



The Ashlar



February 2015

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

Volume 62-02

From The East



First, I want to thank those of you who were present at Right Worshipful Frank Lewis Wright, Jr's official visit to our lodge on January 13th, 2015. It was a great turnout, as 72 Brethren were present that evening. I ask that you support Right Worshipful Wright and I on his official visits to the remainder of the Lodges in the 56th District this month. His schedule is in the Ashlar as well as online at the Kempsville website. The January Stated Communication was a busy evening. I had the pleasure of presenting Worshipful Steve Ridgeway his Past Masters' Apron and name tag and Brother Stan Perry the chair arm that had his father's brass name tag. With the assistance of the Secretary, we were able to present Brother Stan Perry his petition picture from 1956. It was a very moving moment for Brother Perry. Additionally, Right Worshipful Fred Dixon presented Right Worshipful Buddy Pate the Royal Arch College Degree. Brother Harold Noyes was also presented his 50th Masonic Veteran's pin by Right Worshipful Tom McGowan.

Second, this month's meeting is Kempsville's 60th or Diamond Anniversary and it will be the spring Past Master's night as well. Additionally, since Saturday, February 14, 2015 is Valentine's Day, this is also Sweethearts Night. So please bring your spouse or significant other for dinner. There will be a special presentation in during the meeting, so please come out. It would be great to fill every seat in the Lodge.

Third, Most Worshipful Reese Edward Carroll, Jr. official visit to District 36/56 is March 20, 2015 at the Khedive Shrine Temple in Chesapeake, VA. At the time of writing this article, there are very few details and as the plans become more firm, further information will be disseminated.

By the time this Ashlar is published, I will have a meeting with the Past Masters' of our Lodge on Saturday, January 31, 2015. During this meeting, I will have presented them a short presentation on my goals for the year. Some of the goals include: requesting the Building Committee draft a plan to renovate the hallway outside the Lodge and

bathrooms; participation in the community with the Virginia Child ID Program and continued support of the Red Cross Blood Drive; and with your support, the Virginia Beach Adopt-A-Program to assist in litter pick-up at the Stratford Chase Recreation Park across from the Kroger in the Fairfield Shopping Center.

At present, we will continue the end of the month breakfast. It is a great opportunity to socialize with our families and Brethren as well as an opportunity to meet with potential candidates to our Fraternal Family. I do ask your continued support with your donations and time. The Senior Stewart, Brother Chuck Bateman, needs your assistance in cooking, serving, and clean-up at breakfast and with the Stated Communication Dinners. I ask that you contact me or Brother Bateman when you are able to assist. If we get enough volunteers, we would like to set up a schedule that requires you to provide assistance once a quarter. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Finally, keep in your thoughts and prayers are deployed Brethren and their families, our widows, the sick and the infirmed. Also keep in your thoughts and prayers the families of our departed Brethren.

Worshipful Bill Peterson
Worshipful Master

From The West



This time last year, I informed the lodge that I would not be the Worshipful Master this year and would prefer to wait until my retirement from teaching school to be Master. Thank you for your understanding and willingness to accommodate my desires. Thank you also to Worshipful Bill Peterson for agreeing to return to the East for this anniversary year.

At our January stated meeting we received the District Deputy Grand Master on the occasion of his official visit. As I sat in the West with Worshipful Ed Meise beside me, gazing at the East with Right Worshipful Frank Lewis Wright, Jr and

our Master, I said to Ed, "That will be us next year!" Being struck with horror, [...no, wait, that's another story], it did hit me that the time is upon us. Plans and dreams need to be finalized.

We should always be looking ahead and planning for the days to come. Unfortunately, we know not what the future holds nor how long our days on earth may be. We opened a Lodge of Sorrow for just such a purpose. At the conclusion of the Master Mason's lecture, we are reminded of those grim symbols of our own mortality.

Hoping that the Great Architect of the Universe will give me the days, I look forward to next year, while enjoying these days. Let's enjoy them together.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Senior Warden

From The South



I am hitting the key strokes for this article while riding a US National Asset (civilians call it an aircraft carrier, sailors call it 90,000 tons of diplomacy) in the Atlantic Ocean.

Interesting to note that as soon as my roommate noticed my ring he said "so you're a travelling man are you?" Nice guy and member of a Prince Hall Lodge in Washington, DC. He let me know that there are many brothers on the ship I am riding. I hope to meet some of them and exchange pleasantries during my ride.

