

FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

Winter, 2006

Website: webmaster@forestcity388.com

Lyndhurst, Ohio

FROM THE MASTER-ELECT



I want to thank my brethren here in Forest City Lodge for the honor of being elected Worshipful Master for 2006-2007. The privilege of serving our Great Lodge is an honor that will be with me for the rest of my life.

My Social Committee and I have planned many different events for the coming year, and I hope we can bring some fun into your lives. The immediate events for the next few months are listed below. My theme for this year is, "forgive, resolve, and reunite". Our Installation of Officers is set for Wednesday, November 15th. It is open to Masons, relatives, and friends, and will be held in our own Lodge hall. A full course dinner will precede the event. **All dinners, this year, will be \$9.00 per person unless specifically indicated otherwise.** Please come and enjoy, and give the new Lodge year a wonderful send off.

The Officers' Reception will be at a brunch on Sunday, December 3rd, at the Embassy Suites in Beachwood. The cost is only \$12.50 per person. Come and meet your **new** officers for 2006-2007. If you have any ideas or suggestions for improving our Lodge, this is a great venue for speaking frankly with any or all of the officers.

Just three days later on Wednesday, December 6th, we will hold our Annual Brotherhood Night or Night With The clergy. Our **new** Grand Master will join us for this event. The evening will begin with a fabulous dinner of either prime rib or salmon prepared by our renowned cook, Ms. Kathy White. This event is also **open** to Masons and non-Masons alike. It's a great opportunity to introduce potential candidates to our Fraternity. On Wednesday, December 20th, we are

going to have a holiday party. The entree will be latkes and brisket, and the price is only \$5.00 per dinner.

Tickets for all dinners and/or events may be purchased from any of our Lodge officers. I encourage you to purchase your tickets early to avoid being 'shut-out'. This is going to be a year of fun and enjoyment – be a part of the action.

Our Annual Inspection is not until May, 2007. It will be in the Entered Apprentice Degree. I want to thank all those who participated in the ritual work this past year. I really encourage both the old-timers and the newcomers alike to get involved in the work. Those of us who have worked and strived for perfection in our ritual work have grown closer, and our brotherly love for each other has been strengthened. This is one reason for our reputation as the best Lodge in the district. Come my brothers – join us – may brotherly love prevail.

I am looking forward to presenting you with a year of new and exciting things to do and to enjoy. Our events should bring a little laughter to your life; our dinners should be a delight to your palate; our adventures should take you to new places where you have never gone before!

Our world grows with sorrow as we worry about tomorrow. Let our strength be in our bond, one for another. "United We Stand, Divided We Fall". Together we **can** continue to build that bridge for a better tomorrow.

As the New Year approaches, I would like to wish each of you and your loved ones a year of good health, happiness, and prosperity. Once again, thank you for the honor you have reposed in me.

Fraternally yours,
Mark H. Nathanson,
Worshipful Master Elect

Officers Elect 2006 - 2007

Worshipful Master - Elect

Mark H. Nathanson (440) 460-0176 (H)
999 Worton Park Drive
Mayfield Village, OH 44143

Senior Warden Elect & Webmaster

Alan H. Rothman (216) 381-2203 (H)
1436 Grenleigh Road (216) 410-6919 (C)
Lyndhurst, OH 44124
email: alanoptic@ameritech.net

Junior Warden - Elect

Frank T. Kakou (440) 286-9458 (H)
10544 Wilson Mills Road (216) 426-0979 (W)
Munson Twp., OH 44024 (216) 426-0924 (F)

Treasurer - Elect

Jerome S. Kustin, P.M. (216) 292-4943 (H)
3932 White Oak Trail (440) 886-0277 (W)
Orange Village, OH 44122 (440) 886-2611 (F)

Associate Treasurer

Mitchell Freiberg, P.M. (440) 498-9035 (H)
36680 Aberdeen Lane
Solon, OH 44139

Treasurer Emeritus

Frank Orlove, P.M.

Secretary - Elect

Morton S. Negin, Illust. 33rd....(440) 942-1144 (H)
9205 Idlewood Drive (440) 942-1144 (F)
Mentor, OH 44060
email: mnegin@sbcglobal.net

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Associate Chaplain

Mitchell Freiberg, P.M. (440) 498-9035 (H)
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Forest City Lodge Web Address
forestcity388@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster@forestcity388.com

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Al Hammes (216) 321-8130 (H)
3538 Cedarbrook Road (216) 371-2918 (W)
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Junior Deacon - Elect

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Mantua, OH 44255

Senior Steward - Appointee

Peter J. Moley (216) 321-2789 (H)
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Junior Steward.....TBA

Marshall

Gary Grunwald (440) 708-2274 (H)
1820 South Rolling Brook Drive (216) 381-3075 (W)
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023

Tyler - Elect

Marvin J. Smith (440) 442-5380 (H)
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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**.

