

03

March 2024

# FREEDOM LODGE NO. 118 TRESTLEBOARD

The Southern Least Lodge in Virginia

Freedom Lodge No.118  
28 E Broad Way,  
Lovettsville, VA 20180

**CONTACT US**

**VISIT US ONLINE**  
**[HTTPS://FREEDOMLODGE118.ORG/](https://freedomlodge118.org/)**

# From the East

Thank you to Bro. Bill Hohl, who donated a heater for the Tiler. The hallway can be quite cold in winter, and the old heater was in danger of burning up the cord with the amount of electricity it used.

Our February meeting was very well attended with fraternal visits from Hernon Lodge, Ashburn-Sterling Lodge, and ...No. 8

The Master of Ashburn-Sterling presented me with a card signed by their visitors thanking Freedom for our hospitality and a replica of George Washington's trowel (see picture below). Several of visitors joined us afterwards for fraternity at the 1836 Taproom where Bro. Brad generously paid for all the drinks.

In February, we traveled across the river to Fervency Lodge 200 to see the unique way things are done in Maryland. Our visits with these neighbors are always a pleasure. Our visit was attended by RW George S. and Brother Bill H. I presented the Fervency Master one of our stone tokens. See additional details below.

Also in February, we held our annual Sweethearts Brunch. See below for a page dedicated to that event.

To close out February, Bro. Cameron Gore, Bro. David Kirk and myself worked to replace and improve the floor in the downstairs closet. See below for details.

In March, on Tuesday, the 12th, at 6:30pm, Bro. Brad's daughter will be installed into Bethel 52 at Herndon. I am sure he would appreciate your support.

On March 16th, at 1:00pm, Jennifer Brooks will be installed as Worthy Matron of the Herndon Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. These events are open to Master Masons, and I encourage you to attend if you are able. See below for the invitation.

Also this month, we will have an EA catechism return and Fellowcraft degree for two candidates. A Called Communication is planned for Friday, March 22, at 7:00PM. I will send the corresponding email notice shortly. Please show up to support our new members!

Your Junior Deacon, Bro. Dan Little is in process of scheduling Lodge Cleanup, so be on the lookout for his call for support - this is YOUR lodge and you should show pride of ownership by helping to maintain it.

Your Senior Deacon, Bro. Brad Westerman will be planning a food drive, so be on the lookout for the scheduled date and time.

Your Junior Warden, Bro. Bill Hohl informs me that the March meal will be provided by WB Wes Hirschhorn, and the April Meal will be provided for by Bethel 52, so please come out and support them with a generous donation for your meal. Bro. Bill is still in need of meal volunteers for remaining months, so please see him to sign up!

In May we have several opportunities for you to get involved. First, on Saturday, May 11th, we will have a fundraiser called "Books and Blooms". We need donations of used books to sell, as well as brethren to help out at the event! See below for details.

The following weekend, on Saturday May 18th, we plan to engage with the community at the Lovettsville Mayfest, both through volunteering and staffing an information booth. We need brethren to volunteer just a couple hours of your day. See below for details.

I hope you see that your officers and I are striving to identify many ways for you to participate and get involved with your lodge this year. Come and be a part of it, we would love to see you!

Matt Duley, PM  
Master 2024



It was fantastic to see so many Brethren travel to visit Freedom Lodge this month from across the district, and to share in those bonds of fellowship both within the lodge and without.



On behalf of Freedom Lodge, RW George Shoemaker presented a large bottle of the hard-to-find Buffalo Trace bourbon to the Worshipful Master of Fervency 200, with the label signed by Freedom to the brethren of Fervency 200. Fervency graciously provided each visiting member from Freedom with a commemorative Lodge challenge coin and a shot glass, the later of which was put to immediate use.





I am pleased to report that the Division Leadership Conferences were both very well attended by your Officers and our Lodge Education Officer. Thank you to everyone that came out. I hope you each got something out of it. I also hope that we all take time to think about what we heard about leadership, about membership, and about supporting our youth groups and that we endeavor to convert some of those things into actions for the benefit of our Craft and for all mankind.



