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Spring 2009

Message From The East



The Installation of officers and the Table Lodge are fait accomplie'. Thank you to those who joined us for these two events, especially Installation. Ill. & Rt. Wor. Bro. Edwin A. Strauss, Jr. honored me by installing me and then allowing me to install the

remainder of the officers. I think we have a fine core of younger Masons as officers to blend with the experience of Wor. Bro. Berman and myself.

As I later reflected on the job at hand, I couldn't help but look at the names of the past masters on the back of the installation program and determine that I have very large shoes to fill. There, I saw the names of the grandfathers, fathers, and sons who had served this lodge as Masters from its inception. I have been told that the situation used to be that lodge brothers stood in line and competed for officer positions. It has long been an established thought that there was a family tradition, and probably an expectation, that if your grandfather or father served as an officer then so should you.

With the exception of Bro. Matt Newberry, the members of the line have no ancestors who were officers. Why? Surely there are sons, grandsons, cousins, nephews, or son-in-laws of lodge members, or lodge brothers who like Aarne, Bruce and Roni, who can and should be willing to step in and serve the lodge, helping it to stay alive and strong? Have life's situations become so different that they hinder or prohibit lodge brothers from serving?

As an officer, are there demands and responsibilities placed upon you? Definitely. Is there ritual that you will need to memorize so that our teachings are passed on to future Masons? Yes, but there are always brothers who will share their time with you in order to help you learn. Might there be frustrations? No more than what you

have in any aspect of life, and conquering these frustrations will give you satisfaction and many rewarding experiences.

So here is a call to those of you out there who would like to continue the tradition or start another tradition. Come to lodge and enjoy fraternity. If you are willing, please serve the lodge as an officer. If you can't, you can still help by learning a "Charge" or by coaching a candidate with his exam. There are many jobs in the lodge that need to be filled. I promise you will find that each one is rewarding.

What's happening this Spring? At Inspection, Bro. Matt Newberry led us from the East, Bro. Aarne Lillo delivered the "Lecture", and Bro. Bill Jacobus delivered the "Charge". Each did an outstanding job. Thanks to all who participated. We will present two Fellow Craft degrees and at least two Master Mason degrees. The month of May will bring "Mason of the Year Night" and the Master and Wardens Dinner Dance, to be held at the Shaker Heights Country Club. The menu sounds delicious and we will be dancing to the music of the Katch. June will bring Past Masters Night, which is always a favorite event just before our summer break.

We, the officers, are working hard to serve you, our lodge brothers. Come, join us!

Fraternally,
Hugh A. Harris, PDDGM
Worshipful Master

**Master and Wardens
Dinner Dance
At the
Shaker Heights
Country Club
May 9, 2009**

**Rays from
University Heights Lodge**



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Temple Open House

Our Grand Master, Most Wor. Bro. Charles R. Murphy, has declared Saturday, March 21, 2009, as an Open House day for all Masonic lodges throughout the State of Ohio. The four lodges that meet in the Lyndhurst Masonic Temple will join together to greet the public between the hours of 9 AM and 12 Noon.

Light refreshments will be available. Tours of the lodge room will be conducted and well-educated brethren will the purpose and philosophy of freemasonry. A history of Masonry in Ohio and the histories of the four lodges will also be shared. A Video presentation from the Grand Lodge will be running in another part of the temple.

This will be an excellent opportunity for Masons and non-Masons to learn more about the fraternity and for the brethren to dispel some of the rumors and falsehoods commonly held about Masonry. Bring your questions and your families. Show them where we spend our Thursday nights.

And, bring anyone you might think would be interested in joining the fraternity. There will be no better opportunity this year to show off your Lodge. Please join the officers and your brethren in this unique event.

**Memorial Day Parade
And Picnic
May 25, 2009**

Mitzvah Day Approaches

Come one, come all, and bring your friends to our annual Mitzvah Day on Saturday, March 28, 2009. The more, the merrier! We will meet at the Lyndhurst Masonic Temple at 8:30 AM for a light breakfast. If you have not signed up in advance of the event, you can choose where you would like to work during breakfast. All will then spread out across the area to our worksites for an hour or two of volunteer service.

As this is written, we have arranged the following opportunities: working at the childcare room at Bellfower Center, serving lunch at St. Herman's House of Hospitality or at St. Augustine and helping at the Cleveland Food Bank. More opportunities are in the works.

Please call Rt. Wor. Bro. Hugh Harris or the Mitzvah Committee chairman, Wor. Bro. Roger Newberry, and sign up to participate on Mitzvah Day.

