



The Ashlar

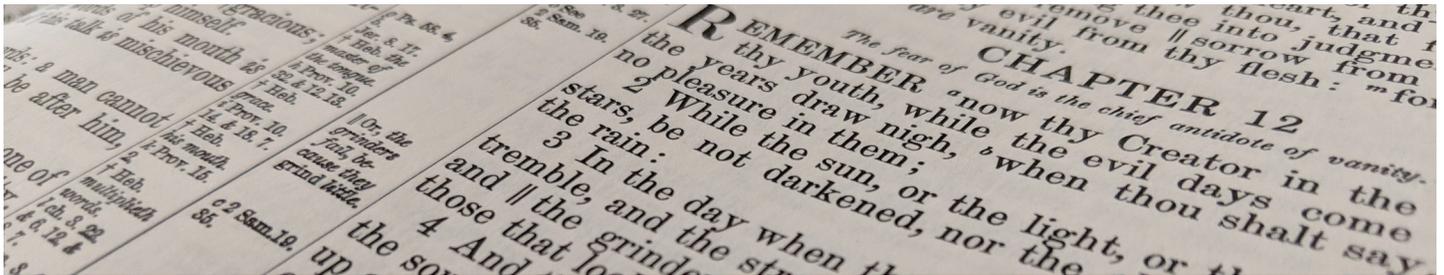


December 2018

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

Volume 65-12

Master Mason Degree



Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say I have no pleasure in them; while the sun or the light, or the moon, or the stars be not darkened, nor the clouds return after the rain; in the day when the keepers of the house shall tremble, and the strong men shall bow themselves, and the grinders cease, because they are few; and those that look out of the windows be darkened, and the doors shall be shut in the streets, when the sound of the grinding is low, and he shall rise up at the voice of the bird, and all the daughters of music shall be brought low; also when they shall be afraid of that which is high, and fears shall be in the way, and the almond tree shall flourish, and the grasshopper shall be a burden, and desire shall fail; because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets; or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

The Book of Ecclesiastes was supposedly written by Solomon in order to show the vanity of the world, and of human life, and that no happiness can be expected by the human soul, but in the fear, love, and obedience of God.

The Twelfth Chapter begins with the admonition to every person that he should remember to worship and praise God as his Creator beginning in the early days of his youth, while his mind is still strong and sharp, and not distracted by trivial or worldly matters, or weakened by the physical infirmities of old age. The remaining verses of this Scriptural reference describe, in a mystical way, the many ailments and infirmities that mark our passage into old age, up to and including the death of the physical body and the return of our spirit to its Creator.

The theme set forth by this Scripture for the candidate desirous of attaining the sublime degree of Master Mason is that death awaits us all. Just as Solomon expressed throughout the Book of Ecclesiastes, all earthly ambitions are but vanity and there is no real happiness to be gained in this world except in the nurturing and development of our soul through love of God and obedience to His will.

From The East



Brethren, you honored me greatly in December of 2017 by electing me to serve as Master of Kempsville Lodge. For this I am both grateful and humbled. I am especially thankful for the opportunity afforded to me to continue building friendships with both the officers who served with me and the members of Kempsville Lodge. Equally heartening was getting to know the candidates initiated into our Craft and the Masons who joined us as affiliates this year. We truly have a special group of caring and committed Masons in Kempsville Lodge.

My theme for 2018 was the 3 R's of Masonry; Ritual, Retention, and Relief. Together, we have achieved remarkable progress towards each and I profoundly appreciate everyone who took part in furthering this initiative. You are what makes Kempsville Lodge great.

The teaching of the Catechisms of all three degrees has continued and flourished in our Lodge. Our candidates for the degrees of freemasonry are benefiting from meaningful instruction in the symbols and significance of our ritual. The degree work of the Lodge has been excellent. This has been made possible by dedicated brethren who put in the time and effort learn parts and the great instruction we continue to receive in our Monday night Lodge School. We are ever-more becoming a Lodge of Masons who work harmoniously to deliver "Air-Tight" Ritual.

We raised seven new Master Masons this year in carefully-performed ritual and admitted seven as affiliate members. Already, many of those Brethren have proven themselves in the quarries of the Lodge. It is great to know there are Brethren of great dedication and zeal who are committed to serve the Lodge for years to come.

We have provided relief to our brothers, widows, and our community at large in many ways. I appreciate every brother who gave of their time, talent, and treasure to assist where needed.

As you may have noticed I did not mention anyone by name in this article. I purposely did so because, quite frankly, the list of people who helped me this year and contributed to the betterment of the lodge is simply too expansive to print. I will say that every one of you who showed up, participated in some manner, contributed your time, gave of

your resources, and did what good Masons do is deeply respected and appreciated, and for which I am eternally grateful.

Lastly, I am pleased to say that Kempsville Lodge continues to thrive. We stand on the shoulders of great Masons who came before us and are fortunate to have a strong line of officers to lead us into the future. I am filled with profound optimism that we will continue to make Kempsville Lodge No. 196 a special place. There is no better place to be on a Tuesday night than Kempsville Lodge. Hope to see you in Lodge!

Brother Chris Anders, Worshipful Master

From The West



Before getting into other topics, I want to congratulate Worshipful Chris Anders on an outstanding Masonic year. From January through December we have been busy working in the quarries, providing instruction to our less informed brethren, traveling in "foreign countries", and sharing in the wealth of Master's Wages. Worshipful Chris has done an excellent job of guiding the Brethren through the year and ensuring the Lodge is solid many years to come. Thank you, Worshipful.

