

The Foundation Light

Volume 17 Number 1 • March-April-May 2020

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Clifton Lodge Celebrates 100 Years



In the winter of 1919-1920, Lakewood Lodge No. 601 and Gaston G. Allen Lodge No. 629 were swamped with petitions by candidates for the degrees. Often it took an applicant 15-18 months to complete

his degree work, and all the officers were tired out with the many special meetings called in an attempt to get back to schedule.

District Lecturer (the modern title is District Deputy Grand Master) James B. Ruhl (who would later become Grand Master) felt there was a need for a third lodge in Lakewood. After consulting the officers of Lakewood and Gaston G. Allen Lodges and obtaining their consent, Right Worshipful Brother Ruhl convened a meeting of interested Brethren on March 21, 1920, at which time sufficient commitments were obtained to hold five more organizational meetings to develop a formal request to form a new Lodge. On July 4 a delegation traveled to Willoughby to the summer home of Most Worshipful Grand Master Matthew Smith, where he signed and presented to them a Dispensation for the new Lodge.

Lenten Fish Fries Are Back

Yes, they started Friday, February 28, and are continuing each Friday throughout the Lenten season through Friday, April 10, all with the same good food, good music and good fellowship you've come to expect. Mark your calendar now!

At the first stated meeting on July 10, attended by 61 members and 50 visitors, 76 petitions were received and referred to committees. The first special meeting was held at 9:00a on July 26, at which time 25 candidates received their Entered Apprentice Degrees. A reception and entertainment held that evening for the members of Lakewood and Gaston G. Allen Lodges and Cunningham Chapter was attended by 65 members and 450 visitors.

By October 9, 152 petitions had been received; and 73 Entered Apprentice, 55 Fellowcraft and 54 Master Mason Degrees had been conferred at 12 special and 6 stated meetings; leading District Lecturer Ruhl to recommend that Clifton Lodge U. D. be granted a charter.

The request for Charter was approved at the October 22-23, 1920, Grand Lodge Communication making Clifton Lodge No. 664 a constituent part of Freemasonry in Ohio.

Save These Dates!

Clifton-Gaston Allen Lodge #664 F. & A. M.

100th Anniversary Reconsecration by the Grand Lodge F. & A. M. of Ohio **Saturday Morning, April 25, 2020** 10:00a

Holy Grail Commandery #70 K. T.

100th Anniversary Reconsecration by the Grand Commandery K. T. of Ohio **Sunday Afternoon, September 20, 2020**

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New Ways to Donate to our Foundation

Nearly every Mason and Eastern Star who has been a member of our Lakewood Masonic Family has fond memories of his/her experiences. These memories are all the more vivid because of our beautiful Lakewood Masonic Temple, specially designed as a home uniquely capable of supporting our fraternal activities. Many of our members have gone the extra mile by making contributions above and beyond their annual dues. We call your attention to several new ways to donate to our Foundation.

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When you shop using AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com/ch/20-0357206), Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to our

Lakewood Masonic Foundation. This will not increase the price you pay for your purchases.



Facebook users may donate through our Facebook page. Facebook does not charge a fee to our Lakewood Masonic Foundation or other not-for-profit organizations.



Holders of traditional (not Roth) IRAs must begin taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) in the year they turn age 70-1/2. Distributions made directly from an

IRA to a qualified charity such as our Lakewood Masonic Foundation can count toward your required minimum distribution, subject to a collective limit of \$100,000 per year. Such distributions do not incur either federal income or estate taxes but also do not count as itemized deductions for tax purposes.



Donations can be made after death by naming The Lakewood Masonic Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance policy, IRA, TOD (Transfer on Death) account or the like, either as a fixed amount or a percentage. A will can be amended by

codicils without having to be rewritten in its entirely. In matters such as these, you are best advised to discuss your intentions with an attorney and/or tax accountant.



