



Freedom Lodge No. 118 A F & A M

28 E. Broadway, Lovettsville, VA

www.freedom118.org

Stated Communication 1st Friday, 8:00 pm

From the East

Brethren,

This is the first Trestleboard from Freedom Lodge in a long time. I hope we will be able to issue it monthly. This Trestleboard will be used to keep you abreast of Masonic activities at the Lodge, within District 2 and throughout the Commonwealth. Hopefully it will also provide some Masonic education and status of the Lodge and its members.

My theme this year is “Let Your Little Light Shine.” As Master Masons we all know that we began our quest for Masonic Light by asking a friend for his recommendation to be made a Mason. Through this friend, and other Masons, we learned that Masonry existed and we must have seen something in Freemasonry that appealed to us. Otherwise we would not be here tonight. Where would you be had that friend or those friends, that got you interested in Masonry, had hidden their little Masonic light?

Well, I think we often hide the very light we have received in Masonry. And, while this may be true throughout all Masonry, my immediate concern is with Freedom Lodge 118. Brethren I believe this Lodge is at a crossroads. We have not raised a candidate in over two years. Last year we lost four Brothers to the Celestial Lodge Above and several were suspended for non-payment of dues. Our rolls were slim before this happened, but the last year just demonstrates how vulnerable we are. We can raise dues to stave off any financial burdens that arise, but if we do not grow our membership we will have no need for dues. The only true solution I see to our dilemma is growth. We have been fortunate over the last several years in having three Brothers affiliate with us, but this also is not the solution to our membership problems. All this begs the question, what can we do? Our community has grown a good bit over the last several years, but the Lodge has not. Maybe, just maybe, the newer men in our community don't know we exist. That, brethren, is why I chose the theme, “Let Your Little Light Shine.” To bring in new candidates we must let the community know we exist. I have several plans to accomplish this goal. We will be discussing them in Lodge and you will see more about them in future Trestleboards. We must, however, remember to guard the West Gate. Masonry is not for everyman, but for those we know are good men that would like to become better men.

I do see hope for the Lodge. We now have a line for the first time in quite a few years. Hopefully, with our support, these younger Brothers who have taken on the mantel of leadership of the Lodge will bring in those new or different ideas that we need to turn our problems around and help us build a strong and vibrant Lodge.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of you for electing me your Worshipful Master for this year and, while we have a lot of work ahead of us, I plan and hope we can all have fun this coming year. So, whether we are in Lodge or out in the community, let us have fun and

“LET YOUR LITTLE LIGHTS SHINE!”

In the future we will be providing the Trestleboard in electronic format to save money. If you are willing to receive the Trestleboard electronically, please provide your email address to: harrismcg@verizon.net.

If you prefer to continue receiving it in the mail you do not have to do anything.

Upcoming Events

Feb 4 Freedom 118 Stated
 Feb 17 DDGM Official Visit Hamilton-Thompson 37
 Feb 23 District School Hamilton-Thompson 37
 Mar 4 DDGM Official Visit Freedom 118 Stated
 Mar 7 DDGM Official Visit Olive Branch 114
 Mar 8 DDGM Official Visit Ashburn-Sterling 288
 Mar 17 Grand Master's Tiled Visit Hamilton-Thompson 37
 May 2 Grand Master's Open Visit Place TBD
 May 7 Gettysburg Battlefield Tour Herndon 264 Sponsor

Officers of Freedom Lodge No. 118 A.L. 6011, A.D. 2011

Wor. Master	R, Harris McGarrah, Jr	540 8225702 703 431-8531
Senior Warden	Philip Brooks	703-707-8150
Junior Warden	Jessie Shannon	
Treasurer	Clifford Free	
Secretary	George Shoemaker	
Senior Deacon	Thomas Brierton	
Junior Deacon	Bruce McKimmey	
Chaplain	Dick Bond	
Tiler	Richard Phillips	

~ February 2011 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 8:00 pm Freedom	5
6 Super Bowl	7 7:00 PM Olive Branch	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Valentine's Day	15 7:30 Ashburn-Sterling	16	17 7:30 pm Hamilton-Thompson	18	19
20	21 Washington's Birthday	22	23 District School Hamilton-Thompson 7:30 pm	24	25	26
27	28					

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