Secure Thoughts

As an information technology security professional, I would like to share some thoughts on your security. You may have heard about using hard-to-guess passwords, not, for example, your favorite sport, spouse's name, pet's name, birthdates and so forth. Many of you have heard of scams such as the emails from Nigeria we get from time to time.

With the use of publicly available information, such as a biography posted online, a hacker, with the help of free programs can generate a list of likely passwords and break into your email or online bank account. This is also the fuel the con artist (sometimes called a social engineer) uses in scams or to collect information for an identity theft.

Here are 3 items you can follow to help protect yourself

- 1) **Hard-to-guess Passwords:** Use a combination of words and numbers with some symbols mixed in.
- 2) **Trust but Verify:** Telephone calls or emails that seem too good to be true probably are. Ask to call back or get an employee identification and use it to verify their identity through a third person or an organization such as the Better Business Bureau.
- 3) **Be Careful With Your Information:** Shred old documents and bills. In general, make sure anything related to your identity or financial information is kept and disposed of in a safe manner.

This article is a brief introduction to some of the ways to protect yourself from identity theft. If this information is new to you, I highly suggest you do some further reading. When you see me in lodge, feel free to ask me more about this topic.

Roni Taxer

Dinner Dance at the Shaker Heights Country Club

Our premier social event of the year is set for Saturday, May 9, 2009. The annual Master and Wardens Dinner Dance will be held at the Shaker Heights Country Club, located at the south end of Courtland Boulevard in Shaker Heights. This club, which is the host for the Senior PGA Championship (May 19-24), offers a beautiful setting for this gala affair.

Fellowship will begin at 6:30 PM with several delicious hors d'oeuvres and your choice of beverages. The dinner menu will feature a choice of Beef Tenderloin, Chicken or Salmon. The meal will conclude with a fabulous dessert table.

Musical entertainment for the evening will be provided by "Katch," a 6-piece band known for playing a

wide variety of music. Brethren and their ladies will be able to stroll around the clubhouse grounds after dinner, enjoying the sounds of the music and have a relaxing and fun time of friendship.

The cost for the entire affair is only \$90.00 a couple, a real value for this exciting event. Dinner and table reservations are a must. Watch your mail for a formal invitation. Contact Bro. Ed Cerny at (330) 487-5726 to make your reservations.

Meet Your Junior Deacon

My name is Bruce DeBerry, and I am proud to be serving as Junior Deacon of University Heights Lodge this year. I was raised in 2005, completing the steps into Masonry that I began in 1970 when I joined the Northwood, New Hampshire chapter of DeMolay. This step also continues the Masonic family tradition of my grandfather and grandmother.

Since being raised, I have served the lodge in several capacities on the Fellow Craft team, delivering charges, and managing the reservations for the Master's and Wardens' Dinner Dance. Since joining the line in 2007, I have attended numerous installations and inspections at other lodges. This traveling has showed me how masonry works in other lodges and given me a deeper appreciation of the history, traditions and high standards that our lodge maintains.

I am a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Cleveland, where I have performed parts in several of their degrees.

My professional training includes a BS in Math-Computer Science and an MBA. I have worked in many different industries across the U.S., Canada, Mexico, England, and Switzerland. My first job was as an officer in the U.S. Army Field Artillery, where I became a service disabled veteran due to an accident with a howitzer. Currently, I am a consultant implementing and managing constantly evolving computer technology systems that improve business processes. I work with my wife, Wendy Shugarman where I contribute my technical and business skills to clients and focus on internet and technology issues. Additionally, I own and operate a real estate investing company. My company invests in special situations and in emerging markets across the nation.

In addition to my wife, Wendy I have a brother who lives in Florida, and two sons, Aaron, 32, who lives in Cuyahoga Falls, and Benjamin, 29, who lives in Rhode Island.

Bruce DeBerry

Hiram Hears...