Gifts may be in the form of cash, securities or property. Gifts of appreciated securities and/or charitable gift annuities can be especially benefi-

cial to the donor. In matters such as these, you are best advised to discuss your intentions with an attorney and/or tax accountant.

Some employers have payroll deduction plans and/or matching gift programs for charitable giving. Check yours.

Gifts and bequests to our Lakewood Masonic Foundation (but not our Lakewood Masonic Temple Endowment Fund or our Lakewood Masonic Temple Company Operating Fund) are deductible for federal estate and income taxes to the extent permitted by law. As always, we encourage you to consult your legal and financial advisors for assistance in determining in what form and in what amount you should make any major gift or bequest.

The Foundation Light

published quarterly by

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www.lakewoodmasonicfoundation.org

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Clifton-Gaston Allen Lodge #664 F. & A. M.

Stated Meeting Second Thursday 7:30 p.m. • Special Fourth Thursday • www.cliftonallen664fam.org

Master's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season and that the new year has been well for you and your families.

We have been busy over the holiday season. We initiated phone calls to all the Brethren and widows of our lodge. If we have not contacted you yet, please make sure we have your updated contact information. We would love to hear how you are doing. If there is anything the Lodge can do for you, please let us know. There are many resources available to that you might not know about. The Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center, for example, can help with financial, social and clinical needs. They can be contacted at 1.877.881.1623 or on the web at www.ohiomasonichome.org/resource-center/.

We also passed a candidate to the degree of Fellowcraft and will raise him at our Master Mason Degree Inspection in April. He is looking forward to being our Inspection candidate and is very proud to be a Freemason.

Next, we addressed Lodge dues and have read a proposal to increase Lodge dues by 4% annually until a balanced budget is achieved. We will be voting on this and other proposed by-laws changes at our stated meeting on April 9. Please be sure to attend and be prepared to discuss and vote on the proposed amendments.

This spring will be busy as well, and we would love to have you participate. We have a young and energetic officer line but will need the help of all the Brethren to ensure that all events go smoothly.

First, we have our annual Inspection on April 23. Dinner will be served at 6:00p with the Inspection to begin promptly at 7:00p. We are starting to fill the roles for the Fellowcraft Team. If there is a particular role that you would like to portray for the degree, please let me know. We will be holding several practices, so if you're a little rusty you will have plenty of opportunity to re-polish your square and compasses.

Two days later on April 25 at 10:00a we will celebrate the 100th year of our charter by hosting a Centennial Reconsecration Ceremony performed by the Grand Lodge of Ohio. Preceding the ceremony we will be hosting a breakfast as well. We will need at least 10 Past Masters to attend and participate in the ceremony. If you're able to attend please let me know.

Also on the agenda is our Awards Night which will be held on May 28 at 7:30p. We have several Brethren who we will be honoring with 50, 60 and 75 year service awards.

I will leave you with this, "We can only know the fullest joys of Masonry when we truly walk the paths of service and of hard work in the quarries." – George E. Burow. Let us work together to continue improving our Lodge and ourselves.

Step Into the Light



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> Junior Steward A Brother

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Tyler

Marshal

Virgil D. Tent, PM

Lodge Education Officer Edward W. Haupin, PM

Trustees
Edward W. Haupin, PM
Earl Haywood Bey III, PM
Virgil D. Tent, PM



Lakewood Lodge #601 F. & A. M.

Stated Meetings Second & Fourth Mondays 7:30 p.m. • www.lakewoodfreemasons.com

Plumb-Line

A line to which a piece of lead is attached so as to make it hang perpendicularly. The plumb-line, sometimes called simply the *line*, is one of the working tools of the Past Master. According to Preston, it

of the working-tools of the Past Master. According to Preston, it was one of the instruments of Masonry which was presented to the Master of a Lodge at his installation, and he defines its symbolism as follows: "The line teaches the criterion of rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps in the path which leads to immortality." This idea of the immortal life was always connected in symbology with that of the perpendicular—something that rose directly upward. Thus in the primitive

church, the worshiping Christians stood up at prayer on Sunday, as a reference to the Lord's resurrection on that day. This symbolism is not, however, preserved in the verse of the prophet Amos (vii. 7), which is read in this country as the Scripture passage of the Second Degree, where it seems rather to refer to the strict justice which God will apply to the people of Israel. It there coincides with the first Masonic definition that the line teaches the criterion of moral rectitude.

