



The Ashlar



March 2016

Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M.
www.kempsvillelodge.org

Volume 63-3

Our Working Tools

When our lodge was still under dispensation, Norview Lodge No. 113 gave us our working tools. Over the years they have been used in all our degree work and displayed at our Stated Meetings resulting in the plaque showing some wear. There were several coats of paint on the plaque, the hooks were bent or misplaced, and it was not the pride and joy of the lodge that it needed to be. The plaque was sent out with the furniture to be refinished. It came back, re-done and stunning. Now it commands the attention it deserves in the room.

What is the condition of your working tools? Each of us was presented with our working tools in each of the three degrees. What we do with them and how often we use them are up to us as is how we take care of them. Seeing the changes in our lodge room tools, makes us want to check the location and condition of the working tools we were given.

- Using the twenty four inch gauge, ask yourself how balanced is your life? Is it equally divided? Is the “service of God, and relief of a distressed worthy brother” number 1?
- How well is your common gavel working at breaking off the corners of your rough stones? Often times the vices and superfluities of life grow and get the best of us. Our lives should become smoother and more usable by the builder.
- Check your posture. Are you walking uprightly before God and man? Your plumb can assist you in being the man you need to be in life.
- Are you acting virtuously? The square will help. Don’t cut corners. Do the right thing.
- Do you think you are entitled to special treatment? There are times that our egos get in the way and we may think we are better than others. Remind the king about his blood. We are traveling together “to that undiscovered country...” Remember your level.
- How much “brotherly love and affection” have you spread lately? Are you busy building up the body, or picking it apart? Do you ask yourself how can I best work and have I been an agreeable sort? Get out your trowel and spread some of that cement “that unites us into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers” and emulate your hard-working brethren.



Tools are meant to be used. Some of us even have tool sheds and work rooms where we can be busy. Each tool has a place, and some tools are better for certain tasks than others. From time to time, we may have to remove grime, rust, or simply clean our tools. It is amazing to see how beautiful our lodge tools are now that they have been cleaned, the gold decoration touched up, and the plaque refinished. Our Masonic tools are no different. Use them all “indiscriminately, but more especially the trowel.”

From The East



Things continue to go well! We had an excellent turnout for our first breakfast in January. Besides the Jobies, who were there to assist, we had a large number of brothers to help out as well. The fellowship was incredible. [Sorry about the parking, what a nice problem to have!]

The lodge furniture did return in the nick of time, and the results are fantastic. It is always a pleasant surprise when you get more than you thought. And speaking of surprises, through an anonymous gift, we are the proud owners of a Hoffmann baby grand piano! The old piano, owned by the Order of the Eastern Star, which used to be upstairs is now downstairs and its fate will be determined by that organization.

The lodge is to be commended for the strong turnout in support of our deceased brethren at the recent funerals. This is a lovely gesture and it is hoped we can be this supportive of all those whom time will take from us this year.

Let us continue to be strong in all we do.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Worshipful Master

From The West



Brethren it's been great to see so many of you participating in Lodge events over the past months. We have certainly had quite a bit on our collective plates and many of us have stepped up to answer the call of Friendship and Brotherly Love. I hope each of you remain committed to spend time when you have the chance, keeping your Faith and your families first of course.

I would like to highlight a fantastic opportunity for the Lodge for each of you to share some quality time with your Brothers and to learn quite a bit about Masonry. Worshipful Scott has scheduled a Lodge trip to visit the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from March 30th through April 1st. The area near the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge is rich in Masonic and American tradition and history that is deeply interwoven. Near the Grand Lodge are sites such as: Independence Hall, the original US Capitol (which has the Square and Compasses mounted on its top), Christ Church (where many Masonic Revolutionary leaders worshiped), Betsy Ross House (whose husband John was an active Freemason), and Benjamin Franklin's burial site.

I will not be able to make the trip due to work commitments but I encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. If you are able, please encourage your sons and grandsons to attend with you; experiencing this district so deep rooted in Masonic and American history will be something that each of you will never forget. I hope to see you in Lodge soon!

Brother Greg Muir, Senior Warden

From The South



We have hit the ground running in 2016 with degree work at Kempsville Lodge. So far, we have initiated two new candidates and passed two brothers. This month we will raise Brother Godinez on the 1st, pass Brother Brooks on the 22nd, and initiate a new candidate on the 29th. The 29th will be Past Master's night so be sure to come and experience some "Air-Tight" ritual work. I promise you will be impressed. I want to thank the brothers who have participated on the degree teams so far as well as those on the sidelines showing their support. I am in the process of updating my degree work master list and would appreciate your help. I have a simple survey that needs to be completed to indicate your interest and proficiency. Simply put, if you feel you are proficient indicate so and I will plug you in. If you are interested in learning a role, indicate so and we will teach you the ropes. To get the survey please e-mail me at chrisanders1@gmail.com or see me for a copy. It will only take a few minutes of your time to complete and will be invaluable as prepare degree teams going forward.

Brother Chris Anders, Junior Warden

Participation Incentive

In order to have a bit of fun and to encourage your attendance at Stated Meetings, and degree work, we have agreed on this idea: starting March 1st, with our Master Mason's degree, each time you attend the lodge, you will get one entry into a drawing to be held at our Annual Stated Meeting in December. You must be present to win! Prizes are to be determined. What is certain is that we all win when you are present at our lodge. Enter as often as you can.

