



Freedom Lodge No. 118

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

Stated Communication – August 1, 2014
Dinner at 7:00p, Lodge at 8p

AUGUST 2014

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2014 Officers

Worshipful Master
Philip Brooks
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Senior Warden
Loyd Davis

Junior Warden
J. David King

Treasurer
Cliff Free

Secretary
George Shoemaker

Senior Deacon
Chuck Wyant

Junior Deacon
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

Freedom celebrated our Nation's 238th birthday in grand fashion. Bro Chuck Wyant served as the grillmeister as friends and family joined us for an Independence Day cook out. Members of the Lovettsville Volunteer Fire Department turned out as the honorees for a Community Builders Award from the Lodge. RW WO Harrison presented 25 year service awards to RW Harris McGarrah, Bro Dick Bond, and Bro Ghorley Gregg. An outstanding evening to say the least!

In the meeting, the Nation's colors were presented accompanied by the Brethren singing the National Anthem. We then viewed a video explanation of the Pledge of Allegiance by Bro Red Skelton. We also had a discussion of the proposed bylaws updates. We will continue the discussion in August then ballot on the bylaws matter at the September Stated. Please do contact me should you have any questions regarding the proposal. Our Lodge LEO – Wor Dick Phillips – will have a presentation for us in August as well.

Freedom's Temple – being an historic structure – suffers from old building syndrome. Our Temple is in need of several repairs and upkeep to ensure that continues to be a viable meeting place for many years to come. The latest example of age is that our furnace is no longer safe for operation. Not a pressing matter at this time of year due to the season, but colder weather is not too far away. The initial estimate for replacement is in the \$3500 neighborhood. This amount doubles if we would look to upgrade the system and add central AC to the building. I request any Brother that is able to do so to please purchase a Walk of Masonry brick or make an outright donation to the Temple Fund to help defray the costs of the needed repairs. Whenever possible we should try to make the repairs ourselves to help contain costs. The goal is to keep Freedom's Temple in good operating order for many more years to come.

For our September Stated, wear your favorite Hawaiian shirt, relax and enjoy a presentation by our DEO Wor Kevin Homan. Don't forget the D2 Picnic on September 20 at Franklin Park in Purcellville. Bring your family out to enjoy the day, the food, and fellowship. The October Stated will be our Past Masters Night. We'll start the Halloween season a little early as I encourage you each to attend October's Stated dressed as a famous Mason. November will be our Wardens Night as each of the Lodge officers will advance a chair for the night. In December (hopefully being kept warm by our new furnace) we'll hold elections of officers for the 2015 Masonic year. I look forward to seeing each of you soon.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Philip Brooks

Worshipful Master

Please wish these Brothers a Happy Masonic Birthday in August

Dick Bond (1986) Cliff Free (1990) Wes Hirschhorn (2012)
Robby Miller (1995) Gene Ridgeway (1973)

Correct in the West

Greetings Brethren

In a folder on my hard drive named "Masonic History" I have a scanned copy of Samuel Pritchard's "Masonry Dissected" dated 1730. In those days, degrees and lectures were done in a question and answer format similar to our catechism format. It is quite interesting to see the ritual words we use today in that 1730 era book. The EA degree looks very much like our EA catechism. I also have a scanned copy of William Preston's "Illustrations of Masonry" dated 1867. By that era, the ritual was written in the form we now use. Section IV is entitled "Masonry considered under two denominations." This section contains many of the words we use in the Fellow Craft Lecture and the "G" Lecture (Receiving in the East). I mention these two examples to stress to you that we speak truly when talk about our rituals coming from ancient times. Also note that these are written rituals. There are written records of Scottish lodges in the 13th and 14th century, but most people is those times could not read or write. So most of masonry in those times and earlier worked from "mouth to ear" teaching. We still do that in modern Virginia Masonry, and as one who has done both "mouth to ear" and "Masonic Cypher," mouth to ear results in better ritual than Masonic Cypher. So as you move forward in your quest to master our ritual, take pride in the fact that you are continuing to do what those who have gone before you have done and plan to pass it on to those who follow you.

I am on tap to provide my "famous" beef stew for dinner at 7 PM. You won't want to miss it! I'll expect to see you there. Friday, the "oneth" of August.

On the Level,
Loyd Davis
PGM, Senior Warden

Right in the South

My Brothers

I extend a tremendous thank you to Brother Chuck Wyant for grilling a traditional 4th of July fare of hamburgers and hot dogs. Other Brothers brought watermelons, desserts, and other treats. It was great to share a meal with our special guests from the Lovettsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue, visiting Brethren, and other guests.

For the past eight months, our Stewards have done an outstanding job with helping to coordinate and prepare delicious meals before our Stated. The Lodge is in need of a few Brothers to fill the remaining two slots to provide dinner for our October and November Stated meetings. I'm looking for a few Brothers to help us close out another successful year of delicious meals that have greatly enhanced our fellowship and shared with our visitors

Freemason Factoid: George Washington was raised a Master Mason at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 on August 4, 1753 (almost 261 years ago).

Please come to the August Stated and enjoy Brother Senior Warden's Famous Beef Stew before the Stated meeting.

By the Plumb,
J. David King
Junior Warden



- Sept 5 – Freedom Stated (Hawaiian Shirt Night)
- Sept 20 – D2 Picnic at Franklin Park
- Oct 3 – Freedom Stated (Come as a famous Mason and Past Masters Night)
- Nov 7 – Freedom Stated (Wardens Night)
- Dec 5 – Freedom Stated (Elections)

August 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					1 Freedom 118 Stated – 8p 	2
3	4 Olive Branch 114 Stated – 8p	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Ashburn Sterling 288 Stated – 7:30p	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Meet Up & Freedom School 	21 Hamilton Thompson 37 Stated – 7:30p	22	23
24	25 Potomac 88 RAC Stated 7:00p	26	27 D2 School Ashburn Sterling	28	29	30

Lodge Mailing Address: Freedom Lodge, PO Box 293, Lovettsville, VA 20180