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Message From The East



Any institution, to survive and be successful over time, must be built on a strong and solid foundation. Freemasonry has survived for hundreds of years because its founders had the wisdom and foresight to create a foundation that future generations would find as meaningful and valuable as in the past. Our actions as Freemasons today are guided by the same tenets that served as the building blocks of our fraternity – brotherly love, relief and truth. It is the acceptance of those tenets, as well as adherence to the principles, traditions and history of our fraternity, that make us good men and good Masons

Fifty-one years ago, 230 men came together to form a new Masonic Lodge, University Heights Lodge. Through the years, our Lodge, like our fraternity, has developed strong traditions that serve as the foundation of our organization, and the basis for our constant strength and consistent success. The tenets, principles and traditions of Freemasonry have brought us together as Masons. But our Lodge also has a history of charity and service to the community, good communications among the brethren, and events which encourage camaraderie, friendships, family and fun. Our Lodge, like all other institutions, works best when we remember our history and traditions, and use the lessons contained within them to guide us.

I pledge to you, my brethren, that as Master, I will not lose sight of the path our Lodge has successfully followed for so many years. I will incorporate the principles and tenets of our fraternity into the meetings and events that will make my year. I will seek the wisdom and guidance of my officers, the past masters and brethren of the Lodge as I sit in the East. And I will do my best to provide interesting, informative,

meaningful and entertaining opportunities to enjoy and enhance our Masonic experience.

I want to extend my special thanks to my line and appointed officers and chairmen, and to the past masters for their assistance, guidance and wisdom. They are a tremendous asset to me, personally, and to the Lodge. I want to especially thank you, the brethren of University Heights Lodge, for your support, encouragement and warm wishes as I assume the East. And finally, I must thank my lovely lady, Meryl, without whose love, strength, support and understanding I could not have achieved this milestone in my Masonic life.

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings and events.

Fraternally yours,
Jeffrey A. Kaplan
Worshipful Master

Table Lodge

Tradition plays a big part in freemasonry, and one of the oldest traditions is Table Lodge. Once again, as we have done for the past ten years, University Heights Lodge will convene a Table Lodge on January 30, 2003. Masonic tradition dictates that a lodge of Entered Apprentices be assembled. Our Lodge will open at 5:15 p.m. at which time the candidate will be initiated, followed by dinner in the banquet hall at 6:30.

According to masonic tradition the tables will be arranged in a horseshoe shape where the stonemasons discuss the work of the apprentices. The highlight of the dinner consists of the ceremony of the seven toasts. Our guest speaker will be Rt. Wor. Bro. Steven J. Krekus, Deputy Grand Master. It promises to be a delightful and educational evening of brotherhood. The evening is open to all members and Masonic guests. Dinner tickets are available from the officers. The cost is \$6.00.

BERNIE ABRAHAMS

Rays From University Heights Lodge



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Keevin Berman, PM.....2004
Abraham Kay, PM2005

Lodge Earns Awards at Grand Lodge

University Heights Lodge was honored at the recent annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio with three awards of distinction. Worshipful Master Abraham Kay was present in Toledo to receive the **Plaque of Distinction of the Grand Master's Award**. It is given to lodges that have exemplified the program "Working Together, Improving the World." To earn the award, the Grand Master required lodges to meet numerous requirements. Our successful community Spaghetti Dinner and the Memorial Day Parade were among those that qualified us to win this prestigious award. Our participation in the Grand Master's One-Day Class in which we raised 14 candidates, our volunteer efforts at Menorah Park and the activities of our Sunshine Committee, helped put us over the top. Congratulations to our officers and brethren for achieving this distinguished honor for a second consecutive year.

Wor. Bro. Alan Arons was pleasantly surprised to learn that we received two additional awards. For our Rays newsletter, we were awarded the **Division III Third Place Award** in the Newsletter Division for overall quality and content. The judges were impressed with the newly formatted quarterly newsletter. Congratulations to Rays editor, Bro. David Michel, and the hard working staff, who richly deserve this award.

We also received the **Division III First Place** award in the Website Division. Computer versed brethren are always encouraged to visit our website at www.uhlodge.org and the Grand Lodge website at www.freemason.com for current Masonic information.

These outstanding achievements recognize University Heights Lodge as an active and involved lodge in masonry and our community in the true sprit of "more light."

