

FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

August-September-October 2008

Website: www.forestcity388.com

Lyndhurst, Ohio

FROM THE MASTER



The curtain on summer 2008 is beginning to close, just slightly, and with it, our Masonic year has about three more months in which to wind down. I sincerely hope that all of you have had time to spend with family, and to do something meaningful to impact society and the lives of others around you.

This year has taught me many things, and I now have a greater appreciation of what Freemasonry is all about. As we get ready to attend lodge in September, it is a great time to reflect upon our achievements and share some light about our future.

First of all, Senior Warden Bro. Franck Kakou is ready, willing, and certainly able to assume the East (should the brethren be so inclined), and carry us forward in a manner that will make us all very proud. Our Junior Warden Bro. Allen Hammes is “fast recovering” from some health difficulties, and he is well under way in establishing his appointments and setting up his calendar of events. The entire officer corps has been looking to the future and preparing the junior officers who will become the lodge leaders of tomorrow.

This year I have made it my priority to balance our budget, and to accomplish several other goals. Here is a brief synopsis of these accomplishments. We met all of the criteria set forth by the Grand Master to win a Grand Master’s Award. It will be presented to us at the Grand Lodge communication in October. Many of this year’s activities were covered by the Sun Newspapers to help us spread the light of Freemasonry to those non-Masons in our community. We raised more candidates via traditional degree work as opposed to the ‘one-day’ class. Unfortunately, as of this writing, twenty of our brethren have been called from labor to eternal refreshment by the

Great Architect of the Universe. I am still reeling from the loss of some of these devoted and cherished Brother Masons, many of whom have had a profound impact on my life and in my Masonic endeavors.

On a more positive note, about 10,000 fellow Masons were in attendance at the Cornerstone Laying and the parade celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Ohio. Six days later, a group (21 to be exact) of Forest City Lodge members attended the Special Olympics opening ceremonies. Pictures of these events and many others can be viewed by logging on to our website and going to the Recent Events page – and simply click the Picassa link. During the opening ceremony, our candidate got to feel Freemasonry when one of the Special Olympians came over to give him a hug. I am sorry to report that this Kodak Moment was lost, and the prize winning, heart wrenching photo essay never materialized. This is one reason why a small contingent of Forest City Lodge members will travel to Columbus next year to again be a part of this very special event. Next year, with G-d’s help, we will be able to surpass the \$200,000.00 donation which was presented by Ohio Freemasonry this year.

In closing, please assist me in honoring the memories of those Brethren who no longer sit in our midst as we recall each of them on September 3rd, 2008 at our Annual Memorial Night and Mason of the Year. For additional details on this and other events, please consult our lodge website at www.forestcity388.com, or read the enclosed Trestleboard.

May brotherly love prevail, and may every moral and social virtue cement and strengthen us.

Fraternally,
Alan H. Rothman,
Worshipful Master and Webmaster

Officers 2007 - 2008

Worshipful Master

Alan H. Rothman (216) 381-2203 (H)
1436 Grenleigh Road (216) 292-6900 (W)
Lyndhurst, OH 44124 (216) 410-6919 (C)

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Operative Masonry

All about monuments – Part IV

A rock is an uninteresting, natural element until shaped or lettered by a skilled craftsman. Granite has been one of mankind's first choices for creating enduring legacies in stone. Granite is one of the most abundant rocks in the earth's crust, and is exceptionally hard, durable, and resistant to the elements. For these reasons, and for granite's beauty, it has long been regarded as a material that is worth the hard work required to quarry and finish it.

No stone becomes a monument until it is lettered and decorated to carry the desired message in a pleasing way. Every memorial tells us a life story of the individual. We express these stories in symbols and words because we want each succeeding generation of our family to understand their ancestors. Symbols, when correctly used and understood, convey a message in a more sedate way than words can do, and in far less space. Symbolism is very important because it can tell the story in a very short form. The Hebrew Star of David represents a divine protection; the Menorah is the oldest symbol of Judaism; the 'wild rose' is a traditional symbol of love; the 'lily' is a symbol of marriage, purity, and beauty; the 'olive branch' symbolizes peace; and many, many more symbols exist which may have a particular religious connotation, or one denoting a specific profession or hobby, and on and on.

To be continued.

Trestleboard

NOTE: Stated Meetings are scheduled for the **first and third Wednesday** of each month. Variations from this schedule will, to the extent possible, be indicated in **bold** type.

