



The Rough Ashlar

Kempsville Masonic Lodge, #196 A.F.&A.M.
4869 Princess Anne Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Stated Meetings 2nd Tuesday @ 7:00PM
Dinner @ 6:00PM
Work Nights @ 7:00PM

From the East...



I have to start this month by thanking all of you for your continued support, phone calls, emails, cards and prayers during my latest health battle. Hopefully this will be it for the year.

Once I get back on my feet, I plan on staying there. I know that your concerns for me have helped me a great deal over the past 16 months. They continue to help and Jill and I are so grateful to have such a supportive Masonic family. Thank you.

I would also like to convey my great appreciation to Brothers Ron Jacobson and Bill Rawson for keeping the lodge running smoothly in my absence. They have done a skillful job and I hope you all appreciate their efforts as much as I do. Thank you, Brothers Ron and Bill.

Busy times are again coming upon us. Navy Night is the end of this month and we will be passing a brother to the Second Degree in Masonry. It has always been a special evening and this year will be no exception. It will also be my last Navy Night as an Active Duty member. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

The Bull Roast is fast approaching. Right Worshipful Tom McGowan and Worshipful Don Meyer are working hard to make this the best one yet. But they cannot do it alone. We all need to pitch in and lend a hand. Our biggest issue is clean up at the end of the day. That is where we need the most help. Please make time in your day to come back to the lodge around 4pm and help get things settled. The more folks we have then, the easier it will be. Also, do your part to make this day a success. Sell you tickets, bring your family out, and support our scholarship fund and the Masonic home.

Fraternally,
Brother Adam Green, WM

From the West...



Spring has arrived! Although with the erratic change in temperatures, it reminds me of the "vicissitudes and inclemencies of the seasons" as noted in the Fellowcraft's lecture. For those

of you who were fortunate enough to attend Past Master's Night on March 25th (organized adroitly by Brother Dave Borntrager), you witnessed excellent and entertaining ritual by the former Worshipful Masters of Kempsville Lodge and a very moving talk by Right Worshipful Cliff Whitlock. RW Brother Whitlock spoke on the parallels between Freemasonry and Easter in that they both encompass themes of resurrection/renewal and becoming enlightened.

As of the moment of this writing, I am pleased to report that Worshipful Adam had successful colon surgery and has returned home for rest and rehabilitation. His time line for coming back to the lodge has yet to be determined, although if I know Adam he will have trouble sitting still for very long.

I would like to take this time to send out a special thank you to Brother Hank Foiles, Wor. Roger Cort, Wor. Bob Stanek, our Stewards (Michael Johnstone and Stewart Swygert), and all of those good brethren who work hard in the kitchen to make events like Irish Sweethearts' Night, Past Masters' Night, and breakfast fundraisers such as the one just completed for Autism Awareness Month so memorable.

Speaking of the lodge breakfast, last month's fundraiser for the Families of Autistic Children In Tidewater (F.A.C.T.) was a resounding success! On behalf of my son, Garrett, who has autism, I cannot begin to express my gratitude to those brethren who donated their time and money for this worthy cause. The unveiling of the World's Largest Puzzle Piece (as sponsored by F.A.C.T. and YOUR donations) will be on Sunday, April 27th from 2:00p.m. - 5:00p.m. at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

In closing, Brother Michael Johnstone has asked me to mention the Scottish Rite's Spring Reunion, scheduled for Saturday April 26th. Two of Kempsville's officers, Rob Worthington and Bill Peterson, will be initiated on that day. If you can attend, I know that they will appreciate your support.

Fraternally,
Brother Ron Jacobson, SW

From the South...



Good News, Good News Brethren, another exciting month on tap for April as witnessed by the Trestle Board. Two raisings, a triple passing, Lodge breakfast and yes, it's time again for Navy Night, always an exciting event to look forward to in our Lodge. Be there or be...left out.