Wed., November 15, 2006.....Stated Meeting

**Annual Installation of Officers – Open to Masons,
Ladies, and other non-Masons**

See details on “Coming Attractions” page

Wed., November 29, 2006.....Special Meeting

7:30 p.m.....Degree Work

Sun., December 3, 2006Brunch

**Annual Installation of Officers – Open to Masons,
Ladies, and other non-Masons**

See details on “Coming Attractions” page

Wed., December 6, 2006.....Stated Meeting

**Annual Brotherhood Night – Open to Masons,
Ladies, and other non-Masons**

See details on “Coming Attractions” page

Wed., December 20, 2006.....Stated Meeting

**Holiday Party – Open to Masons,
Ladies, and other non-Masons**

See details on “Coming Attractions” page

Wed., January 3, 2007.....Stated Meeting

6:15 p.m..... **Early Bird Dinner**

7:30 p.m.....Meeting

Wed., January 17, 2007.....Stated Meeting

6:30 p.m..... **Dinner**

7:30 p.m.....Meeting

8:00 p.m.....Lodge Education Program

From the East



My Brethren, I send Fraternal Greetings from the East for the last time. In a few short weeks, I shall join the ranks of the Past Masters of Forest City Lodge #388, and once again I will join you on the sidelines to help support our Lodge.

I wish to thank all of my Lodge brethren for the privilege of serving as your Master this past year. Being Worshipful Master, especially in Forest City Lodge, has been both a rewarding as well as a meaningful experience for me.

I have had the opportunity to meet and get to know so many of the Brethren, not only from our Lodge, but from throughout the State of Ohio and from Canada.

The Master is responsible for all things related to the Lodge. This enormous task cannot be done alone. There have been so many Brethren who have helped this year that I am unable to count and identify all of them.

I must, however, speak of the corps of officers with whom I was privileged to work this year. These men have done an exemplary job this year, and I feel confident that I am leaving the Lodge in good hands. Every officer is a mason who cares deeply about his Brethren and the Masonic fraternity.

To my successor, Bro. Mark Nathanson, I offer my congratulations and my assurance that I will support his administration to the best of my ability.

Once again, thank you for all of your support during my term in office. I wish you and yours a year of good health, success in all your endeavors, and prosperity.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Steve Friedman – Worshipful Master

WHO IS MARVIN SMITH?

Marvin Smith, to his utter surprise, is the 2006, Forest City Lodge #388 Mason-of-the-Year.

September 20, 2006, was the occasion of the Annual Mason-of-the-Year Award in Forest City Lodge. Bro. Marvin, our Tyler for the past few years, had finished his duties for the evening and was seated next to his wife, Barbara, to enjoy the festivities. When the Award Selection Committee walked over to his seat and took him by the arm, Marvin was virtually speechless.

To say that Bro. Marvin was deserving of the Honor would be an understatement.

Though a member of our fraternity for only nine (9) years, Marvin has made his mark in Forest City

Lodge. He began making friends almost immediately following his raising. Though *green for the job*, he assumed the role of Tyler several years ago and is now quite proficient.

Bro. Marvin is always on hand to greet both members and visitors as they sign in before entering the Lodge room. He has also become a very active member of the Sunshine Committee. He and Barbara can be counted on to attend all Lodge functions.

Bro. Marvin, your brethren in Forest City Lodge are very glad that some nine years ago you requested an application to join our Lodge. May you enjoy many years of good health and success during your Masonic journey.

From the Senior Warden-Elect

Thank you all for the confidence you have reposed in me via my election to the post of Senior Warden. By code, at the Installation of Officers, the Senior Warden is addressed thusly, "In the absence of the Master, you are to govern the Lodge. In his presence, you are to assist him in the government of it". I shall do my best not only to govern the Lodge in a fair and concise manner, but to help propel our Lodge into the 21st century. Many personal initiatives are in my "playbook" for the next two years. The Master-Elect and I are the best of friends, and we will work together to make both this year and next seamless in goals, ideals, values, membership enhancement **and** retention. We are placing a special emphasis on **fun**, and have planned many exciting events which are certain to sell out quickly. PLEASE, don't let the parade pass you by – buy your tickets early. Foremost among my personal goals is to be the most contemporary Worshipful Master that Forest City Lodge #388 has ever seen. I shall utilize all the benefits of technology. These include mass mailings by both 'snail-mail' and email. Timely updates will appear continually on our Lodge Website, and through our email update program. If elected **next year**, I will be the 1st Worshipful Master in our Lodge's history to also serve as the Webmaster. This technology shall be utilized to the fullest extent possible.

