



# The Ashlar



October 2016

**Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M.**  
[www.kempsvillelodge.org](http://www.kempsvillelodge.org)

Volume 63-10

## Location, Location, Location

In the back of my mind, I thought that Conrad Hilton had said this about his hotels. Doing a quick search, I can't seem to find that information. Jeff Bezos said, "Real estate is the key cost of physical retailers. That's why there's the old saw: location, location, location." While visiting in Virginia Beach Lodge in August, this old saw came to mind during the program when the location of the altar in our Masonic Lodges was mentioned. Let's revisit these tensions.

Our altar is located equidistant between the East and the West. The East represents Wisdom and the West represents Strength. Think about how perfect that balance is, or needs to be. For if the altar is moved too close to the East, the organization becomes cerebral. Too much time is taken discussing an issue or referring it to a committee and nothing ever gets done. Taken to the extreme, all brain and no action. The opposite is also true: moved too close to the West and we get all brawn and no brains. We have all seen examples of someone doing something without thinking about it before they set to work. The results can be laughable.



The altar is also located equidistant between the South and the North. The South represents Beauty and the North represents nothingness or darkness. Perhaps you have been in a house that has nothing in it. You imagine where you might put furniture, etc. and wonder if it will fit. You may have also been in a house with so much stuff you might think it was a flea market. But, when you go into a room where everything seems to go together; the colors, patterns and fabrics are complementary; and all the items fit, you feel at ease. There needs to be beauty in all of our lives, but too much beauty can be destructive.

The altar is at the center of our lodge. There is nothing around our altar. It stands alone. Other organizations may have officers around the altar, but ours is clear to see from wherever one sits. The Master has a clear view of it at all times and should always look to it for leadership. On our altar

rests the Three Great Lights in Masonry: The Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, each of which has an important Masonic meaning. The three lesser lights illumine the great lights so we are always reminded of their teachings.

Each lodge has an altar. Every Mason has an altar, too. When was the last time you checked the location of your personal altar? Do you rely more on your brains or your strength? Is your altar leaning more towards nothingness or have you decorated it to the point you can't recognize it anymore? Are the teachings of Masonry in the center of your life or have they been pushed to the side? Finally, when was the last time you knelt at your altar and reminded yourself of the vows you took as a Mason? These tensions are always shifting in our lives. We do well to evaluate often the location of our altars.

## From The East



We have had a string of successes lately, due in large part by the officers of the lodge. The Stewards prepared a fine meal for the Community Builders Award night, which was a wonderful family event. [There were three generations of the Knowles family present!] Roger Taylor gave us a superb family picnic with much assistance from the brethren. We had an excellent turnout and if you weren't there, you missed the best picnic in recent memory. Chris Anders presided beautifully for Junior Warden's night, and gave us a glimpse of his leadership potential and the bright days ahead for our lodge. Dave Trzeciakiewicz provided us with an encore Past Masters Night to match the evening in the Spring. All in all, it has been a great time to be the Master! Well done, brethren.

October is Masonic Heritage Month. I hope you will join me for Family Day on the 8th at the Masonic Home in Richmond. Come out for the Stated Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> when our speaker will be Worshipful Patrick Murphrey, 2014 recipient of the John Blair award, who will speak on John Blair, who he was, and his significance to Virginia Masonry.

Finally, at the end of the month on the 25<sup>th</sup> we will exemplify the Master Masons Degree with added music. Several musical friends will assist in offering selections to enhance the drama. Come out to see the usual fine job our lodge does with the ritual and enjoy the music.

My time in the East is quickly coming to an end. We look to be busy right up to December. Let's hope the coming weeks are as successful and pleasant as the past ones have been. Thanks to all for making it so.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Worshipful Master

## From The West



Right out of the gate I'd like to give props to Brother Roger Taylor and the other Brothers who supported the Lodge Picnic. The food was awesome, the camaraderie was awesome, and the weather (Praise The Lord) was awesome as well. AND we didn't run out of nutty bars, which is a HUGE achievement. Afterward, we followed the picnic up with the Junior Warden's Stated Communication with nearly 70 Brothers present while Brother Chris Anders manned the East. The night included Right Worshipful Don Meyer visiting from Georgia and Worshipful Scott Foxwell moving

over to man the 88's. I've got to give credit where it's due, Scott is an excellent piano player. Great times!

