

04

April 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

At our March Stated, we were delighted to again be joined by Bro. Josip Sapunar who came all the way from Croatia to be with us! In March, we supported a local Job's Daughter's youth group (see below). We also supported a local Ashburn Assembly No. 11 with a \$100 donation. At the end of March, Bro. Dan Little organized cleaning the interior of the lodge. Thank you to all those who participated. See below for details.

Your Junior Warden, Bro. Bill Hohl informs me that this month's meal will be a baked potato bar provided 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 APRIL, cleaning activity continues at the lodge on April 6th with the exterior, and Bro. Dan Little needs your support - this is YOUR lodge and you should show pride of ownership by helping to maintain it. Please come help out! On April the 9th, the Grand Master will be doing an Official Visit to Ashburn-Sterling No. 288. To help those in need in our community, your Senior Deacon, Bro. Brad Westerman is responsible for planning a food drive, so be on the lookout for the scheduled date and time.

Coming 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.

In JUNE, we will continue to support our youth groups through attendance at a DeMolay Degree on June 1st (see below). We also feature a tour of Washington National Cathedral on June 15th to get inspired by some Operative Masonry. Also in June, we will be visiting Williamsburg No. 6 Brethren to join them in celebrating St. John the Baptist Day! See below for lodging options.

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

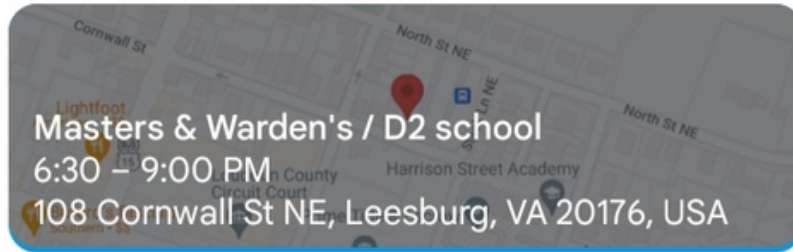
In March, we had an Entered Apprentice Catechism Return for two candidates, both of whom were afterwards Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft. Please join me in congratulating Brothers Erikson and Susic. This was the first time in a number of years that Freedom conferred a degree on more than one candidate, so congratulations and thank you to all who helped make that happen! We now need *your* help as Lodge members to step up and start joining us at practices to prepare for their Raising to the Sublime degree of Master Mason.



Lodge Calendar

<https://tinyurl.com/yckzjc4j>

Wed
3



Fri
5

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

Sat
6

Lodge cleaning (exterior)
9 AM – 4 PM

Apr 7 – 13

Apr 14 – 20

Wed
17

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

Apr 21 – 27

Apr 28 – May 4

Last Month, in support of local Job's Daughter's youth group and one of our Brothers, RW Phil Brooks, WB Wes Hirschhorn and I travelled to Herndon Lodge to attend Brother Brad Westerman's daughter, Sophie, being initiated into Bethel 52. Congratulations to Bro. Brad and his family! The effort put in by the young ladies to learn their ritual is impressive.



At the end of March, it was a beautiful day at Freedom for some fellowship. Brother Dan Little organized a thorough top-down cleanup of the lodge interior. I was impressed by his attention to detail and dedication to the task. Thank you to RW Harris and Brother David Kirk for joining Brother Dan and myself in taking pride of ownership in the lodge. I hope that other members can step up to come out and help Brother Dan with some exterior maintenance he has planned for Saturday, April 6th. Many hands make light work, so please let Brother Dan know if you can help out.





**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 |

Saturday Breakfast



Start your Saturday off right with a fun breakfast! Join us on the morning of April 13 for a variety of breakfast foods!



