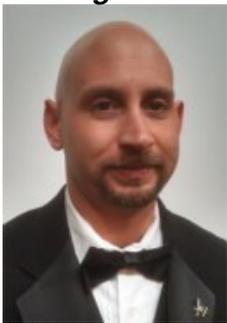


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Summer 2014

Message From The East



Three dog years and two fortnights ago I started on a journey that is more than half over. With this year's theme at Grand Lodge being timeless treasures, I have many great memories that I can consider timeless treasures and hope you have enjoyed our events as much as I have.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our next event, which is the Captains game and picnic on July 12th at Classic Park. It should be a good game and fun time. The post-game fireworks extravaganza will feature music by legendary composer John Williams from the Star Wars soundtracks.

I would like everyone to think about why they joined lodge, and then read this quote: **"Freemasonry has endured not because of its antiquity, its influence, or its social standing, but because there have been so many who have lived it. The effectiveness of Masonic teachings will always be the measure by which the outside world judges Freemasonry; the proof of Freemasonry is in our deeds and it is in our deeds that Freemasonry is made known to non-Masons. The only way that the Craft can be judged is by its product. The prestige of Freemasonry lies squarely on the shoulders of each of us."** *G. Wilbur Best 'Fraternal Review', May 2004.*

Along with our prestige, the success of our lodge truly lies on all of our shoulders. The first step to helping our lodge is to just show up to our meetings. The next opportunity will be on our first night in September.

This will be a special night, as we will be holding a Traditional Lodge of Observance. This will be a great night for many reasons. First, we will have food. Second, fellowship. Third, you will get to hear the minutes and bills... Ok, third there will be a special education program that is new to our lodge. The room will be lit by only the three lesser lights while we learn

more about the Master Mason degree. Feel free to bring some light to share about that degree. We will need four volunteers to help run the program who are familiar or willing to learn part of the Master Mason lecture. Please take this opportunity to give it a try. The officers will help you learn and coach you through.

I hope everyone has a great summer. I look forward to seeing you at the picnic and again in the fall.

Fraternally,
Ron Taxer
Worshipful Master

Traditional Lodge Observation Coming in September

Brethren who attend our first meeting of the Masonic year will be treated to a special and unique presentation of what it means to be a Mason. As a part of the "Freemasonry, a Timeless Treasure" theme of Most Wor. Bro. Norman Mick, University Heights Lodge has been requested to present a Traditional Lodge Observation in the Master Mason Degree.

On September 4th we will open our meeting in a unique way and listen as several of our brethren explain what parts of the Master Mason Lecture means to them. This ceremony will evoke the manner in which Masonic lodges met and conducted their business in the early days of Free and Accepted Masons. Our performance will be the third of three similar ceremonies, the first two of which were held in other lodges in the 22nd District this past spring.

Join us for a fried chicken dinner before the meeting and an evening never before seen in our lodge. Watch your mail and email for flyers with additional information. Why not join us for this very special event?

Roger C. Newberry, P.M.
Lodge Education Officer

**Rays from
University Heights Lodge**



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**Bro. Franklin Kodish
2014 Mason of the Year**



University Heights Lodge held its annual Mason of the Year and Friendship Night on Thursday May 15, 2014. Wor. Bro. Ron Taxer began the night by welcoming the audience to the lodge room. The lodge members and guests were then treated to an excellent presentation of colors from Bro.

Scott Phillips, Bro. Jeffrey Moss, and Bro. Joseph Huber. Wor. Bro. Dennis Linden was the master of ceremonies. He did an excellent job learning about the soon to be named Mason of the Year and getting to know about his family.

The audience was treated to some great music from Jimmy Maguire. Jimmy brought his guitar with him and had a great voice. Jimmy, who lives in Shaker Heights, not only plays guitar and sings but he also writes his own songs. He played many hits that the crowd sang to and even took some requests near the end. Jimmy has gone on tour in the United Kingdom and all across the United States. He has played with Native American bands, pop bands, and rock bands.

Wor. Bro. Taxer talked about what Freemasonry is all about. He then introduced Wor. Bro. Howard Lev, chairman of our Charity Committee. Wor. Bro. Lev reported the names of the great organizations that will receive donations from our lodge.

Wor. Bro. Linden recognized the prior recipients of the Mason of the Year award. Bro. Franklin H. Kodish was then announced as the 2014 recipient of the award. Franklin was extremely happy to receive this award. In great humor, Bro. Kodish said that he has been waiting since 1985 to receive this award. He even began saying some of the presidents names just so that we could understand really how long he has wanted this recognition. Frank said he had a speech ready to go for many years just in case his name was called.

