



MISSOURI LODGE OF RESEARCH

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Missouri Lodge of Research (MLR)
Dinner/Meeting in Columbia
May 22, 2010

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MLR RP **10-01**
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As this is the first chance that I have had since Grand Lodge, in September, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Master on behalf of the Lodge of Research.

My greatest concern is membership and although I am preaching to the choir, I can't understand why every Missouri Freemason doesn't belong. This is the best deal in all of Masonry. We have a breakfast at Grand Lodge with a great motivational speaker, we receive a free book as well as literature during the year, a dinner in May with a second great speaker as well, and a new research library in Columbia at our Masonic Complex to work in.

It is a great time to take advantage of our program for the year. Sign up 10 new members and receive your MLR Endowed Membership. Remember, a check for each new member must accompany his request. On May 22, 2010, the Grand Lodge will have the Grand Master's C2A class at the Masonic Complex and immediately after the class, the Missouri Lodge of Research will hold it's semi-annual meal and meeting. We will have Brother Michael A. Halleran as our honored lecturer, and I understand he is an enjoyable speaker, both informative and entertaining.

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize RWB Dale Bryan for the great job he did as Master of the MLR last year. Also, MWB Bill Soutiea, who works year round for the Lodge along with our Grand secretary, RWB Ron Miller. These two brethren are attached at the hip when it comes to working hard on behalf of the Lodge of Research. Thank you all: Dale, Bill and Ron.

I realize the Holidays are over for a while, however I am writing this just after the 1st of the New Year and would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy year.

Fraternally,
 Bob Berger

SEMI-ANNUAL MLR MEETING

This year's Semi-Annual Meeting of the Missouri Lodge of Research will be held at the Masonic Complex at 5:00PM following the Grand Masters Chance to Advance Class conducted by the Officer's of the Grand Lodge, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri.

Our honored guest speaker at our Semi-annual Meeting will be Brother Michael A. Halleran, a Masonic author of some note. Halleran is a free-



lance writer and practicing attorney in the Flint Hills of East-Cent-Kansas. A lecturer at Emporia State University, he is also an active Freemason, belonging to Emporia Lodge No. 12 and Mount Zion Lodge No. 266 A.F.& A.M.

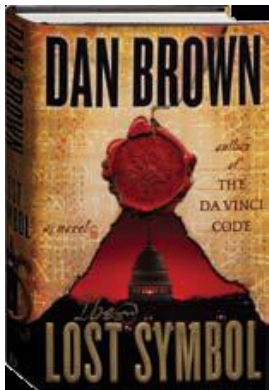
Brother Halleran is a member of Quatuor Cornati Correspondence Circle and the Scottish Rite Research Society (SRRS) where he studies American military Masonry and the traditions of military Lodges worldwide. He received the Mackey Award for Excellence in Masonic Scholarship by the SRRS for his article on Civil War Freemasonry in that society's journal, Heredom, Volume 14 (2006). In addition, he is the author of a regular column for the Scottish Rite Journal.

His new book, "The Better Angels of Our Nature", a story about Freemasonry in the American Civil War to be released in March 2010. It is available to be ordered through his website:

[Http://michaelhalleran.com](http://michaelhalleran.com)

The Washington Memorial and the Lost Symbol by Mark A. Tabbert

With over six million books published and over three million sold shortly after its launch on September 15, Dan Brown's new novel, *The Lost Symbol*, promises to be a worldwide blockbuster. Within its 509 pages, the Memorial gets a nice mention. Chapter 78 begins:



“The George Washington Masonic Memorial stands atop Shuter’s Hill in Alexandria, Virginia. Built in three distinctive tiers of increasing architectural complexity from bottom to top—Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian—the structure stands as a physical symbol of man’s intellectual ascent...”

Inside the spectacular marble foyer sits a massive bronze of George Washington in full Masonic regalia, along with the actual trowel he used to lay the cornerstone of the Capitol Building...”

The Memorial is observed by CIA agents as they fly by in a helicopter. They are pursuing the hero Robert Langdon and his partner Catherine Solomon who are traveling to the Memorial by subway. Expecting to intercept Langdon at King Street Station (right across the street from the Memorial) the agents land the helicopter on the Memorial's front lawn and run across Callahan Drive to the station.

Back in the real world, the Memorial began getting media attention three months before the book's arrival. In early June, a Boston magazine writer contacted the Memorial and subsequently published an article titled “The Dan Brown Code.” In August, a Hollywood production company filmed at the Memorial. The piece aired on the Discovery Channel on October 25. Reporters from *The Washington Post* toured the Memorial and did a Sunday feature on various local Masonic sites that were likely to be mentioned in the novel.