I have a favor to ask of everyone. Brother Chris Anders is working on a professionals listing for inclusion in the 2017 Kempsville 196 membership roster. My aspiration is for the listing to provide Brothers with access to other Brothers who are professionals and experts and may be able to provide advice or assistance in their area of purview; basically access to people who each of us can trust and depend on. Personally, I have already used the legal, medical, automotive repair, pool repair, florist, home improvement, and financial counseling services of other Brothers in support of the betterment of my family. Accordingly, I ask that any Brother who would like his profession categorically displayed in the roster please reach out to Chris via email at [chrisanders1@gmail.com](mailto:chrisanders1@gmail.com) or by phone at 757-635-7617.

Looking forward to the remainder of 2016, we have a very full pipeline of candidates and plenty of degree work to do. So come on out and join in the degree work, or just sit on the sidelines. If you can't make that, then come to the next Stated, or to the Saturday morning coffee club. Either way you'll enjoy yourself as we are always having some fun on Princess Anne Road. I hope to see you in Lodge soon!

Brother Greg Muir, Senior Warden

## From The South



All great moral forces in men's lives permeate, and to some extent affect, their business careers. As a Mason we trust that a Brother Mason will endeavor to act upon the Plumb, that is, walk uprightly in his several stations in life before God and man. That he will be honest not just because it is the best policy, but because he believes in honor. That he will act Masonically in business as well as in the Lodge. These three things we should expect when doing business with a Brother Mason. To that end Brethren, Brother Greg Muir has asked me to create a Masonic Business Directory for our Lodge. The purpose is to make Brothers aware of the various business owners and service providers who are members of Kempsville Lodge. We believe this will serve as a great resource and tool for Brothers who may be in need of a product or service or perhaps want to support and do business with other Masons when possible. The directory will

provide basic information about the business and its respective products and services. No vetting of the business will be done by the Lodge and the Lodge will not endorse any business listed. That being said I believe that by doing business with a Brother you can expect fair prices and honest dealings from someone you know and can trust, someone who shares your values, and who maintains a positive example of the fraternity. Any Brother wishing to be listed in the Masonic Business Directory will need to complete a simple one page informational survey. Please contact me if you are interested and I will get a survey to you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Brother Chris Anders, Junior Warden

## Trestleboard

September 27 ..... Fall Past Master's Night  
Fellowcraft Degree, Dinner 6PM Lodge 7PM  
October 4 ..... Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM  
October 11 ..... Stated Communication  
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM  
October 17 ..... District Blood Drive  
Bayside Lodge No. 218, 2-7PM  
October 25 .... Musical Master Mason Degree, 7PM  
October 29 ..... Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM  
November 8 ..... Stated Communication  
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM  
November 11-12 ..... Grand Annual Communication

For the latest, up-to-date schedule, check our web site at  
[www.kempsvillelodge.org](http://www.kempsvillelodge.org).

## From the Secretary's Desk

Brethren, if you have ever considered joining the Grand Lodge Life Membership in Perpetuity Plan (LMIP), now might be the time to do it. Not that it will necessarily pass a favorable vote at this year's Grand Annual Communication, but a resolution has been proposed to increase the monetary joining fee from 16 to 25 times the annual dues. This will be a significant increase for anyone who might consider this life-time membership option if it does pass. For your information – we'll keep you informed.

Worshipful Bob Stanek, Secretary

## Masonic Blood Program

Brothers, Thank you for a successful 2016 Blood donation year! The final percentage total for Kempsville Lodge was 131.32% of the total membership. A big thanks to brothers like Worshipful Past Master Michael Johnstone who donate platelets on a regular schedule and push our totals into the stratosphere.

We have already started the 2017 blood year and look forward to seeing everyone on the October 17<sup>th</sup> blood drive at Bayside Lodge hosted by Virginia Beach Lodge to kick the new Masonic year off to a great start.

