



## TRESTLEBOARD

# MT. CARMEL LODGE No.133 A.F. & A. M.



1st Chartered: December 11, 1823  
Current Charter: December 15, 1852

Warrenton, Virginia

MAY 2008

## GREETINGS FROM THE EAST



Fraternal greetings Mt. Carmel! I can't believe it's already May. My, how the time flies.

April was a busy month and we accomplished much. We had a successful visit to Cochran Lodge on 10 April with Bro. Don Schupp giving an excellent presentation on the Golden Fleece, Roman Eagle, and Star & Grader. This fulfills yet another requirement for the Noah Hillman Award. We still have quite a ways to go in order to qualify. In addition to making several more fraternal visits, we'll need to do some community-oriented public service, give some blood, complete some correspondence courses, and learn a lecture. We also need to continue having a minimum of three line officers at every District Ritual Class. The year is almost half over, but I know we can fulfill the remaining requirements in time.

Speaking of community service, Bro. David Hamilton agreed to take on the Bike project. He and several members of

his committee have acquired about 50 bikes, which all need some work to make them ready for donating to needy youth in the County. Summer is nearly here, and every kid should have a bike. Once the bikes are serviceable, the bike committee will devise a plan for distributing said bikes. Please commend Bro. Hamilton and his committee on their efforts thus far and lend a hand if you are able.

Bro. Paul Lockhart has been busy working on the arrangements for our planned Table Lodge in June. (Thursday, 26 June) The Grand Master will be there, and we should have a great time together. Stay tuned for further details.

This month, marks the 200th anniversary of Royal Arch Masonry in the state of Virginia. That's right, the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia was formed on 4 May 1808. There is a huge celebration being planned for the weekend of 16 & 17 May, in Williamsburg, Virginia. At our May Stated Com-

munication the Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia, Most Excellent Paul Stephen Newhall, will visit us and give a short presentation on the history of Royal Arch Masonry in Virginia. All Royal Arch Masons are welcome and encouraged to wear their Red Royal Arch Blazers to our meeting. I'll be wearing mine.

Speaking of anniversaries, Right Worshipful William Edward "Ed" Ray, Sr. will celebrate his 50th year as a Mason this month. Right Worshipful Ray has been a very active Mason in several districts in Virginia and in Maryland. To commemorate the anniversary, Haymarket Lodge No. 313 is planning a ceremony to honor our Brother on Monday, 12 May (6:30 P.M.) at the Gainesville United Methodist Church. The celebration is open to family and friends, and the Grand Master will be there. I have tickets, should you wish to purchase one or several. The cost is \$10 a person, which includes dinner. I heard something about a roast, and am unclear as to whether that refers to what is being served, or what is being done to R.W. Ray. It should prove to be a memorable event.

That's all for now, My Brethren.

P.O.T.S.,

Anthony J. LaCava

Worshipful Master



### COMMUNICATIONS:

#### STATED:

4TH TUESDAY AT 7:30 P.M.

SUPPER AT 6:30 P.M.

-EXCEPT DECEMBER-

#### LODGE BREAKFAST:

LAST SATURDAY AT 9:00 A.M.



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## SICK & DISTRESSED

Please keep these Brethren in your thoughts and prayers:



*Kenneth Eugene Kerrick*

*Charles Arthur Cooper*

*Hugh Anderson Scott*

## History of the Grand Chapter of Virginia



Royal Arch Masonry was practiced and taught in Virginia during much of the 18th century. The first documented evidence of the conferring of the Royal Arch Degree to be found in the world is in the minutes of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 in Fredericksburg, Virginia and bears the date of December 22, 1753. At that time the Royal Arch was certainly attached to the work of a regular Lodge, and the work was done under the Authority of a Master's Warrant. It became evident, however that because of the growing numbers of Chapters and the increasing membership, some specific rules and regulations were needed

for the internal government of Royal Arch Chapters.

