

# FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

November-December 2009

Website: [www.forestcity388.com](http://www.forestcity388.com)

Lyndhurst, Ohio

## GREETINGS FROM THE MASTER-ELECT



As I continue my Masonic journey, I am amazed at the amount of important life lessons I have learned, the friendships I have made, and the joy it has brought to my life.

For those who know little of me, I was born in Marinette, Wisconsin, a town near the upper peninsula of Michigan, and north of Green Bay which explains my devotion to the Green Bay Packers.

My wife of almost 50-years, Veronica, and I have three (3) children, seven (7) grandchildren, and three (3) great-grandchildren. We have resided in the Greater Cleveland area since 1972. At the present time, I am semi-retired but I work with a fellow lodge brother putting on sports, travel, and outdoor shows in various states surrounding Ohio. In my associated travels through Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, the Carolinas, and Canada, the friendships, courtesies, and other brotherly assistance afforded me have made it crystal clear that I now belong to the greatest fraternity in the world.

Due, in large part, to the prevailing economic conditions, I believe we are entering a time that will see a renewed desire for membership in all fraternal lodges – especially in Free Masonry. If you know of a worthy man whom you feel would be a proper candidate for our brotherhood, make

him aware of his opportunity for membership, and what his membership will mean to him in friendship and fellowship. I encourage each of you to “REACH” out and enlighten prospective candidates in any way in which you are able; to attend our meetings when you can; and to be an ambassador-at-large for our fraternity. I am certain that you, like myself, are looking forward to a great growth in our order.

At a recent pillar program of our new Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, M.W.B. Terry Posey stated that the theme for his year was, “FREEMASONRY, IT’S ALL IN THE FAMILY”. In the upcoming year, we will offer many opportunities to have family friendly gatherings and offerings at Forest City Lodge. This will enable the brethren and their families to meet and develop meaningful and lasting friendships.

I look forward to presiding over our Lodge in a manner that will continue to make us the benchmark for other lodges not only in our district, but throughout the State of Ohio.

Please mark your calendars for our forthcoming events so that you can be an active part of our Masonic family.

Fraternally yours,  
Allen Hammes  
Worshipful Master-Elect

**OFFICERS – ELECT OR APPOINTED  
2009 - 2010**

**Worshipful Master-Elect**

Allen Hammes ..... (216) 215-0759 (C)  
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**Treasurer-Elect**

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**Secretary-Elect**

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**Secretary Emeritus**

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**Chaplain - Appointed**

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**Junior Deacon-Elect**

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**Senior Steward**

..... TBA

**Junior Steward**

..... TBA

**Marshall**

..... TBA

**Tyler-Elect**

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**Lodge Education Officer - Appointed**

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## 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**.

November 18, 2009 ..... Stated Meeting

### **Installation of Officers and Officers Reception**

Open to both Masons and non-Masons

6:30 pm ..... Dinner by **Reservation Only**

7:30 pm ..... Open Lodge

7:45 pm ..... Installation Program

December 2, 2009 ..... Stated Meeting

7:30 pm ..... Open Lodge

District Deputy Installation and Dessert Reception

December 16, 2009 ..... Stated Meeting

### **37th Annual Brotherhood Night and Night With The Clergy**

5:30 pm ..... Masonic Introductions

6:30 pm ..... Dinner by **Reservation Only**

7:30 pm ..... Open Lodge

7:45 pm ..... Program

December 30, 2009 ..... **If Needed** ..... Degree Meeting

Watch the Website for up-to-date information

**Awards Night ..... To Be Announced**

**NOTE: All dinner reservations must be made with Wor. Bro. Hammes or one of the officers.**

**Full course dinners: \$10.00 per person**

**Early Bird dinners: \$5.00 per person**

**IMPORTANT:** For further information regarding times, *Early Bird* dinners, or other details, please contact (1) Wor. Master Hammes, (2) W.B. Burt Task, or (3) the Forest City Lodge Website @ [www.forestcity388.com](http://www.forestcity388.com)

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## FROM THE MASTER



My Very Dear Brethren,

As I prepare to step down as leader of Forest City Lodge for 2009, I cannot believe that an entire year has gone by since you elected me to serve as Worshipful Master. It seems like only last week that we assembled for our Annual Installation of Officers. I guess it is really true that "times flies when you're having fun".

Reflecting on the past year, I am proud of (1) what we have accomplished, and (2) of the successes we have shared as a Lodge. I am deeply indebted to my officer corps for their selfless dedication; to the Past Masters Corps for their advise and support; and to the many members who served on a variety of committees and did a tremendous job on my behalf.

