

*December 2013  
Trestleboard*



**Freedom Lodge 118  
P.O. Box 293  
Lovettsville, VA 20180**





# Freedom Lodge #118

## Ancient Free and Accepted Masons

### December 2013 Trestleboard

**To Set the Craft to Work, and give them Proper Instruction for their Labor . . .**

### *A Message from the East*

Brethren,

December has arrived, and with it, my time in the East has now come to a close. This will be my final Trestleboard for you as your Worshipful Master. Elections will be held at our December stated, and a new Master and Lodge officers will be installed for 2014.

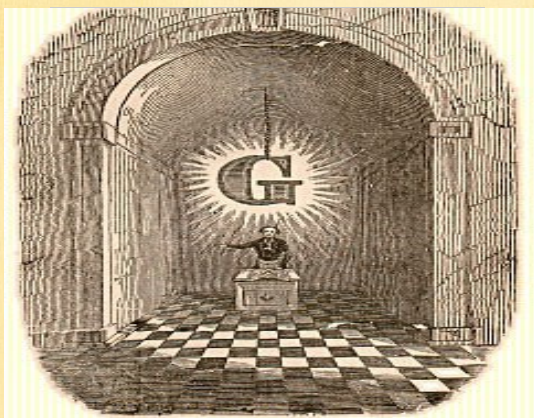
It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Worshipful Master in 2013. In many ways, it has been the easiest job I have ever had — not because the position is an easy one — but because the quality of the Brothers in Freedom Lodge. Your willingness to serve, enthusiasm for Masonry, reservoir of knowledge, and continual support has been outstanding throughout the year. Without your help, my year in the East could not have been a success — and with your help, there was no way it could have been a failure.

I would like to especially thank my Officers for their help in 2014. RW Harris and MW Loyd are the two best Wardens any Master could ever hope to have serve with him. RW Cliff and RW George made sure that our Lodge kept on track with their careful oversight of our finances, correspondence, and records. Our Deacons,

Chaplain, and Tiler all showed leadership and dedication through their activities, and our Stewards kept us well fed and with great variety. Several of our Past Masters not serving as officers this year including RW Larry Frye, Wor. Gary Ing, and Wor. Frank Lamm have been a source of wisdom and guidance, as have other District 2 Masters. Finally, the energy and enthusiasm of our newest Lodge members has been a great motivating factor. Thanks to all of you for making this a successful year for Freedom.

This Trestleboard will be shorter than usual, as I don't have my usual column and page dedicated to upcoming Lodge activities. Our incoming Master has an agenda of his own which I am sure will be revealed to you as 2014 unfolds. My biggest goal for 2013 was to leave the Lodge to its next Master in as good or better state than that in which I received it. Thanks to all of your hard work, I believe that we have accomplished this together. I will always have many fond memories of my year in the East at Freedom and a great appreciation for the honor of being your Master.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,  
**Tom Brierton, Worshipful Master**



### **2013 Lodge Officers**

Worshipful Master	Tom Brierton	202-680-2857
Senior Warden	Harris McGarrah PDDGM	703-431-8531
Junior Warden	Loyd Davis PGM	801-390-6559
Treasurer	Clifford Free PDDGM	304-724-6486
Secretary	George Shoemaker DDGM	703-283-9331
Senior Deacon	Mariano D'Aguiar	703-389-2939
Junior Deacon	Chuck Wyant	540-822-4027
Chaplain	Dick Bond	571-334-2905
Tiler	Ray Mauk	703-626-1794
Senior Steward	Wes Hirschhorn	703-298-2827
Junior Steward	Dick Phillips PM	540-822-5147

**Freedom Lodge #118 AF&AM**  
**28 E. Broad Way Lovettsville, VA 20180**  
**<http://FreedomLodge118.org>**  
**Stated Communication 1st Friday @ 8:00 pm**



## Correct in the West

*A monthly column by*

*Harris McGarrah, PDDGM, Senior Warden*

Well Brethren it is that time of year again. Time for the election and installation of the new officers of the Lodge. We always hold our election and installation of officers in December, as prescribed by section 2.35 of the Methodical Digest which states that "the election of officers shall be annually held in each subordinate Lodge on the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, or at its last stated communication in the month of December."

We elect the Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary and Deacons. All other officers are appointed by the Master. The election and installation of our officers is very important to the Lodge as these new officers will be charged with the government of the Lodge for the next year. The Book of Constitutions says that "great care should be taken that none be put in nomination as a consequence of favor or affection, birth or fortune, but rather in consideration of real merit and ability to fill his office for the honor and advancement of Masonry." Not just anyone can be elected to hold the office of Master or Warden. Both the Book of Constitutions and the Methodical Digest state that to be elected Master of the Lodge the nominee must have served as a Warden of the Lodge and that only Master Masons can serve as Wardens. The nominee for Master of the Lodge must have received a Warden's Certificate certifying the he can perform all the ritual duties required to be Master of a Lodge.