Patrick Blankenship, Lodge Blood Coordinator

## Masonic Birthdays for October

Sherwood Lee Allen '76	Gary Alvin King '85
Eugene M. Ambrose '76	Anson T. Knowles, Sr. '76
Ronnie Wayne Anglin '71	Andrew Louis Levy '99
Robert Hall Barton '90	George H. Lewis, III '70
Joseph Samuel Bloise '03	Robert William Lewis, Jr. '71
George Ray Bunch, Jr. '80	Ian Woodcourt Marks '96
Jonathan W. Bunch '14	Cornelius John McBreen '08
Donald Stewart Cale '92	Jimmy Ralph McDaries '15
Richard Donald Cedola '79	Thomas E. Monahan '96
Richard Allen Chrisman '00	Henley A. Morgan, Jr. '87
Thomas A. Collins '93	Gregory Cooling Muir '10
Daniel Edwin Connor '85	Richard L. Naujoks '53
Richard V. Cooper, Jr. '12	Michael Joseph Orman '82
Thomas H. Cutchins, III '87	Marc Fred Povondra '83
Robert H. DeFord, Jr. '54	James Boyd Seymour, Jr. '97
Harold C. Dickerson, Jr. '90	Clyde Shannon Sheely '69
David Eugene Dodson '76	James E. Sheppard, Jr. '03
Thomas F. Doering, Sr. '92	Robert Wesley Stanek '77
George Edward Fausel '82	Thomas N. Thomas '88
Fredrick Henrick Feller '67	Timothy Van Fossen '96
David Hughes Foxwell '07	David Allen White '00
Jason Lee Fuller '11	Terry Lee Whitehurst '92
Lawrence V. Greene '86	Jimmie Wilder '75
Kermit Jordan '83	Robert J. Worthington '04

The Brethren shown above have a total of 1,330 years in Masonry!

## Community Service Continues

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, five brethren made the Lodge look good by making the Stratford Chase Park look good. Under the leadership of Worshipful Bill Peterson, Worshipful Bob Stanek, Brothers Karl Wesseler, Joe Salt, and Dennis DiMaggio all joined in cleaning up the grounds.

Thank you!

## Welcome to Kempsville!

Let's give a big Kempsville "Welcome!" to Worshipful Harold Campbell, Jr who affiliated at the September Stated Communication and Brother Ronald Clark, raised on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

## To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in October:

Dorothy Foxwell	October 4 <sup>th</sup>
Ronnie Yancey	October 5 <sup>th</sup>
Millie Maddox	October 11 <sup>th</sup>
Sandy Howard	October 17 <sup>th</sup>
Helen Van Horne	October 20 <sup>th</sup>
Katie Lane	October 28 <sup>th</sup>
Fran Caldwell-Krause	October 29 <sup>th</sup>

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in September and our apologies for editing out our widow's birthdays last month.

Vee McPherson	September 9 <sup>th</sup>
Linda Ferris	September 14 <sup>th</sup>
Dorothy Erickson	September 19 <sup>th</sup>
Judith Moyers	September 20 <sup>th</sup>
Sheryl Stanworth	September 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Linda Moore	September 29 <sup>th</sup>

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.

## Look Ahead – Keep Alive!

The Grand Master of Tasmania says: "Freemasonry belongs on the forward edge of the age if it is to live. To some of you that may be heresy. The easiest thing that a Mason does is to look backward. Our whole training is retrospective. It is not too much to say that we have an obsession for the past. We revere what we call the ancient landmarks.

Our ritual was forged in the bizarre atmosphere of

the eighteenth century. We have a lot to say about Solomon's Temple, and about the rebuilding of the Temple after the Exile, and about the Crusades and all the drama of medieval chivalry. Masonic education has very often meant an effort to re-create – in the modern mind – the spirit of tradition. We need that, to be sure. But I am venturing to say that our spirit must be creative as well as traditional; not either but both. This does not mean any departure from our ancient landmarks. It means that we must so live our Freemasonry that it will be a guiding light in the stupendous changes that are taking place in all sides of life all over the world."

Howard J. Martindale  
Connecticut Square & Compasses, January 1965  
Submitted by Right Worshipful Tom McGowan

## Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Senior Warden	Greg Muir	676-3761
Junior Warden	Chris Anders	635-7617
Treasurer	Bill Nelligar	536-4100
Secretary	Bob Stanek	619-7646
Senior Deacon	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Junior Deacon	Dave Trzeciakiewicz	620-8311
Senior Steward	Dennis Eaton	499-6720
Junior Steward	Todd Moissett	604-3085
Chaplain	Mike Denning	651-0712
Musician	John Settle, III	675-9695
Marshal	John Settle, IV	478-7149
Tiler	Ray Baez, Jr.	285-2611
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Steve Ridgeway	270-7338
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Patrick Blankenship	406-6166
Youth Advisor	Cliff Williams	870-2539

**The Ashlar**  
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