



### ***Message from the East***

Brethren, I would like to start out by sending my sincerest hopes that you and your families are all doing well during these trying times. I am reaching out to all of you in hopes that you are keeping in touch with your loved ones wherever they may be and reassuring them that you are well. Be assured that if anyone is in need, University Heights Lodge is here for you in any way we can help.



It has been a difficult year for us when it comes to meetings and our degree work. The Grand Lodge shut down everything until June 10th and is now permitting very limited activities. For the safety of our members, we will not meet until September at the earliest.

Please know the officers and I are in communication with each other and are making plans to resume our activities as soon as possible. We missed our annual Dinner Dance and the Memorial Day Parade and Picnic this year. I hope in the fall, if everything works out well, we will have a few social events to see each other and have some fun.

Grand Lodge sends communications to make sure we are informed about all events and happenings to move forward in the future. Please watch your email for updates.

When I was re-elected to serve as Master, preparing for stated meetings and degree work seemed difficult, however, this year became challenging because of the events in the world. Not having meetings and getting together with our brethren has been very upsetting. I can only hope that we will be meeting on the level very soon. Please keep your own good counsel and keep you and your family healthy.

Fraternally,  
Howard Lev, PM  
Worshipful Master

### ***Tidings from the West***

Over three months have passed since I physically shook the hand of a brother Mason and another three shall likely pass before that ever-so meaningful handshake will return. I look forward to that day, to hear what goofy things your children have done or said, to hear how you've been occupying yourself with new endeavors, to hear what surprises these months of solidarity have brought you and your families, but most of all, to hear what life-altering lessons these unique times and conditions have taught you.

We could talk about the current events, but I see and hear plenty of negativity in the news and on social media. We could get angry and place blame for what's happening, but what will that accomplish? Or, we can heed the advice of our own teachings; we can seek out that object lesson, placed before us for our moral and intellectual advancement by the Grand Architect of the Universe.

There is a blessing disguised in all this mess that has provided us with opportunities we may have never seen otherwise. I've spent more time with my family, watching my children grow, learn, and experience new things in the last few months than I've never been able to in the past. I've learned that I don't need to work three jobs to provide for my family and that not working those extra jobs has allowed me to finally follow through on promises I made months or years ago, like building my daughter a treehouse, helping my son build a campfire in the back yard nearly every night, and exploring that park we've always talked about going to with the whole family.

I'm confident the wonderful memories made these past few months will supersede many others for years to come and I hope that you and your families are taking full advantage of the circumstances to fulfill as many promises as you can, to make as many memories as you can, and to always seek out those object lessons, however

## Rays from University Heights Lodge



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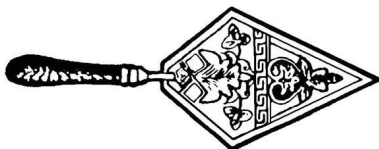
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## (Tidings cont'd from page 1)

seemingly inconsequential, from the lily of the valley to the star in the heavens.

Fraternally,  
John D. Padley  
Senior Warden

### Greetings from the South

It is a classic blessing (most would likely say curse): "May you live in interesting times!" I don't think it's too far off to say that we are currently living in one of the more interesting times in recent history. We have seen many substantial events in the first half of this year; The COVID-19 pandemic. The brief scare of Murder Hornets. And now the massive social unrest in the wake of the deaths of George Floyd and others while in the hands of police. 2020 has been anything but a boring year.

Where does this leave us as Freemasons, especially in these unprecedented times? It is obvious that we need to support our brethren, socially distanced or not, and we thankfully have technology to help make that distance feel less. However, we are still a part of the greater human society, so what is our role as citizen Masons/Masonic citizens during troubled times such as these?

The answer, I believe, lies in our core teachings, and how we regard each other. It is mentioned near the end of the Master Mason degree closing that we are meeting on the level. This is to remind us that no matter what standing or position we have outside of Lodge, we are all equal in the eyes of God, and should treat each other as such in our everyday lives.

It is our duty as Freemasons to help those around us, both Masons and humanity in general. Freemasons have stood in defense of the greater good many times in history, and this time is no different. Our forefathers, who founded this great and noble country, were well known as Masons, and those principles of equality are the foundation upon which the United States was built. These men stood up to a tyrant, and by unifying the people, they were ultimately successful. Only by unifying, and not dividing, can we be successful as a fraternity--and by extension, as a country.

