

2008 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 302

Commending Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 1, 2008

Agreed to by the Senate, February 7, 2008

WHEREAS, Virginia Lodge No. 177 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (AF&AM) is celebrating its 150th anniversary during 2008 and will host many festive and celebratory events; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM held its first meeting under dispensation at the Cabin Point Royal Arch Lodge and was formally chartered by the Grand Lodge of Virginia on December 15, 1858; and

WHEREAS, at its founding, Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM elected as officers Worshipful Master Edward C. Murdough, senior warden James C. Wall, and junior warden Samuel H. Burt; and

WHEREAS, for 53 years, Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM held its meetings in various locations throughout the community and in 1911 erected a building at Virginia and Bailey Avenues located in Claremont where members continue to meet today; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM supports numerous civic and charitable organizations in the community, including the Claremont Library and other programs such as the Surry Babe Ruth Baseball League and the Christmas at Claremont program with Santa Claus and gifts; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM donates scholarship funds to deserving high school graduates; and

WHEREAS, members of Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM will celebrate their glorious 150th birthday with a Grand Celebration to be held on September 13, 2008, at the Airfield 4-H Conference Center, 15189 Airfield Road in Wakefield, Virginia, and events during the year will be led by Worshipful Master Eugene F. Sober, secretary Vernon A. Melton, Sr., treasurer Ronnie S. Burton, senior warden Charles S. Fitz, Jr., junior warden Dwight D. Hazard, senior deacon David A. Bailey, and junior deacon Danny E. Randolph; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM on the occasion of the historic 150th anniversary of its founding; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Worshipful Master Eugene F. Sober and members of Virginia Lodge No. 177 AF&AM as an expression of the General Assembly's best wishes for a memorable anniversary celebration and success in the lodge's future projects.

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