



# Freedom Lodge No. 118

*The Southern Least Lodge in Virginia*  
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia  
<http://FreedomLodge118.org>

Stated Communication – Oct 7, 2016  
Dinner at 7p, Lodge at 8p

OCTOBER 2016

VOLUME 2016, NUMBER 10

## 2016 Officers

### **Worshipful Master**

J. David King  
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### **Senior Warden**

Chuck Wyant

### **Junior Warden**

Wes Hirschhorn

### **Treasurer**

George Facer

### **Secretary**

George Shoemaker, Jr.

### **Senior Deacon**

Mark Shapiro

### **Junior Deacon**

Mark Canter

### **Senior Steward**

Brad Westerman

### **Junior Steward**

Mariano D'Aguiar

### **Chaplain**

Ray Mauk

### **Marshal**

David Kirk

### **Tiler**

Dick Bond

### **LIW**

R. Harris McGarrah Jr.

### **LGO**

Dick Phillips

## From the East

### **Masonic Rule of Thumb**

Greetings Brethren:

September has had several great masonic fellowship and milestones which included the annual District 2 Picnic, Freedom Lodge hosted an Open House and supported the VA CHIP Event for the Lovettsville Oktoberfest on Saturday 9/24. We have submitted our 2016 Hillman application before the October 1, 2016 deadline. With a few months left in 2016, we have several more masonic events planned which includes November 2016 Grand Annual Communication (11/9-13) and Freedom Lodge Election in December with an open installation (12/2).

This month's highlighted Master Mason has illustrated that Masons are measured by the size of one's heart and not overall height. Born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on January 4th, 1938, Charles Sherwood Stratton was confirmed by doctors that he would never grow anymore, leaving Charles to live his life standing at 3'4". General Tom Thumb became a Freemason on October 3, 1862. Stratton, by now 2 feet 11 inches tall, was sworn in with a man 6 feet 3 inches.



While standing near half the height of the average guy was no problem for Stratton, under the wing of his cousin, businessman and circus legend P.T. Barnum. Barnum taught him the arts of performance, educating him in singing, dancing, comedy, and impersonation. Charles became the world-renowned impressionist for his Napoleon Bonaparte act. Stratton was perhaps most well-known as General Tom Thumb. During his time in Europe, Tom Thumb donated a huge portion of his fortune to a relief fund for victims of the Irish Potato Famine.

The funeral of General Tom Thumb took place on July 19, 1883. Every effort had been made to have it as quiet as possible, and no display was made. His body was enclosed in a walnut casket covered with broadcloth and trimmed with Masonic emblems. The plate bore the simple inscription: "Charles S. Stratton, aged 45 years." The services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Fairbanks. The Mayflower Lodge of Masons escorted the body to the train which conveyed it to Bridgeport, Connecticut.

-David

P.S. – [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General\\_Tom\\_Thumb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Tom_Thumb)

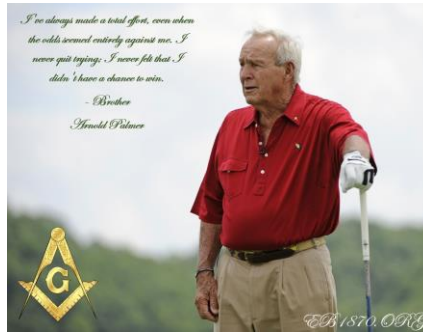
**Golf Legend, Humanitarian, Freemason**

Brother Arnold Palmer has passed to the Celestial Lodge at the age of 87. He was a longtime member of Loyalhanna Lodge No. 275 in his hometown of Latrobe, Pennsylvania, and a 33° Scottish Rite Mason.

Brother Palmer was one of the first true celebrity golfers. He learned to play at the age of 4, and started his professional career in 1954. Throughout his lifetime, he would win 90 championships, and had his own platoon of dedicated fans nicknamed "Arnie's Army," who followed him from one course to the other to watch him play, and made the televised game of golf a popular programming choice in the 1960s. He was the first golfer to earn over \$1 million playing the game and largely responsible for the popularity of golf for the last half century.

Relief is a principle Brother Palmer held dearly as Brotherhood and Truth. He served as Honorary National Chairman of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation for 20 years. In addition, he played a major role in fundraising for the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and Women in Orlando, Florida. In his hometown, he is a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Latrobe Area

Hospital and established a major annual fundraising golf event for that institution in 1992. Brother Arnold Palmer's humanitarian awards included the Order of Eagle Exemplar, U.S. Sports Academy; Arthur J. Rain Award, Catholic Youth Association, Pittsburgh; Lawman Humanitarian Award, Los Angeles; the Theodore Roosevelt Award, National Collegiate Athletic Association; Outstanding American Award, Los Angeles Philanthropic Foundation; Sports Legend Award, Jr. Diabetes Foundation, Pittsburgh; Humanitarian Award, Variety Club International; and my personal favorite, The "Good Guy" Award, American Legion National Commanders.



**October Masonic Birthdays**  
None

**Living Past Masters**

Larry D. Frye,	1983,2005-2007
Franklin C. Lamm,	1985
Roy Harris McGarrath, Jr.	1992-1995, 2011
Clifford S. Free,	1996-1999
Richard A. Phillips,	2000-2003
Gary R. Ing,	2004
George M. Shoemaker, Jr.,	2008-2010
Philip B. Brooks,	2012,2014
Thomas W. Brierton,	2013
Loyd Davis	2015

**Mark Your November Calendar**

- Nov 4 - Freedom #118 Stated
- Nov 7 – Olive Branch Stated
- Nov 8 – Ashburn Sterling Stated
- Nov 9-13 Grand Lodge, Richmond
- Nov 17 – Hamilton Thompson Stated
- Dec 2 – Freedom Stated – Installation of Officers (OPEN)

**Most Worshipful**

James Edward Litten  
Grand Master  
Grand Lodge  
of Virginia, A.F. & A.M.  
<https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org>



**October 2016**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Ashburn Sterling #288 Low Country Boil
2	3 Olive Branch #114 Stated	4 Ashburn Sterling #288 EA Degree Called Communication	5 District 2 Bowling Night	6 6:30pm FC Degree Freedom Called Communication	7 Freedom Stated Dinner 7p, Lodge 8p	8
9	10	11 Ashburn Sterling #288 Stated	12	13	14	15 Herndon Homecoming Parade and Lodge Open House
16	17	18	19 Freedom Meet-Up Fellowship 6:30p, Practice 7:30p	20 Hamilton-Thompson # 37 Stated	21	22
23	24	25	26 D2 School of Instruction at Freedom Lodge	27	28	29
30	31 Olive Branch Open House	