

veteran or a brother raised just the previous week—every time we hear our ritual we have the opportunity to gain just a bit more Light in Masonry. And lastly, you're doing it for yourself. Although qualifying for your Warden's Certificate is important, never think of our degree work as simply an opportunity to be "checked off" on a particular part of our ritual. Keep these thoughts in mind as you're participating in a degree and there's no doubt that you'll exemplify ritual that you, your Lodge, and the candidate will enjoy and be proud of.

Worshipful Emmett "Buddy" Pate
Lodge Instructor of Work

Masonic Veterans for 2008

October	Kermit Jordan	25 years
	Marc F. Povondra	25 years
November	Henry A. Young	50 years
	William L. Rice	25 years
	Steven Morris Gilbert	25 years
	Jerry W. Ledbetter	25 years
December	Michael Lombardo	60 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.

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 Emmett "Buddy" Pate



The Ashlar



October 2008

Kempsville Lodge #196, AF&AM

Volume 11-2008

From The East



As the weather begins to change, I reflect on things that have changed around us. The newspaper today said the leaves on Skyline Drive had begun to turn. Speaking of turning; we turned a dream in to a reality. A simple dream of flushing without fear. I also look at things that are changing. Brothers Ron Jacobson and Bill Rawson are changing and are ready to assume their new stations for next year. I have changed careers, a truly *scary* change. But change is a good thing. We grow and evolve. We become better brothers, better citizens, and better parents and/or children. Without change we stagnate. Without our evolution we don't look at our parents and wonder when they got old. Or we look at our children and wonder when they became adults. We don't look at the lodge and wonder what kind of change has happened. But keep in mind that change is *good*. Hard sometimes, but more often than not, it is good.

Last week was a difficult one for me. A young man, a boy really, lost his life in a tragic car accident. That is not the whole story however. This young man was a friend of my son's and I had the opportunity to coach him in baseball at the fields just up the street from the Lodge. When my son found out about the accident, he immediately got on the computer to see if he could find out what happened. We were both disturbed by what we found. This child was wanted by the police. He had not been home since September 11th. He was in a stolen jeep, driving too fast on the interstate. When the State Trooper turned on his flashers, he sped up and tried to get away. He exited the interstate at too high a rate of speed, rolled the vehicle three times and was ejected. He died on the way to the hospital. My son was disturbed by the events because he had been invited to the same party the other boy was attending. Jordan felt that if he had been there he maybe could have saved his friend from him self. I was bothered because he was on my backyard after school Tuesday afternoon. If I had known what was happening in his life, maybe I could have steered him home. This boy was loved and admired by many people, teens and adults, as evidenced by the turnout at the viewing and the

funeral. He had a big heart and was always respectful towards me, proven by the way he stood and shook my hand that Tuesday. On Thursday before the funeral my son, who is the wisest 17 year old I have had the pleasure of knowing, told me, "Yesterday and today are for Danny. Tomorrow we have to move on and live our lives." My son, who has been a rock during my last year and-a-half, had grown up before my very eyes last week. He gets it. And young people, including young Master Masons, will also "get it" if given the chance and the right kind of guidance.

As I reflect on my year in the East, I can only see good things. It has been a pleasure to serve you all. I have enjoyed the things that have occurred at the lodge this year. I am proud of so many things. I am proud of how we all came together and raised the funds for the sewer project. I am proud of the growth of both of our youth groups. Not only the physical growth in numbers, but the growth of the young men and women who participate and the support of their parents. I am proud of our Eastern Star Sisters for their support of the lodge. I am proud that 17 of us made a trip to the Eastern Shore to honor Most Worshipful Spencer MacMath Rogers on his 60th Masonic Birthday. I am proud of our Past Masters who are so easily approached for advice, and also do some pretty mean ritual. I am proud of our 11 One Day Conferral candidates who have been certified by Right Worshipful McGowan three weeks before the deadline. I am proud to be a member of this fraternity, and most importantly, I am proud to have been the Worshipful Master of the greatest Lodge in the Commonwealth.

