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Spring 2012

Message From The East



In the last issue of the Rays, I wrote an article entitled, "What's in it for Me?" I would like to expand that to "What Have You Accomplished?"

As you already know, the most valuable tenants of our profession are brotherly love, relief and truth. How have you exemplified these in your Masonic journey and in your daily lives? Since being raised as a Master Mason, how many of your brethren have you actually met? Or are you limited to still knowing the same few? How many meetings have you been to over the last year? Do you attend only certain lodge functions and then dismiss the activities for the rest of the year?

If so my brethren, you have not even scratched the surface of understanding our wonderful fraternity and the personal benefits it holds for each and every one of us. In my personal journey, I have met many men that I would not have otherwise gotten to know, including many Grand Masters, District Deputies, and other brethren in our Grand Jurisdiction. But most of all, I have discovered many men within our own lodge that have contributed in a significant way to my journey as a Mason. As a result, I am a better man for it.

Are you proud to be a Mason? What if someone asked you to articulate it? Could you? Are you more than just a Mason in name only? These questions should cause some solemn and serious reflection on your part!

To relieve the distressed is a duty incumbent on all men. A monetary contribution to charities goes a long way to help those that are distressed. But what have you given of yourself lately? How have you personally made someone's life better and, as a result, have become a

better person for it? How have you sympathized with their misfortunes? How have you helped your fellow man? How have you given of yourself to others? Isn't it our goal in Masonry to make good men better?

My brethren, you cannot do this on your own without first giving of yourself to others. Think about it! Become a better Mason by becoming a better, more outgoing and caring person. To thy own self be true by living the tenants of Freemasonry daily. Embrace those valuable tenants of our profession, which are brotherly love, relief and truth.

I hope to see many of you at our lodge meetings and at our social activities throughout the year. Most of all, let's be there for each other.

Fraternally,
Aarne Lillo
Worshipful Master

Dinner Dance At Hawthorne Valley

Our premier social event of the year is set for Saturday, May 5, 2012. The Annual Master and Wardens Dinner Dance will be held at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, a favorite venue for our members.

Fellowship will begin at 6:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and your choice of beverages. The dinner menu will feature a choice of a Beef Wellington, Grilled Salmon or Chicken Marsala. The meal will conclude with gourmet desserts.

Musical entertainment for the evening will be provided by "Tony Quarles and the Discovery Band," a 5-piece combo known for playing a wide variety of music. Brethren and their ladies will be able enjoy the sounds of the music and have a relaxing and fun time of friendship. The cost for the entire affair is only \$90 a couple, a real value for this exciting event. Dinner and table reservations are a must. Contact Bro. Joseph Huber at (440) 546-1317 to make your reservations.

**Rays from
University Heights Lodge**



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Rusty Nail Degree Performed

There are probably many members of University Heights Lodge who believe they have forgotten the signs of the Masonic Degrees. On Thursday January 26, 2012, our Lodge presented the Rusty Nail Degree, a refresher course in the meaning of each degree along with the associated salutes, signs and tools. Bro Larry Leyser was the exemplar for the degree. The officers of the Lodge performed their respective rolls exceptionally well.

Several of the brethren in attendance have not been seen in lodge for several years. The ceremony, which is not specifically authorized by the Grand Lodge of Ohio, is performed in similar form in many Masonic jurisdictions. It is a unique opportunity for brethren who have lost touch with the Masonic teachings of the first three degrees to come back to their Lodge for a fun and relaxing evening. The presentation in University Heights Lodge was the first one in several years in the 22nd Masonic District.

The program was preceded by a wonderful dinner in the banquet hall. After the normal Master Mason opening, our Senior Deacon, Bro. Mark Alliance, introduced the distinguished guests, including Past District Deputy Grand Master, Rt. Wor. Bro. Richard Davis, and current District Deputy Grand Masters; Rt. Wor. Bro. Mitchell L. Alperin and our own Rt. Wor. Bro. Henry G. Mankowski.

The evening also included Worshipful Brother Aarne Lillo presenting Bro. Milton Nadler with the *Major Jonathan Heart Service to Country Award* in recognition for his service to the United States of America during World War II.

The highlight of the Rusty Nail Degree was that all in attendance recited together the obligation of a Master Mason. Thus we all reaffirmed our allegiance and dedication to the Fraternity and its meaning.

