



The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 20, Issue 2

Second Wednesday and Fourth Friday

March – April 2024

"Not Just A Man A Mason" Grand Master's Program

To all Brethren receiving this newsletter – you are cordially invited to attend any meeting or event!

Acacia Lodge Officers

2023 – 2024

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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

- Mar 13 Stated Meeting – EA Practice
- Mar 18 Masonic Training
- Mar 22 Stated Meeting – Inspection in Entered Apprenticeship Degree
- Mar 31 Easter
- Apr 8 Total Eclipse of the Sun
- Apr 10 Stated Meeting
- Apr 15 Masonic Training
- Apr 26 Stated Meeting
- May 8 Stated Meeting

From The East,



Greetings Brethren,

Our new year, 2024, is well under way. Our *Special* Lodge meetings in January and February have proven to be very beneficial in preparing us for our Inspection in the EA degree on March 22, 2024 (4th Friday). We have also enjoyed the fellowship of dinner before lodge, along with having benefited from short inspirational moments by our Associate Chaplain, Bro. Rev. Richard Weller, and very informative information from our LEO Wor. Bro. Chris Rieger.

The Monster's Hockey game we attended on January 27, 2024, for lodge members and friends (about 24 people), was organized by Wor. Bro. Mark Novak and was a great success. Our annual Valentine's Day Luncheon on February 11, 2024, for lodge members and their Significant Other (about 44 people) was warmly received by those in attendance. A good time was had by all at both events.

Most of you know the Entered Apprentice degree is the First Degree on the road to becoming a Master Mason. "In a sense we always remain Entered Apprentices: the teaching of the degree remain always in effect; its obligations and charge, subject to additions in succeeding degrees, continue to be binding. As Masons we associate with Apprentices, work with them, perhaps are sought by them for counsel. Therefore, it is important for us to have as clear an understanding as possible of the duties, privileges and limitations of Apprentices." (From More Light – Mehr Licht, Masonic Matters and T.F.S.) I hope you all will join us in March as we conduct the EA degree on both the *Stated* meetings on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Friday of the month (annual inspection).

Lastly, be sure and check our Trestle-Board for upcoming activities and events. Plus, our website, www.acacia651.org, contains very helpful information along with The Grand Lodge of Ohio, Grand View site. Be sure and check them all out.

My wish for you is to stay well and stay safe. I hope to see you all at our next meeting.

Fraternally,

Jeffrey H. Day, Worshipful Master

Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground. - Theodore Roosevelt

Latin Mottos relevant to Free Masonry

1. Lux et veritas - Light and truth
2. tenebris lux - Out of darkness, light
3. Sit lux, et fuit lux - Let there be light, and there was light
4. Ordo ab chao = Order from chaos.
5. Deum fons et origo - God, the source and origin.
6. veritas vos liberabit - The truth will set you free.
7. Fiat Lux - Let There be light
8. Virtus Junkxit Mors Non Separabit - Whom Virtue Unites, Death will not separate.
9. cogito ergo sum - I think, therefore I exist
10. Carpe Diem - Seize the Day!
11. facta non verba - deeds, not words
12. Paternus Deus, Humana Fraternitas - Fatherhood of God, Brotherhood of Man

Submitted by Bro. Craig Niederriter, Jr. Warden

Brother Erasmus Darwin,

The illustrious Erasmus Darwin (1731-1802) was a revered member of St. David's Lodge No. 36, located in Edyngurg. Born on December 12, 1731, Erasmus was a distinguished English medical professional and the offspring of a prominent lawyer from Nottingham. His educational journey saw him delve into classics and mathematics at St. John's College, Cambridge, before embarking on a three-year stint studying medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

Darwin was a pivotal figure in the Midlands Enlightenment, showcasing his talents as a natural philosopher, physiologist, abolitionist against the slave trade, inventor and poet. His poetic contributions to the concept of evolution offered an initial peek into the theory of evolution. This was subtly hinted at in an extended footnote in his widely popular poem 'The Loves of Plants' (1789), which saw numerous reprints throughout the 1790s in various editions of 'The Botanic Garden'.

