



The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 13, Issue 1

Second and Fourth Fridays

January / February, 2017

"Freemasonry, A Brotherhood Of Values" --- Grand Masters Program

Acacia Lodge Officers

2016 – 2017

- W. M. - Errol W. Savage, (216) 410-0421, errolsavage@hotmail.com
- S. W. - Tim P. Gallagher, 440-833-0088, tgallagher@marousbrothers.com
- J. W. - Mark Novak, 216-406-5856, markn95@gmail.com
- S. D. - Chris Modica, 440-298-1666, c.modica@yahoo.com
- J. D. - Chris Malinoski, 261-310-1233, cmalinoski@aol.com
- S. S. - Craig A. Niederriter, 440-884-1376, lowhorseman@aol.com
- J. S. -
- Tyler - Jason R. Elliott, 245-290-2268, jasonelliott91@aol.com
- Secretary - James R. Cogan, P.M., 440-257-6964, coganj@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer - David Ponsart, 440-953-1726, grocerydude@att.net
- Chaplain - Jerald G. Dickerson, (440) 449-4639
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- Organist - Stephen A. Mietus, 330-592-3054, smeitus@neo.rr.com

TRESTLE-BOARD

All stated meetings start at 7:30 p.m. – Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and reservations are required, 440-257-6964

- Jan. 11 Typewritten Ritual – MM, John W. Barkley Lodge
- Jan. 12 Typewritten Ritual – FC, Golden Gate Lodge
- Jan. 13 **Stated Meeting** –
- Jan. 14 Leadership Meeting 9 a.m., Stonington Lodge
- Jan. 18 Typewritten Ritual – EA, Cleveland Lodge
- Jan. 27 **Stated Meeting** –
- Feb. 10 **Stated Meeting** –
- Feb. 18 Leadership Meeting 9 a.m., Mid Century Lodge
- Feb. 24 **Stated Meeting** –
- Mar. 10 **Stated Meeting** –
- Mar. 11 Leadership Meeting 9 a.m., Solon Lodge

From The East



Greetings Brethren!

It is my pleasure to once again serve as the presiding officer of Acacia Masonic Lodge. Acacia has a long and proud history of excellence within, and service to the community. Weather its sponsoring youth groups, athletics, or community projects Acacia has a quiet hand in many events. I am a firm believer that Acacia's good works are an external example of our internal lodge excellence.

I hope to see you within lodge this year. For those of you who have not attended lodge our attire is business wear (jackets and ties). However, if you're a little more casual then that you are still always welcome.

This year Acacia will have discussion on lodge priorities, requiremens and traditions. Be part of the conversation.

Lastly, please keep in your thoughts our Brethren who are ill, alone, or infirm, consider giving them a call to say hello.

Fraternally,

Errol Savage
Worshipful Master

An architect built a cluster of office buildings around a central green. When construction was completed, the landscape crew asked him where he wanted the sidewalks. "Just plant the grass solidly between the buildings," was his reply. By late summer the new lawn was laced with paths of trodden grass between the buildings. These paths turned in easy curves and were sized according to traffic flow. In the fall, the architect simply paved the paths. Not only did the paths have a design beauty, they responded directly to user needs.

Reprinted from Bits and Pieces, June 19, 1997

Univeral Laws:

Law of Logical Argument -

Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Brown's Law of Physical Appearance -

If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

Oliver's Law of Public Speaking -

A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Wilson's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy -

As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it.



In Memoriam

Brother	Passed
Bro. John W. Mc Clurg	October 16, 2016
Bro. Kenneth A. Delaat	November 12, 2016
Bro. Robert M. Campbell	November 13, 2016
Bro. John W. Ator	May 1, 2016
Bro. Stephen Smik, Jr.	December 11, 2016
Bro. Lewis D. Rodgers	December 2, 2016
Bro. William R. Stauffer	November 27, 2016

They rest from their labors.

