



# The Ashlar



July 2012

Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M.  
www.kempsvillelodge.org

Volume 57-07

## From The East



This marks 236 years since our Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence. The purpose of the document was a formal explanation by the Continental

Congress on why they voted on July 2, 1776 to declare independence from Great Britain after the outbreak of the American Revolution more than a year earlier. The document was formally ratified on July 4, 1776 when 56 men affixed their name to it in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, PA. Of those 56 men, 9 or 16% percent were Masons. They included prominent men such as Benjamin Franklin and John Hancock. It is also interesting to note that 33 of 74, or 46%, of generals serving in the Continental Army were Masons to include George Washington, Marquis de Lafayette and Baron Frederick von Steuben. So as Masons, forget not the positive contributions we have had on our Nation's History. So, I ask you to show pride in our Nation and our Masonic history and fly our National Ensign on July 4, 2012.

Just a reminder that the July Stated Communication is Hawaiian Shirt Night, so wear yours that evening. Our ladies are also invited to join us for dinner and I hope they too will come dressed for the occasion. RW Wayne Sawyer Flora, Grand Senior Warden for the Grand Lodge of Virginia, will be our guest speaker in Lodge that evening.

Finally, forget not our servicemen and women still serving at home and abroad this July 4th. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers. For they are making great sacrifices, and some the ultimate sacrifice, to preserve our unalienable Rights, among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. Also keep in mind our sick and infirmed Brethren and our Masonic Sweethearts. Visit and call upon them when the opportunity presents itself.

Worshipful Bill Peterson, Worshipful Master

## From The West



Brethren, the first thing I want to do is to thank all of you for attending Senior Warden night. Thank you for helping me in my preparation for the East. It was a night that I will not soon forget and one that I promise will be shorter going forward.

Several days ago, I visited a friend who took me to his backyard and proudly showed me his garden. He talked of the seeds he had purchased and the seeds he had planted. He told me of the weeds he had pulled and the rows he had hoed.

He pointed out the big boys, the better boys, the big beefs, the big reds and the early girls. He showed me seed packets that were attached to sticks that stood like a sentry at the front of each row. They contained pictures of beans, corn, squash and melons, all dressed in their mid-summer best.

He shared with me that one of his greatest joys in gardening was showing his four year old grandson a tiny seed and then showing him what it had become. He told me of the genuine amazement and awe that radiated from his eyes as he held the seed in one hand and its fruit in the other.

Each day will usually give us an opportunity to plant a seed. We may not realize it when it happens, but often times, our actions set into motion a process that blossoms into something far more greater than one would have expected or ever believed possible.

Something that will feed one's desire for growth, be it materialistically, spiritually or masonically. Sometimes we can offer a seed for inspiration, sometimes a seed for confidence, always the seed of friendship and always, always the seed of example. We should forever strive to be the Light and the gentle rain that will help produce a harvest of achievement and success in others.

Brother Jerry Hallal, Senior Warden

## From The South



Did you know that John Adams believed that July 2nd was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American Independence, and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4th events in protest. On June 7th, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence. On July 2nd, the Continental Congress voted in favor of Lee's resolution in a near unanimous vote. On that day, John Adams wrote to his wife Abigail that July 2nd "will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival" and that the celebration should include "Pomp and Parade... Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one end of this Continent to the other." On July 4th, the Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, which had been written largely by Thomas Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on July 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American Independence. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4th, 1826--the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

Worshipful Steve Ridgeway, Junior Warden

If you read the Ashlar on-line, and don't need a "hard-copy" in the mail, please e-mail the Secretary for removal from the "snail-mail" list. We will notify all who register when the Ashlar is read to read on-line, and we might save a little postage money. Every little bit helps!. Thanks!

## Masonic Veterans for 2012

July	Joseph Edward Smith	60 Years
	Jack Lee Waller	50 Years
September	David Borntreger	25 Years
October	Thomas Henry Cutchins, III	25 Years
	Henley Albert Morgan, Jr.	25 Years
November	Donald Eugene Howard	25 Years
	Raymond Russell Rowley	50 Years
December	David Howard Weast	25 Years

## Welcome to Kempsville!

Join us in welcoming our newest member, Brother John R. Settle, IV - raised June 26th.