—From Mackey's New and Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, 1919.

22nd Masonic District Inspection Schedule

			•				
Mar 3	Tues	7:30p	Mid-Century #725	FC	Dinner 6:30p		
Mar 4	Wed	7:00p	Golden Gate #245	EΑ	Dinner 6:00p		
Mar 5	Thur	7:30p	Solon #757	FC	Dinner 6:30p		
Mar 7	Sat	3:00p	Black River #786	MM	No		
Mar 10	Tues	7:00p	Elyria #787	EA	Dinner 5:30p		
Mar 11	Wed	7:00p	John W. Barkley #621	EA	Dinner 6:00p		
Mar 16	Mon	7:00p	Wellington #127	FC	Dinner 6:00p		
Mar 19	Thur	7:00p	Dover #489	MM	No		
Mar 25	Wed	7:30p	Eastgate #796	FC	Dinner 6:00p		
Mar 26	Thur	7:30p	North Star #638	MM	Dinner 6:30p		
Apr 1	Wed	7:30p	Harding-Concordia #345	FC	No		
Apr 2	Thur	7:00p	Rocky River #703	MM	Dinner 5:30p		
Apr 13	Mon	7:30p	Collinwood #582	FC	Dinner 6:00p		
Apr 15	Wed	7:30p	Forest City #388	EA	Dinner 6:30p		
Apr 17	Fri	7:00p	Oberlin #380	FC	No		
Apr 23	Thur	7:00p	Clifton-Gaston Allen #664	MM	Dinner 6:00p		
Apr 24	Fri	7:30p	Acacia #651	FC	Dinner 6:30p		
Apr 27	Mon	7:30p	Lakewood #601	EA	No		
Apr 30	Thur	7:30p	University Heights #738	MM	Dinner 6:30p		
For the latest information visit: www.ohiodistrict22.org							

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> Senior Deacon Christopher McDade

> > Junior Deacon Chad Thomas

> > > Senior Steward Lars Violand

Junior Steward

Marshal

Tyler
Thomas D. Standen, PM

Lodge Education Officer
Vincent D. Salls, PM

Step Into the Light



Ann Rutledge Chapter #453 O. E. S.

Stated Meetings First & Third Wednesdays 1:30 p.m. • www.annrutledge453oes.org

Matron's Message

Ann Rutledge Chapter had an active and exciting beginning to the 2019-2020 year. The meeting after Installation we greeted Sister Jean Henderson, Grand Ruth, as we honored the station of Ruth. December brought our first initiation; and of course, we celebrated Christmas. On our only meeting in January we celebrated November, December and January birthdays and concluded the day with a speaker from Guidestone who told us about the mission of the organization. Prior to Christmas we were able to donate gloves, hats, scarves and socks to Guidestone. The first Around the Town Dinner group met for the first time this term on January 29 at Stancato's Restaurant. It was an enjoyable afternoon.

March, April and May will be very active months. On March 4 we will honor the station of Esther and have a visitation of Grand Esther, Sister Kathy Cooper. On March 18 we will host Brecksville Chapter as our Sister Chapter as well as celebrate February and March birthdays; and, perhaps, a little celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Then, on Friday, March 27, we will greet the Worthy Grand Matron at a special meeting for the purpose of Inspection of Officers. Our first meeting in April falls on April Fool's Day;

(continued on page 10)

Dates to Remember

March 4	1:30p	Stated Meeting. Honor Station of Esther. Visitation by
		Grand Esther

March 18 1:30p Stated Meeting. Sister Chapter Brecksville will visit. Celebrate February, March birthdays.