A Convention of Royal Arch Masons, representing various Chapters in the State, was held in the Borough of Norfolk on May 3, 1806. There were representatives present from Norfolk and Richmond Chapters only, although the Chapters at Staunton and Dumfries had signified their approval of the idea of a Grand Chapter. Notwithstanding the absence of a quorum, it was thought wise to appoint a committee to draft a plan for the government of a Grand Chapter. Such a committee was appointed, and a plan was submitted, discussed, and adopted. Among other items, it provided "as soon as three of the above named Chapters shall have ratified this Constitution (either with or without amendments), notice thereof shall be given to the several Chapters, and place for the holding of the next General Assembly shall be appointed."

The first Assembly was called to be held in Mason's Hall, Norfolk, Virginia, on May 1, 1808. Since that date was on Sunday, the meeting did not begin until Monday, May 2,

1808.

On May 4, 1808, the aforementioned Constitution having been ratified by the Chapters of Norfolk, Richmond, and Staunton, the Companions present, after producing authenticated copies of their appointment by the several Chapters represented, proceeded to organize the Most Excellent Supreme Grand Chapter of Royal Arch, Excellent and Super-Excellent? Masons of Virginia. Temporary officers were selected and a Chapter was opened in Solemn Form. After the Chapter had been opened, the order of business called for the election and installation of Grand Officers. Robert Brough of Norfolk Chapter, was elected and installed as the First Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Virginia.

The Grand Chapter continued its sessions by meeting again on Thursday, May 5, Friday, May 6, and Saturday, May 7, 1808, in order to perfect its organization and set up the necessary machinery of operation. Before closing on Saturday, May 7, 1808, the Grand Chapter after examining documents respecting the original establishment of the Chapters present, instructed that Charters be issued to said Chapters with the numbers assigned as follows: Norfolk, No. 1; Staunton, No. 2; Richmond, No. 3.

The next meeting was fixed to be held in Richmond in December next, either during the sitting or soon after the rising of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The Second Annual Convocation was fixed to meet at Staunton, Virginia on the third Monday in July, 1809. This meeting was held at Staunton on Monday, July 17, 1809.

In January, 1820, James Cushman, the noted Masonic Lecturer visited the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter and exemplified the degrees as worked in the General Grand Chapter. As a result of this, the Grand Chapter adopted the new ritual, changed its name to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Virginia, and appointed Cushman the first Grand Lecturer.

The Cryptic Degrees were brought to Virginia by Jeremy L. Cross in 1817. Cross constituted Richmond Council No. 1 on December 25, 1817, and Dumfries Council No. 2 on January 6, 1818. In 1820 James Cushman, having just been appointed Grand Lecturer of the Grand Chapter, constituted councils in Norfolk, Portsmouth, Petersburg, Lynchburg, Staunton, Williamsburg, and Winchester. These nine councils formed The Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters of Virginia on December 8, 1820 with jurisdiction over the Royal, Select, and Super-Excellent? Master Degrees. This was the second Grand Council formed in the United States.

On December 17, 1841 the Grand Council resolved to surrender all control over the Cryptic Degrees to the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Virginia. Control was accepted, and the degrees were integrated within the Chapter degrees in the order Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, Royal Master, Select Master, Royal Arch Mason. Later the Royal and Select Master degrees were moved to their present position following the Past Master's Degree, and the sequence of the two was exchanged. Virginia and West Virginia are the only Grand Chapters with jurisdiction over these degrees.

Although never affiliated with the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, Virginia maintains fraternal relations with that body, as well as with the Grand Royal Arch Chapters and Grand Councils of Cryptic Masons in other states and countries.

This History represents a collaborative effort that started with John Dove. It has been edited and provided by ME Douglas L. Jordan, PGHP

Warren Chapter No. 5, Royal Arch Masons meets in the Masonic Temple of Mt. Carmel on the First Tuesday of Each Month at 7:30 P.M. Petitions to join are available upon request.

