



The Ashlar



May, 2003

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

Volume 2



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.

The Supreme Architect of the Universe has been pleased to bless this lodge with an abundance of candidates this year. In fact, it has recently become necessary that we work on Monday and Tuesday nights in order to accommodate the candidates and their schedules. Fortunately, we have also been richly blessed with officers, past masters, and members who are well versed in the ritual and dedicated to the craft. If you would like to take part in the degree work, please contact our Junior Warden, Buddy Pate. If you need instruction, our Lodge Instructor of Work, Wor. Bob Stanek is one of the best. In one practice session, Wor. Bob will probably have you doing your part 'air tight'.

Every Saturday morning we have coffee, donuts, fellowship, and an opportunity to converse with well informed brethren, who will be always as ready to give, as you will be to receive, instruction. Many life-long friendships have been formed through this weekend fellowship. Many who came to inquire about freemasonry on Saturday mornings have become true and faithful brothers among us. 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.

The Secretary advises that there are several brothers who have not yet paid their 2003 dues. Please get your dues current ASAP. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. If you are having problems, let us know brethren.

Wor. Bill Nolan will be conducting a Masonic Education Class for EA's, FC's and newly raised Master Masons on June 10, 2003. Everyone will dine together at 6:00 p.m., and the education class will be held downstairs, while the Master Mason's lodge is conducted upstairs. All coaches are expected to strongly encourage their candidates to attend.

Many thanks to Wor. Bob Stanek and Wor. Bill Nolan for their fine presentations at the February and March stated communications. Wor. Bob gave a most interesting program, including a power point presentation, on George Washington. Wor. Bill gave a very interesting program regarding the juxtaposition of Biblical truths and the degrees in Freemasonry. A well deserved standing ovation was given to these very talented and dedicated Masons.

MAY STATED

Wor. Carl R. Thompson, District Instructor of Work, will be making his official visit to Kempsville Lodge on May 13, 2003. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. I heard that Brother Hank Foiles and Brother Roger Cort have a special menu planned that evening. Many thanks to our stewards, and to Brother Hank Foiles, for the lip smakin' meals and gourmet delights that they have cooked up lately. Brother Roger Cort and his able assistants, including Brother Hank, have been doing a wonderful job, but I am sure they miss our District Deputy Grand Steward, Paul LaFond. Brother Paul will be returning from his sabbatical, lean and mean, next week. **Don't forget guys, we will be honoring the wives, mothers and widows. Therefore, no covered dish dinners.**

KEMPSVILLE TRIVIA

Did you know that a Revolutionary War skirmish took place in beautiful downtown Kempsville? That's right, on October 15, 1775; Lord Dunmore dispatched troops to Kempsville (known at that time as Kamps Landing). The British troops were opposed by the local militia, known as "Shirtmen" because of their buckskin hunting shirts. The captain of the Virginia militia unit, Thomas Mathews, was

captured and became the first patriot prisoner of war taken on Virginia soil. (I wonder if Brother Frank Mathews is related to the unfortunate Captain?) In November, 1775, Lord Dunmore's forces were returning to Norfolk from Great Bridge, at which time they walked into a trap wherein the local militia of Princess Anne and Norfolk counties were lying in wait. In order to fortify their courage, the "Shirtmen" imbibed in strong drink while awaiting the arrival of the British. Instead of opening fire and attacking the British, many of the local militia men ran off into the woods. Some were too drunk to run. Accordingly, what should have been a resounding victory for the patriots turned into an embarrassing rout. There is a stone monument at the corner of Overland Road and Princess Anne Road commemorating the "Skirmish of Kempsville". You all know who won the war, but you will have to read the next Ashlar to learn the next bit of Kempsville Trivia.

FREEDOM

We salute our brethren who are members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America. Keep these brethren and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Remember all of those who serve our great nation in their noble efforts to defend freedom everywhere. It was such a pleasure to welcome Brother Chip Mielkey back home. Unfortunately, by the time you read this Brother Chip will have shipped out again. We were also pleased to see Brother Jay Webb's picture on the cover of All Hands magazine. Brother Jay is a member of the USS Valley Forge's (CG 50) VBSS team, presently serving in the Arabian Gulf in Maritime Interdiction Operations. Travel safe guys, and we look forward to your safe return.

LIGHT

Let your light shine brethren. A candle loses nothing by igniting another wick. Have you shared the light lately? Keep our Grand Master's theme in mind; i.e. **"FREEMASONRY — PASS IT ON."**

Fraternally,

Wor. G. Wilson "Bill" Nelligar

From the West:



My brethren, after long and hard negotiations, I have convinced the Master that the Craft is long over due for an increase in their wages. It is my pleasure to inform you that the Master has seen the "light" and has agreed to the following wage increases for the Craft. Master Masons a seven percent increase, Fellowcraft, a five percent increase and Entered Apprentices a three percent wage increase. These increases are effective immediately. I sincerely hope that these increases will continue to bring harmony, strength and support to the Craft.

