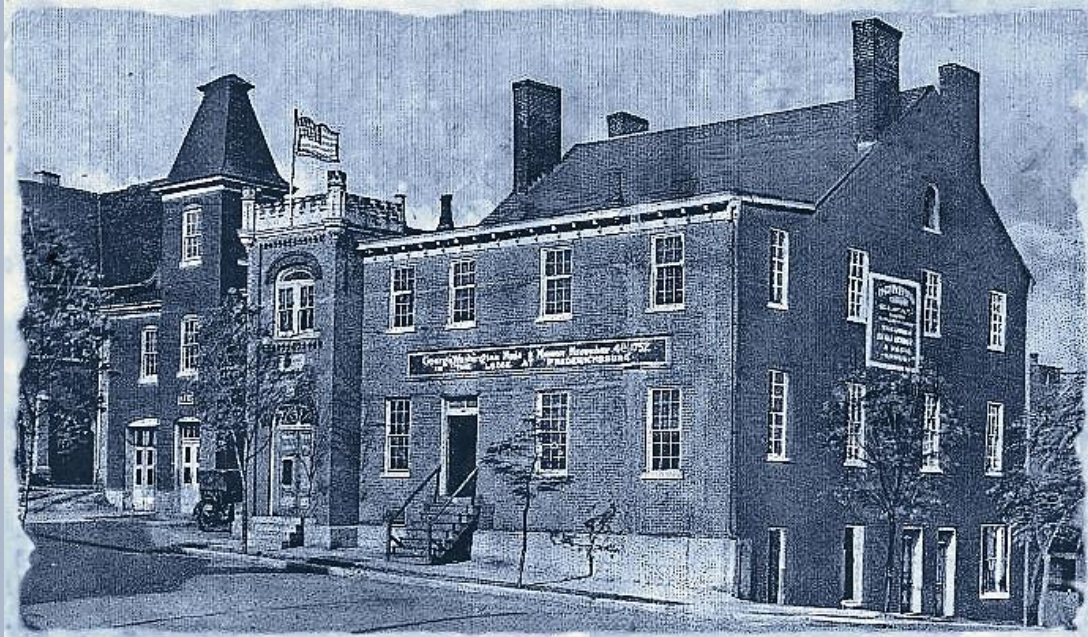


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



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

INITIATED NOVEMBER 4, 1752

PASSED MARCH 3, 1753

RAISED AUGUST 4, 1753

Stated Meeting
Second Fridays
(Except Nov. 4)

Masoniclodge4.org

'ACCOUNTABILITY, COURAGE, MORALITY, COMPASSION'
MARCH 2023

Dinner 6:30 pm
Meeting 7:30 pm

Degree Work
Wednesdays 7pm
(Check calendar)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS -March

<https://masoniclodge4.org/calendar-2/>

FREDERICKSBURG MASONIC LODGE

Mar 2023 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 1pm - Job's Daughters	27	28 6:30pm - District 8 Ritual 7pm - DeMolay Meeting	1 7pm - Lodge Work /	2 11am - BNI	3	4 George Washington 8am - Pancake Breakfast 11am - George
5 1pm - Rainbow Girls 7:30pm - Grotto	6	7	8 7pm - Lodge Work /	9	10 7:30pm - #4 Stated	11
12 1pm - Job's Daughters	13	14	15 7pm - Lodge Work /	16 6:30pm - SOOB #266 7:30pm - Commandery	17 Saint Patrick's Day @	18
19 3pm - Rainbow #12	20 6:30pm - OES #29	21 6:30pm - Royal Arch #23	22 10:30am - E.H. Cann 7pm - Lodge Work /	23	24	25
26 1pm - Job's Daughters	27	28 6:30pm - District 8 Ritual 7pm - DeMolay Meeting	29 7pm - Lodge Work /	30	31	1 8am - Pancake Breakfast 10am - Civil War Lodge of 1pm - RAC #23 York Rite

Consult calendar on website for details and updates.

MASTER's CORNER

Brethren, March is here, and spring is around the corner!

We had a very busy Masonic month in February. Wor. Christopher Tripp (PM), Wor. Shelby Chandler (PM), and I were honored to be able to represent Lodge #4 by participating in the George Washington Memorial Corner Stone Laying reenactment at the George Washington Memorial. Additionally, we escorted the George Washington Obligation Bible to the Grand Masters Convention being held in Alexandria, Va. We ran into a few members of Lodge #4 that moved out of state (and are still Members). Most notably, Most Worshipful Jeffery Van Curen (Grand Master of South Dakota 2021) who is a Past Master of Fredericksburg Lodge #4 (2015). Brother Paul Dooley was on hand providing security!

