



WILLIS V. FENTRESS MASONIC LODGE

#296 A.F. & A.M.

6060 PROVIDENCE RD. VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.
23464

Volume 1, Issue 2

February 2017

2017 OFFICERS

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MASON OF THE YEAR

Wor. Thomas Wayne Ricks

From the East

Greetings Brethren,

I am humbled to have been elected as the Master of this lodge, but no one man or Master can guide and organization by himself. He must have assistants in order to do the job effectively. We are fortunate in that the Officers of Willis V. Fentress comprise a core of willing and able workers to assist me in this great task. But beyond that, we need something more – the support and enthusiasm of all of you.

Without your support we are as nothing, our sole purpose is to carry out your wishes, and if we are to do so, you must make these wishes known to us. One of the most effective ways to voice your desires, while at the same time supporting your Officers, is to attend

our meetings and degree work. For the true strength of Masonry is the attendance of members at ALL of the meetings. And so, we look forward to having you with us each month to share in Masonic Fellowship and your support during degree work. Nothing is more rewarding to a new candidate than seeing a considerable group of brothers when he is brought to light.

I have been fortunate so far to have the guidance of our Past Masters and many of our brothers with ideas for fundraisers. We have a big responsibility in keeping our building and grounds in good repair but with that comes a financial obligation. In order to keep our operating fund in the black we must have some fundraisers which I am constantly thinking about. You all have great ideas and have

participated in such events with the lodge and your other organizations, your Officers and I would like to hear them.

Lastly, it is my hope and goal that we have fun. We all know that our meetings and degree nights consist of WORK but we also have FUN. Keeping our Brothers interested and involved will encourage other good men to become members. We have a very healthy lodge and to keep it strong we must grow.

Fraternally and Respectfully,

David E. Rush
Worshipful Master
Willis V. Fentress # 296

From the West

Brethren,

Brethren - the holidays have passed and we can now begin to look toward the future, and the many opportunities that 2017 will bring. As you do your planning for the next weeks and months, notch out a little time to help the Lodge in any way that you can. We always need help with clean up, especially as the grass begins to grow, and for our Adopt-A-Spot commitment - we need

to conduct six clean-up walks each year. On March 11 we will have our first fund raiser of the year, the WVF Chili Cook-off. Plan to come out and participate, either by entering with a pot of chili, or by sampling and voting on your favorite entry. Besides the outstanding chili, it is also a great time for family and fellowship. Your involvement in our Lodge functions make us stronger as a Lodge, and will enhance your enjoyment and satisfaction as a member.

Fraternally,
Bro. Paul F Schirle
Senior Warden
Willis V. Fentress # 296

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HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY BROTHERS

From the South



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Throw away all ambition beyond that of doing the days work well. The traveler on the road to success lives in the present, heedless of taking thought for the morrow. Live neither in the past nor the future, but let each day’s work absorb your entire energies, and satisfy your widest ambition”. -William Osler

BIRTHDAY’S

- Darren L Gerlach
02/11/12
- Daniel P Hessells
02/29/00
- M.W. William L Holliday, Hon
02/16/73
- Christopher G.K. Pearson
02/16/04
- Joseph R. Ryan
02/24/78

Brethren, it has been 50 years since the charter was granted for Willis V Fentress Lodge No. 296. During the passage of that time, man has walked on the moon, presidents have been born and elected, dictators have fallen, and many people have risen up, while others have sought to but fallen short. While most of this has happened far away from our homes, some of it has been quite close. This lodge is our home, and I would like to share a brief note from William R. Fischer on the importance of knowing your home’s history while you travel...

HOME

William R Fischer

The Lodge where you are a member is your home lodge. This should be the most familiar of all places for the relief of the day to day stress that one faces in the world. The attendance and participation of each member shows the new and uninformed

member how important it is to be a faithful and worthy brother. To be faithful, you must attend, and to be worthy, you must practice what you have learned in the lodge. The burden of teaching is on every member, and not the sole duty of the Lodge Education Officer. To learn the history of the lodge, so you can pass it on to visiting brothers, is not only a matter of pride but one of honor. If you encourage a visiting brother to tell you of the history of his lodge, you will give him a chance to make a connection with all the brothers of both lodges. As you want to know them, they want to know you. Practicing what you learn in the lodge is important. Through the practice of the principles of Masonry you become a better person. You also show the world that masonry works for the good of all and not just for its members. When you visit another lodge, the usual questions are: What Lodge are you from? How old is your lodge? Who is the Worshipful Master? How

many members attend a meeting? How many members do you have? When do you meet? Do you do much work? Answer these questions, and then let them know, with dignity, how your lodge is moving forward. While you visit other lodges, be a frequent attender to your own, because, "you must know home to be a traveler."

Fraternally,
Bro. David Hewett

Junior Warden

Willis V. Fentress Lodge
296

As ambassadors of the Adopt-A-Spot along Providence road we are required to perform 6 clean-ups per year which, at a minimum is every other month. We will have our first lodge clean-up and Adopt-A-Spot on Saturday February 18th from 08:00 to 12:00. This is another great opportunity to support our lodge and help keep our building and grounds in good repair as well as our contribution to our community. Our primary focus will be to clean the road and conduct some monthly maintenance on the building. There will be a list posted on the bulletin board with maintenance and repairs that I am aware of. If you know of other items, please feel free to write them on the list.

If you have a short article that you think would be beneficial to the brethren and would like it published in the trestle board, please send it to Bro. James Teachout or myself and we find a place for it. Your knowledge and wisdom is worthy of reading.

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Events for February

STATED MEETING

Tuesday 7 February, 2017.
Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:30. RW. Steve Ridgeway
DDGM Official Visit to Willis V Fentress.

DDGM Official Visit Sched 1
February, Princess Anne 8
February, Virginia Beach

SCHOOL

Monday 6 February at 6:00
we will practice for DDGM
Official Visit.

DEGREE WORK

Tuesday's will be our normal
degree nights. please
watch your email if we have
degree work planned.

OTHER DATES

Friday 10 February, 2017
The Most Worshipful Grand
Master of Masons of Virginia
Official Visit to the 56th
Masonic District.

DeMolay Spaghetti Dinner
at Kempsville Lodge 7PM-
9PM

Lodge Clean-Up, Saturday
February 25

Blood Drive 20 February
2017, Lynnhaven Lodge



Things in the works

The Facebook page should be up and running in the next few weeks. Watch for the email.

Fund Raisers. There are a ideas being kicked around that we will be proposing, your participation will be very helpful

Visitations. I really enjoy traveling to our district lodges with you all and hope you will accompany me to other districts throughout the year.

Brethren, thank you for all you do and your support to this, OUR, lodge. Without your participation we would cease to exist.

Grand Masters Visit Note:

The Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of Virginia, M.W. Vernon Stewart Cook, is making his official district Visit on February 10th at the Shrine Center in Chesapeake. Social hour starts at 6:00 PM, dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. This is an OPEN event and brethren, family and guests are encouraged to attend. This has always been a great time to socialize, meet the Grand Master and new friends. Many of you have already given me your RSVP but if you would like to attend, please send me your name and the number of guests you will be bringing.

The address for the Shrine Center is 645 Woodlake Dr. Chesapeake, VA 23320 and I really look forward to seeing many of you there.

Events for March

STATED MEETING

Tuesday 7 March 2017

DEGREE WORK

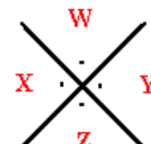
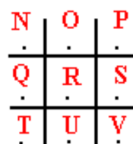
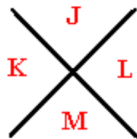
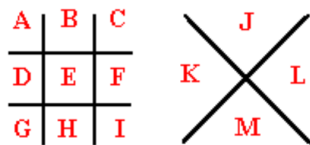
Monday is school night at 6PM

OTHER DATES

March 11 WING KING CHALLENGE

Tuesday's will be our normal degree nights. please watch your email if we have degree work planned.

Bring your best buffalo wings and compete. Bro Paul Schirle is hosting.



BRETHREN, OUR PUBLICATION IS GROWING, PLEASE HELP US FILL IN THIS WHITE SPACE?