March 27 1:30p Inspection. Ann Rutledge by WGM. Lakewood Temple.

March 28 6:00p 66 Club Dinner Dance, Holiday Inn, Strongsville.

April 1 1:30p Stated Meeting

April 15 1:30p Stated Meeting. Honor Station of Martha. Visitation by Grand Martha.

May 6 1:30p Stated Meeting. Honor the station of Adah. Visitation by Grand Adah. Celebrate Mother's Day.

May 20 1:30p Stated Meeting. Honor Station of Electa. Visitation by Grand Electa. Observe Memorial Day.

There are many activities throughout District 3 and the state during these months. Please see Elinor Bayse, W.M. for details.

Around the Town Dinner Group is trying something different by meeting at 12:00n for lunch. The locations will be announced at our meetings.

Report sunshine, joys, illness or sorrow to Worthy Matron Elinor Bayse, 216.210.0736; or Brother Dan Crown, 216.741.0685.

This is the day we begin to compose our Symphony and make a joyful noise to the Lord!



Worthy Matron Elinor Bayse, PM 3909 Riverside Avenue Cleveland, OH 44109 216.210.0736 e_bayse@twc.com Worthy Patron Harold E. Sieburt, PP Associate Matron Norma Jean Crown, PM Associate Patron Daniel G. Crown, PP Secretary Mary Beth Cascio, PM 216.228.1987 mbcascio@juno.com Treasurer Norman Bayse, PP Conductress Wanda King, PM Associate Conductress Gay E. Whieldon, PM Chaplain Patricia Gorze, PM Robert Hubert, Jr., PP Adah Bre Ann White Carolyn Onyak Esther Carrie Hoover, PM Martha Gloria Cazan, PM Electa Kathleen Hubert, PM Warder Karen Bacho Sentinel

Linda Bokan

Organist Pro Tem

Elaine Hammond, PM



Cunningham Chapter #187 R. A. M.

Stated Convocation Third Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • www.cunningham187ram.org

Dedication of the Temple

There are five dedications of the Temple of Jerusalem which are recorded in Jewish history: 1. The dedication of the Solomonic Temple, B.C. 1004. 2. The dedication in the time of Hezekiah, when it was purified from the abominations of Ahaz, B.C. 726. 3. The dedication of Zerubbabel's Temple, B.C. 513. 4. The dedication of the Temple when it was purified after Judas Maccabæus had driven out the Syrians, B.C. 164. 5. The dedication of Herod's Temple, B.C. 22. The fourth of these is still celebrated by the Jews in their "Feast of the Dedication." The first only is connected with the Masonic ritual, and is commemorated in the Most Excellent Master's Degree of the American Rite as the "Celebration of the Cape-Stone." This dedication was made by King Solomon in the year of the world 3000, and lasted eight days, commencing in the month of Tisri, 15th day, during the Feast of Tabernacles. The dedication of the Temple is called, in the English system of Lectures, "the third grand offering which consecrates the floor of a Mason's Lodge." The same Lectures contain a tradition that on that occasion King Solomon assembled the nine Deputy Grand Masters in the holy place, from which all natural light had been carefully excluded, and which only received the artificial light which emanated from the east, west, and south and there made the necessary arrangements. The legend must be considered as a myth; but the inimitable prayer and invocation which were offered up by King Solomon on the occasion are recorded in the eighth chapter of the 1st Book of Kings, which contains the Scriptural account of the dedication.

—From Mackey's New and Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, 1919.

