

# THE ASHLAR

## Kempsville Lodge No. 196

Ancient Free & Accepted Masons



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### FREEMASONRY BY CHOICE FROM THE EAST

Brethren;

Since the appearance of our last newsletter, your lodge has had a very busy season. First of all, our family night dinner in which we honored our widows was a real good success. There were over half of our widows in attendance and they really enjoyed themselves. I have had some very kind notes of appreciation from most of them thanking us for an enjoyable evening. Don't forget our widows my brethren. If you live near one, take the time to visit and see if the lodge can help in any way.

Also, on that particular evening, I had the privilege to present on behalf of the Grand Master, five Certificates of Commendation to five fine young men who attained the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. These outstanding young men and their families were our guests on that particular evening in order that we could congratulate them on their achievements.

I would like to thank each and everyone who supported me with the Bull Roast. Although we did have a few minor problems which caused a few complaints, overall most everyone was happy. We were able to present the Masonic Home with a check for \$3,000.00 which was greatly appreciated by the Grand Master. We did learn from our mistakes and hope that if this is to be an annual affair, that you will support the future Masters in this endeavor.

Senior Warden's Nite also turned out to be successful. With the Grand Master as the speaker and with some musical entertainment, the turnout was most excellent.

On the 15th of July, we took our Youth Groups to see the Tidewater Tides. We had over 60 people in attendance and everyone had a good time. I have received a note of appreciation from the Honored Queen of the Job's Daughters thanking me and the lodge for an enjoyable evening.

On July 20th, a party of eight officers and members and one wife (Mrs. Mary Morris) visited the Masonic Home. We took some flowers and provided some musical entertainment (Bro. Tony Scorengello from Norview Lodge). The people in the home were overjoyed and thrilled that we took the time to come up and visit with them. You could see their faces light up when we came in to greet them. It was well worth the trip. I would like to thank all those who made the trip.

I would like to congratulate Wor. Bro. George Wallace who will be the District Deputy Grand Master and the #1 Mason in the 56th District next year. I know that you will all come out and support him in his service to masonry.

Brethren, we are still short some money on our final payment on our roof. This job came to \$20 per member. If you have forgotten about this, please send in your contribution to the Secretary.

There are also a few members who have not paid their 1983 dues. Brethren, we cannot function without money. Please send in your dues as soon as possible.

Brethren, my year of Worshipful Master is quickly drawing to a close. There are so many memories, so many people to thank and so much more left undone. Whatever success there might have been was due to the cooperation and brotherly love that prevails at Kempsville Lodge. I will leave the east with many fond memories that can never be erased no matter what lies down the road. Kempsville Lodge, to me, is the epitome of what Masonry is suppose to be. The fellowship, cooperation and Brotherly Love exists no where else and has put new meaning into my life. It has been said that if a man finds one true friend in life that he is rich. Kempsville Lodge has made me one of the richest men in the world, for I have truly found more than one friend. I thank you.

There are a few people I would like to single out and I hope I do so without offending anyone who thanks I might have forgotten him.

To Dan Meyer and his crew who have taken charge of all our dinners this year as in the past and especially for the Bull Roast, my heartfelt thanks.

To Bro. Frank Mathews who contributes in so many ways and to his helper on the Temple Committee, Bro. Joe Salih, many, many thanks.

To Bro. Mark Morris who gave so much of himself every Saturday conducting School and became the unsolicited Chairman of the Bull Roast ticket committee, much gratefulness. If there was a Mason of The Year for Kempsville Lodge, this Brother must be it. He has up to the 1st of July, given over 700 hours of instruction, examined numerous Brethren in Lodge, has taken part in every activity in the Lodge, and is almost ready to stand his examination for his gold card. He is without a doubt, one of the most enthusiastic members we have.

To my wife Gladys, without whose support I would not have been able to survive the last ten years. Many thanks.

To everyone who has supported me and have helped to make this a successful year. I thank you and hope that you will continue to support our Lodge.

There are a few important dates left this year.

25 Sept. — Lodge Picnic 12:00 - 7 P.M.

11 Oct. — Stated Meeting - Founder's Day  
Jr. Warden's Nite. Please support  
Bro. Wally Pittard on this night.

Brethern - I ran across these words not to long ago  
and I think they are appropriate for my last newsletter.  
They are from the writings of the English Poet William  
Blake.

*I sought my soul, but my soul I could not see.*

*I sought my God, but my God eluded me.*

*I sought my Brother and found all three.*

Thank You & God Bless You All,

Wor. Tom McGowan

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