



Freedom Lodge No. 118

Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Virginia

<http://FreedomLodge118.org>

The Southern Least Lodge in Virginia

Stated Communication – First Friday

Dinner at 7:00p, Lodge at 8:00p

MARCH 2023

VOLUME 2023, NUMBER 3

2023 Officers

Worshipful Master

Philip Brooks
405 Greear Place
Herndon, VA 20170
BrooksPJBE@aol.com

Senior Warden

Matthew Duley

Junior Warden

Wes Hirschhorn

Treasurer

Dave Kirk

Secretary

Mark Canter

Senior Deacon

Bill Hohl

Junior Deacon

Brad Westerman

Chaplain

Harris McGarrah

Tiler

Greg Valker

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

Brethren –

February was a busy month for us in and out of Lodge. At our Stated we received a terrific program by WB Duley about the origins of the Grand Lodge of Texas and the Masons that created the Republic of Texas. The officers then split time with some attending the Division Leadership Conference (DLC) in Manassas while others attended in Alexandria. The DLC followed a new format with sessions covering Membership (the GM's goal is to raise 1200 MMs this year), Youth, and Community Charity. We accomplished our first Fraternal Visit of the year traveling to Fervency Lodge 200 in Point of Rocks MD where we were privileged to participate in a piece of ritual that none of us had previously experienced. My thanks to Brother Hohl, WBs Hirschhorn, Duley, Phillips, and RWBs King and Shoemaker for making the trip. Next was the Cornerstone Ceremony at the GW Memorial where WB Duley was seen hobnobbing with the Grand Master while I was in the Washington Day Parade with members from Herndon Lodge and others from District 2. On the 19th we held our Sweetheart Brunch arranged by WB Hirschhorn at Tuscarora Mill. The food was wonderful and the fellowship was even better. There was a surprise visit by MW Loyd and Lady Judy Davis who traveled from Richmond to join us.

The highlight of the month was the raising of Brother Dan Little. Freedom was short several cast members, but 7 Brothers from Herndon traveled to Freedom to ensure that Brother Dan was well received. Many thanks to Brothers Garay, Meshreki (both learned new parts for the degree), Martin, Pocalyko, LeHew, Karisik, and Solomon for their assistance to Freedom with the degree. We also had three visiting Brothers from Massachusetts join us for the degree. They were in the area to attend the Parade and Cornerstone events. Please welcome Brother Dan to the Freedom when you see him.

In March the pace will relax a bit. At our Stated, Brother Ivy Nye will give some insights into his animation work that garnered him an Emmy Award. The next morning, Bethel 52 will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Herndon Lodge. I will personally cover the donation for any Freedom Brother that arrives before 10AM for breakfast. Our monthly Fraternal Visit will be to Hamilton-Thompson to hopefully deposit the Traveling Gavel with WB Bill Craig. I'd like a dozen of you to commit to making this visit!

Other items of note... Thank you to Brother Fred George for getting the rear gutter replaced. It had rusted and had fallen off the building. Looking into Spring, I'm looking for volunteers to coordinate Lodge support of Mayfest and to assist WB Duley with the Lodge cookout in June. The Lodge Secretary and I will be culling the Lodge membership to collect outstanding dues. If you do not possess a 2023 dues card,



WB Duley with GM Strehle

then you are not current. Please contact us to fulfill this obligation to the Lodge and get yourself up to date. Finally, don't store those winter coats just yet. Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, predicting another 6 weeks of winter for us.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Philip Brooks
WM, Freedom Lodge

<p><u>March Masonic Birthdays</u> Gary Ing – 1999 Dan Gillenwater – 2000</p>	<p><u>Mark Your Calendar</u> Mar 3 – Lodge Stated Mar 4 – Pancake Breakfast @ Herndon Mar – 14 Lodge Practice Apr 7 – Lodge Stated Apr 29 – Statewide One Day Conferral May 5 – Lodge Stated, moon Lodge Jun 2 – Lodge Stated, Strawberry night Jun 17 – Freedom Cookout Jul 7 – Lodge Stated Aug 4 – Lodge Stated Sep 1 – Lodge Stated Oct 6 – Lodge Stated Nov 3 – Lodge Stated Nov 10-11 Grand Annual Communication Dec 1 – Lodge Stated</p>	 <p>Most Worshipful Donald E. Strehle Grand Master Grand Lodge of Virginia, A.F. & A.M. https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org</p>
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March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 FREEDOM STATED	4 Bethel 52 Pancake Breakfast
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 FREEDOM PRACTICE 7p	16 FV to Hamilton- Thompson	17 St Patrick's Day	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

More Info at <http://freedonlodge118.org/>

