



The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 12, Issue 4

Second and Fourth Fridays

July / August, 2016

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

Acacia Lodge Officers

2015 – 2016

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Tyler - Jason R. Elliott, 245-290-2268,
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- Treasurer - David Ponsart, 440-953-1726,
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- Chaplain - Jerald G. Dickerson, (440) 449-4639
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TRESTLE-BOARD

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

- July 16 Family Picnic – Pioneer
Waterland – See article
- Aug. 6 Lake County Captains Game –
See article
- Aug. 13 Golf Outing – See article
- Sept. 9 Stated Meeting – Fellow Craft
Degree
- Sept. 16 Friendship Night – See article
- Sept. 23 Stated Meeting – Fellow Craft
Degree

"In any project, the important
factor is your belief. Without
belief, there can be no
successful outcome." -
William James

From The East



Greetings Brethren,

By the time, you are reading this, Acacia Lodge will have conducted its final meeting for the summer on June 24. Our next Stated Meeting will be Friday, September 9. In the meantime, however, we will be hosting a number of exciting events in July and August.

On Saturday, July 16, we will be hosting our annual Family Picnic at Pioneer Waterland in Geauga County. This is one of our most popular events, and wives, girlfriends, children, and grandchildren are encouraged to attend. We missed having our picnic at Pioneer last summer due to concerns about ownership changes, so please join us as we begin our tradition there anew! Tickets are just \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Food and beverages will be complimentary courtesy of the Lodge. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. As always, we will have our own picnic area to ourselves and full access to the water slides and other amenities.

On August 6, we will be attending a Lake County Captains game at Classic Park in Eastlake, Ohio. This was one of our most popular events last year, and I look forward to sitting out in the sun and taking in a game with everyone. We will be joining Collinwood Lodge on the same evening, so it should be a great night for Masonry at the stadium! Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for kids 12 and under. A food voucher will be included with the ticket with fireworks after the game. We may see some future Cleveland Indians that evening—star shortstop Francisco Lindor was a Lake County Captain four years ago!

Our annual golf outing will follow a week later on Saturday, August 13. Tee time is 9 a.m. at Johnnycake Golf Course in Mentor. As always, this will be a friendly game of golf for all to enjoy followed by a picnic lunch. Tickets are just \$15 and include 9 holes of golf, a cart, lunch, and prizes.

Finally, we will be holding a Lodge Friendship Night on Friday, September 16 at the Euclid Masonic Temple. This event was originally scheduled for June but was moved back to accommodate more speakers. We will be using this event to introduce Masonry in general and Acacia Lodge in particular to the community. If you know any men who you think would make good Masons, please invite them to this event! It includes a complimentary dinner and presentations from Acacia and the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

Fraternally, Mark Novak, Worshipful Master



In Memoriam

Brother

Bro. William H. Jones

Bro. Leland S. Nagy

They rest from their labors.

Passed

June 1, 2016

June 16, 2016

Brothers in Action:



This must be a Union job since there are two supervisors for each worker. Bro. Murray Aron's was the photographer as WM Mark Novak and WB Errol Savage provide direction to Bro. Chris Malinoski as he painted a garage in need of attention.

WB William Montague – lives in Goliad, Tx. where: the **Goliad Massacre**, set in the town of Goliad on March 27, 1836, was the killing of Republic of Texas POWs and their commander, James Fannin, during the Texas Revolution by the Mexican Army under orders from General and President of Mexico Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. Despite the protests for clemency by General José de Urrea, the massacre was reluctantly carried out by Lt. Colonel José Nicolás de la Portilla.

James Fannin was a mason who was forming a lodge in Goliad along with other brothers who were defending Fort Defiance in Goliad, Tx., against the Mexican army before their capture.



This monument marks the location where the Texans from the Goliad Massacre were finally buried. None of the Masons received a Masonic funeral which was rectified on Saturday, June 4th. Copy and paste the below hyperlink to view the ceremony,

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1157115897666045&id=427275793983396

Please let us know of any other activities you are involved in that we can let our brethren know about!

Brethren.

As the Tyler, my place is within the outer door and outside the inner door. All of our officers from the Worshipful Master in the East to the Marshall at the door of the Preparation Room and brethren on the sidelines have a role to play in making sure this lodge functions properly.

As we work together and receive our wages for a job well done we will need to inculcate the tenants of this great fraternity. I will keep my place and remember my role in the lodge; I hope the rest of you will do the same.

Fraternally

Bro. Jason R. Elliott
Tyler

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.