Mark Bailin

**The Master and Wardens
Dinner Dance at
The Hawthorne Valley Country Club
May 5th, 2012**

**Entertainment by:
Tony Quarrels and the Discovery Band**

**Contact Bro. Joe Huber
For Reservations
(440) 546-1317**

Honoring Henry

On January 29, 2012, the brethren, their ladies and several friends and guests gathered at The Bertram Inn & Conference Center in Aurora for a terrific brunch celebrating the appointment of our own Right Worshipful Brother Henry G. Mankowski to the esteemed position of District Deputy Grand Master for the 22nd Masonic District. More than one hundred were treated to an incomparable brunch starting with mimosas, orange and tomato juice, followed by an omelet station, French Toast, bacon and sausage along with assorted breads and sweets. Wor. Bro. Jeffrey Schultz organized and planned the entire event.

All that was requested of those in attendance was that they bring a new book suitable for donation to a library or school in the District- an idea which emanated from Pamela Todd, wife of our Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother Kevin B. Todd. Pam is a teacher at Crestview Elementary School in Columbiana, Ohio.

Kind words about Rt. Wor. Bro. Mankowski were delivered by Rt. Wor. & Ill. Bro. Edwin A. Strauss, Jr. The newly designated Rt. Wor. Brother thanked those in attendance and introduced several of his personal friends. Rt. Wor. Bro. Mankowski, who couldn't help but revert back to his days at District Education Officer, taught us the meaning of "Worshipful" as being a term of respect and stated that it held no religious significance.

Those who gathered for this singular event truly had a wonderful brunch and enjoyed a Sunday of terrific camaraderie and were delighted to celebrate this happy occasion. Congratulations to Wor. Bro. Mankowski and good luck on your travels throughout Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties.

David Michel

Mason of the Year Night is Approaching

University Heights Lodge No. 738, F&AM, will announce its Mason of the Year on May 26, 2011. The announcement will be made during our annual Friendship Night that is open to all Masons, their ladies, and non-Masonic guests. Past recipients of this prestigious award will also be recognized.

An important part of the celebration will be the distribution of the lodge's annual donations to several worthy and important local charitable organizations. Entertainment and a delicious dessert reception will follow the presentations. All are encouraged to set this evening aside to greet our guests and congratulate our honorees.

This is an excellent opportunity to introduce a potential candidate to freemasonry.

Meet Your District Deputy Grand Master



University Heights Lodge is pleased to have Rt. Wor. Bro. David R. Hildebrandt as our representative of Most Wor. Bro. Kevin B. Todd, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio. Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt has been a member of the craft since 1990. He was raised in LaGrange Lodge No. 399 in

June 1991 and served as Worshipful Master in 2006 and 2007. He was appointed District Education Officer in 2010 and District Deputy Grand Master in 2011 and 2012.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt became a Scottish Rite Mason through the Valley of Cleveland in the fall class of 1991. He was appointed to the line of the Lake Erie Consistory in 2004 and will be installed as Second Lieutenant Commander this coming May. He joined York Rite Masonry in 2003 and is a member of Marshal Chapter No. 47, RAM, Elyria Council No 86 R&SM and Elyria Commandery No. 60 KT all in Elyria, Ohio.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt has also found the time to be a Past President of the Lorain County Blue Lodge Association and the Lorain County Scottish Rite Society. He has been awarded the Honorary Legion of Honor by the Order of DeMolay.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt was born in Medina in 1957, and graduated from Keystone High School in LaGrange in 1976 and later attended Lorain County Joint Vocational School in Oberlin. Shortly after graduation, he went to work at the Ford Motor Company Lorain Assembly Plant, retiring in 2007 after 30 years at Ford.

When not pursuing his interests in Freemasonry, Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt enjoys his motorcycle, and has ridden through every state along the east coast. He has been a high school football official for the past 10 years, and he tinkers in his home wood working shop whenever he can get the chance.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt has been married to Julie since September, 1977, and have two daughters, Leigh Anne and Kristina Marie. They currently make their home in Amherst, Ohio.

Please join Wor. Bro. Lillo and his fellow line officers in welcoming Rt. Wor. Bro. Hildebrandt when he visits. His warm smile tells us he is pleased to be assigned to University Heights Lodge.

Are Your Dues Paid?