From the West

Greetings brethren

I wanted to take the time to thank all of my brother officers for their hard work over this last year. Our lodge has definitely reflected the youthful vigor of its officer core. On behalf of them I would like to thank the brethren of Acacia Lodge and their guests that attended our many events and activities, especially the individuals that RSVP. I couldn't be more proud to be an officer and part of our event committee. On behalf of the event committee we would like to earnestly remind the rest of the craft, with respect to the events intended to include the public. That as these events are intended to reach past the membership's immediate family and friends in some cases, and in to our membership's circle of acquaintances with the intent of expanding our masonic community. We recognize the necessity to invite family, friends, and neighbors in order to demonstrate the good effects of masonry to the world. We therefore earnestly insist that all members RSVP no less than 2 weeks before the event. We believe that our events will continue to gain attraction and attendance will increase creating a healthy masonic community that Acacia Lodge can thrive in. We believe it is in our lodge's best interest to insist that we require that proper reservations be submitted so that the necessary arrangements be made whether it be for additional food and refreshments or gifts and prizes. It has always been customary that members "repondez s'il

vous plait" themselves and all attending guests for lodge events.

Our events are organized by the most dedicated part of our craft, the officers of the lodge. They will continue to organize these events with care and respect, as they have for more than 140 years and we owe it to them to make this task as streamlined as possible. It only takes a few minutes to call the appropriate number or email or even check us out on Facebook. As we all can hopefully understand, knowing who is going to be in attendance is paramount when organizing these events. It seems that from time to time that proper notification for attendance has fallen to the wayside. Simply expressing an interest in an event at one of our regularly scheduled meetings is not enough. Again brethren, please be aware that at future events, Acacia Lodge will require proper reservations including a list of guests no less than 2 weeks before attending the desired event. Guests not accompanied by a member and not registered through RSVP are regrettably subject to denial of attendance. Letting the lodge know who your accompanied with let alone who you may send independently takes very little effort and will go a very long way to the success of our event.

Fraternally,

Tim Gallagher, Senior Warden

District Passport Program

On my travels throughout the years I have been exposed to many unique traditions and events that truly distinguish one Lodge from another. It is through this exposure that I have grown a great appreciation for the diversity in our District and learned the meaning of those Fraternal bonds that tie and unite us.

The 22nd District Passport Program was released at the 2017 Past Masters Convocation as a means to encourage travel to our Lorain and Cuyahoga County Lodges. This passport is for every brother to take on their journey throughout the 22nd District. Each Lodge has been provided with a different stamp and also encouraged to create new ones for their various yearly traditions/events. Brethren can now log their Masonic journey while gaining insight into other Lodges and enjoy those wonderful Fraternal elements that make Freemasonry the greatest fraternity in the world.

The Passport, a downloadable and printable PDF, can be found on our District website (<http://ohiodistrict22.org/passport.html>). Please ask your newly installed Worshipful Master for additional details he may have. Start your 2017 journey and enjoy Freemasonry in your 22nd Masonic District!

Jason Stitak, President, 22nd Masonic District Blue Lodge Association.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Grand Lodge of Ohio offers two scholarships in each of its 25 Masonic Districts. Applications for these scholarships are due by February 18th. Ohio High School Seniors living in our district are eligible to apply for the scholarships.

Completed scholarship applications should be submitted to our DDGM, RWB. Mark J. Bollinger. For a copy of the **2017** Scholarship Application <http://www.gloho.com/images/forms/scholarship-application.pdf>.

Acacia Lodge received a request from the family of a brother who passed away in Florida in November. The brethren of Florida and especially Beach Lodge #354 worked hard to conduct a Masonic Funeral on short notice for this brother on the weekend before Thanksgiving. Any brother in the area of Beach Lodge should stop in and say "Thank You!"

Dear Brother Cogan,

We had a very nice funeral service for Brother Campbell this morning. There were only seven of us, but our sitting DDGM officiated. Of the seven, we had four PM's, two DDGM's and a PGM, so he was well represented and all of us did our best to provide a service that his family could be proud of.

