

Kempsville Lodge # 196
A.F.&A.M.
The ASHLAR
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From the East:

Ramblings from the East

Once again, it's an exciting year at Kempsville. We have been extremely active with degree work every week. In fact, there have been times when we have "worked" two candidates in one evening. Fortunately, we are blest with dedicated officers, past masters, and members who are able to do quality degree work, BUT we would love to have more of the brethren involved. If you are interested, please contact our Junior Warden, Bill Nelligar.

We have also been a traveling lodge. So far, we have made lodge visits to Willis V. Fentress and Princess Anne lodges. We will be visiting Corinthian Lodge on April 17th. One of Kempsville's own is the master of that lodge. Wor. Ken Adkins is serving as Worshipful Master. Wor. Ken has been a member of Kempsville since 1979. Congratulations, Wor. Ken! Additionally, Wor. Ken's son, Chris, is Junior Deacon. Brother Chris is also a member of our lodge. We will be visiting Great Bridge Lodge on May 23. The speaker for that meeting is Rt. Wor. Clifford "Skip" Parker, Deputy Grand Master. A trip to Hall Lodge in North Carolina is also in the works. Brethren, fill the cars up and hit the road...let's spread our Kempsville spirit throughout the area.

We have other exciting opportunities. A "Masonic birthday" party is scheduled for October 16th, at 7:00 pm. There will be lots of fun, fellowship, and food. Additionally, TV's will be placed in the social hall, so that we can watch the World Series game. This will be an untiled event, so invite your friends who are interested in masonry. Don't forget to wear your favorite team colors!

Wor. Bill Nolan will be conducting two education nights for our EA's and FC's. These classes will be held on stated nights. Everyone will dine together at 6:30pm, then the EA's and FC's will meet downstairs while the stated is conducted upstairs. I also am inviting newly raised Master Masons to attend. All coaches are expected to strongly encourage their candidates to attend. The EA/FC education nights are scheduled for July 10th and October 9th.

In closing, I want to thank the brethren for the opportunity to serve as Master. Let's remember that Masonry is an opportunity to serve. Serve your lodge, serve Masonry in general, and serve the community at large.

Aprons and Jewels

As many of you have noticed, our work aprons and jewels are in distressed condition. If they were

capable, they would be giving the Grand Hailing Sign. As such, the Lodge will be purchasing new aprons. These aprons will be used as the "stated" aprons, and the current "stated" aprons will be used as our "work" aprons. After much research and comparison, it appears that \$650.00 is the best price for a complete set of aprons. Before using any of the lodge's funds, I am asking the brethren for any assistance that they can give. I am hopeful that through donations, we can cover the entire cost of the aprons. There are thirteen aprons in a set, which works out to \$50.00 per apron.

Our Senior Warden, Ray Connard, has come to the rescue of the working jewels. Brother Ray purchased an entire set of working jewels. This is an extremely gracious act by Brother Ray and is greatly appreciated. Please be sure to thank him for his generosity.



From the South:

My Brethren,

I would like to thank you for electing me to serve as Junior Warden. As such, one of my duties is to assemble degree teams. If you would like to participate in the work please let me know and I will be delighted to see that you have the opportunity to do so.

Once again, Kempsville Lodge is busy in the quarries, intent upon upholding our proud tradition of having a very successful year. In order to obtain our goals it will require that each of you put your shoulder to the harness and work together in harmony, and with great enthusiasm. To that end brethren, let us all take this opportunity to pledge our support to our Worshipful Master,

and rededicate ourselves to the great principles for which Freemasonry stands and teaches. Faithfully practice the basic tenets of friendship, morality and brotherly love. Let us resolve ourselves to live our lives so that the world knows that we are Freemasons, and what we stand for. Wouldn't it be wonderful if people looked back on our lives and remembered us as being a faithful Mason, obedient to the Great Architect of the Universe in thought, word and deed. Live in peace, and may you ever be proud to say, "I am a Freemason."

THE BLOOD
Coordinator



Blood Coordinator:

Brethren,

Our last Blood Drive was March 19th and as of that date Kempsville had donated 35 units. Of course, we are grateful for every donation, but this number should be higher. We need "new blood". I see the same handful of donors over and over again. It takes less than ten minutes to give a unit of blood (not counting the waiting time), so come early and avoid the rush. Our next Blood Drive will be May 21st at Kempsville Lodge from 3 PM to 8 PM.

Ray Squires



Past Master's Corner:

From the District Education Officer:

Executive Order No. 4 requires each district in the Commonwealth of

Virginia to conduct training classes for subordinate Lodge Officers so that every Lodge may become better educated in Masonic Law and Ritual. This training is not limited to just Line Officers, but to all Masons, that we may strengthen the leadership and government of the Lodges in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

My Brethren, please join the Lodge Education Officer, Wor. Bill Nolan and myself in the execution of this order, and become better mentors and officers in our Grand Lodge Jurisdiction.

Rt. Wor. George Wallace
D.E.O. 56th Masonic Dist.

From the Lodge Education Officer:

My Brethren,

As noted in the paragraphs above, I will be conducting two different training sessions in the coming months. The EA/FC Training will be conducted on the nights of our Stated Communications in July and October respectively.

The training in support of Executive Order No.4 will be conducted, during the summer, on our Monday evening work nights and I will have to coordinate that with our Lodge Instructor of Work, Wor. Bob Stanek, so as not to interfere with required ritual training.

I will distribute that schedule as soon as possible. I also extend invitation to all Master Masons to attend that training. I would be more than pleased to see large groups of participation.

Fraternally,
Wor. Bill Nolan



BULL ROAST

My Brothers,

Our Bull Roast will be held this year on June 2nd. Once again, Wor. Brother Don Meyer will be at the helm in preparing the food. His home made Potato Salad and Cole Slaw, and his special Bean recipes are always the things which make this event successful, notwithstanding his special steak sauce.

We will also have our usual assortment of homemade cakes and pies, with a few added surprises (Rhubarb).

The cost as usual is \$8.00 all you can eat, \$4.00 for take-out and for children under 12 years.

Please come out and support this annual event and enjoy some wonderful fellowship. The proceeds will support our Masonic Home and the Lodge Scholarship Fund.

Please send your check for the appropriate amount even if you cannot come, and give your tickets to a friend or shut-in. We operate on the Honor System in Kempsville. When you send in your check to the Lodge, just mark your tickets "Paid" and affix your initials. The tickets will be honored at the door.

Wor. Tom McGowan
Chairman