

FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

March - April 2013

Website: www.forestcity388.com

Lyndhurst, Ohio

MASTER'S MESSAGE



Award season has come and gone in Hollywood, and the movie *Les Miserables* did fairly well, garnering several awards, including a few Oscars. This is a movie which we all need to be aware of, and not only because the author of the original novel, Victor Hugo, was rumored to

be a Freemason. We should be aware of this movie because so many concepts dear to the heart of Freemasonry are embodied in it.

The sanctity of Life, of Justice and Mercy, of sin, and forgiveness, and redemption, and of struggle, and of making one's own way, and of success, and then of helping others, and of risking one's own life and reputation to save another, and of forgiving one's mortal, bitter enemies – do I really have to quote the three Masonic Lectures here to remind you of the ideas that resonate within them, and within Victor Hugo's work? I hope not...

We, The People, have a choice – we can either live our lives for ourselves, or we can live our lives for others. I said some time ago, in another article, that we, as Men and as Masons, have to maintain a balance between the old and the new – tradition and innovation. I now would suggest that we, as Men and as Masons, have another balance to maintain – that balance between being for ourselves, and being for others. Rabbi Hillel put it this way: “If I am not

for myself, then who will be [for me]? But, if I am **ONLY** for myself, then – who am I?”

To return to *Les Miserables*, one of the signature songs in the early part of the movie is done by the main character, Jean Valjean, who sings a number titled “Who am I?” He sings it based on his own history, and it becomes a theme for his growth as a man as the story unfolds. Sin, Injustice, Despair and Forgiveness lead to Jean ValJean's ultimate Redemption.

Who am I? This is a question – perhaps THE question – which we as Men and as Masons need to ask ourselves. If we have been successful as businessmen, has that success come at the expense of our families, our children, and our employees? If we as individuals have accumulated much, have we shared as much as we have accumulated? If we have achieved the purple of our beloved Fraternity, have we done so based upon the number of men whom we have helped to become Better Men. Are there people who can say, “Because of him and his example, I am a better _____”?

We all need to consider at least some of these ideas, and resolve, for ourselves, for our children, for our Brethren, and for our society, that we indeed contribute to the general fund of human knowledge, and to the general goodwill of We, The People. And if that proper consideration leads us to conclude that we, as individuals, in however many days we have remaining unto us, need to do more, So Mote It Be.

Faternally,
Chester F. Willey, W.M.

FOREST CITY LODGE #388

OFFICERS 2013

Worshipful Master

Chester F. Willey, Jr. (216) 707-5566 (H)
 2619 East 128th Street
 Cleveland, OH 44120-1447
 Email: gipsiemen4@aol.com

Senior Warden

Jackie F. Woldering, P.M. (216) 289-2682 (H)
 297 East 270th Street (216) 523-7224 (W)
 Euclid, OH 44132-1601 (216) 789-2483 (C)
 Email: jackie-wcs@roadrunner.com

Junior Warden

Scott M. Muharsky..... (440) 352-4288 (H)
 833 North St. Clair Avenue..... (440) 346-2139 (W)
 Painesville, OH 44077-4208 (440) 346-0097 (C)
 Email: smuharsky@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Jerome S. Kustin, P.M. (216) 292-4943 (H)
 3932 White Oak Trail..... (216) 741-4600 (W)
 Orange Village, OH 44122-4722
 Email: gaylek1@ymail.com

Associate Treasurer

William Hoon (937) 935-3572 (H)
 4957 Sweetland Blvd..... (440) 460-1518 (W)
 Richmond Heights, OH 44143-1416
 Email: williamhoon@yahoo.com

Secretary

Alan H. Rothman, P.M. (216) 381-2203 (H)
 1436 Grenleigh Road (216) 292-6900 (W)
 Lyndhurst, OH 44124-2315 (216) 410-6919 (C)
 Email: Webmaster@forestcity388.com

Secretary Emeritus

Frank Orlove, P.M. (216) 591-1174 (H)
 Myers Apartments - #231
 27200 Cedar Road
 Beachwood, OH 44122

