

ROCKY RIVER LODGENO. 703 F. & A. M.
20149 LAKE ROAD
ROCKY RIVER OHIO 44116

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 03 Dark - Happy New Year!
Jan 10 Stated - Dinner @ 6:30 pm
Jan 17 Officers meeting and practice
Jan 24 Stated - Dinner @ 6:30 pm
Jan 27 Breakfast in the Park
Jan 31 Dark
Feb 07 Officers meeting and practice
Feb 14 Stated - LEO Presentation
Feb 21 Special - Entered Apprentice Degree
Feb 28 Stated - Dinner TBA


Please see inside article for additional information

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2008 Years Of Service

Awards

March 6th, 2008 we will be recognizing the years of membership of 13 of our brethren. More details will follow regarding dinner, program, etc but for now, please set this date aside to join us in acknowledging this exceptional Masonic achievement made by the following brethren:

70 Years of Membership

John E. Hamm

65 Years of Membership

Robert C. Kirk

Earl W. Sibenhaar

60 Years of Membership

Howard C. Berthold

John H. Combes

50 Years of Membership

Allen J. Bendo

Emil W. Krug, Jr.

Jullian T. Terrell

Charles P. Vorhees

William H. Walsh

25 Years of Membership

William A. Gay

Richard H. Haug

G. Andrew Mettler

From the East

Brethren,

I would like to thank everyone who attended the 80th Installation of Officers of Rocky River #703. It was an incredible night for me. One I know I will never forget.

A special thanks to my Installing Master Greg Hayden, and my Installing Marshals, Theodore Dyson Cutts and Jonathan Krapf. It was nice to see that afterwards many of you came to the reception and put a nice dent in my wallet.

Thanks again to all who helped make it such a wonderful night.

Keep your eyes on the upcoming events list. Each meeting we will have some kind of dinner and once a month we will have a feast. I mentioned we would eat this year and that we will. Some will be Masonic only and others open for that special significant other. I think that's the new politically correct term for your wife.

We have a number of special events coming up. The breakfast in the park is January 27th, Awards night March 6th, Inspection April 3rd, an EA degree at the Medina Masonic home May 15th. I am looking at having a table lodge one night, a summer visitation to a Lake County Captains baseball game for the whole family, etc.

If you haven't been to Lodge in awhile, give us a try. You will be pleasantly surprised. Remember always keep smiling and never ever stop having fun.



*Worshipful Master
Donald M. Auping*

Fraternally,
Donald Auping, Worshipful Master

Birthday Trivia

Here we go again, a brand new year and the same brethren (fortunately) having birthdays to celebrate. However, since celebrating birthdays is generally considered a positive condition of your health, we will positively direct our attentions to the following; Harry Osgood has been celebrating January birthdays the longest and he will do so for the 93rd time this month out in Solon, Ohio. Ben Ferrell is at the other end of the scale as our youngest at 28. The first day of the new year finds Bill Walsh and Meredith Williams with birthdays and two Past Masters Jon Krapf and Scott Croxford respectively acknowledging their age on the 2nd and 3rd of the month. Other, no less distinguished January birthdays are Bob Roeder, Bob Breitmeyer, John Stracker, Ed Lannigan, Jim Plotz, Bob Winkler, Tad Koenig, Bill Fenniman and John Duncan. Glad you all stayed around to celebrate one more, Happy birthday brethren.

Bill Gay, P.M., Secretary

From the West

I have attended the first of the lodge leadership forums for this year. They are sponsored by the 22nd Masonic District and are held at the Masonic Center downtown on Saturday mornings. December's meeting dealt with planning a Masonic calendar. I found the meeting very useful, will be attending them in the future, and commend it to the line officers.

Next month's meeting will be held on January 12, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. You may find it worth poking around a bit.

The Typewritten Ritual will be at Elyria Lodge on January 8th, and Raymer-Covenant on January 9th.

The Bi-Centennial Dinner Dance will be held on January 19th.

