

FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

November - December 2014

Website: www.forestcity388.com

Lyndhurst, Ohio

MASTER ELECT'S MESSAGE



“No man is good enough to govern another man without the other’s consent.”

Abraham Lincoln

I am writing to you, my brethren, on the eve of my 36th birthday. While I am starting to realize that I am quickly approaching middle age, I am also realizing my youth in my upcoming Masonic endeavor. I am very proud to have the support of Forest City Lodge moving forward as Worshipful Master. Only about seven years ago, my life took this turn. I met a man who was soliciting me to perform the maintenance on my vehicles for my heating and air conditioning company. That man was Worshipful Brother Mark Nathanson. We met for lunch that day, and talked for hours. He mentioned something about masonry and I immediately showed interest. Next, my wife and I met with Worshipful Brother Jackie Woldering and his wife for dinner. He agreed to sign my petition along with Mark. I paid all monies owed and waited to hear what was next. Soon after, I met with the investigation committee which was comprised of brothers Don Samuels, Dan Lash, and Marv Danzinger. I had a nice lunch with those three and thanked them for their time. A few weeks later, I was contacted again and told to come to the lodge for an interview. I put on a jacket and tie, went to Forest City Lodge, and waited to be called up to the library for my turn. Upon entering the room, I met many men, who just a few months later, I would come to

know not only as brothers, but also as friends. A few weeks passed and I was told to come to lodge for my initiation. Not knowing what to expect, I was calmed by my guide, Right Worshipful Harvey S. Morrison. Brother Morrison led me to Worshipful Brother Frank Kakou, who over the course of many months, initiated, passed, and raised me. Brother Kakou also appointed me to the Marshall’s position; therefore, it gives me great pride to call him my Masonic Father.

The night of my third degree, many men signed my bible. Some of whom are no longer with us, including Worshipful Brother Ron Wolfe, Worshipful Brother Alex Rosenberg, Right Worshipful Brother Mort Negin among them. Though I have lost men that I called friends within the lodge, I have gained more than I have lost. William Hoon, Christopher Stafford, Adam Pattison, Daniel Cohen, Russ Sundberg, Cary Sears, Alex Meske, Jay Weiss, and many others have become good friends of mine.

I wish to thank every brother that has helped not only me in the last few years, but the lodge in general. Mostly, I wish to thank those members reading this whom I have never met. So many of you have kept this great institution going both through your monetary contributions and the time when you yourselves were active. Thank you for making and keeping Forest City Lodge open throughout your lives. I cannot say how flattering it is for so many of you to continue to contribute having never met me. I promise to make you proud.

Wor. Master Elect Scott M. Muharsky

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TRESTLEBOARD

*Brethren – please check our website at
www.forestcity388.com
for further information and updates about future
Lodge events – things do change over time...*

Dear brethren, please feel welcome to attend any of our upcoming events.

Wednesday, November 19th will be our annual installation of officers. This year's installation will be open to all. Dinner will be your choice of prime rib or salmon for \$12 or a "surf and turf" option for \$18.

Wednesday, December 3rd will be a stated meeting and a very unique event. Worshipful brother Burton J. Task will have a night in his honor. This will be an open event where people from around the district are encouraged to come and be a part of. Burt will be deciding the food choices for that night. The cost will be 12 dollars and bring your appetite.

Wednesday, December 17th will be our annual brotherhood night and night with the clergy. The dinner this night will be a special spaghetti recipe, salad and homemade garlic bread that Wor. Master Scott Muharsky and his wife served at one of the city's missions for many years. This event involves the community and convinces the world at large of our good effects so please invite as many people as you would like.

A Chance to Increase Convenience and Save Money

As we bring our great lodge into a great future there is a need to increase the speed and convenience of communications as well as save money. Some of the members have expressed the desire to receive the bulletin solely by email rather than by snail mail. Some members find this a more convenient way to receive information. It also helps to keep printing and mailing costs down and assists the lodge financially.