Dan Brown, on the other hand, personally recommended that *Today Show* co-host Matt Lauer visit the Memorial. As part of his “Where in the World is Matt” series, he was filmed in front of the Ark of the Covenant display in the Royal Arch Chapter Room. This segment was aired on the day before the book was released.

Later in the week, I was interviewed in the Royal Arch Room for the *NBC Nightly News*. A third NBC crew returned two weeks later to film a stonemason carving a Masonic emblem in a stone pyramid. This segment was edited into *Dateline*'s feature on *The Lost Symbol* that aired October 16.

For two weeks after the book's release, journalists contacted the Memorial nearly every day. A British reporter visited from New York. Her story first appeared in the UK before being printed into other languages. A Masonic brother sent a link appearing in a Swedish online newspaper. An Indian reporter e-mailed questions and our responses appeared in *Open* magazine, published in New Delhi.

By October 15, one fast month after the book's release, the press had gone on to other stories, new books and the coming holiday season's new products. We have happily seen a marked increase in visitors and hits on our website, but we are just as grateful to return to our mission. However, we'll be anticipating a visit from the film crew that is bound to make *The Lost Symbol* into a blockbuster movie!

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Mark A. Tabbert is the Director of Collections of the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Article from Volume 15, Number 3, “The Messenger”

Website Answers Questions

Although Dan Brown's treatment of Freemasonry is overwhelmingly positive in *The Lost Symbol*, he does take artistic license for the sake of his plot.

Unfortunately, readers are not always aware of the difference between fact and fiction.

A website was created as a joint project of the Memorial, the Masonic Society and the Masonic Service Association of North America to help provide factual information.

Visit the site at:

www.freemasonlostsymbol.com

STATE CAPITOLS

Solution 12 Letters

A I B M U L O C H E Y E N N E
 T R E N T O N O L A N S I N G
 Y K E S I O B N H O R G A I U
 S T C N D I A C E L I R T S O
 R I I O U N A O L Y C U L A R
 E S L C R L P R E M H B A L N
 V A U O N E U D N P M S N T O
 N L A R P O L L A I O I T L T
 E E P O E A S T O A N R A A A
 D M T L I V N R T N D R U K B
 A U S T I N O N E I O A A E O
 H A R T F O R D A F L H E C S
 Y T I C N O S R A C F S N I T
 X I N E O H P I E R R E U T O
 L I N C O L N O S K C A J Y N

ANNAPOLIS (MD)
 AUSTIN (TX)
 ATLANTA (GA)
 BATON ROUGE (LA)
 BOISE (ID)
 BOSTON (MA)
 CARSON CITY (NV)
 CHEYENNE (WY)
 COLUMBIA (SC)
 CONCORD (NH)

DENVER (CO)
 DOVER (DE)
 HARRISBURG (PA)
 HARTFORD (CT)
 HELENA (MT)
 HONOLULU (HI)
 JACKSON (MS)
 JEFFERSON CITY (MO)
 JUNEAU (AK)
 LANSING (MI)

LINCOLN (NE)
 LITTLE ROCK (AR)
 OLYMPIA (WA)
 PHOENIX (AZ)
 PIERRE (SD)
 RICHMOND (VA)
 SALEM (OR)
 SALT LAKE CITY (UT)
 ST. PAUL (MN)
 TRENTON (NJ)

RULES FOR PLAY:

You must *circle each of the letters individually* in each of the state capitol names listed above. Then check off or line out the city/state found in the list. **Do NOT BLACK or BLOT out** the letters in the puzzle as each letter may be used in a different city name also. When all the cities have been lined through, you should then have those 12 letters left which have not been circled. Write down **these letters only**, from upper left to lower right and this will spell out the city. Do you know which state it is the capitol of?

Oh, by the way. The answer to our last puzzle was State of: **PENNSYLVANIA**

Heard on Southwest Airlines just after a very hard landing in Salt Lake City. The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump, and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it was not the airline's fault, it was not the pilot's fault, it was not the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt."

Obtain previous issues of MLR Newsletters available at following website: www.momason.org/lodgeofresearch/newsletter.asp

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RP 10-01

NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to become a member of the Missouri Lodge of Research

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email: _____

Date Sent: _____

Check Number _____ Amount of Check: _____

Yearly Membership Dues \$20.00. Recommended by: _____

(Please Print)

This includes the Missouri Lodge of Research Publication for the current year.

- OR -

You may also purchase a Lifetime Membership at the cost of \$500.00. **(One time for LIFE)**

This guarantees you will receive the Missouri Lodge of Research Book yearly and no future increase!

Please **make check payable to the Missouri Lodge of Research** and send to the following address:

Ronald D. Miller, Secretary/Treasurer
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Columbia, MO 65202-6535