Don't be left out in the cold. Subscribe to our Email program **today**. Simply send an email directly from our Website at www.forestcity388.com or at webmaster@forestcity388.com. Either way, simply write "subscribe" in the subject header. According to national trends, 72% of Americans are online. Based upon our subscriber lists, many of you have not yet 'hopped on the bandwagon'.

This article was originally to be the fourth in a series on my travel to Mexico to do a "Gift of Sight Mission". Through a turn of events, I am no longer affiliated with the Mission sponsor. I have now gone into private practice in Beachwood. This change will enable me to offer better care, more professional services, and certain advantages to my Masonic brethren. Our Fraternity will gain more of my time, and will afford me the opportunity to be a better Worshipful Master should I be fortunate enough to be elected one year from now.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Alan H. Rothman,
Senior Warden-Elect and Your Webmaster

From the Junior Warden-Elect

Fraternal greetings to ALL of my Masonic Brethren. I want to preface my remarks with a sincere thank you for allowing me to move up the ranks as an officer in Forest City Lodge. As in my former stations in the lodge, I shall strive to the best of my ability to be the kind of officer who will lead by example – with the ritual work, with promoting brotherhood and fellowship among my brethren, and assisting and/or teaching Masonic principles to our newly raised brothers.

As many of you are well aware, I was born and raised in France. I have observed masonry in action both in Europe and here in the U.S.A. While not yet perfect, my english contains a goodly mixture of my French accent. It was amusing, recently, when I conferred an Entered Apprentice degree on a new candidate that both the candidate and the brethren had to listen very intently to distinguish some of my accent-coated words. Those of you who know me know that I am a "gung-ho" Mason. I believe in our principles and teachings, and I try to the extent possible to instill that spirit in others. That is why I continually invite all of you to come to Lodge more often; to take part in the ritual work; and to attend our social functions.

With regard to social activities, our Master-Elect has a great program in store for all of us. Whether the function is for 'masons-only', or for masons and non-masons alike, these are wonderful events at which to solidify old friendships and make new ones.

I offer my services to any brother who wants to learn ritual roles; or to re-learn the Masonic signs; or to just improve in Masonic education. My home and work phone numbers can be found in the list of Officers. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
Franck Kakou,
Junior Warden-Elect



COMING ATTRACTIONS...

PLEASE cut out this page and post it in a prominent place at home. Check it regularly so as not to miss our great social activities.

NOTE: Full dinners, unless indicated otherwise, will be \$9.00 per person. Reservations are a must. Call any officer to make your reservations. Early Bird dinners for Masons only will be at a nominal charge.

Wed., November 15, 2006 Installation of Officers

For Masons and non-Masons alike

5:45 P.M. Open Lodge

6:15 P.M. Taking of Pictures

6:30 P.M. Dinner

7:30 P.M. Installation Program

Sun., December 3, 2006 Officers Reception

For Masons and non-Masons alike – Embassy Suites – Beachwood

Cost: \$12.50 per person

12:00 P.M. Brunch

Wed., December 6, 2006 Brotherhood Night aka Night With the Clergy

For Masons and non-Masons alike

5:00 P.M. Open Lodge

5:30 P.M. Introductions

6:30 P.M. Dinner

7:30 P.M. Program

Wed., December 20, 2006 Stated Meeting

For Masons and non-Masons alike

6:30 P.M. Holiday Party AND *Latkes and Brisket Dinner*

7:30 P.M. Stated Meeting

Sat., January 20, 2007 Whirlyball and Dinner

Details will be forthcoming.

Wed., January 31, 2007 Multi-faceted Evening

Details will be forthcoming.

Sat., February 10, 2007 *A Murder Mystery Night*

See article in this bulletin with **important reservations 'info'**



Sunshine Committee Report

Members who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above:

Bro. Julius 'Jules' Bayer -- raised 1963 - brother to Bros. Jack and Ronald Bayer.

Bro. William Belman -- raised **1954**.

Bro. David D. Golub -- raised 1975.

Bro. Jack Le Noir Hardin -- raised 1972.

Bro. Martin M. Kaufman -- raised 1993.

Bro. Joel Silverman -- raised **1956**.

Bro. Irving Zimmer -- raised **1953**.

