



# Chester 94 Masonic Lodge

## JUNE 2018 TRESTLEBOARD

4111 Dodomeade Street, Chester, Va. P.O. Box 2905, Chester, VA, 23831-8477  
Dinner: 6:30 PM, Stated Meeting: 7:30 PM - Meets Second Thursday



Annual dues are \$112.00. LMIP = \$2352. - PLEASE USE OUR NUMBER WHEN [DONATING BLOOD](#): #6222. - PLEASE CONTACT THE [BLOOD OFFICER](#). AND LET HIM KNOW YOU GAVE.

1st Wednesday - [Midlothian #211](#) Stated ✦ 2nd Wednesday - [Black Heath #1982](#) Stated ✦ 2nd Thursday - [Chester #94](#) Stated ✦ 3rd Wednesday - [Clover Hill #253](#) Stated  
3rd Thursday - [DeWitt-Clinton #141](#) Stated ✦ 4th Tuesday - [Powhatan #295](#) Stated ✦ 2nd Monday - [OES #121](#) ⚠ 1st & 3rd Tuesday - [Job's Daughters Bethel 24](#)  
✦ MAHOVA

### From the East

Brethren,

As we begin to prepare for upcoming events for the Lodge I am struck with the fact that the Masonic year has passed the halfway mark. We as a Lodge have accomplished many great things this year. We've strengthened our relationship with the Kiwanis, Civitans, Lions and Star, who all use our building.

We've improved the appearance of the Lodge room with painting. We've been able to see many Brethren come back to the Lodge who have been away for months and years. These are accomplishments that all members can take pride in.

Our June Stated will bring a program on the Holy Saint Johns Day. We also have two candidates in the works who are advancing in their degrees. Keep an eye out on the Lodge [Facebook](#) page and an ear out for the Chester phone tree. We also have a pending work day to finish painting the wainscoting in the Lodge room and to work on repointing some of the masonry outside.

At our next meeting we will also be honoring several Brothers who have earned their 25 yr. pins - a ritual that is not often observed. Please come out to support these Brothers during their milestones.

If I can help anyone with anything please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Thanks,  
Eric Wittig  
Master

### From the West

Brethren,

This upcoming summer will be the time to break out the Hawaiian shirts and Hawaiian lei. Thursday, August 9th will be Senior Warden's night and "Don Ho Night" at Chester 94. We will celebrate this with a Hawaiian theme and have a little fun with it. We are making dinner arrangements with Brother Herb Turner and the DeMolay, to prepare our dinner with a Hawaiian luau taste prior to our stated business meeting.

#### Proper attire for the evening:

We are asking and expecting all of our brethren to attend lodge dressed out in Hawaiian shirts, long kaki pants and dress shoes. A Hawaiian lei is also a smart option for the attire. No shorts or flip-flops please. Ladies attending the dinner can come dressed in Hawaiian style clothing and wear flowers in their hair (Sweet). Grass skirts and coconuts are optional. :) If you don't have a Hawaiian shirt you now have plenty of notice to go out and get one. No excuses. I have several Hawaiian shirts available, if a brother needs to borrow one for the night, you got it.



This will be an unique opportunity for brethren to show unity in our lodge. In addition, we encourage all our visiting brethren to participate with us. It is OK to have a little "fun" in the lodge while still conducting the ritual and business in an appropriate and professional manner.

Brethren, this is all about unity, cooperation, team spirit, and having a positive attitude. It may require some of us to get out of our comfort zones just a little, but it will benefit our lodge as a whole. Hopefully you can recall the night when you were initiated as an entered apprentice. During that noteworthy ceremony of your monastic life the following verse was recited,

*"Behold how good and how pleasant it is for Brethren to dwell together in unity".  
Our "Don Ho Night" is going to be one of these times to live up to that lofty ideal.*

*Fraternally,  
Gene Bowen  
Senior Warden*

## *From the South*

*Brethren,*

*As the weather becomes warmer, it is time for us to consider doing some necessary activities around the lodge. We have a great building, which is over a century old, so maintenance is necessary to protect and preserve it. Some of the activities we have planned for this year include (1) finishing painting wainscoting in the Lodge room, (2) repointing the brickwork, and (3) painting the oil drum.*

*To complete these projects, we require your assistance. Several volunteers are necessary to carry out these tasks. You may feel like you have nothing to contribute, but your presence is most helpful. Many different skillsets are required to complete the tasks; Not all of them will require bending, lifting, etc.*

*During the recent painting of the wainscoting, one brother prepared an excellent lunch to help the rest of us concentrate on the taping, painting, and reassembly of the chairs. We would have wasted a large portion of the day if we had had to run out and purchase some lunch. Another brother stated that he wished he were in better health to assist, but he found ways to entertain us. Some tasks require just one person, but it is always nice to have a second person to carry on a conversation with. This helps make the work less demanding and provides an excellent way to build up the bonds of fellowship.*

*Another project that we will need assistance with is installing a ramp to make the lodge more accessible. This will require plenty of planning, coordination and fundraising.*

*We are very fortunate to have our own building. Several lodges in the Metro Richmond area share their buildings with Temple Corporations and are required to pay fees each time they use the facilities. We look forward to your assistance as these workdays are designated.*

*Respectfully,  
Rob Baird  
Junior Warden*

## *Chaplin's Corner*

*As a fraternity we have a long history of bringing out the best in the people we come in contact with. This morning I was approached at the coffee pot by a coworker and our discussion began like this. "Good Morning, I enjoyed the camaraderie with the people I met at the Pancake Breakfast and I plan to arrive earlier next time so I can have more time to enjoy the discussions." The discussion went on with this person indicating he just did not have time to become a member of our lodge. I explained the whole purpose of the pancake breakfast is to encourage community members to meet with other community members in a friendly environment.*



*This individual would be a great addition to the lodge in my opinion. However, he may never become a member of our lodge, but he will let others in the community know that he enjoys being around us.*

*The people we come in contact with every day are influenced by our words, behavior, and our ideas. Our demeanor will influence others as long as we stay positive and follow the path presented to us.*



*You may not have attended lodge for any of our recent activities. I encourage you to attend any and all of the planned activities. We are working on updating the lodge and have plans to address some areas such as the access to the lodge, lodge lighting, as well as other areas.*

*Bob Baird  
Chaplain*

## **Fourth Friday Fellowship Dinners**



If you have not been attending our Fourth Friday Fellowship dinners you have been missing out on a great time. We share information and fellowship with each other and with our significant others that would not normally be done in a lodge meeting. Brother Dennis Breckenmaker has taken on the duty of contacting a restaurant and setting up our reservations. He has been doing an exceptional job and we all owe him a special "thanks" for his efforts. There has been one problem that Dennis has not been able to overcome

and he needs our assistance. The last dinner 20 people informed him they were coming. He set this up with the restaurant for 24 seats. Unfortunately 30 people showed up which caused us to be cramped in the area the restaurant had saved for us. This has happened for the last couple dinners. So please, if you are planning to attend these dinners please let Dennis know by e-mail before the date he requests at [twodebrec@yahoo.com](mailto:twodebrec@yahoo.com). That will allow him to give an accurate reservation number to the restaurant.



*Send your prayers to Annye Gravitt as she deals with her health issues.* 🙏



## Our Masonic Compasses



Have you ever traveled I-95? Of course you have. Have you ever been cut off by a reckless driver? Of course you have. Have you ever flipped off that driver? Now there's the rub. We've all felt that moment of anger, and sometimes rage, at the stupidity of some drivers we encounter. How we respond to them, or to any external stresses, are dependent on how well we use our internal Masonic Compass.

Have you ever been in a hurry? Have you ever needed to get down the highway so badly that you're driving was too fast and furious? We've all had those moments in life where we were sorely tempted to put the pedal to the medal. This is another occasion when we must abide by our Masonic Compass and put our desire within "due bounds". When, in our own self-interest, we act rashly and cause distress to others we are poor Masons indeed.

And lastly, my Brothers, when we act outside the circle of the Compasses we are not only injuring ourselves, both morally and Masonically, but in the eyes of the world, we are damaging and demeaning our craft and our brothers. If you drive recklessly and the person you offend knows you are a Mason, or your vehicle is sporting a Masonic emblem, you have just caused major damage. Not physically, but to your reputation and that of our Fraternity. Use your Masonic compass to avoid traveling down that road. We are charged at every meeting that these generous principles extend further, everyone has a claim upon our kind offices. The compasses are the very tool that will help you achieve this charge.



## An update from the Child ID world from Wor. Doug Slaughter

I have secured several events so far. I will definitely need help at these. If you are new to Masonry or our Lodge and want to help give back to our community, this is a great program to do so! Feel free to contact me at (804) 754-6157 or [dslaughter18@gmail.com](mailto:dslaughter18@gmail.com). More information will be coming out as we near the event dates.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> - July 27<sup>th</sup> - August 4<sup>th</sup> - September 22<sup>nd</sup>

I am in the process of setting up dates with Clover Hill Children's Center and Rivers Bend Children's Center as well as Troop and Pack 922 in Enon.

Thank you and I look forward to doing these and seeing you there!



*"Calling the craft from refreshment to labor."*

**It is impractical to expect value from your Masonry, if you have no investment in it.**

*"Take due notice thereof and govern yourself accordingly!"*

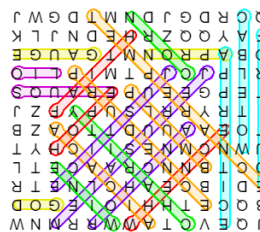
**See you at the next stated meeting.**



## A Freemason's Life

J Q E V C T A W W R R M N W  
B Q C E T H H I O I E G O D  
E D I B C E A H C L N E T R  
D C T B N N C R A A C E T L  
U W N C M N E S I I C H Y T  
T O E A A U U D T T O A Z B  
I T R Y R R L S U P Y F Z J  
T E P G E E U P E R A U Q S  
R L P J C J P T M I P L I O  
O B A P R O N M T G A U G E  
F A Y Q Q Z R H E D N J L K  
Q C R D G J D N M T D G W J

1. Wage of a mason
2. Cardinal virtue
3. First degree mason
4. In whom you put your trust
5. Cardinal virtue
6. Wage of a mason
7. Cardinal virtue
8. Wage of a mason
9. Cardinal virtue
10. Social virtue
11. Plans our time
12. Social virtue
13. Master's jewel
14. Social virtue
15. Junior Warden's jewel
16. 3 miles for an apprentice
17. Symbol of hope
18. Grave marker
19. Emblem of innocence
20. Holy Saint John's there
21. From "where?" I came



[Bored? Time to spare? Click here](#)



2018

**Chester #94 Officers**



Worshipful Master	<a href="#">Wor. Eric Wittig</a>	(804) 731-4896	MaHoVa	<a href="#">Wor. Joe Simon</a>	(804) 721-6620
Senior Warden	<a href="#">Bro. Eugene Bowen</a>	(804) 240-5139	Ambassadors		
Junior Warden	<a href="#">Bro Robert Baird II</a>	(804) 920-8249	Widows-Sick	<a href="#">Bro Robert Baird II</a>	(804) 920-8249
Treasurer	<a href="#">Bro. Dabney Short</a>	(804) 898-1882	Lodge Blood Officer	<a href="#">Bro. David Duncan</a>	(804) 530-4319
Secretary	<a href="#">Wor. Herb Turner</a>	(804) 920-6986	Property Manager	<a href="#">Bro. Dabney Short</a>	(804) 898-1882
Senior Deacon	<a href="#">Bro. J. Marc Just</a>	(804) 350-6397	Web & Trestleboard	<a href="#">Wor. Norm Stevens</a>	(804) 748-2977
Junior Deacon	<a href="#">Bro. Bryan Amsel</a>	(804) 928-4548	Building Maintenance	<a href="#">Bro. Robert Baird</a>	(804) 748-4841
Chaplain	<a href="#">Bro. Robert Baird</a>	(804) 748-4841	Lodge Grounds	<a href="#">R.W. Randy Kendall</a>	(804) 743-1293
Senior Steward	<a href="#">Bro. Fletcher Pastore</a>	(804) 381-9778	Lodge Librarian	<a href="#">Wor. Eric Wittig</a>	(804) 731-4896
Junior Steward	<a href="#">Bro. Dereck Jenkins</a>	(804) 661-8247		<a href="#">R.W. John Andrews</a>	(804) 590-1925
Marshal	<a href="#">Wor. Kenn Wittig</a>	(757) 869-0182	Lodge Trustees	<a href="#">R.W. Henry Hassell</a>	(804) 561-3060
Tyler	<a href="#">Wor. Joe Simon</a>	(804) 721-6620		<a href="#">R.W. Gary Lilley</a>	(804) 748-6576
Education Officer	<a href="#">Wor. Herb Turner</a>	(804) 920-6986	Child ID Prog. Coord.	<a href="#">Wor. Doug Slaughter</a>	(804) 754-6157
Instructor of Work	<a href="#">R.W. Joe Crouch</a>	(804) 739-7960			

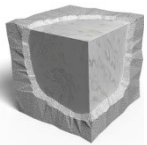


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**Rough and Perfect Ashlars**

In the Masonic Lodge, a rough and perfect ashlar are stones which symbolize man's moral and spiritual life. Cutting stone to uniform shapes and sizes requires the skill and experience of a true craftsman with many years of experience.



In operative Freemasonry, the rough ashlar represents a rough, unprepared or undressed stone. In speculative Freemasonry, a rough ashlar is an allegory to the uninitiated Freemason prior to his discovering enlightenment.

Operatively, the Perfect ashlar represents the dressed stone (after it has been made uniform and smoothed) by use of the working tools. Only after the stone has been dressed by an experienced stonemason, can it be suitable to be placed into the architectural structure or building.

Speculatively, a Perfect Ashlar is an allegory to a Freemason who, through Masonic education, works to achieve an upstanding life and diligently strives to obtain enlightenment.

As the Freemason "smooth's" his rough edges, internally and externally; he becomes a better man and, therefore, a better Freemason.

Once a man has perfected his ashlar to the best of his ability, as Brothers to all mankind, it is his duty to help others become better men and better Freemasons.