His final substantial poem, posthumously published in 1803 as 'The Temple of Nature', was originally christened 'The Origin of Society'. This masterpiece is considered his finest poetic work and pivots around his understanding of evolution. The poem meticulously traces life's progression from microscopic organisms to an advanced society and

includes a segment that portrays the struggle for existence.

As an inventor, Darwin created several apparatuses but refrained from patenting them due to concerns about tarnishing his medical reputation. In 1779, he conceptualized a rudimentary hydrogen-oxygen rocket engine which included gas tanks, plumbing pumps and an elongated combustion chamber with an expansion nozzle – a concept that would only gain recognition a century later.

Freemasonry was a lifelong pursuit for Darwin. His son Francis became a Mason at Tyrian Lodge, No. 253 in Derby, while another son Reginald joined the same lodge in 1804. His grandson Charles Darwin, although not confirmed as a Mason, held many Masonic beliefs.

In 1755, Brother Darwin established the Lunar Society, a social assembly of scholarly men who congregated to exchange ideas during full moons. In addition to his societal contributions and medical practice, Darwin was a passionate inventor.

He passed away suddenly on April 18, 1802, reportedly while struggling with a medical condition.

Submitted by Bro. Dennis Rotnov, Assistant Steward



In Memoriam

Brother	Passed
Albert A. Kaufmann	12-21-2020

They rest from their labors

Uncommon Names

Punt

If you are one of those who enjoy a good glass of wine, you'll find this information interesting.

Wine bottles usually have this kind of indent at the base, which is known as a punt in the world of winemakers. While skeptics may argue that the purpose of the punt is to create the illusion of more liquid in the bottle, the truth is that a deeper punt usually indicates a higher-quality wine. So next time you go to the supermarket, you know which part of the bottle to check! It might provide a valuable clue!

Valentine's Day Party



Acacia Lodge celebrated Valentine's Day on February 11th at Alfredo's at the Inn, lunch was served family style, and everyone enjoyed the meal along with the entertainment from our piano player that took requests from everyone.

Over 44 brethren and their significant others had a good time that included chocolate candy gifts of (valentine heart and square & compass) provided by Karla Ponsart and a raffle of a Valentine's Day faux floral arrangement that was donated by Pat Cogan.

The arrangement was raffled off that raised \$230.00 which was matched by Acacia Lodge and donated to the Special Olympics. The arrangement was won by Bro. Dan Trebisky who donated it to Bro. Arnie Smith and his bride, Jacqueline who were celebrating 63 years of marriage.



Wor. Master Jeff Day and Lady Cathy

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down the skirts of his garment.

As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore." Psalm 133



(L to R) Karla and Cheryl (granddaughter and daughter of Rev. Weller), Rev Weller, Cecelia and Don Ritchie, Al and Linda Paynter



(L to R) Christine and Hugh Harris, Irvin and Judy Adlis, Phil Barr, Dan Tribisky, Dianna Barr



(L to R) Michelle with Dave Kemp, Joe Borbely with Cindy, Dave and Michelle Cantrell (Dennis and Daria Rotnov attended by had to leave early)



(L to R) Caroline and Bill Wittlinger, mystery mason, Steve Mietus and Andrea, Terese and Dan Tribisky, Steve Brown in background



(L to R) Linda and James Cain, Arnie and Jacqueline Smith, Ted and Linda Day, and Chris Rieger



(L to R) Karla and Dave Ponsart, Stuart and Patricia Gregory, Jim and Pat Cogan, Kathy Day

During this holy season remember to pray:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light; Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; To be understood as to understand; To be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; It is in pardoning that we are pardoned; And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. – The Prayer of St. Francis

Greetings from the West

It's a great time to be a Mason, and an even better time to be a member of Acacia Lodge. The Worshipful Master and the officers of Acacia have been working hard for this year's inspection on March 22. I hope to see many of you at this year's inspection.

Acacia has many events planned for its members over the next several months. Be sure you continue to check the trestle board in this newsletter and our website for all the upcoming events.

Additionally, for those who have not been to lodge in a while, Acacia Lodge is continuing to host our version of the rusty nail/training sessions for new, advanced, inexperienced, experienced, and distinguished Masons. Feel free to contact James Cogan or myself for details or plans of these extra meetings. I also want to mention these are informal sessions and have become fun and informative for those who attend.

