



12

December 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

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 storage 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 October 31st, Brethren and families gathered together to decorate the lodge for a spooktacular Halloween and handed out candy. Thank you to Bros. Al Erickson and Bill Hohl who made this happen. We can never get enough visibility of the lodge in the local community!





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





# Lodge Calendar

<https://tinyurl.com/yckzjc4j>

Dec 1 – 7

Fri  
6

Dues for 2025 are due (\$255)

Toys for Tots final collection  
7:00 – 9:30 PM



Stated Communication (Election and Closed I...  
8:00 – 9:30 PM  
28 E Broad Way, Lovettsville, VA 20180

Dec 8 – 14

Dec 15 – 21

Wed  
18

Meetup at Velocity Wings  
6 – 7 PM

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

Dec 22 – 28

Fri  
27

Saint John the Evangelist day



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

## 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 Valke, 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 Valke, 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.

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

<https://www.alexandriascottishrite.org/>



*Take the Next Step*  
**Petition the  
Scottish Rite!**