In times of high social distress such as these, we should extend our hand, either metaphorically or literally, to those that may need our help; remembering that we are all equal before God in that greater brotherhood and sisterhood of humanity. We should open our ears, minds,

## ***(Greetings cont'd from page 2)***

and hearts to those around us. Always listen to what others have to say. Hear and acknowledge the pains and sufferings of those who have been victimized, and their supporters. Listening to others and letting them know they have been heard is one of the fastest ways to stop conflict and begin discussion to reach a common compromise and resolution.

Brethren, follow our Masonic teachings and be the beacon that helps to unite the country and the world!

Fraternally,  
Matthew E. Newberry, PM  
Junior Warden

## ***Happy Birthday Wishes To:***

**July:** Stephen Bloom, Daniel Friedman, Allan Glazer, Harvey Golden, David Greenberg, Matthew Harris, Robert Hill, Jeremy Kumin, Donald Levenson, Jeffrey Moss, Warren Perl, Steven Polakof, David Saginor, Robert Stovsky, Jeffrey Strah, James Tusoch, Kenneth Vinocur

**August:** Keevin Berman, Lawrence Cohen, James Flaiz, Jerrold Kozak, Irving Lewis, A. Arthur Moss, Roger Newberry, Joel Newman, Walter Leyser, Barry Pollock, Laurence Rosenthal, Edwin Singer, Jason Smith, Alan Wittenberg, Gary Zeid

**September:** David Ashpis, Richard Burk, William Chapnick, Michael Libman, D. Robert Malcolm, Lawrence Roman, Marc Rosen, Adam Rutkowski, David Van Scyoc, Darren Wohl

## ***Scottish Rite***

Wor. Bro. Aarne Lillo was installed as Thrice Potent Master of the Eliadah Lodge of Perfection, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Cleveland on June 1,



2020. Aarne began his Scottish Rite journey in 2008 when he was appointed to the Eliadah Lodge of Perfection line by Ill. Bro. Martin R. Woodworth 33°. He also holds allegiance to John W. Barkley Lodge No. 621, Heights Chapter No. 206

Royal Arch Masons of Ohio, Woodward Council No. 118 Grand Council of Royal and Select Masons of Ohio, and Ellbrook Chapter No. 408 Order of the Eastern Star.

Congratulations to Bro. John Padley on being installed as the Master of Ceremonies, the Eliadah Lodge

of Perfection. John was appointed to the line by Past Thrice Potent Master Arthur Dunger in 2019.

## ***History of Freemasonry***

No one knows with certainty how or when the Masonic Fraternity was formed. A widely accepted theory among Masonic scholars is that it arose from the stonemasons' guilds during the Middle Ages. The language and symbols used in the fraternity's rituals come from this era. The oldest document that makes reference to Masons is the Regius Poem, printed about 1390, which was a copy of an earlier work. In 1717, four lodges in London formed the first Grand Lodge of England, and records from that point on are more complete.

Within thirty years, the fraternity had spread throughout Europe and the American Colonies. Freemasonry became very popular in colonial America. George Washington was a Mason, Benjamin Franklin served as the head of the fraternity in Pennsylvania, as did Paul Revere and Joseph Warren in Massachusetts. Other well-known Masons involved with the founding of America included John Hancock, John Sullivan, Lafayette, Baron Fredrick von Stuben, Nathanael Greene, and John Paul Jones. Another Mason, Chief Justice John Marshall, shaped the Supreme Court into its present form.

Over the centuries, Freemasonry has developed into a worldwide fraternity emphasizing personal study, self-improvement, and social betterment via individual involvement and philanthropy. During the late 1700s it was one of the organizations most responsible for spreading the ideals of the Enlightenment: the dignity of man and the liberty of the individual, the right of all persons to worship as they choose, the formation of democratic governments, and the importance of public education. Masons supported the first public schools in both Europe and America.

During the 1800s and early 1900s, Freemasonry grew dramatically. At that time, the government had provided no social "safety net". The Masonic tradition of founding orphanages, homes for widows, and homes for the aged provided the only security many people knew.

