

Health & Welfare

If you would like either a "Thinking of You" or "Sympathy" card sent from the Lodge, please contact Worshipful Roger Cort, or any of the Lodge Officers. Please leave a detailed message if necessary. Please provide name(s) and address(es), especially if they're not in our Lodge roster. We will send out a card as soon as we get the information.

From The Secretary

You will be receiving your Lodge Dues Notice for 2008 during the next two weeks or so. Please note that the cost to you has increased by nine (9) dollars. Let me explain. Our Lodge Dues are \$56.00 per year. This has not changed for several years, and cannot change without a vote to change our by-laws. The Methodical Digest requires that the Secretary collect both Lodge Dues and Grand Lodge Dues and assessments from each member. The Grand Lodge Dues and assessments are then forwarded to Grand Lodge in one check. Several years ago, Lodge Delegates (including our own WM), voted to incrementally increase the Grand Lodge Dues and assessments, and so it was done. Each year they would increase a dollar or two,

based on the vote that had been passed. Kempsville Lodge failed to pass that cost on to the membership as they should have. The Dues and Assessments increased from \$19.00 to \$28.00 over those years. Your Lodge Treasury has been paying the difference when it actually could not afford to do so. This year, (2007), the Lodge collected \$19.00 from each of you instead of the required \$28.00, but we still payed the \$28.00 to Grand Lodge. That difference of nine dollars, multiplied by the approximately 500 members, constitutes about \$4,500 dollars this year alone. Multiply that by the several years it has gone on and you can see the losses your Lodge is taking. Of course, this money cannot be re-couped. No one could try that since the losses are self inflicted. I have, however, corrected the error and have adjusted the cost to you accordingly. Hence the increase to \$84.00 due and payable on or before January 1, 2008. Lodge Dues = \$56.00 // Grand Lodge Dues and Assessments = \$28.00. Just for your information, there are still about fifty members who have not yet paid 2007 dues. Your Lodge needs your dues to keep operating. If they are not paid by 01 January, you will be receiving citations. You will not find me as soft hearted as Right Worshipful Pierce. If you dance the dance, you got to pay the fiddler. Hope to see you in Lodge next Tuesday as the Grand Master visits Kempsville.

Fraternally, Bill Nolan, Secretary



The Ashlar



October 2007

Kempsville Lodge #196, AF&AM

Volume 7-2007

From The East



This is my last article for the Ashlar as your Worshipful Master. It has been a very challenging year. We started out with more deaths than we had stated meetings. That is always the hardest part of this job but is also very rewarding when you know you have helped to aid and comfort those loved ones left behind.

We have had a very active year. I know that no one has more fun in our lodge than I do sitting in the East. I haven't had a chance to wear the wig yet – but the year's not over! We had some time set aside to honor our ladies and have them share in some of our activities. They enjoyed the programs put on by the Jobie Bethel and the DeMolay Chapter along with the Hawaiian Shirt Night and the family picnic.

Our labors in the quarries have been very successful. We have raised eight Master Masons and have initiated more than I can keep track of. A lot of our new members have military or other commitments that keep our number of raisings a bit low, but our coaches and Junior Warden bend over backwards to keep them moving along.

Our sewer line project is still in the works. Currently, the plans are at the city for approval. They assured me we will have a response by the second week in October. If approved, we can get our permit, receive contractor bids, and get it in the ground.

We still have some upcoming events in store. The Grand Master will visit on October 9th. The Masonic Home Family Day on October 13th, Grand Lodge in November, our Annual Stated and Installation of Officers in December.

I want to thank our Junior Warden for putting on a fine family picnic and our Junior Deacon for organizing Past Masters' Night. One of the most important jobs in our lodge is insuring the purity of our ritual with our new Masons. This is done only

through the tireless efforts of their coaches. I congratulate and thank those who do the coaching and mentoring and encourage others who have the time to step up and help.

It has been a great year, Brethren. Thank you.

Roger Cort, Worshipful Master

From The West



What a year we have had. Congratulations to Worshipful Roger on planning a great year. It has been a pleasure assisting him in the execution. We still have a lot to do this year, but I look forward to the challenges that will be presented. It makes the journey to the East that much more satisfying.