Wed., August 13, 2008 Steak Roast at Horseshoe Lake
For information,
call Rt. Wor. Bro. Morton S. Negin – 440-942-1144

Sun., August 17, 2008 Family Fun in the Sun Day
12:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Travelers Woods, Garrettsville, Ohio
Cost is free: donations will be accepted and split 50/50 to
Masonic charities and to defray cost of event
For information,
call Wor. Master Alan Rothman – 216-381-2203

Sat., August 23, 2008..... An Evening at Northfield Park
see flyer elsewhere in this bulletin

Wed., Sept. 3, 2008 Stated Meeting

Memorial Night and Mason of the Year

6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge
7:45 P.M. Program

Wed., Sept., 17, 2008 Stated Meeting & Early Bird Dinner
6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:10 P.M. Open Lodge & Master Mason Degree

Wed., Oct., 1, 2008..... Stated Meeting
and Master Mason Degree
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

Wed., Oct., 15, 2008..... Stated Meeting
and Past Master's Night
5:30 P.M. Open Lodge for 1st section of Degree
6:30 P.M. Dinner
7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting and 2nd section of Degree

Wed., Nov., 5, 2008 Stated Meeting and
Annual Election of Officers
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

Wed., Nov., 19, 2008 Stated Meeting and
Annual Installation of Officers

FOR MASONS ONLY....

Additional information will be forthcoming in the next bulletin

Freemasonry in Nazi Germany and Occupied Europe

The Nazis claimed that 'high degree' Masons were willing members of "the Jewish conspiracy", and that Freemasonry was one of the causes of Germany's loss in the 1st World War. While exact figures are unknown, it is estimated that between 80,000 and 200,000 Freemasons were murdered under the Nazi regime.

In *Mein Kampf*, Adolf Hitler writes that Freemasonry has "succumbed" to the Jews and has become an "excellent instrument" to fight for their aims and to use their "strings" to pull the upper strata of society into their alleged designs. In 1933, Hermann Goering (one of Hitler's hierarchy) stated that "...in National Socialist Germany, there is no place for Freemasonry."

In January, 1934, the German Ministry of the Interior ordered the disbandment of Freemasonry, and the confiscation of the property of all Lodges; stating that those who had been members of Lodges when Hitler came to power, in 1933, were prohibited from holding office in the Nazi party or its paramilitary arms, and were ineligible for appointment in public service. Freemasonic Concentration Camp inmates were graded as "Political" prisoners, and had to wear an inverted (point down) *red triangle*.

In 1937, Joseph Goebbels (another of Hitler's closest associates) inaugurated an "Anti-Masonic Exposition" to display objects seized by the state. The Ministry of Defense forbid officers from becoming Freemasons, with officers who remained as Masons being sidelined. Field-Marshal Friedrich Paulus was denounced as a "High-grade Freemason" when he surrendered to the Soviet Union in 1943.

Freemasonry was banned by edict in all countries that were either allied with the Nazis or under Nazi control, including Norway and France. Anti-Masonic exhibitions were held in many occupied countries.

Information for this article was obtained from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Sunshine Committee Report

Members who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above:

NONE – *“Boruch Hashem”*
(translation: Blessed be the Almighty)

Deceased Relations of our Brethren and/or their families:

Correction: in the last Bulletin we reported that Carlee Baum had passed away, and that she was the sister of our late Bro. Allan Baum. Actually, Ms. Baum was the daughter of our late Bro. Bert Baum, and her brother Allan, thankfully, is alive and well and residing in Florida.

Hospitalized or Recuperating either at Home or in a Nursing Facility:

Bro. Theodore (Ted) Berman is in Montefiore and doing quite well following a successful treatment in Hillcrest Hospital.

Marjorie Kest, wife of Bro. Sheldon, is recuperating at home after a stay in the hospital.

Jr. Warden, Bro. Allen Hammes, is at home following some problems with his heart monitor. He will be attending Lodge functions with the help of various brethren providing him with transportation.

Shirley Kutash, wife of Bro. Sanford, is undergoing ‘rehab’ at Menorah Park after open heart surgery and an artery bypass.

Bro. Gary Lidawer is at home after problems with his heart monitor landed him in the hospital.

Bro. Leonard Markowitz is now residing at Montefiore, and would appreciate any visits, cards, or phone calls.

Bro. Sam Maizner is recuperating at Montefiore, and will be returning home very shortly.

Bro. William Szabo is in ‘rehab’ at Montefiore.

Bro. Samuel Richman is in ‘rehab’ at Montefiore.

PLEASE SEND CARDS TO AS MANY OF THE ABOVE AS YOU CAN...