Lodge #4 had the pleasure and honor of hosting the Grand Lodge of California on February 18th as they opened their Grand Lodge in our historic Lodge. Grand Master Randal Brill sat in the East and led their wonderful ritual. It was an excellent experience to witness how they perform their ritual.

On February 22nd, Wor. Christopher Tripp (PM), Wor. Shelby Chandler (PM), and I were present at the Wreath Laying at Brother George Washington's tomb to celebrate his birth.

It is my sad duty to inform everyone that Worshipful Frank Jones has laid down his working tools. Worshipful Brother Frank was a member of Lodge #4, was our Blood Drive Coordinator, and a member of the E.H. Cann Daylight Lodge #1752 where he was the sitting Worshipful Master. Worshipful Frank was active in the Acca Shrine and is survived by his wife Betty. A Masonic Funeral will be conducted for Worshipful Frank on March 11th, at 1 pm at Fredericksburg Baptist Church.

On March 4th (after the Pancake Breakfast) a Lodge from New York State will be Passing one of their members to the Degree of Fellow Craft in our Lodge. This is a significant event in that George Washington Lodge #285 was here in our Lodge on the same day in 1923 to celebrate Brother George Washington's Passing to Fellow Craft. There are pictures in the archives of the event from 1923.

I invite you to attend March's Pancake Breakfast (March 4th 800am – 1000am \$5.00) and/or Stated (March 10th dinner at 630pm \$15.00) and catch up with your Brothers and to meet and greet new Petitioners. If you have not sat in Lodge for a while, **no worries**, we will provide a "Rusty Nail" class to anyone who feels they may need it and you can sit with a brother who will make sure you remember "the dance".

Beginning in April, Stated meals will be increased to \$20.00. This is due to the inflation of the cost to prepare the meals. I believe the caterer has done a wonderful job in providing a variety of excellent meals that healthy, tasty, with an excellent desert.

With the uptick in petitions the Lodge is getting, we need Catechism Coaches. All Coaches will need to complete a training session conducted by Wor. Christopher Tripp and be approved by him. Training session dates/time will be forthcoming.

If you are interested in attending any of the DDGM visits in the District, here is the remaining schedule that we will be following. You will need to reach out to the lodges directly to coordinate dinner, if you plan on eating at the Stated meals.

- Thursday 3/16 - Ashland

The Grand Master's District Visit will be on June 10th at the Doswell Community Center. Tickets will be \$25.00.

I would like to give another reminder, if you have not already done so, make sure you have paid your Lodge Dues. Dues for 2023 are \$215. You are able to pay your dues (and your back dues) via the Lodge's web page (there is a fee to use PayPal added), you can mail a check, or drop by the Lodge to pay.

If you have had a change of address, email address, or phone number make sure you update your new information in Grand View, we have received a few returned mailed correspondences that were sent out to the Brethren.

Don't forget to take a look at the Lodge Calendar ([Calendar – Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge No. 4 \(masoniclodge4.org\)](https://masoniclodge4.org)) to make sure you know what is going on with your Lodge. As stated previously, if you have been away for a while, fear not... come by on any Wednesday and we will give you a "rusty nail" class – no need to worry about forgetting anything as you will be given a refresher and will have a Brother sit with you during Stated to answer any questions you may have and to guide you. It is just like riding a bike!! We would enjoy having you come back and sit in Lodge with us.

Have a great March!

I will leave you with a Poem by Lord Alfred Tennyson. Not a Mason but still a good poem.

The Charge of the Light Brigade

By Lord Alfred Tennyson

Half a league, half a league, Half a league onward, All in the valley of Death Rode the six hundred.
"Forward, the Light Brigade! Charge for the guns!" he said. Into the valley of Death. Rode the six hundred.

"Forward, the Light Brigade!" Was there a man dismayed? Not though the soldier knew Someone had blundered. Theirs not to make reply, Theirs not to reason why, Theirs but to do and die.
Into the valley of Death Rode the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them, Cannon to left of them, Cannon in front of them Volleyed and thundered;
Stormed at with shot and shell, Boldly they rode and well, Into the jaws of Death, Into the mouth of hell Rode the six hundred.