Tradition:

1. the handing down of statements, beliefs, legends, customs, information, etc., from generation to generation, esp. by word of mouth or by practice
2. something that is handed down.
3. a long-established or inherited way of thinking or acting
4. a continuing pattern of culture beliefs or practices.
5. a customary or characteristic method or manner
6. Theology.
 - a) (among Jews) body of laws and doctrines, or any one of them, held to have been received from Moses and originally handed down orally from generation to generation.
 - b) (among Christians) a body of teachings, or any one of them, held to have been delivered by Christ and His apostles but not originally committed to writing.

These definitions come from dictionary.com and convey to us one of the things Kempsville is all about. Some traditions are handed down from coach to candidate, others from mentor to protégé. Some are just there because "that's the way we always have done it". I sometimes hear some of our older brethren say, "That's not the way we

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used to do it." There is a reason for that. Some traditions get changed as time goes on. This change occurs to allow more understanding of what we do and where we come from. Some change over time to accommodate change in the fraternity. Not everyone agrees with these changes. However, I think it is important to embrace change. Give it a chance. In the long run you may find that the new tradition is better than the old for the entire Lodge and the Fraternity.

I would like to take a moment to once again thank all of the brethren who have shown their support during my treatment that has gone on throughout the year. I will take my final chemotherapy on 26 November. I hope to be ruled cancer-free before the annual stated, and head in to next year on a very high note. I know there are several brothers in the District that have been going through similar struggles. To those of you that have had health issues this year, be it yourself or a family member, you are all in my prayers and thoughts. If you need any support from me, be it a shoulder to cry on or just some insight from what I have endured, please feel free to let me know. I am here for you as a brother and as a fellow survivor.

As we approach the Annual Stated, I hope that the support I have been shown in the West will continue as I proceed, pending a favorable ballot, to the East. We get off to a roaring start next year with the District Deputy Grand Master making his first official visit to Kempsville at the January Stated. For those of you wondering, Willis V. Fentress is moving its January Stated to January 15th. This will allow them to enjoy New Year's Eve and not have to recover in a timely manner to have it on New Year's Day. In February, the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen, will be making his Tiled official visit for the 56th District, and he has chosen Kempsville to host this occasion. This meeting will be short on business (as possible) and then after he assumes the East he will sit on the level with the brethren for a town hall meeting. He wants to hear the concerns of the 56th district. If you have something to say to the Grand Master about how Grand Lodge can better support the subordinate lodges, this is your chance to tell him. All the information he gets from this meeting will be taken back to the Council and compiled with other district's input to improve the relationship with Grand Lodge. It should prove to be a very interesting evening of discussion. Get your thoughts together and prepare to ask or tell the Grand Master exactly what you think.

As this is the last ASHLAR of the year, I want to extend a happy holidays to you and your families. Remember, without them, we are only half the men we could be.

Brother Adam Green, Senior Warden.

From The South



Greetings my friends and brethren! As mentioned in October's Rough Ashlar, the September Lodge Picnic was a tremendous success. This was made possible in large part by the dedication of Brother Hank Foiles and

Wor. Roger Cort, as well as the numerous other "Sous Chefs" who assisted. Additionally, the sign-up sheet for hourly volunteer work at the picnic also proved to be successful, both in terms of the total number of helpers and because the help was spread out evenly throughout the day. It was nice to see that, by the end of the picnic, we actually had more brethren pitching in than hoped for, making it possible for us to finish the clean up much earlier than anticipated. Congratulations to all of you for doing such a stellar job. I also want to thank the Shrine Hillbilly Band for putting on an entertaining show.

Brother Bill Rawson should be commended for arranging a very well-received Past Masters' Night. Although I was down in the kitchen during that evening, I heard lots of applause and laughter. I suspect that may have been due to the uniqueness of the ritual (especially "Rhode Island Ritual), prestige of those honored, and because we had three Grand Masters sitting in the East, West, and South, respectively. Like the Lodge Picnic, many brethren responded to my request to help out in the kitchen. Specific acknowledgment should be given to Brothers Bill Peterson, Joe Salt, Jerry Hallal, Chris Riley, and Brandon Angel for their assistance.

To date, we have 17 brethren committed to attend Grand Lodge in its entirety as well as several others who will be coming to Richmond during the day. As has been the custom, we will once again have a Kempsville Lodge Hospitality Room open to any and all brethren. As a reminder, the dates of Grand Lodge are Thursday, November 8th through Saturday, November 10th.