LOUIS ROSS

Holiday Party 2002

Once again our holiday party at Chuck E. Cheese's was an overwhelmingly success. As in years past, there was a tremendous turnout for this annual event. The pizza seemed to disappear as quickly as the staff could place it on the tables. Children of all ages gleefully ran around depositing their nearly endless supply of tokens into the many games and attractions, thoroughly enjoying themselves. Throughout the evening, brethren, their ladies and families enjoyed socializing in the festive atmosphere. A terrific time was had by all.

MARC WITTENBERG

Retiring Masters Message

Thanks to those who made our meetings and events so enjoyable. Our social committee, chaired by WB Dave Greenberg, our Steward's Committee, headed by WB Harry Marcus, our Sunshine Committee, headed by Bro. Harry Zeid, who helped so much in earning this year's Grand Master's Award, and those who worked hard on our ritual work, ever trying to live up to the admonition in the Leadership Manual that "The candidate has a right to expect the best the Lodge can give him."

Next, those whose leadership contributed so much. Reconsecration co-chairs, RWBs Edwin Strauss, and Richard Fromson. The visit of our Grand Master, MWB Thomas Eldon Reynolds, was one of our finest moments. Our Chaplain, RWB Hugh Harris, who was always at my side. May we never break the habit, and my "Masonic Father", and Associate Chaplain WB Alan Wittenberg, for your advice, friendship, the opportunity to participate in our leadership, and for making the "Schvitz" a regular event.

Thanks to our District Officers, RWB Harvey Morrison, and WB Roger Lynch. Your advice throughout the year was always on the mark, and appreciated.

To WB Keevin Berman, who gave me my petition. As Master you encouraged the search for knowledge and meaning. This year, you set a new standard as LEO through your original programs. You also taught that the true job of our Master is to hold our great heritage in trust, and the true obligation of our Master is to safeguard, and add to that heritage.

One goal this year was to "Work Together" with other parts of the Masonic fraternity. We have always been warm in greeting our visitors. This year, we made an added effort to visit other lodges, where we were greeted equally warmly. We co-sponsored a Special Olympics Fundraiser with Forest City Lodge, and I hope we have further combined efforts with them, and with other lodges. RWB Strauss has appointed RWB Hugh Harris to the Scottish Rite line. Two brethren, WB Alan Wittenberg and Bro. Adam Rutkowski, with Margo and Rhonda, have joined Eastern Star. WB Keevin Berman and I have remained active plural members of Euclid Lodge, and have now joined Royal Arch.

I hope that our lodge will continue to reach out beyond these four walls in the coming years. I also hope that this has been a year where all of our members looked forward to coming to each meeting, and went home with a feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment. For me, this has truly been a memorable year. A final thanks to our brethren for giving me the opportunity to serve our lodge.

Fraternally yours,
Abraham Kay, PM

Charter Night Celebration

University Heights Lodge celebrated its 50th Annual Charter Night on October 31, 2002, and brought to a close the Golden Anniversary celebrations of the lodge. This night was dedicated to honor those brethren who were the founding members of our lodge. Brethren who completed 25, 40, 50, or 60 years of service were recognized.

A memorial ceremony was held to remember all deceased past masters and our brethren who had passed away during the last year. Each was honored with a rose placed on the altar.

Mr. Mitchell Balk, President of the Mount Sinai Health Care Foundation, was the guest speaker. He explained how the hospital's legacy continues through the foundation's grants to community health care organizations.

Wor. Bro. Keevin Berman then announced several charitable donations made by the Lodge. A representative of each agency accepted the give and was invited to outline their program. The wonderful evening concluded with the brethren, their ladies and guests enjoying a delicious array of sandwiches and desserts in the social hall.

ERIC SKOKE

Meet your Senior Deacon



Our newly elected Senior Deacon, Bro. Steven L. Friedman continues a long family tradition of serving masonry in University Heights Lodge. His late father, Bro. Harry Friedman, was a very active member of our lodge for many years. His father-in-law is Bro. Myron Page, who now resides in Florida.

Prior to his election, Bro. Friedman was active in the ritual work. He has delivered the Bible Lecture to many candidates. He has also filled one of the steward's chairs during the degrees.

Bro. Friedman operates a podiatry practice in Cleveland. He has been on the faculty of the Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine for the last 22 years.

Steve and his wife, Heidi, reside in Solon with their five children: Hilliary, Adam, Pam, Ilyse, and Hannah. In his spare time, Steve likes to travel and work around the house.

