



# The Ashlar



April 2023

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

Volume 68-04

## What's in a Name?

"Ancient Masons," was the name assumed by a body of Masons who, in 1738 seceded from the regular or legal Grand Lodge of England. They did this because of changes the Institution made on the ritual work.

The Ancients called themselves "Ancient Free and Accepted Masons" and were the new Lodges. They practiced the old ritual work and condemned the Moderns, as they called them, for changes made in that work. The Moderns, were called "Free and accepted Masons" and were the old Lodges of England. They adopted the new style of ritual work formed by Anderson, Preston, and others.

These differences kept the two bodies apart to the extreme, that there would be both in the same community and sometimes, side by side. They would clam the same jurisdiction and argue over who was right and who was clandestine.

In 1813 the two bodies resolved their differences and joined hands, but the Lodges were spread through out the world, and particularly in America. They turned out to be impossible to align. Both are recognized by the Grand Lodge of England and both have the same rights and benefits which are accorded a legal Lodge of Master Masons. Although you will find the different Lodges in United States their jurisdictions are limited to each state. This is why we have:

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons  
Ancient Free Masons  
Free and Accepted Masons  
and on and on.

## From The East



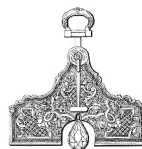
Well, I hope by this month the brethren can see some lodge improvements happening. We have been extremely busy with District work and it should finally slow some so we can concentrate more on lodge improvements that I have planned and move toward the Table Lodge and Bull Roast. With the help of your brethren we had a successful visit from the GM and our sister lodge in England, rebuilt the ladies bathroom, improved the Fez display, identified the scholarship recipients, an Outstanding Youth Award, a Community Builder's Award and identified a possible Eagle Scout Grand Lodge Award.

I am so proud of Kempsville for continuing to support our youth and community by making masonry visible in the community.

Please continue your support through mentorship and training of our new brethren. Come out to assist in projects on the grounds, Saturday morning breakfast, Bull Roast, Lodge Picnic, Assist a widow. Complete a masonic correspondence course, get in line, learn a part in a degree. You already know the part, you went through it already, pay it forward to the next brother. The first thing I did was learn the SD walking lecture after I was raised, and now I am in the oriental chair, still learning and have personal goals to achieve in the future. Don't just be a seat warmer.

Brother Pat Blankenship, Worshipful Master

## From The West



There once was a time when Freemasonry was a common late mystery outside of the brethren. Yes, decades before the internet and before Hollywood decided to use our noble craft as a fictitious storyline, people had no idea what went on inside the walls of their local lodges. They only knew that their questions remain

on, answered. As a result of this much speculation took place. The only thing people knew is a glimpse of the men they could witness going in and out of their local lodge. This is where much of the misdirected and flat out wrong stories are derived. When people are in ignorance, they will desire for themselves. Masons have been both criticized and praised for their influential role in U.S. history.

George Washington reached the top level of the Masons on August 4, 1753, securing the leadership of the influential lodge in Alexandria, Virginia. Washington was not alone among the founding fathers some scholars say as many as twenty-one signers of the Declaration of Independence were Masons. Many historians note that the Constitution and the Bill of Rights both seem to be heavily influenced by the Masonic civilities which focuses on freedom, free enterprise, and a limited role for the state.

It was no secret Washington was a Freemason which led many to view it positively even though Freemasonry remained a mystery.

Today more s known of the generous nature of our craft both within and without our walls. And speaking of the internet, new candidates are warned to avoid trying to find answers on the internet whereas most references may be close but not 100% accurate. Do you remember your days learning your catechism's?

Just remember our craft is not to be defended to those whom speculate incorrectly. Our actions speak for themselves!

Brother Doug Dunn, Senior Warden

## From The South



We continue to grow as a lodge. We are swiftly moving toward our One Day Conferral with several of our officers exemplifying the degree work. We currently have Five candidates who will be participating and two others working on their individual degrees. Brother Jay Kepplinger stood his Master Mason Catechism in front of the Lodge in March and really impressed our visiting English brethren. Kempsville also raised Brother Reyes to the sublime degree of Master Mason in March. Come out and participate in Kempsville's degree work and help make Good Men Better.