At the present time, we will continue to print and mail the bulletin to all members unless you opt out of receiving a printed copy in the mail. If you wish to stop receiving a bulletin by mail and wish to receive your bulletin solely through email, please send an email to:

Alan Rothman, webmaster@forestcity388.com or
to Cary Sears, carysears@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Cary Sears
Bulletin Editor

OUTGOING MASTER'S MESSAGE

Wow, has it really been a year since I picked up the Master's gavel for the second time at Forest City Lodge? It's been an interesting year, to say the least, and I'd like to thank all those who helped make it a successful one as well. We started off last November with Installation of Officers, Brotherhood Night in December chaired by the Kaufman brothers, and Awards Night in January hosted by Danny Cohen. Elliott Gross chaired our Chili Cookoff at the end of January, while February brought a musical Valentine's Day event under guidance of Cary Sears and the major March event was Sports Night, coordinated by RWB Harvey Morrison and featuring basketball great Austin Carr from the Cavaliers.

We raised Brother Nathan Rzepka during the Grand Master's One Day Class on April 5th, had our annual Master and Wardens' Dinner Dance on April 26th at Landerhaven due to the hard work of Brothers Marv Danziger and Cary Sears and Worshipful Brothers Jerome Kustin and Burt Task. We passed our Inspection on April 30th in the Master Mason degree with the assistance of all our officers and the help of many of our sideline members and Past Masters marching, thus raising Bro. Ralph Jurecki according to the finest Forest City tradition. A musical review of Andrew Lloyd Weber songs was held on May 21st by MusiGals, of which Harriet Siebert, wife of WB Burt Siebert, is a member. June brought our annual Table Lodge with speaker MWB James F. Easterling, Jr. on the 18th, with a memorable speech given by candle (and smartphone) light due to a power outage. Brother Michael Rothman took care of our baseball outing at Classic Park in Eastlake with the Lake County Captains on June 21st, then his father, WB Alan Rothman, his mom Beverly and sister Elizabeth spearheaded our annual Steak Roast at Horseshoe Lake in Shaker Heights on the 20th of August, 2014.

We started off September with Memorial Night, and although there was no Mason of the Year, we did have entertainment by Jennifer Cochran, leader of the MusiGals, and pianist L.R. Smith to round out the evening. October's main event was Past Masters' Night, brought together by WB Zalmen Rzepka and attended by about 20 of our own Past Masters, who were primarily responsible for raising our newest Master Mason, Brother Todd B. Francis. This was also particularly memorable for me and Brother Timothy Cline, as he had recently given the Fellowcraft lecture for the first time, and I had given the Master Mason lecture for the first time at Past Masters' night on October 1st. RWB Eric R. Schau called both of us to the alter at the end of the evening, and gave us each a 22nd District watch to commemorate our first-time lectures.

Now that my second term is finished, I'd especially like to thank Brother Elliott Gross, who went from Junior Deacon to filling in as Master during the time from January to June when I was teaching Wednesday evening classes. He did an excellent job, conferring degrees, giving charges and lectures, and doing everything necessary to keep the Lodge running smoothly. He will be sorely missed in the coming years. I'd like to thank our Secretary, WB Alan Rothman, Treasurer WB Jerome Kustin, Chaplains WB Burt Task and WB Ron Jacobs, Education Officers RWB Mitchell Alperin and WB Barry Siegel, Tylers Bro. Michael Rothman and Bro. Lenny Clark, our Musician WB Paul Shellhammer, our Bulletin Editors Bro. Cary Sears and Bro. Alex Meske, all the officers, those who served on the several committees, and those who helped with parts in the various degrees, including marchers, and assisted with Lodge events. Together you have made a successful year and I look forward to another great year with a new Worshipful Master and officer corps at Forest City Lodge.

W.B. Jackie F. Woldering, P.M.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT

By now everyone should have received their refrigerator magnets, hope you will put them to good use. Please keep the Sunshine Committee in mind, so we can do our job.

