Heder 11

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THE WASHINGTON PIE

(In which the "Fruits of the Spirit" of TRUTH make the filling of Washington's Birthday Bie.)

by

Katharine Curzon Lowman, P.M.

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This ceremony is to be given after the regular meeting of the chapter.

If you have a joint celebration with the Masons, have the Worship-ful Master in the East with the Worthy Matron during this ceremonial and use Masons for the Escorts. (Worthy Patron may be an escort.)

Under the "Good of the Order", the Worthy Matron will make her announcement and invite all to remain. Suggestions for Costumes, etc., are given at the end of the ceremony.

Ceremony opens with Patriotic March Music.

The Worthy Matron and Worshipful Master (or Worthy Patron) enter room through door in west. The proceed, in regular order, to chairs on dais in East. They are seated.

A young man and a young woman (or two young ladies, dressed to represent a Modern Youth and a Girl) will enter. Music continues. They proceed to the East where they shall address the Worthy Matron; and Worshipful Master as follows:

Modern Maiden speaks first:

Kind rulers in the East, we are representatives of the YOUTH of the Modern age. We wish to know the Truth. Can you help us?

Modern Youth adds:

We have been told by some that the virtues of Patriotism, Loyalty, and Unselfishness are obsolete; that the men whom we have been taught in our histories as being governed by those virtues, and as being great and noble, were only very imperfect men after all. That they possessed many faults of character and are not really heroes at all. Will you tell us the Truth?

The Girl continues, before Worthy Matron can answer:

To-night we saw a shining Star; it reflected colors of Red, and Green, and Blue, and White, and Yellow. It was so pretty. We followed it. It led us in here.

The Boy adds:

We have never seen a Star so colored. Does it mean some-thing special?

WORTHY MATRON responds:

Fair Maid and Brave Youth, the Star of beautiful colors which attracted you and led you into this Court of Truth and Love, does mean "something special".

Your questions are common to the Modern Youth of to-day. We shall help you to get the correct answers.

WORSHIPFUL MASTER (or Worthy Patron) adds:

While the enemies of our Country, and of our wonderful form of government, try to tear down our National Heroes, and while they seek to plant suspicion, doubt, and destruction in the hearts

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and minds of our people, we who belong to the Court of TRUTH and LOVE and follow the rays of Light, shall rebuild them. Be scated. To-night you shall hear the TRUTH.

Youth and maid are seated on steps, or the girl on the right of the Worthy Matron, the youth at the left of the Worshipful Master.

Worshipful Master announces:

"Hear ye! All who have a right to enter this Court of TRUTH and LOVE may do so now. Here Truth only may be spoken. Here Love reign in all hearts.

Trumpeter in west (Sentinel) announces:

Rulers of the Court of Truth and Love. Five Rays of Light beg permission to enter this Court that they may speak a Truth.

(Music.)

Enter the Five Star Points. They carry bunches of cherries (made of Dennisons" crepe paper and stuffed with cotton or tissue paper) and leaves. The proceed to stand behind and a little to the side of their chairs. When all are in their places,

ELECTA speaks first, as follows:

Lovely rulers. BECAUSE George Washington, the first President of our County, AND - A MASON, represents the type of manhood which is embodied in the lossons taught here, in which a good, brave man has a part with each of our heroines, it is fitting and right that we should devote a short period of time to the commemoration of the anniversary of his birth. We shall be happy to-night because we are honoring his birth, not his death.

The name of Washington has endured for over 200 years. It shall continue to endure because it, like the Masonic fraternity of which he was a member, represents principles which are enduring.

Almost every charcteristic which he possessed, every principle which governed him, and every event in his life has a parallel or counterprt in the teachings of this Order.

Even the colors of the Order correspond with the colors to be found in the episode of the Cherry Tree.

One of the Rays of the Star of Light is Red. Red, too, is the color of the ripe cherry.

So I hang these at this Point, in honor of him who like the heroine of the Red ray lived for Truth and Love, and was unafraid to die for the Right, if need be.

