

Richard Fletcher, PGM of Vermont Receives Jack Jones Humanitarian Award

Richard Fletcher received the honorable Jack H. Jones Humanitarian Award at the recent 2019 Conference of Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries in Rapid City, South Dakota in February. The presentation was made by MW Brother Patton R. Hart, President of the Masonic Renewal Committee and a Past Grand Master with the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, F. & A.M. The Masonic Renewal Committee chartered by the Conference of Grand Masters established the Jack Jones Humanitarian Award.



The Jack H. Jones Humanitarian Award was established by the MRC for his significant accomplishments and contributions that Imperial Sir Jack made for the Conference of Grand Masters, the Masonic Renewal Committee, Shriners International and the families of Freemasonry. Imperial Sir Jack was a founding member and advisor to the Masonic Renewal Committee when the committee was established in 1988. Jack was a Past Imperial Potentate for the year 2008-09, Honorary Past Grand Master of DeMolay International and Past Imperial Recorder for Shriners International for many years. He was renowned as a Shrine-Mason for his loyalty in exhibiting the fraternalism of unity with all Masonic

families.

The committee believed that we had an outstanding slate of nominees to be considered and all were very strong and first class nominees. After careful consideration of the nominees, the committee unanimously selected Most Worshipful Brother Richard Fletcher, Past Grand Master of Vermont from 1983 – 1985 and former Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association from 1987 – 2011 for this prestigious award. MW Fletcher has been instrumental in all that he has done to further the family of Freemasonry for nearly 65 years of dedicated service and uphold the valued principles of Jack Jones. Fletcher was a close friend to Imperial Sir Jack Jones and they worked on many projects together throughout the years to enhance Freemasonry.

Fletcher traveled throughout North America visiting all Grand Lodges and helping Masonic bodies on behalf of the Masonic Service Association. Under his administration of the MSA Disaster Relief Program, the MSA provided over 7 million dollars to the Masonic community. Fletcher has been a friend to all and has been a spokesman for Freemasonry to the major news networks and a resource to Walt Disney's National Treasure movies and Dan Brown for his many novels that mention Freemasonry.

After getting out of the Navy in 1955, Fletcher joined Burlington Lodge #100 in December of 1956 in Burlington, Vermont. He has been a Mason for 63 years. He worked various jobs before starting to work at the Chittenden Bank also in Burlington. He was there for 31 years. He is happily married to his lovely lady Judy.

During his time in Vermont, he was treasurer of the First Congregational Church, joined the Scottish Rite, York Rite and the Shrine. His favorite Masonic body was the Scottish Rite. He received his coveted 33rd degree in Cleveland, Ohio. He has received many awards over the years, too many to highlight his Masonic achievements and outstanding contributions to the fraternity.

After retiring from the bank he moved to Silver Spring, MD in 1987 to be the Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association. There was lots of travel visiting many Grand Lodges, helping Masonic bodies on behalf of the Masonic Service Association and visiting many distinguished Masons. He was there for 24 years of service.

The MSA has significantly 4 parts, Education and Publication, Hospital Visitation Program, Masonic Information Center and Disaster Relief. To this day Fletcher goes every Sunday to the DC VAMC to do Chapel Escort of the Veterans. Upon retirement from the MSA, he faithfully volunteers his services. He goes regularly to help and assist where needed with the veterans. His loyalty of dedicated service toward helping his fellow being goes unmatched. He is truly a faithful servant to humanity and the fraternity of Freemasonry.

Freemasonry is the oldest, prestigious, largest and most widely recognized fraternal organization in the world. Today, there are more than 2 million Freemasons in North America alone.

Charity is an important tenet of the Masonic fraternity and Freemasons are contribution over 2.5 million dollars a day to benefit charitable deeds and worthy causes to assist the needs of people in our communities. We as the Masonic fraternity are constantly striving to make a better world in which to live.

We would like to continue this honor of recognition of Jack H. Jones for years to come. Nomination forms and information are available through our MRC web site. We would like to encourage your Grand Lodge to make a nomination for the 2020 honoree.

General information is available at the Masonic Renewal Committee web site by going to www.masoncirenwal.org for further information about the honoree and the award.