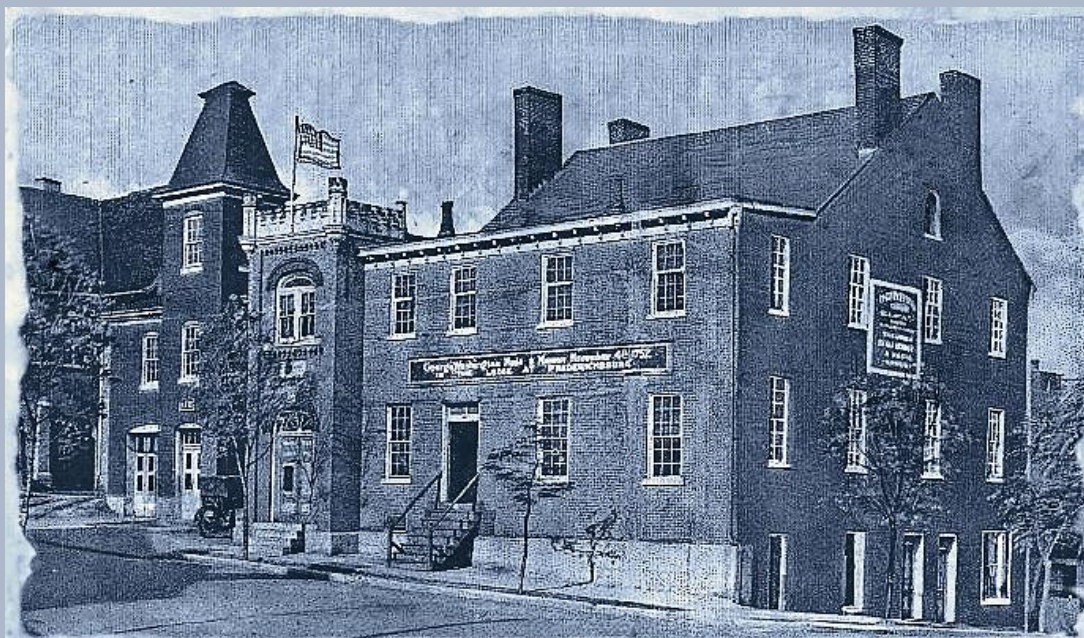


FREDERICKSBURG LODGE NO. 4, A.F. & A.M.



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

Stated Meeting
Second Fridays
(except Nov. 4)

Dinner 6:30 pm
Meeting 7:30 pm

'FREEMASONRY: THE BEST WORK OF LIFE'

Degree Work
Wednesdays 7pm
(check calendar)

JULY 2024

JULY 2024 EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Degree or Practice	4	5	6 Pancake Breakfast 8 am to 10 am
7	8	9 Second Tuesday Community Meal 4 pm	10 Degree or Practice	11	12 Dinner 6:30 pm Stated Communication 7:30 pm	13
14	15	16	17 Degree or Practice	18	19	20 Keystone-Belcher Lodge #153 (NJ) EA Degree 3 pm
21	22	23 District Ritual School 7 pm	24 Degree or Practice	25	26	27 Virginia Research Royal Arch Chapter #1753 12 pm to 5 pm
28	29	30 Fifth Tuesday Community Meal 4 pm				

Consult calendar on website for event details and updates.

ANNIVERSARIES & MILESTONES Masonic Anniversaries for July

Bro. David Erickson, Jr.	42 yrs.	Bro. Victor Carreno	14
Wor. Robert Benish	37	Bro. Ryan Carton	7
Bro. Kent Sands	35	Bro. John Kuhnle	7
Bro. Danny Fields	34	Bro. Richard Sabando	7
Bro. Gregory Armstrong	33	Bro. Mason DePeal	2

Master's Moment

The Lodge celebrated St. John the Baptist at our Table Lodge on Saturday June 22, 2024. It was a fun evening of fellowship.



More events are happening in the coming weeks at Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4. A list of events for the next three months is provided below. However, I want to point out three exciting events. On Saturday July 20, 2024, we have the honor of hosting Keystone-Belcher Lodge No. 153, F. & A.M. from New Jersey which will be conducting a New Jersey-style Entered Apprentice Degree. Any Mason is invited to attend this event starting around 3 pm. Next, the Lodge is partnering with our Sisters of The Order of Eastern Star Fredericksburg #29 to provide the Fifth Community Meal on Tuesday, July 30, 2024 starting at 4 pm. Volunteers interested in helping can reach out to Worshipful Jamie Snyder (jamie-snyder@usa.net) for details. Finally, Brothers David Smith and Ed Kenney are working on a Masonic night at Fredericksburg Axes (www.fxbgaxes.com) sometime in August. So, more details to follow!