NOTE: Dates in bold face type were 50-year or more members

Deceased Relations of our Brethren and/or their families:

Florence A. Wold -- beloved mother of Barbara (Bro. Robert) Pinkis.

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

Wor. Bro. Julian Cohen - hip replacement - he is doing well and has been back to Lodge.

Bro. Andrew Salamon - is back at Lodge following two sprained wrists and a banged head.

Sr. Warden, Bro. Alan Rothman - surgery - is good as new, and back at Lodge along with the Forest City Lodge Website.

Wor. Bro. Alan Levin - recuperating at home following a stay in the hospital.

Sr. Deacon, Bro. Alan Hammes, has resumed his Lodge duties after a catheterization procedure in the hospital.

Bro. Franklin Sherman - recovering at home from an illness.

Bro. Joseph Diamond - almost back to full duty following hernia surgery.

Bro. Robert G. Pinkus - was hospitalized at Hillcrest Hospital. Is receiving treatments at the hospital as an outpatient.

***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.*

Congratulations to:

Bro. Daniel & Goldie Ermie -- on their fabulous 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Wor. Bro. Burt and Jeanne Task -- on the engagement of daughter, Marni, to Mr. Richard Bucchieri. The proud grandmother is Mildred Task, widow of Bro. Leonard.

Bro. Shawn and Susan Sanders - on the birth of daughter, Alayna Grace - 8 lbs. 3 oz. & 20" long. On 'cloud nine' are grandparents, Bro. Richard and Sheila Sanders, and great grandmother Eleanor Abrams.

PLEASE:** contact any of the Sunshine Fund Committee listed below for **births, deaths, weddings, graduations, anniversaries, illness, and any other important event.

Co-Chairman Bro. Richard (Sheila) Sanders -- see Officers 2005-2006

Co-Chairman Bro. Howard (Shirley) Marx -- see Officers 2005-2006

Wor. Master-Elect Mark (Caron) Nathanson -- see Officers 2005-2006

Wor. Bro. Marvin (Barbara) Smith -- see Officers 2005-2006

Bro. Dan (Rosie) Lash -- (216) 531-2668 or email: rosiedan@webtv.net

Wor. Bro. Burt (Jeanne) Task -- (216) 297-0150 or email: task4se@yahoo.com

Bro. Paul (Maxine) Fine -- (440) 446-9615 or cell: (216) 408-7035

Wor. Bro. Burt (Harriet) Siebert -- (216) 371-4178 or email: gramharriet@msn.com

Bro. Andy (Sandra) Salamon -- (440) 461-9101 or email: sbsalamon@yahoo.com

Bro. Larry (Marcia) Simon -- (216) 382-6924

What About Other Grand Lodges?

The following excerpt is from a copyrighted article by the Grand Lodge of Vermont. More can be found on-line at www.vtfremasons.org/fmvermont.htm

VT Masonry in Action

While the roots of Freemasonry are lost in the mists of time, Freemasonry came to the shores of America in the 1730's and arrived in Vermont in 1781. Lodges are now found throughout our state: in the largest cities and the smallest towns, from the South to the North and from East to West. Freemasonry has been a vibrant force in so many of our communities over the past decades and today it continues to bring together men from all levels of society to 'do good and be better'.

As you travel about the Green Mountain State, you'll find our lodges generally well marked. You can also expect to see a variety of auto emblems, ball caps, and lapel pins by which you'll know us. We're proud of our history AND excited about our future. As we continue to grow, we welcome your involvement and participation. We're designing our website for both our present and future members as well as their friends and family. We believe that the world's oldest and largest fraternal organization has much to offer Vermont, and many of our state's most prominent citizens have voted agreement by becoming a part of our organization.

So WELCOME! Enjoy your stay and please visit us often.

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

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5516 MAYFIELD ROAD
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(440) 442-9714

MORTON S. NEGIN
SECRETARY

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RES: (440) 942-1144

STEVEN L. FRIEDMAN
WORSHIPFUL MASTER

33555 WAGON WHEEL DRIVE
SOLON, OHIO 44130

RES: (440) 349-0940
CELL: (216) 406-0348



Dear Brother,

Over the past years your Lodge's expenses have continued to escalate just as your personal expenses have risen. The Grand Lodge of Ohio has introduced a proposal to increase Lodge dues which will be voted on at this year's Grand Lodge Convocation in October. We expect the proposal to pass which will increase our dues to Grand Lodge and reduce available funds for Lodge programs. **We have not raised our dues since 1994, and we hope that we will not have to raise dues at this time.**

Since the establishment of our Endowment Fund in 1984, we have been able to offset some of the expenses of your lodge by taking the interest money from the fund and using it for the operation of the Lodge. As expenses increased and membership decreased we were forced to increase dues to balance the needed income with the necessary expenses to have a viable and active program for all the members.

