



FEBRUARY- 2024

TRESTLEBOARD

Ashland Lodge No. 168

Message from East

WOR. CHRISTOPHER S. TOMLIN

Hello, Brethren, and Welcome to February.

January was a great month. We started by replacing the flooring downstairs in the Lodge. Thanks to Brother Steve Witt, who spearheaded the project and put in much time and energy to get this done. Brothers Tribble and Hunt also contributed so much of their time and effort as well. Thank you! There is still a little bit of trim work to finish, but if you haven't been by to see it, please do, it looks great.

We had a wonderful stated meeting that started off with a fan favorite, shepherd's pie, prepared by the Eastern Star. We were honored to receive RW Richard Fisher for his official visit. He spoke about MW Lewis' plans for the upcoming year, his desire to have "Ashland brought back into the fold" in District 8, and his plan to establish a Masters and Wardens Association in District 8.

The very first Masters and Wardens meeting was held Saturday, January 27, and was attended by your Bro. Adam Long and myself. It was a great meeting with a lot of discussion about the district and opportunities for us to come together as a whole. A standing meeting time, place, and format were agreed upon. We will meet at Kilwinning & Crosse on the 4th Saturday of every month at 8:30 am, and it is open to all Master Masons. Breakfast will be served, and a small donation is requested. We will have a short round-table discussion about events in the district, followed by ritual work focusing on the Warden's needs to obtain their certificates. I hope to see some of you there!

We had another successful Blood Drive at the Ashland YMCA on January 22; again, thanks to the Brothers who made it happen. The Division Leadership Conference was on January 20th, there was a great turnout all around. We heard some inspiring words from Most Worshipful Jack Lewis. In the breakout sessions, there was standing room only to be a part of discussions revolving around essential issues in masonry led by Members of the Grand Line. Ashland showed up strong, with seven members, including 6 of your officers in attendance.

Now that the year has kicked off right, I plan to start traveling to support our brothers throughout the district and state. My goal is to make ten visits this year, one fraternal visit every month, February through November. Our first stop will be Mann Page Lodge 157 in Providence Forge to support RW Johnnie Lowell Harris. There will be dinner followed by a meeting featuring the Official Visit from the DDGM. Please let me know if you can attend or if you need more information. We have had an excellent turnout for Thursday night practices, with 12-15 members and guests attending each week. Please join us for fellowship, fun, and even a little instruction. We would love to have you if you haven't been to the lodge in a while! If you are a new member, please learn the teachings of Freemasonry; if you are experienced or a Past Master, please come to support and guide our newer members. Our stated meeting will be on February 15th; we will have a program from Wor. John Parrish, your Lodge Education Officer. Hope to see you all there!

Upcoming Lodge Events

Lodge Catechism/Practice
FEBRUARY 1 @ 6:30 PM

Lodge Catechism/Practice
FEBRUARY 8 @ 6:30 PM

Hotdogs at Lodge
FEBRUARY 9 @ 11:30 AM

Stated Meeting
FEBRUARY 15 @ 7PM
SOCIAL HOUR @ 5:30PM
MEAL @ 6PM

Lodge Catechism/Practice
FEBRUARY 22 @ 6:30 PM

Mann Page Fraternal Visit
FEBRUARY 20

Master and Wardens
FEBRUARY 24 @ 8:30 AM

Lodge Catechism/Practice
FEBRUARY 29 @ 6:30 PM



Masonic Education Corner

BY BRO. DAVID RENNER

Most of you know that Masonry's spiritual and Biblical connections brought me to the West Gate. Masonry encourages us to think about our mortality. One of the working tools of the Entered Apprentice and one of the working tools of a Fellowcraft help us to achieve this. Their explanations are closely related to what we find in the Holy Bible, which is the rule and guide of our faith.

As you well know, the common gavel is used “for the more noble and glorious purpose of divesting our hearts and consciences of all the vices and superfluities of life; thereby fitting our minds, as living stones, for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands-eternal in the heavens.” The level “teaches us all that we are traveling on the broad level of time to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.” These tools should assure us that life continues after our time here on earth for those who are faithful 'til the end.

When God introduced himself to Moses in Exodus 3: 6. God said, “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” When Jesus was challenged on the subject of resurrection by the Sadducees, who didn't believe in it, He referenced what God said in Exodus to prove and bring assurance that resurrection was a reality. He explained that God introduced Himself this way because God was the God of the living and not the dead. God said, “I am,” not that “I was” the God of these men. These men were already gone from this planet, yet God referred to Himself as their God in the present tense. They were still living. They traveled on the broad level of time to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

Jesus also told His disciples that He would leave them to prepare a place for them where He was going. He assured them that there was a spiritual building, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Glory be to the Great Architect of the Universe for these wonderful tools that remind us that God has provided a place for us beyond the grave where we are a part of the living.

