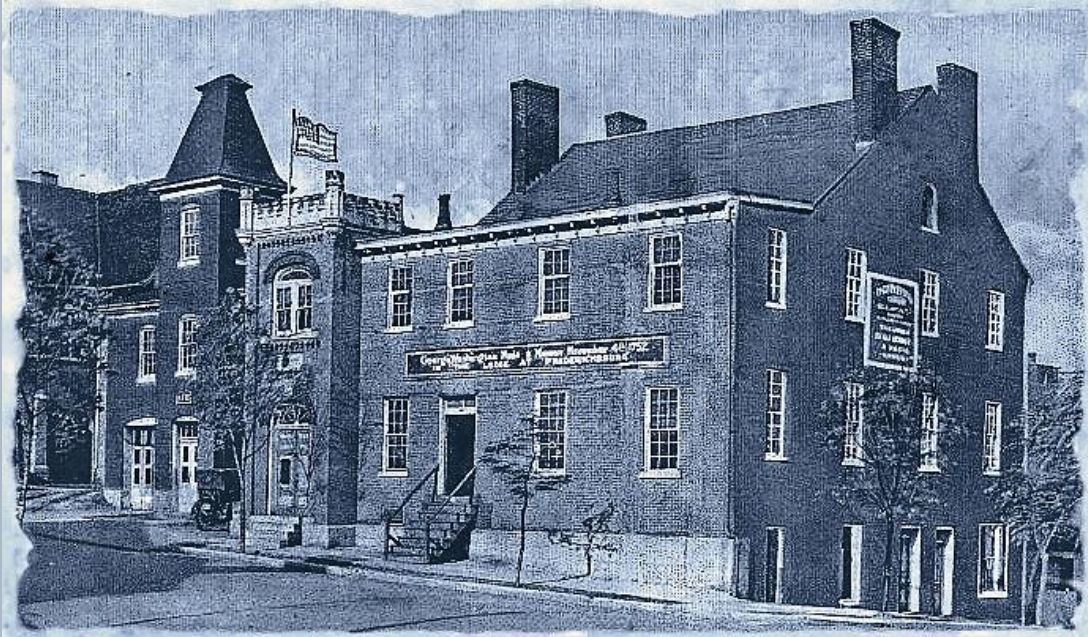


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



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

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)

APRIL 2021

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5 Officers' Mtg. 7pm (Zoom)	6	7 Lodge Cleaning 7pm	8	9 Zoom Call 6:30 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	10 Education - Cemetery Cleanup - Meal Delivery
11	12	13	14 Ritual Practice (EA) 7pm	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 EA Degree 7pm	22	23	24 Education 8am
25	26	27	28 Ritual Practice (MM) 7pm	29	30	

Consult calendar on website for details and updates.

A few specific dates to bring to your attention—

April 10th: Lodge Education 8-10am – Baker Room & Zoom (Meeting ID = 885 6728 3122; passcode 952595)

Cemetery Cleanup – 10am. We need lots of helpers to mow grass, remove branches, and rake leaves.

Meal Delivery – FUMC, Princess Anne Parking Lot – 4:30pm

TBD: We are also planning an outdoor social gathering later in April to help bring everyone back together and will begin making fraternal visits to other Lodges...please stay tuned to the website and Friends of Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge Facebook group!

ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

Thomas McKinley Schuler Jr	66 years	George Harry Chapin	52 years
Lester Ellsworth Wood	46 years	Joseph Lawrence Ilk	43 years
Alexander Murray Campbell	41 years	Richard Dale Dey Sr	38 years
George Robert Walker	38 years	Steven Michael Gallahan	30 years
Charles Bradley Pasto	29 years	Sheridan Gregory Harrod	24 years
Ralph Nelson Terry	23 years	Peyton Franklin Carter III	20 years
Michael Highlen Long II	19 years	Marcus Eugene Simes Jr	19 years
Ali Bongo-Ondimba	17 years	George Ervin Brookman	13 years
William Morris Jr	11 years	Scot Anthony Cooler	10 years
Ross David Upchurch	10 years	Anthony Fernando Cox-Gutoerrex	7 years
Robert Lous Waslov	3 years	Richard Otto Bobinger	3 years

MASTER'S CORNER

Brethren, we're delighted to share exciting news with you this month. Starting April 1st, the Lodge will again be able to host gatherings of up to 50. We will therefore be resuming most normal activities. Stated meetings will once again be open to members and visitors. While 50 exceeds our usual attendance, in the unlikely event we exceed expected numbers we will admit brethren on a first-come basis and seat members before visitors. Brethren are therefore urged to arrive at the Lodge by 7:15 pm. We will also resume reading petitions, voting on candidates, and conferring Degrees. We currently have a backlog and expect to have a busy spring and summer. This is a good problem for a Lodge to have. It provides an opportunity for more Brethren to get involved, so come down some Wednesday night and volunteer to learn a part.

