

## A History of Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347, Richmond, Virginia

#### The early years...

Tuckahoe Lodge had its beginning when twenty-nine brethren petitioned the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and were granted a dispensation on January 3, 1923 by Most Worshipful James H. Price. At our first meeting on January 5<sup>th</sup> of that year, the Grand Master appointed our first slate of officers: Wor. J.O. Harris, a Past Master of Westhampton Lodge as Worshipful Master, Wor. L.E. Dunsmore, a Past Master of Lodge 207, the Sr. Warden, Bro. A.N. Revere was installed as the Jr. Warden, and two other Past Masters served as our Treasurer and Secretary; C.H. Thompson and R.L. Jennings, respectively. Bro. W. F. Martin was the Senior Deacon, and Bro. P.L. Ruermund, the Jr. Deacon. At the first Stated Communication of the Lodge, while under dispensation, the dues were announced as \$1 per month, and the fee for conferring the degrees was set at the princely sum of \$50.

At the next Stated Communication of the Lodge, on February 2, 1923, the Worshipful Master appointed Rt. Wor. L.H. Walton, Chaplain; F.D. Gatewood, Steward; and A.B. Whitmore, Tiler. The Lodge was officially chartered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia on February 14, 1923, along with nine other Lodges across Virginia. The Lodge was officially constituted at the Stated Communication held on March 2, 1923, and that night there were 6 petitions and 5 applications read for the first time. Following the installation of the officers, a delegation of visiting brethren from Richmond Lodge 10 presented an altar Bible to the members of Tuckahoe. Rt. Wor L.H. Walton, the chaplain, accepted the Bible for the Lodge.



That Bible rested on the altar for our Stated Communication on the nights of our 25<sup>th</sup>, 50th 75<sup>th</sup>, 85<sup>th</sup>, 90<sup>th</sup>, and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations as well, and is now the version of the Holy Writ that graces our altar during all Lodge meetings.

At the March stated communication, the trustees were instructed to acquire the old Westhampton School building on Maple Avenue, near West View. This former school property was purchased for \$2000, and an additional \$2000 was paid to Bro. Jack Du Val, a contractor, for extensive alterations and repairs to the building.



Tuckahoe Lodge at 319 Maple Avenue

The first by-laws of the lodge were adopted in April of 1923. The lodge minutes note that appreciation was extended to Bro. J.E. Dicks for the warden's columns he handcrafted for the stations in the South and West. Brother W.E. Du Val presented the Lodge with its altar and the stationed officers' pedestals, and Bro. W.D. Strasser was thanked for the Masonic light fixture placed on the front of the temple.



The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Lodge room at Maple Avenue.

At the September 1923 stated meeting the delegation from the Lodge of Strict Observance 207 presented our Lodge with corn, wine and oil...."The wages of a worthy brother Fellowcraft"...and they're still in use today.



Fellowcraft Wages

On November 1<sup>st</sup> 1923, six of our brethren represented Tuckahoe at the ceremony for the laying of the cornerstone of the George Washington National Masonic memorial in Alexandria. In attendance were: C.M. Selph, P.L. Ruehrmund, H.J. Perrin, H.L. Carter, W.H. Lawrence, and Wor. R.L. Jennings.

The first year went by quickly, and at the end of the year the lodge had a surplus balance of \$38.26 in the treasury. From reviewing the minutes of the lodge, we find that in January of 1924, Amity Lodge 76 presented the marble rough and perfect ashlars and the sounding blocks for the officer's pedestals to the Lodge. Later that same year St. Johns Lodge 36 presented us with six Past Master's jewels.

The officers and brethren were proud to take part in setting the cornerstone into a firm foundation for three significant West End buildings. Masonic ceremonies were held to lay the corner stones of St. Stephens Episcopal Church on May 14, 1927.

#### Times-Dispatch, Sunday, May 15, 1927

A crowd of over 200 members and friends of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Westhampton, braved the rain yesterday afternoon to attend the ceremonies incident to laying the corner stone of the new \$135,000 home of the church. Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347, A.F. and A.M. was in charge of the Masonic rites.

A procession, in which the Rt. Rev. William Cabell Brown, D.D., bishop of the diocese, a number of local Episcopal clergy and St. Stephen's choir participated, took place in the church, preliminary to laying the stone.

Rain held the crowd in the church for half an hour, after which skies cleared, and choir, clergy, and congregation marched from the church to the new site adjoining the present building. Paul L. Rhuermund, Worshipful Master of Tuckahoe Lodge, presided over the Masonic ceremonies. Due to Bishop Brown's having to catch an afternoon train, his scheduled address was not given, and Frank R. Watson, of Philadelphia, architect of the new building, made a short talk.

The Lodge members laid the cornerstone of Westhampton Methodist church on March 18th of 1939.



Tuckahoe Lodge took part in the cornerstone ceremony of the church educational building of St. Giles Presbyterian on December 19th, 1940.

Richmond, Va. December 17, 1940. Mr. James Jennings, Sect'y. 4004 W. Franklin St. Richmond, Va. Dear Sir & Brother: Kindly be advised that the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Thos. J. Traylor, has granted a dispensation to Tuckahoe Lodge #347 A. F. & A. M. & to lay the Corner Stone of St. Giles Presbyterian Church on Thursday, December 19. 1940. It has been a pleasure to serve you in this matter and I am grateful to you for the privilege. Sincerely and fraternally,

From the Times-Dispatch, Friday, December 20, 1940

The cornerstone of the new church school building of St. Giles Presbyterian Church, the first building of a proposed three-unit church plant, was laid yesterday at ceremonies held on the church property at Grove Avenue and Tuckahoe Boulevard.

The ceremony was conducted by Tuckahoe Masonic Lodge No. 347, under the direction of R. K. Allen, Worshipful Master.

Defining the purpose of the new building, now in the course of construction, as a place in which to worship and glorify God and his Son, J. Scott Parrish, chairman of the building committee and superintendent of the St. Giles Church School, said men and women, young people and children, will be taught from the Bible.

"Here that thing we speak of as character will be developed," he said, "and with the instruction each will receive, as is the prayer of the pastor and officers and members of St. Giles Presbyterian Church that this will be a Christian character, so that each may be a blessing to his fellow man."

The stone, which was lowered into place by Barbara Belk, daughter of the Rev. J. Blanton Belk, D.D., pastor of St. Giles Church, contained a brief history of St. Giles Church, a sermon by Dr.

Belk, a copy of yesterday's Times-Dispatch, a roll of the membership of the church and Sunday school, lists of all officers of all church organizations, the names of the church architects and contractor, and a list of the officers of Tuckahoe Masonic Lodge No. 347.

Assisting in the ceremony were W. S. Brent, F. W. Biesecker, A. N. Revere, J. M. Jennings, Jr., J. W. Mullins, G. G. Finney, and F. R. Harris, officers of Tuckahoe Lodge. Dr. Belk, pastor of St. Giles, delivered the prayer.

Times-Dispatch articles courtesy of Rt. Wor.Donald Traser

During the construction of its edifice, the congregation of Westhampton Methodist Church held their services in our temple, and several of the brethren of the lodge were named in the church's original charter.

#### A quarter century milestone...

Shortly after the beginning of WWII, the brethren voted to invest all surplus funds of the lodge in War Bonds. The lodge financial records from 1944 indicate that the lodge held \$1,500 in government bonds at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. In 1948 the members voted to remodel the interior of the lodge. Wor. Bro. James E. Kirk was the Master during the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration year. The front of our old Maple Avenue building and the Masonic emblem above the door were designed by Wor. Bro. Kirk.

The November 12<sup>th</sup> 1948 edition of the Richmond newspaper reported that fire extensively damaged the Grand Lodge building at Adams & Broad Streets the previous night. Tuckahoe quickly extended an invitation to Lodges that met there to use our temple until repairs could be made. Amity Lodge met here until mid-way through 1949. Westgate 352 (now merged into Richmond Lodge 10) also came and shared our home until the early 1990's. Over the years the building has also been home to the Tuckahoe Eastern Star Chapter and a Job's Daughters Bethel as well. Some of the original furniture of the Lodge is now in a room at the Masonic Home, serving as the furnishings for a Masonic ritual class that meets there weekly.

In 1964 a mortgage burning ceremony was held at the lodge. The members voted to continue paying the trustees \$100 a month to build up the Lodge's investment funds, thus helping to assure the financial stability of Tuckahoe in the future.



Tuckahoe Officers at the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – 1973

First Row: George Paul (SW), P.D. Lawrence (WM), William C. Vaughn (Grand Master in Virginia -1973) Bob Nelson(JW), Herbert Clevinger (JS). Second Row: Clarence Hamilton (Tiler), Bill Roper (SD), Jack Wolf (JD), Wade McClintock (Acting SS). Third Row: Bill Lovern (Treasurer), James Kirk (Secretary), Jim Gary (Chaplain), Ed Oakley (Marshal)

1973 was our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Wor. Phillip Drake (P.D.) Lawrence was Master, and was celebrating his 49<sup>th</sup> year as a Mason. The lodge celebration took place on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, exactly 50 years to the day from the first stated meeting after the chartering of the Lodge.

Three of the original charter members of the Lodge were present that evening, Wor. M.H. Dicks, Wor. A.N. Revere, and Bro. F.D. Gatewood. Wor. Bro. Revere, the master in 1925, presented a brief history of the first 50 years. Our special guest that night was another distinguished Mason, Mt. Wor. William C. Vaughn, Grand Master of Masons in 1973.



Tuckahoe officers installed on December 3, 1976: First row: Bill Lovern, Treas; Jimmy Eades, JS; Barry Hubbard, Tiler; Ned Culler, Marshal; Jimmy Kirk, Secty. Second Row: Floyd Bowen, SS; Clarence Whitley, SD; Art Ratcliffe, JD; Doug Messimer, Chaplain. Third row: J.C. Lewitt II, SW; O.J. Oakes, JW. Fourth row: Rob Eades, WM.

