

Coming Up at Kempsville Lodge!

District Deputy Grand Master's Official Visit

Join us as we welcome
Right Worshipful Dennis Eugene Edwards
on the occasion of his official visit to our Lodge

February 9th – Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

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



The Ashlar



February 2010

Kempsville Lodge No. 196, AF&AM
www.kempsvill lodge.org

Volume 55-02

From The East



"What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve." Has always been one of my favorite sayings. But Brethren let me warn you, the mind can be a deceiving as well.

Case in point. Last month many of us showed up to the lodge all clean and shinny. Hair combed, clean shaven, tuxedoed with flowers pinned to our lapels. Right Worshipful Buddy's camera flashed to capture that moment in time for prosperity. We were all looking our best.

Monday evening at the Masters, Wardens, and Deacons meeting Right Worshipful Buddy had mounted these photos on our lodge picture board, and brought the finished product to the trunk of my car for transport to the lodge. Upon arrival, and without a glance, I placed the board on a table in the Fellowship Hall and hurried upstairs to Monday practice. I asked to have the board mounted back in its place of honor, at the head of the stairs - which Worshipful Bob Stanek did before leaving. After practice we left the lodge, giving the photo board no further thought.

Arriving at the lodge Tuesday evening for work night, I climbed the stairs and reaching the top I froze in my tracks. "Who's the old guy in the top hat?" I immediately thought to myself. There, at the top of this pyramid of photographs was Grandpa Rawson, looking just as he did when I was ten years old. Surely this can't be me. There must be some mistake, a prank, trick photography perhaps.

You see, in my mind's eye I'm still twenty-five years old. Standing tall, looking good, brown hair, bushy mustache, men's fright, women's delight. Well, that may be an exaggeration, but you get the point. I firmly believe that you are what you think you are. Think you can and you will. Think you can't and you won't. We are all a product of our thoughts.

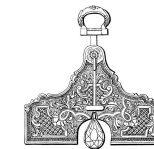
After studying the picture for a few minutes, I must admit to a few more wrinkles, and yes, my hair is starting to gray. But as I stood there I began to smile. I realize it's not so bad looking like

Grandpa Rawson. After all, he was a heck of a guy....too.

Just a reminder everyone, the February Stated is Sweethearts Night, and the District Deputy Grand Masters Official Visit. Be sure to bring your significant others to dinner. Program to follow.

Hope to see you in Lodge soon,
Brother Bill Rawson, Worshipful Master

From The West



The curtain has opened on another year at Kempsville Lodge, as did our opening night jitters. Our Worshipful Master recovered as only he can, and all present seems to enjoy the show. Great job everyone.

I hope that everyone has looked at our website and have scrolled through the many interesting features. If you have not, please take a look. Buddy Pate and Bob Stanek have done a great job composing the information and digging through the records in the archives of our lodge for posting on the site.


I have been thinking about our lodge's health recently, chiefly our financial health. We are in pretty good shape, but we could be doing better. I am not asking for money, but I would like you to consider something. Every year around October the secretary sends out due notices, and every year we mail our payment back. Would you like those due notices to go away forever? They can, if you invest in a Life Membership in Perpetuity (LIMP). This program is a win-win-win for everyone involved. The member wins by never having to pay dues once the plan is paid in full. The lodge wins because a dues notice is no longer required for that member. No postage, no waiting for return mail, no other action required. The lodge also wins because the amount you pay returns to the lodge every year as a credit from Grand Lodge. Think about this, this year our lodge paid Grand Lodge an assessed fee of just over \$10,000. Last year we paid a little over \$13,000, so we are moving in the correct direction. Now think about this, a Norfolk lodge recently paid their assessment which was \$220 dollars. Another Norfolk lodge received a check from Grand Lodge

as they had an overpayment. Our lodge dues are fairly low compared to others in our area, and are at risk of increasing. Last year there was a resolution to increase Grand Lodge assessment; it failed, but rest assured it will be on the floor for discussion again. Every member right now has the opportunity to lock in our current lodge dues rate, make payments and stop the annual dues notice from coming. Our secretary has all the details and will work with you to create a plan that works for you. Please consider this win-win-win opportunity, if you are able.