Today in North America, the Masonic Fraternity continues this tradition by giving almost \$1.5 million each day to causes that range from operating children's hospitals, providing treatment for childhood language disorders, treating eye diseases, funding medical research, contributing to local community service, and providing care to Masons and their families at Masonic Homes.

The four million Masons worldwide continue to help men and women face the problems of the 21st century by building bridges of brotherhood and instilling in the hearts of men ideals for a better tomorrow.

*Excerpted from: Masonic Services Association of North America*

## **Statement on Freemasonry and Religion**

**Basic Principles.** Freemasonry is not a religion, nor is it a substitute for religion. It requires of its members a belief in God as part of the obligation of every responsible adult but advocates no sectarian faith or practice. Masonic ceremonies include prayers, both traditional and extempore, to reaffirm each individual's dependence on God and to seek divine guidance. Freemasonry is open to men of any faith, but religion may not be discussed at Masonic meetings.

**The Supreme Being.** Masons believe that there is one God and that people employ many different ways to seek, and to express what they know of God. Masonry primarily uses the appellation, "Grand Architect of the Universe," and other non-sectarian titles, to address the Deity. In this way, persons of different faiths may join together in prayer, concentrating on God, rather than differences among themselves. Masonry believes in religious freedom and that the relationship between the individual and God is personal, private, and sacred.

**Volume of the Sacred Law.** An open volume of the Sacred Law, "the rule and guide of life," is an essential part of every Masonic meeting. The Volume of the Sacred Law in the Judeo/Christian tradition is the Bible; to Freemasons of other faiths, it is the book held holy by them.

**The Oath of Freemasonry.** The obligations taken by Freemasons are sworn on the Volume of the Sacred Law. They are undertakings to follow the principles of Freemasonry and to keep confidential a Freemason's means of recognition. The much discussed "penalties," judicial remnants from an earlier era, are symbolic, not literal. They refer only to the pain any honest man should feel at the thought of violating his word.

**Freemasonry Compared with Religion.** Freemasonry lacks the basic elements of religion: (a) It has no dogma or theology, no wish or means to enforce religious orthodoxy. (b) It offers no sacraments. (c) It does not claim to lead to salvation by works, by secret knowledge, or by any other means. The secrets of

Freemasonry are concerned with modes of recognition, not with the means of salvation.

**Freemasonry Supports Religion.** Freemasonry is far from indifferent toward religion. Without interfering in religious practice, it expects each member to follow his own faith and to place his Duty to God above all other duties. Its moral teachings are acceptable to all religions.

*Prepared by the Masonic Information Center (12/93)  
Revised (9/98)*

## **Hiram Hears**

Congratulations to Sam Kay, son of WOR. BRO. ABRAHAM KAY and Bonnie (of blessed memory) on being awarded his Ph.D (doctorate) in Geography by Ohio State University. Sam will be spending the next year as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota- Duluth....and congratulations to BRO. DAVID ARONS and Emily on the birth of Maya Paige, born April 27, 2020, who tipped the scale at 7 lbs 5 oz, and measured 21 inches at birth. Proud Grandparents are WOR. BRO. ALAN B. ARONS and Marcia. Beaming uncles and aunts are BRO. JOSHUA ARONS and Kortney Mettle, BRO. JAMES FLAIZ and Laura, and BRO. BRAD BERGER and Stephanie. The family looks forward to seeing her soon...

BRO. RICHARD BURK was in the hospital and then a stint recovering at a rehab facility. He is now home and feeling better....WOR. BRO. ALAN B. ARONS said he is doing well with his new pacemaker and is enjoying his recent retirement....BRO. D. ROBERT MALCOLM is in a bout with Bell's Palsy and thankfully reports he is winning the fight....BRO. BERNARD ABRAHAMS, who passed the century mark this past February, sends his warm regards and hopes to see the brethren when safe to do so....Mazel tov to Alan & Margo Wittenberg on their 55th wedding anniversary...

Hiram is sad to report BRO. BEN ZIDE passed away on May 19, 2020

*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](mailto:aarne.lillo@yahoo.com), or tell him in person when you see him.*