I should like to highlight the projects and events which I feel made an impact on our community, our tradition as Freemasons, and our strength as a Lodge.

First, the success of our Lodge programs throughout the year beginning with our Installation; then our Kids' Party; hosting the district typewritten ritual; the State Open House; and most important for Forest City Lodge, one of the leaders in the 22nd District for the number of applicants for the Grand Master's One-Day Class.

Second, our Annual Brotherhood Night *aka* A Night With The Clergy was once again a resounding success. My grateful thanks to W.B. Jay Kaufman and Bro. David Kaufman for again 'chairs' this event which brought together people of good will from different cultural backgrounds. Our fund raising for this event helped bring holiday cheer to many nameless individuals, especially during the recent, tough economic times.

Last, but certainly not least, our Mark Twain Award Committee put countless hours of work into completing our 'first ever' application for consideration in this year's event. We have produced a stunning multimedia portfolio featuring all of the attributes in which Forest City Lodge's mission supports this recognition. I'm overjoyed that our entry has been submitted, and the winners for this year will be announced at the Convocation of Grand Masters in California in February 2010.

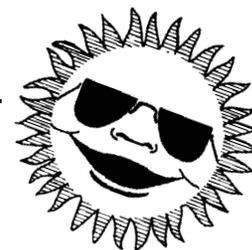
Before concluding my last newsletter as your Master, I want to give my wholehearted congratulations and welcome to our Worshipful Master-Elect, Bro. Allen Hammes, his corps of officers, and all of his other appointments. I encourage each of you to give Allen all of the support, guidance, wisdom, friendship, and respect which you have so graciously accorded me during my tenure. As the French 'Three Musketeers' said so often, "One for All, and All for One". Allen, we look forward to your leadership in the upcoming year.

My thanks to everyone for helping make my experience as Worshipful Master so fulfilling. In the future, I shall look back upon this year as rewarding and personally enriching. It has truly been an honor to serve you and Forest City Lodge as Master.

Fraternally,  
Franck T. Kakou,  
Worshipful Master

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT

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### Members who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above:

Bro. Merle Frieder – raised in 1963  
Bro. Bernard Goldfarb – raised in 1948  
Bro. Edgar S. Kammer – raised in 1958  
Bro. Arthur Schwartz – raised in 1962  
Bro. Bernard Shepard – raised in 1954  
Bro. Raphael Starman – raised in 1958

### Deceased Relations of our Brethren and/or their families:

Louis Rosenberg – brother of W.B. Alex Rosenberg  
Ruth Candela – widow of our late W.B. Frank  
Ruth Lane – wife of our Bro. Myron

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

Bro. Lee Lechner – at Anna Maria rehab center following major surgery.

Joshua Ziff – son of Bro. Sanford & Sally, at home in Export, PA following surgery.

Millie Rosenberg – wife of W.B. Alex, in Menorah Park “Heights Pavilion”.

Irene Golub – widow of Bro. Harry, in rehab at Menorah Park “Heights Pavilion” for a broken pelvis.

Bro. Peter Molay – at home after suffering a broken ankle.

Bro. Dave Rothenberg – at home following skin surgery.

Dotty Kaufman – widow of Bro. Ben and mother of W.B. Jay and Bro. David, recovering at home following a stay at Menorah Park.

Bro. Alexander (Sandy) Williger – now a resident at Montefiore Home.

Bro. Seymour Press – in ICU at the Cleveland Clinic for a serious head injury.

### Congratulations to:

Jordan Alperin – on his engagement to Miss Erika Nelson-Johnson. Jordan is the grandson of the late Bro. Dr. Norman and Ruth Alperin, and the nephew of W.B. Mitchell L. & Marcia Alperin.

Bro. Martin & Gloria Braun – on the graduation of their granddaughter, Callie Ohlmann, from the School of Nursing at Lincoln Memorial University in Knoxville, Tenn.

Bro. Morris & Bonnie Barron – on the engagement of daughter Stephanie to Michael Streit. Stephanie is the granddaughter of Rita and our late Bro. Sanford Barron, and the niece of Bros. Marc (Penny) and Mitchell (Erika) Barron.

***Editor's Note:** How marvelous it is to report on the birth of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. We know that death is inevitable, but new babies are truly a gift from the Almighty, and a wonderful treat to mention in our Bulletin.*

***Brethren:** A card or phone call is always welcomed by someone ill at home, in a nursing facility, or in a 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. PLEASE! Call a committee member with good news and/or bad news. We want to remember our brethren and their families – whatever the situation may be.*

**SUPPORT OUR BRAVE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN  
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS – EARN MONEY WHILE  
YOU HELP OUR COUNTRY**

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## FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN-ELECT

Brethren, my thanks to all of you for your expression of confidence by electing me to the office of Senior Warden for 2009-2010. It has been wonderful to feel the warmth and support of my fellow Masons as I have progressed through the 'line', as an officer, in our Great Lodge.