### 75 years: Tuckahoe leaves its mark on Freemasonry...

February of 1998 saw the arrival of another milestone in Tuckahoe's life, our 75<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. Wor. Robert S. Lanier served as Master and we held a celebration at our February stated communication. Special commemorative mugs and other mementos were distributed, and a detailed history of our first 75 years was presented.

In our first 75 years many individual brethren and Lodges helped furnish and embellish the lodge room. In addition to the gifts already mentioned, the canopies over the stations in the East, West, and South were originally used in Lewis Ginter Lodge. Those canopies are today part of the Lodge room fixtures of Westhampton Lodge 302 on Three Chopt Road.

# TUCKAHOE LODGE CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

At its Stated Meeting held on May 8th, 1998, Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347 observed "75 years of Masonic Light." Though the actual date of its charter is February, 1923, Tuckahoe waited until the Grand Master could attend to celebrate its "75th Birthday."



Pictured: Grand Master Albert Hugh Tignor, Jr. and officers of Lodge

Credit for photograph: Past Master Bill Paschall.

Over 125 members and guests gathered to enjoy steaks cooked on the grill along with the proper trimmings to go along with the steaks. The Lodge presented each person present with a Commemorative Cup and a lapel pin inscribed with the words "75 Years of Masonic Light." Past Master, Wor. Douglas Messimer presented a brief history of Tuckahoe over its 75 years. Worshipful Master, Robert Lanier presented Grand Master Albert Hugh Tignor, Jr. with a check from the Lodge in the amount of \$2,500.00 to have a leaf on the "Tree of Life" at the Masonic Home inscribed in honor of its 75 years of service.

Twenty-one of the twenty-nine living Past Masters were present for the occasion.

Most Worshipful Tignor congratulated Tuckahoe on its past accomplishments and wished for the Lodge much success in the future. His remarks were very well received as Most Worshipful Tignor closed with his often repeated poem entitled "The Master's Touch."

All in all, it was a very auspicious occasion and a good time of Masonic Fellowship was had by all present.



A ceramic bust of Mt. Wor. Bro. George Washington was donated to the Lodge by the Principal of the Bainbridge Middle School. The principal had mentioned to Rt. Wor. Bro. Bill Roper III, that the school was to be closed soon, and "George" would have no place to go. Bro. Bill said he knew a perfect place where "George" could stay, and he's been with us ever since.

A very talented local artist, and member of Tuckahoe, Bro. Alan A. Wenger, formally presented five of his original oil paintings to the Lodge in the early 1980's. His depiction of "The Creation", "Jacobs Ladder", and three smaller works showing the symbols and emblems of the first three degrees of Masonry now adorn the walls of our Lodge room.



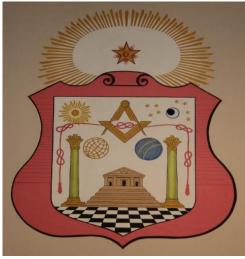
"The Creation' by Bro. Alan Wenger, after Leonardo di ser Piero da Vinci



"Jacob's Ladder" by Bro. Alan Wenger



Entered Apprentice Degree



Fellowcraft Degree



Master Mason Degree

A sixth painting, his majestic rendering of George Washington in full Masonic regalia, was one of Alan's favorite works and received critical acclaim. It was the subject of a wonderful article about the artist and Tuckahoe Lodge in the Richmond Times-Dispatch.



"Washington as Master of Alexandria Lodge" by Bro. Alan Wenger

This talented artist and devoted Mason was called to the Celestial Lodge in July of 2002. All 6 of his original paintings now occupy places of honor in our Lodge room, a very fitting memorial to Bro. Wenger's legacy.

#### Who we are, and what we have done...

Over the years the membership grew from the original 29 members to a peak of just over 440 in early 1980's, and now (2024) stands at 124. We have been led by 90 different Worshipful Masters, ten of whom have served two times in the East; J.O. Harris (1923-24), Chuck Hilgenhold (1993 & 1997), Jack Cooke (2002-03), Rob Eades (1977 & 2004), Herbert Eades (2006-07), Barry Faison (2009-10), Gray Bradford (2012-13), Rt. Wor. William Roper, III (1975 and 2014) Tom Voltz, Jr. (2016-17) and James Gregory, III (2020-21).

We point with pride to the fact that 12 of our Past Masters have gone on to serve as District Deputy Grand Master. Two of the brethren have served multiple terms as the District Educational Officer (DEO) for Masonic District 15-C, and multiple terms as Division IX Provost for Education. Several members currently serve as appointed Grand Lodge Committeemen. We have earned the coveted James Noah Hillman Award 23 times, the Grand Lodge Education and Leadership Award of Merit in 2005, and regularly receive the Seymour Jonas Levy Award, an award based on the number of units of blood that are donated and credited to our Lodge throughout the year.

For many years Tuckahoe has been known for our 'family ties' to Masonry, and is often referred to as 'The Father & Son Lodge'. Tuckahoe has had sixteen fathers and sons as members of our Lodge.

Six sets of those fathers & sons have served as Worshipful Master; the Roper's, the Woolard's, the Carpenter's, and Wor. J.C. Lewitt and Wor. Wade McClintock. Most Worshipful John R. Quinley (a member of Tuckahoe Lodge) served as Grand Master of Masons in Virginia in 2005 while his son, J. Todd Quinley, occupied the East in Tuckahoe and Rt. Wor. Barry Faison and Wor. Jon Lumpkin. In addition, brothers from two families have served as Worshipful Master; Robert and Herbert Eades, and Marshall and Douglas Messimer.

Tuckahoe supports the Eastern Star and Masonic Youth programs, and very generously contributes annually to the Masonic Home of Virginia. Our members continue to donate many gallons of "life" to the American Red Cross Blood Service and participate in blood drives held each year. We have conducted child I.D. clinics at various locations in the community, and strongly support the efforts of the Richmond Scottish Rite Childhood Language Center.

#### Masonic Education...

Tuckahoe has developed and refined the presentation of a beautiful, and very moving, lodge memorial service, first presented in 1974. The service was later rewritten and has been presented annually since 1981. In 2009 the program was re-written to include the widows of Lodge members and their families for a public presentation of the memorial service.

Two well-received Masonic education programs were developed and written by Wor. Doug Messimer. A special degree team performed "The Rusty Nail Degree" in 1981 in our Lodge, and in South Hill 297. Later it was presented in Richmond 10, Fredericksburg 4, Charlottesville 60, and the Area Leadership Conference. Since that time the "degree" has been presented about every five years as a multi-district educational program hosted in our Lodge.



An interactive education program called "Masonic Jeopardy" was written and presented twice during 1997, first in our lodge and then at the Division Leadership Conference. A special contract agreement was negotiated with Merv Griffin Productions in Los Angeles to use the copyrighted name "Jeopardy" for our program. This same Masonic Education program was presented in lodges in Akron, Ohio, and Los Angeles, California in 1998, with acknowledgement to Tuckahoe Lodge, and Wor. Bro. Messimer.

#### Moving on...

During the past 30 years the members of Tuckahoe have considered moving to another location a number of times. In 1999 a committee of Past Masters and brethren was formed to again investigate the possibility of moving to a different facility. The Lodge was presented with numerous detailed reports and was offered various options over the next 12 months.

In 2001 we voted to put our Maple Avenue facility up for sale and seek out a new home for Tuckahoe Lodge. About that same time the Bethlehem Road Masonic Temple Corporation, home to several Masonic Lodges, decided to sell their building. After several months of negotiation, the sale of the Maple Avenue site was completed, and the Bethlehem Road property was purchased.

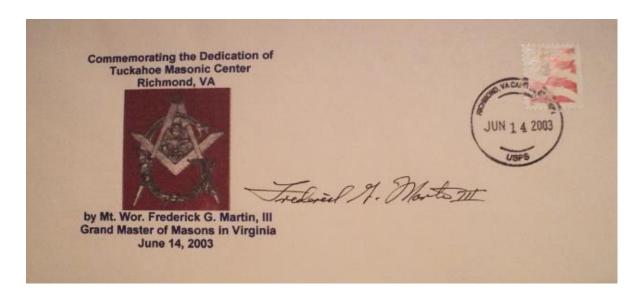


Tuckahoe moved into our new home at the corner of Bethlehem & Dickens Roads in February of 2002. Extensive renovation was begun immediately including installation of a new air conditioning system, major roof repairs, new kitchen facilities, interior painting and ceiling tile replacement, construction of an outdoor storage area, a covered picnic pavilion, and various "fix-up" projects that were undertaken by the members of the Lodge.



Mt. Wor. Frederick G. Martin, III (center) Grand Lodge and Tuckahoe officers at the dedication ceremony, June 14, 2003.

Most Worshipful Frederick G. Martin, III, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia (2003), a member of Tuckahoe Lodge, along with the Grand Lodge Officers, brethren of the Masonic fraternity and citizens from the surrounding community gathered to celebrate the dedication of our Lodge building at Bethlehem & Dickens Roads during a very successful and well-attended community-wide celebration on June 14, 2003.



Lodge furnishings with deep historical and Masonic significance from the two Lodges that previously owned the facility (Richmond Lodge 10, and St. Johns Lodge 36) have been retained by Tuckahoe for use as our regular Lodge room furniture. Additionally, a desk, officer's station chairs, deacon's staffs and other furnishings from our Maple Avenue facility were donated to the brethren of Richmond Lodge 65, PHA (Prince Hall Affiliate) to be used as their primary lodge furniture.

Making history...



In May of 2004, following the adoption of a visitation compact between the Grand Lodge of Virginia and Virginia Prince Hall Masons, three members of Tuckahoe Lodge were among the first Masons in Virginia to sit in open lodge with the brethren of Richmond Lodge 65, PHA. Fraternal greetings from the two Grand Lodges were exchanged, as well as mementos of this historic occasion.