Congratulations to:

Robin (Wor. Bro. Zalmen) Rzepka, Bro. Marc Stolarsky, and Wor. Bro. Ronald Wolfe. Each of them has appeared in the Cleveland Jewish News in recent weeks for various reasons. Robin, along with three other ladies, was honored as an adult b’not mitzvah at Congregation Bethaynu on Saturday morning, June 7th. Bro. Marc Stolarsky was written up for his work on “paw law”. He has become

very knowledgeable in the preparation of trust for pets. According to Marc, there are many people who have strong attachments to their pets, and want to make certain that they are well provided for in the event of their owners’ demise. Wor. Bro. Ron Wolfe is the executive Director of Mount Olive Cemetery in Solon, Ohio. A little bit about his job and its responsibilities appeared in an article.

Contributions received for the Forest City Lodge Sunshine Fund:

Wor. Bro. Burt and Harriet Siebert – In memory of Wor. Bro. Marvin Hersch.

Wor. Bro. Burt and Harriet Siebert – to extend best wishes to Bro. Leonard Markowitz in his time of need.

Brethren: A card or phone call is always welcomed by someone who is ill at home, in a nursing facility, or in the hospital. It will certainly provide a Bright Spark of Appreciation and Hope.

IMPORTANT FOR EVERYONE

Your Sunshine Fund Committee is only as good as the information YOU forward to it. Our goal is to remember our brethren and their families whether in times of great joy, or G-d forbid, in times of family tragedy. Without your help, someone may be forgotten. ALL IT TAKES IS A PHONE CALL.

Forest City Lodge Sunshine Committee - see tear sheet in April-May 2008 bulletin for complete list of Sunshine Committee members.

Chairman Bro. Howard (Shirley) Marx
(440) 542-1889 or (440) 463-1889 cell
email: howshir@roadrunner.com

Co-Chairman Bro. Dan (Rosie) Lash
(216) 531-2668 or (216) 798-8824 cell
email: rosiedan@att.net

“Kudos” to the Golf Outing Committee

Once again, Wor. Bro. Burt Task and Bros. Barry Wessler and Richard Landis have teamed up to provide Forest City Lodge members, their friends, and other associates with a wonderful day/evening of golfing, good eating, and valuable prizes.

Between golfers and non-golfers, the attendance numbered about 106 persons. This wonderful turn-out, in addition to being great for the fellowship that resulted, yielded in excess of \$1,000.00 for Forest City Lodge charitable activities.

Sincere thanks to the committee, and to all who participated in making this event its usual outstanding success.

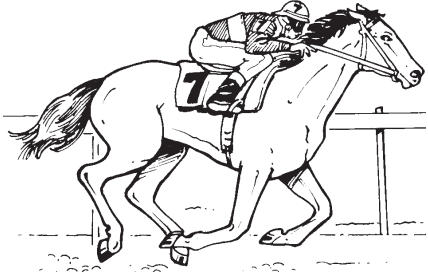
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Saturday Evening, August 23, 2008

From 6:00 p.m. until ???

Donation: \$24.00 per person

Includes Admission to Clubhouse and a Sumptuous Buffet Dinner

Free Parking and a Free Program

Reservations close August 16, 2008 – No refunds after this date.



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An Evening at Northfield Park

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c/o Ron Wolfe
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Richmond Heights, Ohio 44143

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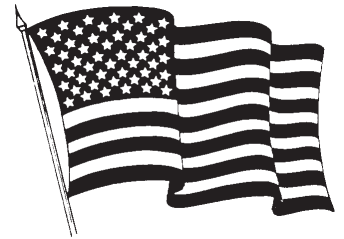
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FROM THE WEST

My Brethren, I sincerely hope that you and your respective families have had an enjoyable summer to this point. About half of the summer remains, so you have plenty of time to rest, relax, and prepare to come back to lodge in September. We have many more interesting meetings and exciting events to look forward to before the current lodge year comes to an end.

Should I be fortunate and worthy enough to be elected Master of Forest City Lodge in November, I should like to assure you that I will do everything in my power to lead our lodge and this very special organization to a successful and interesting year.

My calendar for next year will soon be revealed, and some of the prime dates will appear in our next bulletin. My committees and I have tried to plan interesting and exciting events which I hope will induce you to come to lodge for Masons Only meetings, and to bring your 'better half' and your friends to those events which are "Open". I love to share the wisdom and gratification of the Light of Freemasonry with the non-Masonic community. The more light we shed, the better our world becomes.

Please feel free to share your ideas with me and our line of officers. With your help and support, along with the same from our Past Masters and Officers, the Forest City Lodge tradition of excellence and quality of work will endure for many years to come.

Fraternally
Franck T. Kakou
Senior Warden