

LYNNHAVEN MASONIC LODGE #220
2959 N. Lynnhaven Road
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Lynnhaven #220
Master Builders

Master Builders donate \$5 for one year to help defray the cost of our newsletter.
If your name is printed in **Bold** print, your name will come off the list next month.

Wor. Brian Adams (04/21)
Wor. Richard E. Allen (05/24)
Bro. Arthur Bartlett (02/22)
Bro. Bill Batten, Jr. (09/22)
Wor. John Brown (03/22)
Bro. Charles Cheeseman (05/21)
Edna Mae Cheeseman (10/20)
Bro. John Collins (08/20)
Bro. Thomas Darr (09/21)
Bro. Chuck Delaney (10/27)
Bro. Cecil Doughtie, Jr. (02/30)
Bro. Bruce W. Exum (03/24)
Rt. Wor. George & Jackie Ganter (05/22)
Rt. Wor. Pete Gordon (04/25)
Wor. Ken Gregory (09/21)
Wor. Joseph Hagerman, Jr. (09/24)

Wor. Ron Hudson (06/21)
Wor. Jesse Hughes (08/27)
Bro. Ernest Ivan (06/20)
Bro. Joseph L. James (09/22)
Wor. James Kelly (04/22)
Bro. William Kennedy (04/22)
Bro. Jim Kiphart (03/21)
Bro. John Knox (05/26)
Wor. Brent Lane (05/24)
Wor. Jules E. Lingoni (03/32)
Bro. Wes Latchford (4/21)
Wor. William T. Lunsford (06/20)
Bro. Wallace E. Maybery (12/22)
Bro. Bob Meeker (03/27)
Rt. Wor. Edward Meise, Jr. (02/24)
Rt. Wor. Raymond Mountford (03/23)

Bro. Tom Oakes (04/20)
Wor. Jay Oubre (12/23)
Bro. Steve Owen (09/27)
Bro. Jack Pallett (06/24)
Wor. Marlo Pilar (11/20)
Wor. Bill Ramsey (02/22)
Wor. Bob Rathbun (09/27)
Bro. Bob Schratweiser (06/20)
Bro. Allen Sokolik (03/31)
Bro. James C. Spencer (08/21)
Bro. Don Super (12/20)
Bro. Carl Vance (10/24)
Bro. Stephen Vogel (04/31)
Wor. Jimmy W. Wagner (02/33)
Bro. Arthur H. Wahl (11/35)
Bro. L. Wirt Walker (02/21)

NOTE TO LODGE COMMITTEES AND APPENDANT BODIES Input for the *Burning Taper* by Lodge Officers, Committees and Appendant Bodies must be submitted to the Worshipful Master Marlo Pilar (13lakay@cox.net) no later than the third Wednesday of each month. E-mails accepted and preferred.



The Burning Taper

Lynnhaven Masonic Lodge No. 220, AF & AM
Virginia Beach, Virginia

April, 2020
Our 58th Year



FROM THE EAST



Brethren,

As the gravity of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic became clear, immense procedures were implemented by the government to stop the spread of the virus. Along with these procedures, there is a strong emphasis on social distancing—a term that epidemiologists are using to refer to a conscious effort to reduce close contact between people and hopefully prevent community transmission of the virus. The CDC recommends that the minimum distance between two people should be six (6) to ten (10) feet.

In response to this effort and to promote the safety of the Masonic Fraternity, the 175th Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Most Worshipful Douglas V. Jones, suspended all Stated Communications, effective March 17 until April 30, 2020. The suspension applies to all building rentals, youth organizations and any other appendant bodies which meet in any Masonic Lodge building beholden under the Grand Lodge of Virginia. This COVID-19 pandemic has rendered our lodge with no activity for the inclusive dates mentioned above; including all degree work, any kind of group dining, and Masonic Rite of Passage Funeral Service will consist of no more than 8 people. Needless to say, except for the Treasurer who pays our bills, Secretary who keeps our official paper work, electrical/mechanical maintenance personnel, and minor clerical work like preparation of the *Taper*; Masonic Trestle-board for March and April is practically nothing.

We're in a gray zone now. The public health priority is to create social distance; "that's the only way we're going to stop this," they say. There's no absolute rule about what works; however, they have determined that decreasing the size of gatherings, increasing the distance, practicing good hygiene will go a long way. This moratorium is scheduled to end on April 30.

NOW, FOR THE GOOD NEWS, as of March 15, 2020, donations collected for the PARKING LOT FUND DRIVE has exceeded \$5,000. The donors for the Month of March are Bro. James Fletcher, Bro. Chuck Delaney, Wor. Joseph Hagerman, Bro. Dale Graham, Bro. Herbert Hurst, Rt. Wor. George Ganter, WM Marlo Pilar, Bro. Carl Pennington, Wor. Bob Rathbun, Wor. Brent Lane, Bro. Charles Nissen, OES Chapter No. 184, and proceeds from the Italian dinner.

We are looking forward to serving you with pork loin together with red potatoes, beans, apple sauce, and dessert at our next Dinner Social Event in our lodge in June after this pandemic has settled down and the moratorium is lifted. The tickets with the exact date will be incorporated in the June *Taper*.

Again, thank you so very much for your much needed generous and charitable support to our lodge. Stay healthy and safe, Brethren.

Sincerely and fraternally
Marlo B. Pilar
Worshipful Master
Cell: (757) 779-0705

FROM THE WEST



Brethren,

It is well known that the topics of religion and politics are generally to be avoided, lest the peace and harmony of the lodge be disturbed. It is also well known, and indeed part of the charge at your initiation, that a Mason is to be a quiet and peaceful citizen, patiently submit to legal authority and conform with cheerfulness to the government. Knowing all this, but yet concerned by recent actions by the General Assembly in Richmond that I believe to be contrary to our Constitution and feeling I had to do something, I exercised my right to Freedom of Speech and peaceful assembly. I joined thousands of like-minded citizens in traveling to Richmond to express my alarm and displeasure in person to my elected representatives. To say that they were not happy to see us would be an understatement.

Seeing tens, if not hundreds of thousands of citizens, many of them, openly armed, face-to-face with State police, all of them armed, including automatic weapons, armored vehicles, and rooftop snipers, was a sobering sight. I realized that this situation was just one mistake away from a tragedy, just like Concord and Lexington. Pondering this on the way home, and thinking of George Washington, in particular, I decided to do some research, and discovered that Brother Washington was raised in 1753, so, 23 years later, as Commanding General of the Continental Army, he, and all Masons with him, were indeed in defiance of their lawful government, and no doubt, the Grand Lodge of England was not pleased. It is fascinating to consider that the United States of America, our Republic, our Constitution, and all the Grand Lodges contained herein would not exist today if our founding fathers had obeyed the King, rather than their hearts and consciences. I am in awe of the bravery, and sacrifice of the men, and Masons that made our country possible. George Washington was convinced that it was nothing short of Divine Providence which enabled them to prevail. May God continue to bless our country, and guide us always.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Dale Graham
Senior Warden
(757)805-1441

FROM THE SECRETARY

Just a reminder that dues cards went out in the mail the end of December...please return them with your check as soon as possible. Should you need assistance on payment, please contact the Worshipful Master Marlo Pilar or myself to apprise us of the situation so that we may be of assistance if possible. My number is 757-639-3407 and email is Bobathbun2@cox.net.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Bob Rathbun, PM
Secretary

PRAYER CORNER

Please keep the following Brethren and families in your thoughts and prayers:

- Bro. Jack and Dianne Lawlis
- Nita Leonard
- Nancy Linger
- Lola Thompson



In memory of:

Rt. Wor. Raymond Mounford

Prayer request, please call Carl at 757-822-9863.

FROM THE SOUTH

For those Brothers who have young daughters or granddaughters, you've most likely had the privilege of watching Disney's *Tangled*, where Rapunzel sings an entire song about how she manages to spend her days while trapped alone in the tower of a castle—cooking, ventriloquism, candle-making, cleaning, papier-mâché, painting, daydreaming, and of course brushing, and brushing, and brushing her hair.



As we now find ourselves a bit trapped via “self-distancing” and “self-quarantining” in an effort to waylay coronavirus (aka COVID-19), it gives us perhaps a chance as Masons to spend some of our time exploring more of the history, philosophy, and esotericism of our gentle Craft. There are plenty of reputable books on various aspects of Freemasonry available through online retailers. Books most recently on my Masonic reading table have included *Reclaiming the Soul of Freemasonry* by John W. McNaughton, *Millennial Apprentices* by Samuel Friedman, and *The Mason's Words* by Robert G. Davis.

Numerous great works of literature either related to Freemasonry or worthy of study by a Mason are available to download for free at websites like TheMasonicTrowel.com and TheOldCharges.com/. Take a few minutes and enjoy a webcast or podcast like *The Tyler's Place*, *Whence Came You?*, *The Masonic Roundtable*, or *The Winding Stairs*. Just do a Google search with these terms and you'll find these great and useful tools for Masonic Research, furthering your Masonic Education and increasing your knowledge of Freemasonry.

“Do the Five,” keep your family close, and may the Great Architect of the Universe protect and bless us!

Sincerely and Fraternally,
 Bro. Wes Latchford, 32°
 Junior Warden
 757-831-2438
 ecclesxii@gmail.com

PHONE NUMBERS

Secretary	Wor. Bob Rathbun	639-3407
Treasurer	Wor. Dave Conner	338-5366
Senior Deacon.....	Bro. Bob Adams.....	754-9216
Junior Deacon	Bro. Cory Tinner	492-0700
Chaplain.....	Bro. Carl Pennington.....	822-9863

MASONIC BIRTHDAYS APRIL, 2020

Garry W. Barnett-Baker.....	04/23/2013
John L. Collins.....	04/24/1958
Guy A. Cruise	04/27/2004
Kevin M. Gibson	04/26/2007
Bill Hammett	04/26/1994
Timothy C. Harris.....	04/21/2016
George L. Hill.....	04/26/1984
Ernest L. Ivan.....	04/22/1966
F. Mitchell Martin, III.....	04/04/1991
Douglas R. Norris	04/06/2006
Roy E. Smith, Jr.....	04/20/1978
Robert L. Thompson.....	04/14/1969
Corey Tinner.....	04/23/2019
Bob Totten	04/19/1982



SCHOLARSHIP



The Worshipful Master and Officers of Lynnhaven Masonic Lodge No. 220 are pleased to announce that applications are now available for two (2) \$500.00 scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Students eligible to receive this scholarship are graduating seniors (children, grand- or great-grand children) of family members of Lynnhaven Masonic Lodge No. 220 and Lynnhaven Chapter No. 184, Order of the Eastern Star.

This scholarship will be awarded on the basis of academic excellence, demonstrated financial need, community service, school activities, the desire and ability to further their education at the next level and recommendations.

Eligible students may write for an application to:

Scholarship Committee
 Lynnhaven Masonic Lodge No. 220
 2959 N Lynnhaven Rd
 Virginia Beach VA 23452

Deadline for requesting applications is 15 June 2020, and the deadline for submitting applications is 15 July 2020.

The winner will be notified prior to 31 July, 2020. The scholarship will be presented on 13 August, 2020, at our Stated Communication.

For further information, contact Rt. Wor. Peter J. Gordon at 757-486-9778, Chairman, Scholarship Committee.