As your Junior Warden, I was pleased to be able to assemble and rehearse the Fellow-Craft Team for several Master Mason degrees. Additionally, along with our other officers, I was able to support Wor. Master Kakou and contribute work in the EA and FC degrees; our Annual Lodge Inspection; Open House; the Typewritten Ritual; the Mark Twain Award package; the Annual Steak Roast; our trip to Mosaic Lodge in Canada; Grand Lodge Convocation; and many other interesting events too numerous to mention. It has been an incredibly busy year!

In my forthcoming year as Senior Warden, I plan to assist our new Wor. Master Allen Hammes in achieving his ambitious goals. The rest of our officer 'line' will also receive my full support through communication and dedication to the Craft. I proudly pass a well-honed Fellow-Craft team to our new Junior Warden for his renewed application of enthusiasm and team spirit. If any officers need assistance in learning their duties, rehearsing ritual work, or whatever help I can render, they need, without hesitation, to call me.

During the ensuing year, in addition to my duties as Senior Warden, I shall be making plans for my year (should the brethren see fit to elevate me one year hence). I will be scheduling events and forming committees. Many of you, whom I have known during my entire 25+ years as a Mason, will be asked to assist me in creating an exciting, interesting, and wonderful year. Thus far I have almost 30 committees in need of manpower and creative thinking to bring the events they represent to fruition. Please contact me during the coming year to let me know what you can do to make your Lodge, Forest City Lodge #388, the fantastic place to be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. Remember (the trite but ever so true statement) that we can only get out of our Lodge that which we put into it, and I am looking forward to all of our contributions producing some outstanding years in the future.

Fraternally,  
Jackie Woldering – Senior Warden-Elect

## NEW DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER SELECTED FROM FOREST CITY LODGE #388

The outstanding work of Past Master Mitchell L. Alperin has resulted in both he and Forest City Lodge being honored by his appointment as District Deputy Grand Master of the 22nd Masonic District of Ohio by newly installed Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, Terry W. Posey. Rt. Wor. Bro. Alperin received his commission at the recent Grand Lodge Convocation in Toledo, Ohio.

Rt. Wor. Bro. Alperin served as Master of Forest City Lodge in 2000. Among his accomplishments, he introduced his theme of "Brotherhood into the next millennium". Along with W.B. Burt Task and other Past Masters who succeeded Rt. Wor. Bro. Alperin, this theme has been perpetuated through the ensuing years, and is pretty much synonymous with Forest City Lodge throughout the District and the State of Ohio.

Most recently, Rt. Wor. Bro. Alperin has served Our Lodge as its Lodge Education Officer, and also as its envoy to both our Canadian brethren from Mosaic Lodge, and to our brethren from Prince Hall Masonry. When not serving our great fraternity, our distinguished brother is either busy with his law practice, or with visiting his three (3) children and four (4) grandchildren with his loving wife, Marcia. All Forest City Lodge brethren wish him the very best as he travels the district as the personal representative of Grand Master Posey.

Forest City Lodge extends a cordial invitation to all Masons, their wives, and invited guests, to the 'Open Ceremony of Installation' for Right Worshipful Brother Mitchell L. Alperin. It will be held on Wednesday evening, December 2nd, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lyndhurst Masonic Temple. A dessert reception will follow. Let us all support this high honor which has been accorded to our Brother and to Our Lodge. Mark your calendars accordingly, and plan to attend.

### BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE

As mentioned in our last Lodge Bulletin, Forest City Lodge is again selling both the Our Town and All-Around Books at \$28.00 each and the Entertainment Books at \$30.00 each.

The profit from these sales goes directly to the Lodge – no middleman skims from the top. Books may be purchased either at Forest City Lodge meetings, or by calling either: W.B. Burt Task at (216) 831-9455 (W) or W.B. Ronald Wolfe at (216) 383-9798 (H) or (440) 248-5100 (W). Books are also available from Brothers Printing Co. (216) 621-6050.

## SCOTS and FREEMASONRY

*Part 4, taken from ElectricScotland.com – by Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot*

### The Knights Templar

During the 1st millennium of the Christian era, many of the devout made pilgrimages to Jerusalem. Palestine had been under Arab control from 637 A.D. The Islamic world considered Jesus of Nazareth a prophet, but 2nd to Mohammed, and they permitted Christian pilgrims free access to all of their holy sites. The Christian residents of Palestine established small hospitals in order to provide for their pilgrim needs. In 1046, the merchants of Amalfi, Italy established the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. It was staffed by brothers who served under no particular religious order.