To the Brethren that labored in the kitchen preparing, cooking, serving and cleaning up after some of the best dinners and breakfasts in the area, Thank You. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed. We have one last dinner this year and the call has gone out far and wide to come partake of Kempsville Collards. I anticipate attendance will be as hearty and full as the fellowship.

Kempsville Lodge has two significant events remaining on the calendar this year, the Annual Stated Communication on December 11th and the Open Installation of Officers on Saturday, December 15th. I hope you are able to attend both events and share in the fellowship as we conduct business.

Brother Roger Taylor, Senior Warden

From The South



It's hard to believe that we have already come to the end of the 2018 Masonic year! It's been a busy and productive 12 months to be sure with all the events we have been involved in, including the Bull Roast, annual picnic, numerous visits to other Lodges, Past Masters nights, monthly breakfasts, community service at Kempsville High School football games, and the Lodge yard sale. I am truly proud to be a member of Kempsville Masonic Lodge, and I look forward to continuing to serve all of you in 2019 as I begin to plan for my year in the East in 2020 (should I be so honored by my Brethren).

I would like to especially thank Worship Chris Anders for his strong leadership this year, whether it be pulling the Lodge into the 21st century by enabling our members to make all kinds of payments on PayPal, or by getting on a ladder and mounting up new lights outside the Lodge to improve the safety of our members. I am currently hard at work getting his roast ready for the Spring Past Masters Night!

I would also like to take a moment to remember those brethren who have put down their working tools this year and are now at rest in the Celestial Lodge above. Their memories will forever be in our hearts.

Brother Dave Trzeciakiewicz, Junior Warden

Welcome to Kempsville!

Join us in welcoming our newest members: Worshipful Christopher R. Robertson, Past Master of Poquoson Lodge No. 49 and Brother William T. Whitmore, Jr., from Bayside Lodge No. 218, affiliated at the November Stated Communication. Welcome, Brethren!

Trestleboard

December 11 Annual Stated Communication
Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM
December 15 Open Installation of Officers, 1PM
December 17 District Blood Drive
Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220, 2-7PM
January 8 Stated Communication
Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM

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

Masonic Birthdays for December

Duke D. Allen '63	Timothy M. Maguire '01
Timothy R. Berkheimer '02	Jessie R. Ritchie '92
Lincoln Figuereo '01	James R. Smith '94
Ejnar O. Jorgensen '53	David H. Weast '87
Rubin Kravitz '60	Ricky T. West '83

The Brethren shown above have a total of 344 years in Masonry!

To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in December:

Carolyn Harrison	December 1 st
Peggy McGuire	December 10 th
Loretta Cedola	December 21 st

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.

Notification to the Membership!

At the January 2019 Stated Communication, nominations for recommendation for appointment to the office of District Deputy Grand Master for 2021 and an alternate for 2021 will be considered. This notification complies with Grand Lodge Executive Order No. 1, 2018 – 2019.

By order of the Worshipful Master.

The Finer Points

The substance of an examination is fixed by the Constitutions of Masonry and our Methodical Digest. The manner in which it is to be conducted is the focus of both etiquette and protocol.

The Examining Committee withdraws with the visitor to a private place. They are in an official relationship with him, and therefore, their manners are formal.

Committeemen must keep in mind that their purpose is to satisfy themselves that the visitor is, or is not, a Master Mason from a jurisdiction with whom we are in amity. They are NOT called upon to test his proficiency in the ritual or to be heavy-handed or personally inquisitive.

If the Examining Committee has the right to satisfy itself that a visitor is a Master Mason in good standing in a Regular Lodge, the visitor also has the right to make sure that the Lodge he comes to visit is itself a Regular Lodge. He may therefore,

ask to see its Charter. It is etiquette to grant his request to see the Charter; on the other hand it is etiquette that we not disturb the Lodge by going to fetch it.

If the visitor satisfies the committee, and if the visitor himself is satisfied, the visitor still possess no right to enter the Lodge until after the Worshipful Master has consented.

Visiting is a privilege, not a right (to seek to visit a Lodge is every Master Mason's right) and a Master may for good reason, refuse admittance to any visitor (except the District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers). A visitor may be refused admittance for reasons that do not reflect on him personally. Such an occasion might be when a particularly sensitive piece of Lodge business is about to be conducted or if a reprimand is to be administered.

Mike Denning, Senior Deacon

Masonic Blood Program

Thank you for supporting the Virginia Beach Lodge blood drive on October 15th. We collected 30 pints on a goal of 24 and saved over 90 lives. That's Amazing! Our next blood drive will be at Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220 on December 17th.

Much blood was lost during recent hurricanes due to loss of power and other natural disaster reasons. The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill the need in our community. Thank you for supporting the American Red Cross Blood program!

Brother Mike Blankenship, Blood Coordinator

Master's Message

I would like to wish each of you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas. I hope you have enjoyed this Masonic year as much as I have. It has been a joy to be in Kempsville Lodge and witness the great work each of you are doing for our Craft. Let us not forget our sick and infirmed brethren, our elderly, and our widows during the holiday season. I am looking forward to next year and believe 2019 is going to be a great year for Masonry in Kempsville Lodge. I hope you will join me in supporting the new officers as they lead us into the future. Let's get behind them and give them the support they need to do so. Thanks for all you do!

Brother Chris Anders, Worshipful Master

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

The Ashlar

