Friendship, Morality,

Brotherly-Love

With February being Americanism month, and we discuss the Tenets of Freemasonry, Have you thought how George Washington developed these important teachings through strength, self-improvement and humility?

The true test of strength is not indulging your natural aggressive instincts but being able to conquer them. George Washington exemplified this virtue when he was campaigning for the Virginia State Assembly. Thomas Payne was offended by one of Washington’s speeches and immediately knocked Washington to the ground. The next day, Thomas Payne felt sure that he would be challenged to a duel. Instead, Washington apologized, retracted his offensive comment and asked for Payne’s friendship.

Before you can lead others well, you must learn to lead yourself.

It was a continuous effort for Washington to develop his character. He had a fierce temper and he struggled with it his entire life to control it. One of his worst moments came when he received word that two-thirds of the men he had sent on an expedition had been killed or wounded. He was furious with the General that had been in charge, but within a few moments he was able to control his temper and declared that the General would receive a fair hearing.

Greatness is measured by action, not reputation. When an Englishman, that was touring the United States, came across an overturned carriage on a rural Virginia road, he noticed that an elderly man straining to remove an unconscious woman lying beneath the carriage. After they had finished turning the carriage upright, the elderly man invited the Englishman to return to Mount Vernon to rest and refresh himself. The Englishman was impressed by Washington’s thoughtful remarks, but even more by his behavior. So different than most country gentlemen, who would have sent for their servants to come and helped. The former President had pitched in himself

So mote it be,.

Bob