Please check the upcoming events for meetings, degree work, lodge breakfasts, and fellowship time. Join as you can.

See you at lodge soon,
Brother Michael Johnstone, Senior Warden

From The South


 I would like to start by saying that the Most Worshipful William Earle Rorer, Jr. Grand Master of Masons in Virginia official visit to the 56th Masonic District at Bayside was an outstanding event attended by many Kempsville Officers, Past Masters, Past DDGMs and Brethren. As usual, Brothers Bud Marchman and Hank Foiles, assisted by Worshipful Bob Stanek, Wors Roger Cort, and Brother David Meers put on a great meal. There were 244 distinguished guests, Brethren and their Ladies in attendance. Most Worshipful Rorer spoke briefly, but his message of “patience” and “Forget Not the Duties” hit to the core of our Masonic Fraternity.

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers the Brethren and their Families who are suffering loss, hospitalized, or ill; our active duties members who are protecting our Masonic and Constitutional Freedom’s against wanton acts of terrorism, and especially those who are in need in Haiti.

Finally, I need your assistance on the degree teams. I’d like your participation either on a degree team or on the side line. If you want to participate please contact me. Thank you!

Brother Bill Peterson, Junior Warden

Brother Secretary, Clear Your Desk!

 I recently received a phone call from a Lodge brother living in California; he told me he had not received his 2010 dues notice. Having mailed out about 400 dues notices, I am not surprised that our US Postal Service might have lost one or two (tongue-in-cheek). Brethren, all 2010 dues notices have been mailed to the

address I have on file for you. If you did not receive a dues notice for 2010, and are reading this, please contact me so I may re-send your 2010 Lodge dues notice, as it is now payable.

At this writing, with 455 members on the rolls, I await 2010 dues from 100 members. Sadly, 14 members still owe their 2009 and 2010 dues; but, most regretfully, 15 members owe their dues for 2008, 2009 and 2010. Your Lodge depends on dues income for the day-to-day operation.

If you may become in need of special assistance regarding any difficulty, or know of a brother who may be so, please contact the Worshipful Master or me. As you know, one of the most important principles of Freemasonry is charity.

Fraternally, Bob Stanek, Secretary

Youth Corner

Brethren, February is a busy month for both of our youth orders. The Job's Daughters will hold their Grand Visitation for the term on the 6th at 5PM. This will be a joint meeting with Bethel 46 from Norfolk. Please come out and support all these young ladies as they put together a wonderful meeting for their Grand Officers. A special thanks to Worshipful Tom Haste who filled in for me at our January meeting. He will be making additional guest appearances during the upcoming months.

The DeMolay will hold their annual "Honest Abe" spaghetti dinner on the 13th from 11AM to 7PM. This is great opportunity to bring your sweetheart out to dinner the night before St. Valentine's Day. Cost is \$6. The Chapter will also hold its installation of officers on the 20th. Dinner will be at 5PM preceding the installation. Please come out and show your support for these gentlemen as they embark on a new term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Brother Justin Gray, Youth Advisor

Got Blood?

Remember when you were a kid and your favorite baseball team was playing on the west coast and you woke up early in the morning and went to get the newspaper only to find out that the score was not available at press time? Well, my brethren, the same situation existed as the deadline for the Ashlar approached. The game had not begun and the score was not yet known, but let me assure you that the Kempsville team had nine all-stars who had committed to step up to the plate and to give their blood in support of the District’s Blood Drive.

MVP honors are given to John Preddy, Shep McClenny, Ray Connard, Bill Rawson, Adam Green, Bob Johns, Michael Johnstone, Rob Worthington, Bob Stanek and anyone else who

stepped into the batter’s box, dug their feet into the ground, keep their eye on the ball and hit it out of the park.