Finally, Brethren, I will leave you with my favorite working tool—the plumb! My Dad is a retired land surveyor, and I had the opportunity to work for him growing up. The plumb or plumb bob is one of the most important tools in surveying. The plumb holds a special nostalgic place in my heart. A quick Google search reveals that the instrument has been used since at least the time of ancient Egypt to ensure that constructions are

"plumb" or vertical (i.e., to try perpendiculars). It is also used in surveying, to establish the nadir (opposite of zenith) with respect to gravity of a point in space. It is used with a variety of instruments (including levels, theodolites, and steel tapes) to set the instrument exactly over a fixed survey marker or to transcribe positions onto the ground for placing a marker. Stone masons of the guilds in Europe relied on plumbs and plumb levels in their work, and the importance of these and other tools has carried over symbolically into Freemasonry. In Masonry, we know that the plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations of life before God and man.

Furthermore, of the plumb, the 1946 version of Mackey's Revised Encyclopedia Freemasonry (Vol. 2) says, "it is a symbol of rectitude of conduct and inculcates that integrity of life and undeviating course of moral uprightness which can alone distinguish the good and just man. As the operative workman erects his temporal building with strict observance of that plumb-line, which will not permit him to deviate a hair's breadth to the right or to the left, so the Speculative Freemason, guided by the unerring principles of right and truth inculcated in the symbolic teachings of the same implement, is steadfast in pursuit of truth, neither bending beneath the frowns of adversity nor yielding to the seductions of prosperity."

I admit it. I moved my plumb just a hair to the right or left a few times during my time working for my Dad—it's pretty easy to get distracted! Fortunately, only causing a little extra work for the day rather than ruining an entire survey. Likewise, I have certainly moved my plumb a hair to the right or left several times in life. Although sometimes causing pain or disappointment, fortunately life doesn't demand such exactness. But as we strive to erect temples of living stones, the plumb does demand that we try to be exact, because I think we are living plumbs and it is through our example that others will strive to stand uprightly too.



Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Pat McConnell
(540) 809-1311
patmccnll@gmail.com

Secretary's Corner

Brethren, as you will notice from the short list of anniversaries this month, summer tends to be a time of reduced activity in Freemasonry and in our Lodge. In fact, of those raised this month, three were raised, along with our recently departed Brother, Rt. Wor. Richard Fisher, in a marathon Master Mason's Degree in July of 2017 that I still remember clearly. We of course congratulate all of them.

In many jurisdictions, particularly up north, Lodges go dark for the summer. We do not. But we take extra time to spend with family and friends. If you are traveling this summer, whether you're literally traveling in foreign countries, or figuratively on the roads of our great nation, we pray that you travel safe. But remember to take your Working Tools with you—this is a good time to catch up on some Masonic reading or learn some new Ritual. Plenty of it is written and we always need Brethren to learn a charge, a prayer, a lecture, or the Masonic Funeral Service. If you attended DLCs in the last couple years, you received a copy of Allen E. Roberts' *The Mystic Tie* or *The Craft and Its Symbols*. Both worthwhile and thought-provoking reads from one of our own Virginia Masons. Recently—I believe it was at our Table Lodge in June—Rt. Wor. Dan Thompson remarked that as soon as we're raised, our Presentation Volumes are too often placed in our sock drawers right along with our leather aprons, to gather dust till they're discovered by our loved ones. This is not how it should be. There's a lot of good material in there, from the Constitutions of Masonry to the Mentor's Manual, with plenty more in between. When your heirs find it, let them find the pages worn and the spine cracked. Regardless of your summer plans, we wish you well and hope to see you back in Lodge soon.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Christopher S. Tripp

The Boys of Summer

Batter up! Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 is staffing the Mess Hall concession stand for 12 FedNats Saturday night home games this summer. Our efforts resulted in a fantastic fundraiser for the Lodge last season. As we head into July, there are five Saturday dates left: 7/13, 7/27, 8/10, 8/17, and 9/7. We need eight people to adequately staff the stand for about 3 to 4 hours each night. Masons, family, and friends are welcome to join us. Contact Worshipful Jamie Snyder (jamie-snyder@usa.net) or visit <https://signup.com/go/FFUwFND>.

Save These Dates - Mark Your Calendars Now

July

July 6 – Pancake Breakfast – 8 am to 10 am

**July 9 – Second Tuesday Community Meal with
Oak Grove Baptist Church**

Volunteers should arrive at the Baker Room by 4 pm.

July 12 – Stated Communication

Dinner @ 6:30 pm

Menu

Carved Roast Beef

Scalloped Potatoes

Butter Beans

Classic Caesar Salad

Cornbread

Strawberry Shortcake

Meeting @ 7:30

Right Worshipful Dan Ford, District MAHOVA Ambassador, will be joining us.

