



# RAYS

FROM UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS LODGE NO. 738 F. & A. M.

Vol. 70, No. 4

Fall 2020

## Message from the East



Brethren and friends, first, I want to pay tribute to Right Worshipful & Illustrious Brother Robert J. Hibjan. I have been a Mason for more than thirty years and Bob has been a big part of my Masonic life. He was always there when I needed good counsel and had kind words for everyone around. He was the kind of person and Mason that everyone could call friend. When it came to University Heights Lodge social events, Bob and Kathy would always be the first to send in a reservation. They both certainly enjoyed being with us, and we enjoyed their company. Bob will be missed.

Second, I know we have had no Degree work since the pandemic prevented us from meeting. However, I would also like all our members to know that through the Grand Lodge website, we have the names of eight possible new candidates for Degrees. Bro. John Padley, Senior Warden, has been in contact with each of them and we hope these men will eventually become members.

Third, we may hold stated meetings via Zoom. Please watch your email from Wor. Bro. Aarne Lillo, Secretary, to receive the link and information to join us. It is easy and fun. No neckties required! If you don't hear from us, assume that the meeting will be in-person.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not ask each of you how you are doing during these trying times. Hopefully, you and your families are well and looking forward to getting back to semi-normal lives. The worthy brother who I anticipate will become our next Worshipful Master has a well-planned calendar for the upcoming year. We hope to see you all very soon. Stay healthy and safe.

Fraternally,  
Howard Lev, P.M.  
Worshipful Master

## Annual Meeting and Dues

Our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will be held on November 5, 2020 as specified in our bylaws. In order to attend this meeting and be able to vote, your dues must be paid. The Tylers will verify your membership status upon arrival. If not paid by the last day of December, the Grand Lodge Code requires that a status of "indefinitely suspended" be entered upon your record.

You are important to us and we appreciate your past and continuing support. 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. If you cannot pay your dues because of a financial hardship, please let us know. After confidential consideration, the lodge may reduce or waive your dues for this year.

A special note about in-person meetings and events. These activities will be driven by local, state and Grand Lodge restrictions that are in-place at the time of the meeting or event. We will try to hold these in-person where possible but may present them as virtual gatherings using the Zoom platform if restrictions apply.

Zoom does support the ability to hold elections and to allow each member to cast an anonymous ballot. This is new territory for each of us as together we navigate through these challenging times.

My Brethren, your health and well-being will always be our primary concern and will weigh heavily on our decisions as we move forward. Be well and be safe.

Fraternally,  
Aarne Lillo, P.M.  
Secretary



## Rays from University Heights Lodge



Published quarterly in the interest of  
University Heights Lodge No. 738 F. & A. M.  
5516 Mayfield Rd.  
Lyndhurst, OH 44124  
<http://www.uhlodge.org>

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## Remembering Rt. Wor. & Ill. Bro. Hibjan

I remember the first time I encountered Rt. Wor. & Ill. Bro. Robert J. Hibjan. I was a newly appointed Junior Steward at my first installation, trying to figure out what that meant, where I was supposed to go, how I was supposed to behave. Suddenly, a gentleman with an apron framed in purple comes up to me, took my hand with the grip of a Master Mason, a broad smile across his face, and says in a deep, booming voice: "Welcome to the officer line at University Heights Lodge! Please let me know if there is anything, I can do to help you."



At the time, Rt. Wor. Bro. Hibjan had been recently appointed as District Deputy Grand Master, assigned to our Lodge. I had seen him before, making a presentation as a District Education Officer. I remember being impressed by his somewhat stern, straight appearance and more than a little taken aback by that voice. I learned, over the past 37 or so years, that I had nothing to fear from this man. His love for the Masonic fraternity and the teachings of Freemasonry was unbounded. His knowledge of our history and our purpose was substantial. And his care for his brethren, genuine.

If there is one thing that typifies who Bob was, it is that he was always available to support and guide his brethren, however and wherever they might need it. He had an interesting combination of humility and pride in his demeanor. Here was a man selected for the highest honor bestowed by the fraternity, who reveled in the opportunity to exemplify a new candidate when the need was there.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Hibjan was first a member of Silver Cord Ornan Lodge which consolidated into Acacia Lodge in 1985. He served as Master of Acacia Lodge in 1980 while they were meeting in the Lyndhurst Masonic Center. He was appointed a District Education Officer for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Masonic District in the early 1980's and served as a District Deputy Grand Master from 1985 to 1988. Bob joined the Scottish Rite Valley of Cleveland, rising to be the Sovereign Prince of Bahurim Council from 1988 to 1990. At the conclusion of his service to the Council, the Sovereign Grand Master of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction appointed him to the 33<sup>rd</sup> degree.