Brother Mike Turner, Junior Warden

## Trestle Board

March 25 ..... Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM  
 March 28 ..... Master Mason Degree, 7PM  
 April 8 ..... Area Ritual School  
                     Lake Drummond Lodge No. 178, 9AM  
 April 10 ..... Area Ritual School  
                     Bayside Lodge No. 218, 6:30PM  
 April 11 ..... Stated Communication  
                     Junior Warden's Night  
                     Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM  
 April 17 ..... District Blood Drive, 2-7PM  
 April 29 ..... One Day Conferral  
                     Princess Anne Lodge No. 25, 7:30AM  
 April 29 ..... Lodge Breakfast, 8-10AM  
 May 9 ..... Stated Communication  
                     Dinner 6PM, Lodge 7PM

## Masonic Birthdays for April

Charles R. Bateman, Jr. '14	Terrence P. McNally '78
David E. Boyd '88	Todd C. Moissett '11
Allen K. Chandler '87	Michael R. Moseler '72
S. Ray Connard '91	Thomas A. Niedermeier '80
Aaron J. Dyer '12	Brian E. Parton '01
Thomas C. England '11	Emmett R. Reynolds '11
Christopher M. Favata '10	G. Frank Roberts, Jr. '64
Justin A. Flowers '12	Alaric J. Roche, Jr. '64
L. David Foxwell '75	Cristian C. Rodriguez '04
John A. Gabor '92	John R. Settle, III '15
George L. Gunter '69	Charlie B. Taylor, Sr. '59
James K. Ingraham '19	Thomas G. Webber, Sr. '63

## To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special lady in April:

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.

## Correspondence Courses

Brethren, There had been some difficulty with the Grand Lodge Correspondence Courses the last couple of years. If you are seeking the Oriental chair, a thorough knowledge of the Methodical Digest and Laws of the Grand Lodge is essential. Not only that but, your lodge needs you to complete courses for the Noah Hillman Award!

Follow this link information and advise Worshipful Blankenship that you are working on a course and when you complete a segment.

Grand Lodge Correspondence Courses are available at the following website:

<https://courses.vamasons.org/>.

Click on "Registration Form" on the top toolbar and follow the instructions.

I recommend only signing up for one course at a time rather than all four at once. If you select all four, the administrator of the program holds on to completion certificates until all four courses have been completed, which makes it difficult to confirm course completion for points towards the Noah Hillman Award.

## The British are Coming!

Actually, they already came and went.

A wonderful fraternal visit occurred at our March Stated Communication. Three Masons from the United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) attended from Somerset Province. Two are members of Unanimity & Sincerity Lodge No. 261 (our Zoom "Sister Lodge"), and one member of Richard Huish Lodge No. 8518. Both lodges meet in the Masonic Temple at Taunton, UK. You can visit their website at:

[www.somersetfreemasons.org](http://www.somersetfreemasons.org)

UGLE Masons attending were Worshipful Peter Bland, Worshipful Charlie Barker, and Worshipful Guy Adams. Of note, our member Worshipful Rob Lockwood has affiliated membership in Lodge 261.

While here, they also attended the Grand Master's Official Visit; we also took them to visit Williamsburg Lodge No. 6.



Worshipful Pat Blankenship greeting our visitors in the East



The dedication of our joint-apron display in the lodge (a similar display hangs in Lodge 261)



Worshipful Peter Bland presents Worshipful Lockwood's UGLE membership certificate.

We share weekly non-ritualistic fraternal fellowship via Internet Zoom broadcasts each Sunday. If you might be interested in joining this Zoom meeting, contact the Secretary.

## Food Share

Greetings Brothers, as of March 18<sup>th</sup>, our donations are good. \$120.00 in cash and 3 of our collection tubs are full. With several weeks left in March we have the potential of a banner month. As you come

to enjoy lodge breakfast, please consider bringing a donation for our food share project.

As most of you know this is an ongoing year round project, sadly hunger and those in need of assistance is always present. The church we support, Courthouse Community Methodist Church is very appreciative of our donations as are the hundreds of families they assist every month. I thank you in advance for your generosity.

Bob Hughes, Food Share Coordinator.

## 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Bull Roast

Well brethren as you can see it is that time again! Our annual fundraiser was a fast approaching. Please sell or buy your enclosed tickets and if you can assist in the dining hall or clean up crew, please let you Junior or Senior Wardens know. It's always a fun day! A lot of work but still fun. Worshipful Pat, usually found at the grill, will be "working the crowd" but I feel confident he will still be out assisting this years grill master Worshipful Brother Roger Taylor. Remember, the bull roast is how we are able to provide two annual scholarships to two deserving young students as well as make our annual gift to MAHOVA! This only happens because of you! We can't wait to see you on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>!

## Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	Pat Blankenship	406-6166
Senior Warden	Doug Dunn	781-389-6557
Junior Warden	Michael Turner	581-4239
Treasurer	Chris Anders	635-7617
Secretary	Bob Stanek	619-7646
Senior Deacon	Keith Ingraham	613-5474
Junior Deacon	Howard Draper	515-3540
Senior Steward	Todd Moissett	604-3085
Junior Steward	Scott Sherman	597-1150
Chaplain	James Boone	515-0131
Musician	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Marshal	Dickie Cooper	971-7347
Tiler	Ricky Natoli	305-924-5945
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	William Rawson	724-4867
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Michael Blankenship	438-2862
Youth Advisor	Eddie Foley	581-8144