April 13

8:30 am - 10:30 am

**43881 Waxpool Rd,
Ashburn, VA 20146**

Good times with Good friends



With a suggested
donation of \$5



Ashburn Assembly #11

Bethel 52
PANCAKE
Breakfast



• **SAT. APRIL 20TH** •

C&P FUNDRAISER

820 Elden St, Herndon, VA 20170

Bees & Prospects free

ADULTS - \$10 • YOUTH 10 & UNDER - \$5

10am - noon

The Best First Step To More Light



Fellow Brother Masons are cordially invited to attend a seminar that will afford them the opportunity to take another step within our institution by becoming a Royal Arch Mason. The event will be held on Saturday, April 27th from 11 AM to 1 PM at Unity Masonic Lodge in Front Royal. Lite refreshments will be available. The seminar will feature a guest speaker who will cover the history of the American York Rite system of Masonic Degrees and Capitular Masonry, or the Holy Royal Arch. Fellow Companions from various Chapters will be on hand to answer any and all questions regarding this appendant body. Also available will be petitions and several handouts explaining the ceremony in which a Master Mason is Exalted to the “Most Sublime Degree” of a Royal Arch Mason.

Dress for the occasion is casual. All Royal Arch Masons attending, are asked to wear their Red Blazer and awards.

Thank you for giving this the widest possible dissemination. This type of seminar is a first for Capitular District 15. Let's make it one big success.

- Luray RAC No. 4, Luray
- Shenandoah RAC No. 17, Edinburg
- John Dove RAC No. 21, Winchester
- Hiram RAC No. 45, Front Royal

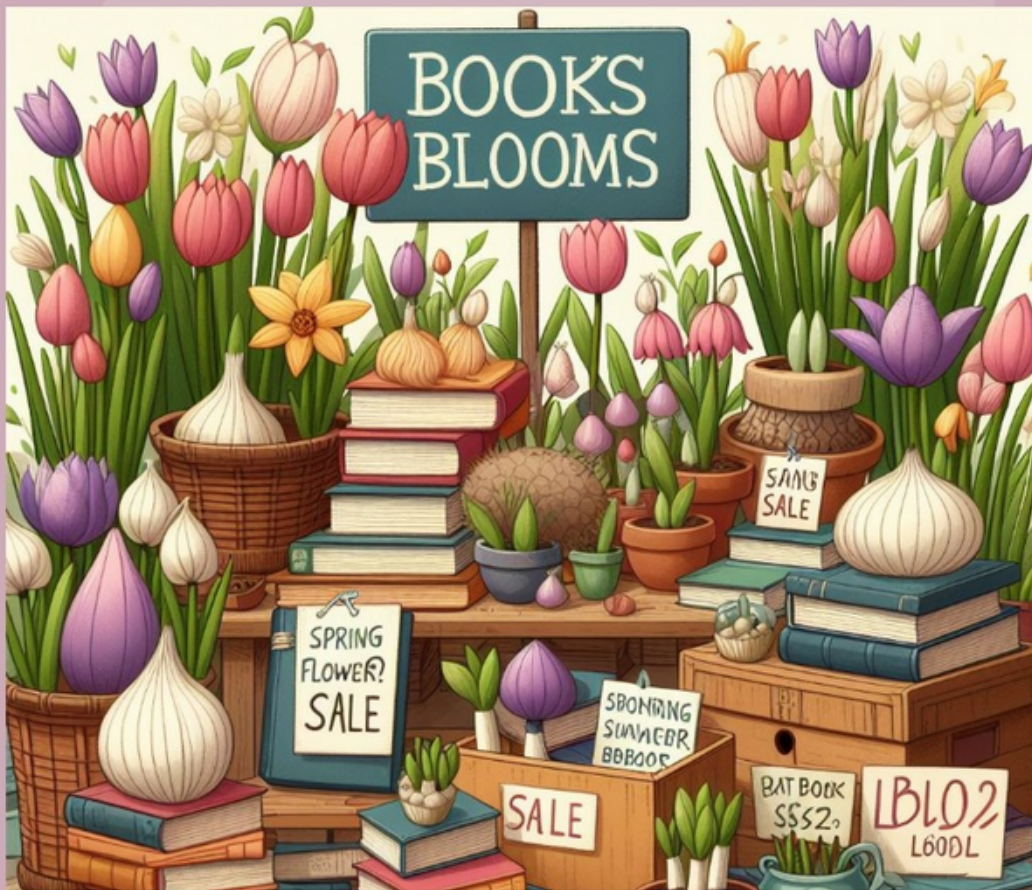
For additional information regarding this seminar contact RE Companion Dennis Haas - dennismh24@gmail.com, or the undersigned.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Ex Companion Ed Tooma
edtooma@gmail.com

