



# The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

**Volume 13, Issue 4**

**Second and Fourth Fridays**

**July / August, 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](mailto:errolsavage@hotmail.com)
- S. W. - Tim P. Gallagher, 440-833-0088, [tgallagher@marousbrothers.com](mailto:tgallagher@marousbrothers.com)
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- S. S. - Craig A. Niederriter, 440-884-1376, [lowhorseman@aol.com](mailto:lowhorseman@aol.com)
- J. S. -
- Tyler - Jason R. Elliott, 245-290-2268, [jasonelliott91@aol.com](mailto:jasonelliott91@aol.com)
- Secretary - James R. Cogan, P.M., 440-257-6964, [coganj@sbeglobal.net](mailto:coganj@sbeglobal.net)
- Treasurer - David Ponsart, 440-953-1726, [grocerydude@att.net](mailto:grocerydude@att.net)
- Chaplain - Jerald G. Dickerson, (440) 449-4639
- L.E.O. - James L. Burnett, Jr. 440-795-8330 [J.Burnett@twc.com](mailto:J.Burnett@twc.com)
- Marshall - Hugh Sullivan, (216) 321-4840 [hughnix@gmail.com](mailto:hughnix@gmail.com)
- Organist - Stephen A. Mietus, 330-592-3054, [smeitus@neo.rr.com](mailto: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

- Jul 8 Captains Game
- Jul 22 Fishing Trip – see article
- Aug 12 Annual Picnic– see article
- Sept 8 **Stated Meeting** –
- Sept 22 **Stated Meeting** –
- Oct 13 **Stated Meeting** –
- Oct 20/21 208<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication Grand Lodge of Ohio in Dayton
- Oct 27 **Stated Meeting** –

"Since when do we have to agree with people to defend them from injustice?" - Lillian Hellman

On July 4<sup>th</sup> remember all those who have served in the military and fought to give us our liberties and freedom. Also, say thank you to our first responders who run toward danger while everyone else runs away.

The following is from the Red Skelton Show that aired on January 14, 1969:

### **“THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**I:** Me, an individual, a committee of one.

**PLEDGE:** Dedicate all of my worldly goods to give without self pity.

**ALLEGIANCE:** My love and my devotion.

**TO THE FLAG:** Our standard, Old Glory, a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves, there’s respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts freedom is everybody’s job.

**UNITED:** That means that we have all come together.

**STATES:** Individual communities that have united into 48 great states. Forty-eight individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided with imaginary boundaries yet united to a common purpose, and that’s love for country.

**AND TO THE REPUBLIC:** A state in which sovereign power is invested in representatives chosen by the people to govern. And government is the people, and it’s from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

**FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION:** One nation, meaning “so blessed by God.”

**INDIVISIBLE:** Incapable of being divided.

**WITH LIBERTY:** Which is freedom, the right of power to live one’s own life without threats, fear, or some sort of retaliation.

**AND JUSTICE:** The principle or quality of dealing fairly with others.

**FOR ALL:** For all, which means, boys and girls, it’s as much your country as it is mine.

Since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country, and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance: “under God.” Wouldn’t it be a pity if someone said that is a prayer, and that would be eliminated from schools too?”

Have a safe and enjoyable 4<sup>th</sup> of July



**In Memoriam**

<b>Brother</b>	<b>Passed</b>
James S. Carnes	4-21-2017
Michael G. Stilwell	5-3-2017
John S. Anderson	4-4-2017
William H. Grose Sr.	5-19-2017
David E. Schroth	5-22-2017

*They rest from their labors.*

**View from the West:**

By the time you read this my brethren another Summer will be in full swing.

Our night at the Captains game was well received. Acacia Lodge reserved a loge for the night, and I'm pleased to say, made for a very relaxing event. The 1<sup>st</sup> fishing trip of the summer in Sandusky was a huge success. It was certainly the most productive fishing trip yet that I've hosted. I myself took home a nice sized walleye and I assure you that it made for a delicious meal. The weather couldn't have been more pleasant for an evening on Lake Erie.

We then got lucky again for the Golf Outing. The weather was absolutely perfect. We had the entire Green Ridge Golf Course to ourselves for the afternoon. The City of Wickliffe made a lot of notable improvements to the course which gave it a very complimentary appearance. We will look forward to returning next year.

There are still many summer events to look forward to. We're hosting a Captains Game Picnic on July 8th and it starts at 7:00 p.m., \$10 covers your admission, food, and refreshments. The second fishing trip will be on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Wildwood Marina in Cleveland. Be there at 7:00 a.m and the boat sets out at 7:30 a.m. \$25 covers your admission on the boat, food, refreshments, and prizes. Not included is bait, tackle, and fishing licenses. Don't forget to bring a cooler for your catch. As always we will be returning to Pioneer Waterland for our Acacia Family Picnic on Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. Starts at 11:00 am and the

\$10 covers admission, parking, food, and refreshments.

Looking even further into our events for the year. Please keep in mind our Monsters Hockey nights in October, Armed Forces Appreciation Dinner, Bowling, Friendship Night, Night at the Range, and of course our Acacia Christmas Party in December (dates to be determined).

