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The Morlock Award

Presented to

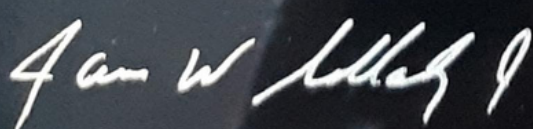
FREEDOM LODGE NO. 118

For calendar year 2022

This award is named in memory of Most Worshipful Werner Herman Morlock, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, 1993-94.

This award is given in recognition of the generosity of the members of this Lodge in giving to the Masonic Home of Virginia. Only the lodges in Virginia with the very highest participation levels of members donating are eligible to receive this award.

With the grateful appreciation of the residents and of the Board of Governors, we congratulate this lodge for its exemplary leadership in supporting the Masonic Home.



Grand Master
James W. Golladay, Jr.



President, Board of Governors
Samuel M. Jones



August 2022

Brethren – This month I offer a bit of entertainment, de-bunking a common Masonic myth that I've pondered for years.

PB

From The Midnight Freemasons Archives: The Masonic Conspiracy Behind Rolling Rock Beer

by Midnight Freemasons Founder

Todd E. Creason, 33°



"Beer is proof that God loves us, and wants us to be happy."

~Benjamin Franklin

There has always been speculation that there is some connection between Latrobe's Rolling Rock Beer and the Freemasons—I mean, it's obvious, there's a '33' right on the bottle! And the 33rd degree is the highest degree that can be attained by Freemasons. Is it possible the Latrobe's were Freemasons?

It's one of those great beer controversies—where did the '33' come from? Everyone seems to have a theory, and nobody has the definitive answer.

And there are many theories:

-One common theory is that it was to celebrate the repeal of prohibition in 1933. That was an important year for brewers and beer drinkers alike!

-Another legend is that the Rolling Rock brewery was started with money won at the horse track. The winning bet was placed on #33, "Old Latrobe," and that is why there is a horse and the '33' on the bottle.

-Another has it that brewers in those early days belonged to the local union #33.

-Another claims the reservoir the brewery got its water from was fed by 33 streams.

And the theories go on and on and on . . .

Sadly, the most likely version is the least exciting. It may have simply been a printers mistake in the beginning. This version of the story comes from a very reliable source--the former CEO of the company. He was also very interested in where that '33' had come from--his name was James Tito. What he discovered is actually very simple.

The slogan on the back of the bottle read originally:

"Rolling Rock – From the glass lined tanks of Old Latrobe, we tender this premium beer for your enjoyment as a tribute to your good taste. It comes from the mountain springs to you."

That's 33 words. There were a number of different versions of the slogan in the beginning, but the Latrobe family finally settled on the shortest one--the one that ran only 33 words. Somebody noted that in the margin, and when it went to the printers, the printers didn't realize that the 33 wasn't part of the text and included it. The mistake wasn't discovered until a large batch of bottles had been produced, and back in those days, the labels were painted right onto the bottles, and those bottles were reused, which explains why the mistake wasn't immediately corrected.



And just maybe it wasn't corrected later because of the stir it had created when those bottles reached the public. Everyone talking about and debating what that '33' meant and speculating about where it had come from. Perhaps Latrobe saw that controversy as a good thing. Here it is more than seventy years later, and people are still talking about it. I guess you'd call that 'beer buzz'.

So that's the big Masonic conspiracy behind Rolling Rock Beer. It doesn't have anything to do with the Freemasons at all.

Not to propagate a myth, but I can tell you, I do have it on good authority that at least one 33rd Degree Freemason enthusiastically approves of the product--he finds it crisp and refreshing with a easy-to-drink flavor.

In fact, I think I'll go have one now . . .

~TEC

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Stated Communication
8 – 9 PM at 28 E Broad Way, Lovettsville, VA 201...

Sep 4 – 10

Sep 11 – 17

Sep 18 – 24

Wed
21

Dinner meet up at 1836 Tap Room
6 – 7 PM

Lodge practice
7 – 9 PM at 28 E Broad Way, Lovettsville, VA 201...

Fri
23

Oktoberfest kickoff dinner fundraiser
12 – 8 PM
Lovettsville Fire & Rescue Co 12

Sat
24

Oktoberfest Food Service fundraiser
4:30 – 9:30 PM
Town Square



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SR Member

James	Crunk
Loyd	Davis
Matthew	Duley
Geoffrey	Hoyt
Gary	Ing
David	King
David	Kirk
Shannon	Stong