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# Famous Freemasons

"Tell me thy company, and I'll tell thee what thou art."  
**Miguel de Cervantes** (1547–1616), Spanish writer.

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The creator of this web site is acutely aware of the aphorism that a person who has a hammer views the whole world as a nail. However, if one compares the number of famous and good people who were Masons or members of the Masonic 'family' with the number of famous and good people who were against Masonry, there is simply no contest. Anti-Masons who've achieved positions of greatness and recognition can be counted on a few fingers. Compare the list of 'famous Anti-Masons' we've provided [on another page](#) with the famous Freemasons you'll find on our lists. If Masonry was evil, occultic, conspiratorial or bad, why would these men - and the many millions more whose names are not recorded here - voluntarily choose to affiliate with it over the past three hundred years?

**Find a Grave:** Many Masons and members of the Masonic 'family' proudly display their affiliation with the fraternity at their final resting place. If you see this image , you can click on the Mason's name and be transported to the "[Find A Grave](#)" web site to see an actual picture of their grave located on the web. (There may be more than just those we've got noted here; gravestone pictures at that web site are being updated constantly.) You might also find [our page about Masonic gravestones](#) of interest....

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to **this** page and **not** the individual 'child' pages of this section as they may be subsequently changed with even further division as time passes with more names being added. This page will provide the continuity to those other pages.

Listings of those who are (or were during their lifetime) Masons serves to remind us of the many notables who - of their own free will - chose to associate with this noble institution. Those who preach anti-Masonic hate must ultimately wonder how it is that so many have been (supposedly) deceived - while *they* have found the 'truth'.... And while some will argue that these men have been deceived; others contend they are/were part of a New World Order conspiracy. What is **not** arguable is that they represent all walks of life and that they were - in their respective ways - **LEADERS!**

Throughout the 300 years of Freemasonry in its current form, there have been a precious few who have not behaved in a way that reflects positively upon the organization. We talk about them on [this page](#).

**Important Note:**

This listing is not all-inclusive nor is it an 'official' list of any sort. Information is derived from sources believed to be accurate. Any errors are solely the fault of the compiler!

Names for this site have come from many sources. Please take a moment to see the list of contributors [here](#). Please note, though, that we do not have unlimited space nor do we have unlimited time. We'd love to keep adding to this section but have found far too many submissions sent as: "I think X is a Brother." or "A fellow mentioned in Lodge the other night that X is a Mason.". That simply isn't sufficient for our purposes. Accordingly, we're now curtailing efforts on these pages considerably and returning our focus to anti-Masonry. We believe that the many Masons shown clearly acknowledge that Freemasonry attracts members of the highest standing. And far beyond these few pages are the millions upon millions of those who joined and enjoyed the lessons they've learned from the friendship and fellowship of Freemasonry.

Thanks too to those who've written to point out additional information and/or discrepancies.





# Famous Freemasons

## A through I

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*Infamous Non-Masons*

*Gravestones*

*We ARE Perfect*

*Contributors*

**Abbott, Sir John J.C.** - Canadian politician who served as Prime Minister (1891-1892).

**Abbott, William "Bud"** - Famous half of the Abbott & Costello comedy team.

**Acuff, Roy** - "King of Country Music"

**Adams, Sherman** - Governor of New Hampshire and US Congressman

**Aguinaldo, Emilio** - President of the Philippines, he declared their independence in 1898.

**Aldrich, Nelson Wilmarth** - U. S. Senator, known for his extensive impact on banking reform. He also served as Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.

**Aldrin, Edwin E.** - Known as "**Buzz**" - American astronaut who as a crew member of Apollo 11 became the second human being to walk on the moon (July 20, 1969).

**Alfond, Harold** - Owned famous 'Dexter Shoe Company' and noted philanthropist. Sports complexes throughout Maine made possible by his generous contributions bear his name.

**Allen, Charles H.** - First Governor of Puerto Rico (1800-1802) when it was freed of its 400 year despotic rule by Spain.

**Allen, Ira** - Known as the 'Father of Vermont', he played a significant role in the acceptance of Vermont as a State and then gave land to help found the University of Vermont.

**Althouse, Monroe** - Director, Ringgold Band of Pennsylvania

**Ames, Ezra** - Portrait painter who painted portraits of Washington, Alexander Hamilton, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, Martin Van Buren, George Clinton, DeWitt Clinton.

**Anderson, Brad** - Cartoonist and creator of the popular 'Marmaduke' comic strip

**Anderson, Robert** - Major General U.S. Army who was in command of Fort Sumter at time of Confederate attack. Known as "Hero Of Fort Sumter."

**André, Major John** - British soldier who attempted to assist Benedict Arnold in his treasonous betrayal of West Point. He was sentenced to death and hanged in 1790.

**Antheil, George** - Eccentric composer of the 1920s. His trademark work was the 1924 work "Le Ballet Mecanique", which incorporated sounds from machines like airplane propellers and car horns.

**Archer, Dennis** - Mayor of Detroit, Michigan

**Arlen, Richard** - Movie actor.

**Armstrong, Louis** - Known as "**Satchmo**." American jazz trumpeter. A virtuoso musician and popular, gravelly voiced singer, he greatly influenced the development of jazz.

**Arnold, Eddie** - Country Music legend and member of the Grand Ole Opry

**Arnold, General Henry "Hap"** - Medal of Honor recipient and American general whose efforts helped establish what is now the U.S. Air Force. Commander, Army Air Force in World War II.

**Arthur William Patrick Albert / Prince Arthur** - Third son of Queen Victoria and the longest serving Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England

**Asher, Max** - US movie actor - Keystone Kop.

**Astor, John Jacob** - A German immigrant to the US, he at one point was considered the wealthiest man in America. He was Master of Holland Lodge in New York and served as Grand Treasurer for that Grand Lodge.

**Audubon, John James** - American ornithologist and artist known for his imposing works in full color of Birds of America. He referred to himself as a "Mason" and "Brother" in his diary but no proof has been found of his membership.

**Auker, Elden** - US baseball 'submarine' pitcher

**Austin, Stephen F.** - American colonizer and political leader who worked to make Texas a state of Mexico but later helped Texas settlers gain their independence (1836). Known as the 'Father of Texas'.

**Autry, Gene** - American actor who made some 90 movies from the 1930s through the 1950s, cowboy singer ("Back in the Saddle Again" and more), and professional sports team owner (original

owner of the California Angels baseball team). Many young people today have grown up listening to his rendition of "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer". Brother Gene was a "true gentleman".

Listings of those who are (or were during their lifetime) Masons serves to remind us of the many notables who have - of their own free will - chosen to associate with this noble institution. Those who preach anti-Masonic hate must - in the depth of their souls - wonder how it is that so many have been (supposedly) deceived - while *they* have found the 'truth'....

And while some will argue that these men have been deceived; others contend they are/were part of a New World Order conspiracy. What is **not** arguable is that they represent all walks of life and that they were - in their respective ways - **LEADERS!**

**Bagley, Edward E.** - Composer of 'National Emblem' march.

**Bahamonde, Ramon Franco** - An aviator and Spanish politician, he was the brother of dictator, General Francisco Franco. He was Commander of Aviation and received the Aerial Medal for his valiant action in the Morocco conflict. He was one of the Masons who refused the initiation of General Franco into Freemasonry.

**Bahr, Hermann** - Austrian writer, essayist and critic, he was an intellectual interpreter of his time.

**Baldry, Tony** - Current (1999) UK Member, House of Commons

**Baldwin, Henry** - American jurist who served as an associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court (1830-1844).

**Balfour, Lloyd** - Jewelry Manufacturer. Millions of students have for generations chosen class rings from Balfour Jewelry

**Banks, Sir Joseph** - Noted naturalist who accompanied Capt. Cook on his journeys around the world.

**Barnard, Lawrence "Slim"** ■ - Creator and host of TV's 'The Happy Wanderer' travelogue show of the 1960s

**Barnes, Roy** - 80th/Present (1999) Governor of Georgia

**Barnes, W. W.** - Professor of church history at Southwestern Seminary 1913-1953.

**Bartholdi, Frederic A.** - French sculptor best known for his figure of *Liberty Enlightening the World*, the Statue of Liberty, in New York Harbor

**Barton, Edmund** - Speaker of the legislative assembly, New South Wales, Australia, Attorney General, and judge of the Australian high court

**Basie, William "Count"** - Orchestra leader/composer

**Bates, Frederick** - Governor of Missouri

**Bayh, Birch** - US Democratic Senator from Indiana from 1962-1981.

**Baylor, Robert E. B.** - Founder of Baylor University, Texas' first Baptist college

**Beard, Daniel Carter** - American writer and illustrator. In 1905, he founded the Sons of Daniel Boone which in 1910 became the first Boy Scout organization in the US.

**Bell, Lawrence** - Bell Aircraft Corp.

**Bellamy, Francis J.** - The Baptist Minister who created America's Pledge of Allegiance

**Benes, Eduard** - President of Czechoslovakia elected in 1935, he led his nation's government into exile after the outbreak of World War II. He resigned in 1948 when he was forced to yield to a Communist directed cabinet.

**Bennett, Viscount R.B.** - 12th Prime Minister of Canada 1930-35

**Benton, Thomas Hart** - U. S. Senator from Missouri for 30 years and Grand Master of Iowa

**Bentsen, Lloyd M.** - A life member of his Masonic Lodge in Texas, Bro. Bentsen served the U. S. with honor and distinction as a bomber pilot in WWII, a US Congressman, Senator and Secretary of the Treasury. His run for the presidency in 1976 allowed the country to meet this kind and considerate man. He was the Vice Presidential candidate with Michael Dukakis in the 1988 campaign where, during the debate with his opponent he used the now-famous phrase "I knew John Kennedy....". Bro. Bentsen's daughter advises us that he suffered a stroke about two years ago and is now confined to a wheel chair but in November, 2000 will celebrate his 57th wedding anniversary! His daughter Tina was a member of Rainbow and is now an Eastern Star. Her daughter is a Rainbow Grand Representative so the Masonic connection runs deep.

**Berlin, Irving** - Entertainer and songwriter who wrote more than 1,500 songs including "Alexander's Ragtime Band" (1911) and several musical comedies like *Annie Get Your Gun* (1946)

**Berthold, Bartholomew** - Businessman who organized the first territorial bank in the Louisiana Territory

**Black, Hugo L.** - U. S. Senator and Supreme Court Justice

**Blair, Jr., John** - U. S. Supreme Court Justice and member of the Constitutional Convention.

**Blanc, Mel** - If you've heard cartoon characters Bugs Bunny, Elmer Fudd, Barney Rubble of the Flintstones, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, Sylvester the cat or others, you've heard the voice this 50+ year Mason who brought so much pleasure to so many children for so many years.

**Blatchford, Samuel** - U.. S. Supreme Court Justice

**Boaz, Hiram Abiff** - Bishop of the Methodist Church, one of the first presidents of Texas Wesleyan University and a member of two Texas lodges.

**Bond, Shadrach** - First Grand Master of Freemasons and first Governor of Illinois

**Boone, Daniel** - Mythologized early U. S. pioneer responsible for the exploration of Kentucky. Although his Masonic membership is unprovable, here is what Nathan Boone had to say about his father's funeral: "Father's body was conveyed to Flanders Callaway's home at Charette, and there the funeral took place. There were no military or Masonic honors, the latter of which he was a member, as there were then but very few in that region of the country." (*Hammon, Neal O. (ed.) "My Father, Daniel Boone- The Draper Interviews with Nathan Boone."* Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky, 1999. p. 139.)

**Borden, Sir Robert Laird** - Prime Minister of Canada during World War I

**Borglum, Gutzon & Lincoln** - Father and Son who carved the presidential busts on Mt. Rushmore

**Borgnine, Ernest** - Film and television actor. In 1955 received the Oscar as Best Actor for the film Marty. Known to a generation of television fans for his role as the Captain in McHale's Navy. He actively serves Freemasonry and is presently the Honorary Chairman of a program to support the Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center in Richmond.

**Bortnyansky, Dimitry Stepanovich** - Genius Russian composer, author of many religious musical works and the song "How Glorious is Our Lord in Zion" which served for a considerable time as the national anthem of the Russian empire.

**Bowell, Sir Mackenzie** - British-born Canadian Prime Minister 1894-96 who later led the Conservative opposition.

**Bowie, James** - American-born Mexican colonist who joined the Texan forces during the struggle for independence from Mexico. He died during the defense of the Alamo.

**Bradley, Omar N.** - American general. Played a major part in the Allied victory in World War II.

**Brant, Joseph** - Chief of the Mohawks 1742 - 1807. Supported the British in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution.

**Breckinridge, John C.** - American Vice President, he ran as the pro-slavery candidate and lost to Abraham Lincoln. His bust is in the Senate wing of the US Capitol.

**Brown, Major General Charles E. Jr.** - Served as US Army Chief of Chaplains.

**Brown, Foster V.** - US Congressman from Tennessee, he served as Attorney General for Puerto Rico

**Brown, Joe E.** - Immensely popular actor with the BIG mouth!

**Bruce, James of Kinnaid** - Scottish explorer who made an epic voyage to Abyssinia in the 18th century. Not as widely known, however, is that he was a considerable scholar who brought back from Abyssinia three copies of the Book of Enoch, the apocryphal book which relates to the Royal Arch Degrees, certain of the Scottish Rite Degrees and to the Royal Order of Scotland. The book did not make it into the Biblical canon primarily because no complete copy existed in Europe prior to Kinnaid's journey. The copies he brought back were in the Abyssinian language which he learned before going there although no one knows how!

**Bryan, William Jennings** - US Secretary of State under President Woodrow Wilson.

**Buchanan, James** - 15th President of the U.S. (1857-1861).

**Bullock, Bob** - Texas Lt. Governor.

**Burke, Arleigh** - Highly decorated US Navy Admiral whose leadership helped win the battle in the Pacific during World War II. He was known as "31 knot Burke".