I want to thank all of the brethren who have been helping me over the past several months to prepare for my first attempt at the King Solomon's role for the Master Mason's degree (October 2nd) and sitting in the East to welcome Most Worshipful George Bernard Dungan, Jr., on our Junior Warden's Night (October 9th). Worshipfuls Buddy Pate and Roger Cort have been particularly kind in their tutelage.

Here is some brief Masonic trivia with which to close. By rearrangement of the initials of the words Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, you can spell "A MASON."

Brother Ron Jacobson, Junior Warden

Masonic Recognition Day

Don't forget, Brethren, Masonic Recognition Day is the first day of each month. Wear your Masonic paraphernalia proudly!

Shut Ins...

Let's keep these Brethren and their families in our thoughts and prayers. I'm sure they'd appreciate a phone call or visit.

RW Richard A. Davis III.....497-1227
 Brother Grady McGuire.....494-0778
 Worshipful Bobby Spruill.....466-8341

Masonic Veterans for 2007

October	Michael J. Orman	25 years
	Larry C. Nelson, Sr.	25 years
	George E. Fausel	25 years
November	Richard D. Diffie	25 years

Get the Rough Ashlar via Email!

If you'd like to begin receiving our monthly newsletter, the **Rough Ashlar**, via email, simply send email address to emmett@epate.com and I'll add you to the list. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on what's happening at your lodge.

Worshipful Buddy Pate

Trestle Board

October 9Stated Communication Junior Warden's Night Grand Master's Official Visit Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

October 13.....Masonic Home Family Day
 October 27.....Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
 November 9-10.....Grand Annual Communication
 Richmond, VA

November 13.....Stated Communication Honor the Military Night Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

November 19.....District Blood Drive
 Lynnhaven Lodge, 3-7:30PM

December 4.....Willis V. Fentress Annual Stated
 December 5.....Princess Anne Annual Stated
 December 6.....Bayside Annual Stated
December 11.....Kempsville Annual Stated
 December 12..... Virginia Beach Annual Stated
 December 13.....Lynnhaven Annual Stated
 December 15..... Kempsville Installation of Officers

56th Masonic District Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will be November 19th at Lynnhaven Lodge (3 to 7:30PM). In an effort to

increase attendance and improve service, we're using the American Red Cross scheduling web site. Simply visit www.givelife.org and use the sponsor code "vbmasons" to choose your time.

If you donate blood or platelets outside of our blood drives, please be sure to let me know.

Brother John Preddy, Lodge Blood Coordinator

What Constitutes A Good Mason

A salesman breaks down in a remote country lane in the highlands of Scotland, a farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they are "Brothers".

The salesman is concerned as he has an important appointment in the local town. "Don't worry says the farmer, you can use my car, I will call a friend and get the car repaired while you go to the appointment".

Off goes the salesman and a couple of hours later he returns but unfortunately the car is awaiting a part which won't arrive until the next morning.

"It's not a problem," says the farmer, use my telephone and reschedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight and I will see that the car is done first thing!

The farmer's wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening. The salesman sleeps soundly and when he awakes, there is his car, repaired and ready to go. After a full English breakfast the salesman thanks them both for their hospitality.

As he and the farmer walk to his car he turns and asks "my Brother , thank you so much but I have to ask, did you help me because I am a Mason?"

"No" was the reply, "I helped you because I am a Mason".

Submitted by Rt. Wor. Tom McGowan, LEO

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Roger Cort	467-5349
Senior Warden	Adam M. Green	615-1659
Junior Warden	Ronald S. Jacobson	343-3460
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bill Nolan	467-2252
Senior Deacon	Jonathon Jones	535-1241
Junior Deacon	William H. Rawson	467-5913
Chaplain	Ross O. McLeod	343-0332
Senior Steward	Meade E. McCubbin	716-2590
Junior Steward	Todd L. Herbst	965-9489
Marshal	Joe T. Salt	481-0652
Musician	Robert S. Foxwell	490-2797
Tiler	Wor. Chris Jaeger	893-9253
Instructor of Work	Wor. "Buddy" Pate	404-8594
Education Officer	RW Tom McGowan	497-3881
Blood Coordinator	John Preddy	439-3225