



The Ashlar



July 2019

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

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The Clandestine Lodge and Clandestine Mason

All of us have certainly heard of the term clandestine Lodge or clandestine Mason used at least once in our masonic lifetime, probably more, but what is a clandestine Lodge or clandestine Mason. The Grand Lodge of Virginia Mentor's Manual offers a very good explanation that might be useful at some point in your travels.

A clandestine Lodge is one that does not owe its existence to a Charter or Warrant issued by some regular Grand Lodge. All Grand Lodges of the world seek to establish fraternal relations with sister Grand Lodges. Many of these are recognized by the Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Virginia, but this is not the case with others. There are certain standards to which Grand Lodges must conform in order to secure recognition. These standards of recognition are delineated in the Methodical Digest, i.e. Standing Resolution adapted February 13, 1935. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence relies on the annual report of the Commission on Information for Recognition of the Conference of the Grand Masters of Masons in North America. The Grand Lodges not recognized by our own Grand Lodge and the Lodges holden under such Grand Lodges are considered clandestine to this extent: - visitation by our Brethren in such Lodges is not permitted nor may Virginia Masons receive visitors from such Lodges in our meetings. The Grand Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Virginia, publishes annually a List of Lodges, Masonic. The Masonic Service Association sends a Recognitions Chart, prepared by the A. Douglas Smith, Jr. Lodge of Research No. 1949, Alexandria, Virginia, to all United States and Canadian Grand Lodges each year. If a Lodge or Grand Lodge is listed in this publication, then it is a recognized Lodge or Grand Lodge with which you may have fraternal relations, as well as the Brethren from them. All Lodges and Grand Lodges that are not listed, are not recognized and therefore treated as clandestine. Exceptions to the table of contents are located at the end of each jurisdiction's listing. Note that this has nothing to do with being regular or irregular, as they may simply be a Lodge or Grand Lodge that has not sought recognition.



A clandestine Mason is one who is one who became a Mason in a clandestine Lodge and who remains a member of such a Lodge. To become a member of a Virginia Lodge he must not only petition, be elected and receive the degrees, he must also sign a statement of renunciation severing all connection with the irregular Lodge.

Robert Macoy, in A Dictionary of Freemasonry, explains clandestine Lodges slightly differently. He states that some years ago there were a number of those so called Lodges, but there are none at present. Clandestine Lodges are such as have been formed by avaricious Freemasons, who take money from those people who can have no idea of the difference between warranted and unwarranted Lodges. They were not warranted by any Grand Lodge, and endeavored as much as possible to conceal their existence from the Grand Lodges; their founders formed a ritual from their memories and by this ritual they made so called Freemason, but as they could not legitimize themselves for want of certificates and proper information, they were unable to gain admission into any worthy and warranted Lodge. Since the Lodges have been formed into unions, working under one Grand Lodge, unwarranted Lodges have less chance of existing than formerly. A Lodge which is held without the knowledge of the magistrates or police of the place may be considered as an unwarranted Lodge.

There are over 300 regular Lodges under the Grand Lodge of Virginia's jurisdiction. Before visiting an unfamiliar Lodge or a Lodge in a foreign jurisdiction, it is important that one verifies the Lodge is a recognized and regular Lodge.

From The East



June was outstanding and July is shaping up to be equally as extraordinary. The degree teams have done an excellent job conferring degrees this past month and are working on several more in the near future.

I wish to extend a very hearty thanks to all the Brethren that made the Bull Roast a huge success. Numerous brothers including our Wardens, Deacons and Stewards spent many hours planning and preparing for this huge event. I can't say enough about how well the event was executed and how well the guests enjoyed it.

Recently I noticed a widow wearing a small slipper lapel pin and thought I would share the explanation.

The Blue Slipper Pin Identifies Masonry's Loved Ones

The Masonic slipper pin is a small lapel pin in the shape of a blue slipper. Many wives, daughters and widows wear one of these slippers on a coat or dress when traveling alone. For many years this pin has served to identify loved ones of Masons to other members of the craft. The origin of this symbol comes from the book of Ruth and is as follows: "Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbor: and this was a testimony in Israel. So the kinsman drew off his shoe and gave it to Boaz. Boaz held it up for all in the gate to see. He asked them to be witnesses that he became Naomi's protector, Ruth's husband, and a redeemer of Elimelech's property."