**Burnett, David G.** - 1st President of the Republic of Texas

**Burrows, Lansing** - President of the Southern Baptist Convention (1914-1916), secretary of the SBC from 1881-1913, and pastor of 8 Southern Baptist churches.

**Burns, Conrad** - US Senator from Montana

**Burns, Robert** - The National Poet of Scotland. His lyrics, written in dialect and infused with humor, celebrate love, patriotism, and rustic life. Freemasonry was more important to him than any other institution in Scotland!

**Burton, Harold H.** - Supreme Court Justice (1945-1958)



**Burton, Ron** - Professional football player with the Boston Patriots, Past Master of his lodge, and involved in the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.  
**Butterfield, Daniel** - Major General in the Civil War Union Army; holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor but known especially for his writing of America's best known bugle call, "Taps"  
**Byrd, Admiral Richard E.** - American naval officer and explorer. He was the first to fly over the North Pole (with Floyd Bennet in 1926).  
**Byrd, Robert C.** - The "Dean" of the US Senate.  
**Byrnes, James F.** - Supreme Court Justice and Secretary of State. He tried unsuccessfully to ease post-WW2 tensions between the US and the USSR.

When preparing this list, I was asked, "How does somebody know if a person is a Mason or not?". The answer seemed simple: because they're proud to say that they are - and since Masonry is not a "secret organization" as some would have you believe, then it's pretty easy!

**Calvo, Father Francisco** - Catholic Priest who started Freemasonry in Costa Rica 1865  
**Cantor, Eddie** - Popular vaudevillian  
**Carroll, B. H.** - First president of Southwestern Seminary and instrumental in the creation of the Department of Evangelism of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention  
**Carson, Christopher "Kit"** - Frontiersman, scout and explorer  
**Cass, Lewis** - American soldier, politician and diplomat. Served as Secretary of War, Secretary of State, and U. S. Senator. He was a Grand Master of Iowa and the first Grand Master of Michigan.  
**Catton, John** - U.S. Supreme Court Justice  
**Chamberlain, Joshua L.** - The Union General who received the only battlefield promotion to general during the US Civil War and was credited with the victory in the crucial Battle of the Little Round Top. He was chosen to receive the surrender of the arms and colours of the Confederacy. A chivalrous man, he had his troops salute the defeated army as they marched by. Many believe that this singular act was critical to begin the healing process at the end of that horrid war. He later served as Governor of his home state of Maine and was the President of Bowdoin College. He was the last soldier to die of wounds received in the War and today is used as an example in leadership by the US Army. See [here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#) for excellent online sites about this amazing man.  
**Christian, John T.** - Baptist Minister; Professor of Church History and Librarian of the Baptist Bible Institute. The Library on the New Orleans seminary campus bears his name.  
**Chrysler, Walter P.** - American automobile manufacturer who founded the Chrysler Corporation  
**Churchill, Winston** - British politician and writer. Prime Minister (1940-1945 and 1951-1955). His inspiration is often credited with helping Britain survive under the onslaught of Hitler's evil.  
**Citroen, Andre** - French engineer and motor car manufacturer  
**Clark, Mark Wayne** - US Army General who commanded the American Fifth Army when it made its initial landings on the Italian mainland. Later commanded the 15th Army Group consisting of the British Eighth and American Fifth Armies as it effected the conquest of Italy.  
**Clark, Montague Graham, Jr.** - Presbyterian minister and President of the School of the Ozarks.  
**Clark, Roy** - Country-Western star and singer; member of the Grand Ole Opry  
**Clark, Tom C.** - Supreme Court Justice (1949-1967)  
**Clark, William** - American explorer and frontier politician who joined another Freemason, Meriwether Lewis on the Lewis and Clark expedition (1804-6), the first overland exploration of the American West and Pacific Northwest. Clark was responsible for the careful mapmaking. He later served as Native American agent and governor of the Missouri Territory (1813-1821).  
**Clarke, John H.** - Supreme Court Justice (1916-1922)  
**Clay, Henry** - Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and Grand Master of Kentucky  
**Clemens, Samuel L. - Mark Twain** - Writer and humorist. His famous works include the characters of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn.  
**Clinton, De Witt** - Mayor of New York City, Governor of New York, and presidential candidate, he also served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York.  
**Clinton, George** - Third Vice President of the United States and first to die in office.  
**Cobb, Ty** - U. S. baseball player and manager who was the first player elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. We have a few more comments on Brother Cobb's career [here](#).

**Cody, "Buffalo Bill" William** - American guide, scout and showman, he founded the "Wild West Show" which toured Europe and America. Cody, Wyoming is named after him.

**Cohan, George M.** - American composer and lyricist, famous for such songs as "Yankee Doodle Dandy"

**Cole, Nat 'King'** - Great pianist and ballad singer

**Coleman, Frank** - Founder of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity

**Collodi, Carlo** - Writer of 'Pinocchio'

**Colt, Samuel** - Firearms inventor and manufacturer. He invented the first revolver.

**Combs, Earle Bryan** - Baseball Hall of Fame

**Conner, W. T.** - Taught theology at Southwestern Seminary 1910--1949.

**Cook, Joseph** - British

**Craig, John B.** - Career US foreign service officer and current (1999) Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman

**Crockett, David ('Davy')** - Frontiersman and politician. US Representative from Tennessee who joined the Texas revolutionaries fighting against Mexico. He died at the siege of the Alamo.

**Crosby, Norm** - Comedian and entertainer. Always seen on the Jerry Lewis telethons for muscular dystrophy in the US. He is a Past Master of a Lodge in Massachusetts.

**Crowe, William J. Jr.** - Served as Commander-in-Chief, US Pacific Command; Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on May 19, 1994.

**Cushing, William** - Supreme Court Justice

"Isn't a Mason bound to answer truthfully when asked if they're a Mason?" a recent online poster asked? The answer is: no more than a person when asked if they're a member of the Anglican Church or the National Rifle Association. However, except for those parts of the world where persecution would subject a member or his family to potential harm, most Masons are proud to have others know of their involvement - **as this list attests!**

**Dallas, George M.** - 12th American Vice President, he also served as Minister to Russia (1837-39) and to Great Britain (1856-61)

**Darrah, Delmar** - Stimulus, imagination and drive for the founding of the American Passion Play, a vivid portrayal of the life of Jesus of Nazareth, for more than four decades, one of the Midwest US's greatest religious dramas and the forerunner of all such plays in the United States.

**Daub, Hal** - Mayor of Omaha, Nebraska (2001)

**Dearborn, Major General Henry** - Ranking US Army commander during the War of 1812.

**DeBar, Ben** - One of the most famous of the early day US actors and one of the first of prominence to play in 'talkies'.

**Decroly, Ovide** - Noted developer of educational psychology

**delPilar, Marcelo** - The "Father of Philippine Masonry", a lawyer who founded the first daily newspaper published in the native Tagalog language.

**DeMille, Cecil B.** - Film director. DeMille directed the first Hollywood film, The Squaw Man, in 1914. DeMille became the creative genius behind Paramount Pictures and was integral to Hollywood's development as the film capitol of the world. Two of his greatest film successes were The Ten Commandments (1923, remade 1956) and The Greatest Show on Earth(1952).

**Dempsey, (William Harrison) Jack** - Became a professional boxer in 1912 and fought in more than 100 semi-pro and professional bouts before winning the heavyweight championship in 1919. He successfully defended his title five times before losing to Gene Tunney in an upset in 1926. In the rematch in 1927, Dempsey knocked Tunney down in the seventh round but delayed going to a neutral corner, so the referee gave the controversial "long count" (estimated from 14 to 21 seconds) and Tunney went on to win on points. Later became a restaurant owner in New York.

**Desaguliers, John Theophilus** - Inventor of the planetarium

**Devanter, Willis Van** - Supreme Court Justice

**Dickens, Little Jimmy** - Grand Old Opry member

**Diefenbaker, John G.** - Prime Minister of Canada 1957-63

**Dirksen, Everett M.** - American political leader, he served eight terms in the US House of

Representatives and became Republican minority leader of the Senate.

**Dole, Robert J.** - Decorated Veteran, World War II; U.S. Congressman and Senator from Kansas, 1961–96; Majority and Minority Leader, U.S. Senate; Nominee for President of the United States 1996; Humanitarian and Philanthropist.

**Dodge, Henry** - First U.S. Marshal in Missouri, Governor of Wisconsin Territory, Senator from Wisconsin.

**Doolittle, General James** - American Army officer and aviator, he led the daring raids on Tokyo.

**Douglas, William O.** - US Supreme Court Justice for 36 years.

**Dow, Herbert Henry** - Founded Dow Chemical Co.

**Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan** - British physician and writer, creator of the famous "Sherlock Holmes".

**Drake, Edwin L.** - American pioneer of the oil industry

**Driver, Captain Thomas** - In 1831 received a delegation of ladies aboard his ship, the SS Charles. They presented him with a new flag which they had just made. Touched by the unexpected gift, he immediately ordered the new colors run up the mast and as he saluted declared, "I name thee Old Glory." The name stuck and Bro. Driver carried "Old Glory" twice around the world.

**DuBois, W.E.B.** - Educator/Scholar and co-founder of the NAACP

**Dunant, Jean Henri** - Philanthropist who inspired the founding of the Red Cross

**Dym, Jack** - Known to New Yorkers as "Jack The Hack". Brother Dym was forced to leave high school just days before his graduation to serve in World War II. Upon his return, he became a New York City taxicab driver - possibly the only *friendly* one, who gives smiley face balloons to his passengers - and has been doing that for some 57 years. Despite his own lack of a diploma, he put his children and grandchildren through college even selling a rare NYC taxi medallion (signifying ownership) for this purpose. In 2002, he wrote to his former high school and asked if he could attend their graduation, having missed his so many years before: the school welcomed his attendance with open arms and he even 'danced the night away' with the his wife of 50+ years and other high school graduates at the senior prom - wearing (what else?) the tuxedo he uses for Masonic events. Brother Dym was profiled by Correspondent Bill Geist on a June 30, 2002 segment of the nationally-aired CBS television program, Sunday Morning. Yet another famous Mason!

**Easton, Rufus** - First postmaster west of the Mississippi River.

**Ebbets, Charles H.** - Owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team and President of the National League for 27 years. He build Ebbets Field.

**Edson, Carroll A.** - Co-founder of the Order of the Arrow, a Boy Scout honor fraternity.

**Edward VII** - Prince of Wales and subsequently King of England

**Edward VIII** - King of England who abdicated the throne in less than 1 year in order to marry the woman he loved.

**Elgin, Lord** - In addition to being the Chief of the Name of Bruce, he is the Convenor of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs, retired Brigadier General in the Scots Guard Reserve, and is a Knight of the Thistle. He is a former Grand Master Mason of Scotland (the Grand Master as styled in Scotland) and has been head of the Royal Arch Chapter in Scotland for many years. Additionally he is the worldwide head of the Royal Order of Scotland.

**Ellington, Duke** - American jazz composer, orchestrator, bandleader, and pianist, considered the greatest composer in the history of jazz music and one of the greatest musicians of the 20th Century.

**Ellison, Dr. Marcus** - Past President of Virginia Union University and an author of various Masonic publications. He was an active member of the United Supreme Council - Southern Jurisdiction and a member of Jonathan Lodge #112 F&AM, Richmond, VA

**Ellsworth, Oliver** - The third Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court and responsible for the term "United States" appearing in the Constitution.

**Enzi, Michael B.** - United States Senator (Wyoming) whose father was also an active Mason and whose mother was a member of the Order of Eastern Star.

**Ernette, James L.** - Pennsylvania State Trooper also served as Grand Master of the GL of PA (1998-99)

**Ervin Jr, Samuel J.** - As U.S. Senator from North Carolina, he led the "Watergate" committee during the Nixon presidency and was widely praised for his fair-handed behavior.

**Evanko, Col. Paul J.** - Current (1999) Commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Police.

**Evans, Bob** - Famous restaurateur, his eateries are found throughout the United States.

**Faber, Eberhard** - Head of the famous Eberhard Faber Pencil Company.

**Fairbanks, Douglas** - American silent film actor known for his performance in swashbuckling



adventures such as 'Robin Hood'

**Farragut, David G.** - Admiral, US Navy. Leading Union naval officer of the US Civil War.

**Feller, Bob** - Hall of Fame baseball pitcher with the 28th most winning record.

**Fernández-Juncos, Manuel** - Hero of Puerto Rico, the capital's second most important boulevard is named after him.

**Fiala, Anthony** - War correspondent and famous photographer of Brazilian and polar expeditions.

**Field, Stephen J.** - US Supreme Court Justice (1863-1897)

**Fields, W. C.** - American entertainer known for his raspy voice, bulbous nose, and sardonic disposition. His films include *My Little Chickadee* (1940) and *Never Give a Sucker an Even Break* (1941).

**Fisher, Geoffrey** - English churchman, the 99th Archbishop of Canterbury. He became Bishop of London in 1939, and archbishop of Canterbury in 1945. Fisher was a distinguished pastor and administrator, helping to reorganize the work of the Church of England after World War II. As President of the World Council of Churches (1946-54), he was a vigorous proponent of ecumenism.

**Fitch, John** - American inventor, who probably developed the first American steamboat, an achievement often attributed to American inventor Robert Fulton.

**Fleming, Sir Alexander** - British bacteriologist who discovered penicillin in 1928. He shared a 1945 Nobel Prize for this achievement.

**Foelsche, Paul** - First police inspector in Australia's Northwest Territories.

**Ford, Gerald R.** - 25 year Congressman and Minority Leader of the US House of Representatives, he was appointed Vice President of the U.S. in the wake of the Spiro Agnew scandal. When President Richard Nixon resigned, he became the 38th President of the United States.

