



Message from the East



Well here it is, my fourth writing of the year for the Rays. Of course, you have probably noticed a theme through my writings over the past year. That of "What does Freemasonry; and more specifically; this lodge, mean to me?"

Well, obviously it means being part of the oldest and largest fraternity in the world. One rich in history, and traditions, the likes of which many famous Masons have put forth, and which we all should try to emulate.

Moreover, for me on a personal level; Freemasonry and this lodge, in particular, has shown me the meaning of true brotherhood. (Not just a mere chance to socialize and have a good time, although that has definitely happened). As I have noted previously, we all can and do join various organizations for numerous reasons, including social bonding, but it is through this lodge in particular that I feel one of the strongest bonds; that of true fraternal brotherhood. This is exemplified through our conduct and success not only in lodge, but with our traditions, history, and social events.

As Master this year, I have seen a group who no matter what adversity we faced, all pulled together and made things happen. True some events were troubled, and various levels of confusion sometimes reared their ugly heads but nonetheless, we all came together and pulled through for the good of the lodge and the event. We still managed to have fun, which is the underlying message of my year. In other words, we as Freemasons, and members of UH can put aside differences and work together for the good of all. That is true brotherhood. Something that is not readily available in other groups. In other words, problems that would choke other organizations, are

managed for the better by this lodge, and for the success of this lodge.

To that end, I wish to thank all of you for your hard work, cooperation and understanding this past year. Thank you to the brethren at large, thank you to the officers, thank you to the Past Masters, and of course, thank you to the ladies who put up with our time away, and "lodge running late". I look forward to the upcoming year, and the continued good times.

Fraternally, Adam Rutkowski, PM
Worshipful Master

Secretary's Corner

This year you are receiving a permanent plastic membership card to replace the annual paper card that you have received in the past. This card is identical in size and shape to a credit card. The face contains your name and lodge related information. The back side looks like the current dues cards reverse side. Please protect this card since it will be used for years to come.

Even if you choose not to attend meetings and social events, your membership matters. We hope you continue to take pride in being a Mason and a member of University Heights Lodge.

However, to be a "Mason in good standing," you must pay your dues. If you cannot pay your dues because of a financial hardship, please let us know. After confidential consideration, the lodge may waive your dues for this year. Please remember that your dues must be paid by our Annual Meeting on November 3, 2016.

When you mail your dues payment or waiver request, please make sure that any changes in your contact information are noted on your Dues Statement to be sure you receive emails and mail of lodge happenings.

Rays from University Heights Lodge



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5516 Mayfield Rd.
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
(440) 442-9714
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Rays Staff

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Adam Rutkowski, PM, Worshipful Master	
5939 Reynolds Rd. (44060)	(440) 257-4761
Joseph Huber, Senior Warden	
10092 Hickory Ridge Dr. (44141)	(440) 546-1317
Mark Alliance, Junior Warden	
4884 Edsal Drive (44124)	(216) 570-7488
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5060 Crofton Avenue (44139)	(440) 248-1282
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2817 George Ave. (44134)	(216) 509-8181

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Charter Night and Awards Night

On November 10, 2016, we will be celebrating our Annual Charter Night and Awards Night. That night we will recognize our brethren for their years of Masonic service to the fraternity. We will also hold a special Memorial Service for our dearly departed brethren. Your attendance will be appreciated by those brethren who have reached a significant milestone in their Masonic journey. The following members will be receiving Service Awards in November:

65 Year Service Awards:

Edwin Z. Singer
Russell H. Van Scyoc Jr.

60 Year Service Awards:

Myron Burnstein
Sander German
Walter E. Leyser
Harry Marcus

50 Year Service Awards:

Richard S. Miller
Joel I. Newman
Irwin L. Shulman

40 Year Service Awards:

Harvey A. Siegel
Darrell A. Young

35 Year Service Awards:

Randy S. Eagles
Stuart A. Fromson
Michael A. Leichner
Dennis A. Linden
Larrie Nadler

25 Year Service Awards:

Franklin H. Kodish
Louis S. Ross
Joseph A. Wicker

Grand Master's One-Day Class 2017

We learned at the Deputy Grand Master's Rollout Program in August, that a Grand Master's 1-Day Class will be held on March 25, 2017 in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of England. A detailed explanation of the Class will appear in an issue of the Beacon along with a special petition. A District wide celebration of the 300th anniversary will be held on June 24, 2016. During the 90 days between March 25th and June 24th, the Candidate must attend at least one stated meeting of their lodge. Failing to do so will result in immediate suspension. A full Master Mason Examination must then be completed for reinstatement. Of special note is that there will be no petitions permitted by any member of the Class to any appendant body such as Scottish Rite or York Rite during the aforementioned 90 day period.

