

## Kempsville Lodge # 196

A.F. & A.M.

The ASHLAR

Volume # 1



### From the East:

Brethren,

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to you for electing me to serve as Worshipful Master of Kempsville #196 for the ensuing Masonic year. I stand ready to discharge the duties of the station to which I have been elected, and I promise that I will do all that I can to justify the confidence you have demonstrated with your ballot. Many thanks to the Past Masters, members, family and friends for all their hard work, assistance and outstanding efforts in making our open installation a success.

My theme this year is **"Dedication through Education."** Without a doubt, education is a lifetime learning process, from cradle to grave. Your Masonic education begins when you are initiated as an entered apprentice and continues until you depart to the celestial lodge above. There are many educational opportunities available to Masons; however, it is alarming that many of our brethren take little or no initiative to further their Masonic Education beyond the Master Mason Degree. Equipped with the proper tools of education, together, we can be better prepared to meet the challenges which lie ahead. In order to pass Masonry on to the next generation, we must be educated and dedicated. My premise is that the more one becomes educated in Masonry, the more likely that Brother will become dedicated to the ancient craft. Won't you please help! I urge you to encourage the brethren to learn more about the principles we stand for, and to appreciate the pride and self rewards of belonging to the greatest fraternity on the face of the earth. The choice is yours. A candle loses nothing by igniting another wick, thereby passing on the light. What will it be my brethren? Shall we let the flame flicker and die out? Or shall we commit ourselves to pass on the light. Our Grand Master's theme is; **"Freemasonry – Pass it on"**. Be productive Brethren, rededicate yourselves, and make a commitment to attend lodge meetings regularly. Please do whatever you can to make certain the light of Freemasonry continues to shine, and may it never be extinguished.

We are off to a good start this year. Kempsville is blessed with many dedicated Masons who faithfully serve our Lodge, unselfishly, and with a commitment that is second to none. It is my sincere desire to see that each Brother strives to help make 2003 not just a good year, but a great year. To that end, I challenge each and every Brother to recommit themselves to exemplifying the most excellent tenets of our most wonderful fraternity; i.e. friendship, morality and brotherly love.

*Et lux in tenebris lucet* (and the light shineth in the darkness)

*Fraternally,*

*Wor. D. Alan "Bill" Dellinger*

### **Dates to remember**

Feb. 5, 2003	DDGM Official visit to Princess Anne 25
Feb. 6, 2003	DDGM Official visit to Bayside 218
Feb. 8, 2003	Area Leadership Conference, Granby St., Temple 8:30 a.m. registration.
Feb. 4, 2003	Stated Communication Dinner 6:00 PM Open 7:00 PM
Feb. 13, 2003	DDGM Official visit to Lynnhaven 220
Feb. 14, 2003	Don't forget your Valentine♥
Feb. 18, 2003	Work in EA Degree
Feb. 25, 2003	Work in Degrees
March 11, 2003	Stated Communication Dinner 6:00 PM Open 7:00 PM
March 25, 2003	Past Master's Night Dinner 6:00 PM Open 7:00 PM

Don't forget, all called and stated communications open at 7:00 PM.

Ritual School every Saturday, except as otherwise noted, 8:30 AM.

### **Masonic Bits and Pieces**

Brethren,

Thank you for your support at the January Stated for the official visit of Rt. Wor. Thomas McGowan, D.D.G.M. for the 56<sup>th</sup> Masonic District. The Officers, stewards, those who did the introductions, and others who helped did a great job. I hope you will continue to show your support throughout the year. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the Appointed Officers who have agreed to serve the Lodge this year.

Please contact a Brother and encourage him to attend Lodge. Offer transportation if necessary.

Fraternally yours,  
Wor. G. Wilson (Bill) Nelligar



## From the West:

Greetings and Salutations from the West,

My Brethren, I want to thank you for the confidence that you have placed in me as evidenced by your allowing me to be your Sr. Warden, You have my assurance that I will do my utmost to maintain the highest integrity of this station. We have a busy year ahead of us, and we certainly could use some of the knowledge and expertise of our fellow brethren in the degree work.

Please come out and join us and take part in the work. Hope to see you soon

Bro. Prentice Tuck  
Sr. Warden



## From the South:

From The South...