With that said, and pockets a jingling, I would now inform you that our Kitchen is desperately in need of some new equipment. Both of our freezers are on the blink and the microwave oven has exceeded its useful life, and soon we will need to replace the big ovens in our kitchen and bring our Lodge kitchen into the new millennium. I would challenge each brother to make a donation of at least five dollars, more if you can, that we may resolve this problem as soon as possible. If you my brother don't help, it won't get done, I appeal to your new founded generosity to please help in this endeavor.

Thank you so very much for your support.

Prentice G. Tuck, Jr.
Sr. Warden



From the South:

I recently had the pleasure of attending the installation ceremonies for both the DeMolay and Jobies. What a joy it is to see these young people in action. If you haven't had the opportunity to attend one of their meetings and see them perform, I encourage you to do so. Their ritual is impressive and their enthusiasm is infectious. This is a special group of young people and they need our support – and the best way to provide that support is by attending their meetings. There's no better place for them to spend their spare time than at Kempsville Lodge and there's no better group of adults for them to be around than the Brethren of Kempsville Lodge. These kids not only represent the future of Masonry, but the future of our country as well. With so many activities vying for the attention of our young people, let's show them how proud we are that they chose to join a Masonic youth organization. Attend one of their meetings. I think you'll agree, with young people like these, the future looks pretty bright indeed.

Bro. Emmett "Buddy" Pate
Junior Warden



From the Senior Deacon

Brethren,
I would like to tell you that I personally am excited about how many new masons are now in lodge, and more to come. We are fortunate to have so much activity in our lodge. There are some that might raise one brother a year. Even though we have all this activity, we would still like to see YOU in your lodge. Please come visit; maybe even participate in some degree work. At one point in your life you were interested in Masonry; we would like to help you get interested again. Hope to see you soon.

Shawn P. Garfield



From the Junior Deacon

Greetings my Brethren,
I would like to thank all of you who assisted in making our Past Master's Night a tremendous success. Thank you for a job well done.

As many of you know, I recently had elective surgery. Many thanks for your thoughts and prayers. It is great to be a Mason, and a great feeling to know that so many brethren are concerned about your health and welfare. I have already lost over 50 pounds. My photographer, Judy Nelligar, is taking a photo every 30 days or so in order to keep track of my progress. I was wearing size 50 pants, and now I am wearing size 46. By summer, I should be able to wear a bikini. Hah Hah. No way!!! But I hope to be down to my fighting weight very soon. Watch out Tyson, here I come.

We have so much to be thankful for at Kempsville. This is going to be a year to remember. I'm excited about being a member of this Lodge, and look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming meetings. I understand that we have a lot of young men scheduled for initiation in the coming weeks. If you haven't been in Lodge for a while, come on out and see some of the finest ritual in the land. Look me

up, and shake my hand. You'll know me; I'm the skinny guy who keeps a watch on the door.

Fraternally,
Paul LaFond

BLOOD
The gift from the heart



Blood Coordinator

Brethren,
We have done well so far this year, and we can do so much better, with your help. If you would like to give blood, but can't remember when or where the drive is, contact me at home (474-0532). I will call you the day before the blood drive and remind you. People are dying everyday because there isn't enough blood to go around. It is up to you to help someone live. Our next blood drive is May 19th. Come see us at your lodge between 3pm & 8pm.

Shawn P. Garfield

Past Master's Corner



Holding On

God does not leave our sides; it just shows that sin is an equal opportunity destroyer. Even though there is an abundance of despair, you have to learn to trust God as you reflect on your disappointments and catastrophes.

God still has the whole world in His hands. Just remind yourselves of the story of Joseph and what he attained after being sold into slavery. He kept the faith and was able to save the Jewish Nation.

I urge you to take care of yourselves physically, always be thankful, take responsibility for your actions, keep material things in their proper perspective, and give back to those who follow you.

Rt. Wor. Tom McGowan
DDGM 56th District



Bull Roast

My Brethren,
Our Bull Roast will be held this year on June 7th. Once again, Wor. Brother Don Meyer will be at the helm in preparing the food. His homemade Potato Salad, Cole Slaw and special Bean recipes are always the things that 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).

We will be serving from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. \$8.50 All you can eat — \$5.00 for take out and children under 12.

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 attend. 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.

Rt. Wor. Tom McGowan
Chairman

Virginia Beach, VA 23462
4869 Princess Anne Road

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

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NORFOLK, VA
PERMIT NO. 508