The visiting delegation from Tuckahoe (Wor. Douglas Messimer, Division Provost, Rt. Wor. Douglas Boynton, and Wor. Jack Cooke, DEO-15-C) was formally received and very warmly welcomed by our Prince Hall brethren as a new chapter in the history of Tuckahoe Lodge and Virginia Masonry was being written. An article authored by Wor. Bro. Messimer, detailing this historic visitation was published in the Virginia Masonic Herald.

#### Another Milestone...

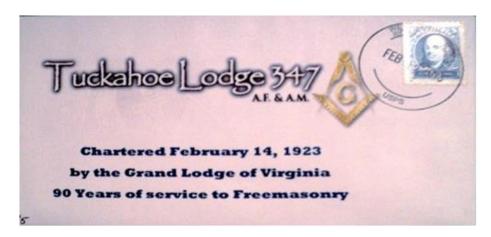
February of 2008 marked the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Lodge. Tuckahoe was one of ten Lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1923.

Twin Rivers No. 338	Clarksville, VA
South Norfolk No. 339	Chesapeake, VA
Hiram No. 340	Suffolk, VA
Miema No. 341	Big Island, VA
Catawba No. 342	Fincastle, VA
St. Paul No. 343	St. Paul, VA
Washington and Henry No. 344	Mechanicsville, VA
Woodland Heights No. 345	Richmond, VA
George W. Wright No. 346	Norfolk, VA
Tuckahoe No. 347	Westhampton, VA

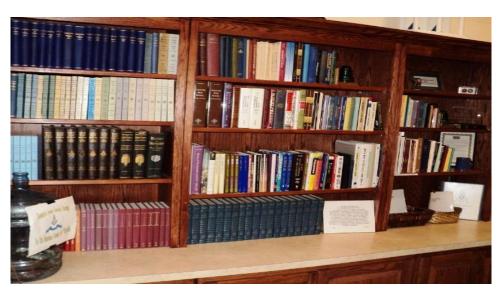
At the February Stated Communication a brief retrospective of our first 85 years was presented that included notable events that took place in the life of our country on February 14<sup>th</sup>. Wor. Marshall H. Messimer, Jr. presented each member and visitor with a beautiful custom Masonic token proudly noting our anniversary. The first token was presented to R.W. J. Ned Culler for his significant contributions to our Lodge over the last three decades, and his personal support and guidance afforded the Worshipful Master during his Masonic career and his journey to the East.



During 2008 a special projects team was formed and began the laborious job of refurbishing the current Lodge furnishings (candle pedestals, officer's station chairs, and altar). The pedestals have been refinished and rewired, and are now a stunning and very historical addition to the simple, yet beautiful interior of our Lodge room. The altar and the officer station chairs were the next fixtures that were carefully refurbished.



On the Library Shelf...



A new home for our 200 volume Masonic library was installed in the Tyler's anteroom and placed in service in early 2009. The beautiful custom woodwork and lighting were handcrafted and installed by members of the Lodge. As of January 2023, the library inventory has grown to over 435 volumes of Masonic literature and memorabilia, donated by friends and members of the Lodge.

#### The J. Ned Culler Award for Masonic Excellence...

In every generation, there appear among us giants among men who shape and alter the world around them in a highly positive way. We believe J. Ned Culler was one of those giants. He helped and nurtured Masons who firmly believe in the value of Masonic Education and the effect that Masonic Education has on leadership. Brother Ned often said that "leadership is education and education is leadership." Brother Ned's life was centered on the precepts so eloquently put forth in our Ritual. He firmly believed in performing excellent ritual work and, just as importantly, living the meaning of the Ritual in his daily life.



Rt. Wor. James Ned Culler

James Ned Culler lived out this creed with the utmost humility and distinction. He brought to light the essence of Freemasonry and led many of the Craft's leaders to be involved in "higher thoughts and greater achievements." He stood as a beacon of light for Masonic Education throughout his 40-year Masonic journey. It is good and proper to pay homage to this outstanding man and Mason.

Ned had a way with the delivery of some of the best esoteric parts of Masonry. Most Masons have taken part in the memorization of a portion of one or more of the degrees, or a lecture to a new candidate. Ned's approach to presenting the memory work of Masonry was to make it a conversation from his heart.

His delivery was so much more than just repeating the words we all learned, for when Ned spoke those words, you felt the meaning....you knew it was from his heart, it was a conversation with a good friend who was telling you something important. The truth is, his impact on this Lodge and on all of us, may never be fully measured.

Because of all that Ned meant to us, individually and as a band of brothers, in 2011 the officers and members of the Lodge created an award of recognition to honor Ned's legacy. On special occasions this award will be presented to a very deserving Mason who through his hard work for Craft Masonry, his friendship and brotherly love, best represents all that J. Ned Culler stood for.

In following Ned's example, this high honor will be presented to a brother who not only seeks light in Masonry, but who has attained a high degree of excellence in our ritual, Masonic Education, or service to his Lodge, and has dedicated his Masonic life to the betterment of the Lodge and brother Masons through education, research, demonstrated mentoring, and furthering of the lofty goals of our Ancient Craft. A permanent plaque noting the recipient's names hangs in a place of honor in the Lodge, and a personalized crystal award is presented to each honoree.

In 2011 the initial honor was bestowed upon Rt. Wor. Robert W. Carpenter, Jr., in 2012 this prestigious award was presented to Rt. Wor. Robert C. Eades, Sr., and the 2013 recipient was Wor. Douglas M. Messimer. The 2014 award was presented to Wor. R. Alton. Wright. In 2015 Rt. Wor. Clarence E. Whitley was chosen for the honor, and in 2016 it was awarded, posthumously, to Rt. Wor. William Y. Roper, III. The 2017 award was given to Wor. G. Wayne Boswell, the 2018 the award was presented to Wor. Herbert H. Eades, Jr, and in 2019 Wor. Barry Coleman Faison was our honoree. Our 2022 recipient was Wor. James P. Gregory.



The J. Ned Culler Award

## 2013:

# The Tuckahoe Time Capsule



At the July 2013 Stated Communication Junior Deacon, Bro. Chris Geary, introduced a special project that all members of the Lodge are invited to take part in. Bro. Geary's vision was to design and construct a 'time capsule' device in which members may place personal and Masonic mementos (written letters, photos, electronic information on CD's or thumb drives, medals, jewels, and other Masonic memorabilia) relating to this time in Tuckahoe's history.

Bro. Geary spent several months painstakingly hand crafting and finishing the capsule. It is beautifully fashioned of red oak, lined with white lambskin, and weighs in at 28 pounds. The outside of the device is adorned on one side with the working tools of Freemasonry, on the other side is a trowel. The capsule is dark-stain finished and includes a cable-tow as the main sealing device near the top. The workmanship exhibited on this capsule is of outstanding quality.





Members were asked to prepare items they wish to be placed in the capsule, along with detailed information about the items included, and who provided them. Following the February 2014 Stated Communication the capsule was loaded with the documents and items Bro. Geary had received, then sealed and placed within the Lodge with strict instructions to future Masons that the capsule is to be properly protected and cared for, and is to remain sealed until the occasion of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tuckahoe Lodge on February 14, 2048.



In October of 2013 the Lodge prepared a plaque noting the contributions to Tuckahoe by devoted member Bro. Byron L. "Butch' Hubbard who entered the Celestial Lodge in March of 2012.

When there was a need in our Lodge, Butch Hubbard came forward. In the nighttime or daytime, on weekends and even in the coldest, darkest part of the year, he helped. For many years, as our Masonic Home Ambassador, he served his Lodge and the District. Elected and duly appointed or quietly, anonymously and unbidden, he did what needed doing.

Sometimes with the help of others, other times alone, Butch worked, visited, comforted others, and gave his time, talent and even his treasure for the life of his Lodge, and the betterment of those around him. His Brothers supported him in his efforts as he gave with great commitment.

For all things great and small Byron gave to help others in need. He learned many years ago that a human being is happiest and most successful when dedicated to a cause outside his own individual satisfaction. His success and happiness showed through when he was giving his time and talent to Virginia's crown jewel, the Masonic home. For that contribution, we are most grateful to our friend and brother, Byron Hubbard.

#### 2014:



In January Tuckahoe Lodge was honored with an official visit from Rt. Wor. Terry W. Brown, Sr., DDGM 15-C.





The Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Mt. Wor. Wayne S. Flora, made his official visit to Tuckahoe Lodge in February.







Members of the Westhampton Chapter of DeMolay presented a program of their ritual at one of our Stated Communications.



Tuckahoe Lodge was challenged by Bro. Jim Gregory, our Masonic Home Ambassador, to contribute at least \$150 to the Masonic Home of Virginia. The Lodge accepted the challenge and Wor. Bill Roper received a good 'soaking' from the 'ice bucket challenge' and a big "Thank You!" from Bro. Gregory.







The 'Heroes of '76' presented a very moving and impressive flag retirement ceremony at the September Stated. They are members of the Ft. Lee Chapter of the National Sojourners.

## 2015:



Wor. Butch Ammon is shown proudly wearing his Tuckahoe T-Shirt and displaying his medal for successfully completing the Monument Avenue 10K on March 28th. Bro. Butch finished with a personal best time of 60 minutes and 58 seconds.



At the March Stated Communication, beginning our 92<sup>nd</sup> year as a Lodge, we were proud and honored to receive Rt. Wor. William Heltzel, District Deputy Grand Master for District 15-C.



Three members (l-r), Bro. Richardson, Wor. Ammon, and Bro. Peterson) began a new tradition of a Tuckahoe golf outing at Belmont Golf Course.



May 30<sup>th</sup> Tuckahoe members visited Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 to observe the courtesy raising of Tuckahoe member, Bro. John Lapke.



In June we featured a musical program by our Lodge Musician, Bro. Dick Turochy and the performers known as 'Capital Cabaret'. The month of July found us on the road once again to visit South Hill Lodge No. 297 for their Stated Communication.



In July we again offered the opportunity to retire faded and worn U.S. flags in a moving ceremony led by the "Heroes of 76', members of the Ft. Lee Chapter of the National Sojourners.