DON LEVENSON

Lodge Supports Blood Bank

In his remarks, Wor. Bro. Jeffrey A. Kaplan, asked the brethren to renew their efforts to contribute blood to the American Red Cross Blood Bank throughout the year. He asked that all of our brethren who can give blood, especially our newer members, donate as often as permissible to support our community and our Lodge.

To coordinate this effort, Wor. Bro. Kaplan appointed Bro. Marty Mittleman as Chairman of the Blood Bank Committee. University Heights Lodge, along with other Lodges meeting in the Lyndhurst Masonic Temple will sponsor a community blood drive on May 27, 2003.

You may donate blood anytime during the year and receive a thank-you from the lodge. After you've given blood, contact Bro. Mittleman and let him know. Your donation will be recorded and a certificate redeemable for a ticket to one of our dinner meetings will be sent to you. You can receive a certificate each time you donate.

University Heights Lodge has a long history of supporting blood drives and encouraging its members to donate blood. Many of our brethren and their families have been able to receive blood in their times of need because of individuals who understand the importance of "giving life." Contact Bro. Mittleman for more information about upcoming blood drives in our area.

Hiram Hears

BRO. SHELDON ZELDES and Barbara have a new grandson, Evan Riley Blacker. His parents are Abby and Monte Blacker of Hollywood, Florida... Congratulations to WOR. BRO. MARC REIFF and his new wife Joan on their recent marriage... Tracy, daughter of BRO. STEPHEN BLOOM and Sharyl, who is in her second year of medical school at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine, became engaged to classmate Mr. William Goldman on Oct. 31, 2002. No wedding date has yet been set since they must work the date around their rotations!... BRO. EDWARD LETTOFSKY passed away...BRO. HARRY ZEID spent time in hospital, seems to have recovered... Celia Friedman, wife of BRO. BERNIE FRIEDMAN, Tyler Emeritus, spent time in hospital. She and Bernie now reside at Stone Gardens. BRO. FRIEDMAN, celebrated his 89th birthday by coming to installation. Happy Birthday!... Also attending installation was WOR. BRO. ALAN SILVER, along with his wife Rhoda. Alan introduced the Past Masters like he never missed a beat!... RWB. Hugh Harris's son Matt was injured and is recovering... BRO. SANFORD NEUGER was in the hospital... Harriett Wittenberg, wife of BRO. HARRY WITTENBERG was in the hospital... BRO. BARRY RIGGS father passed

away in Florida... BRO. DUANE DUKES father in law had surgery... BRO. LES LEVINE and his wife Kathryn are the proud grandparents of a healthy baby boy. Please keep Hiram posted on what is happening with you and yours. You can give your message to our Associate Tyler Bro. Harvey Golden or email Hiram from our website at www.uhlodge.org. While you are visiting our website, be sure to "sign" our guest book.

HIRAM

Secretary's Corner

There are four forms of regular membership in an Ohio Lodge. Every form of membership requires an investigation and vote by the brethren of the lodge.

First, anyone who is not a Mason may join a Masonic Lodge by submitting a Petition for Degrees and participating in his initiation.

Second, any Mason may completely change his lodge affiliation from any lodge inside or outside of Ohio. A mason in good standing may submit an Application for Affiliation to his proposed lodge. After acceptance, a dimit is requested. On receipt of the dimit, he becomes a member of the proposed lodge. A dimit must be granted for any member in good standing, not in arrears of dues, and free of any pending charges.

Third, a Mason who belongs to a lodge outside of Ohio may submit an Application for Dual Membership, which, upon acceptance, makes him a member of both lodges. One can only become a dual member if the lodge of the Mason's current affiliation recognizes dual membership.

Fourth, the Application for Plural Membership allows an Ohio Mason to become a member of multiple Ohio lodges. Both dual and plural members must maintain their membership by paying dues to their primary lodge. Both dual and plural members have all the rights of membership, including the right to hold office, but no plural member may be Master of more than one lodge in any given year.

Each type of membership application requires a different form. For more information, contact me at (216) 621-1541 or email me at secretary@uhlodge.org.

Joel I. Newman, PM
Secretary

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Web Site
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Murray Arons David Pollock
Henry Billys David Resnik
Stephen Bloom Harold Resnik
Jon Dunger Alvin Roth
Sidney Gold Jonathan Schneier
Marvin Gutterman Elvin Shultz
William Jacobus Les Snider
Martin Mittleman Harry Zeid
Sanford Neuger Ben Zide

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