Cunningham Chapter Degree Dates 2019-20

Apr 15 Wed 7:30p Royal Arch Degree

For the most current information visit: www.cunningham187ram.org

16th Capitular District Dates to Remember

For the most current information visit: www.ram16.org

Mar 6	Fri	6:30p	16th District Association—Euclid MT
Apr 3	Fri	7:30p	Mt. Olive #189 Inspection—RA Degree
Apr 13	Mon	7:30p	Summit-Baker #74 Inspection—MEM Degree
May 16	Sat	10:00a	Region E Grand King's Program—Lyndhurst MC
Jun 8	Mon	6:30p	16th District Association Annual Meeting &
			Awards Night—Summit MT
Aug 17	Mon	9:00a	16th District 2025 Golf Outing – Gleneagles GC
Aug 22	Sat	9:00a	Region E School of Instruction—Location TBD
Aug 29	Sat	2:00p	Royal Arch Wine Social—Michael Angelo's, Richfield
Oct 7-8	Wed-	Thur	204th Grand Chapter—Great Wolf Lodge, Mason

Pathway to the Future



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Royal Arch Captain Harold A. Loebick, PHP Master of the Third Veil Christen A. Hoyer

Master of the Second Veil

Master of the First Veil

Guard
Darrel A. Weaver, PHP
Chaplain
John H. Whitehouse, Jr.,
KYCH

Education Officer Ronald J. Bokan, Jr., KYCH



Lakewood Council #125 R. & S. M.

Stated Assembly First Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • www.lakewood125rsm.org

Master's Message

We are well into our new year, and the weather has been very cooperative this year. I hope everyone is enjoying this Inspection season and is traveling throughout the Arch, helping where you can. This is the best part of our fraternity: "helping."

The Lakewood Masonic Temple Lenten Fish Fry season is in full swing. Please join us in working or supporting this 7th annual event. We have a lot of fun, and the proceeds benefit our Council and our Temple.

I want to thank our Companions for a good Inspection this year as well as welcome our new Companions. We still have the SEM degree to go on Saturday, May 16, at 2:00p at the Elyria Masonic Temple in conjunction with Elyria and Cleveland Councils.

A fellow Brother once said, "There is no doubt in my mind that Masonry is the cornerstone of America." I know it is the cornerstone of my life. Thank you, Brother Dave Thomas. May this be our best year ever and repeat for many years to come.

Lakewood Council Degree Dates 2019-20

May 16 Sat 2:00p Super Excellent Master with Cleveland #36 & Elyria #86 (at Elyria)

For the most current information visit: www.lakewood125rsm.org

7th Arch Dates to Remember

Mar 10	Tues	7:30p	Windermere #113 Inspection RM—Dinner 6:30p
Mar 16	16 Mon 7:30p		Painesville #104 Inspection SM—Dinner 6:30p
Mar 24	Tues 7:30p		Woodward #118 Inspection RM—Dinner 6:30p
Apr 4	Sat	9:00a	Warren #58 & Buechner #107 SM @ Buechner
			—Coffee & Donuts 8:00a
Apr 18	Sat	9:00a	Warren #58, Painesville #104, Buechner #107,
			Woodward #118 & Geneva #145 SEM @ Painesville
			— Coffee & Donuts 8:00a
Apr 25	Sat	9:00a	Windermere #113 SEM—Breakfast 8:00a
Apr 29	Wed 7:30p		Deputy Masters Meeting—Lakewood MT
May 16 Sat 2:00p		2:00p	Cleveland #36, Elyria #86 & Lakewood #125 SEM
			@ Elyria
Jun 6-7	Sat-Sun		WonderStruck Festival Fundraiser-Need Volunteers
Jun 29	Mon	6:00p	7th Arch Annual Meeting—Applebee's Willoughby
Aug 3-9	Mon-S	Sun	Medina County Fair Fundraiser-Need Volunteers
Oct 6-8	Sun-Tues		191th Grand Council —Great Wolf Lodge, Mason
			., e. a. a. e e a e. e a. e e e e





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> Education Officer Pro Tem



Holy Grail Commandery #70 K. T.