Brethren, please start rounding up your used books to support the event listed below. Please have donated books to the lodge by the May Stated. Please placed them in the downstairs storage closet so that I can start organizing them. I will also be receiving some from our local library. In the future we will support one of their events. I still 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/>



Supporting our Youth Groups

Virginia DeMolay has its Grand Master's Degree Classes at Luray Caverns on Saturday, June 1.

The highlight is the DeMolay Degree being held in the caverns around 6:00pm.

Attendees should bring their own lawn chairs.



Join Freedom Lodge No. 118 for a Washington National Cathedral Tour Saturday, June 15th

See the page below for important tour details.

Click the tour name to order.

Note that these tours are open to the public and sell out fast!

You are responsible for your transportation, though I am sure brethren are willing to carpool for those who need a ride.

OPTION ONE:

Tower Climb: Angels & Monsters Saturday June 15 2024 at 11:00 AM

This climb focuses on the Cathedral's two western towers and includes a close-up look at many gargoyles and grotesques while visiting the open-air walkway wrapping around these two towers (about 125 feet above the ground). The climb ends on the very top of the northwest tower, which provides the best views of the Cathedral itself, and 360-degree views of the surrounding area (over 200 feet above the ground).

- . Prepare for rigorous activity. The tour travels to areas of the Cathedral not accessible via elevator and contains many steps.
- . Those with a fear of heights or enclosed spaces should not participate; stairs include both enclosed stone staircases and also open metal, spiral stairs.
- . Minimum height requirement: 48 inches (4 feet)
- . Not appropriate for young children; Infants cannot be carried on the tour.
- . Dress appropriately for the weather, as the weather conditions are more extreme than at ground level. Reservations are encouraged but not required; space is limited.

Cost: \$60/Participant

Price includes Cathedral Admission when available.

OPTION TWO:

Behind the Scenes Saturday June 15 2024 at 2:00 PM

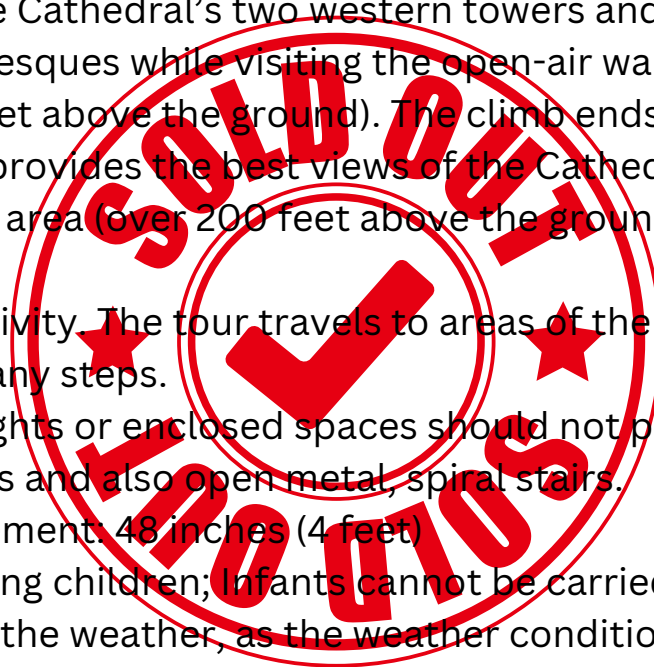
Discover the Cathedral's hidden stories on the behind-the-scenes tour as you marvel at the building's artistry and engineering. Journey through stone stairwells and passageways to see stained glass windows up close and magnificent views.

