



# Freedom Lodge No. 118

*The Southern Least Lodge in Virginia*

**Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia**

<http://FreedomLodge118.org>

Stated Communication – Sept 2, 2016

Dinner at 7p, Lodge at 8p

SEPTEMBER 2016

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## 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

### **Ben's Friend and Masonic Brother**

Greetings Brethren:

This month's mystery Mason is one of the greatest minds in history as an ardent defender of the freedoms that our Founding Fathers extolled as inalienable and guaranteed to all mankind. Brother François-Marie Arouet was a French writer and philosopher; a good friend of Ben Franklin – who was the one who recommended François-Marie involved in Masonry while in France. Arouet was initiated in the Lodge of the Nine Sisters, at Paris, April 7, 1778.

François-Marie's musings on the rights of men have not only gone down in history as some of the best arguments for individual freedoms ever written, but the basis for so many National Constitutions all over the world. Ben Franklin and the Founding Fathers of the United States were his American Masonic connections and provided a major voice in the revolutions for freedom in the West in the late Eighteenth Century.

François-Marie was born in Paris on November 21, 1694 as the youngest child of a French nobles. His father was a lawyer and a member of the treasury in Paris, and François-Marie went to school to do the same. However, in school, François-Marie found that he had much more a taste for writing, both history and satire. During his college days, he wrote many pamphlets and became known throughout the nobility and population in general for his wit and wisdom. During these days, François-Marie often found himself in hot water for turning his pen and razor wit towards the government, speaking out against the monarchy and the oligarchs in favor of expanded civil freedoms. His ideas and papers landed him stints in jail more than once. His words were not just relegated to France, though. After the French King got sick of being mocked one too many times, François-Marie was exiled from Paris and spent years travelling through Switzerland, Prussia, and England, exciting the locals and irking the nobles wherever he went.

François-Marie Arouet is perhaps best known by his pen name: Voltaire. A revolutionary from a time of great upheaval, Voltaire spent his days arguing for the freedoms of the common man. Like many of his contemporaries, Masonic or otherwise, he was a man of honor, a champion of the people, and a defender of freedom.

-David

P.S. – <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voltaire>

## Correct in the West

Working at the Lodge is always a joy. Moving East is the old adage of "Walk a mile in my shoes" which comes is the reality of masonic life. Everything is backwards to where for the last 5 years, I was use to these "stations" and "places" have been. With the constant help of the Brethren I have now gotten through my first conferral and ready for the next. Challenges wait in learning ritual, remembering where I am at, and to get the job done. So much more to learn and yet just a small part of what Masonry has to offer. Special thanks to all assisting me in this journey.

Steve, it was great seeing you back in Lodge. Thank you for taking our youngest EA to the side and helping him learn proper Masonic things.

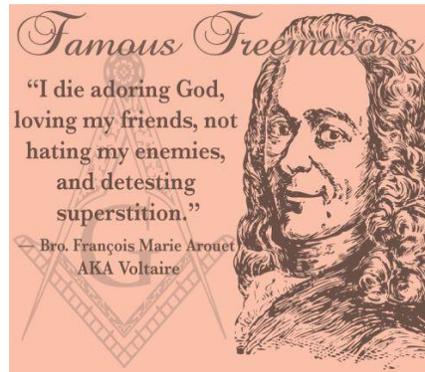
After a Saturday Called Communication, Worshipful David and I were leaving when a car pulled up, a man jumped out, and approached us. He and his wife have moved to town from Connecticut. He and his wife were looking for their new Masonic family. They were given the tour of the Lodge, their young son encouraged to explore the Lodge as was his wife. A brief history tour, nothing like that that one will get from Brother Harris, however I think we impressed them. His wife was so amazed that we took her and their son into the Lodge with open arms and toured. She commented "This is NOT permitted in Connecticut Lodges". So one more Brother to come with his family.

Later in the day my son John and I were up at the Lodge, hauling trash and recycles out and a vehicle pulls up. A Mason from the Cajun Lodge #119 DC stopped and greets us. He is moving into Loudoun County and working on the mountain. He and his wife given the tour and provided a petition after demits from his Lodge. Prior to stopping at the Lodge, he was at the Mad Horse and asked folks why they were not in the Lodge.

We would be pleased if these two men become Freedom members this year. I think we found a new method to get new members, just hang out in front of the Lodge and the new members will stop and petition for membership.

Right in the West, heading to the East

Chuck Wyant



## September Masonic Birthdays

Bradley C. Westerman

### 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 October Calendar

- Oct 1 - Ashburn Sterling #288 Low Country Boil -Public 4-8pm. Price \$20 Supports Lodge Scholarship Fund.
- Oct 3 - Olive Branch #114 Stated
- Oct 5 - District 2 Bowling Night
- Oct 7 - Freedom #118 Stated
- Oct 11 - Ashburn Sterling #288 Stated
- Oct 20 - Hamilton-Thompson # 37 Stated
- Nov 4 - Freedom #118 Stated
- Nov 9 - 13 - Grand Lodge, Richmond, VA

### Most Worshipful

James Edward Litten  
Grand Master  
Grand Lodge  
of Virginia, A.F. & A.M.

<https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org>



## September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Freedom Stated Dinner 7p, Lodge 8p	3
4	5 Herndon #264 Stated	6 District 2 SLOT AS #288 7pm	7	8	9	10 District 2 Picnic at Franklin Park
11	12 Olive Branch #114 Stated	13 Ashburn Sterling #288 Stated	14	15 Hamilton-Thompson # 37 Stated	16	17 Alzheimer's Fundraiser - O'Faolain 2pm until close
18	19 Herndon #264 Stated	20	21 Freedom Meet-Up Fellowship 6:30p, Practice 7:30p	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 District 2 School - Olive Branch #114 Lodge @7p	29	30	