Stated Conclave Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • www.holygrail70kt.org

Commander's Message

Sir Knights:

At our January Stated Conclave we performed a well-received Full Form Opening using all our own officers and incorporating the few visitors present into the Army. This was reviewed as a part of this year's annual Inspection. Thanks to all who helped!

We will meet twice in March—our regular Stated Conclave on March 11, which will also serve as a practice for the Order of the Temple, and again for a Special Conclave on Saturday, March 28, for the balance of our annual Inspection by way of conferring the Order of the Temple on one of our candidates. As is our custom, Inspection will open at 2:00p; but, since we've already completed our Full Form Opening, our Inspection dinner will commence and conclude approximately 90 minutes earlier than usual. The Ladies of Cleveland Beauceant have graciously agreed to host a Ladies Program during our March 28 Inspection, to which all Knight Templar ladies are invited. Ladies are also invited to stay for our Inspection Banquet.

We plan to confer the Order of the Temple at least one more time to accommodate our second candidate for the year. Our May 13 Stated Conclave will include our annual election of officers for the next Templar Year.

Holy Grail Commandery has been well represented at North Central Division Inspections this year, even considering the expanded territory we've been asked to travel as a result of the merger of our former 7th Division with the former 8th Division to our south. Please make every effort to visit our fraters throughout our Division, wearing your uniform and assisting where needed. What goes around, comes around. Visitations are also great opportunities to learn and to make and renew friendships.

As is their custom, the Ladies of Cleveland Beauceant prepare a potluck dinner at 6:15p prior to each of our Stated Conclaves. Please join us and make a generous donation for their efforts. Since their meetings now begin at 7:00p, please be prompt for dinner!

North Central Division Dates to Remember

Mar 21	Sat	2:00p	Massillon #4 Inspection—Banquet Follows		
Mar 28	Sat	2:00p	Holy Grail #70 Inspection—Banquet Follows		
Apr 4	Sat	2:00p	Wooster #48 Inspection—Banquet Follows		
Apr 12	Sun		East Coast Easter Observance—Washington DC		
Apr 25	Sat	12:00n	Clinton #5 Inspection—12:00n Banquet		
Sept 20	Sun	1:30p	Holy Grail #70 100th Year Reconsecration		
Oct 9-10	Oct 9-10 Fri-Sat		178th Grand Commandery—Great Wolf, Mason		
Nov 9-19			Knight Templar Holy Land Pilgrimage for Seniors		





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> Warder Jonathan R. Hupp

Sentinel Glen H. Carpenter

Cleveland Assembly #15 S. O. O. B.

Stated Meeting Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • www.cleveland15soob.org

President's Message

Our year has started off on a good note. For the first time in many years we were able to hold our annual Installation of Officers at our January 8 meeting as the weather cooperated and we did not have a blizzard. I am so honored to be able to greet each of you, my sisters, as your Worthy President for the upcoming year. I am very excited and looking forward to a great year. At our February 12 meeting we celebrated Valentine's day.

I am hoping to achieve several goals over the next months, and I know with the help of you my dear sisters we will achieve these goals. I am asking that each of you study both your ritual and your Book of Instructions and become very familiar with your part. I am planning on marching in at the beginning of each meeting and also to practice part of the initiatory work at each meeting. Please refer to the calendar printed in the back of the program which gives the material that I hope to cover at each meeting along with our normal business. I want each of us to become proficient in our station. Our ritual is 100 years old this year, and it is still as beautiful as it was in 1920. If anyone wishes to have extra help with their station, please do not hesitate to let me know; and we can set something up to work together.