If you need a ride for whatever reason, the brethren of your lodge are always willing to assist. We also have discussed using a ride share service like Uber or Lift if our members are not able to assist you. Do not be discouraged or hesitate to call or ask for a ride. Remember we are all Brothers and that is what we do for one another.

Wor. Bro. Chris Modica, Senior Warden

State Names: Ohio – once again comes from a body of water, this time, the Ohio River. The Seneca Native Americans billed it as a good river.

Pennsylvania – was named after Admiral William Penn, under Charles II. It literally means Penn's Woods.

Oklahoma – comes from the Choctaw word meaning red people.

"Energy and persistence conquer all things." - Benjamin Franklin

Vidalia Onions for Sale

The Al Koran Shrine will be holding their annual fundraiser selling 10-pound bags of Vidalia onions for \$15 that supports the “Shrine Hospitals for Children”, which is a very worthwhile endeavor.

I have purchased these onions (2 to 3 bags) for several years and have a great recipe (if interested contact me) that I use for French onion soup or as a topping for hamburgers. These bags of onions will make more than I can use at one time, but they freeze well.

The members of the Shrine will be taking Vidalia Onion orders that must be in by April 15th. The onions should be ready for delivery by the first week of May. Should you wish to support this fundraiser please contact W.B. Al Paynter – 216-346-3162, W.B. Chris Modica – 440-339-7092 or W.B. James Cogan – 440-840-0861.

Masonic Word Search

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

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| Apprentice | Compasses |
| Darkness | Darwin |
| Entered | Grand |
| Inspection | Judah |
| Light | Lion |
| Olympics | Onions |
| Rebirth | Scythe |
| Shrine | Special |
| Square | Valentine |
| View | Website |

Do you Know the Origin of “Cup of Joe”

Millions of people start their day. Whether it is with a piping hot mug fresh out of your coffee maker, or a quick cup from your favorite barista on your way to work, a nice cup of joe is that magical fuel that helps so many of us go through our day. That being said, doesn't that nickname seem a little strange to you? Have you ever wondered what's the connection between a cup of coffee and the shortening of the name Joseph?

There are several different theories concerning this nickname. The most popular one states that it comes from WW1 Secretary of Navy Josephus Daniels, who enacted a ban on alcohol consumption on all U.S. Navy ships. According to this theory, enraged sailors started using the "Cup of Joe" expression at that time, since coffee was the strongest drink they could have. Another theory believes that Joe is a shortening of "Jamoke", a 19th-century word for coffee.

"When you see that in order to produce, you need to obtain permission from men who produce nothing - When you see that money is flowing to those who deal, not in goods, but in favors - When you see that men get richer by graft and by pull than by work, and your laws don't protect you against them, but protect them against you -



"When you see corruption being rewarded and honesty becoming a self-sacrifice - You may know that your society is doomed."

Ayn Rand,
Atlas Shrugged, 1957

True Stories

The Square and Compass Brand
 Montana's first livestock brand was the square and compass; it is still in use. No one knows when it was first used; but it was before May 25, 1872, when it became necessary to date and register brands then in use. It was first owned by Poindexter T. Orr of Beaverhead County, Montana Territory.

Moon Lodges

A century ago there were more than 3,000 Masonic lodges which can be described as "Moon Lodges"; in 1954 there were fewer than 500. These lodges meet on the day of the full moon for practical reasons; the brethren had light to travel by at night. There may have been some symbolic meaning also. The advent of electricity, street lights, and the automobile made the reason for meeting on such nights antiquated through unique. Many Grand Lodges now require lodges to meet on fixed days of the week.

TRESTLE-BOARD

Tear off and post on your refrigerator!

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Monday	March 18, 2024	Rusty Nail Night – Education
Friday	March 22, 2024	Stated Meeting – Annual Inspection in Entered Apprentice Degree
Sunday	March 31, 2024	Easter
Monday	April 8, 2024	Total Eclipse of the Sun
Wednesday	April 10, 2024	Stated Meeting
Monday	April 15, 2024	Rusty Nail Night – Education
Friday	April 26, 2024	Stated Meeting
Wednesday	May 8, 2024	Stated Meeting

James R. Cogan
6130 Thistlewood Drive
Mentor, OH 44060