I thank all of you for the support I have received. And I thank all of you for allowing me to serve you as your Worshipful Master.

Brother Adam Green, Worshipful Master

From The West



As I type this, I am in the passenger seat of our car on the way to Charlottesville watching a crescent moon at nighttime with the cool breeze of Fall in the air. I am reminded of the steps we take as we advance in each degree. As candidates for

The Ashlar
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advancement, alongside the Senior Warden, the Worshipful Master informs us that our solemn obligation is one that should not infringe upon our allegiance to our country, our duty to our God, our neighbor, or ourselves.

Thus, while we are first prepared to be made Masons in our hearts, it is essential that we maintain other responsibilities before completing our obligation to Masonry. These obligations include our military and civic commitments, adherence to our respective faiths, assistance to our friends and at-risk individuals in the community, and our families.

I am reminded of a time when I was working as a psychologist in a medium-security prison in Columbia, South Carolina. One of my colleagues, a kind older gentleman and mentor, and I had been away from the prison offices longer than expected and had ended up being delayed due to helping out with an unexpected emergency that appeared while we were eating at a nearby mall. I had expressed to my mentor that I had both anxiety and guilt about being detained by this crisis at the mall resulting in our being "late" in returning to our duties at the prison. At the end of the day, upon leaving our jobs and going home, my friend took notice of the look of angst and consternation on my face at which point he put his hand on my shoulder, looked me in the eyes, and, in the most affectionate but stern of manners told me: "Ron, if you think that your purpose in life is determined by the limitations of a job, a building, or a predefined role, then ... you have a lot to learn." He added that, "if we had been so focused on getting back to our jobs "on time," then we would have missed the opportunity of saving the lives of those that we would have otherwise left behind." As Masons, first prepared in our hearts, it is through our primary commitment to humanity that we maintain our commitment to Masonry.

My good brethren, as we wind down Masonic year 2008 under the passionate watch of Worshipful Adam, I am excited about what Masonic year 2009 will bring. As a reminder, we have Deputy Grand Master Hodges' "Hoe Down" on October 18th to promote Shrine/Blue Lodge Unity (I have tickets if you need to purchase them) and the 2009 planning meeting for Kempsville Lodge (open to all officers and brethren) scheduled for October 25th.

Brother Ron Jacobson, Senior Warden.

From The South



As a chill fills the air I once again realize yet another year is drawing to a close, this by the way is my 61st. Soon the skies will take on a gray hue and the leaves will begin to turn color and fall to the ground, there to enrich

Mother Earth. As another autumn approaches I find myself, more so in recent years, reflecting on the past year and life in general. I now find a certain appreciation for things that I once looked upon as a requirement, an obligation, an annoyance, an aggravation, or flat out distasteful. Heck, if my family had been wealthy I could have finished college and become a world renowned architect. Instead I received a personal invitation from Uncle Sam, he needed some able bodied young men. No doubt in my mind had I not married at the tender age of 22 I could have pursued my career as a Rock n Roll drummer and today would probably be on a reunion tour, A-La the Rolling Stones. But the truth is, I would not be half the man I am today if my wife Carol had not been by my side thru thick and thin for the past 39 years. And of course everyone agrees that if I did not have to work so hard in the 70's to raise children I would have been able to spend that extra time chipping and putting, and surely would have made my mark on the Professional Golf Tour. Honestly, there is no plaque, trophy, or article of clothing that I could have received, that would give me the pleasure and pride of having seen my children grow into the fine, upstanding adults and parents they have grown to be.

Psychologists tell us that this time of year brings a feeling of melancholy to many people. But for me it's a time of excitement, a time of rejuvenation. The cool crisp air tends to awaken and I look forward to Halloween with the grandchildren, Thanksgiving with the family, Christmas, and of course the "Fresh Start" of the pending New Year.

Brothers, life is good and something I intend to enjoy for quite some time to come.