# LODGE OFFICERS

## Worshipful Master:

Anthony Joseph LaCava (Yvonne)  
(H) 703-331-0238 (C) 571-436-7948

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## Senior Warden:

James Richard Ramser (Angelique)  
(H) 540-347-4522 (C) 540-359-5342  
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## Junior Warden:

Paul William Lockhart (Mari)  
(H) 540-439-9538 (C) 540-272-7248  
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## Treasurer:

Robert Aiken Wheeler (June)  
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## Secretary:

David Henry Blank, PDDGM (Peggy)  
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## Senior Deacon:

Donald Lawrence Schupp, Jr. (Susan)  
540-341-4103

## Junior Deacon:

Steven Clay Green (Kelly)  
540-630-2921

## Chaplain:

Michael Irving Troup (Stephanie)  
540-349-7275

## Marshal:

Goebel Rush Thacker (Anita)  
540-222-9740

## Senior Steward:

James Robert Stephens (Nancy)  
540-219-2143

## Junior Steward:

Raymond Lloyd Muirhead (Kimberly)  
703-402-3330

## Tiler:

David Robert Schneider (Dabney)  
540-341-0104

## LIW:

William Edward Ray, Sr., PDDGM  
(Carol)  
703-754-4524

## LEO:

Michael Leland Kimmel (Lorie)  
540-207-2858

## MaHoVa Amb.

Paul Andrew McBride (Terrie)  
540-341-3074

## Blood Coord.

David Robert Schneider (Dabney)  
540-341-0104

## Membership Coord.

Paul Fred Barry, Sr., PM (Anita)  
540-341-4992

## Ladies of the Lodge:

Charlie Davis Boaz (Linda)  
540-439-3321

## Catechism Instructors:

Barry Constant, PM, DIW (Gail)  
540-349-8372

Daniel Blair Koch, PM (Nancy)  
540-347-5353

Festus Burrell James, PM (Lady)  
540-347-4096

James Richard Ramser (Angelique)  
540-347-4522

## Masonic Birthdays



R. J. Donovan	05/08/1973
F. V. Hamby	05/27/1969
M. L. Kimmel	05/20/1998
D. B. Koch	05/09/1967
C. A. Pennock, Jr.	05/23/1950
C. A. Rankin	05/23/1989
W. E. Ray	05/24/1958

**Congratulations  
Brethren!**



**Blood Drive**

Please remember to give blood  
and report your contributions to  
our Lodge Blood Coordinator.



Please send

your e-mail address to:

**Master@mtcarmel133.org**

So we can notify you of  
important Lodge events.

# MAY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 M #81 R.A.M. #16 A.F. & A.M.	2 #182 A.F.&A.M.	3 #16 Breakfast Apple Blossom Parade in Winchester, Virginia
4 Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons formed in 1808	5 #264 A.F. & A.M.	6 Hindenburg Crashed in 1937 <b>7:30 P.M. Warren #5 R.A.M.</b>	7 Kena COU F#25 R.A.M.	8	9 Scottish Rite Alexandria	10
11 Mother's Day	12 #313 A.F. & A.M. Open Meeting: Ed Ray 50th Anniversary at Gainesville UMC Kena Shriners	13 #57 A.F. & A.M.	14 Kena Klowns	15 Piedmont #26 KT	16 Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons 200th Anniversary Celebration in Williamsburg, VA	17 Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons 200th Anniversary Celebration in Williams- burg, VA
18 Kena Yacht Club Break- fast	19 #264 A.F. & A.M.	20 <b>7:30 P.M. #133 Lodge Practice</b> L#55 R.A.M.	21 <b>District Class @ #313</b>	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27 <b>7:30 P.M. #133 Stated (Royal Arch Night)</b>	28	29 C.A. Sinclair A.M.D.	30	31 <b>#133 Breakfast</b>



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