





May 2015

From The East



First, I want to say Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers. There were many life lessons that my mother imparted to me as I was growing up, and I will always be indebted to her

for them. I believe we all have a special place in our heart for our mothers.

Second, I want to thank again Worshipful Brother Bill Nolan, for an inspiring presentation on Freedom. His presentation focused on the Freedoms our founding Fathers outlined in the Declaration of Independence to what was solidified in our Constitution of the United States as well as Bill of Rights. He also spoke on the sacrifices made by our service men and women, and our First Responders. Freedom is not free!

Spring has finally arrived. Other than the great amount of pollen that coats everything and causes those of you with seasonal allergies an immense amount of discomfort, I see Spring as a time of renewal; a time to start afresh. It might be due to a combination of the warm weather, the longer period of daylight or all the colors associated with new growth of trees and flowers. I ask that you, my Brothers, renew your interest in Masonry. Please come out to the monthly Stated Communication or watch your Brethren conduct degree work, they perform beautiful ritual work. Also support the Lodge in its upcoming events such as the Virginia Child ID, Bull Roast, youth groups, etc.

The 32nd Annual Pungo Strawberry Festival is just around the corner on Saturday, May 23rd and Sunday, May 24th. The Lodge has participated in the Virginia Child ID Program at the Strawberry Festival the last six years. Each Lodge in the District has been requested to provide volunteers. As further information is provided by Brother Jim Doubikin, Bayside Senior Warden, I'll have our website updated. If you are interested and have the time, I need your help. I will be there and there are several positions to be filled; assisting the parents in filling out the forms, weighing and taking height measurements, working on the laptop, etc. Come out and help for a period of time then spent the rest of the day with friends and family at the festival.

Our Annual Bull Roast is fast approaching. This fund raising event support the Masonic Home of Virginia as well as two scholarships recipients. Please support Brother Chris Anders in any capacity you can!

May is our Senior Warden's Night. Please come out and show your support for Brother Scott Foxwell. I know he'll do a great job and has a special guest speaker lined up.

In closing, thank you all for supporting the Lodge, your home away from home. I can tell you this; nothing gets accomplished without the support and participation of you, the Brethren. Keep our Masonic Sweethearts, our sick and infirmed, and our deployed Brethren in your thoughts and prayers.

Worshipful Bill Peterson, Worshipful Master

From The West



One of the major concerns for any organization is participation. It is often said that 20% of the members do 80% of the work. That percentage might be a bit high for our lodge.

With 400+ members, it is doubtful that we have 80 "active" members chipping in.

I grew up in a Southern Baptist church where the major outreach arm was the Sunday School. Each member was expected to be in a Sunday School class and that was how the church kept track of you and helped meet your needs. Ideally, it was also the way the church grew.

Now we have plenty of members. We continue to get petitions and welcome new Masons. Our biggest problem is how to keep these new Masons and the old ones active and feeling like they have a place and a role to fill. There is that part in the Master Mason's lecture which talks about how many Masons had a part in the building of the Temple and they "were all so classed and arranged by the Masonic Art and Wisdom of King Solomon that neither envy, discord, nor confusion was permitted to interrupt that universal peace and harmony which pervaded the world at that important period."

I am no King Solomon and have no idea how to "class and arrange" you, but it is hoped that you will find your place in the lodge. We need listeners as well as speakers, encouragers as much as doers, and followers as well as leaders. The benefits are all here for the taking. You can make our lodge better, and our lodge can make you a better man and Mason.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Senior Warden

From The South



My reading of Masonic History and other legendary books such as Born in Blood and The Temple and The Lodge have inspired me to visit as many Masonic sites as I can. The sites have

ranged from the world-renowned to mere displays at the Douglas MacArthur and Buffalo Bill Memorials. I enjoyed the narrated tours provided by the staffs as well as seeing the Masonic artifacts on display during each visit. Every stop was enlightening and each one made me think of when those Brothers petitioned, began their journeys, went through their degrees, and stood at their Lodge Alters for their Catechisms.

My fiancée Teresa and I were able to tour The House of the Temple in Washington, DC during her spring break last month. What a place! It is structurally impressive and contains numerous Masonic artifacts. To name a few: George



Washington's funeral Bible, 4 copies of Anderson's Constitutions of Masonry, Harry S Truman's 33rd Degree collar worn during his conferral, and much more. I also enjoyed sitting in the Tyler's seat outside the main Lodge Room where the Bi-Annual Scottish Rite Conference is held.