Scottish Rite - Valley of Cleveland

The Scottish Rite is one of the appendant bodies of Freemasonry that a Master Mason may join for further exposure to the principles of Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite is officially recognized by the Grand Lodge as an extension of the degrees of Freemasonry. The Scottish Rite builds upon the ethical teachings and philosophy offered in the craft lodge, or Blue Lodge, through a dramatic presentation of the individual degrees. The "degrees" of the Scottish Rite are not higher than the Third Degree (Master Mason), despite the numerical appearance.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hugh Allen Harris has recently completed his term as Thrice Potent Master of the Eliadah Lodge of Perfection, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Cleveland. In recognition of his service to the Rite and years of dedication to the Fraternity, he has been elected to receive the 33rd Degree at the Annual Meeting of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite to be held in Rochester, N.Y. in 2017. The 33rd Degree is an honorary degree that is conferred on members who have made major contributions to society or to Masonry in general. When you see Hugh, be sure to congratulate him on this significant milestone.

Test Your Knowledge

1. Who was the first Worshipful Master of University Heights Lodge?
2. How old must a man be to join our Lodge?
3. Who is the current Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio?
4. What is the symbolic color of the Senior Warden's station?
5. True/False: The first man to walk on the moon was a Master Mason.

(Answers appear below Hiram Hears)

Tidings from the West



Sitting in the West, you get a great view of the lodge room. I would like to share some of my observations and thoughts from that chair with you.

For the past year I have had the privilege and honor of serving University Heights Lodge as the Senior Warden. The time has gone by very quickly. Along with preparing and planning for next year, I was constantly involved in a variety of tasks and learning new things.

I had the opportunity to observe the members of the Line grow not only as Masons, but as individuals as they learned their parts for the rituals and performed the tasks of their positions.

The past masters are always ready to assist and offer good counsel, as they are the backbone of our lodge. I also found that the members of the Fellow Craft Team, besides being there for the Master Mason rituals, are active members who were willing to help out with whatever needs to be done.

On a number of occasions while sitting in the West, I asked myself, "Where is everyone?"

"With all of our members, why are there only 30 or so at a meeting?"

I know that everyone talks about getting new members. However, I look at the 30 or so members attending lodge and wonder how we can get some of the missing 200 current members back to lodge? There is no one easy answer. It's going to take some work.

In the meantime, do you have a Masonic Brother that is a friend that you have not seen in lodge for a while? Give him a call and invite him to join you at a lodge meeting. It's hard to have a conversation in the Friendship Room over dessert without anyone there.

A wise man and good friend told me a long time ago that if you join an organization and don't get involved, you get very little from it. Get involved!

Being in the Progressive Line is not for everyone. We all get that. But it is your lodge, where everyone can participate and be an active member. Are you on the Fellow Craft Team? If not, would you like to be? Have you ever thought about learning more about Masonry by learning a lecture, or part of one. How about a Charge, the Bible Presentation, Ode to the Flag, or a speaking part in the Master Mason Degree? If so please let us know, and be part of the newly formed Lecture Committee.

I know from my own experience, people are often reluctant to "volunteer", but when asked to get involved or help out, they are more than willing and actually enjoy the opportunity. Our brethren have demonstrated that they are most willing to help out when asked.

If a speaking part is not for you, you can help in other ways that match up with your skill set or is something you like to do. Please let us know. We always need help with the Stewards Committee, and for each event, there is often help needed.

Such are some of my Tidings from the West. Bring a Brother to a meeting and let us know if there is something we can do to help meet your expectations.

Fraternally, Joseph Huber
Sr. Warden

What Happens in Vegas

Visiting lodges in Nevada has certainly been interesting. The test oath is completely different and so is the ritual work. Wor. Bro. Alan Wittenberg noted the different placement of the lights, and in the second degree, the way aprons are worn. It is very informal in Las Vegas.