Secretary Emeritus

Morton S. Negin, 33° (440) 942-1144 (H) (F)
 9205 Idlewood Drive (216) 559-5104 (C)
 Mentor, OH 44060-6433
 Email: mnegin@gmail.com

Chaplain

Burt Task, P.M. (216) 297-0150 (H)
 4059 Eastway Road (216) 926-6990 (C)
 South Euclid, OH 44121
 Email: task4se@yahoo.com

Associate Chaplain

Ronald Jacobs, P.M. (216) 321-4362 (H)
 3393 Ormond Road..... (216) 371-3898 (W)
 Cleveland Hts., OH 44118-3417
 Email: neohtel@aol.com

Senior Deacon

Daniel N. Cohen..... (216) 321-0824 (H)
 3061 Lincoln Boulevard (216) 965-6279 (C)
 Cleveland Hts., OH 44018-2033
 Email: masterdanimal@hotmail.com

Junior Deacon

Alex Meske (216) 297-0957 (H)
 1232 South Belvoir Blvd. (440) 498-4414 Ext. 232 (W)
 South Euclid, OH 44121-2949 (440) 539-5137 (C)
 Email: alexmeske@yahoo.com (H)
 ameske@micros-retail.com (W)

Senior Steward

Elliott A. Gross (440) 498-0504 (H)
 5240 Parkside Trail (216) 870-6020 (C)
 Solon, OH 44139-1116
 Email: eagross144@gmail.com

Junior Steward

Marshal

Zalmen Rzepka, P.M. (216) 831-0660 (H)
 24180 Bryden Road (330) 467-2201 (W)
 Beachwood, OH 44122
 Email: mrzandme@aol.com

Tyler

Michael S. Rothman (216) 381-2203 (H)
 1436 Grenleigh Road (216) 262-6921 (C)
 Lyndhurst, OH 44124-2315
 Email: mr_jeep@ameritech.net

Assistant Tyler

Leonard W. Clark (216) 595-8295 (H)
 24896 Tunbridge Lane (440) 567-0690 (C)
 Beachwood, OH 44122-1641
 Email: lennyclark@yahoo.com

Lodge Education Officer

Mitchell L. Alperin, P.D.D.G.M. (216) 461-1174 (H)
 2741 Shakercrest Blvd. (216) 849-7372 (C)
 Beachwood, OH 44122-2323..... (216) 464-7015 (W)
 Email: mlaatty@aol.com

Associate Lodge Education Officer

Barry J. Siegel, P.M., K.Y.C.H. (216) 932-4094 (H)
 2599 Laurelhurst Road..... (216) 662-5555 (W)
 Lyndhurst, OH 44124-2315 (216) 392-5638 (C)
 Email: siegeltax@hotmail.com

Sunshine Committee Chairman

John Szucs (216) 932-7118
 Email: jszucs37@aol.com

Bulletin Editor

Alex Meske (216) 297-0957 (H)
 1232 South Belvoir Blvd. (440) 498-4414 Ext. 232 (W)
 South Euclid, OH 44121-2949 (440) 539-5137 (C)
 Email: alexmeske@yahoo.com (H)
 ameske@micros-retail.com (W)



Forest City Lodge Web Address

www.forestcity388.com and email the Webmaster at Webmaster@forestcity388.com

MASONIC FUNERAL SERVICE

Any Brother, in good standing, is eligible to receive a Masonic Funeral. The service must be requested, through the Worshipful Master, by a member of the immediate family. This service is not religious and not meant to substitute for a religious service, but is to honor the life of a Brother member.

Recently I had the occasion to attend the Memorial Service, for our late Brother Tex Nicholas Collaros. The family requested that Forest City Lodge perform a Masonic Service. I am sad to say that only three of us turned out for this service. Keep in mind that it is the duty of every Officer to attend Masonic Services, but I am well aware of the fact that many of us work, but it should be the Officer's duty to make the Lodge aware that he could not attend, and attempt to have someone attend in his stead. I must add, if we were aware that the service was to take place in a heated Mausoleum, rather than graveside, we could have had more attendees.

