

Food & Fellowship at Kempsville Lodge!

Annual Stated Communication

December 8th – Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM

Open Installation of Officers

December 12th – 2PM

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The Ashlar
Kempsville Lodge #196 AF&AM
4869 Princess Anne Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462



The Ashlar



December 2009

Kempsville Lodge No. 196, AF&AM
www.kempsvillegorge.org

Volume 54-12

From The East



There is a Billy Joel song called
"Where's The Orchestra?" which
states:

And I appreciate
The roles the actors played
The point the author made
And after the closing lines
And after the curtain calls
The curtain falls
On empty chairs
Where's the orchestra?

In Freemasonry, with respect to becoming an officer in the lodge, we use such as phrases as "getting in line" and "sitting in the chairs." This is my 6th year as a member of Kempsville Lodge and my 5th as either an appointed or elected officer. It is amazing that I am now writing my last Ashlar article as Worshipful Master. The curtain calls are already here – beginning with our recent trip to Grand Lodge followed by our upcoming Annual Stated on December 8th. Then the curtain falls – the Installation of Officers on December 12th. Finally, there will be the Empty Chair – returning to life as a regular mason and past master but no longer sitting in a chair as a stationed officer.

This leaves me with the question "Where's the Orchestra?"

The Orchestra is YOU. All of you. And the Orchestra plays on. This is what makes Kempsville Lodge so remarkable – all the parts members play are significant, whether great or small.

That being said, I have many people to thank for making this past Masonic year so successful. To the stationed officers, you've been solid and committed all year long. Bill Rawson, after making things "clear in the South," you also made them "clear in the West." Excellent job on learning and performing the Masonic funeral service. Michael Johnstone. You have done so well taking on an extraordinary amount of responsibilities. Thanks for making me look good and helping me to remember those small but important things.

As for my other officers, you've been brilliant as well. Bill Peterson. I especially appreciate your efforts coordinating the lodge family picnic and

tracking the progress of candidates' coaching and degree status. Worshipful Steve Ridgeway. I am very grateful that you were able to stand in as a pro temp line officer and look forward to you stepping in line next year. You've also done a great job of transitioning from South Carolina to Virginia ritual. Jerry Hallal. You've been a terrific chaplain and particularly kind and conscientious managing the Health and Welfare responsibilities. Scott Foxwell. As was said at the November Stated, the entire lodge is so fortunate to have had you as musician, as your stellar and playful piano play have added so much character and joy to our meetings. Joe Salt. You are the lodge "utility man" and many things at the lodge would be incomplete without your presence. Worshipful Chris Jaeger. You have been a very dedicated mason and Tiler. I welcome you back inside the lodge knowing that you will be passing on the sword later this month. Dave Borntrager. You have much integrity and loyalty to the lodge and have been particularly instrumental in keeping the lodge clean and in fine condition for the health inspectors.

Worshipfuls Bob Stanek and Bill Nelligar. There are so many kind words that I have to say about both of you that there is not enough room here in this Ashlar for me to elaborate. You have both worked incredibly hard in many different areas, but most especially with respect to making and keeping the lodge solvent. Magnificent job!!

Right Worshipfuls Tom McGowan and Buddy Pate. You both continue to make huge contributions to Masonry in general and our lodge in particular. The tone for both the downstairs and upstairs culture of the lodge is set by the two of you. I've learned much from both of you along the way. You've helped make me a better man and a better mason.

Thanks to our Lodge Education Officer, Worshipful Adam Green – for all of your help along the way, stepping in to do that one LEO presentation at Fentress Lodge, and being there for the breakfasts. Also thanks to Lodge Blood Coordinator, John Preddy. Not only have you done an excellent job in making the blood drives successful, but you have also done much handy work around the lodge.

To the Kitchen Crew. Hank Foiles, Bud Marchman, Jack Bell, Worshipful Roger Cort, Worshipful Bob Stanek and many, many others. You've worked your tails off this year and in proceeding years. People come to the lodge for fellowship and fellowship would not be the same without these tasty meals. Special recognition is deserved for the breakfasts and the breakfast fund. This allowed us to make several improvements in the lodge throughout the year.

Lastly, to all of those who served on various committees I want to let you know how happy I am that you were there for me and your lodge.

To all of you – the Orchestra – you are good brethren and make for one of the best lodges in the state of Virginia. I am proud to call you brothers and am happy to have had the chance to serve you as Worshipful Master.

Brother Ron Jacobson, Worshipful Master

From The West



The year has come to a close and may I say, a very successful one at that. I would first of all like to extend my "Thanks and Appreciation" to Worshipful Ron Jacobson for his help, aide, and assistance throughout the 2009 Masonic year. And also, to congratulate him on a job well done. The Lodge functions ran smoothly, and we finished in the "black." We initiated many candidates, and raised many Master Masons.

Worshipful Ron, you have left some pretty big shoes to fill in the coming years, and as you join the ranks of Past Masters, I hope you will still be available for an occasional ear bending when needed.

I would also like to acknowledge the blood, sweat, and tears of all of the Brothers who worked tirelessly, came early, and left late to make the Lodge events the success they were. I wish I could list the names of all who participated, but I know Right Worshipful Buddy would have a fit. Line Officers, Past Masters, Brethren all, great team effort in 2009.

Right now I look forward to the 2010 Masonic year filled with anxiety. But I know that with the support of the Brethren, our Lodge will continue to be the beacon of light it has been over the last fifty-five years.