Frank was joined by his wife Audrey, their son David, and his fiancée Lauren. Unable to attend the event was their daughter Lauren, who lives in Pittsburgh with her fiancée Scott. However, thanks to mobile technology, Lauren was able to listen live via cell phone.

(continued)

2014 Mason of the Year (continued)

Wor. Bro. Linden quoted Lauren and David, who each talked lovingly about their father and how he is the kind of guy that will listen to them talk about anything - sports, work, and everything else. It was wonderful to hear how Franklin is so close to his family.

Frank is always there in lodge and when people on the Fellowcraft Team need direction, especially at big events, such as Past Master's night, where marching is required.

The long wait of being named Mason of the Year for Bro. Kodish is over and it is a much deserved award for him. Congratulations!

Jason Smith

Lodge Opens September 4, 2014

The Winter Schvitz

At precisely 5 p.m. on March 19th as the weather was giving us fits

27 Brothers braved winter's last breath and marched gamely into the Schvitz

Trudging up the stairs, into that warm humid air

The outside world slips away, as if we haven't a care

People with whiskey and meat sticks, Bob with the blintzes, Jeff with the cheese

Take what you want, we're all Brothers here, no need to say please

That's just the start as we head down for some heat

It's not overcrowded, so there are plenty of seats

There is Brother Alan Wittenberg, with his eyes agleam

Walking right in and immediately throwing on 3 buckets of steam

Sweating it out, starting to bake, pretty soon we've had all we can take

Cooling down and drying off we head back up for some steak

Eating, revelry, and people starting to schmooze

It probably didn't hurt that there was plenty of booze

I'm sorry Rabbi Karp if you thought we were a bore

I kept seeing you sleeping on a cot and hearing you snore

But, boy I'll tell ya, when you got up you were ready for more

All of us that came left relaxed and feeling fine

For those that could not make it, hope to see you next time

Marc Wittenberg

Memorial Day 2014 – A Lodge Tradition

Our lodge has many traditions. None is as patriotic as our participation in the University Heights Memorial Day Parade. We have the honor of “leading the parade” carrying the giant American flag which extends from curb to curb.

Memorial Day 2014 was no exception. This year we had 15 lodge members, and 11 family members and friends carrying the flag and the lodge banner, while handing out candy to the kids along the parade route, greeting the viewers, and of course driving the convertibles.

It was a beautiful day, hardly a cloud in the sky with the temperatures in the low 80's. We were well received by the crowd with applause and “thank you's” to the flag carriers. The highlight of the march included a couple of well orchestrated and executed “360's” with the gigantic flag in the intersections of the main streets along the parade route.

After the parade, we gathered for a picnic in Euclid Creek Reservation at the Upper Highland Pavilion. We had 50+ lodge brothers, their families and friends in attendance. The food, beverages, and friendship time was great.

Of course no University Heights Lodge event would be complete without the Worshipful Master in his Tuxedo and Tile with his working tools!

If you were not there, you missed a great time. Hope to see you next year, same date, time and location.

Joe Huber

The Winter Gathering

On February 8th the cold and snow were far from the minds of the brethren and ladies who attended the lodge winter gathering at The Winking Lizard. The evening of ribs and chicken and assorted sides was highlighted by the availability of top shelf scotches and bourbons—all included in the basic cost. These delectable potent potables were poured by Burl, the resident alcohol connoisseur of Lizardville and The Winking Lizard. He provided a short history and discussion of each spirit which made the consumption of them that much more enjoyable.

Laughter, camaraderie, and good lively conversation took place the entire night and everyone who attended went home having had a wonderful time—and even possibly having learned a little about their new favorite alcoholic beverage!