In addition to calling the craft "from labor to refreshment", your Junior Warden has the pleasure of organizing the degree teams for our candidates. Fortunately, our Lodge is blessed with both excellent instruction and abundant opportunities to practice our ritual. I'd like to invite each of you to come out to our Monday evening schools and get involved in our degree work. We have numerous opportunities to coach new brethren, participate in degrees, learn lectures, or simply sit on the sidelines and gain a little "more light in Masonry." There's no better way to continue your Masonic journey than to become actively involved in the conferring of degrees. Come on out and help us keep up the long-standing Kempsville tradition of quality "airtight" ritual.

Fraternally,  
Bro. Emmett "Buddy" Pate

BLOOD  
The gift from the heart



**Blood Coordinator** No message this Volume.



**Past Master's Corner**  
**From the District Deputy Grand Master**  
**For the 56<sup>th</sup> Masonic District**

**Charity and Benevolence**

Masonic Charity is strong, kindly, beautiful and tender and not charity at all in the narrow sense of the word. Nay, it does not wait until a Brother is in distress, but throws about him in his strength and prosperity the affectionate arm of friendship without which life is cold and harsh. Friendship, fraternity, fellowship – this is the soul of Freemasonry, of which Charity is but one gesture with a thousand meanings.

Freemasonry not only inculcates the principles of love and benevolence, it seeks to give them an actual and living presence in all the occupations and intercourses of life. It not only feels, it acts! It not only pities human suffering, it relieves it! Nowhere in the world can a good Mason feel himself alone, friendless, or forsaken. The invisible but helpful arms of our Order surround him, wherever he may be.

It is a common error to regard Charity as that sentiment which prompts us to extend assistance to the unfortunate. Charity in a Masonic sense has a much broader meaning, and embraces affection and goodwill toward all mankind, but more especially to our Brethren in Freemasonry. It is this sentiment which prompts a Freemason to suffer long and be kind, to control his temper, forgive the erring, reach forth his hand to stay a falling Brother, to warn him of his error and whisper in his ear that correction which his fault may demand, to close his ear to slander and his lips to reproach; in short, to do unto others as he would be done by.

Charity as applied to Freemasonry is different from the usual and accepted meaning. All true Masons meet upon the same level, regardless of wealth or station. In giving assistance we strive to the too common error of considering charity only as that sentiment of commiseration which leads us to assist the poor and unfortunate with pecuniary donations. Its Masonic application is more noble and more extensive. We are taught not only to relieve a Brother's material wants, the cry of hunger, etc., but to fellowship with him upon our own level, stripped of worldly titles and honors. When we thus appeal to him, giving spiritual advice, lifting him up morally and spiritually with no sense of humiliation to him, we set him free from his passion and wants. To such Charity there is reciprocity rich in Brotherly Love and sincere appreciation.

Submitted by:

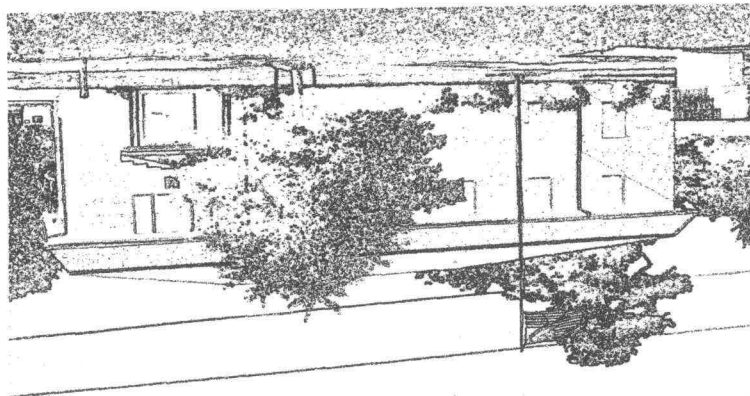
Anonymous  
Rt. Wor. Tom McGowan



Kempsville Lodge # 196  
A. F. & A. M.  
4869 Princess Anne Road  
Virginia Beach, VA. 23464

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
NORFOLK, VA.  
PERMIT NO. 366

Friendship  
Morality  
Brotherly Love



THESE ARE

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons