



The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 14, Issue 6

Second and Fourth Fridays

November / December, 2018

"Embrace Our Heritage – Preserve Our Traditions" --- Grand Masters Program

Acacia Lodge Officers

2017 – 2018

- W. M. - Tim P. Gallagher, 440-833-0088, tgallagher@marousbrothers.com
- S. W. - Open – moved to Texas
- J. W. - Open – Passed to the Celestial Lodge above
- S. D. - Ted Daly, 440-298-1666, tdaly@oh.rr.com
- J. D. - Craig Niederriter, 440-884-1376, lowhorseman@aol.com
- S. S. - [REDACTED]
- J. S. - Daniel E. Bennett, 330-892-8765, debennett2@gmail.com
- Tyler - Jason R. Elliott, 245-290-2268, jasonelliott91@aol.com
- Secretary - James R. Cogan, 440-257-6964, coganj@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer - David Ponsart, 440-953-1726, grocerydude@att.net
- Chaplain - Jerald G. Dickerson, (440) 449-4639
- L.E.O. - Open – Moved to Florida
- Marshall - N. Allen Paynter, 216-346-3162, mrclean274@aol.com
- 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

- Nov 9 Stated Meeting – Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
- Nov 16 Awards Night – Special Meeting
- Dec. 14 Stated Meeting – Annual Installation of Officers
- Dec. 15 Annual Christmas Party – See Article
- Jan. 11 Stated Meeting – MM Practice
- Jan. 25 Stated Meeting – MM Practice
- Jan. 27 Type Written Ritual – Euclid Masonic Temple – See Article
- Feb. 8 Stated Meeting – Inspection in the MM Degree
- Feb. 22 Stated Meeting – Washington's Birthday

From The East



Greetings from the East.

I hope this edition of The Sprig of Acacia finds you well and I'm pleased to greet you again. We have had much to discuss my brother, and we've continued our noble efforts governing the lodge for the good of the craft. I am proud to be a part of the officer core of Acacia. We pulled together and raised the first Master Mason in Ohio this year. I believe our stand up performance in all three of his degrees this year has inspired him and those efforts cemented his fidelity.

I have recently returned from our 209th Annual Communication. Our Past Grand Master Eric Schau welcomed us to his home town of Sandusky, and left us with very warm remarks as always. I can't help but marvel in the design of the streets of Sandusky. Which proudly display the square and compass in design, and were laid out by surveyor Hector Kilbourne and first Worshipful Master of Science Lodge No. 50. I look forward to our next communication in Marietta. This is an ironic gathering, because it is home to the oldest lodge in Ohio, American Union Lodge No. 1 and has yet to host any of our Annual Communications. This is a long time coming.

We have much to look forward to my brother. Our election of officers is November 9th and our Awards Dinner follows soon after on November 16th. I can't say how fortunate and honored I am to possibly be reinstated as the 100th Worshipful Master of Acacia Lodge F&AM No. 651, and this event will also be preceded with a traditional Acacia Dinner on December 14th at 6:30 p.m. Acacia's Reconsecration Committee is planning a wonderful reception for this our 100th Reconsecration of the Lodge next year. We are honored to be hosting our next Grand Master of Masons of Ohio Jess N. Raines at this monumental event.

We have also been presented the opportunity, by our Collinwood Brothers, to help host next year's 22nd District Type Written Ritual being held at Euclid Masonic Temple on Sunday, January 27th. Starts with some refreshments and fellowship at 2 p.m. and we'll move into the lodge for the EA and FC portions, break for some dinner and then finish up with the MM Degree. Please contact myself or the secretary if you can attend any of these wonderful events.

Sincerest hopes to see you there.

Tim Gallagher WM.

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.



In Memoriam

Brother	Passed
Edgar H. Kilpatrick	October 7, 2018
Louis S. Borzy	March 16, 2018
James R. Boag	July 11, 2018
Wayne Stainaker, Jr.	October 16, 2018
John R. Smith	May 27, 2018

They rest from their labors

From without the Inner Door

Hello brothers,
Has another season of Joy approaches I would like to state how proud I am to be a member of Acacia Lodge. At Grand Lodge of this year Acacia was well-represented, many of our brothers attended and their families and all of us had a wonderful time. It makes me think how many brothers should have been there and should have brought their loved ones so they could enjoy the time that we all had. As the years go by the sad fact that many brothers will not be attending simply because they would have ascended to the celestial Lodge above. With that being said I implore all of you Past Masters Brotherman with long membership to not skip out on these wonderful events. For they may be the last events you have the opportunity to attend oh, this goes for young and old alike. We do not know the time nor the date of our Ascension to the Grand Lodge above but we know it's coming. So brother in take the time to find the time to share the time with each other for we do not know how much time we have left. And as time goes on We Grow we age we mature but we don't do is appreciate what we have what we have had and what we will have when we share that with each other. The knowledge and experience of our past Masters and our members long-standing is invaluable. The only way to pass

on the knowledge and experience that we have is by attending events sharing experiences and helping each other grow as men and as masons. In closing, I hope to see more events scheduled, more attendance to these events shown, and more enthusiasm by our membership to find the time, make time with us a priority, and love the time we have together.

Faternally yours

Brother Jason Elliott, Tyler

Humor from our Grand Secretary's Newsletter:

The Worshipful Master of a Lodge found a bottle with a Genie in it. In accordance with custom, the Genie offered to grant him a wish.

"O.K." said the WM, "I've always wanted to go to Hawaii, but I hate to fly. So my wish is for you to build a bridge so I can drive to Hawaii."

"I can't do that!!!" exclaimed the Genie. "Don't you know that's impossible? No Genie could do that. It's too far, the water is too deep, it's just totally beyond anybody's power. You will have to make another wish."

"O.K.," said the Master. I wish that at our next Stated Meeting all the old Past Masters would just get along and not cause any trouble, not have to tell us how they did it their year, not complain about the ritual, not put down the current offices... just sit on the sidelines and behave!"

"Hmmm," said the Genie. "Do you want that bridge with 2 lanes or 4?"

Awards Night

What: Acacia Lodge's Annual Awards Night

When: November 16, 2018, Dinner at 6:30 p.m.
Awards at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Euclid Masonic Temple,
27271 Tungsten Road, Euclid

On Friday, November 16, we will be honoring some of our most senior Brethren with our annual Awards Night. This event is open to the public. Come out and see our awardees and several distinguished guests, including our District Deputy Grand Master. There will be a complimentary dinner served at 6:30, with the event itself to follow at 7:30. All are welcome. Please make your reservations at 440-257-6964 by November 9th.

Masonry Word Puzzle

S L E W E J E K K F I E D M G
 W O R K I N G E R M G A R R M
 G J R V A R Y O M D N V O A Y
 Y S Z F C S B O Q U O E T L L
 A T O V T A R E S E R S I A A
 E R I O L T N P R S A D N O I
 P R N N A I P O C U N R O C T
 T E U L R D T H P O C O M O S
 T E I T O E G O I Y E P U L E
 I T L T C R T S O E I P F U L
 Y Z A L I E L A B L Z E Z M E
 X G O P A U L S R R S R V N C
 E H A T P M J R N F L O G I C
 R N Q X F O R T I T U D E Z H
 U W E T Y H P O E N L I A H O

Words

ALARM	BEE
CANOPY	CELESTIAL
COLUMN	CORNUCOPIA
DOTAGE	DUES
EAVESDROPPER	EXPULSION
FORTITUDE	FRATERNITY
GRIP	HAIL
HAT	HIVE
HOPE	IGNORANCE
IMMORTALITY	JEWELS
KEYSTONE	LABOR
LECTURE	LOGIC
MALLET	MONITOR
NEOPHYTE	PROFANE
TOOLS	WORKING

The Square Clubs

In New York City, back in the heyday of Masonry in the State of New York in the 1920s, Master Masons began forming clubs for socializing after work.

These clubs were formed based on the Brothers' occupations, branch of civil service, or trade, and helped introduce Master Masons to one another

from many different Lodges but who worked in the same occupation or trade.

The Square Clubs were under the umbrella of the National League of Masonic Clubs, which boasted over 600,000 members in 1922.

One of the best-known Square Clubs to be established within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York is the Police Square Club of the City of New York.

In the Cleveland area, when I joined Glenville Lodge (in 1979) there were a of number Square Clubs in the area, I was raised by the Amateur Radio Square Club, which remained active until about 2000. While no longer active, there is still a “shadow”, as a few of us do maintain an amateur radio repeater with the call W8QV, as a matter of fact the current trustee of the call sign is a member of our lodge.

There were also Police and Fire “Square Clubs” in the area, but I have no idea what has become of them. Some of our younger may have heard of the “Robertson fellow craft team” which were a group Scotsmen that put on the second section dressed in Kilts.

When I was raised I was contacted by the then president of the “Robertson” team and asked if I wanted to join then, until I explained that my grandfather changed the family name from Ricci to Ritchie, which IS a Scottish name, in the early teens, so he could get a job.

This might be an interesting study for someone to undertake, if you had a lot of time. I have found almost no information on the internet.

Don Ritchie, P.M . Acacia Lodge #651

Remember our Veterans





Bro. Craig Niederriter, Major USA retired, gives instructions to colonial Marines at the USS Constitution.



ZEN TEACHINGS

Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

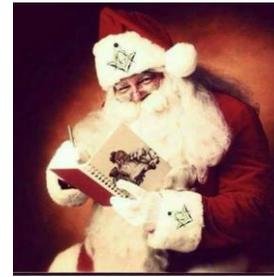
Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably well worth it.

If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

Some days you are the dog, some days you are the fire hydrant.

Good judgment comes from bad experience ... and most of that comes from bad judgment.



ACACIA LODGE #651

Come one come all
Christmas Party

What: Acacia Lodge's Christmas Party

When: December 15, 2018 from 1 to 4 PM

Where: Euclid Masonic Temple,
27271 Tungsten Road, Euclid

RSVP – by November 30th to WB James Cogan at 440-257-6964 with the number of adults, children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren, nieces or nephews, age and gender (Santa wants to make sure that he has the right gift for the children 13 yrs old and younger.)

This year we have the **Flower Clown** making balloon figures for the children.

Also, we have **Rick Smith, Jr.** – internationally recognized Cleveland magician. Rick Smith Jr. has demonstrated his amazing abilities in front of national television audiences and has appeared on many television shows including Ellen, Shark Tank, Time Warp, America's Got Talent, and The Tonight Show.

Special Guest appearance by the man from the north.

Food, drinks, entertainment, and more!!!!!!





For Those Who Don't Know Everything

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

All 50 states are listed across the top of the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the \$5 bill.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age!

Butterflies taste with their feet.

Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds. Dogs only have about 10.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.

If you are an average American, in your whole life you will spend an average of 6 months waiting at red lights.

It's impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.

Leonardo DaVinci invented scissors.

Maine is the only state whose name is just one syllable.

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

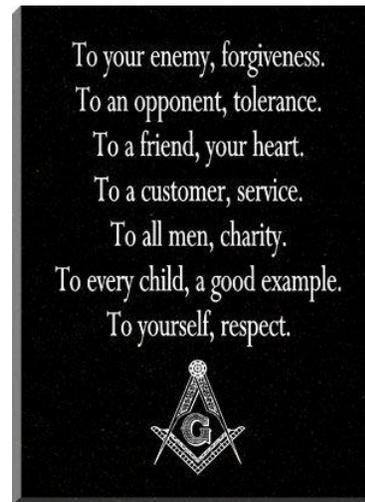
Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand and "lollipop" with your right.



Fourteen Past Masters of Acacia Lodge met at the Cabin Restaurant to discuss the new masonic year and enjoy Brotherly Love and Fellowship.



Universal Laws

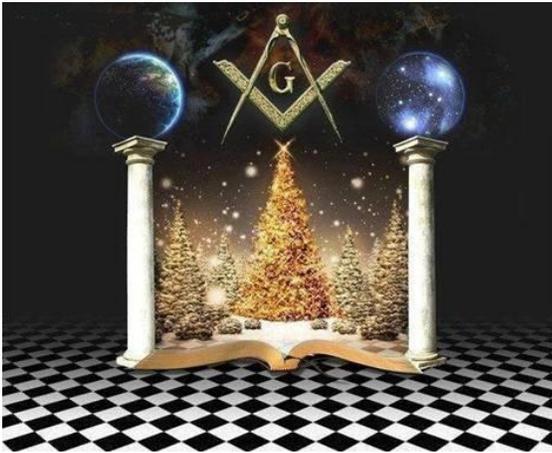
Law of the Alibi - If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now (works every time).

Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know increases dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Christmas Time is Here



Christmas Time is finally here,
It only comes but once a year.
And it's a time to spread good cheer,
To those we love and hold so dear.

Christmas Time is a time of glee,
A time when peace and love run free.
A time for those like you and me,
To sit beneath the Christmas Tree.

Christmas Time is a time of joy,
A time to sit back and enjoy.
The smile on each girl and boy,
As they play with a Christmas Toy.

Christmas Time is a time to share,
The passing of another year.
Birth of Jesus, a joyful prayer,
To show loved ones how much we care.

