

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

CONTACT US

VISIT US ONLINE HTTPS://FREEDOMLODGE118.ORG/

### From the East

Brethren,

It has been an honor and privilege to have served you this year as Master. It is my opinion that this has been a successful year for the Freedom Lodge. While we did not get to do everything we had set out to such as the Mayfest or the Oktoberfest or the Putt-Putt family event, together we still accomplished many great things that you can all be proud of including numerous charity or community events, support for the local school and Masonic youth groups, visiting other lodges both in the district and beyond, supporting our Widows and Brethren, and raising two Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. We also worked on maintenance of our facilities with both internal and external cleanings and the replacement of the storge closet floor. We had unique Masonic education programs every month and Lodge Education Officer programs. Our Senior Warden obtained his Warden's Certificate, and our Junior Deacon received his Past Master's degree. We had several lodge members join the Scottish Rite who attained the 32nd degree and we were able to recognize members for their years of service. We had a wide variety of events available for the membership to participate in. But the end of a Masonic year is not an end to our work as there is much more to accomplish! I hope that you will endeavor to supporting our incoming officer line. As the saying goes, many hands

make light work and we need your help to make it all happen. It will be imperative for the future of Freedom Lodge to endeavor to raise awareness of the lodge in the community in as many ways as we can. Sadly, Freemasonry continues to be on the decline in Virginia. We need to make sure that the coming generations are aware of who we are, what we strive for and how they can become an active part of it. To accomplish this, we need our members to participate in scheduled lodge events. We all have busy lives, but too often our plans fall short of their potential due to a lack of participation. We also need our members to take on joining degree casts and learning lectures and catechism. I encourage each and every one of you to take an active part in the direction of the lodge as we all have unique ways to contribute. This is YOUR lodge and how it stands years from now will be a direct result of the impact you make today as a part of the foundation.



Matt Duley Master 2024



On a beautiful, picture-perfect Fall Veteran's Day, members Freedom Lodge members and their wives gathered at Mount Vernon to pay respect and lay a wreath at the tomb of Brother George Washington.



The Wreath-laying ceremony consisted of a historical introduction, General Washington's Prayer for his Country read by RW Phil Brooks, and the placement of a wreath inside the vault by two Freedom Lodge veterans of the United States Navy, Worshipful Matt Duley and RW Harris McGarrah. The Master then lead the Pledge of Allegiance and red carnations provided by the DAR were placed at the tomb entrance. Brother Dejan Susic also participated in the ceremony. We were pleased to have our wives join us for the occasion, after which we proceeded to enjoy a meal at the Mount Vernon Inn.





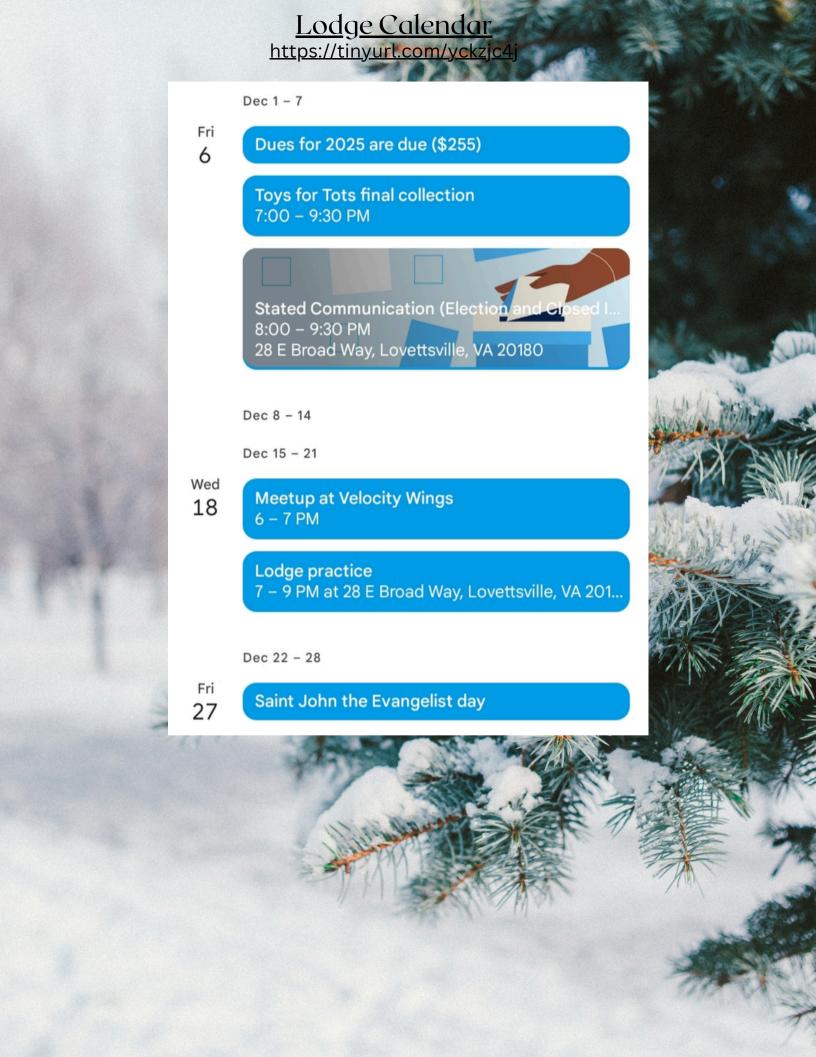
We are excited to announce that again this year, Freedom Lodge will be an official non-public drop site for the Toys for Tots campaign!

All Brethren are requested to bring NEW, UNWRAPPED toys to our November and December Stated meetings if within the length of your cabletow.

We will then seal the toys in clean plastic bags and drop them off at a Loudoun County Fire Hall following our December Stated meeting, no later than December 8th.

# TOYS FOR TOTS







## **Masonic Birthdays**



Evans, Joseph Thomas

George, Fred Lee III

### 2024 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. Dejan 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)).

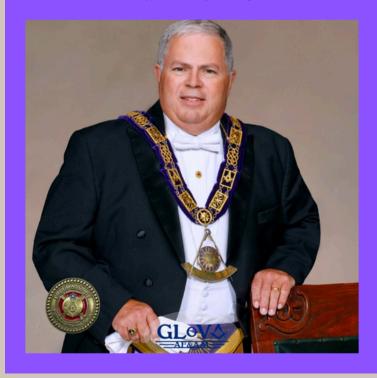
All Master Masons are welcome to attend the Ritual School, and <u>all Line Officers are</u> <u>specifically encouraged to attend as many as they can.</u>

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

Date	Location	Time
12/4/2024	Olive Branch Open Installation practice	7:00PM

### **2025 Grand Master**

Most Worshipful Gary Dwight Huffman



#### **2025 District Officers**

DDGM: RW Eric James LeHew DIW: RW Christopher Conway Thompson

DEO: to be determined



THE SCOTTISH RITE IS ONE OF THE APPENDANT BODIES OF FREEMASONRY THAT A MASTER MASON MAY JOIN FOR FURTHER EXPOSURE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEMASONRY.

IN THE UNITED STATES THE SCOTTISH RITE IS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY GRAND LODGES AS AN EXTENSION OF THE DEGREES OF FREEMASONRY. THE SCOTTISH RITE BUILDS UPON THE ETHICAL TEACHINGS AND PHILOSOPHY OFFERED IN THE CRAFT LODGE, OR BLUE LODGE, THROUGH DRAMATIC PRESENTATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL DEGREES.

#### SCOTTISH RITE CREED

HUMAN PROGRESS IS OUR CAUSE,
LIBERTY OF THOUGHT OUR SUPREME WISH,
FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE OUR MISSION,
AND THE GUARANTEE OF EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL PEOPLE
EVERYWHERE OUR ULTIMATE GOAL.

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 <a href="https://www.alexandriascottishrite.org/">https://www.alexandriascottishrite.org/</a>