**Ford, Glenn** - Famous US movie actor

**Ford, Henry** - Invented the first gasoline powered automobile in 1893, founded Ford Motor Company in 1903 and mass-produced the first widely available and affordable car

**Franklin, Benjamin** - American printer (he published the first book to come off the press in the colonies - Anderson's Constitutions of 1723), author, diplomat, philosopher, and scientist, whose contributions to the American Revolution (1775-1783), and the newly formed federal government that followed, rank him among the country's greatest statesmen. He held the Masonic title of Grand Master of Pennsylvania and was one of the 13 Masonic signers of the Constitution of the United States.

**Francona, Tito** - US baseball player for the Cleveland Indians. He held a record for the most hits for a player in under 400 at bats.

**Frederick II ("The Great")** - King of Prussia (1712-1786) Effective military commander, music composer, patron of literature and the arts and institutor of many social reforms.

**Fulton, Robert** - Often referred to as a Mason (as a member of Hiram Lodge in New York City), his Masonic membership cannot be established factually. At least one Masonic Lodge was named for him - Robert Fulton Lodge #104, New York, NY.

**Gable, Clark** - American actor who played opposite nearly every major female star during the 1930's. Perhaps best remembered for his role as Rhett Butler in 'Gone with the Wind', he had received an Academy Award as Best Actor (in the Best Movie) of 1934 ('It Happened One Night').

**Garfield, James A.** - The 20th President of the United States, he was assassinated in 1881 and his death was the cause of considerable mourning in the US.

**Gates, John** - Known as "Bet-a-million" Gates, he was the founder of Texaco Oil Company and popularized barbed wire.

**Gatling, Richard J.** - Inventor of the famous "Gatling Gun".

**George VI** - King of England during World War II.

**Gerry, Elbridge** - American politician. Signer of the Declaration of Independence and a delegate to the Continental Congress, he served as Governor of Massachusetts (1810-1811) and Vice President of the United States until his death (1813-1814).

**Gibbon, Edward** - Writer, perhaps best known for the classic 'Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire'.

**Gilbert, Sir William S.** - British playwright and lyricist known for a series of comic operas including "H.M.S. Pinafore" and "The Pirates of Penzance" written with composer Sir Arthur Sullivan.

**Gillette, King C.** - American inventor and manufacturer who developed the safety razor and founded the Gillette Safety Razor Co.

**Gilman, Benjamin A.** - One of the highest ranking members in seniority, a U.S. congressman from the 20th New York District who in 1978 was successful as a champion of human rights.

**Girard, Stephen** - Born in France, he was an enormously successful merchant, mariner and banker. He largely financed the U.S. government during the War of 1812.

**Glenn, John H., Jr.** - U. S. astronaut and first American to orbit the earth in a space craft in 1962, he became a U. S. Senator from Ohio from 1974 through 1998 and in November, 1998, returned to space 36 years after his original journey as the oldest American astronaut. "God speed, Brother Glenn!"



- Glickman, Dan** - US Congressman from Kansas and Secretary of the US Department of Agriculture
- Godfrey, Arthur** - American television personality and one of the medium's dominant stars throughout the 1950s as host of variety show programs. This redhead's songs and skits with his ukulele entertained millions.
- Goldwater, Barry** - American politician, a conservative Republican he served as Senator from Arizona and unsuccessfully ran for president in 1964.
- Gompers, Samuel** - He led in the formation of the American Federation of Labor and (with the exception of one year) headed it from 1886 to 1924. He opposed socialism and communism and radicalism generally and kept the movement focused on economic goals and job security. He saw several reforms in child labor.
- Goodman, E. Urner** - Co-founder of the Order of the Arrow, a Boy Scout honor fraternity.
- Goodnow, David** - Newscaster and former long-time news anchor on CNN News
- Gorham, Bradford** - Former Rhode Island House Minority Leader, he served as Master of his Masonic lodge.
- Gorham, Nicholas** - Son of Bradford and a RI State Representative.
- Gray, Harold Lincoln** - Creator of "Little Orphan Annie"
- Griffith, D. W.** - Pioneer filmmaker
- Grissom, Virgil "Gus"** - Astronaut who made the second crewed spaceflight in 1961, he was tragically killed in a launch pad explosion in 1967.
- Grock** - Swiss Circus Clown, known as the "King of Clowns" and recognized for his virtuosity in both circus and theatre.
- Guillotín, Joseph Ignace** - French physician and revolutionary who advocated for a more humane method of death which came to bear his name.
- Hall, Prince** - The man whose name is honored by generations of black Freemasons who follow in his footsteps. There are several conflicting stories of his life and achievements.
- Hamilton, Frederick William** - Unitarian minister and President of Tufts College.
- Hamilton, William W.** - Named the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board's first head of the Department of Evangelism in 1906. He served as president of Baptist Bible Institute (BBI), now the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, from 1927 to 1943. While president, he saved BBI from bankruptcy in 1932 when the school defaulted on \$353,000 in bonds. President of the SBC from 1940 to 1942.
- Hampton, Lionel** - Best known for playing the vibraphones, he is a jazz giant.
- Hancock, John** - One of nine Masons - and the *first* signer of the Declaration of Independence, he was President of the Continental Congress and served nine terms as Governor of Massachusetts.
- Harding, Warren G.** - The 29th President of the United States. His political appointments engaged in serious corruption leading to the "Teapot Dome" scandal. He died in office.
- Hardy, Oliver** - American comedian, famous for the slapstick abuse he inflicted upon his partner, Stan Laurel.
- Harlan, John M.** - U.S. Supreme Court Justice
- Haydn, Franz Joseph** - Austrian composer who exerted great influence on the development of the classical symphony.
- Helms, Jesse** - Well-known conservative US Senator from North Carolina, he has been a leader in the field of US foreign relations for decades.
- Henry, Patrick** - American colonial patriot, member of the Continental Congress, he spurred the creation of the Virginia militia with the famous words "Give me liberty or give me death". Later served as the Governor of Virginia
- Henley, Vernard W. Henley Sr.** - C.E.O. and President, Consolidated Bank and Trust Co in Richmond, Virginia, the oldest Black owned Bank in the United States. Made a Mason at Sight in 1997 at the Annual Grand Lodge Session held in Arlington, Va. by The Most Worshipful Grand Master Of

Virginia. (P.H.A.).

**Henson, Matthew** - Sole companion of Bro. Adm. Robert Peary when he discovered the North Pole in 1909. He authored the book "A Negro Explorer at the North Pole" and was honored by the White House before his death. Celestial Lodge #3, PHA, NYC.

**Herkimer, Nicholas** - Brigadier General of the US Revolution

**Herrmann, Alexander** - "King of Magic"

**Hershey, Lewis** - Director of the U.S. Selective service for 30 years

**Hoban, James** - Irish-born American architect who designed and supervised the construction (1793-1801) and renovation (1815-1829) of the White House in Washington, DC.

**Hobbs, Herschell Harold** (d. 1995). - An ordained Southern Baptist minister for 69 years, he wrote at least 147 books and Bible commentaries used in Southern Baptist churches. He preached more than 700 sermons on the syndicated radio program, the "Baptist Hour" between 1958 and 1978. He was president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1961-63. He was raised a Master Mason in Siloam Lodge No. 276 in Oklahoma City at the age of 54, which was during his first term as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He became a Scottish Rite Mason in 1966 while a preacher on the "Baptist Hour".

**Hoe, Richard M.** - Inventor and businessman.

**Holland, Leonard** - Longtime Adjutant General of the Rhode Island National Guard

**Holliday, Frank Jr.** 🎬 - American motion picture actor of the 1930s.

**Hoover, Frank** - A brand of vacuum cleaners is named after him.

**Hoover, J. Edgar** - American Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (1924-1972). He is remembered for fighting gangsterism during the Prohibition ear (1919-1933) and for a vigorous anti-Communist campaign after World War II.

**Hornish, Jr., Sam** - Race car driver, he was the youngest champion of a major, North American open-wheel series in modern racing history. In 2001, he lead the Indy Northern Light Series from start to finish. You can follow Brother Sam's racing career at [www.samhornish.com](http://www.samhornish.com)

**Hornsby, Rogers** - US baseball player, led the National League in hitting for 5 years and had a lifetime batting average second only to Bro. Ty Cobb.

**Horton, Frank Reed** - Lawyer, textbook author, Scouter, and Founder of the [Alpha Phi Omega](#) service fraternity, an organization at the forefront of college service fraternities.

**Horton, Tim** - Canadian ice hockey legend, he founded the donut chain which bears his name.

**Houdini, Harry (Ehrich Weiss)** - Premiere American magician known for his escapes from chains, handcuffs, straitjackets and padlocked containers, he was immensely proud of his Masonic affiliations and became a Shriner just before his untimely death.

**Houston, Sam** - American general who became the 2nd&4th President of the Republic of Texas. When Texas was admitted to the Union, he served as US senator and governor.

**Humphrey, Hubert H.** - US Vice President under Lyndon Johnson.

**Irvin Tommy** - Georgia's Commissioner of Agriculture and the state's longest serving official, he is also a Past Grand Master.

**Irwin, James B.** - American astronaut, he was a member of the 4th moon landing team.

**Ives, Burl** 🎬 - Legendary entertainer and ballad singer.

**Jackson, Andrew** - 7th President of the United States (1829-1837) and first Westerner to be elected President. A national military hero for his actions in the Battle of New Orleans during the War of 1812, His term addressed many of the significant issues in the formation of the country but was marked by political partisanship so common in that time. He left a legacy of a strong presidency. He was Grand Master of Masons in Tennessee two terms (1822-1824).

**Jackson, Reverend Jesse** - Baptist Minister, American civil rights leader and politician. His concerns for the oppressed and his dramatic oratory have attracted a large grassroots constituency called the Rainbow Coalition.

**Jackson, Robert H.** - American Supreme Court Justice and Prosecutor at the Nuremberg War Trials.

**Janos, Paul** - Mayor of Tarrytown, NY (2000)

**Jenner, Edward** - English physician. Discoverer of small pox vaccine.

**Johansson, Bengt** - Finnish composer

**Johnson, Andrew** - The 17th President of the United States, he succeeded the assassinated Abraham Lincoln. An attempt to unseat Secretary of War Edwin Stanton led to his impeachment on purely political grounds; he was acquitted by one vote.

**Johnson, Richard M.** - American Vice President under Martin VanBuren

**Jolson, Al** - American vaudeville and film performer, whose trademark became minstrel-style singing in blackface makeup. He starred in 'The Jazz Singer', the first important motion 'talking' picture with synchronized sound.

**Jones, Anson** - 5th President of the Republic of Texas

**Jones, Frank** - Hotel and brewery owner, President of the Boston & Maine Railroad, his hotel hosted the delegates to the conference that ended the Russo-Japanese War. Brother Franklin Roosevelt was awarded the Nobel Peace prize for his skills in negotiating at that conference.

**Jones, John Paul** - Scottish born seaman, he became a naval hero and 'Father of the U. S. Navy'. He later commanded Russian naval ships in their war against the Ottoman empire.

**Jones, Melvin** - One of the founders of the Lions International, the international service organization.

**Juarez, Benito** - President of Mexico whom some refer to as "the George Washington of Mexico".

Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, the names of the good and the famous adorn Freemasonry's roll.  
We believe it's really true: Masonry makes good men better

**Kahn, Gus** - Songwriter for Broadway and Hollywood musicals. His songs include "Toot Toot Tootsie Goodbye", "It had to be you" and "Yes Sir, That's My Baby".

**Kalakaua, King David** - Last monarch of the Hawaiian Kingdom

**Kamehameha (s), King (III, IV, and V)** - all of whom were Monarchs of the Hawaiian Kingdom

**Keating, Kenneth B.** - Congressman and Senator from New York, Ambassador to India and then Israel. He died in office in 1975. *(Note: this is **NOT** the Keating of the banking scandals!)*

**Kellar, Harry** - America's premier magician from 1887 to 1908

**Kelly, Oliver Hudson** - Agrarian reformer and Founder of the Grange

**Kemp, Jack** - US Republican Congressman from New York, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Vice Presidential candidate with Mason Bob Dole

**Key, Francis Scott** - American lawyer and poet who wrote the lyrics which in 1931 became the United States' National Anthem

**Kheraskov, Mikhail** - Journalist, publisher and trustee of Moscow University

**King, Charles** - American biochemist who isolated vitamin C.

**King, Ernest Joseph** - Fleet Admiral, he was Commander-in-Chief of the US Fleet in 1941 and Chief of Naval Operations from 1942-1945.

**King, Karl L.** - One of America's top four march composers (1891-1971)

**King, William** - First Governor of Maine and first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine

**King, William Rufus** - American Vice President, he died in office. His bust is in the Senate wing of the US Capitol.

**Kipling, Rudyard** - British writer who won the Nobel Prize for literature. Many of his works have strong Masonic themes and some are specifically about Freemasonry, despite the fact that he was only active in his lodge for a brief period of time.

**Knox, Major General Henry** - US Revolutionary War hero, he was the first Secretary of War under the U.S. Constitution. A Masonic lodge named in his honor was constituted on the gun deck of the USS Constitution ('Old Ironsides') in 1926. Knoxville, Tennessee and the famous "Fort Knox" were named in his honor.

**Kossuth, Lajos (Louis)** - Tireless campaigner for Hungarian freedom, he was the first 'foreigner' to address the U. S. Congress after Lafayette.

**Kostiainen, Pekka** - Finnish Composer

**Kresge, Sebastian S.** - Founded S. S. Kresge, one of the great Five and Dime Stores. It's now known as K-Mart.

**Kutuzov, Mikhail** - Russian field marshal who distinguished himself in the wars against Turkey (1770-1774 and 1787-1791) and commanded (1805-1812) the Russian opposition to Napoleon.

**Ladd, Dr. Joseph** - Pioneer in Rhode Island on behalf of the mentally retarded

**Lafayette, Marquis de** - French soldier and politician, he took part in the American Revolution as a close supporter and friend of Brother George Washington.