David Michel

Hiram Hears

BRO. BERNARD ABRAHAMS turned the ripe young age of 94 in February. He reports he fell and broke his tail bone, spending a few days in the hospital; a "pain in the butt," he reported. Bro. Abrahams reported his grandson, Tyler, graduated cum laude from Wake Forest last spring birthday wishes to BRO. MAURICE SENKFOR who turned 92, to WOR. BRO. ALEX LEV, who celebrated his 91st birthday in February and to BRO. DAVID RESNIK on his 88th ... BRO. PETER RZEPKA and Aiki celebrated their 60th anniversary in January ... celebrating March anniversaries were WOR. BRO. HARRY MARCUS and Rita (69) ... WOR. BRO. ALEX LEV and Betty (67) and WOR. BRO. DAVID GREENBERG and Cynthia (59) ... BRO. RICHARD STOVSKY and Betsy celebrated #30 in April ... and WOR. BRO. MICHAEL LEICHNER and Heidi celebrated their 40th on 6/9 ... WOR. BRO. HOWARD LEV and Barbara are the proud grandparents of Jacob Howard Lev thanks to daughter Elyssa. Beaming are great grandparents WOR. BRO. ALEX LEV and Betty ... also over the birth of great grandson Caden Alexander Canto ... mazel tov to BRO. MARK BAILIN and Michelle Wohlfeiler on their engagement and to BRO. DAVID ARONS and Emily Nathan on theirs. BRO. BAILIN is the son of BRO. CHARLES BAILIN and Sharyn. BRO. ARONS is the son of WOR. BRO. ALAN ARONS and Marcia, the brother of BRO. JOSHUA ARONS (Tracey), and brother-in-law to BRO. JIM FLAIZ (Laura) and BRO. BRAD BERGER (Stephanie)... also mazel tov to BRO. DANIEL WITTENBERG on his daughter Samantha becoming a Bat Mitzvah. Joining in the family celebration was proud grandmother Joan Wittenberg (late WOR. BRO. STUART WITTENBERG), uncles and aunts BRO. MARC WITTENBERG and Lori, and WOR. BRO. ALAN WITTENBERG and Margo ... BRO. FRANKLIN PORATH designed the fall opera production for Rutgers University, which was performed not only on campus in New Brunswick, New Jersey, but also at Le Poisson Rouge, a Greenwich Village night club... WOR. BRO. MICHAEL LEICHNER and Heidi are overjoyed at the arrival of granddaughter Devin Edie Green BRO. EPHRAIM KARP, rabbi and Menorah Park director of spiritual living, was installed as president of Neshama: The Association of Jewish Chaplains, at a national conference in Florida this past January ... Sam Gross, son of BRO. RONALD GROSS and Shelley closed out his stellar Beachwood High School wrestling career by winning the state championship in the 132 lb. weight class. Last summer, Sam captured the 132 lb. championship weight class at the Maccabiah Games in

Israel. As a sophomore, Sam was the 113 lb. state champ and said last year's third-place state finish at 120 lbs. gave him extra motivation to return to the top of the podium this year. He also finished third at 112 pounds as a freshman. Sam will enter the collegiate ranks at Northwestern University this fall ... Hiram heard greetings from WOR. BRO. JAY RAVITZ and Marcia from Phoenix, AZ ... and from BRO. ELVIN SHULTZ from Stone Gardens ... and from his Menorah Park neighbor, WOR. BRO. ALAN SILVER ... Rhoda Silver, wife of WOR. BRO. ALAN SILVER, spent a weekend in the hospital during February. Hiram is glad to report she has returned home none worse for the adventure Hiram's longtime confidant BRO. ROBERT STOVSKY is home and doing well after suffering a heart attack that led to triple bypass heart surgery in March while wintering in Florida ... Sue Katz, wife of BRO. GARY KATZ and sister of Associate Tyler, BRO. JEROLD KOZACK (Linda), passed away suddenly in mid-December... BRO. MAURICE LEISER (Meg) lost his father, Alvin Leiser in late December... Jeffrey Berman, brother of WOR. BRO. KEEVIN BERMAN (Judy) passed away in January ... and in May, WOR. BRO. BERMAN lost his father, Robert Berman, grandfather of BRO. BRIAN ROSEMAN (Kathleen) ... Herbert Nash, father of our BRO. DALE NASH, passed away in February... Hiram received word from Arizona that Edna Schultz Williams passed away. She was the widow of WOR. BRO. MYRON SCHULTZ and the aunt of WOR. BRO. JEFFREY SCHULTZ and Amy Soranno (BRO. CHRISTOPHER SORANNO)... Patricia Burk, wife of BRO. RICHARD BURK, passed away in April. Pat was the daughter of the late ILL. & RT. WOR. BRO. JOSEPH H. SILBERT, the founder of our lodge ... condolences to Susan Ludington on the sudden passing of her husband, BRO. SWAVEK (SAM) HADUCH ... 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.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, July 12, 2014
Family Picnic
Lake Erie Captains
5:30 PM to Closing

Thursday, September 14, 2014
Opening Night of Lodge
Traditional Lodge of Observance
Fried Chicken Dinner at 6:30