Members who have passed to the Celestial Lodge Above:

9/3/14 - WB Frank Orlove, P.D.E.O., raised 1948.
9/25/14 - Brother Leon S. Shon, raised 1960.
10/9/14 - RWB Morton S. Negin, P.D.D.G.M., raised 1952.

Deceased relations of our Brethren and their family:

9/1/14 - Linda Savransky, wife of Jerome.
9/6/14 - Shirley Silver, Mother of Michael Silver.
9/14/14 - Mildred Siegel Kaplan, Mother of Barry Siegel.

Hospitalized or recuperating either at Home or in a Facility:

9/7/14 - Allan Rubinstein, shoulder replacement at Hillcrest Hospital.
9/15/14 - Mel Bernzweig, major surgery at the Cleveland Clinic.
9/18/14 - Marvin Feldman, in Menorah Park for rehab.
10/9/14 - Burt Task, in the Cleveland Clinic, part of a study.

FOREST CITY LODGE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE 2014

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FROM THE SECRETARY'S QUILL

Thank you all very much for electing me to my third consecutive term as your secretary of this Great Lodge. It truly has been an honor and privilege for me to fill this vital role and one that I take very seriously. As I promised Right Worshipful Brother Morton S. Negin when he asked me to consider filling in as assistant secretary, he stated that he wanted some assurance that this was something I would do for the long haul. I told him that God willing I would occupy this position for a decade or two so you have either seven or seventeen more years of me depending on your point of view.

This year our lodge has continued its downward membership trend. We have slipped from 400 members to 377. Our New Grand Master Steven E. Cokonougher was elected on October 17th, 2014 at the 205th annual Communication held in Sharonville, Ohio. Most Worshipful Brother Cokonougher has laid out some rather ambitious plans to further education. All the officers that have the privilege and honor to occupy those positions will have the opportunity to learn from these exciting possibilities. This will make them better citizens, officers, spouses, fathers, grandfathers and leaders in all walks of life.

Please consider **your** replacement in our great fraternity by offering the chance to belong to those you come in to contact in your daily life. Our great mysteries and teachings still have a vital place in society. The time to act is NOW! A petition for degrees can be found on our award winning website at www.forestcity388.com or better yet you can come to lodge and acquire one in person. The young officers of our lodge have many new and exciting ideas and although you have heard me say this in the past, this year will be truly very different. I remember when I was about to be installed as Worshipful Master some seven years ago, I defined insanity by quoting our Brother Benjamin Franklin's definition of insanity as "Doing the same things over and over again and expecting different results".

Again thank you very much for the opportunity to serve you, Ohio Freemasonry and Forest City Lodge. The experience that I have gained has offered me new insight into myself and to people from all walks of life.

Please let me know how I can serve you better!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Alan H. Rothman, P.M.

A NOTE OF THANKS...

Brethren,

Thank you for electing me to the position of Senior Warden. I look forward to serving the lodge for another Masonic year. Your confidence in me has energized my spirit and I look forward to seeing you all in lodge where we can share in brotherhood. Please accept my sincerest thanks and gratitude. It is so exciting thinking about the things we will do together.

Daniel N. Cohen – Senior Warden - Elect

Thank you, Brethren, for electing me to the position of Junior Warden for the upcoming year. It is an honor to know that the members of Forest City Lodge have entrusted me with this position. I look forward to serving the Brethren and the Lodge as their Junior Warden. Once again, Brethren, I thank you for choosing to elect me to this position in your Lodge.

Thank you,
Alex Meske
Junior Warden - Elect

Brethren:

Thank for this great honor. I humbly accept this position and only hope I will do justice to this great and noble fraternity. I look forward to working with you and my fellow officers over the course of the coming year as we strive to improve ourselves through masonry.

Tim Cline,
Senior Deacon - Elect

To the Brethren of Forest City Lodge:

I would like to thank our new Worshipful Master Scott Muharsky and all the Brethren of Forest City Lodge for the confidence they have placed in me by my appointment as Junior Deacon of this great lodge. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve and to learn.