The Armed Forces, especially the Navy have a great number of brothers in the ranks. It is very salient to me that a personal attitude of duty to country and Masonic principles go hand in hand. In fact, I learned that when our founding fathers were in the process of drafting our Constitution they first looked to the English form of government to get a basic document as an example to begin drafting our own governing document. While researching the English documents the planners found that England truly did not have a document that organized its government, England had a collection of documents and some unwritten traditions that guided them. The founders thus used the Constitution of Masonry as a basis for our Constitution. Specifically, The Bill of Rights largely comes from the Constitution of Masonry. This fact should make each of you proud to be a Masonic American.

Finally, I was lucky enough to participate in Brother Joe Caragiulo's Master Mason Degree

before leaving for sea. It was encouraging to see a rather full sideline for the event. The degree went well and everyone present enjoyed being there. I also enjoyed seeing a large turnout for our Saturday morning coffee club the weekend before I left for sea. In my mind, participation is the key to sharing friendship, morality, and brotherly love. I encourage all brothers to attend lodge functions that are available to them and to take advantage of being an active part in Kempsville 196 activities. Masonry truly is a society of like minded friends and brothers and our lodge is what we make of it.

Best wishes to all and I look forward to seeing you in Lodge soon.

Brother Greg Muir, Junior Warden

Trestleboard

January 31	.....	Monthly Breakfast, 8-10AM
February 3	.....	DDGM Official Visit Willis V. Fentress Lodge No. 296, 7:30PM
February 4	.....	DDGM Official Visit Princess Anne Lodge No. 25, 7:30PM
February 5	.....	DDGM Official Visit Bayside Lodge No. 218, 7PM
February 10	.....	Stated Communication 60 th Year Anniversary Past Master's Night, 7PM
February 12	.....	DDGM Official Visit Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220, 7PM
February 16	.....	District Blood Drive Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220, 2PM-7PM
February 17	.....	Master Mason Degree, 7PM
February 24	.....	Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
February 27	.....	Division Leadership Conference Granby Street Temple, 6:30PM
February 28	.....	Monthly Breakfast, 8-10AM
March 3	.....	Fellowcraft Degree, 7PM
March 10	.....	Stated Communication, 7PM

For the latest, up-to-date schedule, check our web site at www.kempsvillelodge.org.

Blood Drive

In order to be a viable blood donation candidate, there are several basic steps to ensure that you will be able to donate without any problems. Hydrate the day of the donation drink plenty of fluids (not alcohol or coffee), wear comfortable clothing that can have the sleeve rolled up out of the way, Keep a healthy level of iron in your diet from meats and vegetables (coffee drags iron level down), list of medications. Bring an ID with you, bring a friend to keep you company and possibly donate blood, and finally RELAX and enjoy the experience. Giving blood is one of the easiest

things you can do to save a life. Our next donation drive is at Lynnhaven Lodge on February 16th from 2-7PM.

Patrick Blankenship, Lodge Blood Chairman

Masonic Family Trip To Washington, DC

Brother Edward Usita of Willis V. Fentress Lodge No. 296, is coordinating a trip to Washington, DC. The dates are May 16-18, 2015. This two day trip includes two nights of lodging, 4 meals, 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners. The guided tours of DC will include WW II Memorial, Capitol Hill, Embassy Row, the Korean Veteran's Memorial, the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, the Smithsonian, Arlington Cemetery, Iwo Jima Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. If you are interested, please contact Brother Usita at (757) 431-8624.

Community Service

Many thanks to Worshipful Steve Ridgeway, Worshipful Bob Stanek, and Brother Joe Salt for participating in the cleanup at Stratford Chase Recreation Center.

Youth Corner

Members of Kempsville DeMolay gave their Sunday morning in late December to help package up 20,000 meals for Stop Hunger Now, an international relief agency dedicated to putting an end to world hunger. The Chapter held its semi-annual election of officers at its second January stated. Congratulations to Dylan Masters, who will serve the Chapter as its Master Councilor for the upcoming spring/summer term, Jacob Jackson, Senior Councilor elect, and Jared Jackson, Junior Councilor elect. A March installation is planned, with a date and time to be announced soon. The Chapter hopes to see you at their annual Honest Abe Spaghetti Dinner, Saturday, February 21st from 4-7PM at Lynnhaven Lodge, where the best spaghetti dinner in town can be had for just \$7 for adults, and \$5 for kids 12 and under.

Bethel 42 will travel to the Virginia Beach oceanfront in early February to assist the Special Olympics in the annual Polar Plunge Winter Festival. If you happen to be there, look for Kempsville's Jobies volunteering along the sidelines and at the finish line of the Polar Plunge 5K on the boardwalk. Mark your calendars for Bethel 42's joint Grand Visitation with Norfolk's

Bethel 46 on Saturday, February 7th at 7PM at Kempsville Lodge. This is an excellent opportunity for Master Masons to learn more about Job's Daughters and the wonderful program that it offers to our daughters and granddaughters.