July 20 – Keystone-Belcher Lodge #153 – 3 pm

New Jersey-style Entered Apprentice Degree

July 23 – District Ritual School – 7 pm

July 30 – Fifth Tuesday Community Meal with OES

Volunteers should arrive at the Baker Room by 4 pm.
Contact Worshipful Jamie Snyder for more information.

August

August 3 – Pancake Breakfast – 8 am to 10 am

August 9 – Stated Communication

Dinner @ 6:30 pm

Menu

Roasted Pork Loin w/ Pineapple Habanero Chutney

Potato Salad

Corn on the Cob

Fresh Fruit Platter

Hawaiian Rolls

Pineapple Upside Cake

Meeting @ 7:30

Past Masters Night!

Hawaiian Shirt Night!

***August 9 – Second Tuesday Community Meal with
Oak Grove Baptist Church***

Volunteers should arrive at the Baker Room by 4 pm.

August 17 – Subordinate Lodge Officer Training

9 am to 11 am

August 27 – District Ritual School – 7 pm

September

September 7 – Pancake Breakfast – 8 am to 10 am

***September 10 – Second Tuesday Community Meal with
Oak Grove Baptist Church***

Volunteers should arrive at the Baker Room by 4 pm.

September 13 – Stated Communication

Dinner @ 6:30 pm

Menu

Bruschetta Chicken

Pesto Tortellini

Roasted Seasonal Vegetables

Fresh Garden Salad

Garlic Bread

Tiramisu

Meeting @ 7:30

Now on sale! Our Lafayette challenge coin to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of General Lafayette's visit to our Lodge in November of 1824. This unique coin is \$20 with proceeds going to Lodge improvements and community projects. Coins are on sale at our Stated Communication dinners or reach out to our Treasurer Worshipful Jamie Snyder at jamie-snyder@usa.net for ordering/shipping information.



Purchase a brick through BricksRUs to help
maintain our Historic Home!

[Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4 Friends of Fredericksburg Donor Site \(bricksrus.com\)](http://Fredericksburg Masonic Lodge #4 Friends of Fredericksburg Donor Site (bricksrus.com))



Jim Ridenhour

(757) 714-5806

Smithfield, VA

PinDads@Outlook.Com

2024 LODGE OFFICERS

Patrick McConnell	patmccnll@gmail.com	(540) 809-1311	Worshipful Master
Michael Dove	Michaeldove79@gmail.com	(540) 388-1001	Senior Warden
Ken Carey	buddy79@comcast.net	(540) 226-7122	Junior Warden
James Snyder, PM	Jamie-snyder@usa.net	(540) 903-2937	Treasurer
Christopher Tripp, PM	secretarylodge4va@gmail.com	(540) 424-5767	Secretary
Joseph Gilkerson, PM	gilkerson@hotmail.com		Asst. Secretary
Seth Roderick	sethroderick@protonmail.com		Senior Deacon
Jeff Adams, Sr.	jadams@rosendin.com		Junior Deacon
Troy Blanchard	cajnboy24@gmail.com		Senior Steward
John Lapke	Lapke.j@gmail.com		Junior Steward
Justine Garrett	jaygarrett0214@gmail.com		Chaplain
Robert Breitenbach	robertjbreitenbach@icloud.com		Marshal
Kevin Valentine	vak242@yahoo.com		Tiler

TRUSTEES

Charles Cooper, PM – 2024	Dennis David – 2025	Dennis Berry, PDDGM – 2026
Chris Decker, PM – 2027	Dan Goodwin, PM - 2028	

PROGRAM OFFICERS

Lodge Blood Coordinator Jeff Adams	Lodge Instructor of Work Christopher Tripp, PM	Lodge Education Officer Bob Melvin
Masonic Home Ambassador Joseph Ilk	Lodge Catechism Chair Justin Garrett	Widows Program Coordinator Kyle Olesevich
	Lodge Scholarship Coordinator David Smith	

LIVING PAST MASTERS

Wor.: Carter. G. Wells.....	1963	R.:W.: Steven W. Sanford.....	2005
Wor.: Rudolph E. Griffith.....	1974	Wor.: Richard D. Dey.....	2006
Wor.: Henry W. Baker.....	1975	Wor.: Anthony L Rudder.....	2007
Wor.: Edward L. Donalson.....	1983	R.:W.: Jeffrey D. St. Onge.....	2009
R.:W.: Dennis W. Berry.....	1986	Wor.: Shelton S. Mackey.....	2010
Wor.: Thomas C Shelton.....	1988	R.:W.: 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	M.: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
R.:W.: 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	Wor.: Christopher S. Tripp.....	2021
Wor.: Jene G. Parrotte.....	2004	Wor.: Joseph K. Gilkerson.....	2023