**Lake, Simon** - Engineer who built the first submarine to operate successfully in open sea.

**LaGuardia, Fiorello** - American politician, the major airport in New York city is named in his honor.

**Lamar, Joseph R.** - US Supreme Court Justice

**Lamar, Mirabeau B.** - American politician and diplomat, he was the 2nd President of the Republic of Texas and later served as Minister to Nicaragua.

**Land, Frank S.** - In 1919, founded the Order of DeMolay, a fraternal organization for young men aged 12-21. Originally a group of fatherless boys, DeMolay quickly grew and was 'adopted' by Freemasonry in the United States. Today DeMolay is international in scope and millions of boys and men still refer to the founder of the Order as "Dad".

**Lawrence, J. B.** - Vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention and Secretary-Treasurer of the Home Mission Board for 30 years.

**Lawton, Henry Ware** - US Civil War Medal of Honor winner, he was a Major General at the famous charge of the Rough Riders at San Juan Hill by Bro. Col. Theodore Roosevelt. He was killed in a battle against insurgents in the Philippines and has been honored by them on a postage stamp issued in 1966.

**Lewis, Meriwether** - American soldier and explorer who, with fellow Mason William Clark conducted the first overland exploration of the West and Pacific Northwest. He also served as Governor of the Louisiana Territory and was proclaimed a National Hero. He was the first Master of St. Louis Lodge #111.

**Lincoln, Elmo** - First actor to play 'Tarzan of the Apes' (1918)

**Lindbergh, Charles** - American aviator who made the first solo transatlantic flight.

**Lipton, Sir Thomas** - British merchant and yacht racer who opened a successful chain of grocery stores in Great Britain and established tea processing factories in England and the US.

**Livingston, Robert R.** - American statesman and diplomat, he was a member of the Continental Congress, was on the committee which drew up the Declaration of Independence and was a co-negotiator for purchase of Louisiana Territory.

**Lloyd, Harold C.** - Entertainer and American silent film actor

**Long, Odel Squier** - Clerk of the Supreme Court of West Virginia for 30 years.

**Lott, Trent** - US Senator from Mississippi and current (2001) Senator Majority Leader.

**Loving, Oliver** 🏠 - "Dean of the Texas trail-drivers". The Goodnight-Loving Trail was named in his honor.

**Lyons, Theodore A.** - Baseball pitcher who struggled to bring credibility back to the shattered Chicago White Sox out of their scandal-ridden period in the early 1900s.

Freemasonry regards no man for his worldly wealth or honors. All Masons meet together as equals and put aside their power and position in order to gather in harmony.

**[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#)**





# Famous Freemasons

## M through Z

"Tell me thy company, and I'll tell thee what thou art."  
**Miguel de Cervantes** (1547–1616), Spanish writer.

For more information,  
 see:

**M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z**

Related Topics:

*Famous Masons A-L*

*Famous Masons M-Z*

*Famous Non-Masons*

*Our Black Sheep*

*Infamous Non-Masons*

*Gravestones*

*We ARE Perfect*

*Contributors*

Listings of those who are (or were during their lifetime) Masons serves to remind us of the many notables who have - of their own free will - chosen to associate with this noble institution. Those who preach anti-Masonic hate must - in the depth of their souls - wonder how it is that so many have been (supposedly) deceived - while *they* have found the 'truth'....

In a seeming 'sour grapes' fashion, some will argue that all of these men have been deceived (a pretty remarkable feat for those of such stature) while others will contend they are/were part of a New World Order conspiracy. What is **not** arguable is that they represent all walks of life and that they were - in their respective ways - **LEADERS!**

**MacArthur, General Douglas** - A former US Chief of Staff, he commanded the Allied Forces in the South Pacific during World War II. He promised the Filipino people "I shall return" to save them from the occupying Japanese Forces. He was ultimately removed from military leadership by another Mason, President Harry S. Truman.

**MacDonald, Sir John A.** - The first Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada (1867-1873 and 1878-1891 when he died in office). Began the creation of rail service across Canada.

**MacLean, John B.** - Founder of MacLeans Magazine.

**Macquarie, Lauchlan** - Major General and the first governor in Chief of New South Wales. During his twelve years in office he raised NSW from a prison camp to a thriving colony.

**Marsh, Henry** - First Black Mayor of Richmond, Virginia (1977)

**Marshall, George C.** - American soldier, diplomat and politician. He served as Secretary of State from 1947-1949 and organized the European Recovery Plan most often referred to as the "Marshall Plan" for which he received the 1953 Nobel Peace Prize.

**Marshall, James W.** - Discovered Gold at Sutter's Mill California 1848

**Marshall, John** - A former Grand Master of his Grand Lodge (Virginia), he served as Chief Justice U.S. Supreme Court 1801 - 1835 and firmly established the judiciary branch of US government.

**Marshall, Peter** - Presbyterian pastor of churches in Georgia & Washington, DC, Chaplain of the US Senate and author of such books as 'Mr. Jones, Meet the Master'. His biography is entitled "A Man Called Peter".

**Marshall, Thomas R.** - 22nd Vice President of the United States.

**Marshall, Thurgood** - The first Black to be appointed to the Supreme Court of the United States

**Mason, William Castein** - A physician who practiced both medicine and Masonry actively in his native city of Bangor, Maine from the date of his graduation from Harvard University to the day he laid down his working tools. The statement is literally true for within 48 hours of his passing, he performs an extremely difficult operation of which 30 years before he was one of the founders. The primary auditorium of Maine's second largest hospital where he practiced is named in his honor. (Mason Auditorium at Eastern Maine Medical Center.)

**Massey, Hart** - Massey-Ferguson farm equipment

**Mathews, Stanley** - US Supreme Court Justice

**Mayer, Louis B.** - Film producer who merged to form Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer (MGM)

**Maynard, David S. "Doc"** - Pioneer settler doctor who named the city of Seattle, Washington. He



helped create the Washington Territory.

**Mayo, Dr. Charles** - One of the brothers who began the world-famous Mayo Clinic, recognized as the first 'medical group practice' in the United States.

**Maytag, Fredrick** - Headed the company which produced farm equipment, the now little-known Maytag car and the first washing machine capable of being operated by an outside power source.

**McCall, Abner V.** - President, Chancellor and President-Emeritus of Baylor University in Texas, he also served as the First Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention (1979-80) and a long-time leader of the Organization of Baptist Colleges and Universities. He wrote "In thousands of meetings of Freemasons and of Baptists stretching back 60 years, I have seen nothing that made my belief and work in the Fraternity of Freemasons incompatible with my belief and work as a member of a Southern Baptist church."

**McCarthy, Glenn H.** - Famous Houston oilman, known as "king of the wildcatters"; built the Shamrock Hotel and was the basis for the character of Jett Rink played by James Dean in the 1956 film "Giant".

**McCoy, Clyde L.** - Inventor of the 'wah-wah- trumpet and talented arranger.

**McHenry, James** - Was a surgeon in the American Revolution and private secretary to Generals Washington and Lafayette. **Fort McHenry**, Maryland, of "Star Spangled Banner" fame was named after this U.S. Secretary of War.

**McKenzie, Dr. Parker Paul** - A Kiowa Indian, he created an alphabet and recorded the words, grammar and syntax to provide a written language for Kiowa. At the time of his death in 1999, he was the oldest living Kiowa.

**McKinley, William** - The 25th President of the United States (1897-1901). His presidency was marked by the Spanish-American War (1898), the annexation of Cuba and the Philippines, an open-door policy with China, and the passage of the Gold Standard Act (1900). He was assassinated by an anarchist in Buffalo, New York.

**McLemore, Richard A.** - President of Mississippi College in Clinton, Mississippi.

**Melchior, Lauritz** - One of the world's foremost Wagnerian tenors.

**Mellon, Andrew** - Financier, public official, philanthropist; He helped found the Union Trust Company of Pittsburgh (1898), the Gulf Oil Corporation (1895), the Pittsburgh Coal Company (1899), the Aluminum Company of America, and the company that built the Panama Canal locks. He served as Secretary of the Treasury under three presidents and stressed policies aimed at reducing the national debt. He forged agreements with European governments for repayment of their World War I debts and served as ambassador to Britain (1932--33). In 1913 he established the Mellon Institute for Industrial Research and he endowed the National Gallery of Art (1937).

**Mellos, Nicholas** - Senior Chief Petty Officer, US Navy. He was the senior enlisted person on the P3 airplane which was rammed by a Chinese jet and forced to land in China in 2001. In addition to being awarded the Air Medal, Senior Chief Mellos was one of only two crew members awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for his bravery and leadership during their captivity. (The other MSM went to the aircraft's Commanding Officer.) *Bravo Zulu, Senior Chief - from another Senior Chief/Mason!*

**Menninger, Dr. Karl A.** - Psychiatrist famous for treating mental illness and headed the Menninger Foundation until his death in 1990.

**Menninger, Dr. William** - Psychiatrist with the Menninger Clinic, Topeka, Kansas. Was active with the Boy Scout movement and in 1934 wrote the "Skipper's Handbook" for Sea Scout Leaders.

**Mercherle, George Jacob** - Founder of State Farm Insurance

**Mesmer, Franz Anton** - practiced Mesmerism, the precursor of hypnosis in modern psychotherapy.

**Mfume, Kweisi** - U. S. Congressman and President and CEO of the NAACP.

**Michelson, Albert Abraham** - Successfully measured the speed of light in 1882. For this and other pioneering work in optical instrumentation, he became the first American scientist to win a Nobel Prize (1907).

**Minton, Sherman** - US Senator and Supreme Court Justice from 1949-1956.

**Mitchell, Edgar D.** - US Astronaut who flew on the Apollo 14 mission.

**Mix, Tom** - Champion rodeo rider, soldier and cowboy, he starred in over 400 western films

**Mokranjac, Stevan** - Serbian composer (18560-1914)

**Molson, John** - Founder of Molson Breweries.

**Monroe, James** - The fifth President of the United States (1817-1825), whose administration was marked by the acquisition of Florida (1819), the Missouri Compromise (1820), in which Missouri was declared a slave state, and the profession of the Monroe Doctrine (1823), which declared U.S. opposition to European interference in the Americas.

**Montgolfier, Jacques Etienne** - Co-developer with his brother of the first practical hot-air balloon.

**Montgomery, Richard** - First general officer of the (US) Continental Army to be killed in battle (in the

attack on the British fort at Quebec City).

**Moody, William H.** - Supreme Court Justice

**Moore, David** - Well known Baptist pastor in Southeastern New Mexico until his death in 1992 at the age of 103.

**Morris, Rob** - Lawyer, educator, 'Poet Laureate of Masonry', and founder of the Order of the Eastern Star.

**Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus** - (1756-1791) Austrian composer considered among the greatest and most prolific composers in history. Of his more than 600 compositions, the finest works, including his last three symphonies (1788) and the operas *Don Giovanni* (1787) and *The Magic Flute* (1791), were written in the last five years of his short life.

**Murphy, Audie** - Most decorated American Soldier of WWII, he also achieved fame as an actor in movies (Westerns). An autobiographical movie was made of his heroic combat exploits. He was active and interested in Freemasonry as [this page](#) on this excellent website about his life explains.

**Murrow, Joseph Samuel** - Southern Baptist Home Missionary - and the 'Founder of Freemasonry in Oklahoma', he is said to have established more than 100 churches.

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**Naismith, James** - Canadian-born American sports educator who invented the game of basketball

**Navikov, Nikolay** - Russian journalist who debated with Tzarina Ekaterina the Great and a publisher who published more books than ever before in history.

**Nelson, Samuel** - Supreme Court Justice

**New, Harry S.** - Postmaster General of the United States who established Airmail

**Newton, Joseph Fort** - Christian Minister and Masonic Author

**Newton, Louie D.** - President of the Southern Baptist Convention; Vice President of the Baptist World Alliance; served 27 years on the SBC Executive Committee.

**Nicholson, Samuel** - American Navy and first Commander of the famous frigate, U.S.S. Constitution.

**Nickerson, LtGen Herman Jr., USMC** - Former Commanding General, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and Commander of I-Corps theater of operations in Vietnam

**Nunn, Sam** - Respected former U.S. Senator from Georgia. For seven years, he Chaired the Armed Services Committee.

**O'Higgins, Bernardo** - the Liberator of Chile. Educated in England but returned to his country to lead them in their fight for independence from Spain.

**Olds, Ransom E.** - American automobile inventor and manufacturer. Founded the Olds Motor Company.

**Oppenheimer, David** - Mayor of Vancouver who had the foresight to preserve and enormous tract of land for use as a park, dedicated to Lord Stanley, yet another Freemason.

**Otis, James** - American Revolutionary politician and publicist. Famous for "Taxation without Representation is Tyranny"

**Palmer, Arnold** - Golf Professional who for years set the example to make golf a 'gentlemen's' sport

**Papst, Charles F.** - Coined the term "Athletes Foot"

**Peale, Rev. Norman Vincent** - American cleric, founder of "Guidepost", and known for his famous book, "The Power of Positive Thinking"

**Peary, Admiral Robert E.** - First man to reach the North Pole (1909)

**Penny, J (James) C.** - US retailer who donated large amounts of money to charity

**Pepper, Claude** - US Senator from Florida, he was an active supporter of rights for senior citizens and when he died in 1989 was the oldest man ever to serve in Congress (an honor presently held by Bro. Strom Thurmond).

**Perry, Matthew** - American Naval hero, he commanded one of the first steam ships and made a famous expedition to the Far East opening it for trade.

**Pershing, John Joseph** - ("Black Jack") American Army General who led the American Expeditionary Forces in Europe during World War I. In 1921, he was given the rank of General of the Armies, a rank only conferred once.

**Pickett, General George E.** - Commanded the Confederate lines at the US Civil War battle of Gettysburg and led the final assault.

**Pike, Albert** - Pioneer, explorer, Confederate General, he re-wrote the rituals of the US Southern Masonic jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite Bodies.

