



The Ashlar



April 2014

Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M.
www.kempsvillelodge.org

Volume 61-4

From The East



What are symbols and why does Freemasonry use symbols in its teachings? A symbol is something that stands for or suggests something else by reason of relationship, association, convention or accidental resemblance. Symbols are at once universal and very personal. Through the use of symbols Freemasons all over the world and from very different cultures share a common language. We may not be able to carry on a conversation with a Brother from a distant land, but we share a common experience and we recognize the lessons we've been taught through our symbols. Symbols are the best manner in which to teach these lessons because once studied and understood, symbols make an indelible impression upon the mind. They are an innate or natural means of conveying wise and serious truths that once learned will become and remain a part of one's soul.

For the Freemason, an ear of corn near a stream of water denotes plenty, the Doric order of architecture is strength, and the sprig of acacia reminds us of immortality. Certain symbols might conceivably stand for a number of different things, and their precise application is derived from the immediate context. Thus, warmth, light, fire and day regularly stand for "life". The twenty-four-inch gauge can represent the twenty-four-hour day, and also accuracy. The square stands for morality, but also for the Worshipful Master. In the First Degree the darkness is the darkness of ignorance; in the Third, it is the darkness of death. Every character, figure and emblem has a moral tendency and serves to inculcate the practice of virtue.

A symbol's associations go far beyond its simple pictorial meaning. It can sometimes be used not merely to facilitate thought, but even to shape it. Who can be afraid of death if it is symbolized by putting out to sea or falling asleep? "So live, that when thy summons comes to join the innumerable caravan which moves to that mysterious realm, where each shall take his chamber in the silent

halls of death, thou go not like the quarry-slave at night, scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams." [Bryant Thanatopsis]

Worshipful Steve Ridgeway, Worshipful Master

From The West



Now that the long-awaited Spring has sprung, I hope it is not too late to suggest and encourage attendance at the Reid Simmons Academy for Masonic Leadership. This year it will be held from July 31st through August 2nd at the Best Western Plus in Waynesboro, Virginia. It has been my pleasure to attend the past two summers. Besides our resident C.o.W., Right Worshipful Buddy, whose Masonic "job" it is to be there, Past Master Jerry Hallal has also attended.

It has been very enlightening for me educationally, ritually, and brotherly to participate in this event. The first year I focused on ritual. Last summer I was able to complete two correspondence courses. Both years I delighted to meet brothers from all over the state, share ideas, success stories, concerns, and begin planning to be Master.

I have been jealous of Poquoson Lodge. Both years, they have had a tremendous showing of between 6 – 12 brothers attend as a retreat for building teamwork and fellowship. It is my hope that several of my lodge brethren will attend this year. Please see me or Buddy to ask any questions or visit www.grandlodgeofvirginia.org and click on Masonic Education on the right hand side for more information. It is a fun few days.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Senior Warden

From The South



As an American Revolution buff and a retired naval officer, I have decided to call your attention to Masonry's place in the service of our country and in particular the symbology of the Father of our country's place. The most salient thing that represents this to me is the painting of General Washington praying at Valley Forge. As a Freemason I see the General approaching God in a humble manner, the way each of us have been taught to approach Him. I see the General with his left leg visibly forming the angle of a square. I see a black-and-white checkerboard pattern in the horse's bridle above his head. The same pattern in Lodge rooms reminds us of the duality of moral choices—there is right and wrong. The imagery of isolation reminds me of the loneliness and isolation I felt beneath the hoodwink at my initiation.

The process of becoming a Freemason requires a lot of self-reflection. The image of Washington in solitude reminds me that much of the "building of our moral and Masonic edifice" occurs when we engage in moments of solitary self-reflection. A sailor's moment of reflection could come on the mid-watch, during a period of heightened tensions, when he loses a shipmate, or at other times specific to each seagoing man. In the end, the comfort of knowing we have shipmates at our side carries us through to sail another day. This is the same feeling we get from the Brethren who are always there to stretch forth their hand during our times of personal tests. Admiral Arleigh Burke once said "the ship is great because of the people in her, without them she is an inert mass of steel." The same can be said for our Lodge, the Brethren are Kempsville Lodge, without them the building is mere bricks and mortar. I hope to sit in Lodge with you soon!

Brother Greg Muir, Junior Warden

Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep these Brethren and family members in your thoughts and prayers.