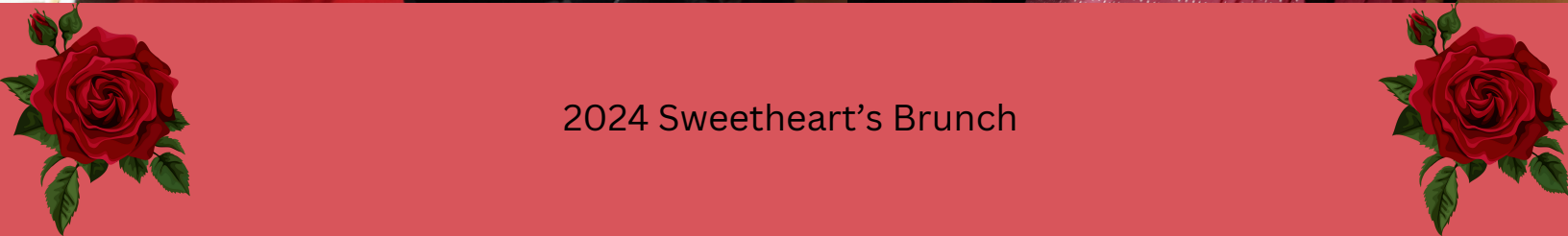
The Grand Master addressing the DLC

"I now declare the officers of Freedom Lodge No. 118, duly installed." The words from the installation ceremony still ring in your ears. You have been told that the honor, reputation and usefulness of your Lodge depend in your ability to manage its concerns. Are you prepared? Attending events like this, in addition to Subordinate Lodge Officer Training (SLOT) training, help you prepare. Here are some pictures of the Division Leadership Conference from Alexandria, VA.





Freedom Lodge gathered with our friends and family at The Local Cut in Purcellville for this year's Sweetheart's Brunch. Bro. Bill Hohl did an outstanding job of organizing the event, and everyone said the food was delicious. After the meal, long-stemmed red roses and chocolate dipped strawberries were provided for each lady in attendance. I was delighted to see the event well attended this year. Please consider making a donation to help renew our Widow's Funds for next year's event.





In late February, Bro. Cameron Gore, Bro. David Kirk and WM Matt Duley tackled the arduous task of replacing the closest floor. While there is a little of work remaining to complete for the access panel in the corner, and to identify and remove items no longer used, as you can see in the pictures below, the transformation is quite amazing! Thank you to WB Mark Canter for pick up and delivery of the supplies and use of your tools. Special thanks to WB Jeffrey Dell for hauling away all the old floor material. Thanks also to Bro. Bill Hohl for cleaning out trash and recycling cardboard. Lastly, thanks to RWB George Shoemaker for assisting in replacing items in the closet. Many hands make light work.





YOU ARE INVITED TO  
HERNDON CHAPTER NO 55  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

INSTALLATION

— *of* —

OFFICERS

SATURDAY MARCH 16TH, 2024

*at one o'clock in the afternoon*

820 ELDEN ST  
HERNDON, VA 20170

*reception to follow*





**If you would like to receive the Scottish Rite degrees, April is your chance to do so!  
Get a petition signed and submitted!**

This year's April reunion is on Saturday, April 20th and 27th at the Scottish Rite Temple in Alexandria. Candidates must attend both days. All current members should try to attend as well.

Reunions to bring in new members are held in April and October each year to communicate and confer the Scottish Rite degrees at the conclusion of which you will be a 32nd degree Master of the Royal Secret.

The Scottish Rite Representative for Freedom Lodge is currently Wor. Matt Duley.