**Pike, Zebulon M.** - Discovered the great peak that bears his name. He was killed in action at Toronto during the War of 1812.

**Pitney, Mahlon** - US Congressman and later Supreme Court Justice

**Poinsett, Joel R.** - First U.S. Ambassador to Mexico and an amateur botanist who developed the flower: Poinsettia.

**Polk, James Knox** - Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Governor of Tennessee and eleventh President of the U.S.

**Preble, Edward** - Commander of USS Constitution and US Navy hero

**Pullman, George** - Inventor and businessman, he built first sleeping car on train which became a standard throughout the world.

**Purdy, George I.** - One of the most well-respected businessmen in post-WWII Japan. His autobiography - *A Summer for a Lifetime* - is one which should be read by Masons and non-Masons alike and talks at length about the importance of Freemasonry in his life. You can buy it and read several reviews right [here](#) and buy it at [www.goanchor.com](http://www.goanchor.com) .

**Pushkin, Aleksandr Sergeyvich** - Famous Russian poet and author who, among other works, wrote "Boris Godunov".

**Putnam, Rufus** - American Revolutionary War General, 'Father of the Northwest Territory' and First Grand Master of Masons in Ohio.

**Quezon, Manuel L.** - First President of the Philippine Senate, first Commonwealth of the Philippines and first Grand Master of Philippine Freemasonry.

**Quitman, John Anthony** - Legislator, Governor of Mississippi and US Congressman, he served as Grand Master of Masons

"Isn't a Mason bound to answer truthfully when asked if they're a Mason?" a recent online poster asked? The answer is: no more than a person when asked if they're a member of the Anglican Church or the National Rifle Association. However, except for those parts of the world where persecution would subject a member or his family to potential harm, most Masons are proud to have others know of their involvement - **as this list attests!**

**Rangel, Charles** - U.S. Democratic Congressman from New York

**Rašín, Dr. Alois** - Resistance fighter and Czech Republic economist. The first act of Czech law is in his handwriting. In 1923, Rašín was to become the first Czechoslovak victim of communist terror.

**Reed, Stanley F.** - US Supreme Court Justice (1938-1957)

**Revere, Paul** - American silversmith, engraver and Revolutionary hero who on April 18, 1775 made his famous ride to warn "The British are coming!" as celebrated in a poem by Longfellow. Revere was a Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

**Richards, Michael** - The talented actor most popularly known as "Kramer" from the Seinfeld television series.

**Richardson, Kermit** - Master, The National Grange

**Richet, Charles Robert** - French physician, physiologist and metaphysician, he was the co-discoverer of the medical phenomenon which he named anaphylaxis and in 1913 received the Nobel Prize for physiology.

**Rickenbacker, Eddie** - American aviator who was the most decorated combat pilot of World War I and later became president of Eastern Airlines.

**Rickey, Branch** - US baseball executive most remembered as the General Manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, he created the 'farm system' for developing players and he hired Jackie Robinson to break the 'color line' in baseball.

**Ridgeway, General Matthew B.** - US Army Chief of Staff.


**Ringling Brothers** - All 7 of these famous Circus brothers and their father were Masons.

**Rizal, José** - "The George Washington of the Philippines" who was a patriot, poet, novelist, physician,

and active Mason. Today one finds monuments to Rizal nearly everywhere in the Republic of the Philippines.

**Robinson, "Sugar Ray"** - American prizefighter and six time world champion (once as a welterweight and five times as a middleweight)

**Roemer, Buddy (Charles E.)** - Louisiana Governor 1988-1992.

**Rogers, Roy**  (**Leonard Franklin Slye**) - "King of the Cowboys". American singer and actor who played a singing cowboy in motion picture Westerns. Always wearing the white hat, Rogers played the hero who never killed his opponent but rather would shoot him in the hand to wound him. On his grave is proudly displayed the Cross of his faith and his 33rd Degree Masonic emblem.

**Rogers, Will** - Actor and beloved Humorist; noted for his wry, homespun commentary on society and politics.

**Roman, Charles Lightfoot** - Canadian physician, one of the first in the field of industrial medicine, served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in Canada and apparently was the first African American to head a 'mainstream' Grand Lodge in North America (1952).

**Roosevelt, Franklin D.** - Governor of New York and 32nd President of the United States, he was the only US president to be reelected three times. He brought his country out of the Great Depression, guided them through World War II and died in office. He was succeeded by another Mason, Harry S. Truman.

**Roosevelt, Theodore** - Hero of the Spanish-American War, Governor of New York, Vice President and when President (and Mason) William McKinley was assassinated, he became the 26th President of the United States. Winner of the Nobel peace prize.

**Root, Joseph Cullen** - "Giant of American Fraternalism" Responsible for the establishment of Modern Woodmen of America and other Woodmen groups.

**Ross, Edmund G.** - United States Senator who cast the one impartial vote of "Not Guilty" thus saving President (and Brother) Andrew Johnson from impeachment and preserving the American system of Constitutional government.

**Rusk, John W.** - Gained national prominence as "Uncle Sam", he was a regular fixture in any event involving the Nation's Capitol in his striped pants, top hat and stilts.


**Russell, Richard B.** - US Senator and member of the "Warren Commission" investigating the assassination of President Kennedy.

**Rutledge, Wiley B.** - Supreme Court Justice (1943-1949).


When preparing this list, I was asked, "How does somebody know if a person is a Mason or not?". The answer seemed simple: because they're proud to say that they are - and since Masonry is not a "secret organization" as some would have you believe, then it's pretty easy!

**Salten, Felix** - Creator of Bambi


**Saltonstall, Leverett** - Three term Governor of Massachusetts and US Senator for 21 years.

**Sanders, Colonel Harland**  - Fried chicken magnate, his Kentucky Fried Chicken outlets are found world-wide. He perfected his Original Recipe® of 11 secret herbs and spices in 1939. When he died in 1980, his body laid in state in the Rotunda of the Kentucky State Capital.


**Sarnoff, David** - Russian-born American broadcasting executive, he started as an office worker with Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, which was later absorbed by the Radio Corporation of America. Rising to the top ranks of RCA, he organized the National Broadcasting Company, the first permanent broadcasting network, as part of RCA.

**Savalas, Telly** - Actor who became famous as the bald police detective who was strong on the outside but gentle inside - and always had a lollipop in his mouth. His brother **George**  was an actor also.

**Sax, Antoine Joseph** - Musician who invented the Saxophone (1846)

**Sayers, Joseph Drayton "JD"**  - Methodist Layman, Adjutant General of the Confederate Army, US Congressman and Governor of Texas

**Schaefer, Julius Earl** - Founded the company which later became Boeing's Wichita plant and oversaw production of large volumes of aircraft during World War II

**Schalk, Ray (Raymond William)**  - During an 18-year career as a catcher, primarily with the Chicago White Sox, he established many league records for fielding. Nicknamed "Cracker," he was an

honest member of the "Black Sox" club that conspired to lose the 1919 World Series. In 1955 he was elected to baseball's Hall of Fame

**[Schenck, Joseph](#)** - Part of the best-known two-man vaudeville singing team of Van and Schenck

**Schirra, Walter M.** - Made a "Mason at Sight" by the Grand Master of Masons of Florida, he carried several Masonic items with him on his Apollo 7 flight and was the command pilot on the history-making Gemini 6 flight which made a rendezvous with the already orbiting Gemini 7 spacecraft, the first rendezvous of two manned, maneuverable spacecraft.

**[Schmitt, George J.](#)** - Chicago business magnate

**Schoonover, George** - Founder of "The Builder"

**Schumer, Charles E.** - U.S. Congressman from Brooklyn, NY

**Scott, Sir Walter** - Novelist and poet, his journal is an important record of the times in which he lived.

**Sciubba, Elvio** - Chief Controller, Italian Treasury Department.

**[Seaton, Scott](#)** - American film actor. Seen in 'Joan of Arc' (1948) and Donovan's Reef (1963)

**Sellers, Peter** - English actor and comedian, his popularity was unrivalled as the incompetent Inspector Clouseau in a series of films that began with The Pink Panther (1963) and extended beyond his death to The Trail of the Pink Panther (1982). He received an Oscar nomination for 'Being There' (1980).

**Service, Robert W.** - Canadian poet among whose works are "The Cremation of Sam McGee"

**Sexson, William Mark** - Ordained Minister and, in 1922, founded the [Order of Rainbow for Girls](#)

**Sheffield, James E.** - First Black Circuit Court Judge appointed in the City of Richmond, Virginia

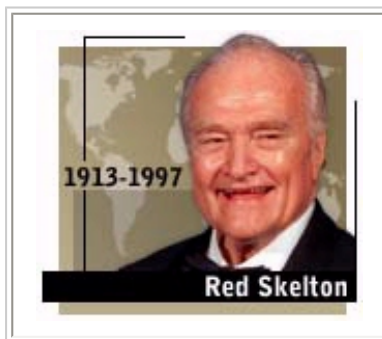
**Sibelius, Jean** - Finnish composer whose symphonic poems reflect a romantic and intensely nationalistic approach to music. One of his most famous pieces is the tone poem, *Finlandia* (1899).

**Simcoe, John Graves** - Hero of the Revolutionary War, Founder of Ontario and Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, Canadians annually celebrate Simcoe Day in August.

**Simmons, Robert** - U. S. House of Representatives 2000. Formerly Connecticut State Representative.

**[Simpson, Russell](#)** - Prolific American film actor, he had a long career spanning from 1914 to 1959. 'Beloved by all who knew him'.

**Sitter, Carl L.** - U. S. Congressional Medal of Honor winner, he was a Marine Corps Company Commander at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir at Hagaru-ri during the Korean War. At the time of his death, he was attending Virginia Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Education and was scheduled to receive his Master of Divinity Degree a month later.



Entertainer/Comedian/'Clown'/Artist/Mason

### "Good Night and God Bless"

Brother Red will be remembered for countless decades for his hilarious family comedy. When others used obscenities to get a 'cheap laugh', he kept high standards and refused to follow. His clown paintings are exceptional pieces of art. His famous "Pledge of Allegiance" talk can be found [here](#).

**Smith, Joseph** - Founder of the Mormon Church. We have a page about Mormonism and Freemasonry right [here](#).

**Smith, John Stafford** - Composer, and musical scholar, born in England. He wrote vocal music, and the tune of "The Star-spangled Banner", the US National Anthem.

**Soboleff, Walter A., Rev.** - Tlingit American Indian, Presbyterian Minister, spiritual, business and community leader in Juneau, Alaska

**Sousa, John Philip** - U.S. Marine Band leader from 1880 - 1892, he wrote numerous marches including the US's 'national march', "The Stars and Stripes Forever"

**Spanos, Alex G.** - Owner of the San Diego Chargers professional football team and founder of 10 companies that bear his name, Bro. Spanos is one of the US's greatest businessmen

**Spruill, Lionell** - Presently a Member of the Virginia House of Delegates. Served as Grand Master for the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia 1994-1996.

**Stanford, (Amasa) Leland** - Railroad builder and government official; he became governor of



California (1861--63) and a founder and president of the Central Pacific Railroad (1863--93). He made a fortune, and, with his wife, founded and endowed Leland Stanford, Jr., University (1885) in memory of their only son (who died in 1884 at age 15). He drove the gold spike linking the US continent's railroad lines.

**Stanley, Sir Frederick Arthur** - A keen sportsman, he originated the Stanley Cup to encourage winter sports in Canada. Today, it is the most important award in professional hockey given to the team winning the National Hockey League championship.

**Stassen, Harold E.** - Governor of Minnesota (the youngest governor ever elected at the time), he held many positions in government including service in Eisenhower's cabinet.

**Stennis, John** - United States Senator from Mississippi from 1947 to 1988. He was replaced in this office by another Mason, Trent Lott.

**Stewart, Potter** - Supreme Court Justice (1959-1981)

**Still, Andrew T.** - American physician who devised treatment of Osteopathy.

**Stotz, Carl E.** - Founder of Little League Baseball, he conceived the idea which has grown into the world's largest organized youth program.

**Stout, Herald** - Rear Admiral & World War II hero, in 1993 a guided missile destroyer was named in his honor (USS Stout - DDG-55).

**Stratton, Charles** - '**General Tom Thumb**' - American entertainer and circus performer, he reached 3 feet 4 inches in height at maturity.

**Stimson, Mark** - Self-taught real estate agent, he created the largest network of real estate companies in the state of Maine.

**Stutz, Harry C.** - President, Stutz Motor Car Company.

**de Sucre, Antonio Jose y Alcala** - Served as a General under Brother Simon Bolivar in Peru, he became the first President of Bolivia in 1825 and was named President for life. He resigned three years later and while traveling to Ecuador to be installed President of that country, was assassinated. Well known for his liberation efforts of Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

**Sumarkov, Alexandr Petrovich** - Russian dramatist and poet. Though largely based on contemporary French models, his plays mark the emergence of Russian theater.

**Swayne, Noah H.** - Supreme Court Justice

**Swift, Johathan** - Clergyman and satirist, he wrote Gulliver's Travels

**Switzer, Carl "Alfalfa"** 🎬 - Child actor star of the "Little Rascals" series

**Symington, Stuart** - First Secretary of the U.S. Air Force, he was approved for nomination for high office by the Senate six times without a dissenting vote. He later served as Senator from Missouri.

**Taft, William Howard** - Civil governor of the Philippines, Secretary of War, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court and twenty-seventh President of the U.S.

**Tea, Richard** - Civil War hero and Medal of Honor winner. So conspicuous was his record as a soldier during that War that he was accorded the distinction by Congress of being permitted to enter either the Senate Chambers or the floor of the House and enjoy any privilege of either. He was a long time member and Past Master of Aztlan Lodge #4, Prescott, Arizona.

