

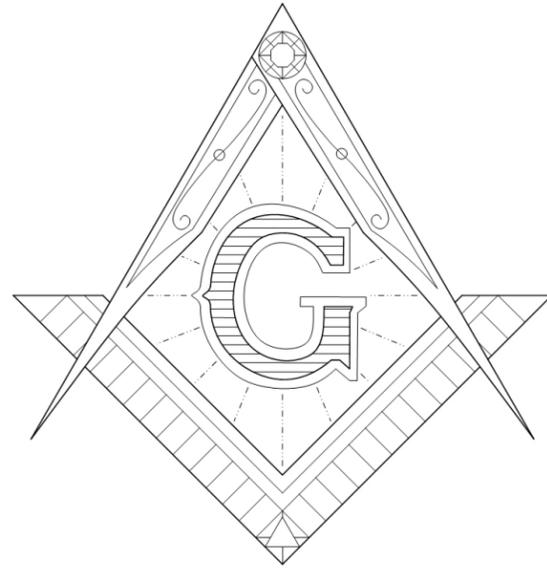
Masonic Recognition Day

Don't forget, Brethren, Masonic Recognition Day is the first day of each month. Wear your Masonic paraphernalia proudly!

Get the Rough Ashlar via Email!

If you'd like to begin receiving our monthly newsletter, the **Rough Ashlar**, via email, simply send email address to emmett@epate.com and I'll add you to the list. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on what's happening at your lodge.

Worshipful Buddy Pate



The Ashlar



January 2008

Kempsville Lodge #196, AF&AM

Volume 8-2008

From The East



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the support I have received during my journey to the East. It is a great honor to serve this lodge as Worshipful Master and I look forward to the coming year. Thank you also to those that attended my installation. It was a wonderful day that I will never forget. I was honored to have much of my Masonic family in attendance with my immediate family. As those of you on the sidelines can attest, I can get a bit emotional. A great deal of that is because of you wonderful brethren and your families being there with mine.

As you can see by the Trestle Board, we have a very busy first three months coming up. My officers look forward to the work. We also look forward to sharing the work with as many brethren as possible. Come out and support YOUR lodge as best you can. Seek out a brother you haven't seen in the lodge for a while and bring him with you. The Grand Master is pushing "Bring a Friend Night". Every Tuesday is "Bring a Friend Night" at Kempsville. If we are working, part of that work should be to bring a brother home.

Kempsville Lodge is truly honored to host the Grand Master's Official Tiled Visit to the 56th Masonic District in February. This was not an invitation extended by me to Most Worshipful Cohen. It was his CHOICE to come to Kempsville. Makes you wonder why we were chosen. I am pretty sure I know why, and so are you.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Worshipful Roger Cort for an outstanding year. He overcame personal hardship and led this lodge with great dignity and pride. His support of my family and I was overwhelming. The compassion he showed our departed brethren's families was inspirational and a reminder of what Masons do every day. We should all be inspired and reminded by his actions. Thank you, Roger, for teaching me so much. I can only pray that Janet will give you enough time off from

your honey-do list to continue to teach us what FRIENDSHIP FELLOWSHIP and FRATERNITY are all about.

Adam Green, Worshipful Master

From The West



By the time you receive this edition of The Ashlar it will be 2008. However, as of this moment of my writing to you, it is December 31, 2007. I am presently visiting relatives in Jacksonville, Florida, and will be watching my old college team play Texas Tech in the Gator Bowl tomorrow. I am sure that many of my good brethren will have been fortunate enough to have seen their family and friends over the holidays.

After reflecting on the lodge successes of 2007, it is now time to focus on the future of Kempsville Lodge #196, A. F. & A. M. in 2008. Your newly elected Worshipful Master, Adam Green, has a stellar calendar of events outlined for the forthcoming 12 months. This will include the lodge mainstays of the Bull Roast, Family Picnic, Past Masters' Nights, and Junior and Senior Warden Nights, as well as some surprises. As Senior Warden, it will be my primary responsibility to assist Worshipful Adam in opening and governing the lodge and to make sure that none of you go away dissatisfied. In other words, if you have concerns or complaints, come to me first and not Worshipful Adam! Just kidding. Actually, I am very confident that all of the officers will be approachable and easily accessed, always keeping in mind to lend a kind ear and do what is in the best interests of the lodge.