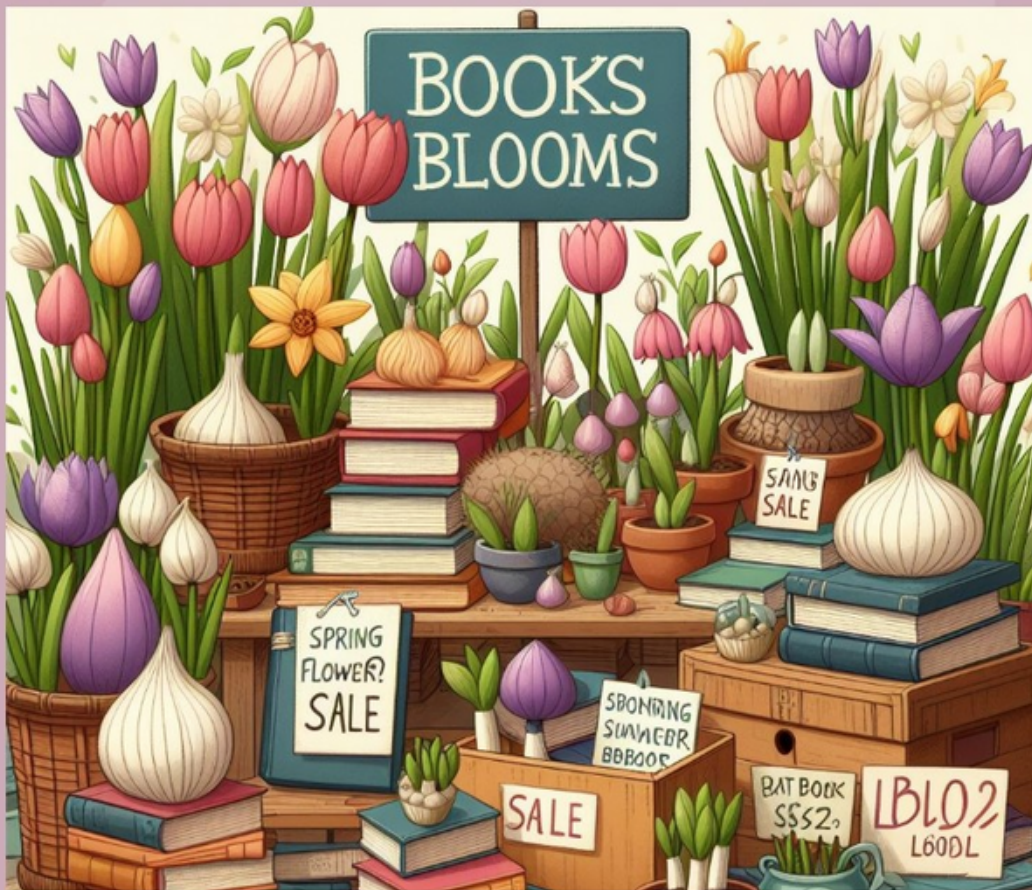
Brochures with much more information are available in the dining hall for more details, or visit <https://www.alexandriascottishrite.org/>

Below are members of Freedom Lodge who can sign a petition for those Master Masons interested in joining.

Loyd Davis
Matt Duley
Cameron Gore
Geoffrey Hoyt
Gary Ing
David King
David Kirk
Dedan Kocic
Jim Krunk
Dan Little
Josip Sapunar
Shannon Strong
Nebojsa Todorovic

Brethren, please start rounding up your used books to support the event listed below. Bring them to the lodge on the May 3 Stated so that I can start organizing them etc. I will also be receiving some from our local library. In the future we will support one of their events. I need several volunteers to help out with this event. The times below do not include setup and takedown. Please see Wor. Matt Duley to signup!

Freedom Lodge No. 118 & the Order of the Amaranth are hosting a sale of used books and Spring flower bulbs. Proceeds go to the support lodge repairs and to the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation. Join us!



SATURDAY, MAY 11 10am-4pm  
28 EAST BROAD WAY  
LOVETTSVILLE, VA



*Lovettsville*

# MAYFEST

COME BLOOM WITH US!