Brethren, if you are attending this year's Christmas Party or especially having guests? Please contact James Cogan, 440-257-6964, and make sure to list them and any children that may be entitled to receive a gift. It is our hope this year to have a clear idea of who is coming, brethren and their guests. It is without a doubt, that giving the gifts out is by far one of our favorite things to do, and definitely very rewarding. The process of handing out the gifts has grown increasingly difficult over the past few years. The Lodge gets very little notice as to how many guests or children will attend, let alone the age and sex of the child. If you want a suitable gift for your child guest(s)? Then please make an effort to provide this information no later than Dec 1<sup>st</sup>.

Fraternally,  
Bro. Tim Gallagher, Senior Warden

**Need Help?**

Do you know a Brother or a widow who needs assistance with aging in any way, please refer them to the Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center at 1-877-881-1623. It's a toll free call and they can connect him or her with the services they need.

**Brethren,**

To follow up on my last article I would like to tell you my story of a typical meeting at Acacia Lodge. As some of you know I am living alone now for the first time in a long time. This adjustment is not unusual for a member of my age. But I have found solace in Masonry and my religion.

On lodge nights, I start to get ready by 5:30 p.m. so I can get to the temple by 6:30 p.m. where a fine meal is prepared for the members. Sometimes we are served other times we have use cafeteria style but all the time we eat well and the fellowship makes the meal even better.

After dinner we sometimes have a short Masonic educational program or there will be a program that will be presented in the lodge room.

When our meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. the junior officers will have already set up the lodge room and the Worshipful Master will rap the lodge to order.

The officers are working hard to learn their parts not only for the opening and closing but for the degree work that is essential to learning the lessons of freemasonry. We work hard at not burdening the attending members with boring reading of the minutes but have placed them at the sign-in table for all to read before the meeting starts. The lodge wants the meetings to be educational, informative and enjoyable.

Part of the business portion of the meeting is to find out about the health of our brethren and to encourage our members to call or visit them if within the length of their cable-tow.

We have many events planned throughout the year to meet the interests of our members. See the article by our current Senior Warden to see all that is planned for the rest of this year.

What I am trying to say is that if you are at home on a Friday night and want to an evening of enjoyment, education and camaraderie then on the second and fourth Fridays of the month come to Acacia Lodge.

Fraternally,

WB Tom Daly, an older member on the sidelines

**PS** – remember you can always tell a qualified man that “he would make a good mason”. And, if you need a ride call.

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### **Bro. Anthony Niederriter in Afghanistan**

Our brother is on deployment in Afghanistan and will have is father Bro. Craig Niederriter (6841 Lalemant Dr., Parma, OH, 44129) forward any mail to him should anyone wish to send him any correspondence. Bro. Anthony just graduated from Kent State University with a Masters Degree in Nursing and has passed his Practitioner Board.

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"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it." - Thomas Paine

### **From Outside the Inner Door**

Brethren as your Tyler I have noticed a sharp decline in member's participation and attendance at our stated meetings and special events (golf outing, fishing trip, etc). Your lodge officers plan these events and meetings for our members and it can be discouraging if it is not well attended. Our meetings especially are designed specifically for the members of our lodge to share in the bonds of friendship. the more members that show up for our events the closer we will feel.

Fraturnally

Brother Jason R. Elliott, Tyler

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### **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.

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### **From writings of or inspired by Albert Pike.**

“Nowhere do we fight for our own glory

We cannot achieve victory by ourselves bring Honor to our family, our unit, our nation and our God.

God has done it all for us, God has done what we cannot do for ourselves.”

A Freemason has a duty and an obligation. “To God, his nation and his family. To labor for others betterment. To teach – guide – admonish. To encourage health of body and mind. To encourage – temperance – avoid every vice. To expand knowledge and keep the blessings of justice, tranquility and enlightenment. To enrich those most Nobel qualities of mankind.”

“Our labors are to the benefit of future generations. It will take more than all the good a single generation can produce to progress mankind to equality, justice and prosperity”.

*‘Take a lesson from the olive tree.’*

Pike: “... like the olive tree, that won't reach its peak of productivity until it reaches the hundredth year – a century of being husbanded by father and son, father and son for five generations.

(continued on Page 5)



## ACACIA LODGE FISHING TRIP



\$25.00 per person – July 22, 2017

**Date:** July 22, 2017

**Time:** 7:00 a.m.

**Location:** Wildwood Marina-Fishing Charters, 16975 Wildwood Drive. Cleveland, Ohio

**Cost:** \$25.00 per person max of 24 people – includes boat, refreshments, lunch and prizes

The second fishing trip will be on July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Wildwood Marina in Cleveland. Be there at 7:00 a.m and the boat sets out at 7:30 a.m. Any person who wishes to fish will need to bring their own fishing rods and reel, tackle box, cooler for your fish, bait and fishing items, camera and fishing license. These items can be purchased or rented at Wildwood.

Spread the word. This event is open to family (wife and children) and friends who would enjoy an adventure on the water and the fun of trying to outwit a fish.

