



Message from the East



I have a simple question that I get asked quite frequently, but is one for which the answer is somewhat mixed, confusing and at times difficult. The question is quite simple and one I'm sure you have heard many times: "What is Freemasonry?"

I personally have had this question asked by numerous friends, strangers, patients,

employees, and yes, even my employer. As a Freemason, we should be more than qualified to answer. But as we know, that is easier said than done.

My answer has always been, "We are the oldest and largest fraternity in the world. We are a fraternal organization. We take good men and make them better. Yes, we do have a social calendar; yes, we participate with various charitable activities; and yes, we do have secrets."

On a humorous level, when one of my best friends attempts to ask me "What is Freemasonry?", he always asks me, "How is the brick laying going?" I accept this as an attempt to converse about Masonry, but one that is truly lacking in knowledge, and to put it simply, is limited.

While I am pretty sure that most of our present day Masonic brethren are not actual brick masons, although I'm sure some do exist, and this is not in any way an attempt to separate those fine members, or demean their profession, which is more than essential.

In answering my friend, I always try to set the record straight, but he fails to understand that we are a fraternity of many different men, of many different occupations, and one that stresses the goodness in man.

There is a lot of confusion and, for lack of a better term, ignorance, regarding our fraternity in the general public. I believe it is our duty as Masons to be able to confidently answer this simple question with clear, specific, and

appropriate terms. To convey the true meaning of our fraternity without confusing others or giving away any of our secrets.

Moreover, I believe that we must communicate that we are separate and distinct from other social/fraternal entities by virtue of our ritual, history, and traditions; all of which makes our existence more fulfilling, valuable, and respected. In other words, we are more than drinking buddies or social members that can be found anywhere. We are the oldest, largest and, in my opinion, the best fraternal organization in the world.

All that said, please call me, send an email, or tell me in person how you answer the question, "What is Freemasonry?"

Fraternally yours,
Adam Rutkowski, PM
Worshipful Master

Sweet Success

A wonderfully large and spirited group of brethren and their ladies enjoyed a delightful evening of wine and chocolate tasting before and after dinner at Maggiano's Little Italy on February 20th.

The popular Beachwood Place restaurant has private rooms upstairs, where we enjoyed warm fellowship, family style authentic Italian cuisine, and many sumptuous chocolates. Those pleasing flavors blended perfectly with the assortment of wine and other beverage favorites.

It was great seeing so many new and old friends having fun. Congratulations and thanks to our Social Chairman, Wor. Bro. Matt Newberry, and to our Worshipful Master, Wor. Bro. Adam Rutkowski for this great event.

Jerrold Kozack

Rays from University Heights Lodge



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Table Lodge

“Behold how good and how pleasant it is to gather in unity.” University Heights Lodge held its annual Table Lodge on January 28, 2016, and this year proved to be another excellent event under the leadership of our Worshipful Master, Adam Rutkowski. Besides numerous University Heights brethren in attendance, our lodge welcomed Masonic guests from all over greater Cleveland. Several current and past Deputy District Grand Masters joined us.

The address for the evening, “Luciferian Freemasonry,” was presented by Right Worshipful Brother William M. Carter III, District Deputy Grand Master of the 22nd Masonic District of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio. The brethren embraced the Box of Fraternal Assistance. Collections were donated to Pets for Vets.

The Message from the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, Robert C. Rill, Jr., was presented by Right Worshipful Brother Jonathan H. Krapf, who represented him as our Deputy Grand Master.

Throughout the evening Brethren joined in singing and raised our ceremonial mugs for each of the Seven Toasts. University Heights lodge is proud to have carried on an annual tradition that dates back many years. It is our hope that Table Lodge carries on for many years into the future. At its core Table Lodge is meant to “promote a greater degree of fellowship and kinship in Masonry.”

Mark Bailin

Secretary’s Corner

Many lodges in our Grand Jurisdiction are using email as their primary method of communication and have stopped mailing paper. University Heights Lodge will begin to do the same starting with the “e-Trestle Board” for April. The e-Trestle Board will have active links to our event flyers, which have always been available at our website (www.uhlodge.org).

To register for an event, simply print out the Flyer and follow the instructions same as if it arrived in the mail. It is very important that we have your correct email address.

If you do not have an email address and do not use a computer, we of course will continue to mail you paper as before. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (216) 509-8181.

Aarne Lillo, PM
Secretary

A Tribute to Maurice Feren

BRO. MAURICE (MAURY) FEREN, a sixty plus year member of University Heights Lodge and centenarian passed on February 20, 2016.



Bros. Feren and Benjamin receiving their 60 year service awards on November 12, 2015 at Charter Night.

Throughout his life, Maury Feren lifted others with his spirit, his encouragement and his example. He was as close as we come to being a self-made man. Born without privilege, he became a successful man of business without advanced education and became a lifelong student. He took course after course bettering himself and educating himself and he became more learned. But he also learned wisdom through life experience. Maury stood tall as an American patriot, as a Jew, as a human being and as a Mason.

Born Maurice B. Feren on Sept. 27, 1915 in New York, he will be remembered for many things. He was a produce merchant, a food expert, a World War II combat medic, an author, a radio and television personality and a physical fitness enthusiast. "I attribute the fact that I'm still alive to my belief in God and that God has taken care of me," he told the Cleveland Jewish News in 2013. "I've been very fortunate to have gone through all those experiences."