Sincerely,
Cary Sears
Junior Deacon - Elect

WELCOME...

Meet Our New Brother

Todd Francis was raised a Master Mason at Past Master's Night, and is our newest Member. Doctor Francis is a native of Detroit, and after completing his Fellowship here, as a Neurosurgeon, he accepted a position with the Cleveland Clinic Health System, and is based at Hillcrest Hospital. He is married to Amy, an attorney, and they have two children, Carter age four and Claire age two. The Francis family resides in Highland Heights. Todd is a fan of sports, especially baseball (hopefully now an Indians fan) and hockey. We look forward to the Francis family becoming involved with Forest City Lodge and the brethren will find Todd anxious to advance his knowledge of Masonry.

Meet Our New Member

Brother Ralph Jurecki was raised a Master Mason, as our Inspection Candidate, in April. Ralph is a recent retiree of the State of Ohio Department of Workman's Compensation. Ralph is married to Fran, a retiree of Stouffer's Foods. Between the two of them, they have four sons and three daughters, and are the proud Grandparents of eleven. When they are not "child minding", they are avid movie fans. Being retired has enabled them to travel extensively. They reside in Macedonia, but the distance to Lyndhurst is not a deterrent, and Ralph has attends Lodge on a regular basis, and Fran enjoys the dinner with the ladies.

Welcome Back Brother Sergeant William Cvelbar

Brother Cvelbar was raised a Master Mason in 2007, enjoyed a couple years in the area until he was transferred to Fort Bragg in 2009. He was a platoon sergeant in the XVIII Airborne Corps. In 2010 he became a training NCO, responsible for training senior officers and NCO to prepare them for deployment to Iraq. The end of 2011 he took a position with the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade Division and deployed to Afghanistan. In September 2012 he returned and was transferred to Fort Knox, where was in charge of communications. He recently moved to Eastlake, and after a twenty year tour of duty, will officially retire from the United States Army, in January 2015. We are pleased to welcome Bill, Tammy, and their daughter Rebecca, back to our area, and wish them success in civilian endeavors and hope to involve them in our many Lodge activities.

Thank you Brother Bill for your service.

ROBERT D. STANDS
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
TWENTY-SECOND MASONIC
DISTRICT



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October 20, 2014

To the members of the Twenty Second Masonic District:

I have just spent an enjoyable three days in Sharonville where I attended the 2014 Grand Lodge Communication. If you have never attended a Grand Lodge Communication, the next opportunity will be October 16 & 17, 2015 in Columbus. Every Lodge **must** be represented at this communication preferably by the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden. **Make plans now!**

The following is a recap of actions at the Communication:

Results of the voting on GL legislation:

No change for the distribution of Endowed Membership funds.
Code Section 11.05 concerning gambling and penalties was removed.
All legislation concerning allowing alcohol in our Temples was defeated.
Age limits for the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary are a change to the constitution and therefore the members voted to send the question to all of the Lodges in Ohio.

Grand Lodge elected and appointed officers:

GRAND MASTER – MWB STEVEN E. COKONOUGH
DEPUTY GRAND MASTER – RWB ROBERT C. RILL, JR.
SENIOR GRAND WARDEN – RWB DOUGLAS N. KAYLOR
JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN – RWB ERIC R. SCHAU
GRAND TREASURER – RWB RONALD L. CONNELLY
GRAND SECRETARY – MWB C. MICHAEL WATSON
GRAND CHAPLAIN – RWB FRANK CARSON
GRAND ORATOR – RWB JESS N. RAINES
GRAND MARSHAL – RWB KEITH W. NEWTON
SENIOR GRAND DEACON – RWB RICHARD A. DICKERSCHIED
JUNIOR GRAND DEACON – RWB TIMOTHY S. WHEELAND
GRAND TYLER – RWB PAUL PATRICK DAVIS

Appointments for the Twenty Second District:

District Education Officers:

