



# The Ashlar



September, 2003

Kempsville Lodge # 196 A.F. & A.M.

Volume 3



From the East:

**FREEMASONRY IS ALIVE AND WELL AT KEMPSVILLE**

## *JOIN IN THE EXCITEMENT*

Yes my brethren, these are indeed exciting times for all who call Kempsville Lodge their home. I am pleased to report that we have been very busy "working in the quarries". We have labored hard, sometimes working two candidates in one evening. The Supreme Architect of the Universe has been pleased to bless this lodge with an abundance of candidates this year. At the last Stated Communication we had five petitions for degrees, two brethren who made application for affiliation, and one application for reinstatement. Way to go guys! I'm proud of you and our lodge. Keep up the good work. Make our Grand Master's theme come alive; i.e. "Freemasonry – Pass it on". With this issue of the Ashlar we welcome many new Masons. Sincere thanks to the dedicated officers, past masters and members who have taken part in the degree work. Also, thanks to those of you who have labored in silence in support of our lodge. So many of you have served the lodge, without asking for recognition, contented to know that you have contributed toward Kempsville being one of the finest lodges in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In the words of our venerable Secretary, you guys are an "air tight bunch of country boys".

## *FAMILY PICNIC*

Yes, that's right, I said Family Picnic, as opposed to lodge picnic. There is a very good reason. The Eastern Star, Jobies and Demolay are invited to attend the picnic this year. They are, after all, part of our Masonic family. Please extend a hearty welcome to all and help to make this a time to remember for all who attend. Although it is important for us to support the appendant bodies, and in particular our youth, a gift or money may be soon forgotten. A happy memory, on the other hand, will last a lifetime. Come out in support of your lodge and give someone a gift that will last for the rest of their life.

Parents and Grandparents, bring your children and grandchildren. We plan on having special entertainment for

the children. I guess I should say children of all ages. We may be blessed with music by the Hillbillies. You will never know unless you come out and find out for yourself. Plan on attending and having a hand clapping, toe tapping, knee slapping Gooooood time. Y'all come!

## *FELLOWSHIP*

Every Saturday morning we have coffee, donuts, fellowship, and an opportunity for candidates to converse with well informed brethren, who will always be ready to give instruction. Many lifelong friendships have been formed through this weekend fellowship. Some brethren just like to meet with their fellow Masons and chat about current events; such as sporting events, or who can grow the biggest tomatoes. Rest assured that the conversation, sooner or later, turns to Freemasonry. Come on out and join the fun. If you would like to coach, this is an ideal opportunity for you to help with the Masonic education of our new Masons.

## *Area Masonic School*

The James Henry Parkerson, Jr. area Masonic School was held at Bayside Lodge August 18 – 21, 2003. Thanks to those of you who faithfully attended the school. For the benefit of those who were unable to attend, you would have been so proud of the members of our lodge who participated in putting on the degrees. Brother Prentice Tuck, Brother Buddy Pate and Brother Shawn Garfield did a great job. You guys made those of us in attendance proud to be a member of Kempsville lodge. Congratulations on a job well done.

## GRAND MASTER'S VISIT

Most Worshipful Frederick G. Martin, III will visit Kempsville Lodge #196, A.F. & A.M. on October 14, 2003. We will be celebrating Founder's day, and the Grand Master will be our speaker. Also, this will be Junior Warden night. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. and Lodge will open at 7:00 p.m. Come and help us make the Grand Master's visit a great success, and help in celebrating the 225<sup>th</sup> year of Masonry in the Commonwealth of Virginia.