She hangs bunch of cherries on the back of the chair, which may be covered with white. Have a loop on the back of the bunch of cherries and leaves. A nail, hook, or pin should have been fixed beforehand on the middle of the back of the chair to receive the bunch. Electa remains standing.

MARTHA then speaks:

Faithful rulers. Our great Star of Light sends out green rays of H ope and Faith to brighten the pathway of all who are in search of Truth and Love. Green, too, were the leaves of the Washington Cherry-tree.

So I hang these here, in memory of two Marthas. One has a place in this Order; the other has a prominent place in the heart and home of Washington. Many Eastern Star Chapters bear the honored name "Martha Washington Chapter". This I do in honor of Martha Curtis Washington, wife and beloved companion of George Washington. (Hangs cherries and remains standing.)

ESTHER then says:

Sovereign rulers. White were the blossoms of the cherry tree. So I hang these - here, so that the Rays of Purity from the Star of Light may commingle with the purity of the cherry blossom.

Like a king of whom we have been told, Washington, too, once asked a good, pure woman a question. He received an unsatisfactory answer to his question - or proposal of marriage -- because, as he said, "I did not wait until Ye Layde was in Ye proper need".

Hangs cherries and remains standing,

RUTH says:

Hoble rulers. YELLOW is the seed which is found in the heart of the cherry, so I hang these in the Yellow Ray of Light from the Star, in honor of Washington, the President, and of Boaz, the king, each of whom married a widow.

Hangs cherries.

ADAH then says:

Blue is the color of one of the rays from the Star of Light. So, too, was the sky which spread over the cherry tree. I hang these at THIS place in honor of two great soldiers - Jeptha, the father of Adah; and Washington, the "Father of his Country".

She hangs the cherries.

The five then turn towards the aisle and proceed to their seats inside the big star. They are seated simultaneously. (Without the gavel.)

TRUMPETER, in west, announces:

Show me a man, that is, if you can,
Who prefers cake to good cherry pie;
For a lady we'd make a big birthday cake,
But a MAN wants a Birth - a'- day Pie;

(Soft music, "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia")

A man dressed as a cook, or in colonial costume, enters. He carries a large pan representing a pie. It may have a havy card board too in which is an opening, like in a regular pie, through which cherries may be dropped into the pie. He proceeds with dignity to a line running three steps in front of dais in EAST; turns and goes to center of room; turns WEST and goes to altar; places pie on altar. Turns back towards the east; advances in front of dais, stops and salutes Worthy Matron and Worshipful Master who may return salute but remain seated. He then speaks as follows:

For over two hundred years the Washington Birthday Pie has been in process of making. TRUTH shall constitute its filling for - the Fruits of the spirit are patience, long suffering, meekness. All of the virtues were possessed by George Washington. Each cherry in the filling represents a truth.

He turns towards the aisle, goes to aisle, turns towards West and down aisle to a chair which has been placed near dias where he is seated.

(Soft music.) Other officers and escorts enter, in double lines and proceed up aisle to line in front of dais in east; turn towards center of room and go on this line to middle, turn towards west and follow outline of star to their places. Conductress leads one line followed by Associate Matron, Escort, Treasurer, Escort, Escort, Secretary, Escort. The other line is led by Associate Conductress; followed by Marshal, Escort, Chaplain, Escort, Escort, Warder, Escort. Diagram follows:

The ladies may carry bouquets of cherries and leaves, or have just one cherry and leaf. The men will wear a cherry in their lapels. They may also carry paper hatchets against their shoulders as firearms are carried.

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in Big Star

Officers and Escorts thus.