Brother James D. Boone (Daughter) -
recovering from recent surgery.
1701 South Woodhouse Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
757-496-9595

Trestleboard

March 29 Monthly Breakfast, 8AM
March 31 Fellowcraft Examination
followed by Ritual School, 7PM
April 1 Master Mason Degree, 7PM
April 7 Master Mason Examination
followed by Ritual School, 7PM
April 8 Stated Communication
Speaker: Most Worshipful Wayne Sawyer Flora,
Grand Master, 6PM
April 12 C. Frank Hicks Area Ritual School
(Districts 36/56)
8AM-12PM at Lake Drummond Lodge
April 14 James H. Parkerson Area Ritual School
(Districts 36/56), 6PM
April 15 Master Mason Degree, 7PM
April 21 District Blood Drive, 2PM-7PM
April 21 Ritual School with Bayside Lodge, 7PM
April 22 Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
April 26 Monthly Breakfast, 8AM
April 28 Ritual School, 7PM
May 5 Ritual School, 7PM
May 12 Ritual School, 7PM
May 13 Stated Communication, 6PM

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

Masonic Veterans for 2014

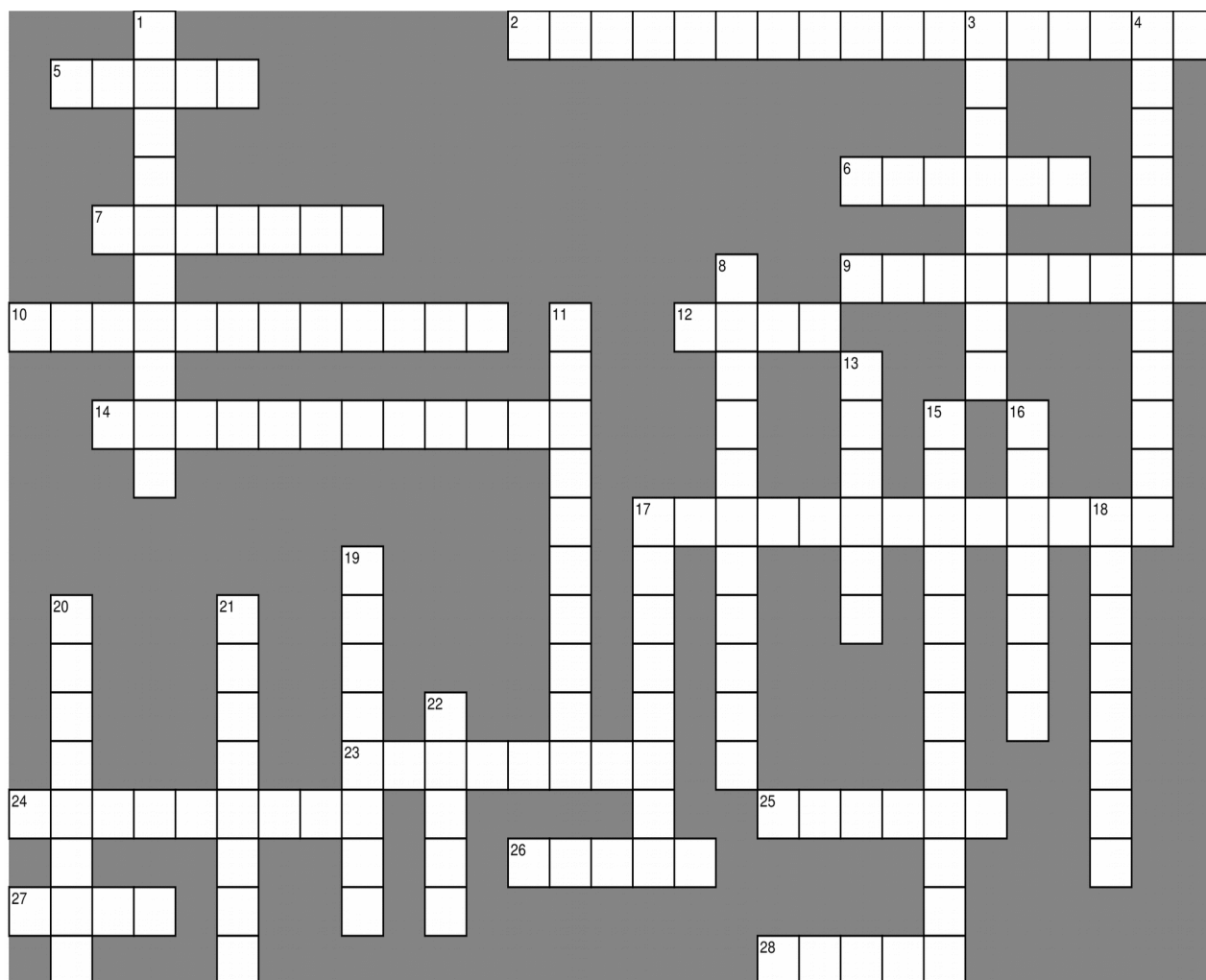
April	George Frank Roberts, Jr.	50 Years
	Alaric James Roche, Jr	50 Years
May	Robert Eugene Williams	50 Years
June	Clifton Essley Smith	25 Years
July	William Thomas Parks, III	25 Years
September	Jesse Luther Monroe	25 Years
	Archie Richard Nobles	50 Years
October	Robert Halstead DeFord, Jr.	60 Years
November	Joe Emerson Brown	50 Years
	William Keith Cole	25 Years
	Donald Lee McBride	60 Years