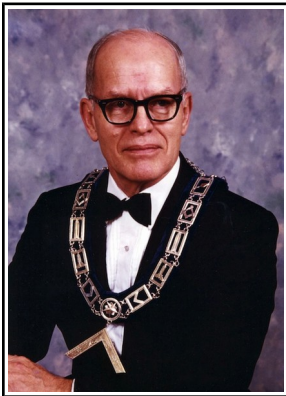
Bobby Gene Spruill



Worshipful Bobby Gene Spruill passed to the Celestial Lodge on February 2, 2016. He was initiated, passed and raised in Kempsville Lodge, and after serving in many chairs, was our Worshipful Master in 1991. Worshipful Bobby is remembered for his humor and sometimes falling asleep in the lodge. He continued

to serve the lodge as a coach for several candidates, including his last, his grandson, Logan Ray Spruill.

Robert George Lockwood



Worshipful Robert G. Lockwood passed to the Celestial Lodge on February 5, 2016. Worshipful Bob affiliated with Kempsville Lodge in 1997 after having served as Worshipful Master of Oceanview Lodge No. 335 in 1984. He will be remembered for two reasons: In the third degree, he was often the

“Companion of Tyre;” and his work as DeMolay Advisor. In his obituary and during his eulogy, it was mentioned he was a Master Gardener and loved growing things from seeds. At his funeral, there were many Senior DeMolays in attendance, most now in their sixties, “seeds” he planted and nourished.

Blood Program

Let us talk about the importance of platelet donations.

Platelets are blood cells that help control bleeding. When a blood vessel is damaged, platelets collect at the site of the injury and temporarily repair the tear. Platelets then activate substances in plasma which form a clot and allow the wound to heal.

Many lifesaving medical treatments require platelet transfusions. Cancer patients, those receiving organ or bone marrow transplants, victims of traumatic injuries, and patients undergoing open heart surgery require platelet transfusions to survive. One platelet donation can

provide as many platelets as 12 to 18 whole blood donations. This helps keep a person with cancer and a weakened immune systems from being exposed to many donors.

Try and find the time to donate platelets at your local Red Cross Apheresis center.

Patrick Blankenship, Blood Coordinator

Trestleboard

February 27 Monthly Breakfast, 8-10AM
 March 1 Master Mason Degree, 7PM
 March 8 Stated Communication
 Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM
 March 12 Eastern Star
 Installation of Officers, 12PM
 March 12 DeMolay Installation of Officers, 7PM
 March 22 Fellowcraft Degree, 7PM
 March 26 Monthly Breakfast, 8-10AM
 March 29 Spring Past Masters' Night
 Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
 March 30 - April 1 Visiting Grand Lodge of
 Pennsylvania (contact Worshipful
 Scott Foxwell for more information)
 April 9 C. Frank Hicks Area Ritual School
 Districts 36/56 at Lake Drummond
 Lodge No. 178, 9AM
 April 11 James H. Parkerson Area Ritual School
 Districts 36/56, 6PM
 April 12 Stated Communication
 Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

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

Masonic Birthdays for March

Robert Craig Belda '00	Thomas E. Lindner '83
Jackson Rollins Bell, Jr. '09	Winston E. Marchman '63
Orlando C. Bitanga '98	George W. Messinger '94
Donald Ray Blair '77	Robert Carl Metz '92
James Delbert Boone '76	Sidney Thomas Moore '69
William Edwain Combs '80	Gary Burke Nye '06
Michael Leroy Denning '15	Charlie L. Pallett, III '87
James F. Dombey '11	Michael S. Polychroni '85
Wayne Sawyer Flora '67	Donald K. Robinson '93
Ivan Godinez '16	Frederick W. Rudiger '03
George M. Harrell, Jr. '70	Michael Ryan Sheehan '96
Christopher J. Jaeger '58	Fredrick A. Steinmiller '01
William M. Johnson '93	Roger Wayne Taylor '11
John Duane Johnstone '64	Russell J. Tjepkema '10
Thomas William Lang '05	Linwood Ray West '91
Robert Lee Lankford '72	James Arthur Widener '83
Lester Randall Lefler '89	Clifford Jay Williams '13
Robert D. Leonard, Jr. '05	

The Brethren shown above have a total of 875
 years in Masonry!

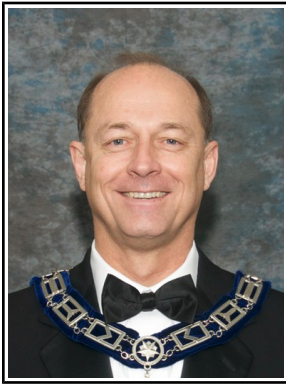
To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in March:

Edna St John	March 1 st
Vivian Estes	March 17 th
Kaye Peters	March 18 th
Mary Nickerson	March 22 nd
Mary Hawker	March 25 th
Carol Wicks	March 24 th
Betty Williams	March 26 th
Leona Cronmiller	March 27 th
Carol Leszcynski	March 27 th
Jean Mordica	March 28 th
Sharon Nolan	March 29 th
Margie Willman	March 30 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.

Meet Your New Chaplain



Brother Michael Leroy Denning was raised a Master Mason just last year in March. He is one of the group of three notable new brothers who are serving as officers. Mike has already done a super job sending out cards. He is married to Sara for the last 27 years, lives in the Great Bridge area, and his two children are college varsity swimmers. His son, John, is a third year at

University of Virginia studying Chemical Engineering and his daughter, Lori, is a freshman at Old Dominion University studying to be a nurse.

Youth Corner

Kempsville DeMolay cordially invites you to attend their public installation of officers Saturday, March 12th at 7PM at the lodge. The wheels are already in motion for Bethel 42's eighth annual Dinner Theatre. Mark your calendars for May 20th and 21st, with more details to be announced!

Brother Cliff Williams, Youth Advisor

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	478-7149
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

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)

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