**Teets, John W.** - Chairman and President of Dial Corporation

**Thomas, Danny** - [Entertainer / Founder of St. Jude's Children's Hospital](#). Mr. Thomas often told the story of how physicians at his hospital explained to him the need for a very unique therapy for a patient at St. Jude's which was only available at a Shrine Hospital. Mr. Thomas told the doctors to proceed with the treatment, regardless of the cost. When he was advised that there would be **no** cost, Mr. Thomas was shocked and vowed to find out more about this organization. Shortly thereafter, he petitioned and became a Mason. Prior to his death, he was featured in videos and wrote articles praising the good works of Freemasonry.

**Thomas, Dave** - Founder of the very popular Wendy's Restaurants, publicly he was the grandfatherly star of commercials. Both privately and publicly, however, he did extensive work promoting the cause of orphans, something he had been in his own youth. The hamburgers at Wendy's are square as a reminder of Dave's motto: "Never cut corners." Dave was active in the Scottish Rite Philanthropies including their Children's Hospital program. His mentor in the restaurant business was another Mason, Col. Harland Sanders of Kentucky Fried Chicken fame.

**Thomas, Isaiah** - Firebrand of the American Revolution, he served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

**Thomas, Lowell** - American radio commentator during both World Wars and broadcast a nightly news program for over 45 years (1930-1976). He wrote and lectured widely on his travel adventures and brought Lawrence of Arabia to public notice.



**Thorvaldsen, Bertel** - Noted Danish sculptor

**Thurmond, J. M.** - Mayor of Dallas, Texas 1879-1880.

**Thurmond, Strom** - The longest-serving United States Senator

**Thurston, Howard** - Top magician in the U.S. from 1908 until his death in 1936

**Tillis, Mel (Lonnie Melvin)** - Country and Western performer of renown. Coins tossed into the fountain of the Mel Tillis Theatre in Branson, Missouri are divided equally between the Scottish Rite's Childhood Language Disorders Program and the Shrine's Hospitals.

**Todd, Thomas** - Supreme Court Justice (1807-1826)

**Tompkins, Daniel D.** - Vice President of the United States, his bust is in the Senate wing of the U.S. Capitol.

**Trachtenberg, Stephen J.** - President, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

**Travis, Colonel William B.** - American military leader who commanded the Texans who died in defense of the Alamo.

**Trimble, Robert** - Supreme Court Justice

**Truett, George W.** - Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Dallas (1897-1944); President of the Southern Baptist Convention; President of the Baptist World Alliance.

**Truman, Harry S.** - A U. S. Senator from Missouri (1935-45), his personal integrity helped him get reelected in 1940 despite the exposure of the Missouri machine's corruption. He came to national attention heading what was called the Truman Committee, which investigated government wartime production and saved taxpayers millions of dollars. He became vice-president in 1944. Truman became the thirty-third President of the United States with the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, another Mason; he would go on to win a close election in 1948. The most active Mason to hold the highest office in the United States.

**Vinson, Frederick M.** - American Jurist who served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from 1946-1953.

**Wadlow, Robert Pershing** - Tallest human on record being almost 9 feet tall, Wadlow was proud of his early acceptance by DeMolay and from his activities there, determined to be a Mason also. Looked at by many as a 'freak', DeMolay and Masonry helped Wadlow maintain a sense of normalcy for which he and his parents were extremely grateful. The US's Public Broadcasting System has produced a documentary which places great emphasis on Brother Wadlow's Masonic affiliations and includes many pictures of him as a DeMolay officer.

**Wagner, John Honus** - "The Flying Dutchman", he is considered the greatest shortstop in the history of baseball.

**Wagner, Sidney** - Hollywood cinematographer. 'The Postman Always Rings Twice' (1946) was among the many films he photographed.

**Wainwright, Jonathan M.** - US Army General and the hero of Bataan.

**Wallace, Governor George C.** - Alabama governor and US Presidential Candidate who was nearly assassinated and spent his remaining years in a wheel chair and in constant pain.

(Masonicinfo Note: Anti-Masons enjoy pointing to George Wallace as a representation of racial discrimination, ignoring the great majority of the population of non-Masons who also espoused such positions at the time, including perhaps even their own relatives - both then and now! They also overlook the change in his later years and the fact that those whom he stood against were to later praise his humanity and recognize his change in heart

**Walker, Charlie** - Country music singer and legendary member of the Grand Ole Opry

**Walkes, Jr., Joseph A.** - Author of numerous publications particularly involving Prince Hall Freemasonry and founder of the Phylaxis (Prince Hall Masonic research) Society.

**Wallace, Lewis** - American military leader and writer. During the American Civil War, he served in the Union army and reached the rank of Major General. At the close of the War, he was a member of the court that tried those accused of conspiring to assassinate President Abraham Lincoln. His novel, "Ben Hur: A Tale of the Christ" won him a nationwide reputation.

**Walker, William** - LtCol, Confederate Army he was the first Master of Eastern Star Lodge in Louisiana and served as a District Deputy Grand Master. Killed in 1864.

**Wanamaker, John** - A statue of this Mason stands outside of Philadelphia's City Hall. His expertise in

business led to his appointment as Postmaster General and he established rural free delivery and parcel post. The University of Pennsylvania conferred upon him a Doctor of Laws degree shortly after the end of World War One. Their citation referred to Brother Wanamaker as: "Philanthropist, statesman, eminent in the councils of the nation, Christian Leader, and constructive genius who on the basis of the Golden Rule, by thought and practice has revolutionized the business methods of merchants of the world."

**Ward, Rev. John** - First of the Episcopalian faith to enter Missouri and organize his people.

**Warner, Glen Scobey "Pop"** - Famous football coach, credited with originating the single and double wingback formations.

**Warner, Jack** - One of the brothers who created the American motion-picture production company known as Warner Brothers. They were the first to use sequences of sound in a silent feature film.

**Warren, Earl** - Succeeding another Mason (Frederick Vinson), Warren served as Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court from 1953 to 1974 and led in sweeping changes in civil rights and criminal law.

**Warren, Joseph, M.D.** - Noted physician and American Revolutionary War General. Led the troops in the 'Battle of Bunker Hill' where he was killed. At the time of his death, he was serving as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Massachusetts.

**Washington, Booker T** - Educator and author

**Washington, George** - As General of the Armies of the colonies, he led the revolution which created American independence. As the first President of the United States, his leadership was crucial to establishing the 'tone' for the United States. His love of Freemasonry is documented by his close reliance upon other Masons in the execution of his duties. Following his death, his widow sent locks of his hair (a common practice of the time) to Masons throughout the country and such revered treasures were the object of great appreciation. To this day, a lock of his hair sent to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts is carried in a golden urn preceding the entry of the Grand Master at the Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge.

**Watson, Thomas J.** - American inventor and businessman who was President and Chairman of International Business Machines (IBM) from 1914-1956.

**Wayne, John** - "The Duke" - One of the most popular actors of recent years. His 'manly' roles helped define a generation.

**Webb, James E.** - NASA Administrator.

**Webb, Matthew** - First man to swim the English Channel (1875).

**Webb, Wellington** - Mayor of Denver, Colorado.

**Wentworth, William Charles** - Well known for his exploration expeditions into the interior of New South Wales, he was also the editor of the first newspaper in Australia.

**Wesberry, James P.** - Pastor of the Morningside Baptist Church of Atlanta, Georgia for 31 years; Recording Secretary of the Georgia Baptist Convention for 20 years. Died in 1992.

**Wescott, Joseph H.** - Former Deputy Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Police (retired 2000).

**White, William** - President of Baylor University 1948-1961; Executive Secretary and later President of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

**Whiteman, Paul** - American conductor who introduced symphonic jazz to a general audience and became known affectionately as the "King of Jazz". He commissioned Gershwin's 'Rhapsody in Blue'.

**Wilder, Laura Ingalls** - \*Please don't write to me saying "She's not a Mason!" I know. She was the author of 'Little House on the Prairie' books and active in Eastern Star, an organization which requires a Masonic relative! (She's part of the 'Masonic Family'!)

**Wilder, Lawrence Douglass** - First elected Black Governor in the US from the State of Virginia.

**Wilson, Robert** ■ - Member of the Texas Republic Senate during the 1830s and twice candidate for President of the Republic of Texas.

**Wood, Grant** - American painter famous stylized realism and "American Gothic"

**Woodbury, Levi** - Governor of New Hampshire, US Senator, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of the Treasury and Supreme Court Justice. Woodbury County Iowa is named for him.

**Woods, William B.** - American jurist who served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court from 1880-1887.

**Woodward, Carl R.** - President of Rhode Island State College when it became the University of Rhode Island in 1951.

**Wootton, Percy, M.D.** - President, American Medical Association (1997)

**Wyler, William** - American motion-picture director, known for his many meticulously crafted, award-winning films. In 1936 he was signed by American producer Samuel Goldwyn, beginning a ten-year collaboration that created pictures including *Dead End* (1937), *Jezebel* (1938), *Wuthering Heights* (1939), *The Little Foxes* (1941), *Mrs. Miniver* (1942), and *The Best Years of Our Lives* (1946). The

latter two films won Wyler his first two Academy Awards for best director, also earning the awards for best picture.

**Wynn, Ed** - Movie actor and comedian, he introduced "Carmel Comedy Caravan".

**Young, Brigham** - Founded the Mormon Church in Utah

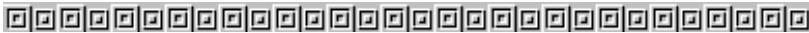
**Young, Cy** - American baseball player, he pitched for 22 seasons and was, perhaps, the greatest pitcher in the history of the sport. He pitched the first 'perfect game' in modern baseball.

**Young, Andrew** - Former United Nation's Ambassador and Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia

**Zanuck, Darryl F.** - Co-founder of 20th Century Productions in 1933, his movie productions made him a legend. The memorial by his family notes his Masonic affiliation above all other accomplishments!

**Ziegfeld, Florenz** - His Ziegfeld's Follies began in 1907.

[A](#) [B](#) [C](#) [D](#) [E](#) [F](#) [G](#) [H](#) [I](#) [J](#) [K](#) [L](#) [M](#) [N](#) [O](#) [P](#) [Q](#) [R](#) [S](#) [T](#) [U](#) [V](#) [W](#) [X](#) [Y](#) [Z](#)



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# Famous Non-Masons

*There are many who are sometimes thought to be Masons - simply because of their outstanding reputations. (That simple fact alone should say something to Masonry's antagonists! If a man achieves greatness, he's sometimes presumed to be a Mason; he is **never** presumed to be against Masonry!)*

*In addition, there have been a few who were thought to be Masons simply because of their affiliation with other Masons. Below, we'll mention a few....*

For more information, see:

## Related Topics:

[Famous Masons A-L](#)
[Famous Masons M-Z](#)
[Famous Non-Masons](#)
[Our Black Sheep](#)
[Infamous Non-Masons](#)
[Gravestones](#)
[We ARE Perfect](#)
[Contributors](#)

**Neil Armstrong** - American astronaut who as commander of Apollo 11 became the first human being to walk on the moon (July 20, 1969) has been cited by some as having been a Mason. It appears that the confusion may have resulted from the Masonic membership of his father. No one has been able to provide the name of the Lodge to which Armstrong might have belonged. David O. Norris, one of the authors of '[The Songs of Freemasonry](#)' has indicated that when attempting to send a complimentary copy of their work to Armstrong, his assistant advised that he'd never been a Mason and returned the recording.



**Lord Robert Baden-Powell**, Chief Scout of the World and Founder of the World Scout Movement is sometimes wrongly identified as a Freemason. No proof of this has ever been found and immediately after his death in 1941, his non-membership was confirmed by his widow, Lady Olave Baden-Powell, by his daughter Betty, by his brother Major David Baden-Powell (who was a Mason) and also by V. W. Bro. Lord Somers, who succeeded Baden-Powell at the head of the scout movement. The same confirmation of non-membership was made at the consecration of Baden-Powell Lodge #448, United Grand Lodge of Victoria, Australia. Also see "Freemasonry and the Scout Movement" by George W. Kerr, 1994. The myth seems to continue despite this, however, despite many attempts to debunk it. You can find one such discussion on [this page](#) of the pen-ultimate [B-P web site](#).<sup>1</sup>

**Sir Francis Bacon** (1561-1626) was an English philosopher and statesman, often referred to as the most influential and versatile writer of the 17th Century. He has been presumed by some to be the 'real' Shakespeare - and many have pointed to the connections between writings by Bacon and those of **Shakespeare** with that of Freemasonry. Realistically, the link between Shakespeare and Bacon has never been definitively proven nor was Freemasonry in its present form existent. Those who want to see links can find many 'connections' between the works of both Bacon and Shakespeare but such similarities are retrospective. The appearance of a square and - separately - what appears to be compasses on a book's frontispiece is held by some as "proof" that Bacon was a Mason; such ideas are, of course, impossible to prove at this time and it is doubtful that such a connection will ever be more than speculative conjecture. There are a number of books about this imagined connection. Head [here](#) and check their bibliography page using the Search function of your browser to locate them.

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**Lance Burton** the world-famous Magician continues the "Royal Dynasty Of Magic" but is not a Mason. Mason Harry Kellar, America's premier magician from 1887 to 1908 selected Mason Howard Thurston as his successor. Before his death in 1935, Bro. Thurston selected Dante as his successor. In turn, Mason 'Dante' (Harry Jansen) selected Lee Grabel (Mason Merrill Lee Grabeel) who, similarly, selected Lance Burton in 1954 to continue this extraordinary tradition. Although Burton is not a Mason, he is donating the profit from a retail magic store next to the Lance Burton Theatre in the Monte Carlo Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, to the Shriners Hospitals for Children.<sup>2</sup>

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**U. S. President George Herbert Walker Bush** has also on numerous occasions been referred to as a Freemason. The confusion probably arises from the swearing in ceremonies at his inauguration when he took his oath of office on the George Washington Bible which belongs to St. Johns Lodge in New York City. Because the Bible belonged to a Masonic Lodge many writers assumed he was a Freemason. The Bible was used at the request of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies. This particular Bible was first used on April 30, 1789, by the Grand Master of the Masons in New York, to administer the oath of office to President George Washington in New York City. Other presidents who took their oath of office with this Bible were Warren G. Harding, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Jimmy Carter.