May 18th, 10am to 6pm

The town is offering us a free booth in exchange for some volunteer help. They are seeking 3 volunteers who can help them for 2 hours each for everything from set up to clean up. They need folks to watch bounce houses, run the info booth, and help run various outdoor games. In addition, for the lodge booth we need folks to hand out brochures and talk to folks about Masonry and our Lodge.

**We need YOU to signup, and show up!**

<https://lovettsvillemayfest.com/>

Join Freedom Lodge No. 118  
Veteran's Day  
Saturday, Nov. 11th at 11:00am  
To honor Brother George Washington  
in a Wreath Laying Ceremony at his tomb.

**Participation is limited to 50. Cost is \$20 per person, paid in advance, to cover the grounds pass only. Signup today via the Secretary!**



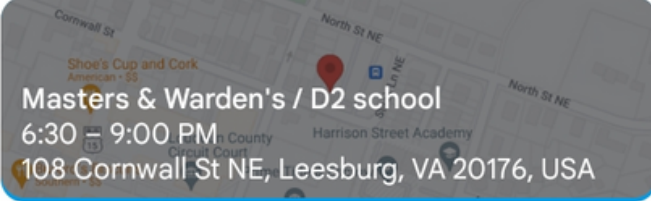
The Wreath-laying ceremony will consist of the Pledge of Allegiance, General Washington's prayer for his country, and the placement of a wreath by the Worshipful Master and his designated assistant. We will be seeking a dispensation to wear Masonic regalia, but this has not yet been approved.

# Lodge Calendar

<https://tinyurl.com/yckzjc4j>

Fri  
1  
Stated Communication  
8 – 9 PM at 28 E Broad Way, Lovettsville, VA 201...

Mar 3 – 9

Wed  
6  


Masters & Warden's / D2 school  
6:30 – 9:00 PM  
108 Cornwall St NE, Leesburg, VA 20176, USA

Mar 10 – 16

Tue  
12  
Bethel 52 installation at Herndon  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Sat  
16  
OES Installation at Herndon  
1 – 3 PM

Mar 17 – 23

Wed  
20  
Lodge practice, meetup at 1836 beforehand  
7 – 9 PM at 28 E Broad Way, Lovettsville, VA 201...