"This is the lesson: never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never - in nothing, great or small, large or petty - never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy." - Winston Churchill

Family Bowling Night



This event was held on Saturday, May 21st, at Wickliffe Lanes. Our brethren, their ladies and friends enjoyed an evening of fun, food and fellowship.



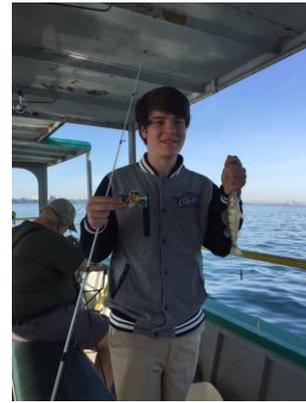
Strikes and spares all added up to fun for everyone.



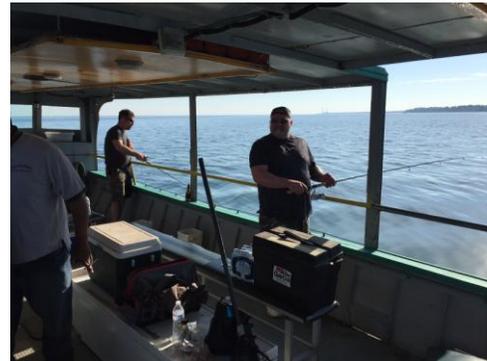
The evening was enjoyed all!

Fishing Trip

On a sunny morning on June 18th our brethren and friends boarded fishing boat at Wildwood Marina for Acacia Lodges annual fishing trip.

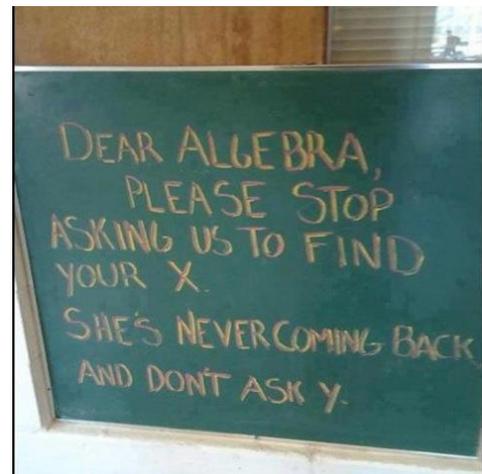


Winner for the first fish caught on this beautiful day was Alec Breakfield



Winner of both biggest fish and most fish caught (10 1/2" and 9 perch) was Joe Chamberlain.

Please plan on attending this event next year to see if you can beat Joe.



"Leadership is based on inspiration, not domination; on cooperation, not intimidation." - William Arthur Ward



Summer Family Picnic

July 16, 2016



Date: July 16, 2016

Time: 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Water Park opens at 11:00 a.m.

Location: Pioneer Waterland, 10661 Kile Road, Chardon, OH

Cost: \$8.00 per person and \$5.00 per child under 12 years old

Come celebrate the summer with friends, family and lodge brothers. There will be good food, water events and more (<http://pioneerwaterland.com/>).

Take your family, kids, grandkids, relatives, neighbors and friends to an enjoyable day out. You must be 40” tall to ride the giant waterslides. Also, you must be 40” tall to ride alone on the Lazy Innertube Ride. Children under 40” may ride on the lap of an adult.

Please make your reservations now by sending your check to our lodge secretary, James R. Cogan, 6130 Thistlewood Dr., Mentor, OH 44060. Make check payable to “Acacia Lodge #651” with “Lodge Picnic” in the memo section. Also, let him know how many will be attending including those under 40” so we will have enough for lunch.

Lunch will be served between 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Please bring a side dish or a dessert to be shared.



Acacia Lodge – Golf Outing

\$20.00 per person – August 13, 2016



Date: August 13, 2016

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Johnnycake Golf Course, 7134 Mentor Ave., Willoughby, OH

Cost: \$20.00 per person – includes half a cart, 9 holes of golf, refreshments, lunch and prizes

After the golf outing, around 12 noon, lunch will be served at the Johnnycake Golf Course.

Anyone can come to the cookout at no cost.

Please call James R. Cogan, P.M., 440-257-6964, with your reservation no later than **August 8th**. If you are planning to attend only the cookout, please let me know.

Leisure Time

Lake County Captains Game – Saturday, August 6th at 7:00 pm – Tickets \$5.00 adults and \$3.00 children 12 and under. Call WB Mark Novak with your reservations.

Around the District

Saturday, July 9, 2016, 7:30 a.m. – Golf outing at Pleasant Hills Golf Course, 13461 Aquila Road, Chardon. See flier on 22nd district web site. Sponsored by AASR Valley of Cleveland.

