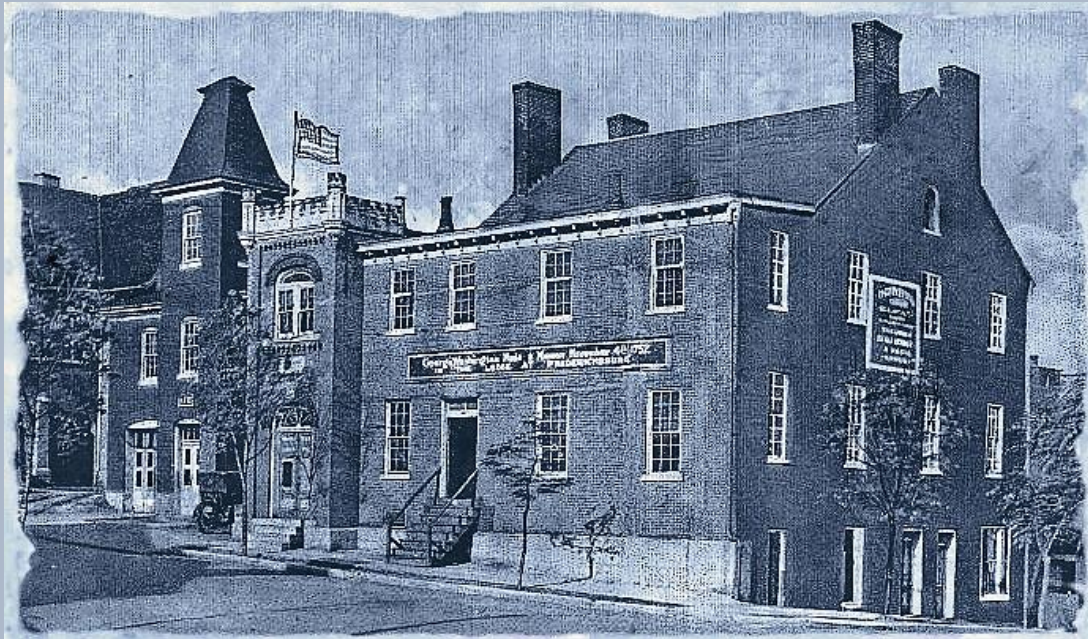


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



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
APRIL 2023

Dinner 6:30 pm
Meeting 7:30 pm

Degree Work
Wednesdays 7pm
(Check calendar)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS -April

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

FREDERICKSBURG MASONIC LODGE

Apr 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	29 7pm - Lodge Work /	30	31	1 8am - Pancake Breakfast 10am - Civil War Lodge of 1pm - RAC #23 York Rite
2 1pm - Rainbow Girls 7:30pm - Grotto	3	4	5 7pm - Lodge Work /	6	7 9:30am - Indiana Grand	8
9 1pm - Job's Daughters	10	11	12 7pm - Lodge Work /	13	14 7:30pm - #4 Stated	15
16 3pm - Rainbow #12	17 6:30pm - OES #29	18 6:30pm - Royal Arch #23	19 7pm - Lodge Work /	20 6:30pm - SOOB #266 7:30pm - Commandery	21	22 8am - Fredericksburg
23 1pm - Job's Daughters	24	25 6:30pm - District 8 Ritual 7pm - DeMolay Meeting	26 10:30am - E.H. Cann 7pm - Lodge Work /	27	28	29 One Day Conferal
30	1 6:30pm - OES #29	2	3 7pm - Lodge Work /	4	5	6 8am - Pancake Breakfast

Consult calendar on website for details and updates.

MASTER'S CORNER

Brethren, April is here, time for Spring cleaning and rooting for your favorite baseball team.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the funeral of Worshipful Frank Jones. The Masonic service was well attended by Brothers of Fredericksburg #4, E.H. Cann Daylight Lodge #1752, and the ACCA Shrine. The service was led by Worshipful Chuck Cooper. I am sure his wife Betty was pleased to see all of the Brothers pay their last respects to a good Brother and a good man.

On March 4th George Washington Lodge #285 from New York State exemplified the Fellow Craft Degree by Passing one of their members our Lodge. The ceremony was beautifully performed and was an excellent experience for all who attended to see how degree work is performed in other states. March 4th is a significant date for George Washington Lodge #285 and Fredericksburg #4 as exactly 100 years ago, on that date, our Lodges met here in Fredericksburg to celebrate Brother George Washington's Passing to Fellow Craft. During that meeting in 1923 Lodge #285 presented Lodge #4 with a silver cup that is still on display in the original Lodge Room.

At the March Stated, Wor. Chris Decker (PM), Wor. Chuck Cooper (PM), and Bro. Kevin Valentine were each presented an Outstanding Service for 2023 Trowel award. I will be presenting these at Stated meetings as a small token of appreciation for the great work that is being done at Lodge #4. Thank you, Brethren for the work you do for this Lodge, the Brethren, and the community.