New lighting and a beautiful new sign were installed at the edge of our property.



The Grand Master, Mt.Wor. Reese Carroll, Jr, made his official visit to Tuckahoe in October.



In December we bestowed the coveted J. Ned Culler Award on Rt. Wor. Clarence Whitley (c).



Wor. Thomas W. Voltz, Jr. and his officers for 2016 were installed at a public installation ceremony on December 5th.

## 2016:



At the January Stated Communication Rt. Wor. Rob Eades (r) presented a Masonic Veterans award to Brother Harry Eugene Franklin (c) for 60 years of devoted service to Masonry through his membership in Tuckahoe Lodge. Brother Harry lives in North Carolina and is still very active in a Lodge near his home.



In February Wor. Tom Voltz (r) received Rt. Wor. R. Edward Robinson, Jr., D.D.G.M. for District 15-C at his official visit to Tuckahoe.





In March we celebrated our 93<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary. We featured a musical program by Bro. Dick Turochy, our Lodge Musician, and Wor. Butch Ammon, who took us on a 'sentimental journey' with musical selections from the 30's to the 50's.



Mt. Wor. James Edward Litten, Virginia's Grand Master, made his official visit to Tuckahoe in April. The Ladies of Areme Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, provided a wonderful meal that began an evening of fun and great fellowship.



Again, this year Wor. Butch Ammon, sporting his Tuckahoe T-shirt, finished the Monument Avenue 10K run that resulted in a generous donation to the Masonic Home of Virginia.

A new event for Tuckahoe took place on April 30<sup>th</sup> as our Junior Warden, Bro, John Kandris, coordinated a Bar-B-Que 'Lunch at the Lodge' that was attended by about 80 brethren, family, and visitors. We enjoyed good food, some outdoor games for the kids, fellowship for all, and delicious desserts at a bake sale by the girls from Assembly 10, Order of Rainbow for Girls.



Our speaker for the May Stated was Mt. Wor. John Randall Quinley (Grand Master in 2005) who brought us a timely message entitled, 'The Road of Masonry'. Bro. Billy Rice, DEO for 15-C, presented certificates of completion for the Grand Lodge Correspondence Courses (Sections 3 and 4) to Bro. Ray Crouch, Jr., and Bro. Jim Gregory, Masonic Home Ambassador, announced that Tuckahoe had qualified for the Morlock Award for contributions made to the Masonic Home.







Nice follow-thru, Bro. Dick!

1st place to Bro. Dale

Wor. Butch's game fell apart here!

May 7<sup>th</sup> was Tuckahoe's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual golf outing. It was a very wet, very soggy day of golf at Sycamore Creek. Beautiful course, but with the very wet and soggy golf course, it made playing tougher than it normally is. The winner of the golf outing was Bro. Dale Wright, followed closely by Bro. Bob Peterson. Bro. Dick Turochy placed 3rd, and Wor. Butch Ammon's game fell apart on the back 9 and he came in last place.





The June Stated Communication was Tuckahoe's opportunity to present a 50-year Masonic veteran's emblem to Bro. Richard Carl Turochy, our Lodge Musician. The presentation was made by Rt. Wor. Rob Eades, and Mt. Wor. Frederick Garrison Martin III. Bro. Dick's lady, Roslyn, proudly pinned Bro. Dick's emblem to his lapel. The program for the evening was a ritual presentation by young men of Westhampton DeMolay who presented the "Shield Talk' explaining the meaning behind the elements of the DeMolay Crest.



In July we enjoyed our annual Family Picnic.

We had the dining hall filled with over 90 brethren, family, and friends that came to share a delicious family picnic prepared by the Ladies of Areme Chapter of the Eastern Star. It was so good to see the room filled to capacity. Dinner was followed by a very moving flag retirement ceremony presented by the members of the Ft. Lee-Richmond Chapter of the National Sojourners, and we capped it all off with a brief history of and an emotional trumpet rendition of echo 'Taps' by our own Bro. Jim Gregory and Wor. Butch Ammon.









In August, seven members from Tuckahoe made a fraternal visit to Linn Banks Lodge 126 in Madison, Va. for their Stated Communication. Linn Banks is Madison County's oldest Lodge and was named for one of the county's most famous citizens. Linn Banks Lodge received its charter from the Grand Lodge on December 12, 1855.

The Lodge has some historical and very interesting decorations in the Lodge room including a beautiful ceiling fresco. The hospitality we received from the Master and Brethren of Linn Banks was awesome. A most enjoyable visit!

At the September Stated we enjoyed the company of the young ladies of the Richmond Assembly 10, Order of Rainbow, who joined us for dinner and then presented a fine program of some of their ritual.

The Master called a 'fix-up, spruce-up, clean-out the Lodge' day for September 24<sup>th</sup>. Members spent nearly 5 hours cleaning, moving furniture, cutting up a fallen tree, clearing out the storage shed next to the pavilion, and all sorts of 'fun' projects. And yes, there was still more to do!



Wor. Butch spent the morning beating up this tree.



Bro. Ray removed a table from the pavilion.



Bros. Ed and Joe making sure the tools work right.



How come Bro. Rusty is the only one working???

The ladies of Areme Chapter 17, Order of the Eastern Star, found it necessary to move out of their meeting place, so Tuckahoe offered them a new home. They moved some of their Chapter paraphernalia into their storage room at the Lodge in late September, and began holding their monthly meetings in our building in October. They are a most welcome addition to our Masonic family at Tuckahoe.



A VBS Technician (I) takes Bro. Eddie Brown's donation, while the SW, Bro. Ray Crouch look on. We combined our Community Blood Drive with the 'Open Lodge' day. Brethren from St. John's Lodge used the Lodge pavilion to make Brunswick Stew for a Lodge fundraising project.





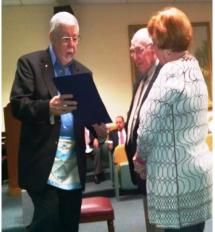
Rt. Wor. William Young Roper, III was the J. Ned Culler Award recipient for 2016.





At the November Stated Wor. Douglas Messimer presented the 2016 J. Ned Culler Award, posthumously, to Rt. Wor. William Young Roper, III. His wife, Virginia, and family members were present for the ceremony, as Wor. Tom Voltz, Jr, (1) looked on.





The Worshipful Master presented a 50-year Masonic Veteran's Emblem to Bro. James Homer Frye, who was raised in Tuckahoe Lodge in November of 1966. He was joined by his wife Betty who took

part in the presentation by adding the Veteran's Emblem to Bro. Jim's lapel. Wor. Messimer then presented Bro. Frye his new membership card and Grand Lodge certificate.

December brought an end to Tuckahoe's 93<sup>rd</sup> year. Our officers for 2017 were installed at the Stated Communication.



....taking the oath of their office....



The Installing Marshal escorts the new JD and SD to the East for installation



Wor. J. Larry Mason (r) WM in 1995, receives his 25-year veteran's emblem

## 2017:



From the East, West, and the South; the three lights of Tuckahoe Lodge burn brightly.



The officers of Tuckahoe Lodge duly installed and the Lodge is properly constituted for the ensuing year.







Rt. Wor. Stanley Ralph Katz, came to Tuckahoe for his official visit in March.



In March Areme Chapter of the Eastern Star held a public installation of officers for 2017. Tuckahoe's Junior Warden, Mike Caro, was installed as Associate Worthy Patron of the Chapter. Several members of the Lodge also hold membership in Areme Chapter.



The April stated was an opportunity to present a Grand Lodge of Virginia Eagle Scout Award to Joseph Baskette of Troop 776 in Henrico. The Grand Master was present to make the presentation. Joseph's family, his Scout Master, and 25 members of his Troop were present for the ceremony.









A delicious meal prepared by Areme Chapter was enjoyed by over 75 members and visitors.



Past Grand Masters quickly decided who would 'respond for the group'.



Wor. Tom Voltz welcomes Mt. Wor. Vernon Stuart Cook to Tuckahoe.



Wor. Butch Ammon presents checks to MAHOVA Rep. Jim Gregory from his Monument Ave run.



Wor. Ammon is presented a certificate designating him as the District Blood Coordinator for 15-C



May 6th was the 3rd annual Tuckahoe Lodge Golf Outing! Belmont Golf Course was in amazing shape since Henrico County overhauled it. It was a little chilly and wet, but we all had a great time. It was a very, very, close round this year, with (1-r) Bro. Dick Turochy being barely edged out by Bro. Dale Wright for the win, and Bro. Bob Peterson and Wor. Butch Ammon tied for 3rd place.



May 13<sup>th</sup> Wor. Ammon ran the Komen Race for the Cure in downtown Richmond. Lots of media coverage by NBC 12's weatherman Andrew Freiden, shown with Wor. Butch wearing his Tuckahoe t-shirt.





At our June Stated Communication the degree team from Westhampton Chapter DeMolay presented a portion of their degree work as our program. They then went to Luray the next weekend to take part in a state wide ritual competition, and again brought home a first-place award.





June 15<sup>th</sup> was our Fraternal Visit to Linn Banks Lodge 126, in Madison. Seven Tuckahoe members were present for an evening of fellowship and presentation of a Masonic Education program entitled' The Perfect Cubit'. Notice the Master's Chair... made by Lodge members...it is quite sturdy and will last for many decades. Linn Banks Lodge is a small-town Lodge chartered in 1855, with a dedicated core of members who continue a fine tradition of Masonic service to their community.



A couple of 'fix-up/paint it' projects were undertaken during the summer. Two sets of cabinets donated to the Lodge by Bro. Caro were installed on the west wall of the dining hall. Wor. Voltz painted them and the Lodge purchased a new custom counter top. The new addition will provide welcome storage space for supplies, and a much-needed serving area for desserts at our meals.



Areme Chapter has been a part of our family at Tuckahoe for some time, and now has a new sign to let the public, and other 'Stars,' know that this is Areme's home.