Teresa and I have also had the opportunity to tour the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia during a summer vacation stop in 2013 to watch my beloved Phillies. I have also been to the top of the tower at the George Washington Masonic Memorial. Each venue was uniquely impressive but The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania sort of "took the cake." Visits to Fredericksburg Lodge here in Virginia, the Grand Lodge of England, and Rosslyn Chapel in Scotland are on our upcoming vacation dockets.

I encourage you to read some of the more enlightening Masonic books and publications and to get out and see these very interesting sites when you are able. And finally I encourage you to continue your growth by coming to stated meetings and our degree work. Each of us should continue to grow in knowledge, grow in proficiency, and grow in Friendship and Brotherly Love as we preserve Masonic traditions for the generations that follow us. I hope to see you in Lodge soon!

Brother Greg Muir, Junior Warden

Community Service

A special thank you to the following Brethren for participating with me in our Adopt-A-Spot Program at the Stratford Chase Recreation Park:

- Worshipful Bob Stanek
- Brother Jim Boone
- Brother Joe Salt
- Brother Dennis DiMaggio

Worshipful Bill Peterson, Worshipful Master

Trestleboard

| May 5 | Master Mason Degree, 7PM |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------|
| | Stated Communication |
| - | Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM |
| May 19 | Master Mason Degree, 7PM |
| May 26 | Master Mason Degree, 7PM |
| May 30 | . Monthly Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM |
| June 9 | Stated Communication |
| - | Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM |
| June 13 | .32 nd Annual Bull Roast, 11AM-7PM |
| June 15 | District Blood Drive |
| - | Bayside Lodge, 2-7PM |
| June 23 | Affiliated Past Masters Night, 7PM |
| | |

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

Morlock Award

Thank you to those who have so far contributed to the Morlock Award. To date, we have 35 of the required 64 donations. If you haven't had an opportunity to personally contribute \$5. Please contact me or see me at the Lodge. The Masonic Home of Virginia is a worthy cause and they are extremely grateful for every dollar they receive.

Youth Corner

It's been a month of Masonic and community service for Bethel 42. Members travelled to Magnolia United Methodist Church in Suffolk to help spruce up the grounds and do some general cleaning inside the building and attended the installation of the officers of Zulekia Court #35 the

following day. They conducted a very successful car wash fundraiser and attended the Grand Master's Official Visit of



Masonic Districts 35 A&B later that evening, concluding their weekend with a proficiency sleepover and helping to serve at the Khedive Shrine Drum & Bugle Corps Fish Fry. Several of Bethel 42's members will travel north to Kena Temple in Fairfax to compete in ritual exemplification, and the best ritualists will go on to represent Virginia at the international level later in the fall.

Members of Kempsville DeMolay have been burning up the roads as well, travelling to the Richmond area to attend the installations of their Ashburn Chapter and Westhampton Chapter brothers and enjoying some fellowship at a laser tag lock-in. The DeMolay also travelled to the



Peninsula to surprise their Rainbow sisters from Hampton Assembly #2 with an ice cream social after their

mid-April meeting. Congratulations to Kempsville's own Zach Doubikin, Past Master Councilor of Kempsville Chapter, on his graduation from Army boot camp at Fort Benning. Georgia and his assignment in the Army 3rd Calvary Regiment at Fort Hood, Texas. Thank you to the many Kempsville Lodge brethren and friends who helped to make Kempsville DeMolay's annual Honest Abe Spaghetti Dinner a great success. The funds raised will help to send the DeMolav to the annual state conclave this summer.

Brother Cliff Williams, Youth Advisor

Blood Drive

Why should I donate? It feels good to donate, it is something you can spare, there is not enough to go around, you will help ensure blood is on the shelf when needed, and finally you will be someone's hero. Why would you not want to give blood and you get free juice and cookies!

What does the Red Cross do with my blood? The blood will be delivered to a Red Cross component laboratory where it is processed into several components (e.g. red blood cells, plasma, platelets and/or Cryoprecipitate). A single blood donation may help up to three different people. Please come out and support you lodge and the 56th Masonic District with a blood donation today.

Patrick Blankenship, Lodge Blood Chairman

To Our Masonic "Sweethearts"

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in May:

| Elizabeth Hutchinson | May 3 rd |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| | |
| Willie Salih | May 5^{th} |
| Bonnie Fitzgerald | May 9^{th} |
| Barbara Ambrose | May $11^{	ext{th}}$ |
| Jackie Stephens | May 15^{th} |
| Margaret Fowler | May 18^{th} |
| Sue Wright | May 23 rd |
| Grace Jones | May 29 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.