Thus, today we have the little blue slipper as an emblem of the protective influence of Masons for their wives, daughters and widows.

I am planning fraternal visits over the next few months to Lodges outside the 56th Masonic District. A couple of these we have been trying to visit for a few years such as Richmond-Randolph Lodge. We will visit this Lodge for their July Stated Communication on Saturday, July 13th. Richmond-Randolph conducts their meeting at 9AM after a hearty breakfast that begins at 8AM. Please let me know if you would like to attend so we can coordinate transportation.

Brother Roger Taylor, Worshipful Master

From The West



I want to thank everyone who helped make our annual Bull Roast in early June a big success. We had a great turnout; both from those who just came out to eat, to the many people who helped prepare and run this event. Anyone who has worked the Bull Roast in the past knows that it involves a 14-hour day, from grill light off at 5AM to final cleanup after we close shop at 7PM. Twenty-five Brothers turned out to run the show, and our Masonic Youth from both Jobs Daughters and DeMolay provided us with outstanding support in the dining room by diligently clearing plates and refilling drinks throughout the event - a level of service we proudly call "Kempsville Style". Right Worshipful Tom McGowan (with the assistance of many of our Masonic wives and girlfriends) ensured that we had a wide variety of delicious desserts designed to destroy any diet. Now that the Bull Roast is behind us, we have started planning for a great time for all at the annual Lodge picnic in September, with special activities for the kids.

Summer is normally a slower time for the Lodge as the schools have let out and many people are on vacation. However, we will be as busy as ever with degree work, monthly meetings, and schools. I would also like to encourage everyone to continue contributing to our food bank drive over the summer months. Our contributions have helped ensure that one school ended the year with no debts in the lunch account they use to provide lunches for kids who cannot afford it; our Lodge is making a big difference in our community. However, hunger does not end while school is out; in fact, the kids need even more support now that they are not getting meals at school. Donations of food over the summer are our priority, but we will also still gladly accept any cash donations. You can drop off either at the Lodge entryway whenever we are open. Our display also includes flyers that describe what types of food we most need.

Brother Dave Trzeciakiewicz, Senior Warden

From The South



Brethren, my space is typically about all our great degree work and a subtle plea for coaches and continued participation in our degree work. Although that stuff is still ongoing in earnest and our Lodge needs

continue, I would like to take this opportunity in the Ashlar to thank our Stewards.

Brother Moisset and Brother Dunn do a yeoman's work every day to support our Lodge. Mostly behind the scenes. What most see are the meals. What most don't think about or consider are all the details to make it happen. Our stewards are shopping during the week, coordinating kitchen and serving line help, and they come in the day before or early to prep. After that, they always eat last after all the brothers are served. When we retire to conduct our Lodge business or head home after degree work, they are still working to clean and maintain the Lodge dining hall.

The meals they prepare and serve are of the highest caliber. The quality of Kempsville dining is consistent across all events; from our monthly Stated dinners, to our monthly community breakfasts. If this isn't enough, Brothers Moisset and Dunn worked for weeks to plan and prepare for our Bull Roast last month. For those of you joining us on Tuesday's, we have been seeing refreshments after the degree work. Not just ice cream and cookies but substantial subsistence. I will leave it at that for you all to come out on Tuesday's and see what you are missing.

Thank you Brothers for all you do tirelessly every day to take care of us and the Lodge.

Brother Mike Denning, Junior Warden

The Finer Points - Masonic Jewelry

As Master Masons, we have earned the right and benefit of wearing Masonic jewelry. This includes such items as Masonic rings, lapel pins, or cuff links. Most Masons who wear Masonic jewelry wear items that may have been given to them by a relative and/or a senior Brother who assisted them in their Masonic journeys.

Wearing Masonic jewelry of sentimental importance is our way of honoring the memory of the original owner—the emotional connection afforded by their affiliation with the item is powerful. The bequest or gift of Masonic jewelry extends the legacy of one Brother to the next,

emboldening Masonry's foundations in tradition and brotherly love.