I invite you to attend April's Pancake Breakfast (April 1st 800am – 1000am \$5.00) and our Stated meeting (April 14th dinner at 630pm \$20.00) 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".

Remember, 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.

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

On May 13th the OES will have their Craft Bazaar in the Baker Room. Stop by and purchase some well made crafts.

Please join me in welcoming 3 new Master Masons that were recently Raised in Lodge 4, Brother's Jeff Adams, Don Meyer, and Abdulkarim Assaad.

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.

Have a happy Easter and a great April!

I will leave you with a quote by Brother and President Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt called “*The Man in the Arena*” This is from a speech he gave in Paris, France, on April 23, 1910, shortly after leaving the office of the President. The speech was titled “Citizenship in a Republic”.

“It is not the critic who counts, not the one who points out how the strong man stumbled or how the doer of deeds might have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred with sweat and dust and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, if he wins, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.”

Respectfully and Fraternally,

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

ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES

Thomas Schuler	68 years	George Harry Chapin	54 years
Lester Ellsworth Wood	48 years	Joseph Lawrence Ilk	45 years
Alexander Murray Campbell	43 years	Richard Dale Dey	40 years
George Robert Walker	40 years	Steven Michael Gallahan	32 years
Sheridan Gregory Harrod	26 years	Ralph Nelson Terry	25 years
Peyton Franklin Carter	22 years	Marcus Eugene Simes	21 years
Ali Bongo-Ondimba	19 years	George Ervin Brookman	15 years
William Morrison	13 years	Scot Anthony Cooler	12 years
Ross David Upchurch	12 years	Antonio Cox-Gutierrez	9 years
Robert Lous Waslov	5 years	William Roger Clark	1 year

SECRETARY's CORNER

Brethren,

Welcome to SPRING! The Lodge is in better shape than it has been in years! The Lodge ceiling will be repaired with new plaster and paint once the weather warms up just a bit more.

There are many projects going on in the building, which is to be expected in a 200+ year old building but I can assure you it is in good shape and the buildings and grounds committee, and the officers are doing an amazing job making sure it will still be standing for another 200 years.

If you would like to purchase a brick for the wall in the Baker room please visit this link:

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

One last bit....Letters from the Grand Master have gone out to those who are delinquent. Please contact the Lodge immediately if you are behind in your dues.



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.

BEWARE OF PET ODORS

When staging your home for sale, remember not everybody is a dog or cat lover. If you have pets, get all rugs steam cleaned and be extra vigilant about vacuuming and washing surfaces. Buyers don't want to walk into a home and see a bowl full of dog food, smell the kitty litter box or have pet hair stuck to their clothes. It will give buyers the impression your home is not clean. When showings happen, make sure you have a plan in place to conceal the critters..

**Thinking of selling your home?
NOW IS THE PERFECT TIME WHILE INVENTORY IS STILL VERY LOW!
Call me for a free valuation of your home!**

LISA McCONNELL
540-273-0203



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty

Lisa McConnell

Licensed Real Estate Agent

540-273-0203

Lisa@VickieClarkJennings.com

3106 Plank Road Fredericksburg, VA 22407

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**BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY**
HOMESERVICES
PENFED REALTY



Market Stats

In **March** in the greater Fredericksburg area, **149 homes closed** (not including new construction) with an **Average 24 Days on Market**. However, the median was only 7 days, meaning half sold in less than a week.

As of this writing on March 28th, 2023, **there are only 119 homes on the market in the Fredericksburg area** - with an average sales price of \$452,000.

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 Ognek, Broker, MBA

www.QRealEstateSolutions.com

C.Ognek@QRealestateSolutions.com

540-834-7343

205B Wallace Lane

Fredericksburg, VA 22408



Interest Rates, Anyone?

After the rapid increase in interest rates last year, the market adjusted to the “new normal” of interest rates and Homebuyers came back to the housing market strong in January. The reality is, interest rates are still at their historical lows. The last time interest rates were this “low” was 2008. Prior to that, they were never below 5.5% dating all the way back to the 1970s! Expectations are that the FED will lower rates once a recession is officially declared but the consensus seems to be “higher for longer” to avoid the missteps of the 1970s inflation battle where rates were lowered too soon and inflation came back higher a few years later. No one is expecting rates to be lower than 5%. It's possible, but no one we know is making any financial plans or decisions based on lower interest rates. The risk of being wrong is too high.

Personal Finance and Your Home

For most of us, our homes are the foundation of our personal finances and wealth building. We're available anytime to discuss options, opportunities, and strategies to manage your real estate and personal finances through all stages of life. On more than one occasion we've advised friends and clients “Do not sell your home!” because we didn't think it was the best way to accomplish their goals. At other times, we advised clients on the best strategy to maximize the benefits of their home sale, often in conjunction with buying their next home. The power is in the planning and the leverage is in knowing the details of the right way to put transactions together. We're here to help so please take advantage of our experience and knowledge and ask questions anytime.

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.
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