BRO. MARTY MITTLEMAN and Ileen noted that their grandson, Joshua Scaffer, recently completed an internship for Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown. Joshua gave them a personal tour of the Capitol on their trip south this fall...BRO. MITTLEMAN reported from Florida that he and Ileen won tickets to attend the Super Bowl World exhibit in Tampa Bay on Super Bowl Sunday...WOR. BRO. JEFFREY KAPLAN was recently elected president of the Masonic Motorcycle Club International. He and his wife, Meryl, traveled to Connecticut over the weekend of January 10th where he was honored to serve as the Installing Officer for the officers of Jephtha Lodge #95, A.F. & A.M. Their incoming master, Wor. Bro. David Smith and his wife, Sherry, are close friends of the Kaplans...WOR. BRO. JEFFREY SCHULTZ became a grandfather (again) with the birth of Keegan McBride to son Brian. Daughter, Amy also recently presented him with a granddaughter...WOR. BRO. ROGER NEWBERRY and Carla had their winter vacation temporarily redirected to Phoenix in December where they had dinner with WOR. BRO. JAY RAVITZ and Marcia, who are thoroughly enjoying their new home city...WOR. BRO. ALAN WITTENBERG and Margo traveled to Las Vegas at the end of January to help their son, Lee, celebrate his 40th birthday. Wor. Bro. Wittenberg also reminded Hiram that his entire family traveled to Cabos, Mexico, last summer to celebrate his 65th birthday ...BRO. ARIC KINAST and Andrea have recently become new parents...BRO. GARY ZEID now has 8 grandchildren and BRO. HARRY ZEID has 10 great grandchildren, thanks to the birth of a daughter to BRO. LARRY SOLOMON and JodiLyn...Congratulations to Judy and WOR.BRO. KEEVIN BERMAN on the engagement of daughter Shaina to James Mancini ... and to Ilene and BRO. DAVID SAGINOR on the marriage of son Jesse to April Towery, who live in Texas... and to Sandi and BRO. BURT ZUCKER on the marriage of daughter Betsy to Brent Silver. Also sharing the joy was her brother and sister-in-law BRO. BRAD ZUCKER and Lisa ... Acclaimed artist Elise Newman, widow of the late WOR. BRO. JOSEPH NEWMAN and mother of WOR. BRO. JOEL NEWMAN, was selected by The Ohio Water Color Society to exhibit her work in a juried show held in Columbus in January. Her award-winning painting, "A Day in May", was also used on the promotional poster and event invitation...Bravo! Bravo! to BRO. MATT LILLO on his outstanding Playhouse Square Broadway Series performance in "I Love You Because" at the 14th Street Theatre. An accomplished actor, Bro. Lillo has appeared in numerous productions in New York City and on national tours. He and his wife, Abi, live in

NYC and is frequently in Cleveland...BRO. GEORGE COHEN spent a few days in the hospital following Thanksgiving after being diagnosed with congestive heart failure. Not to be out done, his wife, Sandy, underwent cardiac catheterization at the start of Hanukah, leading to the insertion of two stents. Both seem to be recovering...WOR. BRO. HARRY MARCUS was laid low by a persistent infection, but he is hanging tough and is back at lodge...BRO. JERRY GOLDBERG was ill...Cookie Zide, wife of BRO. BEN ZIDE was also ill in December...BRO. HENRY BERNBAUM had heart surgery...BRO. HAROLD CHAITOFF broke his hip in January...BRO. HARRY ZEID had a cold and was missed at Table Lodge. Hiram is glad to report he has fully recovered and is spreading sunshine among the brethren once again...RT. WOR. BRO. BOB CERNY has now had both hips replaced and is reported to be getting back on his feet...BRO. CHARLES BAILIN underwent surgery on his spine and has recovered enough to return to Lodge...WOR. BRO. DAN FRIEDMAN underwent surgery to donate a kidney to his daughter, Julian. Both are recovering in Florida...Sidney Feldman, brother-in-law of BRO. ELVIN SHULTZ passed away in California...BRO. MURRAY ARONS is mourning the passing of his daughter...BRO. ADAM SCHOENHUIT lost his father-in-law...Jane Schultz, wife of WOR. BRO. JEFFREY SCHULTZ, lost her mother, Ruth Steinman in late January...BRO. EARLE FLESHER passed away in Del Ray Beach, Florida...BRO. MICHAEL STERN lost an uncle... Hiram can only tell what he hears and Hiram 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.

Lodge is getting "Greener"

Since we began our program of emailing information to our brethren, over 2/3 of our members have shared their email addresses with us. Our program continues to improve with the addition of a second monthly emailing eliminating paper mailing to some. Also, we have expanded our database to allow emails to be sent to multiple email addresses, allowing you to receive emails at work and home. If you choose, we can send an email to your wife as well.

In order to receive these benefits, you must "opt-in" or specifically request to be part of these programs. To opt-in to these programs, please go to our website and update your roster information indicating your choices.

Do we have your email address? If not, please share it with us. Finally, please feel free to contact Wor.Bro Alan Arons by email if you have any questions or problems at alana@webndata.com.