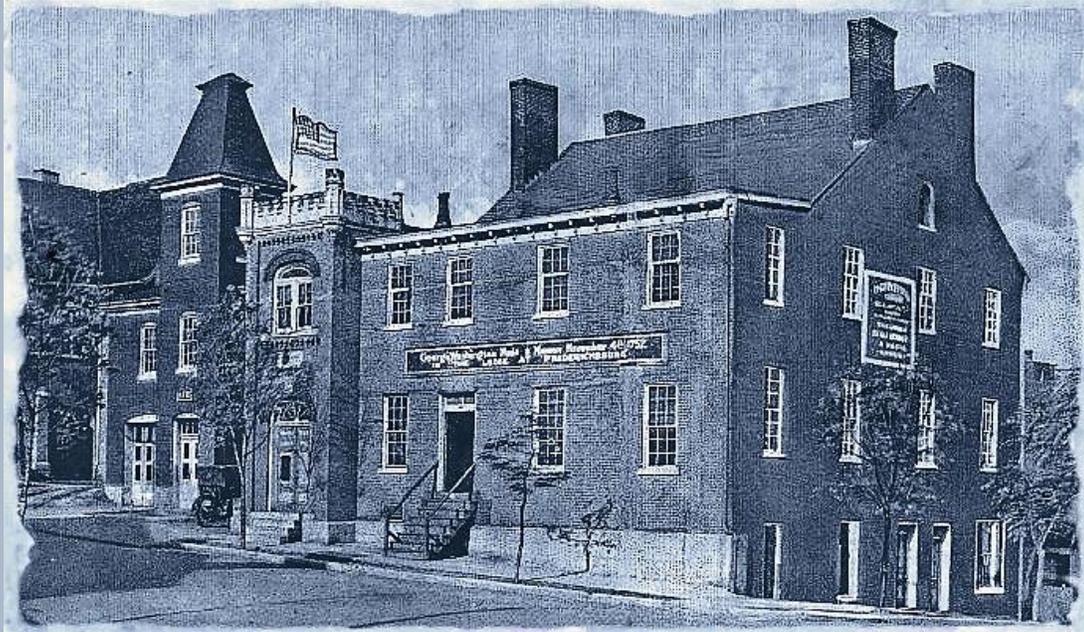


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



TRESTLE BOARD

FIRST RECORDED MEETING - SEPTEMBER 1, 1752

SCOTTISH CHARTER - JULY 21, 1758

VIRGINIA CHARTER - JANUARY 30, 1787

MOTHER LODGE OF ILL. : BRO : GEORGE WASHINGTON

803 Princess Anne St.
Fredericksburg,
VA 22401

Masoniclodge4.org

(540) 373-5885

INITIATED NOVEMBER 4, 1752

PASSED MARCH 3, 1753

RAISED AUGUST 4, 1753

'A TEMPLE OF LIVING STONES'

Stated Meeting
Second Fridays
(except Nov. 4)

Dinner 6:00 pm
Meeting 7:30 pm

Degree Work
Wednesdays 7pm
(check calendar)

FEBRUARY 2021

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Officers' Mtg 7pm (Zoom)	2	3 Ritual Practice 7pm	4	5	6 Meal Delivery 4:30pm (FUMC)
7	8	9	10 Ritual Practice 7pm	11	12 Zoom Call 6:30 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	13 Masonic Education 8am
14	15	16	17 Ritual Practice 7pm	18	19	20
21	22 Wreath-Laying Mount Vernon	23	24 Ritual Practice 7pm	25	26	27 Masonic Education 8am
28						

Consult calendar on website for details and updates.

ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

Middleton, William Scott Jr. Brother	60 years	Williams, Jason Christopher Brother	14 years
Wilhour, James McKinney Brother	58 years	Frank, Henry Joseph Brother	14 years
Baker, Henry William Waite Worshipful	51 years	Mitchell, Jeffrey Lewis Jr. Worshipful	13 years
Wigglesworth, Walter Keith Brother	51 years	Wilsey, Christopher Miles Brother	12 years
Jones, Everett Burton Jr. Brother	49 years	Hammons, James Pemberton Brother	10 years
Barnes, William Allen Brother	48 years	Quatlebaum, Walter Emmett III Brother	9 years
Taylor, Johnny Earl Sr. Brother	48 years	Griffin, William Henry Brother	8 years
Riabouchinsky, Michael Paul Brother	40 years	Mikulas, Jeffrey Alan Brother	8 years
Taylor, Joseph Winston Brother	39 years	Perry, Howard Michael Brother	7 years
Thomas, Clark E. Brother	28 years	Pinkard, Robert Michael Brother	7 years
Hayden, Michael Wade Brother	25 years	Allen, Huey Pierce Jr. Brother	2 years
Lawrence, Kevin Dwane Brother	14 years	Tumanjong, Bernard Ndoh Nwi Brother	1 years

MASTER'S CORNER

Brethren, thanks for the opportunity to address you again. Some think I can be long-winded, but it's your fault if you read to the end. Just a few things of note—although we're very restricted to how many we can have in Lodge and some of our traditional activities have had to be curtailed, we remain busy behind the scenes. We recently restarted our weekly Ritual practice on Wednesday nights. We've done some work in the building, including some rearranging. We recently hung the Past Masters' portraits up in the Anteroom. Our Past Masters are a very important resource to us and we honor them as a valuable part of our history. We will take the opportunity to do some additional work while there's not much going on in the building. This includes evaluating the building roof to see what can be done to repair the leak in the Anteroom and Main Lodge Room, so if you see cranes, that's what that's about.

We're also trying to stay involved in our local community, such as meal deliveries as mentioned last month. Those will be the first Saturday of each month (in the Princess Anne-side parking lot of the Fredericksburg United Methodist Church at 4:30 pm). We had several Brethren come out to support that in January and we hope to get more involved in other efforts in February. Speaking directly to the new Masons—those who went through the October One-Day Conferral—there's plenty for you to do and get involved with. Getting involved in one of the various Committees is a great way to get to know the Brethren and help your Lodge. They say you get out of Masonry what you put in, but in reality you get much more than you put in. A list of Lodge Committees is appended to this month's Trestle Board; please reach out to us if anything sparks your interest.

This is also a reminder that we'll continue doing Zoom calls from 6:30 to 7:30 before each stated meeting to keep you all informed and connected. The January call went very well, with 22 in attendance, including some Brethren we'd not seen in a long time from several different states. If you haven't been to Lodge in a while, we'd welcome you to join us remotely in February.

This month I'd like to discuss one of our highest priority initiatives for the year, that of Education. Masonic Education is a key aspect of developing and retaining active members and fostering a strong, healthy, and harmonious Lodge. You will recall that education is literally central to our teachings, heavily stressed in the Fellowcraft Degree. The Charge of that Degree describes education as that which "*tends so effectually to polish and adorn the mind.*" In the First Degree, a "*virtuous education*" is also one of three means by which we strive towards that state of perfection symbolized by the Perfect Ashlar. Education is not just for the young Mason; it is meant to be part of a Mason's lifelong journey in the Craft. This polishes our Ashlar and is one of the means by which Masonry fulfills its mandate to "make good men better." By continually reminding us of the teachings we received during our Degrees, so easily forgotten once we're raised, it also helps to make us a stronger, more vibrant, more harmonious Lodge.

Surveys put a thirst for Masonic education high on the list of what many seek in coming to the West Gate. New members fall away when they don't get what they were seeking. We're going to give it to them. We are kicking off our new education program with a twice-monthly roundtable discussion forum. This will include discussions on Masonic history, philosophy, symbolism, and many other topics of interest. We'd strongly encourage our newer members in particular to participate, but also need our Past Masters and other learned Brethren to come share their knowledge and experience. Please contact me if interested.