1. Conductress
3 Asso. Matron
5. Escort
7. Treasurer
9. Escort

ll.Escort
13.Secretary
15.Escort

2. Asso. Cond.

4. Marshal

6. Escort 6. Chaplain

10. Escort
12. Escort

14. Warder

16. Escort

Electa

Adah

Nartha 9 11 13 14 1012Ruth

Esther

Place

They sing as they come. Tune "Auld Lang Syne"

Should heroes brave, and good, and true, Be ne'er more brought to mind?
Should Washington e'er be for-got,
And days of auld lang syne?
George Washington was good, my dears,
And brave, and strong, and true;
He teaches us to be the same,
For the red, the white, and blue.

Should we forget the president
Who made our country free?
Should we neglect to honor him,
In air, on land, and sea?
George Washington was brave, my dears,
As brave as man can be;
We'll sing this song to honor him,
Who made our country free.

When all have reached their proper places, and the song is ended, they will be seated simultaneously.

The Secretary will arise, unroll a scroll which has been tied with red, white, and blue ribbon and will read;

George Washington, son of Augustine and Mary Ball Washington was born at Wakefield, Westmoreland County, Virginia on February 22, 1732.

He married the widow, Martha Curtis, January 6th, 1759. He died at Mt. Vernon, December 14, 1799. (Secretary is seated.)

THE CONDUCTRESS will arise and say:

Washington was a man, so strong, so selfless in his devotion to his cause that he ranked among the noblest characters the world has ever known.

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We think of him in terms of CHARACTER rather than of offices and accomplishments.

All in the Star say, "That is true", and the Conductress steps forward and deposits a cherry and leaf into the Washington Pie. She is seated without gavel.

After each speech, those in star say, "That is true", and the speaker will then step forward deposit cherry and leaf into pie, and be seated. (Without gavel)

ASSOCIATE MATRON arises and says:

Washington had not a single motive that did not place the welfare of all above any thought of self.

He was respected and paid homage to - because men could not help doing so. (Doposits cherry, etc.)

No. 5 ESCORT will then arise and say:

George Washington took his first stop in Masonry in Fredericks-burg Lodge No. 4 on the 4th day of November, 1752.

He was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, March 3rd, 1753, and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, August 4th, 1753. He was the first Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22 (under Virginia jurisdiction April 28, 1788) which consisted largely of Revolutionary Officers. (All "That is true" - deposits charry, etc.)

TREASURER will arise and say:

George Washington was 6 feet 2 inches tell in his stocking feet. His weight was about 220 pounds. He was splendidly formed. His frame was large. His feet uncommonly big even for a man of his size. The calves of his legs were huge. Lafayette said that he had never soon such large hands on a human being: (All in star make response, cherry is deposited, etc.)

No. 9 ESCORT will trise to say:

Washington's eyes were dark blue, although some writers claim a cold gray for their color. In his youth his hair was inclined to be sandy, but it changed into a dark brown as he grew older. His nose was long and pointed. His forehead was high but slightly sloping. His checkbones were high and prominent. (All, "That is True". Deposit cherry, and is seated.)

No. 11 ESCORT will arise to say:

Washington carried himself erect. His back was straight, but his shoulders were not square. Ho walke, slowly with the steady tramp of the man who is decidedly sure of himself. (Response by all. Deposits cherry and is seated.)

No. 15 ESCORT arises and says:

Washington could easily leap a brook that other strong men could span only in two jumps.

He held the broad-jump record - 23 feet - until only a few years ago. (All respond. He desposits cherry - is scated.)

No. 16 ESCORT will arise and say:

Washington was a shrewd judge of men; only Benedict Arnold fooled him.

There was no sham about Washington -- no double-dealing in him. (All respond. He deposits cherry and is seated.)

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WARDER will arise and say:

Washington was dignified. He possessed great self- control, but sometimes he was so overcome by his deep emotions and became so choked that he was unable to speak for some time.

Tears often filled his eyes; but they were tears for others - for his poor, brave soldiers, and not tears for himself. (All respond - deposits cherry - and is seated.

No. 12 ESCORT will arise and say:

Washington loved mirth and gayety. He was fond of company, of entertaining, and of fox hunting. Fiery energy lay beneath his calm exterior. He loved the theater and dancing. He loved horses. One of his favorite horses was named Magnolia (An Arab). Portrait painters would talk about horses to get animation in his feateres. (Usual response, etc.)

