



The Ashlar



May, 2004

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

Volume 2-04



From the East:

Greetings from the East;

Please excuse the tardiness of this edition of the "Ashlar, we have been really busy working in the quarries and have hit the ground running since the installation of your new Lodge officers for 2004. If we continue at our present pace, Kempsville will set a record for membership in 2004. As of today, we have initiated Eight (8) new Entered Apprentices, Passed six (6) Fellowcraft and have raised Six (6) new Master Masons. and have had 1 affiliate and reinstated 2 back to our roster.

If just the new brethren we are working at present are raised by November we will have increased our membership by twenty-one new members. Additionally, we have Three more Second readings at our May stated. To say the least, Kempsville is truly blessed, not only to be graced with all the new Masons, but with the other fine brethren that are truly dedicated to the fraternity and this lodge.

On another note, June 28th, 2004 will mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Granting of the Dispensation for the Charter of Kempsville # 196 by the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia. The Charter was Granted at the annual Grand Communication and in February 1955 under the loving care of our own Secretary Rt. Worshipful William Hollowell Handsome" Pierce. What a guy!! He says he's in love, drove to Richmond and brought it Home. "Thank You" Rt. Worshipful Pierce.

Also brethren it's that time of year again, our annual "Bull Roast" will be held on Saturday June 12th. The lodge could certainly use your help. There are days and weeks spent prior to the "Bull Roast" in preparations for this event and many brothers in the shadows never get the recognition that they truly deserve and it seems that it's always the same people year after year that sweat and toil to assure the success of this most worthwhile endeavor. My hat is off to you, who have labored so long and hard to make this event a success, if any brother could spare any time at all, please contact Rt. Wor. Tom McGowan and let him know that you are willing to help out in the various areas of the bull roast. We need potato peelers, servers, cooks and bottle washers etc. Please mark your calendars in advance and plan to be at the lodge bright and early on Saturday June 12th, breakfast will be served for all who show up.

As you have seen from the above degree work that we are doing, we are busy. If any brother has an inclination about becoming a line officer in the future, please come out and take a part in some of the various degree work. We would welcome the opportunity.

Fraternally,
Prentice G. Tuck, Jr.



From the West:

From the West...

On April 22, 2002, Kempsville Lodge lost one of its most memorable brethren when Brother Budd "Double-D" Cronemiller passed to the Celestial Lodge. Brother Budd's memory, however, lives on at Kempsville for several reasons. First, Brother Budd's memory lives on in our hearts and minds. I think you will all agree - Brother Budd is a hard person to forget! His dedication to the Craft as Kempsville's "Sick & Sunshine" representative and as our District Masonic Home Ambassador will not soon be forgotten. Secondly, Brother Budd was a LMIP - Life Member in Perpetuity. In addition to being a member of every lodge in 56th District (and numerous others), his financial

contribution will continue to support Kempsville Lodge throughout the boundless realms of eternity.

Now Brother Budd's legacy continues at Kempsville for a third reason. Thanks to his wife, a most generous donation of over 200 Masonic books, video tapes, and pamphlets now grace the shelves of our Lodge. This wealth of Masonic history, insight and anecdote was collected by Brother Budd during his 38 years as a Master Mason and is now available to all the brethren of Kempsville Lodge. With this single donation, Kempsville Lodge may very likely have one of the best Masonic libraries in the state. Although this collection makes a very impressive visual display on our shelves, the best way that we can thank Brother Budd for this generous donation and, at the same time, honor his memory and commitment to the Craft, is for each of us to use this valuable resource to further our Masonic education. Let's take full advantage of this incredible gift as we all continue our quest toward "more light in Masonry" — thanks to Brother Budd, the journey just got a little easier.

Fraternally,
Brother Emmett "Buddy" Pate



From the South:

Brethren,

We are doing a lot of work. So far, we have initiated 8, passed 6, and raised 6. We still have many more candidates in the pipeline coming up. We need more of you Brethren to help with the Ritual Work. Yes, we are busy, but most of the degree work is being performed by the same people. If you would like to participate, or learn a part, call me at 474-0532. Also, not to take away from the Bull Roast on June 12th, but the Family Picnic is coming up on September 19th. I would appreciate any help you can offer. Thank you.

Fraternally,
Brother Shawn Garfield

BLOOD
The gift from the heart.



Blood Coordinator

Give the Gift of Life. Join us for our next blood drive Monday, May 17th — 3PM to 8PM at Kempsville #196. Give a pint - save of life!

Roger Cort



Special Note

Navy Night

Be sure to mark June 1st on your calendars and come out for Kempsville's first "Navy Night" as your officers turn the lodge over to a squadron of active Navy brethren in their Dress Blues. It's sure to be a fun and entertaining night.



Past Master's Corner

THOUGHTS ON THE CRAFT

The value of man does not consist in the truth which he possesses but in the sincere pains that he has taken to find it out. His powers do not augment by possessing truth, but by investigating it. For possession dulls the energies of man and makes him idle and proud.

Masonry rests not on secret forms. It **IS A SPIRIT**. It is a character. No one can deprive another of it. No one can unmake a true Mason; for what made him a mason is not some word he has heard, some scene which he has witnessed; but some truth of God which he has made his own; some moral strength which has become the very fiber of his life and soul.

When a man has been initiated, passed and raised and has signed the bylaws, he in a sense is a Master Mason. He is numbered in the membership, and is entitled to wear the badge. But in reality, he has only been given the right to enter the Temple. Whether he does enter or not, whether he labors on that spiritual building or stands idly within the shadows and shelter of its walls, time alone will tell. But it depends wholly upon himself. He has found the true secret of Masonry if he has learned that God is his Father and men about him are his brethren; and if that knowledge mellows and purifies his soul, inspires his deeds and radiates a sunny glory from his life.

Rt. Wor. Thomas McGowan



Bull Roast

My Brethren,

Our Bull Roast will be held this year on June 12th. Once again, Wor. Brother Don Meyer will be at the helm in preparing the food. His home made 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 home made cakes and pies, with a few added surprises

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.

By this time you should have received your tickets in the mail. 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. For our Widows, the ticket you received is complimentary. Please join us for the food and fellowship. If you need transportation, call me at 497-3881.

For the Worshipful Masters of the 56th District, please announce this at your next few communications. We sent only one ticket to you to announce the Bull Roast. If more are needed, we have plenty or you can pay at the door. Thank you all – see you there.

Rt. Wor. Tom McGowan
Chairman

The Ashlar
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