To Our Masonic "Sweethearts"

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in April:

Cheryl Farrer	April 2 nd
Judith Maprstek	April 7 th
Sherry Vancampen	April 7 th
Rita Kelberg	April 14 th
Virginia Joiner	April 17 th
Mary Lou Cochran	April 20 th
Paige Mason	April 29 th

If any of our ladies are in need of assistance from the Lodge, please don't hesitate to contact Right Worshipful Bill Knowles or the Secretary.



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 2 first Degree (two words)
- 5 in the shadows at meridian
- 6 Jewel of the Master
- 7 extends beyond the grave
- 9 skilled craftsman
- 10 a listener
- 12 Pillar of Strength
- 14 Lodge Marshall (two words)
- 17 correct name for a Blue Lodge (two words)
- 23 Hiram, King of Tyre was a widow's son of the Tribe of _____
- 24 Great Light in Masonry (two words)
- 25 an ear of corn is an emblem of _____
- 26 where Mason's meet to work
- 27 duad plus triad
- 28 when the Grand Lodge is opened by the Grand Master, it is said to be opened in _____ form

DOWN

- 1 science engaged in the properties and powers of numbers
- 3 the level inculcates _____
- 4 not legal. A body of Masons uniting in a Lodge without the consent of a Grand Lodge
- 8 where the Temple of Solomon was built (two words)
- 11 a symbol of abundance
- 13 rough or perfect
- 15 the art of constructing dwellings
- 16 Worshipful Master 1982
- 17 one of the five human senses
- 18 teaches the powers and properties of magnitudes
- 19 absence of knowledge
- 20 one of the liberal arts and sciences
- 21 Lodge Treasurer
- 22 an emblem of innocence

Wisdom

Long ago it was said that "through wisdom a house was built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with pleasant riches". Time has shown that the House of Wisdom must be founded upon righteousness, justice, purity, character, faith in God and love of man, else it will fall when the floods descend and the winds beat upon it. What we need to make our social dreams come true is not more laws, not more dogmas, not less liberty, but better men, cleaner minded, more faithful, with loftier ideals and more heroic integrity; men who love the right, honor the truth, worship purity, and prize liberty—upright men who meet all horizontals at a perfect angle assuring the virtue and stability of the social order.

From the Builders by Joseph Fort Newton
Submitted by Right Worshipful Tom McGowan

March Crossword Answer

Across	Down
2. Tuscan	1. ineffable
6. waft	3. affiliation
7. Solomon	4. Ford
9. allude	5. hope
12. cubit	8. operative
15. CloudedCanopy	10. Demolay
18. ruffians	11. benediction
20. arithmetic	12. compasses
23. Eaton	13. McGowan
25. AhimanRezon	14. Fellowcraft
26. Atheist	16. astronomy
27. BeeHive	17. geometry
28. contrive	19. Stanek
29. relief	21. Chapiter
	22. Harrison
	23. Jachin

Youth Corner

Spring has sprung, and Kempsville’s Masonic Youth have been busy this past month.

Bethel 42 visited with several of the 56th Masonic District’s lodges this past month, and Kempsville’s young ladies hosted an ice cream social for the members of Kempsville Lodge after the March stated. Many thanks to our brethren who turned out and helped make Bethel 42’s Chili Cook-Off a huge success. Bethel 42 will be traveling to the Masonic Home in April to visit with the residents

and spread some Easter cheer, and a number of Bethel 42’s members will be competing in a statewide ritual competition in Northern Virginia later in the month.