New Bible place markers and a new altar cover were donated to the Lodge.



At our September Stated six young ladies, and their Mother Advisor, from Richmond Assembly 10, Order of the Rainbow for Girls, presented a program entitled the

'Why's of Rainbow'. They explained that the youth group teaches girls what matters most – leadership, confidence, and citizenship. Throughout the year the girls are involved in a wide variety of charity projects, fundraisers and fun events.



At the November Stated Communication, we noticed these 'three amigos' seated together. They visit Tuckahoe regularly and travel together to many Lodge meetings around the district. They are (l-r) Rt. Wor. Stanley Katz (Fraternal 53) Rt. Wor. Al Dranoff (Fraternal 53) and Rt. Wor. John Hart (Westhampton 302). Always welcome, my brethren!



At the December Stated Communication, following dinner and prior to opening the Lodge, everyone gathered in the Lodge room for our annual memorial service as we remembered six brethren who entered the Celestial Lodge during the year.



Wor. Gerald Wayne Boswell, recipient of the 2017 J. Ned Culler Award, was honored prior to the Stated Communication.



Wor. Tom Wadkins, the Grand Master's Administrative Assistant, presented Tuckahoe Lodge with a memorial table and 'single place setting' that will be placed in the atrium of the Lodge at our Stated Communications, to honor those brethren who enter the Celestial Lodge. The narrative below explains the significance of the items on our memorial table.

# Tuckahoe's Table of Remembrance

This table, set for one, is small – symbolizing the frailty of one single Brother.

A napkin of white - symbolizes purity of intentions.

<u>The single flower</u> reminds us of the everlasting love of family and the strong bond of our Brotherhood that keeps the faith.

Slices of lemon - to remind us of his bitter fate.

<u>Spilled salt upon the plate</u> represents the tears of those who will no longer know his presence, or the whisper of his voice.

An inverted glass - because he cannot toast with us tonight.

The Holy Bible represents the spiritual strength and faith to sustain those left behind.

A single candle - represents the light of Hope that lives in our hearts.

Each of you called him Brother. You relied upon his strength, experience, insight and aid. The memory of our brother we shall cherish in our hearts. His soul we commend to God.



This memorial also serves to remind us of the men and women of our Armed Forces who are deployed to protect and maintain our way of life, those unaccounted for, feared lost, or those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

God Bless Freemasonry, and God Bless America!

# 2018:





After being postponed by an early snowfall on December 9th, the public installation of Lodge Officers for 2018 was held on Saturday morning December 16<sup>th</sup> at the Lodge. Wor. Raymond L. Crouch, Jr., and his officers were installed, and the Lodge properly constituted for the ensuing year.





The installation ceremony was followed by a reception in the dining hall hosted by the ladies of Areme Chapter 17, OES. We enjoyed good food and fellowship to celebrate the beginning of a new Masonic year.



Wor. Ray Crouch (l) and Rt. Wor. Terry W. Woo, DDGM, 15-C The February Stated was the occasion of the District Deputy Grand Master's visit to our Lodge. Rt. Wor. Terry Waa Woo brought a message about the Grand Master's programs and charities for the coming year. Rt. Wor. Woo is serving as the last DDGM from 15-C prior to realignment of statewide Masonic districts by the Grand Lodge in 2019.





The March Stated was our first 'Ladies Night' of 2018 and we had a wonderful turn out for the meal and a special presentation for the ladies on flower arranging while the men held Lodge. Following dinner there was a posthumous presentation of a 60-year Veteran's Certificate to the family of Bro. James Montgomery Crockett Jr., by Rt. Wor. Johnathan Giles (C) DDGM of District 26, and Rt. Wor. Terry Woo of District 15-C (left).





Wor. Jimmy Creech (Temple 9) presented a well-researched educational and thought-provoking program on 'Flags of the Civil War'.



The month of March brought another honor to Tuckahoe as our Senior Warden, Bro. Michael Caro, was installed as Worthy Patron of Areme Chapter 17, O.E.S. With Mike is Tracy Young, Worthy Matron of the Chapter for 2018.



In April Candice Smith (l) and Carla Reddit from WWBT's '12 About Town' stopped by Collegiate School to congratulate Wor. Ray Crouch on his retirement from the school after 10 years of service.



The May Stated Communication was a special evening for Tuckahoe, as Mt. Wor. Gary Wallace Taylor (right of center) honored us with an official visit. A good turnout, lots of great food and fellowship. In Wor. Crouch's absence, Wor. Messimer occupied the East.



Wor. Messimer (WM, P.T.) introduced (l-r) Past Grand Masters Alan Wayne Adkins (1997), John Randall Quinley (2005), and Mt. Wor. Gary Wallace Taylor, 173<sup>rd</sup> Grand Master of Masons in Virginia.





May 5<sup>th</sup> was the 4th Annual Tuckahoe Golf Outing at Sycamore Creek Course. Dale Wright shot an awesome 88, Butch Ammon surprised everyone with a 90, Bob Peterson had a 98, and Dick Turochy's score card showed 100. The foursome had a wonderful time and all played well, except for a few errant shots into the water.





The July Stated was the date of our annual family picnic. Again the 'Heroes of 76' presented a most inspirational program of retiring worn and tattered US flags. About 70 members, visitors, and family enjoyed an evening of fellowship.





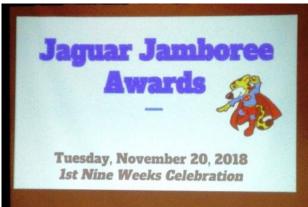


The program was closed with a stirring rendition of 'echo taps' by the Tuckahoe Trumpeters.

October was Past Master's night with PM's occupying the station chairs. Following dinner, the DeMolay's of Westhampton Chapter offered a moving presentation of 'The Flower Talk' from their ritual. Founder's Month was celebrated with a presentation about the history of the Masonic Home by Bro. Jim Gregory, our Masonic Home Ambassador.

At the November stated Nicole Freundt, Resource Teacher at Johnson Elementary School, presented information to the members about the Jamboree bike award program that was noted in a previous email sent to the membership. As a result of her appeal, individual members donated \$200 to fund the first 2 bikes for the school's Jamboree award program on November 20th. A donation from the Lodge of \$100, plus anonymous donations received from individual members of Tuckahoe, funded an additional 6 bicycles to be awarded during the next 3 marking periods at the school. Mrs. Freundt was thankful and most appreciative for the Masons' generosity.





Wor. Tom Voltz, and Nicole Freundt, with bicycles donated by Tuckahoe Lodge. This event is part of the expanded partnership with the school begun several years ago by Wor. Tom Voltz. In addition to the community outreach from the Lodge by sponsoring this program, the school students and teachers have access to the Lodge to be used as a 'safe harbor' in the event of an emergency situation at the school that endangers the health and safety of those on campus.

Wor. John Fetty, representing the Masonic Home of Virginia, presented the Lodge with the John Stokes Award acknowledging Tuckahoe's contributions to the Home during 2018. The Lodge also earned the Seymour Jonas Levy award for 2018.

November 20th a delegation of members from Tuckahoe made a fraternal road trip to visit Farmville Lodge 41. All enjoyed a meal together before the meeting and were heartily welcomed by the Master and Brethren of Farmville Lodge.





The annual memorial service was presented by Wor. Doug Messimer, honoring 9 of our brethren who entered the Celestial Lodge this year.





Wor. Herbert Hobson Eades, Jr.(l) receives the 2018 J. Ned Culler Award, from Wor. Ray Crouch, WM, prior to the December Stated Communication.

December 8<sup>th</sup> Tuckahoe held a public Installation of officers at the Lodge. The Color Guard from Richmond Commandery 2 of the Knights Templar, presented the flag of our country. Wor. Mike Caro and his officers were installed by Rt. Wor. Bob Carpenter, Jr.



Richmond Commandery 2 color guard



Wor. Mike Caro



The Lodge was declared properly constituted for 2019.





A reception followed with food and fellowship for all, hosted by the ladies of Areme Chapter of the Eastern Star.

# 2019:

At the February Stated Communication Wor. Michael Caro presented the next step in his 'pun-filled' and thought-provoking educational program series titled 'The Winding Stairs'.



Bro. William Olewnik, Jr. (r) raised in 2018, stood his Master Mason's catechism in open Lodge, and was awarded the Grand Lodge Master Mason's Diploma for his efforts. Wor. Wayne Boswell examined Bro. Bill on his Masonic proficiency.



At our 1,154<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication we received a visiting Brother from the Grand Orient of Brazil - Sao Paulo State. Brother Thiago Chohfi (r) is a Master Mason from Constancia Lodge 1147 in Campinas, Brazil. Bro. Chohfi, an attorney in Sao Paulo, was visiting the US on business, found the Tuckahoe Facebook page and reached out to us. Wor. Caro presented our visiting brother with our Lodge pin and coin, as mementos of his visit.



February 21<sup>st</sup> was an historic day for Tuckahoe Lodge as we initiated Victor Christian Ferraro, a Godwin HS Senior, as our newest Entered Apprentice. Pictured above from the left are: Bro. Jimmy Wegman (Victor's Uncle), Wor. Wayne Boswell (1990) who occupied the East for the degree, Bro. Ferraro, and Bro. Joe Wegman (Victor's Grandfather) who occupied the South.



In March, following a fine meal presented by the ladies of Areme Chapter, OES, the brethren began to gather in the Lodge room for the Official visit of the District Deputy Grand Master for 15-A, Rt. Wor. Richard Clark Kidd.



Wor. Caro recognizes Rt. Wor. J. Thomas Wadkins (15-B), as Rt. Wor. Kidd looks on.



Rt. Wor. R.C. Kidd and Wor. Mike Caro



Nicole Freundt, Resource Teacher at Johnson Elementary School (at center with Mike Caro, WM), presented new bikes to the winners in the third 9 week marking period at a recent school-wide 'Jaguar Jamboree' event. The winners were chosen for their academic grades, school citizenship, and kindness to fellow classmates. Mrs. Freundt was thankful and most appreciative for the Masons' generosity. This event is part of the expanded partnership with the school begun several years ago by Wor. Tom Voltz.