Can't Drive to Lodge? Try This:

University Heights Lodge is pleased to announce the formation of a Transportation Committee to assist brethren to attend Lodge. This committee is presently being constituted. If you are in need of a ride to and from Lodge, please call Bro. David Michel at (440) 349-5345 and let him know that you are interested. And, if you are willing to help transport our brethren who are in need of a ride, again, please call Bro. Michel. Volunteers don't have to be available every time Lodge meets but if you can help out on occasion, it would be terrific. Hopefully, we will get enough volunteers to turn this idea into reality this spring.

David Michel

Did you know...

Did you know that currently, our lodge has:

- 308 members
- 44 members under 40 years old
- 15 members over 90 years old
- 255 of our members live in Ohio with 250 in the Cleveland area
- 227 of our members have shared an email address with us
- Our most senior member has been a Mason for 76 years

If you move, or change your phone number, please let us know. You can pass along any changes through our website at www.uhlodge.org. Be sure and give us your email address if you have one. We use email to communicate many important and timely events.

Hiram Hears

Congratulations to BRO. ALLEN FRIEDMAN and Connie on the birth of their grandson Blake Levi on January 5, 2012. Proud parents are son Laurence and Jaime Friedman...BRO. JERROLD KOZACK and Linda became grandparents (again) in early December with the birth of Lydia Marie Gould to their youngest daughter...BRO. BILL SHAKLEE and Laura welcomed Kendall Rose to this world on January 15th. They report their 3 year old, Brooke, is pleased to have a baby sister...Also beaming are WOR. BRO. MARC REIFF and Joan, who became grandparents when Joan's daughter, Jennifer Tarak, delivered a grandson on February 1st...BRO. DAVID MARCUS and Karen became grand parents...Happy birthday to talented artist Elise Newman (late WOR.BRO. JOSEPH NEWMAN) who turned 90 on January 31st...Happy anniversary wishes to WOR. BRO. DAVE GREENBERG and

Cynthia (57), WOR. BRO. ALEX LEV and Betty (65), and WOR. BRO. HARRY MARCUS and Rita (67) – WOW! ... congratulations to BRO. STEPHEN BLOOM on being chosen by his peers as a "Top Dentist" in the Greater Cleveland area... a special Hiram salute to WOR. BRO. JEFFREY SCHULTZ and his late mother Lenore for improving resident life at Menorah Park by donating nearly 1,000 large print books to its library over the past four years...Sue Reiner, wife of BRO. CHARLES REINER, underwent open heart surgery in December and is recovering at home...BRO. ART GREENBERG had a heart attack and is recovering at home...RT. WOR. & ILL. BRO. BOB HIBJAN underwent heart transplant surgery in January and was last reported to be recovering at home...Carol Resnik (BRO. DAVID RESNIK) broke her other hip...RT. WOR. BRO. BOB HAGER had hip surgery in late January and has been seen back on his feet using one crutch...BRO. KURT LEYSER and Jean have been taking turns visiting each other at Hillcrest Hospital...Estelle Engel (BRO. NORMAN ENGEL) broke her wrist and hip, underwent surgery at Hillcrest Hospital, and is rehabilitating at Montefiore Home until the end of March... BRO. BILL SHAKLEE's grandparents were in an auto accident in Oklahoma in December. His grandmother did not survive her injuries...RT. WOR. BRO. HUGH A. HARRIS lost his mother in Tennessee...Rita Marcus, wife of WOR. BRO. HARRY MARCUS, lost her sister, Anne Frager. She was an aunt of BRO. DAVID MARCUS and Marci Ravitz (WOR. BRO. JAY RAVITZ)...BRO. MITCH KURSH (Janet) and BRO. MARSHALL NEWMAN passed away ... Geraldine Neckrich, mother of Betsy Stovsky (BRO. RICHARD STOVSKY) passed away ... BRO. HARLAN SHERMAN succumbed... 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.

Do Unto Others

The Lodge currently needs several brethren to volunteer to serve on committees and on the Fellowcraft Team. Both speaking and non-speaking ritual parts are available. Opportunities are available for everyone.

Other Brethren have been there to initiate candidates and plan events. Now, it is your turn to step up and help shape the next generation of the lodge. Meet with your brethren and enjoy their company. Excessive time is not required, just a desire to do unto others as others have done for you. Contact Wor. Bro. Howard Lev at (216) 371-5353 for more information.