



The Ashlar



April 2007

Kempsville Lodge #196, AF&AM

Volume 6-2007

From The East



Spring may or may not be upon us. Just check the weatherman. We have an active month ahead of us in spite of the weather.

Our May stated will honor Mother's Day. We will open at 6PM., have a short meeting and eat at 7PM. Again all of our Ladies are invited to dinner and a flower talk presented by the DeMolay Chapter.

We will be busy in May getting ready for the Bull Roast. We need all the help we can get, especially in the later part of the day for clean up. Remember this is our BIG fund raiser to sponsor the Masonic Home and our Scholarship Fund.

We will attend two visits by our Grand Master. On June 5th he will be at W. V. Fentress Lodge and on June 8th he will have his Official Visit to the 56th District at Bayside. As you can see by the Trestle Board, we are very busy.

We still need coaches. School will be held on Saturday morning at 9:30 or after breakfast. You may not think you can coach, but a little training may surprise you. So come out and try it.

Remember the Blood Drive at our Lodge on May 21st. Go on line and reserve a time. Every member in this lodge can either donate or get some one else to give. Remember , it is a gift of Life.

Brother Roger Cort, WM

From The West



Greetings Brethren! Spring has sprung and Kempsville is as busy as ever. We have numerous work nights and special events coming up in the next couple of months. Your help, aid

and assistance will be needed as always. Please find the time to assist in some way.

The most important event we have coming up is our annual Bull Roast. At the last stated we voted to increase the amount of our scholarship presentation to \$750 per recipient. I felt this was

an important thing to do as the cost of continuing an education after high school has increased. The more help we can provide to the scholarship winners, the better it is for everyone. That being said, we will need to work that much harder to make this year's Bull Roast the most successful ever. Any and all able bodied brothers should find a couple of hours to pitch in and help out. Help is needed in the kitchen with Worshipful Don Meyer preparing the homemade potato salad and baked beans. Right Worshipful Tom McGowan is always waiting to mentor someone in the proper preparation of the desserts. And Worshipful Buddy Pate is always looking for helpful hands to keep the social hall in clean and ready condition. Worshipful Roger is putting sign up sheets for you to volunteer your time. Please take advantage of the opportunity for fellowship and to do your part.

Our Junior Warden, Brother Ron Jacobson works hard to put together degree teams. When was the last time your participated? I actually received a phone call recently form a Past Master who felt left out because he hadn't been asked to be part of the degree work. After we finished our conversation I wondered to myself why he was waiting to be called. Are you waiting for a call? I know for a fact that Ron would love to have brethren lining up to participate. So go ahead, get in that line and call Ron. Or come by the lodge Monday at 7PM for school. Learn the ritual. Participate in the degree work. It is one of the more rewarding parts of being a Mason.

In closing, I would like to take this one more opportunity to thank the brethren for all of the prayers and support I have received the past couple of months. It has been overwhelming and gone a long way to keeping my attitude positive. I have a ways to go before I and my doctor says I am healthy, but with your continuing support, I know I will get there. Thank you all and see you at the lodge.

Brother Adam Green, SW

From The South



Spring is upon us my good brethren! If history proves correct, this means more members will be active in the lodge this time of year. As always, Kempsville Lodge #196 remains very busy in all arenas, especially with the degrees. We have at least six Entered Apprentices to initiate in the coming month in addition to the ongoing catechism proficiency demonstrations and involvement in advancing degree work.

In recent weeks it has been very nice to have Brother Adam Green sitting across from me, either in the East or West. Adam, you almost look too sharp sitting up in the Master's chair. I know that other brethren have had their own issues with various ailments and work or family commitments which, at various times, have kept them away from the lodge. But, thank goodness for the numerous individuals who have stepped in to assist with the degree teams when asked. Several individuals have helped out at the very last moment without being given any notice. What is interesting is how well these lodge members have performed the ritual, particularly in the absence of regular practice. I personally appreciate your thoughtfulness and I know that the lodge as a whole thanks you.

There is never a shortage of big events at Kempsville Lodge. We recently had very successful Past Masters' Night (thank you Bill Rawson) and "Bring a Friend Night" at the monthly Stated Communication. On June 9th, we have our key fund raiser, the Bull Roast, preceded on the evening before by the official district visit of our Grand Master, Most Worshipful G. Bernard Dungan, Jr.