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, Jr. 497-1227
 Brother Grady McGuire 494-0778
 Worshipful Elwood Grant 467-2969

Trestle Board

October 10 Masonic Family Day @ MAHOVA
 October 14 Junior Warden's Night, WOR Harold Bowman, 56th District MAHOVA Ambassador, Guest Speaker, Dinner @ 6PM, Open @ 7PM
 October 18 ... Deputy Grand Master's Hoe Down @ Khedive Shrine Temple, 7:30 - 11:30AM
 October 18 OES BBQ Pork Dinner
 All you can eat \$8, Kempsville Lodge

October 18 Statewide HIKE Dinner
 Hosted by Bethel 42 IOJD,
 Bayside Lodge 4 - 7 PM
 October 25 Final Lodge Breakfast of 2008
 8 - 10AM
 October 25 Senior Warden's Planning Meeting
 10AM - 12PM
 November 5-8 Annual Grand Communication
 Richmond Sheraton West
 November 8 Installation of Worshipful Emmett Moseley "Buddy" Pate as DDGM, 56th Masonic District.
 November 11 Stated Communication
 Salute the Veterans
 December 2 Willis V. Fentress Annual Stated
 December 3 Bayside Annual Stated
 December 4 Virginia Beach Annual Stated
 December 9 Kempsville Annual Stated
 Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM
 December 10 Princess Anne Annual Stated
 December 11 Lynnhaven Annual Stated
 December 12 Job's Daughters Installation
 7PM, Kempsville Lodge
 December 13 Open Installation of Officers
 2PM, Kempsville Lodge

From the Secretary

Brethren, we need your dues to be paid more than any time before. We have the sewer connection completed but still need the roof work and our funds are low. There are 22 of you who have not paid '07 nor '08 dues. That is \$3,498. There are 56 of you who have not paid '08 dues. That is \$4,704. That totals \$8,202. and we need it NOW!!!

Dues are due and payable as of January 1st each year. If you haven't paid your 2008 dues then you are not in good standing and may not receive the rights and benefits of Masonry. What if something happens, God forbid, and you should pass away? Wouldn't your family like to have Masonic Rites for you? NOT if you are not in good standing. Please pay your dues.

C. W. Nolan
 4363 Hialeah Arch
 Virginia Beach, 23464
 (757) 467-252.

56th Masonic District Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will be November 17th 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

Youth Corner

The DeMolay Chapter continues to flourish at Kempsville with over 40 boys. September 13th's installation of officers was a resounding success. Thank you to all who attended. The boys continue to extend an invitation to join them for their stated meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7PM. There is a meal served by the Mother's Club prior to the first stated each month so come out and watch the boys do their work and come hungry.

The Jobies are also doing very well. With the initiation of four new girls on the 21st of September, the Bethel has 29 active daughters! The ladies have a special request of your time. Please plan to attend the meeting on October 19th at 2PM where the girls will be honoring Masons. There will be a short program during their meeting to honor you so please come out and see these impressive young ladies. On the horizon the Bethel plans to hold a BBQ rib dinner at the lodge on November 1st combined with a silent auction featuring some fantastic items so mark that date on your calendar and I hope to see you there.

Fraternally, Brother Justin Gray

Instructor's Corner

As I prepare to relinquish my duties as Lodge Instructor of Work for 2009, I'd like to leave you with a little something to consider when you're participating in degree work. It's important to remember exactly who you're doing the work for. First and foremost, you're doing it for the candidate. Remember, he's the only person in the lodge who's never heard the words you're speaking. Speak clearly and slowly and hopefully that night's experience will be one he'll remember and appreciate. Secondly, you're doing it the brethren on the sidelines. Whether a 50 year

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	464-2398
Junior Deacon	David Borntrager	404-7236
Chaplain	Bill T. Peterson	237-5249
Senior Steward	Michael D. Johnstone	334-3013
Junior Steward	Stewart W. Swygert	589-5660
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
Youth Advisor	Justin Gray	