Dhahran Daylight Lodge No. 55 has lunch at 11 and opens at 12. Therefore, the wording is different in the opening and closing of lodge. The charges are also different.

Dhahran was established in 1996 with 27 founding members originally from all over the United States. Dhahran is the name of a city in Saudi Arabia that was the original drilling site for the oil company ARAMCO. The American camp became a city and the Arabic translation of Dhahran is "Strength and Unity." There are lodge brothers who worked in Saudi Arabia for 10 to 23 years and are charter members of both Daharan in Saudia Arabia and Las Vegas.

I have enjoyed visiting this interesting lodge along with Wor. Bro. Wittenberg, who gave Dhahran an extensive number of books for their library and contributed to this article.

Marc F. Reiff, P.M.

Nautica Queen

Although our members were greeted by cloudy skies, warm hearts and good fellowship prevailed as our group boarded the Nautica Queen. After leaving the dock, we were treated to a sumptuous buffet as the boat ventured out of the Cuyahoga River onto Lake Erie, which provided spectacular views of the City of Cleveland.

Events like these allow us to socialize and reconnect with each other over the summer recess. Our time together highlights our enjoyment of the fraternity and nurtures feelings of brotherly love, relief and truth. If you missed the cruise, you missed a great time.

Upcoming Events

10/6/2016..... Stated Meeting – MM Degree
10/19/2016..... Night at the Schvitz
10/20/2016..... Stated Meeting – Lodge Education
11/3/2016..... Annual Meeting & Election of Officers
11/10/2016..... Charter Night & Awards Night
11/17/2016..... Stated Meeting – Lodge Education
12/8/2016..... Open Installation of Officers
12/14/2016..... Children’s Holiday Party

Hiram Hears

BRO. HOWARD CHAPMAN and Linda celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on July 4th with a weekend at Niagara-On-The-Lake. The weather was good and they had a great time in Canada...BRO. JIM FLAIZE and Laura celebrated the birth of their daughter, Ella Marie on July 6th at 12:03pm. She was 7lbs 4oz and 20 ¼ inches long. Proud grandparents are WOR. BRO. ALAN ARONS and Marcia. Ella is the niece of BRO. BRAD BERGER (Stephanie), BRO. DAVID ARONS (Emily) and BRO. JOSHUA ARONS...Judy and WOR. BRO. KEEVEN BERMAN are beaming over daughter Ashley, who married Allen Kreager on May 29th ... Adam Stovsky, who as a high school senior achieved a perfect score of 36 on his ACT college entrance exam, is now a freshman at Northwestern University. Adam is the son of BRO. MARK STOVSKY and Shannon, grandson of BRO. BOB STOVSKY, and nephew of BRO. RICHARD STOVSKY and Betsy, and BRO. MICHAEL STOVSKY and Jill.

Good health wishes to Joan Reiff (WOR. BRO. MARC REIFF) on her upcoming back surgeries ... Cheryl Homes is thrilled to report that her husband, WOR. BRO. LEN HOLMES, is on the road to recovery. He is in therapy and making progress. Cheryl sends thanks for all of the good thoughts and prayers ...and to Cynthia Greenberg (WOR. BRO. DAVE GREENBERG) on her climb back to good health.

Tears to BRO. DAVE RESNIK (Carol) and BRO. HAROLD (Rush) RESNIK on the passing of their sister, Shirley Segal...and to Barbara Lev (WOR. BRO. HOWARD LEV) on the passing of her uncle...and to Hermine Eisen on the passing of her husband, BRO. SAUL EISEN....and to Marcia and WOR. BRO. JAY RAVITZ, who lost his sister Roberta (Bobbi) Roth.

Hiram can only tell what he hears and wants to hear it all. Anyone with news for Hiram can mail it to the lodge, or email it to hiram@uhlodge.org, or tell him in person when you see him.

Test Your Knowledge Answers

James. C. Scott was the first Worshipful Master of University Heights Lodge serving from 1952-1953...A candidate must be at least nineteen years of age at the time his petition is read for the first time in a stated meeting of the Lodge...The current Grand Master of Ohio is Most Worshipful Brother Robert C. Rill Jr...The symbolic color of the Senior Warden is red, which is emblematic of Strength, of Zeal, and of Love... False: On July 21, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first person ever to plant boots on the dusty lunar surface. Buzz Aldrin followed about 20 minutes later and became the first Mason to walk on the Moon.