment to tradition, continuity, and careful record-keeping. Sayward served as Master of Union Lodge in 1860-1862.

Civic Influence and Legacy

William Henry Sayward's life demonstrates how closely connected the spheres of trade, politics, and fraternity were in late 19th-century Massachusetts. Builders often served in public office; Masons frequently stood among the civic leadership of their communities. Sayward's career placed him at the intersection of all three.

When he died in 1934 at the age of eighty nine, he had witnessed Dorchester's transformation from a largely independent town to a fully integrated Boston neighborhood. His legacy lies not only in the growth of the building trades and civic institutions he helped guide, but also in the historical record he worked to preserve.

Through industry, public service, and fraternity, William Henry Sayward left a lasting imprint on Dorchester's civic and Masonic life.



ACTING MASONIC BY:DAVID P NEWCOMB

What makes a man a Mason?
The lapel pin that he wears?
The symbols on his stylish ring
Of Compasses and Square?

For a man to be Masonic
It's a life-long, noble quest.
To serve the world around him
A Mason gives his best.

He holds the door for strangers.
He'll offer a lady his seat.
He's truthful, courteous, fair and square
To all those he might meet.

He cares how others prosper
And is quick with words of praise.
He shares his smile more than once in a while,
And follows the Good Book's ways.

A Mason stands for respectfulness;
He's helpful to those in need.
Faith and Hope will guide his life
With Charity to all - indeed.

He believes in religious liberty;
He tolerates different views;
The tenets of his fraternity
Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

These qualities may be familiar.
These virtues - sacred to few.
The way to that end is seeking new friends.
Masonry's here for you.

Remember:

It's not the symbol on the coat
Or decals that adorn the car.
Acting Masonic - no matter who's watching
Reveals the true Mason you are.

MEET THE MASON

BRO. ROBERT PATRICK JR.



Bro. Robert Patrick, affectionately known as Bobby among his friends and family, is a vital part of Union Lodge (D) and the Craft. Bobby has quickly become a recognizable presence at all Lodge events and other gatherings in support of his Lodge. He actively participates in whatever comes his way, such as assisting or donating at blood drives, assisting in all Lodge and district activities within the length of his cabletow, utilizing his career skills after hours to engrave cups for the past masters of our Lodge, and much more! As a relatively new Mason, Bobby consistently demonstrates passion and dedication in all his Masonic pursuits.

Year Born: 1990

Born: Stoughton, MA

Lives: Abington, MA

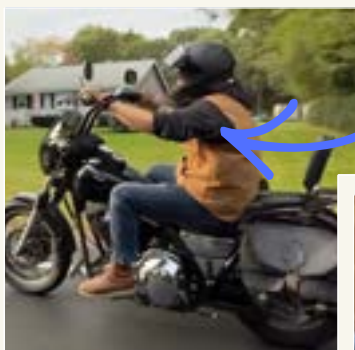
Profession: Union Machinist for MBTA

Hobbies: Motorcycles, Firearms,
Antiquing, Tech, Vintage Video
Games, and Collecting

Year Raised: 2021

Officer Position Held: Junior Deacon

Affiliations: Wampatuck Lodge (E.
Bridgewater, MA)



**BOBBY ON HIS HARLEY
DAVIDSON**



**BOBBY DONATING
BLOOD**

UNIONLODGEDORCHESTER.ORG

UNIONLODGEDORCHESTER.ORG

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY LIVE

OUR NEW WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY LIVE

