



# The Ashlar



November 2018

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

Volume 65-11

## George Washington's 1789 Thanksgiving Proclamation

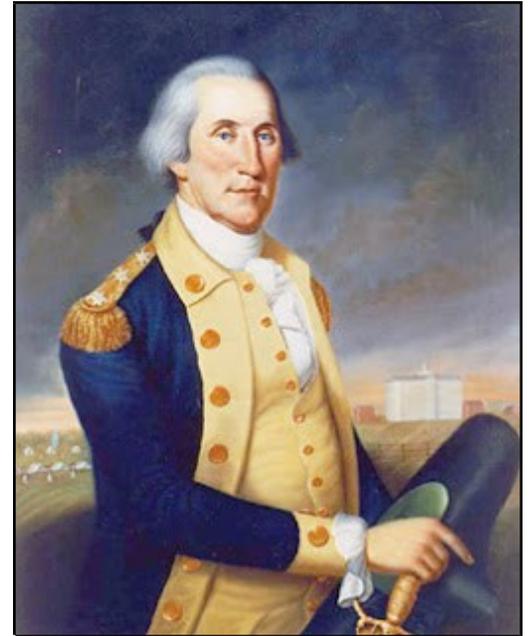
Written by George Washington in 1789, this was the first official Presidential Proclamation made in the United States. Shortly after the Thanksgiving Proclamation was written, it was lost for 130 years. It was probably misplaced when the US Capitol moved from New York to Washington, D.C. It now resides in the Library of Congress. And it reads:

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to "recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:"

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, A.D. 1789.



## From The East



Autumn is such a great time of year. It's also a busy time of year. Grand Annual Communication will be held in Richmond from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup>. The officers are attending the business session on the 9<sup>th</sup> and any Master Mason wanting to go is welcome to join us. We will celebrate our Veterans on the 11<sup>th</sup>. We are honored to have many veterans in our membership and I personally wish to express my thanks and gratitude for your sacrifice and service.

November is also the month we celebrate Thanksgiving. I am thankful for the officers of this lodge. Each of you have served the lodge well this year and it is your effort and dedication that has made 2018 special. There are so many things that go on behind the scenes that oftentimes might go unnoticed. I want to take this opportunity to give a huge Thank You to the officers for their commitment for the support they each have given me this year. I am thankful for our Past Masters. Your guidance and support this year have been incredible and is truly appreciated. There is no way the Master of the Lodge, however prepared he may be, can possibly have a successful year without the help of Past Masters. I am also thankful for the many brothers who in so many ways continue to support the lodge. Your work in the quarries is invaluable. This year that there have been so many brothers, too numerous to mention, who have stepped up in one way or another to support our lodge. Thank you all.

We have a lot to be thankful for and we have a lot to be proud of. Kempsville Lodge truly cares about our community and we have been supporting the community in a variety of ways throughout the year. This month we will provide a Thanksgiving meal to two deserving families discreetly chosen by Kempsville Elementary School. Hopefully this will give them a wonderful and memorable Thanksgiving.

I have said many times that there is no better place to be on a Tuesday night than in Kempsville Lodge and it is the brethren of Kempsville Lodge that make it so. See you in lodge!

Brother Chris Anders, Worshipful Master

## From The West



As the Masonic year comes to a close I would like to thank all the brothers that contributed their hard work and time to make this a great year. Although our degree work may be a little off we continued to improve our proficiency and assist other lodges in their degree work. The support we had for our lodge breakfast was outstanding from both workers and participants. In short, I extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to the Brethren and family that supported Kempsville Lodge putting another successful year in the record books.

Brother Roger Taylor, Senior Warden

## From The South



Our October yard sale was a big success, and we raised over \$1200 for the elevator fund. I promised the Worshipful Master that if we could get items to sell that we would make a lot of money for the Lodge, and all of you came through. I would like to thank everyone who donated items; we were able to raise so much money because of the quality of the items we received. I would also like to thank everyone who helped out with the receipt of donated items, setup, selling, and cleanup. All items that were not sold were donated to the Union Mission Ministries Thrift Store where they will be used to help men, women, and children who are in need.

I would like to especially thank my wife, Mrs. T-Rex (Stephanie) for all her help and support with the yard sale. Anyone who saw her in action on the day of the sale knows that she is a master deal-maker. Without her help and expertise, we would not have been able to pull off the sale as successfully as we did!

Brother Dave Trzeciakiewicz, Junior Warden

## Welcome to Kempsville!

Congratulations to Brother Michael Turner, our newest Master Mason, raised on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Welcome to Kempsville Lodge, Brother Turner!



## To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in November:

Ruth Simpkins	November 1 <sup>st</sup>
Irma Porter	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Ruth Litchfield	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Merelene Balance	November 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Mary Ann Monaghan	November 20 <sup>th</sup>
Barbara McGregor	November 24 <sup>th</sup>
Iris Midgett	November 25 <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.

## Community Service

Brothers John Settle III and Scott Sherman manning the grill at the Kempsville High Football game. This was the last of four home games Brothers of Kempsville Lodge cooked hamburgers and hotdogs at the concession stand. A big Thank You to Brother Settle for heading up this program. His crew served the community well and shined a very positive light on our Lodge. Way to go, J3!

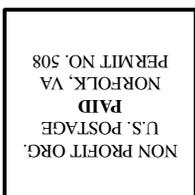


## Masonic Thoughts

The philosophies of Freemasonry, when discovered and then accepted and practiced, provide that simple but profound solution to the problems of human relationships. May it be accepted that Freemasonry is a way of living to the Master Mason who is interested enough to appraise and value the wealth that is his, and his alone, by virtue of his Masonic Membership. The best-informed Master Mason is the Master Mason who reads and studies. Consequently, if we want Freemasonry to be of practical usefulness and cultural attainment, we, as Freemasons, must not neglect our Masonic reading, our Masonic studying and our research for more Masonic Light.

## Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Chris Anders	635-7617
Senior Warden	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Junior Warden	Dave Trzeciakiewicz	620-8311
Treasurer	Bill Nelligar	536-4100
Secretary	Bob Stanek	255-8336
Senior Deacon	Mike Denning	651-0712
Junior Deacon	John Settle, III	675-9695
Senior Steward	Todd Moissett	604-3085
Junior Steward	Doug Dunn	781-389-6557
Chaplain	Justin Gray	338-7218
Musician	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Marshal	Scott Sherman	597-1150
Tiler	Dickie Cooper	971-7347
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	William Rawson	724-4867
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Michael Blankenship	438-2862
Youth Advisor	Eddie Foley	581-8144



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