In closing, I would feel remiss if I did not acknowledge all of those families affected by the tragedy that occurred at Virginia Tech earlier this week. This brings to mind "Taps," also known as "the call that bound the nation's wounds." This hauntingly beautiful bugle call, which signals the end of the day as well as the end of life for American servicemen, was composed by General Daniel Butterfield of civil war fame. He was a member of Metropolitan Lodge No. 273, N.Y.C.

Brother Ron Jacobson, JW

Health & Welfare

If you would like either a "Thinking of You" or "Sympathy" card sent from the Lodge, please

contact Worshipful Bob Stanek, or any of the Lodge Officers. For you "Cyber Brothers", you may send your request by email to:

kville196.send.card@cox.net

You may also call Worshipful Bob Stanek at 495-7645 (home) or 619-7646 (cell). Please leave a detailed message if necessary. IMPORTANT - Please provide name(s) and address, especially if not in our Lodge roster. We will send out a card as soon as we get the information.

From The Secretary

Some news from the Grand Lodge for this edition. A new updated version of the Petition for Degrees has been prepared and is ready for Lodges to order. The directive is that, once received, we are to use no other form. I will order these new forms from Grand Lodge for us. After I distribute them then we must throw all old forms away. Use of any old form will not be permitted which means that I will not be able to accept them from you. More to come after I get the new forms in hand.

Look for your dues to increase a few dollars next year. Grand Lodge dues and assessments have been increasing every year for the past few, and we have not been collecting same. There will certainly be no effort to collect any lost money from the past but we will bring our dues into line with our By-Laws. Right now, expect next year's dues to be \$84.00. I must double check to see if our Grand Lodge assessments are going up. If so, it will only be a dollar or so.

Worshipful Bill Nolan, Secretary

56th Masonic District Blood Drive

Our next two blood drives are May 21st and July 16th, both at Kempsville Lodge (3 to 7:30PM). In an effort to increase attendance and improve service, we're using the American Red Cross scheduling web site. Simply visit www.givelife.org and use the sponsor code "vbmasons" to choose your time.

If you donate blood or platelets outside of our blood drives, please be sure to let me know.

Brother Steve Sorano, Lodge Blood Coordinator

Masonic Veterans for 2007

April	Michael L. Smith	25 years
June	Sydney S. Atkinson	25 years
	Robert A. Davis	25 years
	Darryl R. Moyers	25 years
October	Michael J. Orman	25 years
	Larry C. Nelson, Sr.	25 years
	George E. Fausel	25 years
November	Richard D. Diffie	25 years

Shut Ins...

Let's keep these Brethren and their families in our thoughts and prayers. I'm sure they'd appreciate a phone call or visit.

RW Richard A. Davis III.....497-1227
Brother Grady McGuire.....494-0778
Worshipful Bobby Spruill.....466-8341

Coaches Needed

As usual, Kempsville Lodge is going to be busy in quarries during 2007. And with all these new members, comes the need for coaches and mentors. If you're interested in coaching, contact our Master or any of the lodge officers and let them know.

We're also holding "Coaching Clinics" every Saturday morning around 9:30AM. Come on out brush up on your ritual.

Worshipful Buddy Pate, Lodge Instructor of Work

The Bull Roast



Enclosed with this Ashlar, all active members of the Lodge will find four (4) tickets to our annual Bull Roast. Each of our Widows will find one ticket enclosed. For our Widows, these tickets are complimentary. You are all invited as our guests. Everyone please try to come out and enjoy the best meal in town. We will have the same excellent menu we have had each year. Delicious Roast of Beef, cooked outside on the grill until perfect, the old family recipe baked beans and potato salad from Worshipful Don Meyer. Cole Slaw, rolls, and various cakes and pies. All you can eat for just \$9.00, \$6.00 for take out meals, and \$5.00 for children under 12. If you cannot come out, support your Lodge and buy the tickets anyway. Give them to a friend and/or neighbor. The proceeds from this endeavor go to support the Masonic Home and Kempsville Lodge's Scholarship Program. Please help us make this a banner year for our Bull Roast.

Right Worshipful Tom McGowan
Chairman

Old Master's Wages

I meet a dear old man today
Who wore a Masonic pin,
It was old and faded like the man,
Its edges were worn quite thin.