Friday, July 29, 2016, 7:10 p.m. – A night out at progressive field, Indians vs Oakland – See flier on 22nd district web site. Council and Knights Templar sponsor.

Why I am a Mason - Author Unknown

People have asked me from time to time, what I get from being a Mason. What is it that I learned, or discovered in Lodge, that makes it so interesting or valuable to me? Why do I keep going back to Lodge, paying Dues, serving as an Officer, spend so much time on the Internet and in my books researching and discussing Masonry?

I don't think anyone really learns anything new in Masonry. I know I didn't, though I really expected to. Much to my surprise I was, and continue to be, reminded of several principles and virtues that I had already inculcated as my own long before I became a Mason. Most, if not all, Masons it has been my pleasure to meet also accept these Principles and Virtues as valid and true in their lives. What are these Virtues? What are these Principles? I will enumerate and describe them, as best I can, one at a time.

Brotherly Love: This Virtue admonishes us to regard the entire human race as family. We were, after all, created by the same Creator, and the tie that binds us is stronger than we sometimes think. In all that we do, we should consider our family, known and unknown. What is best for them, and for ourselves?

Relief: Whenever we encounter a fellow creature in need, particularly at times when we are in abundance (but even when we are not), we should never fail to do what we are able to relieve their distress. The simple act of a warm handshake can often uplift a downhearted friend and Brother.

Truth: This should always have the highest priority, above personal agendas and disagreements. We must be always ready, not only to seek, find and speak the Truth, but we must be prepared to hear it as well. This is not always easy. In fact, hearing an unwelcome Truth is

usually difficult. Still, hear it we sometimes must, and accept it as well.

Faith: When we believe in something bigger than ourselves, something greater than we can aspire to becoming, we are humbled. Humility inspires us to do our best. Not because we can equal the Creator, but to imitate Him and make something of Beauty ourselves. Beauty gives both pleasure and brings the following Virtue.

Hope: A better world awaits us. Even in this life, we may look forward to an improved existence. Educating our Children will insure that they will be able to make good decisions when it is their time to do so. Here I speak not of empty Hope, but a Hope based on the secure knowledge that we have all done our best to make the world of tomorrow better than it is today.

Charity: Beyond Relief, we should always work hard to improve the condition of those around us. Where Relief leaves off, Charity begins. Going beyond soothing an affliction or satisfying a need, Charity is the act or acts designed to prevent those needs from ever existing again. Preventing distress, not for the recognition, thanks or acclaim, but because it improves some part of the world, is the highest form of Charity.

Tolerance: By this principle of life and conduct we are reminded that it is seldom necessary to prove someone else wrong for us to be right. We do not have to cause another to fail in order to succeed. In the 60s, there was a term called win-win. Both sides of almost every conflict can find a "middle ground" in which satisfaction may be a shared commodity, if both sides are willing to allow the other to win also.

Temperance: Doing almost anything to excess is harmful. Charity, given to excess, can leave one impoverished. Love, given to excess, may be smothering. The effects of drugs and alcohol, when used to excess, are well known. However, consider the effect of too much Truth. Truth without tact (the knowledge of when NOT to say things) can hurt feelings and even destroy friendships.

Fortitude: Without Fortitude, no one can succeed. Everything gets difficult sometimes; there is always the temptation to give in or give up. When we show Fortitude, we learn to "stick it out" and overcome obstacles to accomplish goals.

Prudence: The mark of a Polite person is knowing when to speak and when not to. What to say and what not to. "To everything, there is a season." This is not only a quotation from Scripture, and a popular song of a previous decade, but good advice as well.

Justice: Everyone deserves to have his fair due, whatever that may be. Like Truth, we must be prepared

not only to dispense Justice, but to have it dispensed to us. We must be able to put aside our own wants and needs sometimes, in order to insure that Justice is served.

All these Principles and Virtues are bigger than ourselves, greater than our personal desires. Observing

and practicing them, we are making this a better world, not only for ourselves, but for all who inhabit it. This is what I get from Masonry. This is why I read, research, discuss Masonry and why I continue to attend and visit with my Brothers in Lodge: to be reminded of these principles, and learn more about them.

TRESTLE-BOARD

Tear off and post on you refrigerator!

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August 6, 2016	Captains Game – 7:00 pm – Eastlake
August 13, 2016	Golf Outing – 9:00 am – Johnnycake Golf Course, 7134 Mentor Ave., Willoughby
September 9, 2016	Stated Meeting – Fellow Craft Degree
September 16, 2016	Friendship Night – See above article
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James R. Cogan
6130 Thistlewood Drive
Mentor OH 44060