Even with a few consolidations in Virginia, our Lodge and many others in the state are flourishing. Jobies and Rainbow girls are increasing daily. DeMolay chapters are swelling at the seems. All in all, Masonry in Virginia is in great shape, and all indicators are that it will continue as

such for the foreseeable future. Now is a great time to be a Mason.

Recently I have had the honor of of being asked to do the funeral service for two Brothers who passed to the Celestial Lodge above. In doing so, I have noticed one truth to be self evident. Our lives are changed by many things, but we begin and end with family.

I wish you all a Happy Holiday Season.

Brother Bill Rawson, Senior Warden

From The South



This is the final article from the Junior Warden station. Our labors have been suspended at least for a time so we can spend time with family and friends. Our focus is shifted to holiday parties, social events, family gatherings, and all that these entail. Busy holiday shopping and making travel plans. So many details, so much to do. Please remember to give thanks for the many blessings and remember to do good to all.

I want to take a moment to thank everyone that assisted with our degree work, coach candidates, lodge meals both stated meetings and breakfasts, and general up keep of the building and grounds. We have had a busy year and 2010 will be equally busy. Our incoming Junior Warden, Bill Peterson will also need assistance when we resume labor. Please consider helping him for degree work or if you are able to coach a candidate or two or three.

Please bring a can food item or two to our Annual Stated so that we may make a donation to the Food Bank to assist with restocking their shelves. Thank you for your support in this effort.

Have a great holiday season. See you at lodge soon.

Brother Michael Johnstone, Junior Warden

Trestleboard

December 8Annual Stated Communication
Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM
December 12 Open Installation of Officers, 2PM
January 12 Stated Communication, Dinner 6PM
January 16 Grand Master's Official District Visit
Bayside Lodge, 6PM

Other District Events

December 1 Willis V. Fentress
Annual Stated Communication, 6PM
December 2 Princess Anne
Annual Stated Communication, 6:30PM
December 3 Bayside
Annual Stated Communication, 6:30PM
December 5 Bayside
Open Installation of Officers, 2PM
December 9 Virginia Beach
Annual Stated Communication, 6:30PM
December 10 Lynnhaven
Annual Stated Communication, 6PM
December 11 Virginia Beach
Open Installation of Officers, 7PM
December 12 Lynnhaven
Open Installation of Officers, 5PM

Masonic Birthdays for December

Dennis Lee Creef '61	Jessie Robert Ritchie '92
Lincoln Figuereo '01	Roger James Rowe, Jr. '92
Ejnar Olaf Jorgensen '53	Robert M. Shelburne '61
Rubin Kravitz '60	Norman L. Shepard '78
Michael Lombardo '48	James Reginald Smith '94
Timothy Miles Maguire '01	Alfred Lee Vanhorne '54
William McPherson Jr. '62	David Howard Weast '87

The Brethren shown above have a total of 482 years in Masonry!

Welcome to the following new Master Masons raised in 2009:

- Brother Robert Hunter Johns
- Brother Charles Joseph Ridgely
- Brother Jackson Rollins Bell, Jr.
- Brother Tyler Anthony Pender
- Brother George Robert Winn, Jr.
- Brother Seth Adam Miles
- Brother Alexander Robert Echols
- Brother Matthew Hazard Zardeskas
- Brother Quentin Edward Reger
- Brother Stephen Edward Spratt

And our Newest Affiliated Master Masons:

- Brother Billy Franklin Gordon, Jr.
- Brother Samuel Grant Welty
- Worshipful Marvin Leroy Spruill
- Brother David Harold Curtis
- Brother Thomas Gray Webber, Sr.
- Brother Harold Greeley Noyes, Jr.
- Brother Russell Peter Tjepkema
- Brother James Henry Beck

Have Faith In One Another

Have faith in one another,
When you meet in friendship's name;
For a true friend is a brother,
And his heart shall throb the same;
Though your paths in life may differ,
Since the hour when first ye met,
Have faith in one another,
Ye may need that friendship yet.

Have faith in one another
When ye whisper faith's fond vow;
It may not be always summer,
Nor always bright as now;
And when winter time comes o'er ye,
If some kindred heart ye share,
Have faith in one another,
And ye ne'er shall know despair.

Have faith in one another;
For should doubt alone incline,
It would make this world a desert,
And the sun would cease to shine;
We have all some transient sorrow
That o'ershadows us to-day,
Yet have faith in one another,
And it soon will pass away.

Have faith in one another,
And let honor be your guide,
Let the truth alone be spoken,
Whatever may betide;
The false may reign a season,
And we doubt not but it will,
But have faith in one another,
And the truth will triumph still.

W. W. Fernie
South Shields, England

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Ronald S. Jacobson	343-3460
Senior Warden	William H. Rawson	467-5913
Junior Warden	Michael D. Johnstone	334-3013
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bob Stanek	495-7645
Secretary Emeritus	RW Bill Pierce	804-226-4181
Senior Deacon	William T. Peterson	237-5249
Junior Deacon	Steven V. Sorano	321-0392
Chaplain	Gerald T. Hallal	472-1200
Marshal	Joe T. Salt	481-0652
Musician	Robert S. Foxwell	490-2797
Tiler	Wor. Chris J. Jaeger	893-9253
Instructor of Work	RW Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Wor. Adam Green	615-1659
Blood Coordinator	John Preddy	439-3225
Youth Advisor	Justin Gray	338-7218

Articles for the next next Ashlar should be submitted by 12/20/09 to RW Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or Worshipful Bob Stanek (rstanek1@cox.net)