Forest City Lodge does not advertise, and a Masonic Service is a way to advertise our presence. I have had many people comment on the service, and how meaningful it is. We have had many candidates join Forest City Lodge because they had attended a Masonic Funeral and how much it meant to have the Lodge remember a Brother in such a beautiful way.

Sincerely,
Burt Siebert, P.M.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S QUILL

Open Letter to the Friends and Family of our Masonic Brethren...

Many times, we hear after the fact that a family member of a Masonic Brother did not know what to do when a family member passes away. One of the privileges of Masonic Membership is the right to a Masonic Funeral. If this is desired, please contact the Master of the Lodge, the Lodge Secretary, or the Sunshine Committee chairman so that the information can be routed appropriately.

If a Masonic service is requested, his Masonic apron will be needed, so that your dearly departed loved one will be buried or cremated with his Masonic apron. Therefore, you may want to inquire where your husband, father, brother or significant other keeps his Masonic apron. This will aid in the process during a time in your life when you have many other pressing concerns.

Also, knowing his M-Number—which is located on his membership card—will aid us in reporting the correct member. Believe it or not, we do have some members with the same name, and reporting the wrong member as deceased would certainly be a difficult situation.

It is also extremely important to keep your Lodge informed of major changes in living arrangements, such as moving

and/or other situations, such as reporting the death of a Brother, even if you don't want a Masonic service. Often we only hear of the passing of one of our members after they receive their annual dues notice. It is a shame when this happens, since one of our promises is to care for the widows and orphans of deceased Brethren. Receiving bills, invitations, and other correspondence for your deceased love one from the Lodge is tacky, ill-mannered, and certainly very un-Masonic.

Lastly, it is suggested that you consider making a donation on behalf of your dearly departed's memory toward our Lodge Endowment Fund. In this way, a small part of your departed loved one will still be a part of our Lodge and will help sustain our Lodge eternally. This will perpetuate the organization he loved and to which he devoted so much energy into gaining admission.

If I can be of any assistance to you in any way please feel free to contact me. My phone number and email address are listed on the officers page of this bulletin.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Alan H. Rothman, Secretary

TRESTLEBOARD

(Thanks to the efforts of WB Burt Task, there WILL be an early-bird dinner prior to each Stated Meeting listed, except when there is a more formal dinner scheduled)

Wednesday, April 3, 2013 – Stated Meeting

Saturday, April 13, 2013
Grand Master's Reception

Wednesday, April 17, 2013 – Stated Meeting

Special Program on the impact of the
Holocaust on European Freemasonry by
William M. Carter III, CCBLA

Wednesday, May 1, 2013 – Stated Meeting

Inspection in EA Degree

Saturday, May 4, 2013
Master/Wardens' Dinner-Dance

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2013 STATE-WIDE GRAND MASTER'S CLASS

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 – Stated Meeting

Birthdays (April-May) – Peter Molay
Special program to honor Mason's Mothers,
wives, daughters, and widows
(Music by MusiGals)

Monday, May 27, 2013 – *Memorial Day*
Ceremony at Acacia Masonic Memorial Park

Wednesday, June 5, 2013 – Stated Meeting

Awards Night

We will also be observing Birthdays for
the months of June, July & August

Wednesday, June 19, 2013 – Stated Meeting

Table Lodge

Event Co-Chairmen:

W.B. Julian Cohen & Bro. Lenny Clark

Speaker: W.B. Chad Simpson,
Grand Lodge Education Officer

ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

At our regular Stated Meeting of February 6th, 2013, correspondence was read in from two of our current Trustees, both requesting to be relieved of their duties. W.B. Allen Hammes resigned as Trustee due to his current residence in Brooklyn, NY. W.B. Jackie Woldering resigned as Trustee due to his having been elected Senior Warden, which appears to be a conflict of interest. Both of these Brethren have served this Lodge honorably and effectively for many years, in many different stations, and their service is much appreciated and gratefully acknowledged.