No. 10 ESCORT will arise and say:

Washington was naturally jovial. His apparent gravity during the last twenty years of his life wad due to his false teeth.

After he had his teeth pulled, a silversmith made a plate for him. It fit so imperfectly that he could not laugh without the plate falling out of his mouth.

He could barely close his lips over his false teeth, and it was this defect which gave his mouth such severe lines. He could not laugh in his maturity without suffering untold embarrassment. Think what that meant to one who was naturally jovial. (Response - deposits cherry in pie and is sected.)

CHAPLAIN will arise and say:

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Washington was a consistent member of the established (Episcopal) church.

A colonial minister declared in a sermon that the young man had been preserved to be "the saviour of his country", and in spite of reckless exposure he was one of the few unwounded officers of the Revolution. (As before, and is seated.)

No. 6 ESCORT will arise and say:

Washington's Courage, Prudence, Firmness, Perseverence, and Good Judgment conducted our country through defeats, jealousies, and lack of men and supplies, and brought the Revolutionary War to a successful end. (in 1873) Response by all. He deposists cherry and is seated.

MARSHAL will arise and say:

We bow in recognition of his greatness. He never bartered Truth for gain; no man in history better served his country and his God.

An honest citizen, a brave soldier, a true Mason, a great American, as such - we are glad to acknowledge him and proud to honor him. (Response. Cherry in pie. Seated.)

ASSOCIATE CONDUCTRESS will arise and say:

Washington had no children of his own, so none may claim his honors nor disgrace his name.

He left the impress of his great character on our country, and on our constitution; and he lives still, "first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen". (All say, "That is true". She deposits cherries, and remains standing, and all stand now with her, while the Chaplain leads in prayer.

PRAYER

Our heavenly Father, God, as you gave us Washington to lead our country through trials and dangers of her infancy, so may you give us another who has the same spirit of love for country, God, and man, to lead our country safely through the pitfalls and dangers which we are encountering in her maturity. Thy help, light, and truth are unfailing and unchanging. May they help and guide each one of us, each loyal citizen, into a greater love for Thee, for our country, and for our rellow men. We ask this in the spirit of humbleness, truth, and love. Amen.

Music "America" begins here. All prosent may join in the singing. Usually two or three verses will be enough.

The chairs of Escorts Wo. 15 and To. 10 should be removed at this time by some one, appointed before hand to remove them.

All stand in star for singing first verse of America; then led by the conductresses they leave the star and go as follows. Lines are led straight from chairs of Conductresses, as they were in the big star, to in front of dais in East, lines part, one line in front of dais in west, on that line to center of room, come together; go double as far as possible, separate and go up aisles to line in front of dais again; turning towards center of room on this line, come together and turn west entering the star and going double to east side of altar; part and go out of star on diagonal lines, the one bewtween Fartha's and Esther's chairs; the other between Ruth's and Esther's chairs to out of room or to seats in room. Escort Fo. 16 may pick up pie as he comes to altar last time and carry it out.

You may add a musical reading, or any music, declarations or speeches you may wish, to make thus the correct length of time that you wish to devote to it that is if you went it longer than it now is.

Note: This may be made as simple and inexpensive, or as elaborate, as you desire. If you can afford to make colonial costumes have as many as you can afford. If but part of the officers can have colonial costumes, the others, or all of them, may wear soldier hats (made from squares of paper) and paper capes (home made) or you can wear National hats which may bought where favors are sold.

Red, white, and blue hats and capes (Dennison's Crepe Paper) with white dresses (or dark dresses) will be pretty for the officers. You may find directions for making cherries in Dennison's Book, but I expect nearly all would be able to make them without any instruction.

Do not think that Colonial costumes are necessary in order to give this.

Suggested refreshments: cherry pie and whinned cream, or cherry pie and a mode and coffee.