To avoid any confusion, this effort is not teaching the Ritual or Catechism. Those are extremely valuable, but this is a distinct and separate effort. The focus is on developing the mature and well-rounded Mason

by sharing experience and disseminating Masonic Light and knowledge. One key point—this will be done as a group discussion, rather than a formal class. Masonry is largely an individual journey, leading to a great diversity of viewpoints and interpretations. Rather than indoctrinate, the goal is to help a Brother *draw out* or *bring forth* that Perfect Ashlar from within, to help him discover Light for himself. That will be evident when you see my coin, the two sides of which represent—among other things—knowledge and its practical application, and fits the theme for this year, *A Temple of Living Stones*. Finally, this is a new effort and learning process for all of us, so please join us and be patient with us over the next few months.

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Let's get the obligatory dues stuff out of the way....78 Members have paid their dues! That's an awesome number for the notices going out late, again I apologize for that, it won't happen again.

Now on to something a bit more fun! I have brought an old "tradition" back to the Secretaries desk. You will notice that there are cans of Peas and Hominy on my desk inside the Lodge room. Stop by my desk when you get a chance and let's discuss the meaning of them being there. Feel free to drop me a line with guesses as well.

DEO'S MESSAGE

I wish to first thank the Brethren of the Eighth Masonic District for their attendance and participation in the very first Virginia Masonic University training class ever. I can tell you that of the 103 people who registered, 88 people attended the training and 20 of these were from Masonic District 8. This class and course work was a beta and modifications to the material, course work and training will be made as we move forward but this was a great start to be had. Thank you for your representation and I am grateful for the support and for your desire to participate and learn.

I know that the Masonic world has been reeling from this pandemic; Freemasonry is a very social thing and yet we are unable to be as sociable as we would like, but because of this, we must "think outside of the box" and find new ways to pursue and advance in our Craft. One thing that we can do is to take a lesson from jurisdictions who are not so permitted to act in public ways. Because of this, they choose to pursue their works through education and studies and so with the help of technology, this is a very simple thing for us to accomplish.

So as a matter of education, I ask that each Lodge in this District to consider new means, virtual or otherwise, by which you can train and participate with your members, while recognizing that these public forums do require a certain measure of discretion with regard to those things we keep to ourselves and we should likewise maintain Grand Lodge's COVID-19 rules, if at Lodge. I do know that Fredericksburg Lodge has reported they will be offering educational "round table" discussions two Saturday's a month and will be making their Zoom meetings available to the entire District should you wish to participate in these discussions, and I too will also participate.

Thank you for your time, kindness and fraternal consideration in supporting these endeavors and I wish each of you all of the best in 2021.

Fraternally,
Shelby Lee Chandler II
District Education Officer
Masonic District No. 8

LIST OF LODGE No. 4 COMMITTEES

If you have an interest in any of these areas, please contact the Lodge or Committee Chairman directly.

BLOOD COMMITTEE – CHAIR: Bro. Jeff Mikulas

To participate in the GLVA Red Cross Blood Program and ensure volunteer coverage.

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – Bro Kevin Valentine

To maintain building clean and in good repair, keep cemetery free from debris and grass cut, ensure building supplies are in stock and maintained.

CHARITY/BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Wor. Dick Klehm - To attend to the needs of distressed members of the Lodge, check in on older/estranged members, attend to widows/orphans/children.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Bro. Bob Melvin

To develop and implement the Lodge Education Program for both members and candidates, develop and manage mentorship and Leadership training for officers, members, and candidates.

FINANCE/WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE – Bro. Joseph Gilkerson

To monitor the Lodge finances, including adherence to the budget and dues recommendations, engage in long-term planning for financial health of the Lodge, facilitate and participate in the Lodge Audit, identify opportunities to economize, manage Baker Room rentals, have oversight over Lodge Store, coordinate Lodge projects and fundraisers.

FUNERAL SERVICES – Wor. Chuck Cooper

To maintain the ability to perform Memorial services for departed Brethren, ensure good participation.

HISTORY & ARCHIVES COMMITTEE – Bro. Dennis David

To maintain and preserve the Lodge Archives, artifacts (including George Washington Bible), library, published history of the Lodge. Seek out opportunities to promote historical research and make historical information available to the public

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/WEBSITE – Bro. Dennis David

Maintain Lodge wireless communications, website, other public-facing media.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE – Bro. Pat McConnell

To maintain communication with other Lodges, propose/arrange fraternal visits, liaison with Appendant Bodies and Youth Groups, identify charitable events, fundraisers, installations, etc., involving other Lodges and Masonic Bodies, identify opportunities for involvement with community organizations and events (charitable, service, public safety, fraternal, historical, youth-oriented, etc.).