By selling the building on Warrensville and Farnsleigh we were able to defer a dues increase because the monies from the sale of the building were placed in the Endowment fund. The only funds that can be used from the endowment fund are interest income. With continued low interest rates, the income from the endowment fund has been reduced to the point that the quality of our programs may have to be curtailed. Unfortunately the Great Architect of the Universe has taken more of our members than we have been able to replace. This has caused a continual yearly decrease in our dues income.

Because of these factors, we have decided to restart the annual campaign to increase the amount of money in the endowment fund. If we are successful we hope to avoid a potential dues increase and maintain the fine program that Forest City Lodge offers to its members and family. **We are asking each one of you to consider a voluntary donation to the lodge endowment fund. A donation of \$18, \$36, \$72 or more will help us to achieve this goal.** These monies will yield an increased flow of interest income that will insure the continued survival of our fine Lodge and its varied programs.

Your officers, the budget committee and many Past Masters have endorsed this program.

We ask each and every one of our members to seriously consider this request. Your contribution will help to continue the life of Forest City Lodge.

Fraternally,

Steven L. Friedman
Worshipful Master

Mark H. Nathanson
Senior Warden

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!!

An evening of wonderful fun, great food, and excellent company.

What: **A Murder Mystery Night**
Where: **To be announced**
When: **Saturday, February 10, 2007**
Cost: **Members: \$26.00 - Non-members: \$29.00**
For: **FIRST eighty (80) people with paid reservations ONLY**

Menu: Complete dinner of either: barbeque ribs & chicken -or- Barbeque chicken only - or - Broiled Talapia

**Mail Reservations WITH check to:
Jerome S. Kustin - 3932 White Oak Trail - Cleveland, OH 44122**



The above snapshot was taken at our Lodge Steak Roast this past August at Horseshoe Lakes. Pictured from left to right: Bro. Franklin Sherman, Mr. Joe Sherman - a candidate for initiation, and Rt. Wor. Bro. Mort Negin - chairman of the Steak Roast committee.

Forest City Lodge No. 388 F. & A.M.
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Prince Hall Masons Grieve

It is with a heavy heart that we report the passing of Most Worshipful Bro. Joe L. Smith, Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of Ohio. M.W.B. Smith attended numerous events in Forest City Lodge, and was immediately liked by all who met him.

He was born in Dayton, Ohio, and was a product of Dayton Public School System. He graduated from Sinclair Community College in Dayton in 1976, with an associate degree in Applied Science, Business Management, and a certificate of completion in Industrial Foremanship Technology. For thirty (30) years he worked as property manager for the public works division of Facilities Project Management for Montgomery County, Ohio. He received an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Army following two years service here in the U.S. and in Korea.

In 1977, M.W.B. Smith was coronated a 33rd degree Mason, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry in Indianapolis, IN. As Grand Master of Prince Hall Masons of Ohio, his theme was "honor the past with pride"

M.W.B. Smith will be sorely missed by Prince Hall Masons as well as by Free and Accepted Masons. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, his son, Bradley Louis Smith, and granddaughter, Theresa L. Smith.

May his spirit abide with G-d forever.

Masonic Charity - an ongoing commitment

As every Masons knows - or should know, **charity** is one of the most important acts we can do. For some, charity is something that must be done whether we want to or not. For others, charity is a personal challenge wherein we strive to do our utmost to aid those less fortunate than ourselves.

While Forest City Lodge is generous to many needy causes, our biggest effort is in raising money for Brotherhood Night at which time we distribute handsome amounts to five or six institutions who feed the hungry. Last year we raised and handed out over \$2,000.00.

While this amount assisted hundreds of individuals, think of how many more might have benefited had the funds been available. At every dinner in our Lodge hall, whether a formal one or an 'early bird', we have a gold kettle at the entranceway. Most Brethren, either before or after eating, will drop one or more dollars into the kettle. This money is collected and put aside for distribution on Brotherhood Night which always occurs during the Christmas/Chanukah time of the year.

Many of you brethren do not attend the dinners, and your potential contributions to the kettle are lost. Why not do your Masonic obligation, and send in a check for whatever amount is affordable by you. The hungry will not know you (which is true charity), but their well-being will always be a blessing to you.

Mail your check payable to: Forest City Lodge Brotherhood Fund c/o Bro. Ron Wolfe, 4459 Gilmer Lane, Richmond Hts., OH 44143.