April's stated meeting was a time of celebration for our Lodge. Rt. Wor Rob Eades presented the Grand Lodge 50-year Veterans Emblem to Bro. Edwin Rice Hughes. His wife Faye (r) and daughter Sandy were there to pin the emblem on his lapel.



April 23<sup>rd</sup> Wor. Mike Caro was the speaker at the stated meeting of Richmond Assembly No. 10 International Order of Rainbow for Girls. He presented a brief talk on the ties between Masons and Rainbow Girls. In addition to Wor. Mike, two line-officers and two Past Masters from Tuckahoe joined in the evening's festivities. The girls did a fine job with the ritual and we were honored to be part of the evening.

The May Stated Communication was Tuckahoe's opportunity to receive Mt. Wor. William Edward Hershey, Jr, 148<sup>th</sup> Grand Master of Mason's in Virginia. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> year that the sitting Grand Master has visited Tuckahoe Lodge to share our Masonic hospitality.



Bro. Bill Olewnik, Jr. signs the Grand Master's personal Bible. Many members and visitors took the opportunity to sign the VSL that rested on the altar during the meeting.



We were honored to have many District and Grand Lodge officers visit with us at the May Stated Communication.



Mt. Wor. William E. Hershey



The Grand Master with Tuckahoe's offficers.



The Grand Master's mallet.



PGM John Quinley (c) a Tuckahoe member.



The Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Doug Jones (c).



Grand Master Hershey presented the MAHOVA Symbol of Light award to Wor. Doug Messimer.





June 12th was the final Jaguar Jamboree at Johnson Elementary for this school year. Two new bikes, donated by members of Tuckahoe Lodge, were presented to two outstanding students for their academic and good citizen efforts during the last 9 week marking period. The event took place on the playground at the school with several hundred (quite noisy and excited) pre-K through 5th grade students in attendance.

Again, this year Tuckahoe has reached out to the school offering assistance and providing awards for outstanding student's efforts, a program begun by Wor. Tom Voltz in 2017. The Lodge also provides a 'safe haven' at the Lodge for students and faculty in the event of a fire or other catastrophic incident at the school.



Wor. Mike Caro took time during the event to present Nicole Freundt, Resource Teacher at Johnson Elementary, with The Grand Lodge Community Builders Award on behalf of Tuckahoe Lodge.



June 20<sup>th</sup> seven Tuckahoe Members visited Linn Banks Lodge 126 in Madison. They enjoyed dinner at a local restaurant and then joined in a community celebration remembering D-Day at the Lodge, followed by the Stated Communication. Wor. Wayne Boswell, Wor. Tom Voltz, Wor. Mike Caro, Mt. Wor. John Quinley (a member of Tuckahoe and Linn Banks) Wor. Barry Faison, Bro. Rusty Davis, and Bro. Jon Lumpkin.





Tuckahoe's July Stated Communication and family picnic went on as scheduled but the heavy rain cancelled the flag retirement ceremony by the National Sojourners. Good food and fellowship were the order of the evening, and we heard a 'salute to the flag' by Wor. Doug Messimer, and important information about Masonic blood drives by Wor. Butch Ammon (pictured) District Blood Coordinator. He announced that Tuckahoe qualified for the Grand Lodge S. J. Levy Award for donation of 142 units so far this year.



Our August Stated was Senior Warden's night, as Bro. Jim Gregory occupied the East. The speaker for the evening was Wor. Chris Loftus, DEO for 15-A (kneeling) who brought us a very unique and interesting, 'hands-on' program about mathematics and Masonry, specifically relating to Euclid's 47<sup>th</sup> problem.

September was Junior Warden's Night as Bro. David Dubois occupied the East. We shared a joint Stated Communication with our brothers from Joppa 40, and they closed the Master Mason's Lodge. As usual, before our meeting we gathered in the dining hall for good food and fellowship. Prior to our Stated Communication it was announced that Tuckahoe members have provided Johnson Elementary School with funds for the first two bicycles to be awarded at the end of the first 9 week marking period at the 'Jaguar Jamboree'.



Nicole Freundt (1) Resource Teacher at Johnson Elementary spoke to the members after dinner, and as a result, we received an additional \$290 in contributions. The Worshipful Master indicated that the Lodge will also contribute \$100 to procure a bike this year. In one evening, we received enough donations to fund nearly 6 of the 8 bikes needed by the school this year. Well done, Tuckahoe!!!



Wor, Ray Crouch (at podium) introduced family members of Wor. George Frederick Paul, Worshipful Master at Tuckahoe in 1974. Pictures of the Past Masters of Tuckahoe adorn the hallway of our building, but we did not have a picture of Wor. George. Wor. Mike Caro (r) accepted the photo on behalf of the Lodge, and noted...We are most grateful to the family for the addition of his photo to be added to the 'Wall of Masters'.

We had a good turnout for our October Stated, another delicious meal prepared by the ladies of Areme Chapter, followed by our annual flag retirement ceremony presented by W.M. Fred Martin, III, Rt. Wor. Joe Westfall, and Rt. Wor Harless Dobbins of the Heroes of 76, representing the Richmond-Petersburg Chapter of the National Sojourners. The Tuckahoe Trumpeters again took part in the program by playing 'echo taps'. The program was presented just after nightfall and was an impressive end to the evening's events.



M.W.Fred Martin (l) recites the ritual for the flag retirement program. Rt. Wor. Joe Westfall commits the first of many flags to the flames for our annual flag retirement ceremony.



(L-R) Wor. Butch Ammon, Wor. Mike Caro, Bro. Michael Duke from Galway Lodge 14 in Dublin Ireland, Wor Tom Voltz, and our Senior Warden, Bro Jim Gregory. Bro. Duke is the nephew of Wor. Lee Jackoway (1996). Bro. Duke was in the US on business and wanted to visit the Lodge where his uncle served as Master. The district-wide Blood drive was held that same day and netted 58 units of blood for the Red Cross.





November 21<sup>st</sup> several members from Tuckahoe attended a 'Salute to Veterans' presented by the students and staff of Johnson Elementary School. A student choir sang songs at the well-attended program honoring members of all military branches. The following afternoon Tuckahoe was again represented at the school's 'Jaguar Jamboree' by Tuckahoe members, as we began our 3<sup>rd</sup> year as partners in the Jamboree bike program for outstanding students.



Wor. Barry Fasion and Lady Edith.



Wor Mike Caro (l) presenting the 2019 J. Ned Culler Award.

December is always a busy time at Tuckahoe. December 5<sup>th</sup> was our annual memorial service honoring those who entered the Celestial Lodge during 2019. Always a proud moment is he presentation of the J. Ned Culler Award for Masonic Excellence. Wor. Barry Coleman Faison was this year's honoree.



At a public ceremony on December 7<sup>th</sup>, we installed our officers for the ensuing year. All officers advanced, and Bro.Bill Olewnik, Jr. was installed as Junior Deacon for 2020.

Ending the year on a sad note; St. Johns Lodge No. 36 left our facility as a result of their merger with Temple Lodge No. 9. It is our sincere hope that the long and illustrious history of St. Johns 36 will be remembered and celebrated by members of the Craft across the Commonwealth.

# 2020:



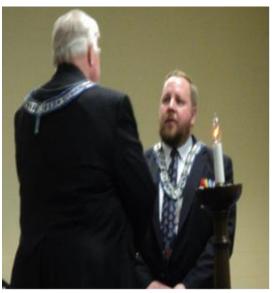


At the January Stated Mt. Wor. William E. Hershey (2019) presented a plaque to Rt. Wor. Robert Eades, Sr. (l) noting his reappointment as a member of the Grand Lodge Committee on Work. Mt. Wor. Hershey also presented Bro. Victor Ferraro (c) with his Master Masons certificate.

As a special 'Master's Minute' program for the evening Wor. Gregory challenged members of the Lodge to a quiz with questions taken from the history of Tuckahoe Lodge. Members made up two teams...those born in the 'South' against members born in the 'North'. The team from the 'South' won the contest handily.



At February's Stated we learned more about The Order of Rainbow from (l) Jessie Gray, Worthy Advisor, Sister Brianna Myers, Past Worthy Advisor, and Bro. Joe Grist (r) Chair of the Richmond Advisory Board.



Wor, Barry Faison (l) catechized Bro. Jon Lumpkin on the MM Degree.



For the 'Master's Minute' as we gathered around the altar, linking arms. All those present shared some of their thoughts on why they became a Mason with some interesting and sometimes comical happenings while in Lodge. It was a humbling and impressive experience for all who took part.



As a special project for Johnson Elementary School next door to the Lodge, Wor. Mike Caro and Wor.Tom Voltz, Jr, scoured the buckets and filled them with emergency kits for the staff and students at the school. The kits contained first aid supplies, bottled water, and flashlights.





February 14th was the second Jaguar Jamboree, and the awarding of brand-new bicycles to 2 students who excelled in their studies and exhibited quality characteristics during the marking period. Nicole Freundt (1) Resource Teacher at Johnson Elementary, Wor. Jim Gregory, Wor. Mike Caro and Principal Tanya Murdaugh represented the school and Tuckahoe Lodge in the awarding of bikes by School staff. Another exciting event for the students, and a great community outreach by Tuckahoe Lodge.





In February, Wor. Tom Voltz, Jr., made a trip to Scotland and had the opportunity to attend a meeting at Mary's Chapel No.1 in Edinburgh which has a beautiful Lodge room. The brethren enjoy a good Festive Board at their meetings, and dress formally for the occasion. Wor.Tom was warmly welcomed, and shared several of Tuckahoe's memorial coins and Lodge pins with the officers.



In March we held our Stated Communication where the young ladies of Bethel 53, Job's Daughters, presented a program outlining some of their ritual. We held a called communication the following Thursday for work in the Entered Apprentice degree, and the following day the Grand Master cancelled all Lodge meetings, degree work and ritual classes throughout Virginia through April 30<sup>th</sup>, in response to the Covid-19 outbreak.