Once again I would like to congratulate our Junior Past Master, Worshipful Roger Cort, on an excellent year of leading the lodge in 2007. He proved to be a diligent and dedicated leader who adeptly ruled and governed his lodge – and did so with his usual affable and affectionate demeanor. Thanks Roger!

For those of you who were able to attend our Kempsville Lodge Installation of Officers in the middle December, you are well aware of how

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

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

impressive this rite of passage turned out to be. Worshipful Buddy Pate adroitly performed the installation ceremony (for the first time) with his usual combination of dignity and aplomb. He could not have accomplished this without the assistance of Right Worshipful Tom McGowan and Worshipfuls Ray Hall and Ralph Ward, who always add knowledge and character to this event. Worshipful Adam gave an incredibly moving acceptance speech, acknowledging in the most heartfelt of ways his family, friends, brethren, and lodge officers. If this is any indication of the kind of passion that Adam will display during his year as Worshipful Master, then Kempsville Lodge is in store for a remarkable 12 months.

In closing, I will end with two snippets of Masonic trivia. First, in 1920, Gates City Lodge #522 in Kansas City, MO, met every day of the week except Sunday to confer a record 1,107 degrees, averaging 21 degrees a week! Secondly, when Brother Richard E. Byrd and Bernt Balchen first flew over the North and South Poles, they dropped a Masonic flag on each pole. Then, in the 1933-35 expedition, Brother Balchen tossed his Shrine Fez on the North Pole.

Brother Ron Jacobson, Senior Warden.

From The South



Brethren, I would like to begin by congratulating all of the incoming officers for the 2008 Masonic year, with a special "at-a-boy" to Adam Green, our new Worshipful Master. I know we are in store for a great year in the Lodge with Adam at the helm (no pun intended). Let me tell you, if you were not at the installation you missed quite an affair. Worshipful Buddy Pate and Worshipful Tom McGowan as Installing Officers did an exceptional job as did Worshipful Ray Hall and Worshipful Ralph Ward as Installing Marshals. Believe me, the Ritual was flawless, after which a buffet fit for a king was enjoyed by all in the dining hall. Also I would like to give a Bravo-Zulu (Navy talk for great job) to Worshipful Roger Cort for a fine year just concluded. Hope to see you still active in the Lodge next year, your experience is priceless.

I would personally like to thank the brethren of Kempsville Lodge for accepting Worshipful Adam's nomination of myself as Junior Warden for the upcoming year. Although there were a few moans from the sidelines, not a single "Nay" could be heard anywhere. Rest assured, I will do my best to follow in the footsteps of our outgoing Junior Warden Brother Ron Jacobson, who by all standards, did a fine, fine job.

Well, we are expecting another very active year in '08 so we plan to busy in the Quarries as usual. The ritual of the Craft is important. Without it, their would be no Freemasonry as we know it. The ritual alone, however, is of little value if it remains a monument to stagnation. Armed with plans, goals, and all the other principles of good leadership, it can be a potent force for good, not only in the Lodge, but in the world as well. The choice is ours.

Hope to see you in Lodge soon.

Brother Bill Rawson, Junior Warden

Shut Ins...

Let's keep these Brethren and their families in our thoughts and prayers. I'm sure they'd appreciate a phone call or visit.

RW Richard A. Davis III.....497-1227
 Brother Grady McGuire.....494-0778
 Worshipful Bobby Spruill.....466-8341

Trestle Board

January 8Stated Communication
 Official Visit to Kempsville by
 Right Worshipful Chad White, DDGM
 January 14 Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
 January 15 Dark, Visiting Willis V. Fentress
 January 21 Blood Drive at Lynnhaven
January 26 Lodge Breakfast, 8 to 10AM
 February 5 Willis V. Fentress Stated
 DDGM Official Visit
 February 7 Bayside Stated
 DDGM Official Visit
February 12Stated Communication
 Official Tiled Visit to 56th Masonic District
 by Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen
 Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM
 February 14 Lynnhaven Stated
 DDGM Official Visit
February 23Lodge Breakfast, 8 to 10AM
 March 5Princess Anne Stated
 DDGM Official Visit
 March 8OES Installation
March 11Stated Communication
 Irish Sweethearts Night
 Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM
 March 12Virginia Beach Stated
 DDGM Official Visit
 March 17Blood Drive, Lynnhaven, 3 to 7:30PM
 March 25.....Past Master's Night
 Surprise Guest Speaker
March 29.....Lodge Breakfast, 8 to 10AM
Support Autism Awareness