Maury grew up Orthodox in Cleveland's Glenville neighborhood, along East 105th Street, helping his father sell watermelons at the Northern Ohio Food Terminal in Cleveland. In 1940, he started his own storefront, M.B. Feren Produce Co., also at the Terminal. After the war, Maury's company became the leading wholesale fruit supplier in Cleveland. In 1950, a fruit surplus caused the entrepreneur to start his next venture: Feren Fruit Basket. He opened Baskets by Maury in the late 1960s, and it remained open until 2005.

He grew up during the Depression and had to support his family, and that was the impetus for his lust for education because he didn't have the financial ability to go to college. He devoured books – he would read four or five books a week – and his love of learning and for reading gave him a zest for life, because he wanted to see and experience all these things he was reading about.

He wrote several books, was very intelligent and well rounded, and he never forgot anything about you. He was the kind of guy who made you feel really special. It was an honor to know a man like that.

He had a curiosity about life and he was very creative. He was just very kindhearted and always friendly to whomever he came into contact with.

Maury served two years in the European Theater during World War II. In 2013, he was awarded the French Legion of Honor for his extraordinary bravery in liberating France during World War II. He earned two Bronze Star medals and the Purple Heart Medal, along with the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon, the Good Conduct Medal and two Overseas Service Bars.

Maury was married for 67 years to Bess (Nagelbush) Feren, who died in 2006. His whole story was really wrapped around his marriage. "It was a 67-year love affair," said Alan Feren, their son. "The two of them were a unit, and he took care of my mom the last six to eight years of her life. She had Alzheimer's disease, but he refused to put her in an institution."



The last sands in the hourglass of life of our dear friend and brother, Maurice B. Feren have ceased their endless flow and his soul has taken flight from this imperfect to that all perfect, glorious and celestial lodge. We shall meet, but we shall miss him. (This article contains excerpts from the Cleveland Jewish News.)

Hiram Hears

WOR. BRO. ALAN WITTENBERG and Margo successfully completed their drive and have moved into their new house in Henderson, NV...BRO. FRANKLIN KODISH (Audrey) announced they will become a grandparents for the first time when their daughter in Pittsburgh gives birth later this year...BRO. MATTHEW HARRIS will be moving to Colorado Springs with his wife Tracey. There, he is planning to open his own Prosthetic and Orthotic Clinic...BRO. SHELDON ZELDES of Boynton Beach, Florida with wife Barbara, celebrated their 52nd anniversary. Also this past September, their grandson Evan Backer of Weston, Florida celebrated his Bar Mitzvah...Hiram salutes Hawken Senior Adam Stovsky on achieving a perfect score of 36 on his ACT college entrance exam late last year. Adam is the son of BRO. MARK STOVSKY and Shannon, grandson of BRO. ROBERT STOVSKY, and nephew of BRO. RICHARD STOVSKY and Betsy, and BRO. MICHAEL STOVSKY and Jill...

WOR. BRO. KENNETH VINOCUR (Natalie) had surgery and is recovering well ... BRO. RICHARD BURK, father of BRO. JAMES BURK, had successful hip replacement surgery on March 11th.

BRO. MAURICE B. FEREN, a 60 Year Mason passed away on February 20, 2016 at 100 years of age...BRO. WILLIAM M. KRAUS passed away on September 29, 2015... Sympathies to BRO. LARRIE NADLER and Amy on the loss of her father, Irving Fine, and to extended family members BRO. MILTON NADLER, and WOR. BRO. MICHAEL LEICHNER and Heidi...

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, or email it to hiram@uhlodge.org or tell him in person when you see him

Upcoming Events

4/7/2016Stated - Fellow Craft Degree
4/21/2016 Stated - Lodge Education
4/28/2016 Annual Inspection – FC Degree

5/12/2016Mason of the Year & Friendship Night
5/14/2016 Master and Wardens Dinner Dance
5/19/2016Stated - Entered Apprentice Degree
..... Pizza Dinner and Annual Blood Bank
5/30/2016Memorial Day Parade and Picnic

6/2/2016 Stated - Lodge Education
6/16/2016 Past Master's Night and Dinner

Mason of the Year Thank You Note

Dear Brethren, Ladies, and Friends,

Last May, I had the honor of being named the 2015 Mason of the Year. I hope you will join me for fun and fellowship on May 12, 2016, when this year's honoree is named.

In reflecting on this truly special evening, I want to thank Wor. Bro. Dennis Linden, Wor. Bro. Leonard Holmes and the brethren of University Heights Lodge for electing me the 2015 Mason of the Year. It was a wonderful honor to join the brethren that proceeded me, including my father, Bro. David R. Pollock, of blessed memory.

This was a special surprise night for me because I had no idea that I would be nominated. I was shocked when I was chosen and saw my family including my wife Sally, daughter Katie, sister Charlene, daughter-in-law Erin, son-in-law Andy, and grandkids Josh, Tyler, Marley, and Jacey. Also Bro. Adam Pollock, my son, and Bro. Jason Smith, my nephew, were in the East with me. NOT ONE OF THESE PEOPLE INCLUDING THE KIDS TOLD ME ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN!

I want everyone to know that doing the things that I do for the fine brethren of University Heights Lodge #738 is something that I willingly do from my heart. I must say that I greatly enjoy doing the various assignments and projects. Becoming Mason of the Year was one of the proudest memories of my life! Thank you to all.

Warmly,
Bro. Barry R. Pollock