Masonic Birthdays for May

Brandon Ray Angel '07 Kevin Thomas Cotter '11 David Harrold Curtis '66 Wayne C. DeFord '93 Herbert Boyd Foxwell '70 James Olney Freeman '74 Goodwin Glassman '68 Herbert T. Gordon '86 Billy F. Gordon, Jr. '03 Adam Hernandez '07 Iohn Matthew Hewitt '02 Monte Pearson Howell '70 Ross Owen McLeod '06 Leslie Hugh Miller '72 Steve Taylor Miller '71

Christopher Anders, Jr. '11 Larry Montgomery, Jr. '97 Stanley Drew Moss '96 Gerald W. Nelligar '84 Joseph R. O'Leary '96 Daniel Fidel Oliver '14 Charley Orsargos '61 Gregory Keith Pruitt '02 Ralph W. Rawles, Jr. '76 Charles Allan Roys '08 Joseph Timothy Salt '62 **Jimmy Bryan Shehan** '97 Richard Miles Shiblev '46 Larry Leroy Strait, Jr. '12 Russell P. Tjepkema '85 John B. Whiteman '10 William O. Wyndham, Jr. '83

The Brethren shown above have a total of 847 vears in Masonry!

Bull Roast – June 13th

Brethren, it's Bull Roast Time! Come out and enjoy an awesome meal and great fellowship as we pull together to support the Masonic Home of Virginia and our Lodge Scholarship Fund. We will of course be serving our traditional menu of slow-cooked roast beef, homemade potato salad & coleslaw, the old family recipe baked beans, dinner rolls, and delicious deserts. All active members are receiving four tickets in this issue of The Ashlar to either purchase or sell. Tickets are \$10 each, \$6 for children under 12 and for takeouts and deliveries. If you need additional tickets please let me know. Cash and checks made payable to Kempsville Lodge No. 196 can be given to me or Worshipful Bob Stanek. If you know of any businesses interested in having a hot roast beef lunch delivered please give me a contact name and number by Thursday, June 11th. If you travel to local Lodges please announce our Bull Roast and sell some tickets. This is the biggest fund raiser of the year and in order for it to be a success we really need a big turnout. For the bakers in the lodge there are boxes of cake mix in the dining hall. It would be greatly appreciated if you take one or two to make for dessert. Please drop them off at the lodge on Friday, June 12th. Lastly, I want to thank all the Brothers who have volunteered to help out. Your willingness to give of your time and energy to support your Lodge is simply incredible. If you haven't yet signed up to help out and are able to do so please let me know either in person, by email at chrisanders1@gmail.com, or by phone at 635-7617. We still need lots of volunteers!

> Brother Chris Anders Bull Roast Chairman

Freemasonry: Diversity Of Opinion; Unity Of Purpose

"How interesting it is to see Brothers so diametrically opposed on issues, but united in the principles and purposes of Freemasonry."

These are the words of the Reverend and Right Worshipful Brother Bruce R. Bellmore, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, in his regular column, "Grand Chaplain's Pulpit," in the July/August 2014 issue of the Connecticut Mason.

His comments followed two recent Supreme Court

decisions, in which the social media, as well as many ordinary citizens, made strong comments on both sides of the issues.

"What I found particularly interesting was the wide range of opinions expressed by my Brothers on these Rulings," Brother Bellmore wrote. "Some of my Brothers felt that these decisions were vindications of the Constitution while other Brothers felt that this was a very dark day for American jurisprudence."

We meet in the Lodge on the level of equality, united in the principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, he stated.

Whether differences of opinions exist in political or social situations outside the Lodge-or by opposing beliefs even on matters of importance within a Lodge or Grand Lodge-we, as Masons, should remember our obligations and keep our principles ever before us, Brother Bellmore said.

The United States was founded on the belief that, in spite of our differences of opinions, we are united. AS Masons, the Connecticut Grand Chaplain concluded, "Let us ever stand united in the bonds of Brotherhood."

Welcome to Kempsville

Please welcome Brother John R. Settle, III and Brother David M. Trzeciakiewicz, Kempsville's newest Master Masons. Congratulations and welcome to Kempsville!

Lodge Officers

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