



FREEDOM LODGE NO. 118 TRESTLEBOARD

The Southern Least Lodge in Virginia

CONTACT US

VISIT US ONLINE

[HTTPS://FREEDOMLODGE118.ORG/](https://freedomlodge118.org/)

From the East

Brethren,

Finally, the weather has begun to warm up, the trees and flowers are starting to bud out and we can see the promise of Spring beginning to open up!

While we are each getting our gardens in order with new mulch and bright, colorful plantings, let us not forget to get together to assist our widows in gathering the tree branches and limbs that have fallen during the winter storms and dispose of them for them.

Emails have been sent out to most of our brethren whose dues are still pending. I hope that they will get their checks in to us soon so that we can carry on the work of our lodge.

The Sweetheart Brunch was a success, though I would really have liked to have seen more of our brethren in attendance.

I would like for us to pay a fraternal visit to our brethren at Olive Branch 114 for their April stated on the 7th. It is time that we start getting out to see our brother lodges at work in their houses.

Subordinate Lodge Officer Training (SLOT) will be a cooperative effort between Districts 2 and 4 this year. Please keep an eye out for the dates and time and please make every effort to attend as many as you can. The next session is Saturday evening at 7p. See the information below.

The town's Mayfest celebration is right around the corner. Please assist Bro. Hohl in any way that you can and participate.

Wes Hirschhorn

Worshipful Master.

The View from The West

At the Division Leadership Conference in February, one of the breakout sessions was titled "A Civil Fraternity in an Uncivil Time." The speaker made some great points about our place in the world as Masons and what sets us apart as Good Men. He made the point that it is our behavior, not our intentions that are seen by the world and that the tradition of Masonic civility is more than a guideline—it is a call to action in a world that seems to never know Peace. By upholding the high standards of respect and integrity, we honor our obligation and become beacons of harmony in our community. Each courteous word and thoughtful deed is an opportunity to dispel discord and bridge divides. As Masons, we have the unique privilege and responsibility to ease disharmony and foster reformation through our everyday interactions. Each month we are charged to "Do Good Unto All." Let's embrace this in March and remember that our collective commitment to civility and understanding can transform tension into peace, enriching our fraternity and the world beyond our lodge walls.

I encourage you all to join us on the third Wednesday of the month for our Mid Month Meet Up at 5:45 PM then for Ritual practice at the Lodge at 7. This month we'll be having dinner at 1836 then heading over to begin working on the EA degree. If you're new to ritual or you're a gold card ritualist you're welcome and encouraged to come.

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

2025 Freedom Lodge No. 118 Officers

Worshipful Master: Wes Hirschhorn
Senior Warden: Bro. Bill Hohl
Junior Warden: Bro. Brad Westerman
Treasurer: Bro. David Kirk
Secretary: Matt Duley, PM
Senior Deacon: Bro. Cameron Gore
Junior Deacon: Bro. Al Ericson
Chaplain: Bro. Dan Sucic
Tiler: Greg Valker, PDDGM

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

Masonic Birthdays;
Mark Canter March 15
Josip Sapunar March 20
George Facer March 26
Lee McPeak March 26
Garland Cooper March 28

District 2 News

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

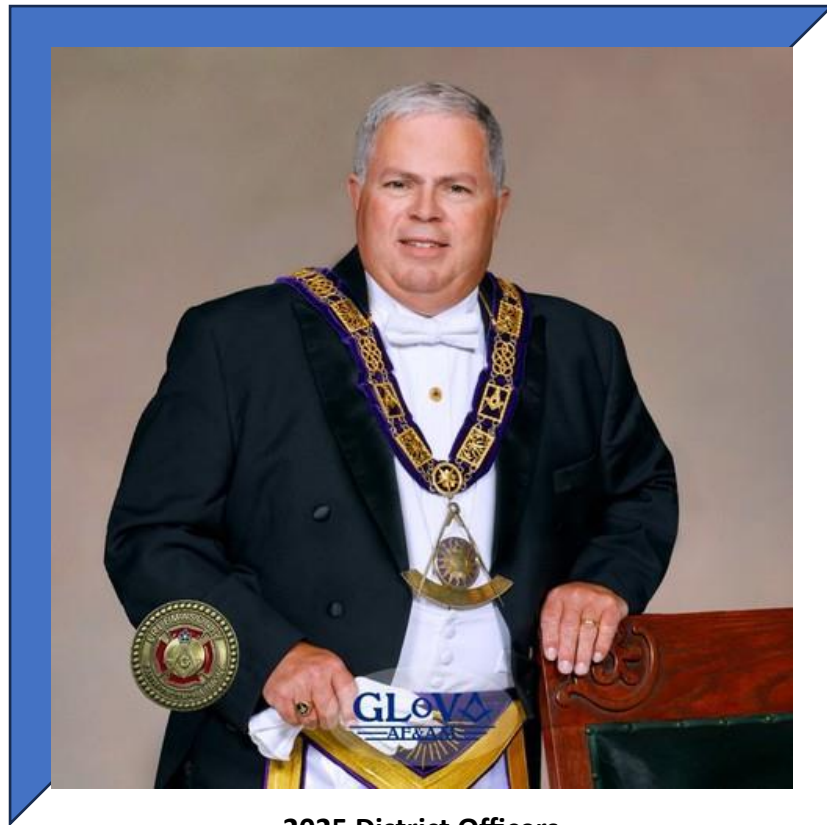
All Master Masons are welcome to attend the Ritual School, and all Line Officers are specifically encouraged to attend *as many as they can*.

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

DATE	LOCATION	TIM E
Saturday March 9	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/cNmONWNCQsC2c5ykltwmWA District 2 and 4 SLOT training session	7PM
April 2	Master's and Wardens Meeting	6pm

2025 Grand Master

Most Worshipful Gary Dwight Huffman



2025 District Officers

DDGM: RW Eric James LeHew

DIW: RW Christopher Conway Thompson

DEO: to be named



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 Mason of the Royal Secret. The Scottish Rite Representative for Freedom Lodge is currently Wor. Matt Duley. Brochures with 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!**