

*Coming Up
at Kempsville Lodge!*

Annual Stated Communication

December 13th
Lodge Opens at 6PM, Dinner 7PM

Open Installation of Officers

December 17th - 2PM

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



The Ashlar



December 2011 Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M. Volume 56-11
www.kempsvill lodge.org

From The East



This should be my last article as your Worshipful Master. It has been a great privilege to serve you and our lodge during 2011. This year is coming to a close and my time sitting in the East will be ending soon. Thank you for this honor. I trust that my actions have been acceptable.

My time of occupying The East, sadly, will soon be over. A new slate of officers is poised to assume their stations and places to continue the labors of our lodge. Their plans have been drawn up and will soon be unveiled.

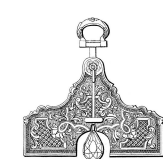
We have had a wonderful year here at Kempsville Lodge. We have raised 21 new members. We have affiliated 5 members and reinstated 2 members. We have participated in the Grand Master's "Get Fired Up" Program and were honored for our efforts during the Grand Annual Communication. We have traveled to various lodges and have assisted our sister lodges in various activities. I wish to thank everyone that has participated in these great and important undertakings.

It is with sadness that we have had to say our final good-byes to several members, to a sweetheart or two, and spouses of our members. Let us ever remember them and their families as we seek peace knowing that they now reside with our Supreme Grand Master.

In closing, I have been invested with several honors this year, but the greatest is being your Worshipful Master. When I knocked on the West Gate of our lodge I was simply looking become a "better man." This journey to The East has been an experience I will not long forget. Remember Time, Patience, and Perseverance will accomplish all things. Thank you for traveling with me and let us begin the next leg of our journey.

Brother Michael Johnstone
Worshipful Master

From The West



First, I want to thank all the Brethren and Officers who supported the Lodge this year with our annual fund raisers; preparing, serving and cleaning-up after each Stated or end of the month breakfast; as well as Lodge visitations, and degree work. You obviously have a choice to either support the Lodge or occupy your time elsewhere.

Next, I want to thank both Jobe's Daughters and DeMolay with the removal of the dining hall furniture in preparation of having the dining hall and kitchen floor professional cleaned. I am looking forward to working with you next year! A special thanks goes to Brother Dave Borntrager who was present from 3:45 AM to 4PM on the day the floor was cleaned. I also want to thank Wor. Bob Stanek, Brothers Jerry Hallal, Dennis Eaton, Joe Salt, and again Dave Borntrager with moving the furniture back into the dining hall.

I am also pleased to inform the Brethren that Worshipful Michael Johnstone was one of a group of Worshipful Masters' recognized at the Grand Annual Communication for his successful programs this year. Let us all congratulate him on a job well done.

Additionally, I'm looking forward to the Annual Stated Communication and I hope to see the dining room and Lodge full to capacity with the Brethren and their ladies in attendance.

Finally, I want to wish all of you Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, etc., during this Holiday Season. Again, remember those who are in need during this tough economic time. Keep in your hearts and prayers, our widows, those who are serving our country, those who are living alone and those we may have lost contact with. Looking forward to seeing you in the Lodge next year!

Brother Bill Peterson, Senior Warden

From The South

December is a time for giving. Many people give to fulfill the customs and traditions of the Christmas season. People flock to the stores in search of that special something for that special someone. People buy iPhones and iPads, jewels and attire, and many other presents that will bring joy to another on Christmas morning, but we, as Masons, give throughout the entire year.

The gifts we give are not found in a store or in a mail order catalog. They are given spontaneously, they are greatly appreciated, always remembered and their impact could last a lifetime.

They are words of friendship and encouragement that we give to another Brother. They are gestures and motions that silently convey to another that we are with him, understand and in most cases have been there before. Sometimes it takes only a wink of the eye or a slight nod of the head to inspire and encourage one to continue through a difficult time or an awkward moment.

They are smiles that have the power to uplift a person when they are down and to make a good day even better. Sometimes only three or four words is all it takes to turn someone from failure to success, from darkness into light. It is our goal to help everyone improve themselves in Masonry and life in general. These are the gifts that the Brethren of Kempsville give each other.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah. May you be a source of light to all and may your stocking always be full.

Brother Jerry Hallal, Junior Warden

Welcome to Kempsville!

Brother Thomas R. Sutherland and Timothy R. Berkhimer – affiliated November 8, 2011.

