

ASHLAND LODGE NO. 168, A.F. & A.M.
CHARTERED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA DECEMBER 14th, 1857



THE TRESTLE BOARD



Fellowship 6:00 PM
Dinner 6:30 PM
Stated Communication 7:30 PM

Stated Communication Third Thursday 7:30 PM
*EXCEPT SECOND THURSDAY IN DECEMBER

JULY 2022

“Make A Difference In Our Community!”

“Laying the Cornerstone for the 21st Century”



ASHLAND MASONIC LODGE NO. 168

Goals & Objectives

“Laying the Cornerstone for the 21st Century” 2022 Major Goals:

1 – Ashland Lodge No. 168 will “Lay the Cornerstone for the 21st Century”

- *Build upon the existing strengths of Ashland Lodge No. 168*
- *Be there for, and focus on, current members facing illnesses*
- *Identify and address short-term goals of Ashland Lodge No. 168*
- *Identify and address long-term goals of Ashland Lodge No. 168*

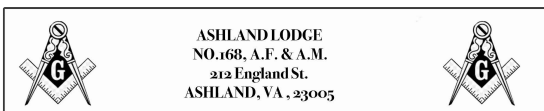
2 – Establish the Executive Leadership Committee

3 – Establish Ashland Lodge No. 168 as a leader in the 8th Masonic District and within the Ashland area

4 – Build lasting relationships with local lodges (Glen Allen Lodge No. 131 & Washington and Henry Lodge No. 344) and the Hanover Chapter of the OES

5 – Continue excellence in ritual and degree work and establish protocols to ensure that subordinate officers are prepared for advancement to the East

6 – Reemphasize the importance of Masonic Education by providing meaningful Masonic Education at every Stated Communication



“Laying the Cornerstone for the 21st Century”



Message from the East

Brethren, welcome to July! Over the last six months, we have held a ton of Called Communications and have had the honor to raise many Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Just as I started to think that things were slowing down, it is time to buckle up again! Last month we had a petition for membership read by our Secretary, and we are planning on reading a second petition at our July Stated!

We also have an update about our partnership with the Ashland Little League. This year we decided to partner with the Ashland Little League to sponsor the “Ashland A’s” machine-pitch baseball team. After the completion of the season, the President of the Little League contacted me to tell us that we have been the most supportive sponsor they have had in recent memory! As a result, we have been offered the opportunity to sponsor the Ashland Little League All-Star team in their playoff tournament. We accepted the offer and we look forward to seeing what the kids can do over the next month. I want to give a special thank you to Bro. Jeremy Killian for heading up this project and building such a close bond with the Ashland Little League on social media!

Here are the current events planned for this month:

07/07 – Lodge Practice

07/10 – Ashland Book Club Meeting @ 3:00 PM

07/14 – Lodge Practice

07/21 – Stated Communication

Social @ 6:00 PM

Dinner @ 6:30 PM

Stated @ 7:30 PM

Guest Speaker – Bro. David Cline, Lodge Education Officer

07/26 – District Class at Fredericksburg

07/28 – Lodge Practice

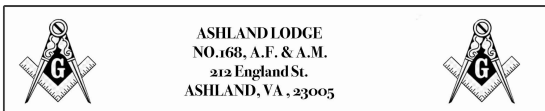
As always, I continue to be excited for the future of this Lodge. I am grateful for your trust, and I appreciate the opportunity to serve the members of this Lodge. If you are in need of ANYTHING, please reach out and we will be here to support you.

With the utmost fraternal respect,

Wor. John M. Parrish

Worshipful Master

“Laying the Cornerstone for the 21st Century”



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July 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30 Lodge Practice Catechism @ 6:30 PM Degree @ 7:00 PM	1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Lodge Practice Catechism @ 6:30 PM Degree @ 7:00 PM	8	9
10 Ashland Book Club Meeting 3:00 PM	11	12	13	14 Lodge Practice Catechism @ 6:30 PM Degree @ 7:00 PM	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 STATED MEETING Fellowship @ 6:00 Dinner @ 6:30 Meeting @ 7:30	22	23
24	25	26 District Ritual Class (Red'burg) 6:30 PM	27	28 Lodge Practice Catechism @ 6:30 PM Degree @ 7:00 PM	29	30
31	1	Notes *** July Stated Communication: Guest Speaker Bro. David Cline (Lodge Education Officer) *** Hanover OES is dark in July				

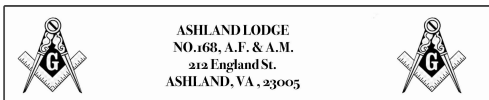
2022 Lodge Officers

July 2022 Masonic Birthdays:

Worshipful Master	Wor. John Michael Parrish
Senior Warden	Bro. Gregory Wayne Six
Junior Warden	Bro. Christopher Scott Tomlin
Treasurer	Bro. Adam Bartlett Long
Secretary	Wor. Lloyd Thomas Hall, III
Senior Deacon	Bro. Thomas Jennings Daneker
Junior Deacon	Bro. David Winfred Renner
Chaplain	Bro. Terrence Lee Sullivan, Jr.
Senior Steward	Bro. James Lamar Macfarland, Jr.
Junior Steward	Bro. Jeremy Lee Killian
Marshal	Wor. Alvin Sanders Peyton Wor.
Tiler	Garry Christopher Corker

Wor. Michael Patrick Coyle	19 Years
Wor. James Utley Harrison	13 Years
Bro. David William Hess	6 Years
Bro. James Ray Cooper.	4 Years
Bro. Christopher Scott Tomlin	3 Years

Lodge Instructor of Work Wor. Gregory Cline Duvall
Lodge Education Officer Bro. David Russell Cline



“Laying the Cornerstone for the 21st Century”



Learning to Live:

Masonry as a Way of Life

What comes to mind when you think of a philosopher? Most people think of an Academic Philosopher—a person who has attained the level of PhD in a subject which has little value to the average person. Philosophers speak of things like Metaphysics, Axiology, Logic, Aesthetics, Epistemology, Ethics and Political Philosophy. The stereotype of the philosopher is very much that of a person attempting to discern, “How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?” In other words, a person devoted to obscure intellectual problems that have no bearing on the lives of most people and yet, this was not always the case. For much of its history philosophy was a very practical enterprise.

Philosophy was not so much a matter of the academy as it was a way of life. A Philosopher and Historian of Science who argues this point is Pierre Hadot. Hadot begins his essay, *Philosophy as a Way of Life*, with a quote from Philo of Alexandria from the first half of the first century BCE:

Every person—whether Greek or barbarian—who is in training for wisdom, leading a blameless, irrefragable life, chooses neither to commit injustice nor return it unto others, but to avoid the company of busybodies, and hold in contempt the places where they spend their time—courts, councils, marketplaces, assemblies—in short, every kind of meeting or reunion of thoughtless people. As their goal is a life a peace and serenity, they contemplate nature and everything found within her: they attentively explore the earth, the sea, the air, the sky, and every nature found therein. In thought they accompany the moon, the sun, and the rotations of the other stars, whether fixed or wandering. Their bodies remain on earth, but they give wings to their souls, so that, rising into the ether, they may observe the powers which dwell there, as is fitting for those who have truly become citizens of the world. Such people consider the whole world as their city, and its citizens are the companions of wisdom; they have received their civic rights from virtue, which has been entrusted with presiding over the universal commonwealth. Thus, filled with every excellence, they are accustomed no longer to take account of physical discomforts or exterior evils, and they train themselves to be indifferent to indifferent things; they are armed against both pleasures and desires, and, in short they always strive to keep themselves above passions...”

The point of Hadot's book was that, while today philosophy is an academic discipline like chemistry or art history – the sort of thing people study and write academic papers in – philosophy in the ancient world was something quite different. It was, to be sure, quite intellectual, but being a philosopher was, primarily, a way of living. In fact, there were a number of ancient philosophical traditions, each with its own way of life, in the Greco-Roman world (Platonism, Aristotelianism, Skepticism, Stoicism, Epicureanism, to name a few), and others in parts of the world like China (Confucianism, Taoism, Moism) and India (Vedic philosophies and Buddhism, which of course spread to other parts of the world). In fact, Hadot points out that early Christianity was often viewed in the Roman world as a philosophical school with a distinctive set of teachings and way of life. Think Justin Martyr and the Monastic Schools. What made one a philosopher, a lover of wisdom, was not the religious tradition one inhabited (just as is the case today, most people in the ancient world were theists), but the way of life one embodied and the practices one took on. As the Philosopher Epictetus writes: A carpenter does not come up to you and say, “Listen to me discourse about the art of carpentry,” but he makes a contract for a house and builds it... Do the same thing yourself. Eat like a man, drink like a man... get married, have children, take part in civic life, learn how to put up with insults, and tolerate other people.”

Philosophy in the classical world was a practical affair. It was a therapeutic of life that provided philosophical or spiritual exercises by which one disciplined the reason and passions. The early philosophers used a whole host of spiritual exercises to help move the philosopher towards this end. But what does all of this have to do with the practice of Freemasonry? Well, pretty much everything! Masonry as we have received it very much embodies these qualities of a philosophy. Masonry is not a Religion, so much as it is a way of life. While masonry may be called “Speculative” these days, it is far from being a purely intellectual affair. The Craft is to be used and embodied. To speak as Epictetus did earlier, the mason does not come up to you and say, ‘Listen to me discourse about the art of masonry.’ No, the mason works, builds, forms and fashions his mind as a living stone for that “Spiritual building—that house not made with hands—eternal in the heavens.”

Reference

Hadot, Pierre. (1995). *Philosophy as a Way of Life*. (Michael Chase, Trans.) Oxford: Blackwell.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Bro. Ben Shelton
Fellowcraft
Fairfax Lodge No. 42

** Editor's Note – We are currently doing courtesy work for Fairfax Lodge No. 43, and Bro. Shelton is working with our LIW, Wor. Greg Duvall, to show his Fellowcraft Proficiency. We hope to raise him to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason soon!

"Laying the Cornerstone for the 21st Century"



LIVING PAST MASTERS

C.M. Reece – 1964
M. Pearson Jr. 1976
J. Harris – 1976
D.M. Boor – 1980
W.B. Howard – 1981
W.T. Cage – 1987
E.E. Fisher – 1988
A.S. Peyton – 1989 – 1990
W.T. Marshburn Jr. – 1992
S.F. Stone Sr. – 1994
D.F. Lyons – 1999
A.L. Christiansen Jr. – 2004
J.M. Puryear Jr. 2007
M.P. Coyle – 2010
M.S. Ball – 2011
L.T. Hall III – 2013
A.M. Boor – 2014
J.U. Harrison – 2015
R.Seitz – 2016–2017
R.McIntire – 2018
C.Duval – 2019
G.Corker – 2020 – 2021

TRUSTEES

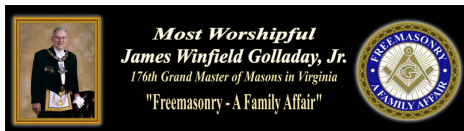
R.W. – Johnnie Lowell Harris
R.W. – Anthony "Tony" Boor
Wor. – Robert Leroy McIntire, III

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

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

LIFE MEMBERS IN PERPITUITY

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



**EIGHTH MASONIC DISTRICT LODGES
STATED COMMUNICATIONS**

KILWINNING-CROSSE LODGE #2-237
2nd MONDAY, 7:30 PM

HUDSON-MORRIS LODGE #80
2nd TUESDAY, 7:30 PM


EDWARD H. CANN DAYLIGHT #1752
4th WEDNESDAY, 11:00 AM

ASHLAND LODGE #168
3rd THURSDAY, 7:30 PM

STAFFORD LODGE #279
4th THURSDAY, 7:30 PM

FREDERICKSBURG LODGE #4
2nd FRIDAY, 7:30 PM

SPOTSYLVANIA LODGE #26
4th MONDAY

 **ASHLAND LODGE**
NO.168, A.F. & A.M.
212 England St.
ASHLAND, VA, 23005 