The Covid-19 virus swept through the country, and Virginia's Governor ordered residents to 'stay-at- home' to assist in stopping the spread of the virus. The Grand Master extended the order for the cancellation of all meetings and ritual classes through June 10<sup>th</sup>. Beginning April 16th the Worshipful Master held an officers meeting by way of an online app every other Thursday evening, to meet and consult for a social time, and update everyone on the sick and distressed among the Lodge members.





In keeping with the social distancing guidelines mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Tuckahoe Lodge held a graveside Masonic Service on May 29<sup>th</sup> at Signal Hill Memorial Park to pay our last tribute of respect to Rt. Wor. James Howard Crowder, who entered the Celestial Lodge on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Ten members of the Craft were present (five from Tuckahoe) with Rt. Wor. Donald Traser conducting the service in a most impressive and dignified manner.

In July the Grand Master allowed Lodges to resume holding Stated Communications. All who entered the Lodge were required to wear facial coverings and observe CDC guidelines. We held a brief business meeting and a 'salute to the Flag' was offered. It was announced that the Grand Line (elected and appointed) will continue in their positions through 2021. Tuckahoe officers agreed to do the same.

The August Stated Communication was Senior Warden's Night, and the Junior Warden will occupy the East in September. Speaker for the August meeting was Wor. Chris Loftus, DEO for 15-A. He presented an informative and interactive presentation for those planning on acquiring their Warden's Certificate, and promoted the Grand Lodge correspondence program.



Wor. Chris Loftus, DEO.







At the October Stated our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony was conducted by the James Monroe Camp, Heroes of '76 from the Ft. Lee-Richmond Chapter of the National Sojourners. 'Echo Taps' was played by the Tuckahoe Trumpeters.



The November Stated was our annual Past Master's Night. Front row: (l-r) Wor. Mike Caro (SD), Rt.Wor. Jack Cooke (JW), Wor. Butch Ammon (JD), Second row: Wor. Wayne Boswell (SW), Wor. Doug Messimer (WM). Back row: Wor. Barry Faison (Chaplain), and Rt.Wor. Bob Carpenter (Secretary). The Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge was limited to a half-day session, with only one attendee from each Lodge. November saw Virgina Court No.1, order of Amaranth, join our family at Tuckahoe. The Amaranth will meet the second Monday of each month.





For 4 years Tuckahoe has sponsored the Bike Jamboree program at Johnson School, located next to the Lodge. Because of the pandemic the February Jamboree bike give-away was the last event held at the school. Even though the students are now distance learning, the staff held the Jamboree online and gave bikes to 2 academically gifted students. Our contact at Johnson Elementary School, Nicole Freundt, (now the Vice-Principal) made arrangements for several teachers to visit the homes of the 2 winners and present the bikes on behalf of Tuckahoe Lodge. The second mom doesn't speak English and wanted to get bikes for her two kids but doesn't make enough money at her job. She told Nicole that this will now enable her to get a bike for her son as well. Brethren of Tuckahoe, be proud that we continue to support our youth through this community outreach.

With the increase in Covid cases, the December meeting saw limited attendance by order of the Grand Master. All Masonic events were limited to 25 attendees. The annual memorial service honored 4 members who enterd the Celestial Lodge during 2020. No election of officers was necessary this year as all elected and appointed officers, and committee members agreed to continue in their present positions through December of 2021.

#### 2021:

January, February and March of 2021 continued to have limited attendance at Lodge events, by order of the Grand Master. February's stated communication featured an educational program by Bro. Jon Lumpkin (JW) on the topic Social Media and Masonry. The Master has scheduled a 'Zoom' meeting for all members who wish to join in and check on the welfare of each other. The second Thursday evening of each month will be an on line gathering of members, without discussion or presentation of ritual. The February Zoom meeting had 13 members present.

Wor. Barry Faison presented an educational program entitled 'The Pathilogical Palaver and the Constitutions of Masonry'at the March Stated communication. The March Zoom meeting was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> and Wor. Mike Caro, LEO, presented his educational program titled 'Exploring the Tracing Boards'.





Tuckahoe Lodge continued our community support of the Bike Jamboree program at Johnson Elementary School. Each marking period 2 students are awarded a new bike from Tuckahoe Lodge. Winners are chosen by the school teaching staff based on academic scores, school spirit, and exhibited good character and interaction with staff and other students. Nicole Freundt, Vice-Principal at the school presented the bikes to the most recent winners.

Tuckahoe's April Stated was held under the new attendance guideliness announced by the Grand Master. We enjoyed a modest turnout of 15 members.



Senior Deacon, Bro. Ben Smith, presented an educational program entitled,'So Work the Honey Bees'.





In April Johnson Elementary School awarded 2 new bicycles and helmets to 2 outstanding students for their academic improvement during the marking period. Tuckahoe Lodge again provided financial support to purchase the awards for these outstanding students.





The May stated communication was held under the new attendance guidelines, and there were 21 present. Mt. Wor. Douglas Vernon Jones, Grand Master of Masons in Virginia joined us for our stated communication and brought us a very inspiring message on the importance of getting back to Lodge and show how Masonry works in our community. Our actions as Masons are our legacy.





May 22nd was designated as 'Rally Day at Tuckahoe'. This was Tuckahoe's first event since the Covid pandemic, and was an opportunity to have members and their families begin to get back to normal activities of the Lodge. Our Masonic family met at noon and enjoyed home made hot dogs, hamburgers, Bar-B-Que and Philly steak& heese sandwiches, along with salads, desert, and plenty of 'fixins'. Nearly 80 joined us for great food, fellowship, entertainmenmt, and games for all the family.

The June Stated Communication was our first opportunity to attend Lodge without masks and social distancing. The Grand Lodge relaxed the CDC guidelines to allow more than 100 members attend.





The July stated was well attended, and our speaker for the evening was Bro.Dick Turochy, Lodge Musician. He presented an informative and stiring program on John Phillps Souza and his music, especially relating to Freemasonry. Rt. Wor. Rob Eades presented the 50- year Veterans pin to Bro. William Brent Lovern (c).



Rt. Wor Bob Carpenter presented a Grand Lodge Life Member Certificate and pin to Wor. Jim Gregory,III. Tuckahoe now has 52 LMIP members.





Tuckahoe continues to support the 'bike-a-thon' program at Johnson Elementary school. The final award of new bicycles and helmets to 2 outstanding sudents took place in mid-June at the close of the school year. We look forward to our association and support of this program for the coming school year.













The October stated meeting featured a family meal time with Mission Bar-B-Que and all the fixin's. Our annual Flag Retirement Ceremony was conducted by members of the the James Monroe Camp, Heroes of '76 from the Ft. Lee-Richmond Chapter of the National Sojourners. 'Echo Taps' was presented by the Tuckahoe Trumpeters, and we presented a. Community Builders Award to Markus Mines of Bon Secours St. Marys Hospital. A gathering of nearly 90 members, family visitors and friends enjoyed an evening of good food, fellowship and moments of serious reflection.



Congratulations to our newest Master Mason, Bro. Larry Sherman (r). And thank you Worshipful Barry Faison for memtoring him along the way!



November was Past Master's Night. PM's filled the line officers positions for the meeting.



Wor. Chris Loftus, DEO for 15A, presented an informative educational program on 'Do's and Don'ts for the new Masonic Year", followed by a fascinating program by Wor. Jim Gregory on the 'Architecture of the Universe'.





We are beginning our 6th year of helping the faculty and staff at Johnson Elementary School honor outstanding students each quarter of the school year by providing 2 new bicycles (\$100each) for 2 students who have shown outstanding academic aptitude and interpersonal skills. The students and faculty are well aware of, and thankful for, the support offered by 'the Masons next door'. It's a great community outreach to a school where a vast majority of the students are from minority families, many living just above the poverty level and unable to afford the luxury of a new bicycle.



At the December Stated we had another great meal prepared by the Ladies of Areme Chapter of the Eastern Star. We conducted the regular Lodge business, and paused to honor and remember 13 of our Brethren who entered the Celestial Lodge during the past year. The election of officers for 2022 was conducted by Rt. Wor. Bob Carpenter. We elected Bro. Joe Wegman as Jr. Deacon, and Bro. Dale Wright as Sr. Deacon, while all other line officers advanced.







A public installation of officers for 2022 was held on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Wor. David Dubois and his line officers were installed by Wor. James Creech and his team. A Lodge of Sorrow was opened for 2022, and refreshments and fellowshipfollowed in the dining hall.





# 2022:

Our 99<sup>th</sup> year began with the officers and members still under some Covid restrictions and minor changes to the ritual for Lodge opening and closing. We did raise one new member this month. The Centennial Celebration commtee met formally for the first time and began planning events for our centennial year in 2023.



In March the Lodge received the John Powers Stokes, and Herman Morlock Awards for 2019-2021. Awards awere received by Wor. Jim Gregory (2021-22) and Wor. Mike Caro (2019).



Tuckahoe received Rt. Wor. Whit Hanscom, Sr, DDGM for District 15A, during the March Stated Communication.

In May we received a note of appreciation from Nicole Fruendt, Associate Principal at Johnson Elementary next door to the Lodge. We have supported the school by purchasing bicycles awarded to outstanding students each marking period. Nicole said...'The students have all loved the bikes and appreciate your donations more than you will ever know.









On another note, we also used the emergency buckets that the Lodge assembled for us. The day before Spring Break the schools were in an hour and half lockdown due to a tornado warning. Three of our classrooms ended using the buckets and kitty litter! I know that is a weird thing to be excited about, but we are extremely happy the bucket kits were available so the students did not have accidents. Thanks, again to Tuckahoe!'





At the July stated communication we received the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, Mt. Wor. James Winfield Golladay, Jr. The Master declared the meeting was 'Hawaiian shirt night'. The Grand Master presented a 50-year Veterans emblem and certificate to Bro. Jack Charles Reid at a family style dinner following Lodge.