The one activity we will not resume right away is serving meals, whether pancake breakfasts or our meals before stated. Under the Grand Lodge's Phase I guidelines, only boxed meals may be served. The biggest question I've had is when we're going to start serving the pancake breakfasts again. We expect to resume them under Phase II, hopefully in the very near future. For now, we will continue to meet over at J. Brian's before stated, but plan to start having dinners in the Lodge before long.

This is the news we've all been waiting for, but it's still possible there could be setbacks, so we all have to do our parts and be diligent in following the health and safety protocols required by the Grand Lodge. I refer you to the Grand Master's letter dated March 25th, 2021, as well as his June 9, 2020 letter entitled "Reopening Masonic Lodges in Virginia."

Appendant bodies and youth groups meeting in the building must follow the same Grand Lodge protocols as Blue Lodge, in addition to their own rules, but may not serve food or drinks in the building.

The last year, including the shutdown in the spring and summer and severe restrictions this winter, have been hard on all of us. Yet we must always look for opportunity in the midst of adversity. We must search for and embrace the good that will come out of all of this. We've learned new skills and learned the value of new technology. We will continue to look for ways to expand our involvement in our community. We will continue to foster education both in Lodge and remotely. We will continue to hold monthly Zoom calls to keep in touch with our Brethren wheresoever dispersed. And hopefully we will learn to appreciate

our families, friends, and Brethren a little more, to be a little more tolerant and forgiving, and not to sweat the small stuff. May peace and harmony prevail.

Lastly, we have a need for new coaches and mentors. We'd like to assign each candidate both a catechism coach and a mentor. Even if you're not great at memorizing ritual, you may have experience and wisdom that can be invaluable in helping guide a younger Brother. This can be an extremely rewarding experience for both. Please reach out to our Catechism Chair or LEO if you're interested.

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Thank you to all who have paid their dues thus far. Did you know you can pay them electronically on the website?

"The strength of Freemasonry is in its loyalty to each other." – Vasilios Karpos

FROM THE WEST

Brethren,

In anticipation of Lodge reopening, we need to firm up our Master Mason Degree team. Because of the number of parts to learn, we would like to start working on this ASAP.

We will be working on these on Wednesdays. For MM Second Section, the following parts need to be filled: KS, HKT, R1/2/3, FC1/2/3, SD, JD/SFM.

Bro. Chuck Dirienzo, SW/LIW

NUGGETS FROM NUGGETS

"We take an oath, not a suggestion"

Brother Bob Melvin, DEO



Our volunteers who helped Fredericksburg United Methodist Church and Micah Ministries deliver meals to local area homeless on March 13th. Proud of all who helped, including our very own OES Chapter #29 and Rainbow Assembly #12.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Two Merry Masons

Dr. John Sutherland /G\ and Robert Duncanson /G\ were two good-natured Masonic Brothers who came to Fredericksburg in the 1740's and were self-sufficient, and held no responsibilities. Needless to say, this is always a bad mix and they were constantly itching for good-natured excitement but found themselves often before the Courts. It is my conclusion that these two brothers were the essence of Shriners way before their time. But in 1757, when they were tolerated with much amusement by the Justices of the District Court, they would gain the animosity of one Judge Benjamin Grymes.

Sutherland especially enraged Judge Grymes, who issued a warrant for him "as a person of infamous character". The other Judges defended Sutherland, but Grymes was a man of terrible disposition and a superiority complex and as such, he knew many such who would undermine his actions and spur his overzealous rage. One such person was Charles Dick /G\ who as Sheriff would ignore these warrants, which enraged Justice Grymes even more. But Duncanson was not as fortunate as Sutherland and found himself removed from Judge Grymes' courtroom and thrown into prison until he could post bond for his good behavior.

Despite this setback, Brother Duncanson made the most of his incarceration and turned it into a party. An enraged Grymes reported of the event to the Lord Governor witnessing that "with sundry others to carry table, chairs, and liquor into the goal (jail), they there revel till late into the night." There is no known record of any reprisal for this "Jail-fest", but Grymes will eventually be removed by the governor in order to "restore peace and harmony to that county" and would be replaced by Fielding Lewis /G\ at the request of Charles Dick and the other justices.

Shamelessly stolen from the pen of Wor. Shelby Chandler, Lodge Historian - CT

2021 LODGE OFFICERS

Christopher S. Tripp, PM	wm@masoniclodge4.org	(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		