I approached the park bench where he sat
To give the old brother his due.
I said, "I see you've traveled east"
He said, "I have, have you?"

I said, I have and in my day
Before the all-seeing sun
I played in the rubble with Jubala,
Jubilo, and Jubalum.

He scolded, "Don't laugh at the work my boy,
It's good and it's sweet and it's true;
And if you've traveled as you said
You should give these things a due.

"The word, the sign, the token,
The sweet Masonic prayer,
The vow that all have taken
Who have climbed the inner stair.

"The wages of a Mason
are never paid in gold,
but the gain comes from contentment
When you're weak and growing old.

"You see I've carried my obligations
For almost fifty years.
It has helped me through the hardships,
and the failures full of tears.

"I'm now losing my mind and my body
Death is near, but I don't despair.
I've lived my life upon the level,
And I'll die upon the square."

Sometimes the greatest lessons
Are those that are learned anew.
And the old man in the park today
Has changed my point of view.

To all Masonic brothers
The only secret is to care.
May you live upon the level.
May you part upon the square.

*MW Brother Neil Neddermeyer
P.M.W.G.M of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota*

Masonic Recognition Day

Don't forget, Brethren, Masonic Recognition Day is the first day of each month. Wear your Masonic paraphernalia proudly!

Trestle Board

April 24.....Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
 April 28.....Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
 May 1.....Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
May 8.....Stated Communication
Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM
DeMolay Flower Talk
 May 15.....Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
May 21.....District Blood Drive
3-7:30PM, Kempsville Lodge
 May 22.....Master Mason Degree, 7PM
 May 26.....Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
 May 29.....Master Mason Degree, 7PM
 June 2.....Fellowcraft Degree, 7PM
 June 5.....Grand Master's Visit to Willis V. Fentress
June 9.....The Bull Roast, 11-7PM
June 12.....Stated Communication
Senior Warden's Night
 June 23.....Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
 June 26.....4th Annual Navy Night



Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Roger Cort	467-5349
Senior Warden	Adam M. Green	615-1659
Junior Warden	Ronald S. Jacobson	343-3460
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bill Nolan	467-2252
Senior Deacon	Jonathon Jones	535-1241
Junior Deacon	William H. Rawson	467-5913
Chaplain	Ross O. McLeod	343-0332
Senior Steward	Meade E. McCubbin	716-2590
Junior Steward	Todd L. Herbst	965-9489
Marshal	Joe T. Salt	481-0652
Musician	Robert S. Foxwell	490-2797
Tiler	Wor. Chris Jaeger	893-9253
Instructor of Work	Wor. "Buddy" Pate	404-8594
Education Officer	RW Tom McGowan	497-3881
Blood Coordinator	Steven Sorano	

DeMolay News

Kempsville DeMolay is doing great! We have initiated 6 members since the first of the year and for the first time in years, we find all of our chairs full. The chapter is busily preparing for upcoming ritual competitions at our annual state wide gatherings. As Mother's Day approaches, we will be performing the Flower Talk at several locations. Please attend one of these and enjoy this beautiful presentation. We will be traveling to Luray Caverns in May for sports and ritual competition the first weekend in June. Additionally, we will be performing the DeMolay degree for the first time in several years. The degree will be at Corinthian Lodge on July 17th. Please come out and appreciate all the hard work that the chapter has put into this degree.

Please note the upcoming fundraisers for the chapter. We will be performing several car washes in the coming summer months. The locations and times will be posted in the lodge so please come out and show your support. As always, please come and attend our stated meeting on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month. We really appreciate when we have Masons on the sidelines.

Upcoming Events:

May 3.....Flower Talk
 Berkley and Bayside Lodges, 6:30PM
 May 8.....Flower Talk
 Kempsville Lodge, 6:30PM
 May 30.....Flower Talk
 Princess Anne Lodge, 6:30PM
 June 1-3.....Luray competition
 July 17.....DeMolay Degree
 Corinthian Lodge, 5:30PM
 July 27-29.....Conclave

Get the Rough Ashlar via Email!

If you'd like to begin receiving our monthly newsletter, the **Rough Ashlar**, via email, simply send email address to emmett@epate.com and I'll add you to the list. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on what's happening at your lodge.

Worshipful Buddy Pate