Flashed all their sabres bare, Flashed as they turned in air Sabering the gunners there, Charging an army, while All the world wondered. Plunged in the battery-smoke Right through the line they broke; Cossack and Russian Reeled from the Sabre stroke Shattered and sundered. Then they rode

back, but not, not the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them, Cannon to left of them, Cannon behind them Volleyed and thundered.
Stormed at with shot and shell, While horse and hero fell. They that had fought so well came
through the jaws of Death, Back from the mouth of hell, All that was left of them, Left of six
hundred.

When can their glory fade? O the wild charge they made! All the world wondered.
Honor the charge they made! Honor the Light Brigade, Noble six hundred!

Respectfully and Fraternally,

Joe Gilkerson, Worshipful Master
Fredericksburg Lodge #4
George Washington's Mother Lodge

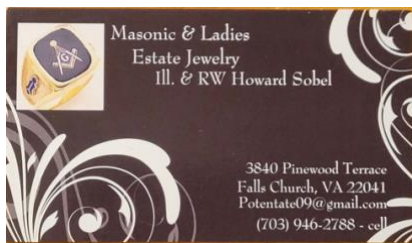
SECRETARY's CORNER

Brethren,

I was going to give my normal speech about dues but the Master seems to have taken care of that in his article above. I will say that the names of those delinquent have gone to the Grand Lodge to start the process for suspension. Please don't let this be you. We are happy to work with you on a payment plan to putting dues aside until you get back on your feet. You just have to communicate with the Lodge.

If you have been in the Baker room you may have noticed that the wall is starting to fill up with bricks and we are getting more and more to put on the wall. Here is the link to purchase one for yourself or organization.

<https://www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/fxbg4?fbclid=IwAR3R3uEbAzNJLp9eMNUroNFKso3qiziNV6j-T0Q8aq74ZhtSqJiUErQNxJ4>



2023 LODGE OFFICERS

Joseph Gilkerson	gilkerson@hotmail.com	(540) 907-7404	Worshipful Master
Patrick McConnell	patmccnll@gmail.com	(540) 809-1311	Senior Warden
Dennis David	ddavid@agendasec.com		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 Dove	michaeldove79@gmail.com		Senior Deacon
Ken Carey	buddy79@comcast.net		Junior Deacon
Seth Roderick	sethroderick@protonmail.com		Senior Steward
Bill Clark Jr.	william.r.clarkjr.67@gmail.com		Junior Steward
Christopher S. Tripp, PM	tripp4srramason@outlook.com		Chaplain
Kevin Valentine	yak242@yahoo.com		Marshal
Shelby Chandler, PM	schandler@epaladin.us		Tiler

TRUSTEES

Dan Goodwin, PM – 2023
Dennis Berry, PM – 2026

Charles Cooper, PM – 2024
Chris Decker, PM – 2027

Dennis David – 2025

PROGRAM OFFICERS

Lodge Blood Coordinators

Lodge Instructor of Work
Christopher S. Tripp, PM

Lodge Education Officer
Bob Melvin

Masonic Home Ambassador
Ken Carey

Lodge Catechism Chair
Christopher S. Tripp, PM

Lodge Almoner
Patrick McConnell

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
R.:W.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	R.:W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
Wor.:Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.:William J. White.....	1989	Wor.: Shelby L. Chandler.....	2011
Wor.:James R. Adams.....	1992	Wor.: Christopher J. Decker.....	2012
Wor.:Robert W. Benish.....	1993	Wor.: Christopher R. Wilson.....	2013
Wor.:Michael J. McCray.....	1995	Wor.: Jeffrey L. Mitchell.....	2014
Wor.:Steven M. Gallahan.....	1996	M.:W.: Jeffrey P. VanCuren.....	2015
Wor.: Charles B. Pasto.....	1998	Wor.: James L. Ragsdale.....	2016
Wor.: J. Travis Walker.....	2000	Wor.: Michael T. Moses.....	2017
Wor.: Daniel W. Thompson.....	2001	Wor.: Daniel T. Goodwin.....	2018
R.:W.: W. Robert Brammer.....	2002	Wor.: James M. Snyder.....	2019
Wor.: Sheridan G. Harrod.....	2003	Wor.: Stanley R. Kennedy.....	2020
		Wor.: Christopher S. Tripp.....	2021



HOME *Staging* TIP

HIGHLIGHT YOUR HOME'S STRENGTHS
AND APPEAL TO THE PROSPECTIVE
BUYERS WITH THESE HOME-STAGING TIPS.