Masonic Birthdays

JEREMY NATHANIEL WILLIAMS
FEBRUARY 10

JAMES EDGAR WICKHAM
FEBRUARY 13

KENNETH GORDON SANDS
FEBRUARY 14





Highlights from last month



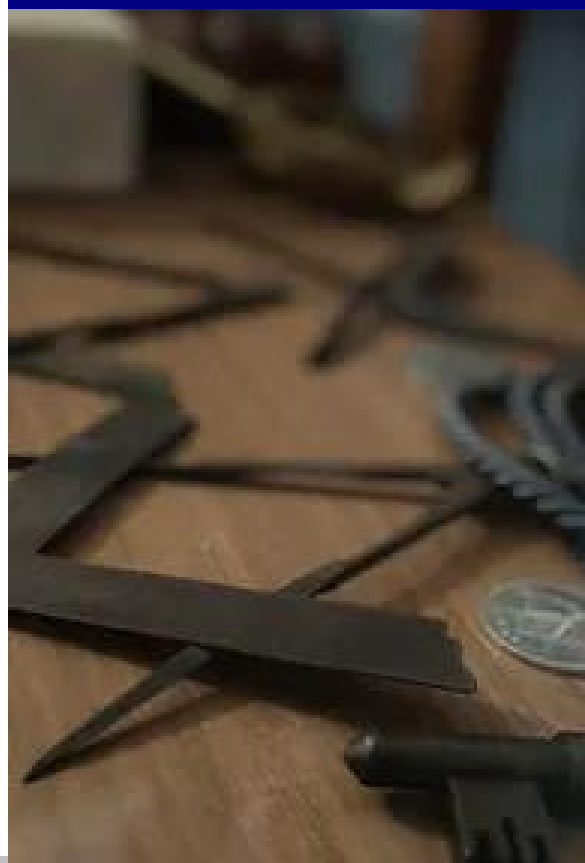
2024 Lodge Officers

- Worshipful Master Wor. Christopher Scott Tomlin
- Senior Warden Bro. David Renner
- Junior Warden Bro. Adam Long
- Treasurer Wor. Gregory Six
- Secretary Wor. John Parrish
- Senior Deacon Steve Witt
- Junior Deacon Josh Rosengaft
- Chaplain Wor. Robert McIntire, III
- Senior Steward Ed Hunt
- Junior Steward Matt Raab
- Marshal Bro. Robert Tribble, III
- Tiler Wor. Garry Corker
- Lodge Instructor of Work Wor. Tom Cage
- Lodge Education Officer Wor. John Parrish

Did we miss something?

SUBMIT YOUR PICTURES TO US @

E-MAIL: ASHLAND168@ASHLAND168.COM





Living Past Masters

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1964- C.M. Reece | 1994- S.F. Stone, Sr. | 2015- J.U. Harrison |
| 1976- D.M. Pearson, Jr. | 1998- D.F. Lyons | 2016(17)- R.R. Seitz |
| 1976- J.L. Harris | 2004- A.L. Christiansen, Jr. | 2018- R.L. McIntire III |
| 1981- W.B. Howard | 2007- J.M. Puryear, Jr. | 2019- G.C. Duvall |
| 1987- W.T. Cage | 2010- M.P. Coyle | 2020(21)- G.C. Corker |
| 1988- E.E. Fisher | 2011- M.S. Ball | 2022- J.M. Parrish |
| 1989(90)- A.S. Peyton | 2013- L.T. Hall, III | 2023- G.W. Six |
| 1992- W.T. Marshburn, Jr. | 2014- A.M. Boor | |

Past District Deputy Grand Masters

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1960- RW M.B. Young | 2001- RW E.E. Fisher |
| 1969- RW J.D. Nelson | 2005- RW L.J. Sloppy (1B) |
| 1975- RW D.M. Pearson, Jr. | 2007- RW J.L. Harris |
| 1976- RW R.L. Gibbs (15C) | 2013- RW L.S. Ball |
| 1982- MW A.W. Adkins | 2019- RW D.M. Boor |
| 1995- RW S.F. Stone, Sr. | |

Legacy Members in Perpetuity

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1996- C.H. Burnette | 2005- J.M. Puryear, Jr. |
| 1996- W.T. Cage | 2011- K.G. Sands |
| 1995- S.F. Stone, Sr. | 2012- J.M. Parrish |
| 1996- A.L. Traylor, Jr. | 2012- R.R. Seitz |
| 1997- E.F. Fisher | 2016- M.P. Coyle |
| 1998- D.F. Lyons | 2016- J.C. Perry |
| 2000- J.C. Beck | 2016- L.T. Hall, III |
| 2002- L. Nuckols, Sr. | 2017- D.A. Emerson |
| 2004- R.C. Nuckols | 2018- J.U. Harrison |
| | 2019- R.L. McIntire III |

Trustees

- R.W. Johnnie Lowel Harris
 Wor. Robert Leroy McIntire, III
 Bro. R. Allen Davidson

Contact Us

E-MAIL: ASHLAND168@ASHLAND168.COM

FIND AND LIKE US ON FACEBOOK BY SEARCHING FOR ASHLAND LODGE NO. 168

ASHLAND LODGE NO. 168
212 ENGLAND STREET
ASHLAND, VA 23005

WWW.ASHLAND168.COM





[Upcoming District 8 Events](#)

Jan 24- District 8 Masters and Wardens (Master Masons Only)

[Upcoming Grand Lodge Events](#)

Virginia Freemasonry

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FIND AND LIKE THE GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA ON FACEBOOK BY SEARCHING FOR GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA

