



Freedom Lodge No. 118

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

Stated Communication – June 5, 2015
Dinner at 7p, Lodge at 8p

JUNE 2015

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2015 Officers

Worshipful Master

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David King

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Chuck Wyant

Treasurer

Cliff Free

Secretary

George Shoemaker

Senior Deacon

Wes Hirschhorn

Junior Deacon

Mark Shapiro

Senior Steward

Brad Westerman

Junior Steward

Mark Canter

Chaplain

Ray Mauk

Marshal

Dave Kirk

Tiler

Dick Bond

LIW

Harris McGarrah

LEO

Dick Phillips

From the East

We Receive the Grand Master on June 23. That's Tuesday for those who live in Rio Linda.

Greetings Brethren

The highlight of June will be our called communication on June 23 to receive our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Reese Edward Carroll, Jr., the 170th Grand Master of the Commonwealth of Virginia. This will be a most interesting night. We will have an educational presentation, discuss our progress toward the James Noah Hillman Award, and lend an attentive ear to the address of the Grand Master. Suit and Tie required, a special meal will be provided

Our honored guest this month is our own Right Worshipful "Fast Black Caddy", George M. Shoemaker, Jr., PDDGM, WM³, Secretary⁵, who will take us back to the 19th century to discuss the latest in cybersecurity methods of that era.

For those of you who plan to travel in foreign countries (visit other lodges) I suggest you memorize the Tiler's Oath from the Manual of Work. A brother I know from Scottish Rite attended our Fraternal Visit to Ashburn Sterling Lodge last month, but there was no one present with whom he had attended Blue Lodge. Hence he had to stand an examination before the lodge was opened. Forewarned is forearmed!

I am requesting that you again accompany me to Ashburn Sterling Lodge No. 288 on Tuesday June 9 while I present an educational program required for the James Noah Hillman Award. Dinner at 6:30 PM, Lodge at 7:30 PM. Also, I definitely need your attendance at our Meetup and Lodge School on Wednesday June 17 to practice receiving the Grand Master. We need to look sharp and say the right things on this one.

Looking forward to a busy and fulfilling month of June at Freedom Lodge.

Loyd

Correct in the West

David King
Senior Warden

Greetings Brethren:

One of the most commonly celebrated holidays of the Virginia Masonic calendar is St. John the Baptist day. Celebrated on June 24th, St. John the Baptist day falls on the Midsummer's day known as the summer solstice and is often marked by festivals and celebrations. As Freemasons we should hold to this holiday to preserve a connection with the early men of antiquity. This day is directly related to the earliest of man's abstract thoughts to understand God and the world around him. As time passed and man's perception of the world changed, so did these sacred days, as well to adopt to the tenants of man's progress as to preserve the earliest understanding of light and life.

Our Virginia Masonic history is filled with several examples of St. John the Baptist celebrations. For example, George Washington's Masonic Activities recorded that he participated in the St. John the Baptist celebration on June 24, 1784 at the Alexandria Lodge in Alexandria, Virginia.

I have prepared a brief St. John the Baptist celebration presentation for our June Stated. I look forward to sharing this historic education with you and seeing you at our June degrees and practices.

On the level,

Br. J. David King
Senior Warden

June Masonic Birthdays

Mariano D'Aguiar	2010
MW Loyd E Davis	1973
Daniel M. Fleming	1979
Robert W LeGard, Jr.	1996
Robert W. Sagers	1970

Right in the South

Chuck Wyant
Junior Warden

Thank you to all veterans who by your sacrifice our freedoms allow our pursuit of Masonry without government intervention.

This stated will be the Annual Fest of the Strawberry with Jennifer Brooks' handiwork. Ice Cream, Whipped Cream, BBQ Chicken and a surprise new barbeque sauce with strawberry as the base.

I would like to do a work detail next Saturday at 1300 to clean the lodge, weed and mulch the walk of Masonry Gardens, remove the stumps, put the Marque up, and place notices. Dick Phillips has volunteered his backhoe to pull the up stumps. We will grade the area and prepare the bed for seed.

Your JW

Chuck

Calendar

Jun 1 Olive Branch 114 Stated

Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting 7:30 PM

Jun 5 Freedom 118 Stated

Dinner 7:00 PM, Meeting 8:00 PM

Jun 6 Work Day at the Lodge

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Jun 9 Ashburn-Sterling 288

Stated Meeting –

Fraternal Visit & Program

Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting 7:30 PM

Jun 17 Meetup & Lodge School

Pizza 6:30 PM, School 7:30 PM

Practice Receiving the Grand Master

Jun 18 Hamilton-Thompson 37

Dinner 6:30 PM, Meeting 7:30 PM

Jun 23 Freedom 118 Called

Grand Master's Visit

Dinner 7:00 PM, Meeting 8:00 PM

Jul 3 Freedom 118 Stated

3rd of July Grilling @ 6:30 PM

Community Builder Award

Mayor Robert J. Zoldos II @ 7 PM

Grill at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 8 PM

Aug 7 Freedom 118 Stated

Dinner 7:00 PM, Meeting 8:00 PM

Aug 8 Grand Master's OV

Official Visit to Districts 2 & 4

at Kena Temple

Aug 19 Meetup & Lodge

School

Pizza 6:30 PM, School 7:30 PM

Aug 29 1 Day Conferral 8 AM

Alexandria Scottish Rite

On the Left of the Master

RW George Shoemaker, Jr.
Secretary

Hello Brethren.

Greetings from the secretary's desk! Secretaries throughout time have been tasked to correspond with masons and non masons alike. Today's technology makes it convenient with email and text along with an occasional letter or card. Email and text allows the recipient to read the message and keep or delete on their electronic devices. While those messages can be read by others (data breach, compromised passwords), it is all in all a very secure method.

But what happens when you write a letter and send it via USPS? How would you send a message back in the 19th century and keep it secure so only the intended brethren would know the content? You would use a secret code! Come to Lodge for June's Stated and I will explain how masons used this code and show you an example of using and deciphering the code.

Lastly brethren, there are a small handful of you who still owe dues. The Lodge has remitted payment to Grand Lodge to cover your dues so please remit your dues to make the Treasury whole.

FastBlackCaddy@Yahoo.com

Living Past Masters

Larry D. Frye, 1983, 2005-2007

Franklin C. Lamm, 1985

Roy Harris McGarrh, 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