William M. Carter, III
WB Daniel A. Hall
WB Jonathan H. Krapf

District Deputy Grand Masters:

RWB Robert D. Stands
RWB Donald C. Morgan
RWB Anthony J. Constantine

The following are important upcoming events:

October 25, 2014 – DEO Installation for WB Daniel Hall – Solon Lodge 1:00 PM.
October 30, 2014 – DEO Installation for WB Jonathan Krapf – Rocky River Lodge 7:30 PM.
November 2, 2014 – DDGM Installation for RWB Tony Constantine – 3615 Euclid Ave. 3:00 PM.
November 15, 2014 – Past Master's Convocation – Berea Masonic Temple 9:00 AM.

Please visit the District web site often for the updated Installation and Inspection schedule.

Fraternally,
Robert D. Stands
District Deputy Grand Master, 22nd Masonic District

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Bulletin Deadlines for the Upcoming Masonic Year

Please submit articles by the stated deadline for each issue to carysears@yahoo.com. You are certainly welcome to submit articles anytime prior to the deadline. Articles submitted after the deadline will appear in the subsequent Bulletin. Thank you.

January-February 2015 Bulletin. Articles Due: December 3, 2014.

March-April Bulletin. Articles Due: February 4, 2015.

May-June Bulletin. Articles Due: April 1, 2015.

July-August Bulletin. Articles Due: June 3, 2015.

September-October Bulletin. Articles Due: August 2, 2015.

November-December Bulletin. Articles Due: October 7, 2015.

ATTENTION!

Don't lose contact with your Brothers!

It is time to update the Forest City Masonic Lodge #388 Directory

Please submit the following information to:
Worshipful Master Jackie F. Woldering, P.M.

By mail: 297 East 270th Street, Euclid, Ohio 44132-1601
or email: jackie-wcs@roadrunner.com

Full Name: _____

Spouse/Significant Other _____ Year Raised: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Winter Address if applicable: _____

Home Phone: _____

Winter Phone if applicable: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Permanent Email Address: _____

Preferred Contact Email Address: _____

It is important for you to provide this information so that you may continue to receive important information from your masonic lodge!



Forest City Lodge No. 388 F. & A.M.

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THE FIRST LECTURE...

Some not-too-many years ago, I had the honor to be initiated an Entered Apprentice at Forest City Lodge. It was a truly memorable experience, not only for the head-spinning array of new experiences, but for the Entered Apprentice lecture.

Now, if you had subsequently asked me to give you a sentence of the dizzying array of information presented to me during that lecture, I would have been hard pressed to come up with one. However, what I do distinctly remember is a moment during that lecture when it occurred to me that the lecturer (I believe it was W.B. Chester Willey), had been speaking non-stop for the previous 15 or so minutes entirely from memory. Upon this realization, the thought immediately crossed my mind, "How's he doing that? I want to be able to do that!"

It was just this year that I had the opportunity to present a full lecture for the first time, and it was my great honor to be able to deliver, somewhat imperfectly, that same E.A. lecture to two recently initiated candidates, Bro. Ralph Jurecki and Bro. Todd Francis.

I need not dwell on just how daunting those seemingly endless pages of lecture are when you face them for the first time. But I did have another sudden realization during my preparations to give that lecture: the one person getting the most out of this lecture is the person who gives it.

To learn a lecture, you cannot just memorize the words like some lengthy grocery list. No, you must think about them in detail. What is the lesson I am conveying? How do I say these sentences so that they maximize the meaning? How does it flow from one idea to the next? How do I accent the words? Where do I pause? How do I pause? Where will I be? What gestures should I use at this moment? I often felt like a jeweler trying to repair a watch: if the details aren't right, that thing isn't going to tick!

I had heard the lecture many times since my initiation, but it was only during my preparation to give that lecture that I really felt like I started to understand its lessons. So, for that, I thank the Brethren of the Lodge for the opportunity to give that lecture, and receive so much more from it, in return.

Bro. Alex Meske,
Junior Warden Elect