56th Masonic District Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will be January 21st at Lynnhaven Lodge (3 to 7:30PM). In an effort to increase attendance and improve service, we're using the American Red Cross scheduling web site. Simply visit www.givelife.org and use the sponsor code "vbmasons" to choose your time.

If you donate blood or platelets outside of our blood drives, please be sure to let me know.

Brother John Preddy, Lodge Blood Coordinator

Masonic Veterans for 2008

January	Lucian A. Gunter, III	50 years
March	Thomas E. Lindner	25 years
	James A. Widener	25 years
	Christopher J. Jaeger	50 years

Health & Welfare

If you would like either a "Thinking of You" or "Sympathy" card sent from the Lodge, please contact Worshipful Roger Cort, or any of the Lodge Officers. Please leave a detailed message if necessary. Please provide name(s) and address(es), especially if they're not in our Lodge roster. We will send out a card as soon as we get the information.

From The Secretary

Brethren, I ask that you please check carefully to ensure that you have paid your Lodge Dues up to date. Your 2008 dues are due and payable now. Each of you should have received a dues notice from me and, in fact, many of you have promptly paid your dues. Some, unfortunately, have not, and some still owe for past years. As you know, a portion of your dues is sent to Grand Lodge to pay our per capita dues and assessments. We must pay these for you even if you have not paid your dues. That cost is \$28.00 per member. Your Lodge Treasury cannot afford to continue to pay these fees without your support. Regretfully, 10 members were suspended for non-payment at our December Stated. If your 2007 dues have not been paid, the Citation process will begin again in January. If you have paid your dues, thank you. If you have not, please do so promptly to support your Lodge's expenses.

Fraternally, Bill Nolan, Secretary

Lessons In Life

There was an Indian Chief who had four sons. He wanted his sons to learn not to judge things too quickly. So he sent them each on a quest, in turn, to go look at a pear tree that was a great distance away.

The first son went in the winter, the second in the spring, the third in the summer, and the youngest son in the fall. When they had all gone and come back, he called them together to describe what they had seen.

The first son said that the tree was ugly, bent and twisted. The second son said no, it was covered with green buds and full of promise. The third son disagreed: he said it was laden with blossoms that smelled so sweet and looked so beautiful, it was the most graceful thing he had ever seen. The last son disagreed with all of them; he said it was ripe and dropping with fruit, full of life and fulfillment.

The man then explained to his sons that they were all right, because they had each seen but only one season in the tree's life. He told them that you cannot judge a tree, or a person, by only one season, and that the essence of who they are and the pleasure, joy, and love that come from that life can only be measured at the end, when all seasons are up. If you give up when it's winter, you will miss the promise of your spring, the beauty of your summer, fulfillment of you fall.

Moral: Don't let the pain of one season destroy the joy of all the rest. Don't judge life by one difficult season. Persevere through the difficult patches and better times are sure to come.

Submitted by Right Worshipful Tom McGowan

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Adam M. Green	615-1659
Senior Warden	Ronald S. Jacobson	343-3460
Junior Warden	William H. Rawson	467-5913
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bill Nolan	467-2252
Senior Deacon	Robert S. Worthington	
Junior Deacon	David Borntager	
Chaplain	Bill T. Peterson	
Senior Steward	Michael D. Johnstone	
Junior Steward	Stewart W. Swygert	
Marshal	Joe T. Salt	481-0652
Musician	Robert S. Foxwell	490-2797
Tiler	Wor. Chris J. Jaeger	893-9253
Instructor of Work	Wor. "Buddy" Pate	404-8594
Education Officer	RW Tom McGowan	497-3881
Blood Coordinator	John Preddy	439-3225