If you ever find your way to Florida, my Lodge; Beach Lodge 354, is only an hours drive from Orlando. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 7:30 PM and we would be proud to have you in our Lodge.

Michael D. Setzer
Sitting WM of Beach Lodge
PGM Japan 2008

Warmest fraternal regards,
Mike

Lodge Room Altar

Symbolically the Altar is a cube in shape, though in practice it is made oblong. It should stand in the center of the lodge room, at the point of intersection of two lines drawn from the northeast to the southwest corners, and with the representatives of the Lesseer Lights properly placed, with one at its northeast corner, a second at the northwest corner and a third at the center of the Altar's south side.

It should not be moved during a meeting, nor should the lights be moved. The ballot box should never be placed upon the Bible. The space between the Altar and the East is deemed "sacred ground", not to be trodden under foot; hence passing between the Altar and the Master is forbidden except as called for by the ritual of the particular Ceremony being performed.

References to the Bible refer not only to the Bible but also to any particular Holy book which may be in use. The appropriate Volume of Sacred Law (VSL) of a candidate's faith is to be used, and references in the Ritual adjusted accordingly.

Multiple VSL's may be placed upon the Altar, but not stacked vertically. (Source: The Grand Lodge Officer's Manual)

Reprinted from the Grand Secretary's Newsletter – December 2, 2016

Need a Ride?

If you are in need of a ride to come to lodge please call Jim Cogan at 440-257-6964 and arrangements will be made to pick you up. This is my home phone; please leave a message if I don't pick up when you call.

From the Northeast:

Hello Brethren,

I am proud to have been elected as the Senior Deacon for this upcoming year. I would like to take this time to address a few things. As many of you know that at our Stated meetings there is no "Dress Code" but it is proper to dress in a Business attire, whether it be Business Casual (collared shirt) or Business Formal (suit/tuxedo) this thought process should apply to All of Acacia's events at the Temple or else where, with the exception of some events Acacia holds where it is obviously proper not to implement this thinking (i.e. shooting range, waterpark event, Hayride, etc.). This not only

applies to our Members but when guests are invited, it should be brought to their attention what the expectation is. Brethren please remember Acacia Lodge leads from the Front not the rear. We should be Proud to set the Example for the 22nd District.

Fraternally

Chris Modica
Senior Deacon

A Christmas card from our W. B. Bil Montague in Goliad, TX:



Merry Christmas to all my Lodge Brothers.

Cold enough for a jacket the other day.

Hope y'all have a wonderful Christmas and a healthy happy New Year!

Grand Masters One Day Class

As you may know this is the 300th Anniversary of Freemasonry. The formal founding of speculative Freemasonry was June 24, 1717 in London, England.

This year the Grand Master of Ohio has authorized a Grand Masters One Day Class on March 25, 2017. The petitions for the degrees must be presented to the lodge, investigated, and voted on prior to February 25th.

If you know a man who is of good character, morally sound and of good report, this would be a good opportunity to set him on a life long journey.

"There is nothing that is a more certain sign of insanity than to do the same thing over and over and expect the results to be different." - Albert Einstein

"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what you want them to achieve, and they will surprise you with their ingenuity." - George Smith Patton, Jr.

Awards Night 2016

Acacia Lodge held it's Award Night on November 18, 2016 with the below brethren receiving their well deserved service awards:

Wor. Bro. Thomas R. Johnson, 25 yrs.

Wor. Bro. Douglas E. Kelley, 25 yrs.

Wor. Bro. Herbert A. Schieman, 35 yrs.

Wor. Bro. James T. George, 40 yrs.

Bro. John D. Sauter, 40 yrs.

Wor. Bro. Joseph A. Dauer, 50 yrs.



Wor. Bro. Tom Johnson and his family.



Wor. Bro. Herbert A. Schieman and Family



Wor. Bro. James T. George and his wife along with Bro. John D. Sauter and his wife.



Wor. Bro. Joseph A. Dauer and his wife receive his 50 year pin and certificate from RWB Robert W. Thomas and Wor. Master Mark Novak.