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**U. S. President George Walker Bush**, son of President George H. W. Bush is not presently rumored to be a Mason. He had wished to take his Oath of Office on the same Bible as used by his father when he became President but the inclement weather was such that the custodians of the Bible from St. Johns Lodge #1 in New York concurred with President-elect Bush just moments before the ceremony that it would have placed the priceless treasure at too great a risk. Accordingly, a family Bible was used instead. Anti-Mason [Ed Decker](#) brags that God answered his prayers that President Bush not take his oath on the Washington Bible....

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Famous Hollywood movie director **James Cameron** has been 'linked' by some anti-Masonic conspiracy-minded folks as having received the 33rd Degree of the Scottish Rite in some sort of secret ceremony during an Oscar Award presentation. Their claims, of course, totally ignore the fact that 'secret presentations' of that honor simply do not occur. All recipients of the award are announced publicly at the annual Scottish Rite meeting the year before the award is actually presented. The presentation is done at the next annual meeting. Since printed proceedings of both Annual Sessions are sent to thousands of Masonic bodies throughout the world, a simple review of them would clearly show no such presentation. In fact (perhaps ironically?) the Supreme Council in March, 2000 advised that there is not even a member within their organization named "James Cameron". An additional check has been made with the General Secretary of the Oakland Scottish Rite Bodies who also advised that James Cameron is not now and has never been a member of the Oakland Scottish Rite Bodies. The next time you see such information, ask the claimant to produce evidence that James Cameron is a Scottish Rite Mason. We'll bet they can't....



But we're pretty confident that they'll tell you it's all part of some secret conspiracy - although why a movie director would play such an important role is mind-boggling!

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**Chiang Kai-Shek** is highly prominent and highly revered in all aspects of Taiwanese daily life but, although often rumored to be a Mason, was not. (1887-1975)

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**Charlie Chaplain** was not a Mason despite the fact that stories circulate from time to time that he was. The stories are untrue.

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**Former U. S. President Bill Clinton** is not a Mason. He was a member of the Order of DeMolay, a youth group sponsored by Masons and during his membership was the presiding officer (Master Councilor) of his Chapter. Membership in DeMolay often leads a young man to seek Masonic membership but such membership is no guarantee of election as a Mason and in light of the many 'scandals' surrounding his presidency, it would probably be impossible for him. Mr. Clinton - during his presidency - maintained a level of popularity with the citizens of the United States and the world which was unprecedented in modern history. However, after due consideration, the awards given to President Clinton during his teenage years as well as the honor of being included on the DeMolay Hall of Fame given when he was the country's youngest Governor have been rescinded! *(So as to ensure an even-handedness in this, we've also listed the former President on our [Infamous Non-Masons](#) page!)*

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**Walt Disney** - World famous cartoonist, Walt was a DeMolay (a fraternal organization for young men sponsored by Freemasonry). He did not, however, join the Masonic organization. Rumors circulate continuously about this and some have proven quite tantalizing. No one, however, has been able to produce the name of a lodge to which Walt might have belonged.

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Lt. General **Nathan Bedford Forrest**, one of the Confederacy's most daring and effective cavalry commanders during the US Civil War began his military service as a private and rose to command cavalry troops throughout the South during that horrific time. General Forrest founded the ORIGINAL Ku Klux Klan which began as a prankish social organization whose activities were soon directed against the leaders of the Reconstructionist government, both black and white. The organization quickly grew out of hand, being abused by wild youth attempting to use it for purposes of looting and pillage. Forrest disbanded the group and it ultimately died. It was later 'resurrected' by those seeking to use it for hatred and racism in the 1920s, well after Forrest's death in 1877. Forrest took ONE of THREE degrees of Freemasonry and never returned to the Lodge. Under the rules of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, he would not have been considered a Mason. The attempt to link him to Freemasonry is made by those who want association of the current racist organization to the fraternity. Such attempts ignore history and facts in their entirety. We have other comments about the KKK [here](#).



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**Reverend Billy Graham** - Sometimes referred to as 'America's Minister', Rev. Graham is frequently identified as a Mason by religious intolerants whose ideology is different from his. They feel, apparently, that connecting him with Freemasonry will smear his outstanding abilities and his life-long commitment to his faith. In the earliest days of the world wide web (we seem to recall it was about 1994), a listing of famous Freemasons appeared on the web site of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, USA. Dr. Graham's name appeared on the list in error based on an assumption by the person who prepared it. (No, it isn't a conspiracy to hide anything! In fact, it's likely that the information may have come from the book by former Mason Jim Shaw who lied that he had received the 33rd Degree of the Scottish Rite with Rev. Graham in attendance. Since Shaw *never* received the degree.... Read about it [here](#)!) Since that time, though, unsubstantiated claims have flown about on the internet and one of the most frequent questions we receive dealing with specific individuals concerns Dr. Graham. The simple fact - as substantiated by his organization - is that he is FAR too involved with his ministry to devote time to any other organization. We're sure that Rev. Graham would love to have the time to immerse himself in fund raising for a cure for cancer or helping the elderly but his calling gives him precious little time for anything else. Like other recognizable leaders who are not Masons, Dr. Graham has from time to time been present at Masonic or Masonic-family events. To assume he is a Mason because of a web site error or a person's attendance at a fund raising activity is presumptuous at best. Regretfully, most of those who insist that Rev. Graham is a Mason are those who want to smear both him and the fraternity.

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**Bob Hope** the American comedian and film actor, noted for his unflagging devotion to entertaining American military troops overseas for over 50 years sometimes appears on lists of Famous Masons. Bro. Gani Hernandez, Jr. has confirmed with the Masonic Service Bureau of Los Angeles in July, 2000 that Mr. Hope is not a Mason.

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**U. S. President Thomas Jefferson** was, at several points during the past two hundred years, identified as a Mason. Jefferson was involved in Revolutionary matters with many who were Masons and the appearance of the Jefferson name in Lodge record books of the time gave credence to the assumption. Recent research, however, reveals that Jefferson was simply not a Mason and that the Jefferson names appearing in the various lodge's visitor registers were, in fact, other men.

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**U.S. President Lyndon Johnson** received his first degree on October 30, 1937. After receiving the degree he found that his congressional duties (he was elected to Congress in 1937) took so much time he was unable to pursue the Masonic degrees.

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**U. S. President Abraham Lincoln** was not a Freemason. He applied for membership in Tyrian Lodge, Springfield, Illinois shortly after his nomination for the presidency in 1860. However, he withdrew his application because he felt that his application for membership at that time might be interpreted as a political tactic to obtain additional votes. He advised the lodge that he would resubmit his application again when he returned from his service

as president. Lincoln, as we know, never returned. On the death of the President, Tyrian Lodge adopted, on April 17, 1865, a resolution to say "...that the decision of President Lincoln to postpone his application for the honors of Freemasonry, lest his motives be misconstrued, is the highest degree honorable to his memory."

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**U. S. Revolutionary Thomas Paine** who arrived in the Colonies in 1774 and whose fiery pen was said to ignite the Revolution and help shape the country we know today is sometimes thought to be a Mason, presumably because of his affiliations with Benjamin Franklin and Nicolas deBonneville. Paine was the author of Common Sense and was known for quotes such as "These are the times that try men's souls." and subsequent US leaders have praised him extensively but he is commonly cited by anti-Masons as an example of the evils of Freemasonry due to his anti-Christian stance. Those who take this tact ignore two salient points: the first was that Paine - although writing strongly against the Christianity of the day - never denied God! From Paine's perspective, he was against the churches which presumed to speak for God without authority but he never denied the existence of God. The second point ignored was that there is no evidence whatsoever to support the claim that Paine was a Mason. He himself never made such a claim and there is no record of his attendance at lodges in or near the areas where he lived and/or traveled during his lifetime.



There is no evidence that **Charles Taze Russell**, the founder of the Jehovah's Witnesses faith, was a Mason. Some have charged that his tombstone appears as a keystone (a symbol used in Royal Arch Masonry), that there appears on the stone a crown and cross and that the stone is in the shape of a pyramid. (Those who make the claim do so for their own ends ignoring the fact that the cross and crown have long been symbols of Christianity, that the pyramid is often used in one-dimension view to represent the Trinity etc.) A review of Russell's personal life would have likely found him unwelcome within a Lodge. A current author says of him "*Russell's faults as a writer were perhaps the least of his shortcomings. Accusations of sexual and financial*

*improprieties, for example, dogged him throughout his adult life. Russell's notorious difficulties with his long-suffering wife Maria, aired during a series of sensational libel, separation, and alimony suits near the turn of the century, became a particular source of embarrassment for both the pastor and his flock. (Russell's stature couldn't have been enhanced when a Pennsylvania judge concluded that his "continual arrogant domination" of his wife was enough to "render the life of any sensitive Christian woman a burden and make her life intolerable."*<sup>3</sup> This notwithstanding, Pastor Russell did, upon occasion, make reference to Masons. One internet supporter of Russell's regularly argues that

Freemasonry was totally against the Preacher's philosophy but the argument he makes is based on his interpretation rather than facts. Those attempting to condemn Russell based on Masonic membership fail to produce any credible evidence of his membership and his supporters use faulty logic in arguing against it. Russell is not mentioned in any Masonic reference works, a unique situation indeed if he were a Mason based on his fame.

Oh, and did we mention?: the "tombstone" that's so often referred to is actually a monument erected to Russell **by the Watchtower Society** which has regularly criticized Freemasonry. Pastor Russell's actual gravestone (shown above) is a couple of dozen yards away....




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**President Ronald Reagan** has sometimes been referred to as a Freemason but he is not. Some confusion as to his membership arises from a ceremony held in the Oval Office of the White House on February 11, 1988, when a group of Freemasons presented President Reagan with a Certificate of Honor from the Grand Lodge of Washington, D.C. He was also then made an Honorary Scottish Rite Mason. However, since the title of Freemason can only be conferred by a Grand Lodge of Masons, President Reagan should only be referred to as a Shriner (he is also an **Honorary** Member of the Imperial Shrine due to his extensive work with that organization over the years) or as an Honorary Scottish Rite Mason. The Shrine and Scottish Rite are concordant bodies and cannot confer the title 'Freemason' on any person.

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**Santa Anna** - Mexican army general and President. We have more about him [here](#).

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**Shah of Iran (Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi)** - a long-time friend to the US and its allies, he was forced to leave his country when it was taken over by Muslim fundamentalists under the regime of Ayatollah Khomeini. In some quarters, he is presumed to be a Mason. However according to a Mason in Washington DC, his late ex-Imperial Majesty (HIM), the King of Kings and the Light of the Aryans, would NEVER deign to even be made a Freemason at sight, let alone go through all the ritual. This Mason writes *"However, the younger of his two sons from his 3rd wife is a Freemason. Few exiled Freemasons from Iran know, or will confess, that a bunch of bootlickers among them (in order not to render the then ruling Shah further paranoid about the Freemasons and their supposed ties to the over-feared British) decided to have HIM personally pick the Grand Master (GM) of the Grand Lodge of Iran (GLI). The Shah picked one of his cronies and the crony remained GM until the revolution, when he fled Iran and left a whole bunch of GLI documents behind in his home which were easily discovered by the Ayatollah's men and formed the blacklist of Freemasons. This GM died last year in Manhattan after 19 years in exile and not one peep about GLI. You see, ROYALIST IRANIAN OPPORTUNISTS JOINED THE CRAFT BECAUSE THEY WERE CONVINCED IT REALLY WAS A CONSPIRACY GROUP WITH TIES TO THE FORMER TRADITIONAL*

*SUPERPOWER IN THE NEAR EAST, GREAT BRITAIN, AND THEY WANTED TO BE IN ON THE GREAT CONSPIRACY AND GAIN A POST OR SOMETHING IN THEIR LITTLE KINGDOM. And the Shah was therefore suspect of these individuals and played both sides -- on the one hand encouraging their existence but also (several years before the revolution) "exposing" the Freemasons via the SAVAK secret police and hired journalists."*

(Our source for this information asked that we not credit him directly.)

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**Meridith Wilson** whose '76 Trombones' was one of my 'signature songs' as a budding high school musician (there was also 'Sentimental Journey' and 'Canadian Sunset', both great for romance, but I digress!) has been regularly identified on the web as being a Mason. Despite his being a native of Mason City, Iowa and his widow having been very active in a Foundation in his honor (headed by a Mason and the ex-Mayor of the city), there's no indication there that he was a member of the Craft. If you have any VERIFIABLE information on this, please let me know. We know he played in Sousa's Band and that many of those who did were Masons (as was Sousa). We've also heard other anecdotal information. What we seek is Lodge Name and Date. If you can help, please let us know. Our thanks to Wor. Bro. Gerald Edgar for his work in researching this matter!

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**Footnotes:**

<sup>1</sup>Thanks to Bro. Jacques Huyghebaert for his information on this matter, oft repeated online each time the question arises!

<sup>2</sup>From a story in the September, 1998 Scottish Rite Journal of the Scottish Rite Southern US Masonic Jurisdiction.

<sup>3</sup>Judging Jehovahs' Witnesses - Religious Persecution and the Dawn of the Rights Revolution by Shawn Francis Peters, University Press of Kansas, 2000.

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Got a question about someone else? Drop us a note and we'll do our best to check it out for you....



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# Our Black Sheep

*"The more things a man is ashamed of, the more respectable he is."*

**George Bernard Shaw** (1856–1950), Anglo-Irish playwright, critic.

For more information,  
see:

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It is a rare individual who has not done something which embarrasses him and/or others. Masons are no different. Whether it's a burst of anger or some behavior which others see and remember, it's a part of being human. Regretfully, none of us have the ability to 'take back' what has happened. There have been a couple of well-publicized 'incidents' involving Masons - and we're not going to hide them under a rug.