Christmas Time is a time for song,
A time for us to get along.
To make us feel Lord Jesus strong,
Forgive all those who did us wrong.

Christmas Time is a time to pray,
Put love and kindness on display.
Show compassion along the way,
Christmas Time should be everyday

"We inherit from our ancestors gifts so often taken for granted... Each of us contains within... this inheritance of soul. We are links between the ages, containing past and present expectations, sacred memories and future promise." - Edward Sellner

From the Halpaus blogspot.

"Spend time thinking about the virtues of other people. Not merely as a passing thought, but try to feel pleasure in thinking of their virtues."
Rabbi Reuven Dov Dessler;

Theological Virtues

The ancient Pagans knew of what we know and call the Cardinal Virtues; Temperance, Prudence, Fortitude, and Justice; they gave them a prominent place in their system of ethics. "Faith, hope, and Charity", which we know as the "Theological Virtues are very old and come from the writings of Paul in the New Testament. The Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity are intimately connected with the relationship of man to God; it was the Christian writers who gave them the name; Theological Virtues. These Theological Virtues have become a vital part of Freemasonry, which every Mason will recall from the lecture of his first degree.

A study of every virtue included in the Cardinal and Theological Virtues will significantly add to the knowledge and enjoyment of Freemasonry for every Masonic student. Today we will concentrate on the virtue known as "Charity."

When thinking of "Charity" many will think of giving money to worthy causes. But with study and understanding we are more likely to think of 'Love;' Brotherly Love and love for our fellow man.

Reference books on the virtues have an illustration symbolizing "Charity"; it's an illustration of a beautiful woman surrounded by children: This symbol could easily represent the unconditional love a Mother has for her children. The figure of the woman represents Pera, a Roman maiden who is also referred to as *caritas humana*, she is referred to as that because the word Charity comes from the Latin *Caritas*.

When we read the scripture relating to Jacob's Ladder (Genesis 28:12) and the three Theological Virtues (1 Corinthians 13:13) in the Authorized or King James Version of The Holy Bible we read about the virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity, but in more modern translations Charity is translated as Love. The figure of a woman surrounded by

children teaches us that caring love extends beyond the grave through the boundless realms of eternity.

Charity as it is known in today's society with the giving of various forms of support from goods, to volunteering, to monetary donations, is agreeable to the word charity as it is used in Masonry and in the Bible. What Masons do with their donations of time, talent, and treasure, are done as a result of brotherly love for those less fortunate. And what is done for love of others is manifested in the visible through organizations such as Minnesota Masonic Charities, the Masonic Cancer Center at the University of Minnesota, and the Grand Lodge Funds used to help where help is needed. Money, time, and man power, donated by Masons is given freely to all who need and can benefit from help – the help is not restricted to only certain people or groups. A good book you might like to read is; "Masonic Charities – A tradition of Caring" by S. Brent Morris.

"There is no virtue in a promise unless it be kept." Danish Proverb

"The virtues of men are of more consequence to society than their abilities; and for this reason, the heart should be cultivated with more assiduity than the head." Noah Webster, On the Education of Youth in America, 1788

Lodge Discussion Topic:

The Fundamentals of Masonry from a German Masonic Paper, published in "A Masonic Thought for Each Day of The Year." Published 1972 by the Missouri Lodge of Research

"Freemasonry unites men who, in brotherly formations and through honorable and ritualistic methods, endeavor to achieve spiritual understanding and moral refinement.

"Universal Charity, Brotherhood, Beneficence and Education toward these and everything, which benefits humanity, are its main purposes.

"Freedom of religion, of conscience, and of thought are Freemasonry's highest goal. Freemasonry accepts without religious, racial, national or political prejudice or without regard to station in life, upright and moral men as Brothers.

'Freemasonry recognizes in the structure of the World in all that lives in the inner consciousness of man a divine Creator – spirit, full of Wisdom, Strength and Beauty, and reveres Him as the Great Architect of the Universe.

"Freemasonry is a moral, not a political order and takes no part in political or religious disputes. It is not a religious society, not a secret alliance, demands no unlawful secrecy and imparts no magical information."

"He that is good will infallibly become better, and he that is bad will as certainly become worse; for vice, virtue, and time, are three things that never stand still." C. C. Colton (1780 – 1832)

Other articles written by Ed Halpaus and other interesting Masonic subjects can be viewed on Ed's Blog: <http://www.halpaus.blogspot.com>

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James R. Cogan
6130 Thistlewood Drive
Mentor OH 44060