This year Acacia Lodge was able to award:

Years of Service	Number Eligible
25	3
35	4
40	10
50	10
60	9
65	7
70	4

A number of those eligible live out of the 22nd Masonic District and some were unable to attend due to health issues. To all please accept our heartfelt thanks for your years of service.

Christmas 2016

Acacia Lodge had a very merry Christmas this year with 68 adults and 54 children from the age of new born to 13 yrs. old.

The Flower Clown, Peddles, provided balloon entertainment for the children during lunch. Our lunch consisted of pizza, corned beef sandwiches, turkey sandwiches, potato salad, macaroni salad, desserts and drinks.

After everyone ate we adjourned to the lodge room for Peddle's magic show for all the children young and old.



This was followed by the man from the North arrival to distribute presents to all the kids.



Our Christmas Party would not have been a success without the help of our hard working lodge officers.



Front Row (left to right) – Bro. Chris Modica, Santa, Bro. Jason Elliott.

Back Row (left to right) – Bro. Chris Malinowski, Bro. Tim Gallagher, Wor. Bro. Dave Ponsart, Wor. Bro. Mark Novak and Bro. Craig Niederriter

Worshipful Master Errol Savage was working hard in the Fellowship Hall.

Typewritten Ritual

The Typewritten Ritual is scheduled in our district to assist our brethren in becoming more proficient in our obligation to convey our Masonic lessons to our newly obligated brothers.

These sessions will be a full reading of the opening, closing, circumambulation sections, followed by question-and-answer format for lectures, allegory as well as Q&A. Please be prepared to have your questions (page number & line number) in advance.

January 11, 2017, **7:30 p.m.** at John W. Barkley Lodge #621, RWB Bollinger will concentrate on the Master Mason Degree

January 12, 2017, **7:30 p.m.** at Golden Gate Lodge #245, RWB Krapf will concentrate on the Fellow Craft Degree

January 18, 2017, **7:30 p.m.** at Cleveland Lodge #781, RWB Carter will concentrate on the Entered Apprentice Degree

Leadership Meetings

The District Deputy Grand Masters and the District Education Officers conduct four Leadership Meetings during the Masonic Year. These meetings provide Lodge Officers and our brethren with the tools and education necessary in developing lodge programs that will assist in improved meetings, quality education and membership retention.

These meetings will be held on:

January 14, 2017, 9:00 – Noon, Stonington Lodge

February 18, 2017, 9:00 – Noon, Mid Century Lodge

March 11, 2017, 9:00 – Noon, Solon Lodge

April 29, 2017, 9:00 – Noon, Dover Lodge

"God gave us our memories so that we might have roses in December." - Sir James Matthew Barrie

The Brick

A young and successful executive was traveling down a neighborhood street, going a bit too fast in his new Jaguar. He was watching for kids darting out from between parked cars and slowed down when he thought he saw something.

As his car passed, no children appeared. Instead, a brick smashed into the Jag's side door! He slammed on the brakes and backed the Jag back to the spot where the brick had been thrown.

The angry driver then jumped out of the car, grabbed the nearest kid and pushed him up against a parked car shouting,

'What was that all about and who are you? Just what the heck are you doing? That's a new car and that brick you threw is going to cost a lot of money. Why did you do it?' The young boy was apologetic. 'Please, mister...please, I'm sorry but I didn't know what else to do,' He pleaded. 'I threw the brick because no one else would stop...' With tears dripping down his face and off his chin, the youth pointed to a spot just around a parked car. 'It's my brother, he said 'He rolled off the curb and fell out of his wheelchair and I can't lift him up'

Now sobbing, the boy asked the stunned executive, 'Would you please help me get him back into his wheelchair? He's hurt and he's too heavy for me.'

Moved beyond words, the driver tried to swallow the rapidly swelling lump in his throat... He hurriedly lifted the handicapped boy back into the wheelchair, then took out a linen handkerchief and dabbed at the fresh scrapes and cuts. A quick look told him everything was going to be okay. 'Thank you and may God bless you,' the grateful child told the stranger. Too shook up for words, the man simply watched the boy! push his wheelchair-bound brother down the sidewalk toward their home.