To a Mason, the value of Masonic jewelry transcends intrinsic worth. It represents an inexhaustible emotional resource that cannot be quantified, nor can it depreciate over time. Similar to Olympic medals and military honors, only Master Masons have earned this sacred right and benefit.

As we advance in our journeys towards the Lodge on High, we need to remember the Brethren who follow behind us. At present, we must be ever ready and willing to instill a legacy of leadership in their hearts—such endeavors, gilded in tradition, will insure the progression of this legacy forevermore.

Brother John Settle III, Senior Deacon

Trestleboard

July 9 Stated Communication
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM
July 27 Monthly Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
August 13 Stated Communication
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

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

Masonic Birthdays for July

Ramon L. Baez, Sr. '97	Edward F. Myers, Jr. '76
Thomas M. Beverly '10	C. William Nolan '80
Ralph E. Bregant '84	William T. Parks, III '89
Rickey P. Brooks '16	William T. Peterson '07
T. Edward Brown '10	Joseph A. Posey '79
David L. Cline '91	William K. Sheppard '08
Alexander R. Echols '09	Scott F. Sherman '17
Darin M. Ely '04	Dale E. Smith '79
James C. Gardner '70	Joseph F. Thornton '63
Brian K. Goodwin '90	Dennis G. Tompkins '02
Nazim K. Jamal '16	Richard L. Tyson '08
Littleton Kirkpatrick, IV '10	Robert L. Tyson, Jr. '08
William R. Knowles, Sr. '71	Robert L. Tyson, Sr. '08
O. Eugene LeJeune '90	Jack L. Waller '62
Seth A. Miles '09	Karl W. Wesseler '78
Melvin S. Mizelle '67	Johnny D. Whitley '64

The Brethren shown above have a total of 836 years in Masonry!

Youth

Bethel 42 has been very busy this Spring. The daughters have competed in state ritual competitions and preparing for their annual dinner theater to raise funds to help them go to Grand Session at Ferrum College in July. Mary Robinson

will be representing Virginia on the Supreme Ritual Team going to Supreme Session in Kansas City in August.

Our next installation will be on Saturday June 22nd at 6PM. We would love to have the members of Kempsville Lodge come visit! Thank you so much for your years of continued support of Bethel 42!

The Bull Roast

Brethren hard at work preparing the signature beef served at the 36th Annual Bull Roast held on June 8th. A huge "Thank You" to all the volunteers that made this year's event such a success!



To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in July:

Oleta Eaton	July 1 st
Ouoida Young	July 6 th
Ruth Ann King	July 21 st
June Lockwood	July 23 rd
Wanda Van Fossen	July 25 th
Susan Austin	July 31 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.

Community Service

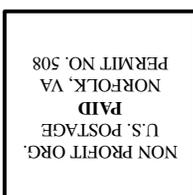
Kempsville Area Food Bank - Kempsville Masonic Lodge continues to collect food items and

cash donations for a local church food pantry. Canned items of all kinds, rice, sugar, peanut butter, and instant milk are always good donations. Any money collected will be used to help pay off student lunch debt for Kempsville area schools. You may drop off donations at the Lodge anytime the building is open. For the month of May, we contributed almost 52 pounds of food stuffs and \$202 to the pantry. Keep the contributions coming, its making a difference.

Stratford Chase Park Cleanup - Kempsville Lodge continues to support our community by picking up trash at Stratford Chase Park. A small contingent of brothers dedicate a few minutes of their time after each breakfast to help beautify the space. The community that uses the park truly appreciates the lodge's efforts. If you have a few minutes after breakfast please meet Bill Peterson and others at the park and do a little to help many.

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Senior Warden	Dave Trzeciakiewicz	620-8311
Junior Warden	Mike Denning	651-0712
Treasurer	Chris Anders	635-7617
Secretary	Bob Stanek	255-8336
Senior Deacon	John Settle, III	675-9695
Junior Deacon	Pat Blankenship	406-6166
Senior Steward	Todd Moissett	604-3085
Junior Steward	Doug Dunn	781-389-6557
Chaplain	Scott Sherman	597-1150
Musician	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Marshal	Dickie Cooper	971-7347
Tiler	Ben Jamal	553-2635
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



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