



The Proud Father

Father/Son Night

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Dinner at 6PM, Lodge at 7PM

*Featuring Most Worshipful John Randall Quinley
and a Special Presentation by the Kempsville
Chapter of the DeMolay*

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

The Ashlar
Kempsville Lodge #196 AF&AM
4869 Princess Anne Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23462



The Ashlar



March 2009

Kempsville Lodge #196, AF&AM

www.kempsvilleglodge.org

Tracing our Masonic roots back to 1786...

Volume 12-3

From The East



Think outside the box! Brethren, these are the words emphasized by our District Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Emmett Moseley "Buddy" Pate, Jr., as he makes his way from one lodge to another for his official visits. Several of us were in attendance for his official visit to Lynnhaven Lodge in mid-February. This occurred in the aftermath of the tragedy involving Worshipful Joe Hagerman's family. Thus, the idea of pulling together as "one sacred band or society of friends and brothers" seemed very poignant. On behalf of Grand Master Hodges, Right Worshipful Buddy noted the importance of building relationships outside of our own lodges (outside that "box") to include visitations with other lodges, seeing families, and supporting causes in the community. In the past month, I have really enjoyed such visits as the Fentress Lodge Chili Cook-Off, two of Right Worshipful Buddy's official visits to other lodges, and a special in-home presentation of the 50-Year Masonic Veteran's Emblem to one of our "shut-ins" - Brother Henry A. Young. Brother Young, affectionately known as "Brother Albert," was gracious, humbled, and appreciative. If you could have been there to see the look on his face, it would have touched your heart.

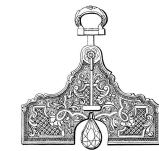
One of the goals of this year's team of Kempsville Lodge Officers is to improve communication with the brethren. Three of the ways that we have attempted to achieve this have been: (1) To arrange for The Ashlar to be mailed to all of the brethren on a monthly basis and to include shorter articles but from a greater number of brethren, (2) To print and make available a one-page (two sided) 2009 Calendar of Events so that brethren can quickly verify upcoming lodge events, and (3) To call all of the brethren having Masonic birthdays within a particular month to invite them (and any of their special lodge buddies) to come out to the Stated Communication to celebrate their birthdays.

I have two big events to promote for the month of March. On Saturday, March 7th, we will have our Division Leadership Conference in Newport News.

This is a great opportunity for both education and fellowship. You will leave knowing more than you did when you came and also depart with a smile. And, on Tuesday, March 10th, we will have the first Kempsville Lodge Father-Son Masons' Night. As most of you know, this has been endorsed as a District-wide event. Expect a full house. Expect some surprises. Expect to leave feeling like you were a part of something that may not happen again in your Masonic journey.

Brother Ron Jacobson, Worshipful Master

From The West



Brethren, tucked away in our subconscious minds is an idyllic vision in which we see ourselves on a long journey that spans an entire continent. We're traveling by train, and from the windows we see scenes of cars on nearby highways, children waving at crossings, cattle grazing in pastures, smoke pouring from power plants, row upon row of cotton and corn and wheat, flat-lands and valleys, city skyscrapers and village halls.

But uppermost in our minds is our destination--for at a certain hour and on a given day, our train will finally pull into the station with bells ringing, flags waving and bands playing. And once that day comes, so many wonderful dreams will come true. So restlessly we pace the aisles and count the miles, peering ahead, waiting, waiting for the station.

"Yes when we reach the station, that will be it" we promise ourselves. "When we're 18...Win that promotion...Put the last kid through college...Buy that Mercedes...Pay off the mortgage...Retire." From that day on we will all live happily ever after.

Sooner or later however, we must realize there is no station in life, no earthly place to arrive at once and for all. The journey is the joy. The station is an illusion, it constantly outdistances us. Yesterday is a fading sunset; tomorrow is a faint sunrise. Only today is there enough light to live and love. So gently close the door on yesterday and throw away the key. It isn't the burdens of today that drive