- . All participants must be able to climb stairs (the equivalent of a few flights of stairs over the course of the tour).
- The tour consists of a variety of spaces, including close quarters, dim lighting, and heights.
- . All participants must be at least 11 years old.
- . By purchasing tickets for a Behind the Scenes tour, you acknowledge that you and anyone else in your party is physically able to handle the tour.

This tour is approximately 90 minutes long.

Cost: \$35/Participant

Price includes Cathedral admission when available.





We will be travelling to Colonial Williamsburg to join
Williamsburg Lodge No. 6
to celebrate St. John the Baptist Day
Saturday, June 22nd 9am to 1pm

Details are still being worked out, but NOW is the time to book your lodging as that is during peak tourist season.

For your convenience, here are some lodging options *within walking distance* to the lodge:

- Marriott Autograph Collection
- The Williamsburg Inn (upscale)
- The Griffin Hotel
- Market Square Tavern room (ask specifically for this location)
- Peter Hay's Kitchen

If you plan to join us, please make sure to let the Worshipful Master know as well so we can give the host lodge an idea on how many Brethren to expect.

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!



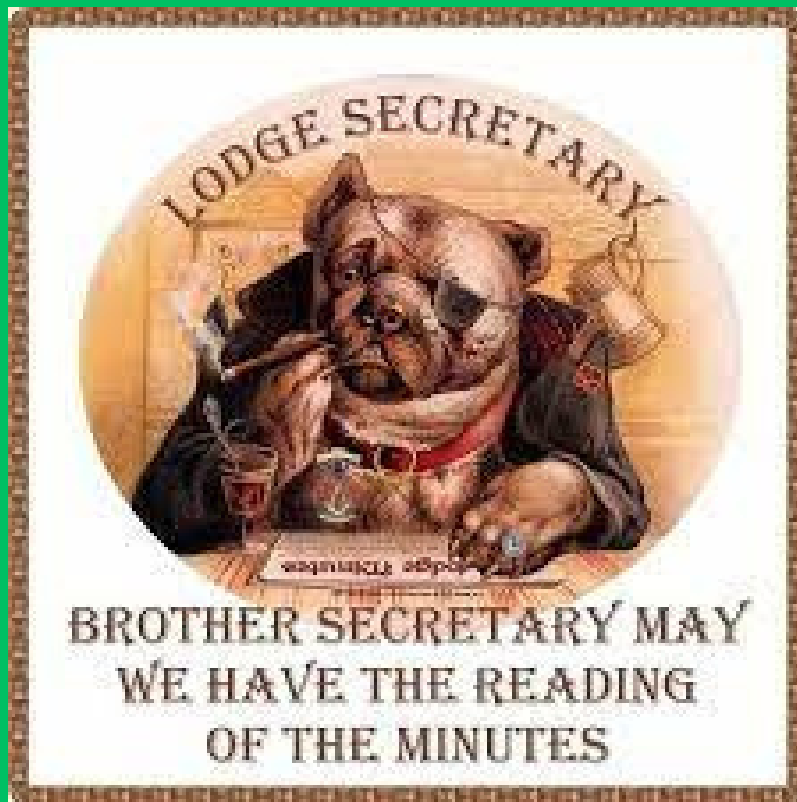
The Wreath-laying ceremony will consist of the Pledge of Allegiance, General Washington's prayer for his country, and the placement of a wreath by the Worshipful Master and his designated assistant. We will be seeking a dispensation to wear Masonic regalia, but this has not yet been approved.

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 close-up photograph of a birthday cake with several lit candles. The candles are in various colors, including blue and white striped, red and white striped, and yellow and white striped. The cake is decorated with blue frosting and white sprinkles. The background is dark and out of focus.

Masonic Birthdays

- Thomas Brierton
- David Kirk
- David Lang
- Richard Phillips
- George Shoemaker, Jr.

| 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

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)



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