In 1076, the Ottoman Turks invaded Palestine and proceeded to persecute the Christian community and defile all Christian shrines. Pope Urban II (1042-1098) organized a “Holy War” in 1095, and the “1st Crusade” set out for Palestine in 1096, under the leadership of several noblemen. Following victories at Nicaea and Antioch, an army of 20,000 Christians arrived at the gates of Jerusalem on June 7th, 1099. The city was captured within six (6) weeks.

Nearly twenty years later, in 1118, nine Christian knights formed a fighting unit to patrol the roads to Palestine, and escort pilgrims safely on their journey. They called themselves “The Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ”. The Christian king of Jerusalem assigned them quarters on the Temple Mount, near the Dome of the Rock, at the former site of Herod’s Temple.

The knights expanded their title to “The Poor Soldiers of Christ and Temple of Solomon”, which was then shortened to “The Knights of the Temple”, and eventually, “The Knights Templar”. Later study of the Temple Mount reveals that the Templars embarked upon an ambitious excavation project under the site of Herod’s Temple. What they may or may not have found is the subject of much speculation.

By 1165, the Knights Templar were firmly established in Jerusalem, and throughout Europe. When noblemen joined their ranks, they surrendered their castles and properties to the Templars who used the revenues generated to purchase armor, weapons, horses, and ships that were used to carry pilgrims, troops, and commercial

cargoes across the Mediterranean from France to Italy, Palestine, Spain, and beyond. The Templar fleet exceeded that of any other state at that time, and included a number of highly maneuverable war galleys fitted with rams.

King Philip IV of France was envious of the popularity and wealth of the Knights Templar. France was bankrupt, and Philip was a weak and unpopular monarch who was deeply in debt to the Templars. He sought to secure their wealth for himself, and in 1307 he persuaded Pope Clement V that the Templars were practicing blasphemous rituals, preaching heresy, and engaging in homosexuality.

The Pope condemned the Templars as heretics, and on Friday the 13th in 1307, French King Philip IV ordered simultaneous raids at Templar priories throughout France. Hundreds of Knights were captured, including the Grand Master, Jacques de Molay (1244-1314). Since word of the raids was received in advance, hundreds more of the Templars fled from France or melted into the general population, and the Templars fleet disappeared.

The captured Templars were tortured in order to extract confessions that would fit the charges leveled against them. In 1310, fifty-four Templars were burned at the stake in order to force confessions from the remaining Templars in French custody. Jacques de Molay was burned at the stake in 1314. As the flames rose about him, de Molay pronounced a curse upon King Philip and Pope Clement. Ironically, both died with a year. Neither the King nor the Pope captured the Templar treasury or the Templar fleet. Thereafter, Vatican shipping came under the attack of privateers who flew the Templar maritime flag – a black banner with a skull and crossed bones.

*The next segment of Bro. Smith’s writings will appear in a future edition of the Forest City Lodge Bulletin.*



**Forest City Lodge No. 388 F. & A.M.**  
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## **GRAND LODGE OF ISRAEL**

### **Visit to Ohio AND a Tribute to your Editor from the State of Israel Bonds**

This past June 20th, Ohio was visited by both the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Israel. In the company of Charles R. Murphy, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, and Rt. Wor. David W. McClenahan, the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Israel near the Grand Lodge of Ohio, they attended an outdoor M.M. degree at William McKinley Lodge #431.

How ironic that Freemasonry, a bastion of freedom and brotherly love, thrives in Israel, the only true democracy in the Middle East. Israel, though only a 'virtual flyspeck' on a map of the Middle East surrounded by sworn arab enemies, is and has been the strongest ally in the area for the United States.

Coincidentally, on this past August 23rd, your editor, Wor. Bro. Ronald Wolfe, was paid tribute to by his synagogue, Cedar Road Synagogue, and by the State

of Israel Bonds office for serving as the synagogue's Israel Bond Campaign Chairman since 1995. Some ninety (90) friends, family members, lodge brothers, professional associates, and others convened for a lavish dessert reception. In Bro. Ron's honor, more that \$750,000.00 in State of Israel Bonds were pledged.

For those not familiar with State of Israel Bonds, they are an investment – not a donation. Major banks, the State of Ohio, Cuyahoga County, many unions, and a great number of other organizations purchase them because of their high interest rate, and their outstanding record of having never reneged on redeeming a matured bond.

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