



# 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

AUGUST 2023

VOLUME 2023, NUMBER 8

## 2023 Officers

### Worshipful Master

Philip Brooks  
405 Greear Place  
Herndon, VA 20170  
[BrooksPJBE@aol.com](mailto: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 –

Some leftover items from July...

The notice for the eyewear donation to the Lions Club was late and not well socialized. So, we'll try again in August. Please bring your gently used eyewear to our Stated to donate to the Lions Club.

The Lodge room AC has been cleaned and is limping along for the moment. After much discussion, instead applying the band-aid of another window unit – we'll attempt to make the jump to a split system that could also provide heat in colder months. The savings on fuel oil alone should cover the cost of the new system over time, but we will need to raise the funds to make the purchase up front. Donations, volunteering at Oktoberfest, other ideas to raise the needed?? This change will be a long term improvement to our Temple. The first step in this venture will be to upgrade the electrical feed into the building to accommodate the proposed new system. WB Canter is carrying the conversation with Dominion to accomplish this task.



Freedom Bears! RWB Valker has arranged with INOVA Landsdowne Hospital for us donate Freedom Bears for the benefit of the children. The time and place scheduled is Wednesday August 2 at 1pm at the front steps of INOVA Hospital at Landsdowne. Please let me know if you can join us to help make this donation. Please wear your Lodge shirt or other Masonic shirt. Thank you to all the Brothers that made donations to make this gift to the hospital possible.

Our trip to Independence Hall the PA Grand Lodge Temple is full! Photos from the trip will be posted on our website. I am truly looking forward to what I'm sure will be a wonderful trip.

New items for August...

The Committee on Work will be hosting the Reid J Simmons Academy at the Scottish Rite Temple in Roanoke on August 11 and 12. This school is open to all Master Masons and presents an outstanding opportunity for any MM to learn our ritual or work on a Wardens Certificate. More information about this 2 day school can be found at <https://rjsacademy.org/>.

For our August Stated, we will have a guest speaker. The Master of Freedom Lodge. That isn't a typo. WM Mike Taldo of Freedom 112 in Eldersburg MD will visit us and provide us with a program regarding the Alamo. Mike is originally from Texas, so I'm sure this topic is near to his heart and will be educational.

Since we do not yet have the new AC system, the dress for the August Stated will be slacks and Hawaiian shirts. An opportunity to see just how flamboyant our membership truly is.

Closing items...

WB Canter has been making good progress, but there are still a few Brothers that still are not current on their dues. We'll pick up the topic to suspend those that are delinquent at our September Stated.

Bother Kirk is also making good progress on replacing the Lodge room lighting with LEDs. Talk about bringing light to Masonry! Thank you for your hard work Brother.

Please talk with RWB McGarrah if you can volunteer your time to help at the Oktoberfest. This is an easy way to help raise funds for the Lodge.

WB Wyant is planning to visit with us in October. One goal of his visit will be to place the bricks sitting in the Social Hall into the walk of Masonry. Should you wish to order a brick, the order form can be found at: <http://freedomlodge118.org/2023/01/walk-of-masonry/>

*Sincerely and Fraternally*  
*Philip Brooks*

<p><b><u>August Masonic Birthdays</u></b></p> <p>Cliff Free, 1990 Robby Miller, 1995 Jeffrey Dell, 2011 Wes Hirschhorn, 2012 Jason Lage, 2015 Jay Still, 2018 Bobby Isleib, 2018</p>	<p><b><u>Mark Your Calendar</u></b></p> <p>Aug 4 – Lodge Stated Aug 11-12 RJ Simmons Academy - Roanoke Sep 1 – Lodge Stated Sep 9 – Ken Shelton Area School Sep 26 – Lodge of Low Vale, Waynesboro PA Oct 6 – Lodge Stated Nov 3 – Lodge Stated Nov 10-11 Grand Annual Communication Dec 1 – Lodge Stated</p>	 <p><b>Most Worshipful</b> Donald E. Strehle Grand Master Grand Lodge of Virginia, A.F. &amp; A.M. <a href="https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org">https://grandlodgeofvirginia.org</a></p>
--	---	---

### AUGUST 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Bear Donation at INOVA Landsdowne	3	4 FREEDOM STATED Dinner @7 Lodge @8	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Reid Simmons Academy Roanoke	12 Reid Simmons Academy Roanoke
13	14	15	16 FREEDOM PRACTICE	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

More Info at <http://freedomlodge118.org/>