RITUAL & CATECHISM COMMITTEE – Bro. Charles Dirienzo

To ensure Ritual is of high caliber, conduct regular Ritual instruction/practice, propose Degree Teams based on their ability and participation, support officers in getting Wardens' Certificates, train coaches, ensure candidates are advancing properly.

SECURITY – Bro. Paul Dooley

To maintain physical security of the building and manage access control.

STEWARDS' COMMITTEE – Bro. Michael Spellman

To provide meals & refreshment for stated meetings, pancake breakfasts, picnic, and other events, set up Baker Room and Lodge Room for stated/called meetings, run the Lodge Store.

2021 LODGE OFFICERS

Christopher S. Tripp, PM	tripp4srramason@outlook.com	(540) 424-5767	Worshipful Master
Charles L Dirienzo	chuckdirienzo@1976.usna.com	(571) 524-9585	Senior Warden
Joseph Gilkerson	gilkerson@hotmail.com	(540) 907-7404	Junior Warden
Charles Cooper, PM	ccooper627@cox.net	(540) 371-5652	Treasurer
Chris Decker, PM	secretarylodge4va@gmail.com	(540) 424-1028	Secretary
James Snyder, PM	jamie-snyder@usa.net		Asst. Treasurer
Michael Spellman	mspellman@sigmapest.com		Asst. Secretary
Kevin Valentine	vak242@yahoo.com		Senior Deacon
Michael Perry	mikeperry1965@hotmail.com		Junior Deacon
Michael Spellman	mspellman@sigmapest.com		Senior Steward
Michael Shaner	miwash6mm@gmail.com		Junior Steward
Shawn Bryar	asbryar@verizon.net		Chaplain
Patrick McConnell	patmccnll@gmail.com		Marshal
Shelby Chandler, PM	schandler@epaladin.us		Tiler

TRUSTEES

Dennis Berry, PM – 2021
Vacant – 2024

Chris Decker, PM – 2022

Dan Goodwin, PM – 2023
Dennis David - 2025

PROGRAM OFFICERS

Lodge Blood Coordinator
Jeff Mikulas

Lodge Instructor of Work
Charles L. Dirienzo

Lodge Education Officer
Bob Melvin

Masonic Home Ambassador
Ross Upchurch

Lodge Catechism Chair
Huey Allen

Lodge Almoner
Richard Klehm, PM

LIVING PAST MASTERS

Wor.: Carter. G. Wells.....	1963	Wor.: Jene G. Parrotte.....	2004
Wor.: Rudolph E. Griffith.....	1974	R.:W.: Steven W. Sanford.....	2005
Wor.: Henry W. Baker.....	1975	Wor.: Richard D. Dey.....	2006
Wor.: Edward L. Donalson.....	1983	Wor.: Anthony L Rudder.....	2007
Wor.: Carlton D. Beach.....	1985	R.: W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
Wor.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.: Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	Wor.: Shelby L. Chandler.....	2011
Wor.: William J. White.....	1989	Wor.: Christopher J. Decker.....	2012
Wor.: James R. Adams.....	1992	Wor.: Christopher R. Wilson.....	2013
Wor.: Robert W. Benish.....	1993	Wor.: Jeffrey L. Mitchell.....	2014
Wor.: Michael J. McCray.....	1995	R.:w.: Jeffrey P. VanCuren.....	2015
Wor.: Steven M. Gallahan.....	1996	Wor.: James L. Ragsdale.....	2016
Wor.: Charles B. Pasto.....	1998	Wor.: Michael T. Moses.....	2017
Wor.: J. Travis Walker.....	2000	Wor.: Daniel T. Goodwin.....	2018
Wor.: Daniel W. Thompson.....	2001	Wor.: James M. Snyder.....	2019
R.:W.: W. Robert Brammer.....	2002	Wor.: Stanley R. Kennedy.....	2020
Wor.: Sheridan G. Harrod.....	2003		