CURB APPEAL

The first impression is key. No matter how good the interior of your home looks, buyers have already judged your home before they walk through the door. It's important to make people feel warm, welcome and safe as they approach the house. Add a fresh coat of paint to the front door, a welcome mat and some potted plants. Power-wash the house exterior,

Be sure to see the most recent inventory on our new, user-friendly website!
www.VickieClarkJennings.com



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty

Lisa McConnell

Licensed Real Estate Agent

540-273-0203

Lisa@VickieClarkJennings.com

www.VickieClarkJennings.com

3106 Plank Road Fredericksburg, VA 22407

©2023 BHH Affiliates, LLC. Real Estate Brokerage Services are offered through the network member franchisees of BHH Affiliates, LLC. Most franchisees are independently owned and operated. Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices and the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices symbol are registered service marks of Columbia Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate. Information not verified or guaranteed. If your property is currently listed with a Broker, this is not intended as a solicitation. Equal Housing Opportunity.



**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HOMESERVICES
PENFED REALTY



Market Stats

In **February** in the greater Fredericksburg area, **130 homes closed. 38% sold in 10 days or less.**

This is more evidence that there is still high demand for well maintained homes priced reasonably. Many of our clients buying homes are still facing bidding wars.

As of this writing on February 28th, 2023, **there are only 109 homes on the market in the Fredericksburg area** - fewer than sold last month and we're entering the peak spring season. That means right now there is less than one month's of inventory available.

If you are thinking about buying or selling a home, please call us first to get the facts about what is really happening in our local real estate market.



Chris Ognik, Broker, MBA

www.QRealEstateSolutions.com

C.Ognik@QRealestateSolutions.com

540-834-7343

205B Wallace Lane

Fredericksburg, VA 22408

Build, Baby, Build!

The reality of the local housing shortage we've been telling you about is finally being realized by the broader market as home buyers consistently remark "I don't like any of the houses for sale!" Many home buyers are realizing that building a new home can be a better strategy than trying to slug it out in the open market competing for the few top quality homes that are available.

Lumber prices have come down significantly which can make building a new home similar in price to buying a resale. If you have questions about building a new home and want to explore it as an option, call or email us to schedule some time to learn more about the possibilities.

Rate Perspective

Everyone thought home prices would come down in our area with the spike in interest rates but the force of demand for housing has proven to be stronger than the higher interest rates. The higher rates have certainly slowed down the market and taken the frothiness out of it but homes that are well maintained and priced correctly are still getting multiple offers. Interest rates settled to below 6% and with that, we were right back to the bidding wars which we think is a combination of the market coming to terms with the reality of the current interest rate environment and the fact that they still need some where to live.



THE PRIMELENDING MORTGAGE PROCESS

YOUR JOURNEY HOME STARTS HERE



1. APPLICATION

Whether it's online or in person, we'll gather the necessary documents from you to complete your quick and seamless application.



2. SUBMITTING PAPERWORK

Additional paperwork is often needed to streamline the process, such as two years of W2's, two months of bank statements and one month of paystubs.



3. PRE-QUALIFICATION*

This important step lets you know how much you've prequalified for, so you can stay within your home buying budget.



4. FINDING YOUR HOME

Keep your prequalification range in mind while you search. When you find a home, remember closing costs, seller concessions and loan length are all important.



5. HOME APPRAISAL

An appraisal is required to verify the value of the property to ensure you're not overpaying for your potential new home.



6. GETTING INSURANCE

Most mortgage lenders require home insurance that covers fire and other hazards, such as floods. Some loans also require mortgage insurance if your down payment is less than 20%.



7. LOAN PROCESSING

We package all final documents and send to our processing department for review and approval. Your details are then sent to underwriting to ensure everything is complete.



8. UNDERWRITING

An underwriter will look over your loan application from start to finish. They will see if any additional information is required and then make the decision to approve your loan.



9. CLOSING & FUNDING

With the underwriter's approval and all documents submitted, the packet is sent to the attorney or title company to be signed, funded by PrimeLending, and filed for records.



Ian Nunya-Smith

Loan Originator NMLS1816919

Office (443) 699-7055

Mobile (410) 562-6414

ian.nunyasmith@primelending.com

lo.primelending.com/ian.nunyasmith

209 West St, Ste 304
Annapolis, MD 21401



* All loans subject to credit approval. A qualification is not an approval of credit and does not signify that underwriting requirements have been met. Conditions and restrictions apply. All loans subject to credit approval. Rates and fees subject to change.
©2022 PrimeLending, a PrimeCapital Company (PrimeLending). (NMLS 13945) Equal Housing Lender.
PrimeLending is licensed by the MD Dept. of Labor, Licensing & Regulation - lender license: 11056, v010918