Fri  
22  
Tentative Called Communication  
7 – 9 PM

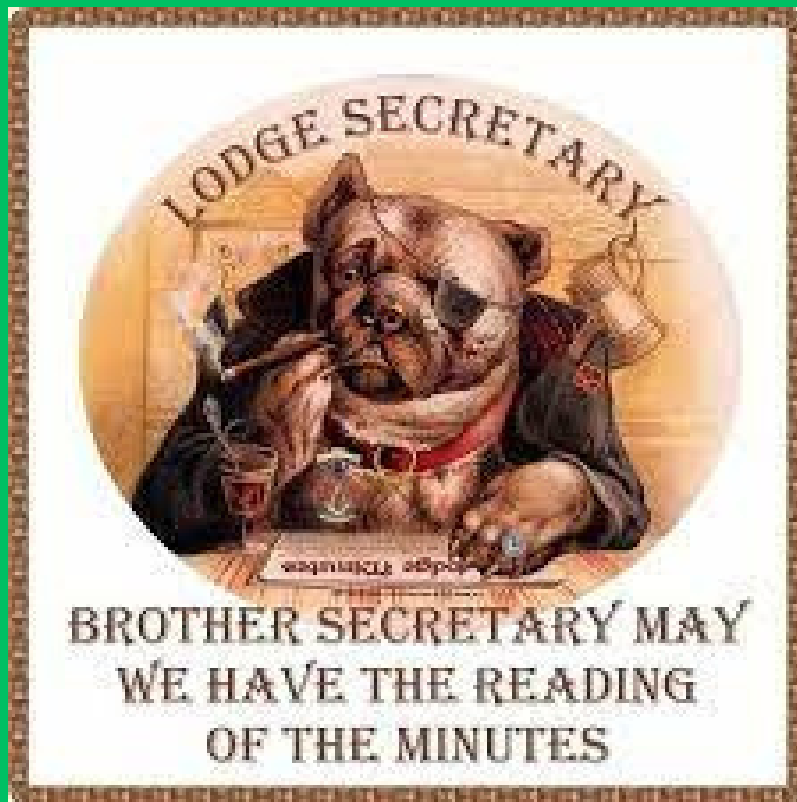


# From the Secretary

**Dues are now LATE!**

**Your Secretary** wishes to remind you that if your Membership Card does not show **2024** as the expiration year, to please ensure he receives all monies due. **Those who are not paid up in full will now be issued formal letters for Non-Payment of Dues.**

Please reach out if you find yourself in need of assistance!





A row of several birthday cakes with lit candles. The candles are in various colors (blue, red, yellow) and are lit, casting a warm glow. The cakes are decorated with blue frosting and white sprinkles.

## Masonic Birthdays

- Mark Canter
- Garland Cooper Jr.
- George Facer
- Kristopher "Lee" McPeak

Living Past Masters	
Brother	Year(s) Served
Larry D. Frye	1983, 2005 - 2007
Roy Harris McGarrah, Jr.	1992 - 1995, 2011
Clifford S. Free	1996 - 1999
Richard A. Phillips	2000 - 2003
Gary R. Ing	2004
George M. Shoemaker, Jr.	2008 - 2010
Philip Brooks	2012, 2014, 2023
Thomas W. Brierton	2013
Loyd E. Davis	2015
J. David King	2016
Chuck Wyant	2017
Wes Hirschhorn	2018
Mark Canter	2020 - 2021
Matthew T. Duley	2022, 2024

As a fundraiser for the Lodge, I have purchased 200 of these stone tokens, which were crafted by a brother Mason. Instead of a standard lodge coin, I wanted something that would stand out and reflect the connection to operative Masonry. They are made of honed marble, so each one is unique. I am selling them for \$10 each, and 100% of the profit will go directly to Freedom Lodge.



### MakersHandsWorkshop

Shop Masonic Gifts, Freemasonry Collectibles, and Apparel by MakersHandsWorkshop located in Lexington, South Carolina. Smooth shipping! Has a...

 Etsy



# District 2 News

**Below is the schedule of the D2 Ritual Schools.** This year the schools will be held in conjunction with and immediately following the D2 Masters & Wardens meetings (which are scheduled to start at 7:00pm (potluck dinner 6:30)).

All Master Masons are welcome to attend the Ritual School, and all Line Officers are specifically encouraged to attend *as many as they can.*

Attendance is highly encouraged for those seeking a Warden's Certificate.

First Wednesday	Location	Time
1/3/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
2/7/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
3/6/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
4/3/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
5/1/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
6/5/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
7/3/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
8/7/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
9/4/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
10/2/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
11/6/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM
12/4/2024	Olive Branch	8:00PM

### District Officers

DDGM: RW Jason Todd Wolfe  
DIW: RW Christopher Conway Thompson  
DEO: Wor. Eric J. LeHew

### Grand Master

Most Worshipful Jack Kayle Lewis



# Freedom Lodge No. 118 Officers

Worshipful Master: Matt Duley, PM  
Senior Warden: Wes Hirschhorn, PM  
Junior Warden: Bro. Bill Hohl  
Treasurer: Bro. David Kirk  
Secretary: Mark Canter, PM  
Senior Deacon: Bro. Brad Westerman  
Junior Deacon: Bro. Dan Little  
Chaplain: Bro. Nebojsa Todorovic  
Tiler: Greg Valker, PDDGM  
Marshall: Bro. Cameron Gore

Lodge Instructor of Work (LIW): Harris McGarragh, PDDGM  
Lodge Education Officer (LEO): Phil Brooks, PDDGM  
Lodge MAHOVA Ambassador: Bro. Dedan Kocic  
Blood Coordinators: Greg Valker, PDDGM (regional)  
Bro. David Kirk (local)