Make your reservations (440-269-9611) as soon as possible and before July 20<sup>th</sup> (this will allow us the time to purchase food, refreshments and prizes



## Summer Family Picnic

\$10.00 per person – August 12, 2017



**Date:** August 12, 2017

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Water Park opens at 11:00 a.m.

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

**Cost:** \$10.00 per person (over 40” in heights) – Children under 40” are admitted free

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

Take your family, kids, grandkids, relatives, neighbors and friends to an enjoyable day out.

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 DESERT TO BE SHARED.**

Extracted from Mystery of the Olive Tree By William F. Dankenbring

The Hebrew word for “olive tree” is 'es shemen', which literally means ‘tree of oil.’ It is from a primitive root meaning “to shine.” It means “richness, anointing, fat, fruitful, oil, ointment, olive.” It is related to the word shemesh, “to be brilliant,” and which also is the Hebrew word for the “sun,” that brightly shining orb in the sky.

Another Hebrew word for “olive” is zayith, meaning “an olive,” as “yielding illuminating oil.” Its related to the word ziv, meaning “to be prominent,” “brightness.” Ziv is the month of flowers, corresponding to Iyar, or our April-May.

There is an ancient tradition that the “tree of life” in the Garden of Eden was an olive tree.

“It is an evergreen, and the righteous who take refuge in the protection of God are compared to it.”

There are trees in Israel estimated to be 1,000 years old *that still produce fruit...*”

Olive Oil was regarded as a symbol of honor, gladness, joy, prosperity and favor. The oil represents holy anointing by the power of the Spirit of God. (“*It is like the precious ointment upon the head, which ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments...*”)

“Oil was one of the three staples of life. As a typical product of Palestine and as a necessity, oil is listed, particularly in Deuteronomy, among the three blessings of the land in time of God’s favor – grain, wine, and oil (Deut.11:14, etc.)” (“Oil,” vol.12, p.1347).

Thanks for your work.

Bro.Craig Niederriter, Sr. Steward

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### **Brethren,**

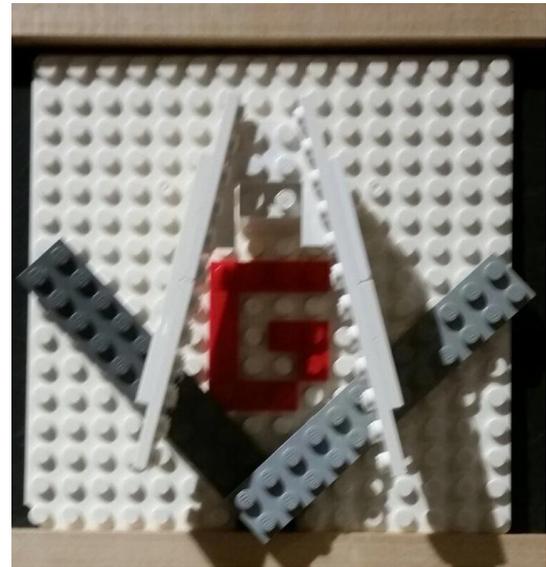
At our Stated Meeting held on June 9<sup>th</sup> the following resolution was read and approved by the members and will be added to our by-laws.

“Be it resolved that Acacia Lodge continue the desire of Charles T. Raymer – Covenant Lodge #683 in donating \$200.00 annually to the “Forrest H. and Helen Sember Diehl Endowed Scholarship fund at Hiram College.

Therefore, annually on the first meeting in December, Acacia Lodge will issue a check in the amount of \$200.00 to the “Forrest H. and Helen Sember Diehl Endowed Scholarship fund at Hiram College. (Approved 06-9-2017)”

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**Brethren,** I took a minute to make this design at the Lego exhibit at the Cleveland Science Museum last week. Thought you might get a kick out of it. Might still be there? - Bro. Tim Gallagher



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**Al Koran Shriner’s** will be holding a *Sportsman’s 100 gun Raffle* on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the Lake County Fair Grounds from Noon to 5:00. Pre-event tickets can be purchased for \$20.00 each. Call WB Al Paynter, (216) 346-3162, for additional information. Proceeds are for the benefit of Al Koran Shriner’s activities.

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### **Something to make you smile.....**

Winston Churchill loved parapsodokians, figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected. Here are some examples:

1. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
2. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street... with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
3. Behind every successful man is his woman. And behind the fall of a successful man is usually another woman.

## TRESTLE-BOARD

Tear off and post on your refrigerator!

All stated meetings start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated – Dinner is provided before each meeting at 6:30 p.m. and **reservations are required**. Please call James Cogan, 440-257-6964.

July 8, 2017	<b>Captains Game</b>
July 22, 2017	<b>Fishing Trip – see article</b>
August 12, 2017	<b>Annual Picnic – see article</b>
September 8, 2017	<b>Stated Meeting</b>
September 22, 2017	<b>Stated Meeting</b>
October 13, 2017	<b>Stated Meeting</b>
October 20/21, 2017	<b>208<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication Grand Lodge of Ohio in Dayton</b>
October 27, 2017	<b>Stated Meeting</b>

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James R. Cogan  
6130 Thistlewood Drive  
Mentor OH 44060