But first a quick look back to March and a hearty congratulations to Adam for a very successful Irish Sweethearts Night, and to all for the large turnout for the Lodge breakfast. Hank and his crew did a great job cooking for such a worthy cause and I'm sure the proceeds will be put to good use by the Autism Awareness organization. Past Masters Night came off without a hitch as Worshipful Creasy and the gang knocked off some of the rust and took control again. The guest speaker was outstanding and enjoyed by all in attendance.

In 1799 English Freemasonry almost came to a halt due to a Parliamentary Proclamation. In wake of the French Revolution, the Unlawful Societies Act, 1799 banned any meetings of groups that required members to take an oath or obligation. The Grand Masters of both the Moderns and the Antients Grand Lodges called on the Prime Minister William Pitt, (who was not a Freemason) and explained to him that Freemasonry was a supporter of the law and a lawfully constituted authority and was much involved in charitable work. As a result Freemasonry was specifically exempted from the terms of the Act, provided that each Lodge's Secretary placed with the local "Clerk of the Peace" a list of the members of his Lodge once a year. This continued until 1967 when the obligation of the provision was rescinded by Parliament.

"I know I am getting better at golf because I'm hitting fewer spectators" Bro. Gerald R. Ford.

Always clear in the South,
Brother Bill Rawson, JW

Trestle Board

April 8 Stated Communication
April 12 (Sat) Fellowcrafts Degree, 10AM
Special Simultaneous Conferral
April 15 Degree Work as needed
April 22 Degree work as needed
April 26 Lodge Breakfast, 8 to 10AM
Support Project Lifesaver
April 29 5th Annual Navy Night
May 6 Dark, Attend Fentress Stated with
Special Presentation
May 13 Stated Communication
National Sojourners Flag Presentation

Masonic Birthdays for April

William Carl Butler '01	Thomas A. Niedermeier '80
Jaime Cabeza '04	Brian E. Parton '01
Allen Kenneth Chandler '87	George C. Peters '81
Shirley Ray Connard '91	Waymon D. Porter Jr. '96
Dennis Lee Driscoll '02	John M. Rice '84
Louis Page Dunn '77	George F. Roberts Jr. '64
John Alan Flowers '98	Alaric J. Roche Jr. '64
Lemuel David Foxwell '75	Cristian C. Rodriguez '04
Mikel Thomas Golden '03	Michael A. Sachs '88
Ernest Aubrey Graham Sr. '62	Michael L. Smith Sr. '82
Gunnar Gudjonsson '00	William E. Spruill Sr. '71
George Louis Gunter '69	John P. Stublen Jr. '76
Donald Ray Hammons '88	Charlie B. Taylor Sr. '59
Richard McCallister Hanly '74	Robert J. Tidwell '77
Robert G. Lockwood '49	Donald C. Timmerman '98
Joseph H. McCoy Jr. '62	William C. Twiford '64
Alton L. McKeithan '50	Victor J. Vince '93
Terrence P McNally '78	Larry E. Watts '80
Michael R. Moseler '72	Thomas E. Whited '74
Richard E. Neisinger '74	

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Adam M. Green	615-1659
Senior Warden	Ronald S. Jacobson	343-3460
Junior Warden	William H. Rawson	467-5913
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bill Nolan	467-2252
Senior Deacon	Robert S. Worthington	464-2398
Junior Deacon	David Borntrager	404-7236
Chaplain	Bill T. Peterson	237-5249
Senior Steward	Michael D. Johnstone	334-3013
Junior Steward	Stewart W. Swygert	589-5660
Marshal	Joe T. Salt	481-0652
Musician	Robert S. Foxwell	490-2797
Tiler	Wor. Chris J. Jaeger	893-9253
Instructor of Work	Wor. "Buddy" Pate	404-8594
Education Officer	RW Tom McGowan	497-3881
Blood Coordinator	John Preddy	439-3225

Articles for the next next Rough Ashlar should be submitted by 5/1/2008 to Brother Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com).