We scored at least nine runs and most probably several more. I don’t know if that was enough to make the lead story in the sport’s section. Heck, I don’t even know if we won the game, but I do know this; the real winners were the people whose lives our Lodge helped save that day.

Jerry Hallal, Lodge Blood Coordinator

Trestleboard

January 30Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
February 2 Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
February 6 Jobs Daughters
Grand Visitation, 5PM
February 9 Stated Communication
DDGM Official Visit & Ladies Night
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM
February 13 DeMolay Spaghetti Dinner
\$6, all you can eat, 11AM-7PM
February 20 DeMolay
Installation of Officers, 5PM
February 23 Master Mason Degree, 7PM
February 27 Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM
March 9Stated Communication
Father/Son Night
Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

For the latest, up-to-date schedule, check our web site at
www.kempsvilleglodge.org.

Masonic Birthdays for February

Alex Harvey Adkins '76	Glenn L. Gilman '78
David H. Armstrong Jr. '77	William Franklin Grice '70
Scott Edward Bateman '99	Robert Hunter Johns '05
Timothy L. Blackstone '01	Kenneth W. Lancaster '05
George F. Boggs, Jr. '77	Marvin Boyd Lancaster '05
Albert Lindsey Creef Sr. '62	Gordon William Moffat '47
William Johnson Davis '49	John Mark Nuzum '02
Charles Frank Edwards '70	Galen Keith Rogers '99
Edward Joseph Foley '93	Joseph Max Snook '65
Lewis Jackson Forrest '85	Ronald Lee Stukey '81
Glenn Douglas Fraser II '80	Osmay Torres '08
Shane Lee Fuson '04	Arthur F. Wadford, Jr. '08

The Brethren shown above have a total of 594 years in Masonry!

Masonic Veterans for 2010

February	Lewis J. Forrest	25 Years
March	Michael S. Polychroni	25 Years
April	Warren C. Massey	60 Years
	Alton L. McKeithan	60 Years
May	Russell P. Tjepkema	25 Years
June	William S. Erikson	60 Years
October	Daniel E. Connor	25 Years
November	Russell L. Houston	25 Years
December	Rubin Kravitz	50 Years

From the Grand Master...

Remember, the first day of every month is Masonic Recognition Day:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William Earle Rorer, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, desiring the Masons in Virginia to be more pro-active in this area, do hereby proclaim that all Lodges holden under this Grand Lodge shall observe Masonic Recognition Day on the first day of each month. This recognition should take the form of wearing of Masonic apparel such as hats, shirts, jackets, belts, etc.

Most Worshipful William Earle Rorer, Jr.
Grand Master of Masons in Virginia

Welcome to Kempsville!

Welcome to our newest member, Brother Onrubio L. Florendo, raised on January 26th.

Brethren, please consider making a donation to the Lodge Building Fund. Any contribution is greatly appreciated. (Submit donations to the Secretary.) Thank you!

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	William H. Rawson	467-5913
Senior Warden	Michael D. Johnstone	334-3013
Junior Warden	William T. Peterson	237-5249
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bob Stanek	495-7645
Secretary Emeritus	RW Bill Pierce	804-226-4181
Senior Deacon	Wor. Steve A. Ridgeway	270-7338
Junior Deacon	Gerald T. Hallal	472-1200
Senior Steward	Jack Bell, Jr.	831-0318
Chaplain	John R. Preddy, III	495-0771
Marshal	David Bortrager	404-7236
Musician	Robert H. Johns	467-8804
Tiler	Bob Lankford	499-0115
Instructor of Work	RW Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Blood Coordinator	Gerald T. Hallal	472-1200
Youth Advisor	Justin Gray	338-7218

Articles for the next next Ashlar should be submitted by 2/20/10 to RW Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or Worshipful Bob Stanek (rstanek1@cox.net)