Nearly 40 members and guests

enjoyed a dinner of pulled pork, provided by the Worshipful Master, and side dishes provided by the Ladies of the Easten Star. An evening of good food and fellowship.

The August Stated Communication was designated as Junior Wardens Night. Bro. Ben Smith presided in the East. In compliance with the Grand Master's proclamation, 4 members and 3 sponsors of the Westhampton DeMolay Chapter were our guests. Shay Lane, a Virginia Champion DeMolay ritualist from Westhampton Chapter presented the 'Ceremony of Light' program in the Lodge room. He received a standing ovation. The Worshipful Master presented the Chapter with a donation of \$100 toward Chapter activities.

In September we held a joint Stated Communication with the officers and members of Joppa 40. Following dinner, Tuckahoe presented a 50-year Masonic Veterans pin and certificate to Bro. Richard Leroy Collins. Tuckahoe officers opened the Master Mason's Lodge at 7 PM, under dispensation, and conducted the business of the Lodge. Then Joppa 40's officers assumed the stations and conducted their Lodge business and closed the Master Mason's Lodge in Ancient Form and Harmony. A good meal and fellowship was enjoyed by all.



Framed collections of Virginia Grand Master's pins (1976-2022) LMIP and Veteran pins, Scottish Rite medals from the 1920's and 30's, and individual Lodge pins from the US and Canada were donated to the Lodge and are exhibited in the library area.









The November stated was designted as Past Master's Night. Wor. Wayne Boswell (90) occupied the East., Wor Mike Caro as JD, Wor Jim Gregory in the West and Wor. Ray Crouch served as Marshal. Rt Wor Rob Eades sat in the South.

The Grand Annual Communication was held on November 11th and 12<sup>th</sup>, and Rt. Wor. Barry Faison was invested with the jewel of Distict Deputy Grand Master for District 15-A for 2023.



Rt. Wor. Barry Coleman Faison, DDGM-2023, and Lady Edith, following his investiture at Grand Lodge.



Wor. Paul Rinko (r) presented Bro. Jon Lumpkin (SW) with his G.L. Wardens certificate.



Rt.Wor. Barry Faison presented Bro. Michael Anderson (r) with his 50-year Veterans pin and certificate.



In December Wor. Doug Messimer (r) presented the 2022 J. Ned Culler Award to Wor. Jim Gregory, III for his outstanding service to Tuckahoe Lodge and Freemasonry.

The annual memorial service was conducted for 5 of our brethren who entered the Celestial Lodge during the past year, and a ceremony of Investiture of the District Deputy's Jewel to Rt. Wor. Barry Faison during his homecoming. Wor. Wayne Boswell presented Bro. Dale Wright (SD) with his certificate of proficiency in the Masonic catechisms. The election of officers was conducted by Wor. Jimmy Creech (9), and an open Installation of the officers for 2023 was held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tuckahoe Lodge is now properly constituted for our centennial year of 2023.

## 2023:

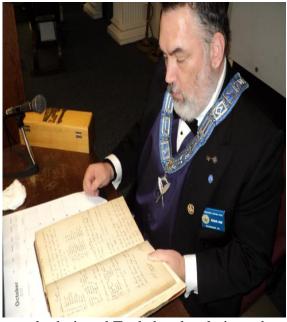
## **Uniting All Mankind**





January 5<sup>th</sup> was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our first meeting as a Lodge U.D. Rt. Wor. Barry Faison (DDGM 15-A) was received for his official visit.





Bro. James Owen (Jr. Steward) distributed the newly designed Tuckahoe lapel pin to those present, while Wor. Mike Caro (Secretary) read excerpts from the minutes of our first meeting, January 5<sup>th</sup>, of 1923.

February's sated meeting was well attended. We shared minutes from the archives of the Lodge for February 2nd...100 years ago tonight. We presented a beautiful Tuckahoe Lodge pen to each brother present. Wor. Paul Rinko (10) D.I.W. for 15-A presented an interesting look at how our ritual evolved from the early Lodges in Virginia, through Grand Lodge involvement, to today's version under the control of the Committee on Work.



On the afternoon of February 14<sup>th,</sup> a Commonwealth of Virginia flag was flown over the State Capitol building in Richmond, in honor of Tuckahoe Lodge's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We received the flag along with a certificate from Governor Youngkin.



**1923** -2023 100 Years of Masonic Service Respect for our past drives our commitment to our future.



Wor. David and Bro. James are just a few of our members at the Cornerstone Reenactment at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.



Grand Master Don Strehle (left of center) and our own Brother (former Governor and Ambassador) Jim Gilmore (c) along with several other Brethren at Mount Vernon for the wreath laying at Brother George Washington's grave for his 291st Birthday, and then a stated meeting of Alexandria-Washington Lodge #22. Many thanks to Brother Gilmore this weekend for his several talks and leading the events for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial!



Several members have been meeting before ritual practice to review old minutes from the last hundred years. It has been a lot of fun uncovering unique events and programs, special dates, familiar names, and more. Plus, the time together is incredible as well!



Grand Master Strehle made his Official Visit to Tuckahoe Lodge No. 347 on April 6th 2023.



Prior to opening Lodge Paige Carpenter and Grand Master Strehle assisted in presenting our new Masonic Flag to the Lodge. This flag was flown over the Grand Lodge building on March 2nd in recognition of our 100th Anniversary, and in Memory of RW Bob Carpenter's 35 years of service as Lodge Secretary.



Wor. Doug Messimer was presented with his 60-year Senior DeMolay pin and certificate by Wor. Seth Spivey (l) of the Westhampton Chapter, and Wor. Tom Varner representing Virginia DeMolay.

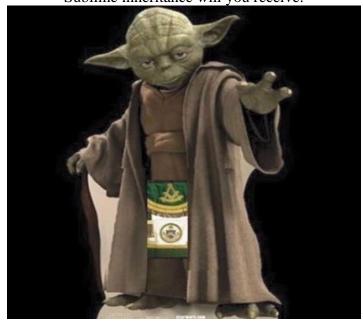


An award noting Wor. Messimer's contributions to the Masonic Home was presented by Ms. Anne Hagen, CEO of MAHOVA. and the Grand Master.

Travel to the east you will. Perils you must face.

Gain knowledge you need.

Sublime inheritance will you receive.



Tuckahoe's stated communication...May 4th..... Dinner at 6:15 PM, Lodge opens at 7:15. Be there you should. May the fourth be with you.



New officer aprons and jewel hangers were presented, replacing those in service for over 22 years.

'May the 4<sup>th</sup> (be with you)' was the theme for the stated Communication. Wor. Mike Caro presented an educational program titled 'Saber the moment, Masonry is a Force to be reckoned with'.



Johnathan Giles, Grand Provost in Virginia, sent has regrets that he could not be with us for 'the 4<sup>th</sup>', and wished us well in our celebration.



We celebrated 100 years of Tuckahoe on June 24th with a Table Lodge! A Master Mason's Lodge opened at 5:30, with Dinner and the Table Lodge at 6pm. A good time was had by all.

The July Stated Communication was designated as Past Master's night.



Rt. Wor. Rob presented Bro. Claude Carr with his 50-year Masonic Veterans pin.



Rt Wor. Rob Eades presided in the East and celebrated his 50th year as a Master Mason. He made sure he had ample power in his gavel.



Seven Past Masters were honored at the July Stated.



Rt. Wor. Rob Eades presented a milestone veterans pin in September.



We celebrated the event with Wor. Herb Eades and his lady for 60 years of Masonic service to Tuckahoe Lodge.



Great turnout at the September Stated! And thank you to all our brethren who brought donations of needed school supplies for our next-door neighbors at Johnson Elementary! We delivered everything Friday morning and they were very happy.

In late September Tuckahoe made an official visit to DeWitt-Clinton Lodge 141 in Maidens, Va. Good fellowship at a small Lodge with a warm welcome to all.





October 1<sup>st</sup> found Bro. Ben and Wor. Jon tearing apart the fire pit and rebuilding it for the flag retirement ceremony at the October Stated. Awesome job! And we have a nice place to respectfully retire flags properly.





At our October Stated meeting, we were joined by the James Monroe Camp, Heroes of '76 from the Ft. Lee-Richmond Chapter of the National Sojourners for a Flag Retirement Ceremony. This event provides a dignified way of disposing of worn and tattered American Flags. We always look forward to this event, as it brings out members of the community to pay respect to our great flag. A special portion of the event this year included a unique flag, provided by Brother Ron McGavic. You may note that the flag only has 48 stars, as it was before Hawaii and Alaska gained statehood.

November of our centennial year was highlighted by Junior Warden's Night. Bro. Dale Wright occupied the East. The program for the evening,' The importance of Harmoney to Masonry' was presented by Rt. Wor. Donald Traser.



Our Wardens and the Master enjoy time at the 2023 Grand annual Communication.

December was a busy time with our annual memorial service, and election of officers for 2024. A special resolution from the officers and members of the Lodge, named Wor. Wayne Boswell Treasurer Emeritus for his 32 years of service to the Lodge. He was presented with a certificate and honorarium by the Worshipful Master.



An open installation was held on December 9<sup>th</sup> where Wor. Benjamin Kyle Smith and his elected and appointed officers were installed. The Lodge was declared properly constituted for 2024, the beginning of our second century of Masonic service.



Tuckahoe Lodge humbly shares this history with great sense of pride. We are most grateful for the diligent work and sacrifice of those who have gone before us. Above all, we are grateful to the Great Architect of the Universe for His grace and provision. With 100 years of history as our guide, and the Great Lights of Masonry illuminating our path, we will strive to model that which is right and time tested. We celebrate our past and build upon the solid, and sacred, foundation that has been so carefully laid and maintained over the last 100 years. Finally, Brethren, be ye all of one mind, live in peace; and may the God of peace and love delight to dwell with and bless you.

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Revised 12-23