Since we, as members of the Lodge, elect the officers of the Lodge it only makes since that we should support those who we have elected to lead us in the next year. We can start showing this support by coming to the December stated and enjoying all of the activities involved in electing and installing the officers of Freedom Lodge for 2014.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

R. Harris McGarrah

## Masonic Ritual Instruction

***There will be no masonic ritual instruction in December.***

***Enjoy the holidays with family and friends!!!***



**Right in the South**  
*A monthly column by*  
**Loyd Evan Davis, PGM, Junior Warden**

**Greetings Brethren:**

Last month I talked about beginning to do the research to refute the misconceptions of potential masons gained from internet searches. I began my search by using google to enlighten me about Lucifer. According to <http://www.sharefaith.com>, Lucifer was one of the three archangels mentioned in scripture. His name means 'day star' or 'son of the morning.' He was wise and handsome and was created to dwell eternally in the throne room of heaven, in the very presence of God (Ezekiel 28:14). Unfortunately, pride overtook his heart, and sin cost him everything. He was banished from heaven and his name came to be associated with the devil or Satan. Albert Pike, in his famous book "Morals and Dogma," laments on the unfortunate association of the devil or Satan with the name Lucifer: "Lucifer, the Light-bearer! Strange and mysterious name to give to the Spirit of Darkness! Lucifer, the Son of the Morning! Is it he who bears the Light, and with its splendors intolerable, blinds feeble, sensual, or selfish souls? Doubt it not! However, as is common among critics, this quote is always taken out of its context. In fact, when it is read in context the reader will clearly see that he is questioning the fact that Satan, who should be associated with darkness, is called "Lucifer" or a "light-bearer" <http://www.johnsanidopoulos.com>). Our critics assume several things about freemasonry that are not true: we are a religion, we worship, we have a prescribed path to salvation. Such is not the case. We require a belief in a monotheistic higher power and nothing more. That allows us to be 'universal' and unite men of many faiths. We believe in the immortality of the soul and the resurrection of the body. That makes us religious but not a religion. Many Christians do not believe it is possible for a Christian to be a freemason. They accuse us of paganism, of having many gods, of having secret oaths, of teaching that Master Masons have salvation. For example, at <http://www.ephesians5-11.org>, the following assertions (among many) are made:

Paganism is any religion other than Christianity or Judaism. Freemasonry offers a plan of Salvation without Jesus Christ. Therefore, Masonry is a non-Christian religion. Since Masonry is also not Judaism, it is clearly paganism.

Masonry teaches that Master Masons, as a group, may die in the hope of a glorious immortality, that they represent those raised from the grave of iniquity and that they have been redeemed from the death of sin. Masonry is teaching that Master Masons have salvation!

As you can see, those who oppose masonry are not easily dissuaded. Our response can only be to patiently explain that their premise is false. We are a fraternity not a religion. We recognize all monotheistic religions. We unite men of every country, sect, and opinion, and conciliate true friendship among those that might otherwise remain at a perpetual distance.

My Brothers, I have enjoyed serving as your Junior Warden. I hope you have enjoyed our social events this year. I have attained my personal objectives: obtaining my Warden's Certificate and learning the Master Mason Lecture. I believe we have had a great year and are poised for yet another great year in 2014. I appreciate the support you have given me this year and will try to make next year one of enhanced Masonic education.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Loyd



**December Masonic Birthdays**

***Alver Gene Cohen***  
***Fred Lee George***

Wish these Brothers  
 A Happy Masonic Birthday!!!



# DECEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 <b>Olive Branch 114 Installation</b> 7:30 pm	5 <b>HT 37 Stated and Installation</b> Meal 6:30 Stated 7:30	6 <b>Freedom 118</b> Meal 7 pm Stated 8 pm	7
8	9	10 <b>Ashburn Sterling 288</b> Meal 6:30 Stated 7:30	11	12	13	14 <b>Ashburn Sterling 288—2014 Officer Installation</b> 2 pm
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 <b>New Year's Day</b>  <b>Happy 2014!!!</b>	2	3 <b>Freedom 118</b> Meal 7 pm Stated 8 pm	4

## December Masonic Events in District 2

December 4th — Olive Branch Lodge Open Installation

December 5th — Hamilton Thompson Lodge Stated and Closed Installation

December 6th — Freedom Lodge Stated and Closed Installation

December 10th — Ashburn Sterling 288 Final Stated of 2013

December 14th — Ashburn Sterling 288 Open Installation