## 2012 Bull Roast Report

What an awesome day we had at Kempsville Lodge. I am so very grateful and appreciative for the 49 volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this year's Bull Roast a great success. The weather was perfect and our guests enjoyed a good time and a great meal. There were lots of compliments on the food, especially Worshipful George Fausel's horseradish sauce. I heard many people said they will return next year. Kudos goes to Worshipful Bob Stanek and the Pit Crew for cooking the tender and flavorful beef. A huge thank you goes to Worshipful Don Meyer and his Galley Gang for the amazing baked beans, potato salad, & cole slaw. Hats-off goes to Right Worshipful Tom McGowan for the variety of delicious desserts. Thank you Brother Kevin Cotter and the Servers and to Worshipful Chris Jaeger and the Take-Out and Delivery crew for keeping the food moving in the dining hall and out the door. To all the Brothers who helped with clean-up, thank you so much. The Lodge was cleaned in record time and it was spotless. Lastly, I want to thank everyone who helped with planning, preparing, shopping, providing seed money, ticket sales, baking desserts, peeling potatoes, provided propane, and spreading the word throughout the community and to other Lodges. It was great to see the Brethren of Kempsville Lodge working together in harmony to put on a fantastic Bull Roast and support our Scholarship Fund and the Masonic Home of Virginia! Below is the Financial Report:

Total Donations:	\$8,056.00
Less Expenses:	\$2,090.82
Less Scholarships:	\$1,000.00
Less MAHOVA:	\$1,400.00
Net Profit:	\$3,565.18
To The Building Fund:	\$2,000.00
To The General Fund:	\$1,565.18

Brother Chris Anders, Senior Steward



The man who towards himself is a severe judge, but who is tolerant with the debilities of his neighbor, who endeavors to oppose errors without arrogance, and to promote intelligence without impatience.

The man who never proclaims what he has done, can do, or will do, but where need is, will lay hold with dispassionate courage, circumspect resolution, indefatigable exertion and a rare power of mind, and who will not cease until he has accomplished his work, and who then without pretension, will retire into the multitude because he did the good act, not for himself, but for the cause of good!

If you meet such a man, you will see the personification of brotherly love, relief and truth; and you will have found the ideal Freemason.

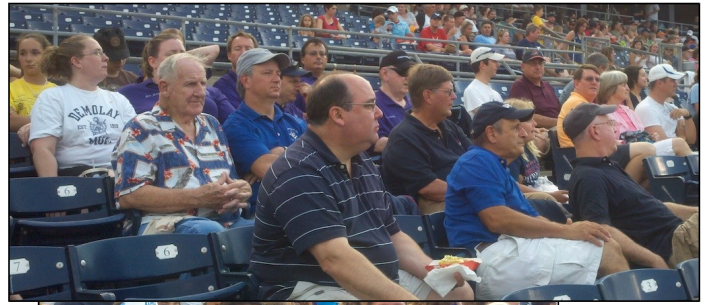
Submitted by Right Worshipful Tom McGowan  
Lodge Education Officer

### **Building and Grounds Committee**

The Building and Grounds Committee would like to thank Shawn Thomas of ReVision Home Improvements for his help with the renovation of the Lodge Foyer.

We'd also like to thank all those who have contributed to the foyer. We also had to spend \$840 to replace a bad motor for the A/C unit under the fire escape. We would appreciate any contributions to the BUILDING FUND. We still have several projects that are necessary over the next couple of years including a downstairs bathroom. Thanks for your continued support.

### **Baseball Night at Harbor Park**



Brethren, friends, family, DeMolay, and Jobies enjoying Kempsville Lodge's "Baseball Night" at Harbor Park on June 19th.

NON PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
NORFOLK, VA  
PERMIT NO. 508

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