It was a long, slow walk back to the Jaguar. The damage was very noticeable, but the driver never bothered to repair the dented side door. He kept the dent there to remind him of this message: 'Don't go through life so fast that someone has to throw a brick at you to get your attention!' God whispers in our souls and speaks to our hearts. Sometimes when we don't have time to listen, He has to throw a brick at us. It's our choice to listen or not.

More Light!

Number 203 – December 15, 2008

Dear Masonic Student,

The following is an article I wrote many years ago, well before the More Light publication was begun. It was so short an article I just didn't use it when it was first written so it sat on my computer for at least a couple of years. Then in early 2004 the editor of the Minnesota Mason phoned and asked if I had some very short Masonic pieces she could use to fill in on the March / April Issue; I did so I sent this article along with a couple of others. It was published in the next issue of the Minnesota Mason and then I forgot about it. At least a year ago I was asked for the article on the Three Great Lights and I couldn't find it on any of my computer disks or the current computer, I didn't always save my articles back then. So it was lost, but then I searched through old copies of the MN Mason and I found it. I'm reproducing it here in the hopes that you will enjoy reading it. – Ed

Three Great Lights

by Ed Halpaus, Grand LEO

Here in Minnesota we open the Bible in a Masonic Lodge to Psalm 133 when the Lodge is opened on the first degree, Amos 7:7-8 when opened on the second degree, and on Ecclesiastes 12:1-7 when opened on the third degree. These particular passages are fairly consistent in the different jurisdictions in the United States.

In England, the passages are Ruth 4:7 for the first degree, Judges 12:6 for the second degree, and 1 Kings 7:13-14 for the third degree.

There have been other passages, too, used at various times around the world, such as; Genesis 18 for the first degree, 1 Kings 6:8 for the second degree, and 2 Chronicles 6 for the third degree.

The question will come up from time to time about where should the Square and Compass be placed on the open pages of the Holy Bible, (i.e. on the right side or the left?) I found an answer that makes sense, about where to place these two Great Lights. "It is essential that the particular passage be covered by the Square and Compass." So, depending on where the scripture passage is located when the Great Lights are arranged, the Square and Compass

might be situated on either the right or the left hand page of the Holy Bible.

Here is just a bit of explanation of the symbolism of the Three Great Lights of Freemasonry: "The Holy Bible gives us our duty to God; the Square, our duty to ourselves; and the Compass, our duty to our fellows.

Words to live by: Never take sides in a quarrel nor your own or become involved in the disputes of rascals. Ecclesiasticus 11:9`

More Light – Mehr Licht

With "Brotherly Love",

Ed Halpaus

Something to Think About:

"My friends, I know you have a copy of the Declaration of Independence somewhere around the house - in an old history book (newer ones may well omit it), an encyclopedia, or one of those artificially aged "parchments" we all got in school years ago. I suggest that each of you take the time this month to read through the text of the Declaration, one of the most noble and beautiful political documents in human history.

There is no more profound sentence than this: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness..."

These are far more than mere poetic words. The underlying ideas that infuse every sentence of this treatise have sustained this nation for more than two centuries. They were forged in the crucible of great sacrifice. They are living words that spring from and satisfy the deepest cries for liberty in the human spirit.

"Sacred honor" isn't a phrase we use much these days, but every American life is touched by the bounty of this, the Founders' legacy. It is freedom, tested by blood, and watered with tears."

Rush Limbaugh III

"Try to become not a man of success, but try rather to become a man of value." - Albert Einstein

TRESTLE-BOARD

Tear off and post on your refrigerator!

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February 10, 2017	Stated Meeting
February 18, 2017	Leadership Meeting – 9:00 to Noon at Mid Century Lodge
February 24, 2017	Stated Meeting –
March 11, 2017	Leadership Meeting – 9:00 to Noon at Solon Lodge

James R. Cogan
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