Brother Cliff Williams, Youth Advisor

Masonic Birthdays for February

Alex H. Adkins '76	Robert H. Johns '05
David H. Armstrong, Jr. '77	Kenneth W. Lancaster '05
Scott E. Bateman '99	Marvin B. Lancaster '05
William J. Davis '49	Brian D. Littlehale '10
Dennis L. Eaton '11	John T. Martin '11
Charles F. Edwards '70	J. Mark Nuzum '02
Edward J. Foley '93	Galen K. Rogers '99
Lewis J. Forrest '85	Joseph M. Snook '65
Glenn D. Fraser II '80	Osmay Torres '08
Glenn L. Gilman '78	William C. Vahle '13
William F. Grice '70	

The Brethren shown above have a total of 504 years in Masonry!

To Our Masonic "Sweethearts"

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in February:

Patricia Henningsgen	February 1 st
Catherine Hamilton	February 4 th
Nancy Moffat	February 4 th
Lorraine Johns	February 5 th

If any of our ladies are in need of assistance from the Lodge, please don't hesitate to contact Right Worshipful Bill Knowles or the Secretary.

Welcome to Kempsville!

Please join us in welcoming Brother Giuseppe "Joe" Caragiulo (raised on January 6th), Brother Donald Cale (affiliated from El Cajon Lodge No. 576, California on January 13th) and Brother Scott Vaughn (raised on January 27th).

From The Secretary

All dues-paying members should have received a 2015 dues notice by now (mailed last November). If you don't recall receiving a dues notice, or may have misplaced yours, please call the Secretary and I'll send you another one promptly. (Remember, lodge dues are payable by January 31 of each year.) To those who have returned their 2015 dues, thank you!

Current membership addresses are important. Our 50-year Masonic Veterans and Life Members aren't mailed dues notices, but we don't want to lose

contact with you either. If you relocate your residence, please keep your address and telephone contact information current with the lodge.

Worshipful Bob Stanek, Secretary

Words To Reflect Upon

Alex had entered junior high school while Sarah was still in elementary school. That was when Grandpa taught Sarah and him how to track ants. Alex and Sarah could follow the insects across the dirt, but when the ants crossed a boulder, the tracks vanished. After an hour, Alex and Sarah gave up. Grandpa's eyebrows frowned, "You know why you didn't find them?"

Alex heard the lecture before, "Because you gave up too soon." "Yes", Grandpa said. "When you stop believing, you stop putting forth the effort, focusing, and persisting. You lose sight of the goal, and you fail. And what are you left with?"

Alex and Sarah looked at each other. They didn't know. "Regret", Grandpa said. "If you stop believing now, later you'll wonder, 'What if I'd tried a little harder? Maybe I could've done it.' If you do it too many times, you'll feel like you're drowning."

"Do you have any regrets, Grandpa?" Sarah asked.

He thought for a moment. "No. But I see so many people my age with regrets: the girl he didn't date, the college degree she didn't apply for, the job he didn't seek, the skill didn't develop--it never goes away. Those regrets lead to depression, and the depression drowns their spirit."

"What if we fail?" Alex said. "If you truly fail having

given it your all, you realize it wasn't meant to be. You can move on with your life. But many don't even know what their all is. They float between failure and success having tasted neither. We're capable of so much more than we realize. I've failed many things many times, and I've succeeded a few times, too. But I don't have regrets."

Sarah tried again, putting her head close to the ground, so she could see the sunlight reflect off the rocks. "There's dust on the rocks!" Sarah exclaimed.

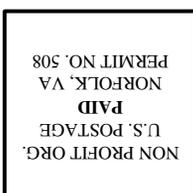
Alex saw it too. The ants had flattened a trail through the dust on the boulder.

Submitted by Right Worshipful Tom McGowan

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Bill Peterson	237-5249
Senior Warden	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Junior Warden	Gregory C. Muir	676-3761
Treasurer	Bill Nelligar	536-4100
Secretary	Bob Stanek	619-7646
Senior Deacon	Chris Anders	635-7617
Junior Deacon	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Senior Steward	Charles Bateman, Jr.	309-2399
Junior Steward	Jackson Bell	831-0818
Chaplain	Jim Boone	496-9595
Musician	Bob Johns	478-0751
Marshal	Dickie Cooper	971-7347
Tiler	Dennis Eaton	499-6720
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Bill Rawson	724-4867
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Patrick Blankenship	406-6166
Youth Advisor	Cliff Williams	870-2539

Articles for the next Ashlar should be submitted by the 18th of each month to
Right Worshipful Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or
Worshipful Bob Stanek (bob.stanek@gmail.com)



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