Rt. Wor. & Ill. Bro. Hibjan was married to Kathleen (Kathy) for 54 years. They have two children (Robert of Orlando, Florida and Debbie McLaughlin of Rootstown, Ohio), four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He was born on July 18, 1945 and joined the Great Architect of the Universe on August 15, 2020. A Masonic Funeral Service was held at Berkowitz Kumin Memorial

Chapel on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Well done, good and faithful servant!

Roger C. Newberry, P.M.  
Senior Deacon

## 2020 Service Awards

Service milestones in the Masonic Fraternity are significant life achievements that deserve special recognition. Those Brethren eligible for these awards will be receiving them at our annual Charter Night and Awards Night to be held on Thursday, November 12, 2020. An open lodge meeting will start promptly at 7:30pm. Our most sincere congratulations to the following Brethren on arriving at these milestones:

### 70 Year Service Awards

Richard Burk

### 65 Year Service Awards

Mark Schumann

### 60 Year Service Awards

Milton Nadler

### 50 Year Service Awards

Burton Zucker  
Stuart Silver

### 40 Year Service Awards

Laurence Rosenthal  
Melvin Jacobs  
Daniel Friedman  
Robert Mintz  
Daniel Orgrinc

### 35 Year Service Awards

Harvey Golden  
Mitchell Rosenthal  
Richard Stovsky  
Barry Pollock  
Louis Moss

### 25 Year Service Awards

Robert Moran  
Abraham Kay

## Happy Birthday Wishes To:

**October:** Mark Alliance, Jon Dunger, Allen Friedman, Joseph Huber, Michael Leichner, Jeffrey Levine, Henry Mankowski, David Michel, Nelson Newman, Russell Van Scyoc, Harvey Siegel

**November:** Joshua Arons, Mark Bailin, Barnett Bookatz, Alan Diamond, Raymond Gieling, Jeffrey Glick, Harvey Kumin, Lester Levine, David Marcus, Louis Moss, Jay Ravitz, Robert Reitman, Eric Skoke, Jerome Stern, Steven Wasserman, Alan Wine, Darrell Young, Jared Zak

**December:** Charles Bailin, Howard Chapman, Stephen Dombrowski, Michael Greenberg, Hugh Allen Harris, William Jacobus, Sheldon Katz, Franklin Kodish, Ronald Leyser, Daniel Orgrinc, Michael Pastori, Harold Resnik, Mitchell Rosenthal, Kenneth Rubenstein, Michael Sapoznik, Ira Schobel, Stuart Silver, Roni Taxer, Sheldon Zeldes, Nelson Zucker

## Singing of Auld Lang Syne Explained

This song is sung at various Masonic gatherings, more specifically at Table Lodges. At the beginning of the song the brethren stand with hands by their sides, symbolizing they are relative strangers. The early verses are sung (or hummed) very softly as brethren reflect both on cherished memories of earlier times together and on those brethren, who have since passed to the Grand Lodge Above.

When they come to the last verse, "And there's a hand, my trusty frier (friend)...", each brother then extends his right hand of fellowship to the brother on his left, then the left hand to the brother on his right. This symbolizes two things: firstly, that they are crossing their hearts; secondly, that they automatically form a smaller and more intimate circle of friendship. Now they have an unbroken chain of brethren who are close friends.

Bro. Robert Burns

## Hiram Hears

WOR. BRO. DANIEL FRIEDMAN and Susan celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 24<sup>th</sup> after moving back to Ohio from Florida. Welcome back...RT. WOR. BRO RUSSELL VAN SCYOC and Delores will celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on October 6<sup>th</sup>...Celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries this year are BRO. LARRY LEYSER and Patricia on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, WOR. BRO. HOWARD LEV and Barbara on August 15<sup>th</sup>, and BRO. ALAN WINE and Karen on August 15<sup>th</sup>...MAZEL TOV!

Hiram recently heard that Charter Member BRO. IRA SCHOBEL passed away on January 2<sup>nd</sup>...and BRO. RICHARD S. MILLER passed away on February 18<sup>th</sup>...BRO. IRVING M. LEWIS passed away on June 26<sup>th</sup>... BRO. KENNETH A. BIRNE passed away on July 1<sup>st</sup> and RT. WOR. BRO. ROBERT J. HIBJAN passed away on August 15<sup>th</sup>

*Hiram can only tell what he hears, and he wants to hear it all. Anyone with news for Hiram can mail it to the lodge, email it to aarne.lillo@yahoo.com, or tell him in person when you see him.*