March 16th kicked off DeMolay Week, which is observed annually by DeMolays throughout the world as they participate in activities exemplifying the seven cardinal virtues of DeMolay. Kempsville DeMolay planned and participated in a number of these events, including attending a local church service and taking part in the Ocean View Saint Patrick’s Day Parade. Gavin Martin was installed as the chapter’s Master Councilor, and the term’s new officers assumed their stations on March 8th.

Kempsville DeMolay meets the 1st Thursday at 7PM, and Bethel 42 meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 2PM. Kempsville’s Masonic Youth always appreciate looking out and seeing you on the sidelines, and Master Masons are always welcome and are encouraged to attend.

Brother Cliff Williams, Youth Advisor

Masonic Birthdays for April

David Edward Boyd '88	Todd C. Moissett '11
Jaime Cabeza '04	Michael Roy Moseler '72
C. G. (Dean) Carras '03	Richard Earl Neisinger '74
Allen K. Chandler '87	Thomas A. Niedermeier '80
Shirley Ray Connard '91	Brian Edward Parton '01
Dennis Lee Driscoll '02	Emmett R. Reynolds '11
Louis Page Dunn '77	George F. Roberts, Jr. '64
Aaron Jacob Dyer '12	Alaric James Roche, Jr. '64
Thomas C. England '11	Cristian C. Rodriguez '04
Christopher M. Favata '10	Michael Allan Sachs '88
Justin Allen Flowers '12	Michael Lee Smith, Sr. '82
Lemuel David Foxwell '75	William Earle Spruill, Sr. '67
Gunnar Gudjonsson '00	John Peyton Stublen, Jr. '76
George Louis Gunter '69	Charlie B. Taylor, Sr. '59
Robert G. Lockwood '49	Robert James Tidwell '77
Warren Cord Massey '50	Christopher Allan Urick '12
Joseph H. McCoy, Jr. '62	Thomas G. Webber, Sr. '63
Alton L. McKeithan '50	Samuel Grant Welty '05
Terrence P. McNally '78	

The Brethren shown above have a total of 1,078 years in Masonry!

Masonic Blood Program

We have all received many gifts from God and blood is one of those special gifts. With all the advances in science, we cannot manufacture blood; it can only come from generous donors. The only

The Basis

A fire that rages throughout the land,
one that no one fully understands.
A hammer that shatters rocks to fragments,
yet gathers islands like a magnet.
Forever thriving, never dying.

Full of might and power,
and so darkness it will devour.
Often forbidden,
but never totally hidden

Many are against it,
that which thirty-three writ.
Sixty-six books in one,
all About a Father and His Son.

Always new never old,
makes shy boys men, strong and bold.
It is alive and in no way dead,
keep it in your heart not just your head.

A double-edged sword that cuts straight to
the heart, yet never tears the flesh apart.
Makes the blind to see,
and the imprisoned set free.

Settles angry men’s disputes,
and false prophets it does rebuke.
What is this that so many overlook?
but the ONE the ONLY God’s Holy Book

Written by the son of Breda Kellogg, G.K. Acord,
Assistant Lecturer of District 32 and
Past Matron of Virginia Beach Chapter No. 75,
Order of the Eastern Star

Community Service

Thanks to the following Brethren, Family and
Friends who participated in the clean-up of
Stratford Chase Recreational Park as part of the
Adopt-A-Spot Program on March 15th.

- Worshipful Bill Peterson (Chairman)
- Worshipful Steve Ridgeway
- Brother Karl Wesseler
- Brother Matt Zardeskias (with Daughters
Megan, Sydney and Molly)
- Mr. Robert Moore

The next clean-up is scheduled for May 17th,
weather permitting.

Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Steve A. Ridgeway	270-7338
Senior Warden	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Junior Warden	Gregory C. Muir	676-3761
Treasurer	Bill Nelligar	536-4100
Secretary	Bob Stanek	619-7646
Senior Deacon	Chris Anders	635-7617
Junior Deacon	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Senior Steward	Michael Johnstone	334-3013
Junior Steward	Jackson Bell	831-0818
Chaplain	Karl Wesseler	439-1858
Marshal	Dickie Cooper	971-7347
Tiler	Dennis Eaton	671-1187
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Bill Rawson	724-4867
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Patrick Blankenship	406-6166
Youth Advisor	Cliff Williams	870-2539

Articles for the next Ashlar should be submitted by the 18th of each month to
Right Worshipful Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or
Worshipful Bob Stanek (bob.stanek@gmail.com)

