



Freedom Lodge No. 118

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

Stated Communication – May 2, 2014
Dinner at 7p, Lodge at 8p

MAY 2014

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2014 Officers

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Treasurer

Cliff Free

Secretary

George Shoemaker

Senior Deacon

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Wes Hirschhorn

Senior Steward

Mark Shapiro

Junior Steward

Brad Westerman

Chaplain

Ray Mauk

Marshal

Dave Kirk

Tiler

Dick Bond

LIW

Harris McGarrah

LEO

Dick Phillips

From the East

Greetings Brethren –

At the April Stated we received an interesting and well presented program from Brother David Lang regarding Sacred Geometry in Masonry. His program (along with others from this year) is posted on the Freedom web site for your reference. Freedom also received a new set of Officer gavels from RW Grant Routzohn. The gavels carry emblematic markings for each station and for Freedom Lodge as well. They are made of hickory and are quite substantial in their form. Freedom was again on the road during the month. In all, 8 Brethren were on hand for a Fraternal Visit to Olive Branch where we presented a program. Freedom closed the month by attending the Installation of Officers at the Herndon DeMolay Chapter.

At Freedom's Festive Board there was a great deal of terrific fellowship, good food, Masonic music, Masonic education, and a bounty of toasts. Our honoree – Brother Gene Ridgeway – was presented with the Hiram Award for his many years of dedication to the Craft in general and to Freedom in particular. Thank you Brother Gene!

At our May Stated we will have a couple of short programs on tap in addition to the normal business to be conducted. The 2 big events for Freedom in May are the Grand Master's Official Visit to District 2 on the 9th followed the next morning at the Lovettsville Game Club for a Child ID event (CHIP) and Blood Drive.

I hope you will join us to welcome the Grand Master to District 2. His visit will be held at Ashburn-Sterling Lodge. Refreshments at 6p and a tiled Lodge starting at 7p sharp.

The CHIP and Blood Drive will be on May 10 from 9 until 2. Come to donate blood, help man the tables, or assist by bringing others to support this important endeavor. CHIP provides parents with a complete record of their children to assist law enforcement should a child ever go missing. Blood donations provide the ONLY source for the literal "life's blood" to save those in need due to injury, surgery, or illness. There is no synthetic substitute for blood. No method to mine, harvest, grow or obtain it from any other source. You have the power to help save a life and fulfill one of your Masonic obligations – to assist others in need – just by rolling up your sleeve.

Looking forward into June, there will be at least 2 opportunities to Masonically travel in foreign countries. On June 3, please join me for a visit to General James Chambers 801 in Chambersburg PA. Dinner at 6:30 precedes their Stated. They will be celebrating their strawberry night. On June 13 there will be a Masonic Night at the Potomac Nationals. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy great fellowship along with watching some potential future stars play our national pastime. For our own Stated in June, the uniform of the night will be bib overalls as we celebrate our farming heritage. Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Philip Brooks

Worshipful Master

Please wish this Brother a Happy Masonic Birthday in May

Reginald Sanbower Jr (1984)

Correct in the West

Greetings Brethren

I was planning to give you my "5 Orders of Architecture" presentation at the May meeting until I looked at my calendar. I will be in Salt Lake City, UT that evening to attend the graduation ceremonies of a dear friend the following day.

This month, let us talk about the conspiracy theory called The New World Order. Here is a condensed version of information from Wikipedia. The New World Order is supposed to be a secret global group who wish to rule the world through a world government which replaces sovereign nation-state governments. The term was used by Woodrow Wilson and Winston Churchill to describe international organizations such as the League of Nations, the United Nations, and NATO, that would deal collectively with worldwide problems that were beyond the capability of individual nation-states to solve while respecting the right of those nations to self-determination. Note the difference between the intended objective and the conspiratorial objective.

Freemasonry is accused of having a hidden agenda to establish a Masonic New World Order. But this accusation ignores several facts. While agreeing on certain Masonic Landmarks, the many independent and sovereign Grand Lodges act as such. They do not agree on many other points of Masonic belief and practice. Individual Freemasons themselves hold beliefs that span the spectrum of politics. Hence the term "Masonic New World Order" has no meaning since these individual Freemasons also hold many different opinions on what constitutes good government. Remember this when you are confronted with such accusations.

On the Level,

Loyd Davis

PGM, Senior Warden

Right in the South

My Brothers

April was the beginning of the big thaw and a happy end to a very long winter. Many will be using their gardening tools to turn the once frozen soil and encourage Mother Nature to bloom its many beautiful spring creations. As the temperature rises, many will also begin home maintenance and repairs using tools such as hammers, paint brushes, and drills. The tool of the Junior Warden's office is the plumb. The plumb is a rare tool with which most people are not familiar. Webster defines a plumb as "a lead weight attached to a line and used to indicate a vertical direction". Other searched references build upon the "upright" concept.

The Holy Bible contains two verses referencing the plumb. Both are found in the book of Amos (Amos 7:7 and Amos 7:8). The Amos 7:7 verse states "the Lord stood upon a wall made by a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand". The references to the use of a plumb line in the Holy Scriptures are almost always that of The Lord's plumb line, how upright people stand according to His Word.

At the Festive Board, I recall several brothers using the words honest, trustworthy, and dependable to describe Brother Ridgeway. All attending the Festive Board would agree that Brother Ridgeway inculcates that integrity of life and undeviating course of moral uprightness which can alone distinguish him as a good and just man. Therefore, Brother Ridgeway and other Brothers at our Lodge are living examples of God's plumb line as upright Masons.

The Festive Board is a memorable way to share great fellowship and provides a perfect opportunity to recognize our Brethren. I look forward seeing you at the Freedom 118 May Stated.

By the Plumb,

J. David King

Junior Warden



May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Freedom 118 Stated - 8p 	3
4	5 Olive Branch 114 Stated - 8p	6	7	9	9 Grand Master's Visit to D2 Ashburn Sterling 6p	10 CHIP & Blood Drive at the Game Club 9-2
11	12	13 Ashburn Sterling 288 Stated - 7:30p	14	15 Hamilton Thompson 37 Stated - 7:30p	16	17
18	19	20	21 Meet Up & Freedom School 	22	23	24
25	26 Potomac 88 RAC Stated 7:30p	27	28 D2 School @ Olive Branch 7:30p	29	30	31

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