Brother River Morris – Raised November 10, 2011 , courtesy work performed by Circle Lodge No. 638, F. & A.M., Madison, MS.

Masonic Veterans for 2011

December Robert Shelburne 50 Years

Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep these Brethren and their families in your thoughts and prayers:

- Brother George Boggs – 461-7939
- Brother Grady McGuire – 495-0778
- Brother Leslie Miller – 420-7560
- Brother F. B. “Nick” Nickerson – V.A. Hospital.

A Proclamation

Most Worshipful William T. Ellison, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, desiring the Masons in Virginia to be more pro-active regarding Masonic recognition, proclaims 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. Further, each Mason is encouraged to hold every day as Masonic Recognition Day by studying a portion of the Methodical Digest, Presentation Volume, other Masonic books or pamphlets, and the Volume of Sacred Law, as well as hold discussions with well-informed Brethren that his actions may conform to the most favorable kinds of public recognition. This recognition is not limited to Craft, or symbolic recognition, but is meant to include all appendant organizations of the Masonic family including the youth organizations.

Masonic Birthdays for December

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lincoln Figuereo '01 | Roger J. Rowe, Jr. '92 |
| Ejnar O. Jorgensen '53 | Robert M. Shelburne '61 |
| Rubin Kravitz '60 | Norman L. Shepard '78 |
| Michael Lombardo '48 | James Reginald Smith '94 |
| Timothy M. Maguire '01 | Alfred Lee Vanhorne '54 |
| Jessie R. Ritchie '92 | David H. Weast '87 |

The Brethren shown above have a total of 411 years in Masonry!

Trestleboard

- December 5 Ritual School, 7PM
December 12 Ritual School, 7PM
December 13 Annual Stated Communication
Lodge 6PM, Dinner 7PM
December 17 Open Installation of Officers for 2012, 2PM

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

Table Lodge



Most Worshipful Edmund Cohen (Grand Master, 2008) and Most Worshipful Donald Maynard Robey (Grand Master, 1987) attend the October 29th Table Lodge.

To Our Masonic “Sweethearts”

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in December:

Louise Slagle – December 15th

And “belated” Birthday wishes to:

Margaret Bush – November 11th

If any of our ladies are in need of assistance from the Lodge, please don't hesitate to contact the Worshipful Master, Secretary, or Right Worshipful Bill Knowles (757-495-0626).

Youth Corner

Bethel 42 invites everyone to the installation of officers at 6 PM on the 18th of December. Please come early and enjoy some light refreshment prior to the ceremony. Please congratulate Kylie Johnson and Natasha Cook for their outstanding performance as Bethel 42’s representatives in the annual Miss Job’s Daughters Pageant. Both did a fantastic job.

Kempsville Chapter will be hosting a dance to benefit Toys for Tots on December 10th at Bayside Lodge. If you would like to make a donation of a toy or cash, please see your friendly DeMolay and make checks payable to Toys for Tots. Come by the day of the dance or see a Chapter Member prior to the 10th.

Both groups would like to thank Worshipful Michael Johnstone and the members of the lodge

and members of the Kempsville Eastern Star Chapter for their support over this past year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Kempsville’s Masonic Youth.

Justin Gray, Youth Advisor

Fall Past Masters' Night



16 Past Masters attended the September 27th Past Masters' Night.

A Short Course in Human Relations

The six most important words: “I admit I made a mistake.”
The five most important words: “You did a good job.”
The four most important words: “What is your opinion?”
The three most important words: “If you please.”
The two most important words: “Thank you.”
The least important word: “I.”

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Michael D. Johnstone	334-3013
Senior Warden	William T. Peterson	237-5249
Junior Warden	Gerald T. Hallal	472-1200
Treasurer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Secretary	Wor. Bob Stanek	619-7646
Secretary Emeritus	RW Bill Pierce	804-226-4181
Senior Deacon	Terry L. Bledsoe	288-5928
Junior Deacon	John R. Preddy	495-0771
Chaplain	Scott Foxwell	490-2797
Musician	Robert H. Johns	467-8804
Marshal	Gregory C. Muir	676-3761
Tiler	Thomas Beverly	496-3499
Instructor of Work	Wor. Adam Green	615-1659
Education Officer	Wor. Bill Nelligar	456-0034
Blood Coordinator	John R. Preddy	495-0771
Youth Advisor	Justin Gray	338-7218

Articles for the next Ashlar should be submitted by the 20th of each month to RW Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or Worshipful Bob Stanek (bob.stanek@gmail.com)