W.B. Don Samuels agreed to step in as Trustee for one year, and W.B. Franck Kakou agreed to step in as Trustee for two years. At the stated meeting, it was regularly moved and seconded that both of these Brethren be duly elected as Trustees for the designated terms - the motion was passed unanimously. Thanks to both of these Brethren for 'stepping up to the plate'.



In honor of the Presidents Day holiday, our Lodge meeting of February 20th was graced by the presence of Brothers George Washington (left) and Benjamin Franklin (right). Their visit was made possible through the efforts of Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, R.W.B. Robert C. Rill, Jr. (who assisted General Washington), and M.W.B. Charles Murphy, Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio (who assisted Brother Franklin). The program given by these two visiting Brethren was most entertaining and inspirational.

On that same evening, several Brethren competed in our annual Ugly Tie Night, and while the competition was intense, Bro. Marvin Scheer's entry was declared the "winner" by a large margin.

Go to the Lodge website (<http://www.forestcity388.com/>) to see a color picture of the "winner" in all its glory – but be sure to wear sunglasses to protect your eyes!



Members who passed to the Celestial Lodge above:

- ◆ Bro. Jack Berlin, raised in 1957, died on February 4, 2013.

Deceased relations of our Brethren and their families:

- ◆ Pauline Rosen, sister of Bro. Jack Stewart, died January 22, 2013.

Hospitalized or recuperating either at home or in nursing facility:

- ◆ Bro. Louis Snow was in the hospital with breathing problems, and he is at home now.
- ◆ Bro. Andrew Recker recently had rotator cuff surgery.
- ◆ Aaron Recker, son of Bro. Andrew Recker, recently had surgery.
- ◆ Bro. Larry Kotawsky was hospitalized for a few days, and is doing well now.
- ◆ Jeanne Task, wife of W.B. Burt Task, was in an auto accident, and she is fine now.
- ◆ Bro. Dennis Rohal had surgery, and is now recovering.

Note from the Sunshine Committee Chairman

A couple of couple weeks ago I visited the Western Reserve Masonic Community, Inc, in Medina. We had a nice lunch and a tour of the facility. I brought back contact information and some details of their operations. For any Brethren wanting information about the Western Reserve Masonic Community,

FOREST CITY LODGE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE 2013	
Chairman	
John Szucs.....(216) 932-7118 (Ester)	Email: jszucs37@aol.com
Dan Lash (216) 531-2668 (Rosie)	Email: rosiedan@att.net
Chairman Emeritus	
Howard Marx(440) 542-1889 (Shirley)	(440) 463-1889 (Cell) Email: howshir@roadrunner.com
W.B. Burt Task.....(216) 297-0150 (Jeanne)	Email: task4se@yahoo.com
Paul Fine(440) 446-9615 (Maxine)	(216) 408-7305 (Cell)
W.B. Burt Siebert.....(216) 371-4178 (Harriet)	Email: gramharriet@msn.com
Marvin Smith.....(440) 442-5380 (Barbara)	(216) 513-0411 (Cell) Email: sbarmar@att.net
Larry Simon.....(216) 342-4870 (Marcia)	
Dan Zeligson.....(216) 765-1010 (Judy)	Email: dzeligson@aol.com
Don Samuels.....(216) 382-1133 (Paula)	Email: dsspls@yahoo.com
Neil Cantor.....(440) 473-0274 (Dee)	Email: deeandneil@roadrunner.com

Baby Naming at Menorah Park

Natalie Gelfand, widow of former Lodge Treasurer W.B. Leroy Gelfand, was able to celebrate the naming ceremony for her great-grandson at Menorah Park. This was due to the fact that she was unable to travel to Brooklyn, NY where the baby was born and the bris was held. The baby's proud parents, Ben and Beth Mellors, brought Ari Joshua here for the ceremony. Rabbi Howard Kutner performed the ceremony during his weekly Shabbat service at Wiggins Place. With Ari's grandparents, Lee and Chuck Apple, in attendance, four generations were brought together for the event. And, thanks to Natalie bringing a picture of her own grandmother, six generations of the family were represented that day.