While they'll ignore the scandals of various 'religious leaders' such as Jimmy Swaggart, Jim Bakker and Oral Roberts, certain anti-Masons will cast aspersions on Masons whose conduct has been unbecoming, inappropriate, or downright bad! Here are those most commonly mentioned:

The 'traitor', **Benedict Arnold**, is one of those whom anti-Masons use to show the 'evil deeds' of Freemasonry. They ignore the fact that Arnold was among those patriots of the American Revolution who were whipsawed back and forth by political intrigue and infighting causing him to be both hurt and resentful at the manner in which he was treated. At times a hero and at times totally shunned, Arnold ultimately decided that the 'cause' for which American patriots were fighting was wrong and he defected to the side of the British. In so doing, he actually became a hero for his military actions in Canada. His later life was filled with problems and - in retrospect - Brother Arnold 'did the wrong thing'. His military actions, however, were executed in a way as to save many lives and it is because "victors write history" that he is now regarded as an arch-villain by Americans. In Canada and the UK, Arnold's stature is far different than in the United States. We would recommend for your reading "Benedict Arnold: Patriot and Traitor" by Willard Sterne Randall (1990, William Morrow & Company, Inc., NY).

Some have noted that while **Ty Cobb** is recognized as one of





## Contributors

the greatest American baseball players ever, his career is often remembered for the 'unsportsmanlike' conduct he exhibited when playing. The story is often repeated as to how he supposedly would sit in the dugout filing his cleats and pointing with them at opposing players in order to intimidate and gain an advantage. Like many of his contemporaries, he reportedly had racist tendencies as well. Despite this, he was the very first player elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame, so it's difficult for a conclusion to be drawn regarding this. Playing at a time when there were few rules, his behavior may seem horrific to us only in retrospect since it appears he was well received by those of his own time. We note here, however, the dissention which surrounds any laudatory comments made about Brother Cobb after whom a Scottish Rite Class was named in 1955 and who received an honorary life membership in a Masonic lodge in the midst of his playing career (1921). Brother Cobb, whose father was also a Mason, joined Freemasonry in 1907 at the age of 21.

**Henry Ford** invented the automobile which changed the world. For the first two-thirds of his life, he achieved amazing things unequalled by men before or since. In the last third of his life, however, his behavior and activities cast a dark shadow which caused all of his former good to be questioned. Believing that bankers and financiers were part of a world-wide Jewish conspiracy (something many non-Masonic conspiracy theorists who are against Freemasonry believe today), Ford's thoughts and activities were nearly totally orchestrated by one of his lieutenants and it is thus difficult to know where his independent thoughts began and ended. Ford's erratic behavior is also said to have driven his son Edsel to the illnesses which caused his death. Put simply, his later life was not lived in accordance with Masonic principles.

Found romping in a Washington fountain with stripper Fannie Fox, Arkansas' Congressman, Chairman of the influential Ways and Means Committee and Mason **Wilbur Mills** was 'run out of' the House of Representatives. Mills was taken to task for his behavior by his Masonic Lodge and admitted his long struggle with alcoholism. He entered a rehabilitation program and recovered from a disease which had plagued



him for decades. From the heights of power, Brother Mills fell - but he admitted his shortcomings and overcame them and was welcomed back to the Fraternity.

**George Wallace**, a Mason, came to the nation's attention when he barred blacks integrating a high school. He was, after all, defending the laws of his state but emerging social conscience judged his actions wrong. A product of his times and his environment, Wallace did what he deemed appropriate: it was, however, wrong. Now anti-Masons point to Wallace as a (bad) example of Masonry. What they fail to acknowledge, however, is the constant pain and suffering Wallace endured after the assassination attempt AND the fact that he has subsequently apologized for his actions, an apology accepted by those involved! George Wallace was wrong but he certainly paid for his error in a way even the most cruel should not wish on anyone.

The **Winnipeg, Canada Shrine Motor Patrol** hosted a "gentlemen's dinner" in late January, 2001. Approximately 400 were in attendance when the entertainment which included strippers who performed lap dances. Reports state "live sex acts" occurred. This is a disgusting and unsupportable action by anyone's standards. Since then, however, the unit has been disbanded and some of its members were ordered to take sensitivity training. Some anti-Masons - always willing to cast the first stone regardless of their own lives - have greatly enjoyed using this story as proof of the evils of Freemasonry. It is, however, a further example of how unrestrained 'fun' can lead to unexplainable excesses. Teenagers find themselves in bad situations frequently: these were adults who should have known better. While it is simple to explain that this was not a sanctioned Shrine event but rather a private fund-raiser for the Motor Patrol and that likely the majority of those in attendance were not Shriners, this horrid incident has nevertheless created a stain on the fraternity which will be impossible to erase. We could certainly compare and contrast the frequent and persistent immoral behavior of various religious leaders but the fact remains: this was shameful!

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Contrast the above Masonic 'Black Sheep' with the following:

Reverend Jim Jones - Caused hundreds of his followers to commit suicide in Guyana.

Reverend Jim Bakker - Converted church funds to personal use and imprisoned; also involved in a very widely publicized adultery case.

Reverend Jimmy Swaggart - His notorious encounters with prostitutes became legendary.

Reverend Oral Roberts - Exhorted his followers to send him money or God would take his life. He did not meet his fund-raising goal - but lived!

David Koresh - Engaged in a standoff with legal authorities in Waco, Texas in which all of his followers died. He claimed that he had certain religious secrets.

Pastor John Burt - Who counseled Michael Griffin to kill a physician and his wife because the doctor performed abortions.

Michael Griffin - Who was just a common example of a murder in the name of his belief in Jesus.

John Salvi III - Gunned down victims in an women's clinic in the Boston area because the clinic performed abortions. Salvi claimed it was because Jesus had told him to!

Shelly Shannon - Bombs women's clinics and is now in jail as an attempted murderer.

Rachelle Shannon - Daughter of the above and participates in identical activities.

and many, many more.... <sigh>



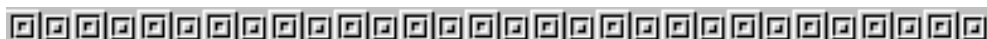
***In May, 2001, we received an e-mail from a Mason who chided***

***us for 'airing our dirty laundry' and suggested that this page be removed immediately. Part of his complaint also involved a perception that we were somehow denigrating leaders of the Southern US, something we don't believe we've done at all. We've chosen to not take the suggestion of this one individual - the only person who has written wanting this in nearly three years. We believe that Masons, non-Masons, and anti-Masons all recognize that there can be a bad apple in every barrel. Masons feel badly about it; non-Masons accept it as a matter of course; anti-Masons gloat. While this page might give the latter group some cause for celebration, others should fully realize that we're not trying to hide our 'dirty laundry' as another of those 'Masonic secrets'. We're sorry that this one Mason has been offended.***

In this 'damned if you do and damned if you don't' world, we also found the following comment on a [website](#) which commented on this particular page on our site as follows:

"They try to downplay Benedict Arnold's treachery but practically *beg* forgiveness for famous Masons who were politically incorrect (like Henry Ford and George Wallace.) Isn't that typical P.C. priorities? It's okay to betray your country and democracy, just don't offend any minorities! *Haw-haw-haw!*"

For the record: we're not trying to downplay ANYTHING here and frankly, political correctness is FAR from our minds. We want the record to be fair and honest: it's what Freemasonry is all about!





# Infamous Non-Masons

For whatever reason, be it paranoia or in an attempt to besmirch the Fraternity, there are sometimes 'devils and demons' (or perhaps even those with whom the accuser does not agree) to whom Masonic membership is attributed - **WRONGLY!**

On this page, we'll debunk some of the myths.

For more information, see:

Related Topics:

*Famous Masons A-L*

*Famous Masons M-Z*

*Famous Non-Masons*

*Our Black Sheep*

*Infamous Non-Masons*

*Gravestones*

*We ARE Perfect*

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**William Jefferson Clinton** - the 42nd President of the United States, he was only the second President to be impeached, having been charged with perjury and obstruction of justice. Some argue that the act was one of political hatred while others point to provable and admitted egregious misdeeds. Mr. Clinton's career had many scandals which came to light in the bright glare of the Presidential spotlight. He has been disbarred from practicing law before the U. S. Supreme Court and lost his Arkansas law license for a period of five years. Mr. Clinton - despite the odd attempts by conspiracy-minded individuals to claim him as such - is not a Mason. We've written some other material about him [here](#).

**Aleister Crowley** - "**The Great Beast**" - Masonry's detractors make much of the supposed Masonic membership of this individual whose claims to immoral behavior are the antithesis of all that Freemasonry holds dear. Their charges are buttressed by a popular photograph of Crowley in regalia purporting to be a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason. What's the truth?

In these days of copyright protection, it's hard to understand how multiple groups could all claim the same name but such is the history surrounding Freemasonry as other organizations took its name and bastardized its concepts. Sometimes, regrettably, this occurred when someone who had previously been regularly made a Mason would decide - for whatever reason - that they could improve on things. Crowley joined a French Grand Lodge which was unrecognized by 'mainstream' Freemasonry and, in fact, was apparently quite miffed when he failed to be acknowledged as a Mason by those in London, his home at the time. Subsequently, he was 'given' a 33rd Scottish Rite degree while traveling in Mexico. Again, the organization which gave him that degree was a spurious one, totally unrecognized by other Scottish Rite Bodies throughout the world.

In fact, as an interesting side note to history, Crowley's 33rd Degree had come from the same expelled Mason that began a thriving industry of duping people through the purchase of degrees by mail and which ultimately resulted in the successful prosecution of the very first legal action for mail fraud in the United States. A further side note is that Crowley's organization - the OTO - was founded by a person who had joined Freemasonry but was a member for less than a couple of years before being dropped from the rolls. You can read a more complete history of the OTO and its pretended

connections with Freemasonry [here](#).



**Thomas Hamilton - The murderer of children in 1996 in Dunblane, Scotland.** - Incomplete information at the time of this tragedy incorrectly attributed Masonic membership to Hamilton, perhaps because his grandfather who raised him after his natural parents had separated had been a Mason for some 40 years or perhaps because there were many other Thomas Hamiltons in the immediate area, two of whom were Masons (but both of whom were alive and well, one over 90 years of age). The Grand Master Mason of Scotland confirmed to British Parliament that **neither** Hamilton nor DCC McMurdo (the police official often blamed for Hamilton's continued possession of a gun permit) were ever Masons.



**Santa Anna** - Mexican general, president and politician, known as the Napoleon of the West, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, he has been described using many words, most of which are quite unflattering. He commanded the army which slaughtered the defenders of the Alamo. Joseph E. Bennett in his excellent work "Masons Along the Rio Bravo" wrote this about Santa Anna: "During this tour of duty in Texas, <at San Antonio de Bexar as a young military officer of 21 to battle troublesome rebels for the next seven years> Santa Anna is thought to have become a Scottish Rite (Escoceses) Mason. His Masonic affiliations were tenuous, to day the least. No Body or Lodge has ever acknowledged Santa Anna as a member. His claim to membership actually depends on the apron he claimed his own, plus the incidents in which he identified himself by the signs of recognition in use tat that time. If indeed Santa Anna was a Freemason, he was the most reprehensible example of what one should be." *(Brother Bennett's excellent book is certainly worth reading for the story of the Alamo defenders, Texas Rangers, and so much more. It was published by the Grand Lodge of Texas and may be available from them.)*



Anyone else you can think of? Let us know....







# Masons ARE Perfect

*"The essence of being human is that one does not seek perfection, that one is sometimes willing to commit sins for the sake of loyalty, that one does not push asceticism to the point where it makes friendly intercourse impossible, and that one is prepared in the end to be defeated and broken up by life, which is the inevitable price of fastening one's love upon other human individuals."*

**George Orwell** (1903–50), British author.

## Please Read On ...

For more information, see:

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We're not **really** claiming that we're perfect: it's simply not true! Masonry has it's faults and problems. Sometimes a member slips into alcoholism, mental depression or other forms of sickness. Sometimes a member will forget his vows and act wrongly towards another human being. Sometimes a member will cheat, steal, or wrong someone else. It has happened, much as we'd like to wish it had not.

When it does, anti-Masons are quick to point out these shortcomings. Rather than extend a helping hand to someone who has stumbled or fallen, they'd rather mock and rejoice in the ill-fortune. Most seem to get great pleasure in the pain and suffering another member of mankind is facing - and justify their glee because in their minds, 'Masons deserve whatever they get!'

Most people understand that you can not judge an entire organization by the actions of one member - **particularly** when that member is acting as an individual and not on behalf of the organization. Nevertheless, anti-Masons quickly attribute whatever perceived shortcoming they find in a fellow human being as a result of their Masonic connection. Is this rational? Not really - but it happens, and far too often.

If a person gives a break or benefit to a relative, it's often 'expected' yet when a Mason helps someone they might know through their lodge, they're accused of 'protecting' another Mason. If for some reason they had not become involved, then they would have been charged with abandoning their brothers. It's a no-win situation - but could be resolved in the minds of the anti-Masonic faction if there were no Masonry.

Interesting too is when one of 'theirs' falls, they quickly distance themselves and suddenly the person or ideology seems to cease to exist in their minds. At one point in the US, many fundamentalist preachers used Masonry as one of their convenient 'whipping boys'; following the spectacularly visible 'fall from grace' by so many of them, now anti-Masons seem quite reluctant to tout their particular spiritual leader apparently because of fear that he may soon be found in some scandal.

Regardless, though, few Masons relish the thought of someone else suffering. The precepts of Masonry encourage toleration and forbearance. Masonry supports the concept that it is far better to help someone up than to kick them down.

For that reason alone, we will perhaps never be able to be understood by those who enjoy the sufferings of their fellow human beings!

Are all Masons perfect? No, they aren't...

*but most are striving to be better!*