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming dates:

March 11	7:00p	Stated Meeting—Open Short Form—Practice
	·	Initiation page 21 thru page 22
March 28	2:00p	Holy Grail Inspection
April 8	7:00p	Stated Meeting—Open Long Form—Practice page 23
		thru the top of page 28 First Vice President's speech
April 12		HAPPY EASTER—He is risen
May 13	7:00p	Stated meeting—Open Short Form—Practice
_	-	Initiation Page 28 starting with Standard Bearer's

speech to finish of Initiation

Lunch Bunch dates to be announced

We will continue to provide a potluck dinner at 6:15p before each of our meetings to share with the Sir Knights. Please contact Ellen Wadge to let her know what month you might be willing to provide the main dish and also what each of us can bring to compliment that dish. I so appreciate Ellen doing that job.

We will once again be selling Suzin L Candy for Easter as one of our fund raisers. Please remember to be saving your K, E, and F dollars for the KTEF fund. The Knights Templar Eye Foundation does such amazing things. If you get a chance please visit their website to see all of the wonderful work that they are doing. We will also continue to collect the aluminum tabs for Shriners.

I would ask each of you to remember to invite other ladies to join our wonderful organization. We are the wives, widows, daughters and grand-daughters of a Sir Knight. The ladies may also become members by joining through our membership. Ask for a petition. Let's make this an exciting year and watch our beautiful Order grow.



Worthy President (Mrs. William) Janice Freitag, PP 29671 Robert Street Wickliffe, OH 44092 440.585.1872 216.215.6325 freitagbil@aol.com Most Worthy Oracle Ms. Kimberly Burnett, PSWP 1st Vice President (Mrs. Robert) Deborah Wykoff 2nd Vice President (Mrs. Robert) Meldia Childers, PP **Preceptress** (Mrs. Ronald) Linda Bokan Recorder (Mrs. Norman) Elinor Bayse, PP 3909 Riverside Avenue Cleveland, OH 44109 216.661.8391 e_bayse@twc.com Treasurer (Mrs. John) Janet Sutter, PP Marshal (Mrs. James) Karen Baughman, PP Assistant Marshal (Mrs. Robert) Marilyn Robertson Chaplain (Mrs. Robert) Lois Kubishke Director of Music (Mrs. Ralph) Pamela Sheetz Standard Bearer

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Matron's Message

(continued from page 5)

and, perhaps, we will find out how that observance came to be. On April 15 we will honor the station of Martha; and we have the honor of a visitation by Grand Martha, Sister Linda Whitesel. May 6 will be busy. We will honor the station of Adah with a visitation by Grand Adah, Sister Faith Lyon; celebrate Mother's Day; and another lesser known "holiday." Come and see what that holiday is. Concluding May, on the 20th, we will have a visitation by Grand Electa, Sister Mary Boston, as we honor the station of Electa. We will also remember Memorial Day.

Obligation

The solemn promise made by a Mason on his admission into any degree is technically called his obligation. In a legal sense, obligation is synonymous with duty. Its derivation shows its true meaning, for the Latin word obligatio literally signifies a tying or binding. The obligation is that which binds a man to do some act, the doing of which thus becomes his duty. By his obligation, a Mason is bound or tied to his Order. Hence the Romans called the military oath which was taken by the soldier his obligation, and, too, it is said that it is the obligation that makes the Mason. Before that ceremony, there is no tie that binds the candidate to the Order so as to make him a part of it; after the ceremony, the tie has been completed, and the candidate becomes at once a Mason, entitled to all the rights and privileges and subject to all the duties and responsibilities that enure in that character. The jurists have divided obligations into imperfect and perfect, or natural and civil. In Masonry there is no such distinction. The Masonic obligation is that moral one which, although it cannot be enforced by the courts of law, is binding on the party who makes it, in conscience and according to moral justice. It varies in each degree, but in each is perfect. Its different clauses, in which different duties are prescribed, are called its *points*, which are either affirmative or negative, a division like that of the precepts of the Jewish law. The affirmative points are those which require certain acts to be performed; the negative points are those which forbid certain other acts to be done. The whole of them is preceded by a general point of secrecy, common to all the degrees, and this point is called the tie.

—From Mackey's New and Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry, 1919.



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