Lakewood Masonic Temple Fundraiser at Quaker Steak & Lube

March 1 - March 31

Quaker Steak & Lube

15312 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, OH

For the entire month of March 2013, the Lakewood Masonic Temple is partnering with their new next-door neighbor, Quaker Steak & Lube, to raise funds for The Lakewood Masonic Foundation

Simply dine in (or take out) at the Lakewood Quaker Steak & Lube, save your receipt, and place it in the box inside the Temple. If the Temple is closed, simply push your receipt through the mail slot on the Andrews Avenue (side) door. This fundraiser runs the entire month of March, so you can participate multiple times. Invite your family, friends, neighbors and associates to participate as well!

~ All Points Bulletin ~

The Lodge is putting out an APB for the Brethren listed below. We are attempting to remain in contact with them, but we have been unable to do so. Any information about their whereabouts or how to contact them would be greatly appreciated:

- Leonard B Kahn, formerly on Chagrin Blvd.
- Arthur M. Stern, formerly on Acacia Park Drive
- Bren D. Berkman, formerly on N Jog Road
- William F. Rosenblatt, formerly on Isle of Palms Drive
- Robert M. Dvorin, formerly on Verona Road

VISITATION

Visiting Brother Lodges during inspection season is not just for officers, but for every Mason. Masonry is more than socializing with your friends at Forest City Lodge every two weeks. It involves meeting new people and sharing brotherly love. You never when a new acquaintance may develop into a lifelong friendship.

At most Lodges, a meal is served so that you can break bread with old and new friends. At an inspection, you observe ritual work performed by other Lodges and, sometimes, with a slight twist. Officers have the opportunity to meet their peers from other Lodges, where they are able to discuss the intricacies of their office. Additionally, Brethren can socialize with the District Officers in a less formal setting than our own inspection. And let us not forget that visitation also helps to ensure than our own inspection is well attended.

To date, Forest City Lodge has not missed a single inspection in the 22nd Masonic District. Thus, we are on our way toward District recognition. Special thanks goes to W.B. Burt Task, who has only missed one inspection due to illness, but W.B. Mark Nathanson was able to rush to save the day at the last minute. Our J.D., Alex Meske, has attended three inspections. Others who have attended inspections are R.W.B. Mitchell Alperin, W.M. Chester Willey, S.D. Danny Cohen, and Bro. Howard Marx, our 64-year member. I often travel with W.B. Burt Task, who has taken me under his wing, assisting me with ritual work and making introductions to the Brethren we are visiting.

As you can see, inspections are an exciting way to enhance your Masonic experience. I offer you the opportunity to join us in this endeavor. Contact me at 216-870-6020 or eagross144@gmail.com for more information or to reserve your time for a visitation.

Fraternally,
Elliott A. Gross
Senior Steward

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959 W. St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44113
www.mcdonald-partners.com

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MusiGals



Wednesday, May 15

Open To All

Dinner at 6:30 (\$10)

Please come and share a special performance by **MusiGals**, honoring the women in our lives. Help us celebrate our wives, mothers, sisters, daughters, nieces, companions, and all the women who mean so much to us.



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

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FOREST CITY LODGE #388 F. & A.M.

Master & Wardens Dinner Dance

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2013

EXECUTIVE CLUB

6111 LANDERHAVEN DR. • LYNDHURST, OHIO 44124



Social Hour: 6:30 P.M. — ENDLESS HORS D'OEUVRES
FILET MIGNON, SALMON OR CHICKEN



ENTERTAINMENT

\$35.00 per person

Tables of Eight (8) and Ten (10) Available



Send checks and reservation form to:

Marvin Danziger

22655 Chagrin Blvd., Apt. 414 • Beachwood, OH 44122 • (216) 759-9111 (must dial 216)

~ Please List Dinner Choices ~

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____