Ben Farah, Senior Warden

Dues Please

Tis the season when the Treasurer gets his underwear in a knot about brethren who have not paid their dues. We just recently sent out Past Due Notices to 12 brethren who have not yet paid their 2008 dues. We won't mention what the consequences will be if these are not received but we can ill afford to lose anyone. If you are one of these tardy remitters, please abate the Treasurer's source of irritation and send in your dues so we can put a smile back on his face and allow the Secretary to get on with more productive lodge pursuits.

Bill Gay, P.M., Secretary

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Freemasonry and Women

In Freemasonry, as in all other areas of life, women play an important role. The opportunities for women to participate in Freemasonry are widespread and meet a variety of needs, from social interaction in the Orders for both men and women, to the unique needs met in the "women only" Masonic-related organizations. The moral and ethical values that Freemasonry encourages are universal and not gender-based.

Masonic Lodges maintain today a long-standing tradition of restricting membership in Freemasonry to men. This tradition is based on the historical all male membership of stonemasons guilds. During the Middle Ages, men traveled far from home and lived in lodges while constructing great cathedrals throughout Europe.

However, in the middle 1800s the fraternity took the progressive step, for that time, of creating organizations that included women, so that men and women could share Masonic fraternalism. The Order of the Eastern Star (the largest of these Masonic-related groups) was established in 1855, the Order of the Amaranth in 1873, and the White Shrine of Jerusalem in 1894.

Two national Masonic-related youth organizations are for young women: the International Order of Job's Daughters, founded in 1920, and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, founded in 1922. Rainbow and Job's Daughters are involved with local charities, community services, and educational programs.

Other Masonic-related organizations limit their membership to women only, such as the Ladies Oriental Shrine of North America, Daughters of the Nile, the Daughters of Mokanna, and the Social Order of Beauceant. These Masonic-related organizations, like many organizations in North America, both social and professional, base their membership on gender. Junior League, P.E.O., National Association of Female Executives, and Girl Scouts, for instance, are organizations created exclusively for women, established to fulfill their unique interests and specific needs.

Masonic Service Association

LEO Corner

A modern Master Mason would be comfortable with the meeting once he got to it. The ritual might be strange, as prior to 1808 a Lodge used the ritual of its chartering Grand Lodge. The largest difference from today is getting there. Since "all weather roads have been a fairly recent innovation (1920's) the definition of the length of my cable tow" being defined as 20 miles or a healthy trot by a horse and buggy or wagon on a "good" day with "good roads" for one hour, makes sense. We must remember that railroads and canals had not become common in Ohio in 1807. The early organization of the responsibilities of the Deputy Grand Lecturers (later Deputy Grand Masters) and the Committee on Jurisprudence were reorganized when the railroad and canals made travel easier for these dedicated Masons.

In Allen Robert's book, "Frontier Cornerstones", we find an incident where the 1827 Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother J M Goodenow, left his home in Steubenville, to constitute a Lodge in Barnesville - a trip that today is done in a half an hour of easy driving, took 2 days to complete in the winter of 1827.

Do we demonstrate the same determination to "be there" today as our forefathers did? Let us not forget the Brothers that came 2 to 4 hours early and started the fire to warm up the Lodge Room. Remember this took cutting, splitting, hauling and stacking a lot of wood. Some of our Lodges holds on to the tradition of meeting as close to the "Full Moon" as possible. This quaint practice had the practical purpose of giving the Brothers coming home over those rutted and sometimes washed out roads a chance for their horse to see the hazards while they got some much needed sleep (having been up since before dawn to start the chores). The next time you debate with yourself whether to "attend Lodge" tonight, please think of a Brother long ago in a rain or snowstorm on his open farm wagon or astride a horse fighting the elements to be with his Brothers.

Submitted by W.B. Jack Allen, L.E.O.

30th Annual Breakfast in the Park

The Annual Breakfast in the Park was started by W.B. Mel Fink in 1976, during his year as Master. We have all survived a lot of snow and cold weather since then and we will again! This time will be on Sunday, January 27th at 9:00 a.m. under the leadership of Master Chef Br. Gary Szechy, who will again be at the skillet! Please call Br. Szechy at (440) 582-1456 and ask him what you can bring. Gary has spearheaded this event as long as I can remember and it is quite a bit of work. If you would like to help, show up at 8:00 a.m.

