



The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 16, Issue 6

Second Wednesday and Fourth Friday

November / December 2020

"Step into the Light of Freemasonry" Grand Master's Program

Acacia Lodge Officers

2019 – 2020

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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

- Nov 11 Stated Meeting –
Annual Meeting
- Nov 27 Stated Meeting
- Dec. 9 Stated Meeting –
Installation of officers

2021

- Jan./Feb. Lodge Dark
- Mar. 10 Stated Meeting
- Mar. 26 Stated Meeting



From The East,
Greetings Brethren,

I want to thank you, for allowing me to represent Acacia Lodge as your Master this year. It has been an honor for me to serve you in that capacity. I presented Acacia with a plan for the year that was chock full of Lodge work, fundraisers, and family events and in spite of the pandemic, we were able to accomplish several of them. We enjoyed a fantastic Christmas Party at the Temple, a Valentine's Day dinner with live music at the Hofbrau Haus, a St. Patrick's day brunch at the Supper Club with live Irish music, a cruise and box lunch on the Goodtime III and finally a sight-seeing bus tour viewing the beautiful autumn leaves and several covered bridges in Ashtabula County capping the evening with a dinner at the Geneva State Park Lodge restaurant. In addition, we participated in a fundraiser for men and boys through the Hope Chest donating cash, new socks and underwear and have been approved to purchase several tablets for the Western Reserve Masonic Community. We were also able to confirm the Fellow Craft degree on an exemplar candidate (the degree we were to be inspected in this year) and ALL who witnessed it, said we would have passed our inspection.

We have kept the doors of Acacia Lodge open and have a great group of officers moving forward to serve you. Most of our meetings were held virtually (online) using a computerized Zoom application and that will most likely continue in the future. None the less, we are adapting to the challenges presented to our fraternity by the pandemic and will continue to perform the necessary tasks to thrive and prosper.

I look forward to the coming year and hope to see ALL of our members at Lodge virtually or in person.

Fraternally Submitted with Warmest Regards,
Worshipful Master Ted Daly

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence. Confucius

If by Rudyard Kipling



With much of the World in lockdown and many people struggling with staying strong as they stay isolated, this poem has added meaning.

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you;
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or, being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;
If you can dream---and not make dreams your
master;
If you can think---and not make thoughts your aim,
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same:.
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build'em up with worn-out tools;
If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings,
And never breathe a word about your loss:
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold on!"
If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings---nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much:
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And---which is more---you'll be a Man, my son!

"The years teach me much which the days never
knew." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Dear Acacia Lodge Members:

As your Lodge Education Officer, I presented the following article on September 9, 2020 entitled "Where Do We Go From Here" from the Masonic Service Association of North America newsletter "Emessay Notes". I hope you find it as interesting as I did.

"In advice for Masons, now that the Covid-19 pandemic has 'changed the world', Richard J. Elman, Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana, has these brief, but wise comments:

'So where do we go from here? Easy – stay the course; embrace technology, support and help each other; **be kind**; be patient; be understanding; be circumspect; be resourceful, do not be angry, especially at things you have no control over; adjust; be nimble.

'Never forget there are people relying on us as Freemasons to show them the way; we must be the hope they need. We ARE the hope we need.

'The fire to act as Freemason should be burning with a fervency like never before in all of us – burning so bright that all can see the light, the hope, and the good. Teach and practice the Art of Freemasonry for a greater tomorrow. Finally, understand that a new normal is and always has been ... normal".

As an aside: "Be kind even when she is wrong".

Peace,

Jeffrey H. Day

Acacia Lodge 651, Education Officer

The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But... the good Samaritan reversed the question: 'If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?' -

Martin Luther King, Jr.



In Memoriam

Brother	Passed
John Chrien	September 19, 2019
Douglas E. Brown	June 20, 2020
Ignatius Puleo	September 24, 2020
William F. Koeckert	September 27, 2020

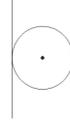
They rest from their labors

Hello Brothers of Acacia lodge,

As you know, we have been having issues seeing each other this past year. And once again, we are forced to resume the zoom meetings. Although the convenience of technology has made it easier to get through some of the challenges that life throws at us, I, like many, long for the normalcy that we all once took for granted. In my career I see cauvet patience on a weekly if not daily basis. What I can assure all of you is the vast majority of these patients are not dire. The majority of these patients barely have symptoms or were just sick like a normal common cold gets them sick. What I mean by that, fever, diarrhea, cough, runny nose, et cetera. The good news is we, as the American people and medical personnel, know how to identify, treat, and survive this pandemic. And I know we will return to normal. Until then, we are forced to live a life of solitude which goes against our tenants of masonry. Brotherly love is hard to except through a computer screen. It is very convenient but serving our fellow man cannot be done in the way that we masons like to do it over the computer. Many of our brothers are stuck in nursing homes, and we are not allowed to visit them, neither is their family, the solitude of such living is very detrimental to the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of everyone exposed to that type of life. So please keep those brethren in your prayers and all other brother and mankind as well. And as always, I Brother Jason R. Elliott, your Tyler will always protect and serve Acacia lodge.

Fraternally,

Bro. Jason R. Elliott



Point within the Circle

Today in Masonic History we present a Point within the Circle. The point within a circle is a common symbol used in Freemasonry.

Like many masonic symbols the origin of the point in the circle is unknown. In carvings from Ancient Egypt the Alpha and Omega symbols representing God often as a circle with a point between them. In the case of the Egyptian symbol the two vertical lines are replaced with snakes.

Regardless of what the origin of the symbol is, Freemasonry has adopted to represent what is, in the opinion of this writer, one of our most important ideas in Freemasonry. In all interpretations of this image, the point in the center represents the individual man or mason.

Taking just the circle it is a reminder that we are all circumscribed with a circle in our lives and those who enter that circle, both in a literal sense (people we see) and figurative sense (people who our actions may have impact), have a claim on our kind offices. Our good will to our fellow man and our fellow mason is paramount to the moral ideals behind Freemasonry. It can also be said that the same circle is a dividing line between our internal passions and a mason's duty to God and his fellow man. A mason should never allow his internal passions, prejudices and selfish interests to pass outside the circle.

There are many other references to the circle with the point in its center, there are also just as many interpretations of it's meaning throughout history and in the masonic fraternity. As an example, some say it is in reference to the candidate circumambulating the masonic altar.

The two lines on either side of the circle, for Freemasons represent **St. John the Baptist** on the left and **St. John the Evangelist** the right. Two prominent Saints in Freemasonry because of their connection with what is deemed the Mother lodge in Jerusalem. St. John Lodge of Jerusalem was first believed to be dedicated to St. John the Baptist first and then St. John the Evangelist. The Feast of St. John the Baptist falls on the Summer Solstice, the Feast of St. John the Evangelist falls on the Winter Solstice, so the lines are also often said to represent the Summer and Winter Solstice.

TRESTLE-BOARD

Tear off and post on your refrigerator!

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Wednesday	November 11, 2020	Annual Meeting
Friday	November 27, 2020	Stated Meeting Lodge
Saturday	November 28, 2020	Awards Night
Wednesday	December 9, 2020	Installation of Officers
	Cancelled	Christmas Party
Lodge Dark	Jan. / Feb. 2021	No Meetings
Wednesday	March 10, 2021	Stated Meeting Lodge
Friday	March 26, 2021	Stated Meeting Lodge

James R. Cogan
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