The Mastic pavilion is located on Valley Parkway, south of the Mastick Rd./Puritas Rd. light.

Brethren, this is a great event to bring a friend and let them see the "warmer" side of Rocky River Lodge. Just let Gary know when you call if you are bringing anyone with you. Dress warm!

Upcoming events:

On **January 10th** we will be enjoying Sonny Farrell's famous (or infamous) chili.

January 17 will be an Officers meeting and Entered Apprentice practice. W.M. Auping will be serving bratwurst and all brethren are welcome to attend.

The **24th of January** is Italian night with sausage and peppers, etc. This evening is for Masons only and Reservations are required.

We will be dark on the **31st of January**...who knows what the Master is up to!

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OLE' SOL

Ole Sol, while in the process of negotiating his way through the parking lot of the Linden Lounge to his second lodge meeting on Thursday night, noticed the following bumper sticker "2B1Ask1" (to be one (a Mason) ask one) on a brother's car. It reminded me that the Masonic Fraternity is more than keeping pace with the rest of the world in assigning acronyms to shorten the descriptions of subjects we are conversing about. While not the equivalent of the military establishment, we never-the-less have developed the following which for the most part, are unique to our fraternity.

How many do you recognize?

AAONMS - Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (Shriners)
 AASR or A&ASR - Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (or Ancient & Accepted)
 AF&AM - Ancient Free And Accepted Masons
 DDGM - District Deputy Grand Master
 DEO - District Education Officer (now extinct in Ohio)
 F&AM - Free & Accepted Masons
 GLNF - National Grand Lodge of France (Grand Loge Nationale Francais)
 GWMNM or GWM - George Washington Masonic National Memorial
 HA - Hiram Abif or Abiff
 IOJD - International Order of Jobs Daughters
 IORG - International Order of the Rainbow for Girls
 IPR - Initiation, Passing, and Raising
 KT - Knights Templar
 KYCH - Knight of the York Cross of Honor
 MGMB- making good men better
 MOVPER - Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm (Grotto)
 MSA - Masonic Service Association
 MWDA - Masters, Wardens and Deacons Association

MWGM - Most Worshipful Grand Master
 OA - Order of Amaranth
 OD - Order of DeMolay
 OES - Order of the Eastern Star
 OMH - Ohio Masonic Home
 PM - Past Master
 POTS - Parting on the Square (sometimes used in place of "sincerely")
 RA - Royal Arch
 S&F - Sincerely & Fraternally
 SMIB - So mote it be
 SOB - (careful now) Social Order of the Beauceant
 STC - Supreme Tall Cedar
 TCF - Tres Cher Frere (Very Dear Brother)
 TCL - Tall Cedars of Lebanon
 TGLM - Three Great Lights of Masonry
 TY - Tyler
 UGLE - United Grand Lodge of England (not a description of our Secretary)
 VSL - Volume of Sacred Law
 WM - Worshipful Master
 WSJ - White Shrine of Jerusalem

Well, time is approaching when the bar maid is about to tell us that table service is being curtailed for the night and that reminds that at one time in my life, I thought I had a handle on the meaning of the word "service." It's the act of doing things for other people. Then I heard these terms which reference the word SERVICE: Internal Revenue Service, Postal Service, Telephone Service, Civil Service, City & County Public Service, Customer Service, Service Stations. Then I became confused about the word "service." This is not what I thought "service" meant. So today, I overheard two farmers talking, and one of them said he had hired a bull to "service" a few of his cows. BAM! It suddenly all came into perspective. Now I understand what all those "service" agencies are doing to us. I hope you now are as enlightened as I am.

Ole' Sol, Secretary #703 1/2

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Please consider placing an ad with us. Think about it, 9 months worth of advertising for less than the cost of dinner for 2.

I would also like to express my appreciation to all the members that have given me input over the last year. Your comments, ideas, articles, and suggestions have helped me to evolve this publication into what it is today.

Russ Kilpatrick, P.M., Editor



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