

FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

January-February 2009

Website: www.forestcity388.com

Lyndhurst, Ohio

FROM THE MASTER



Dear Brethren,

Let me begin with a sincere wish for you and your loved ones, a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year in 2009. I hope that all of you are looking forward to the many exciting events that will occur in Forest City Lodge this year.

We are off and running. Our Annual Installation of Officers was a great success, word of which quickly spread throughout the District. Approximately 240 people enjoyed a succulent dinner prior to the installation, and about 300 masons and guests packed the lodge room for the actual event. This marvelous event was highlighted by the presence of (1) the parents of Wor. Bro. Kakou who traveled from France to attend the installation of their son, (2) Most Wor. Bro. Charles R. Murphy, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, (3) thirteen PDDGMs and two current DDGMs, (4) the Grand Treasurer, Grand Orator, and Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, and (5) M.W. B. Rev. James H. Willis, Sr., Grand Master of Prince Hall masons, along with his fellow Grand Lodge officers and several other brethren.

On our very first meeting of the new Lodge year, we conducted an Entered Apprentice examination, and a degree was conferred on our newly obligated Bro. Jay Weiss. I wish him a great journey in our fraternity.

Of course, and as usual, Brotherhood Night was just as outstanding as was our installation. The feeling of warmth and fraternal brotherhood was again exemplified in our Lodge room. My thanks to our superb chairmen, Wor. Bro. Jay Kaufman and Bro. David Kaufman.

I have several projects to accomplish this year, and I will need the help of every one of you to do so. The first one is the *typewritten ritual* which we will be hosting, proudly, for our District on Saturday A.M., January 21, 2009. A breakfast of coffee and donuts will be served, and lunch will consist of soup and a sandwich. The event

moves quickly. Come and learn together to be proficient in our ritual.

My 2nd project is an Open House which has been suggested by our Grand Lodge. It will be held in our Lodge building and hosted by all the lodges which meet in the Lyndhurst Masonic Temple on Saturday, March 21, 2009. The purpose is to bring Freemasonry out of the lodge room, and out to the public. Bring your non-Mason friends, relatives, and/or neighbors to visit the Lodge room and meet with other members of our great fraternity. This may be the perfect opportunity to get that *wavering good man* to ask you for a petition for membership.

New applicants will be eligible for the Grand Master's 1-day class on June 13th, 2009. Each new candidate who takes the class will be offered a dinner, with his spouse, with me and some of our other officers on that same evening.

On April 29th, 2009, we will host an E.A. degree done by our sister lodge from Canada, Mosaic Lodge. They will exemplify this superb and essential degree, giving every good man a start in his Masonic career. Their degree is very different from ours. Come and see how Masonry is offered in our neighbor to the north.

The future of our Lodge and our beloved fraternity looks bright. This Masonic year will be extremely busy, and I am convinced that Forest City Lodge will accomplish many good things not only for our brethren, but for the entire community.

I am extremely proud to be a Mason and the leader of Forest City Lodge #388. Won't you share my pride and attend Lodge and our events. For a partial schedule, see the Trestleboard. Don't forget, we meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Fraternaly yours,
Franck T. Kakou,
Worshipful Master

Forest City Lodge #388 – Officers

2008 - 2009

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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., January 21, 2009 Stated Meeting and
E.A. Degree
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

**Saturday, January 24, 2009 Typewritten Ritual
8:30 A.M. Meeting begins**

Wed., February 4, 2009 State Meeting
And Expose on Royal Arch Mason by RWB Bole, PDDGM
6:30 P.M. Early Bird Dinner
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

Wed., February 18, 2009 Stated Meeting and
E.A. Degree
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

Wed., March 4, 2009 Stated Meeting
6:30 P.M. Early Bird Dinner
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

Wed., March 18, 2009 Stated Meeting
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

Saturday, March 21, 2009 Open House

Wed., April 1, 2009 ... No April's Fool Joke Stated Meeting
7:30 P.M. Open Lodge

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

FELLOWSHIP BOOKS

— NOW ON SALE —

Mens Book - 7 Dinners - \$49.00

Ladies/Guests - 3 Dinners - \$21.00

See any Officer to Purchase Books

The Icelandic Order of Freemasons Grand Lodge of Iceland

Our fraternity in Iceland began in 1913 when a “society of brothers”, Edda, was established in the capital, Reykjavik. In 1918, Edda became a lodge of instruction. One year later it became a fully warranted lodge.

Since 1919, twelve (12) warranted lodges and six (6) lodges of instruction have been formed. Icelandic Freemasonry was under the jurisdiction of The National Grand Lodge of Denmark until 1951 when the Danish Grand Master constituted the Grand Lodge of Iceland as a sovereign Order which now boasts a total membership in excess of 3,000.

Icelandic Freemasonry operates according to the Swedish Rite which is the dominant system in four (4) of the Nordic countries, and to some extent in Finland and Germany. It consists of eleven degrees, all of which are considered a part of Freemasonry. This system differs considerably from those used in English-speaking countries. There are, however, common characteristics which make a visit to an Icelandic lodge meeting interesting and most worthwhile.

From The West

Allow me to express my thanks to all of you for the honor you have bestowed on me by electing me Senior Warden of Forest City Lodge for 2008-2009. Our Lodge is considered throughout the 22nd District and the State of Ohio as one of the premier lodges in the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

I look forward to this year with the hope that I can meet and exceed the requirements of my new office to the end that next November you will feel that I have lived up to your expectations. Helping our Worshipful Master have a successful year should be paramount in all of our mindsets, because his success will translate into a great year for Forest City Lodge.

Masonry is a vital part of my life, and I am certain it is likewise for most of you. I am therefore asking everyone to join in and attend meetings whenever possible. Participate in Lodge functions. Help Forest City Lodge #388 remain the benchmark for everyone else.

Fraternally yours,
Allen Hammes
Senior Warden

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT

Members who have passed to the Celestial Lodge above:

Bro. Robert Weinberg – raised in 1953
Bro. Martin Brown – raised in 1954

Deceased Relations of our Brethren and/or their families:

Cathy Kern – daughter of MWB Steve Krekus, Past Grand Master of Masons in Ohio.

Vera Sherwin – widow of our late Bro. Louis, and mother of Bro. Gerald.

Gladys Horton – mother-in-law of RWB William Grater.

Jerry and Henrietta Diamond – brother and sister-in-law of Bro. Joseph Diamond.

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

Bro. Irwin “Erv” Singer – recuperating at home following hospitalization due to pneumonia.

Donna Negin – wife of RW & Illus. Bro. Morton, was also hospitalized due to pneumonia, and is now recuperating at home.

Bro. Harvey Boardman – is back at work, at last, following a heart attack.

Bro. Seymour Press – at home following a bout of ill health.

Gloria Orlove – wife of W.B. Frank, is in South Point Hospital.

Bro. Harry Golub AND wife, Irene – both had pneumonia; spent time in Montefiore Home, and are now at home. Irene was also treated for a problem with a knee cap.

Hermien Schneider – sister of Shirley (W. B. Ronald) Wolfe was hospitalized.

Wor. Bro. Burt Task – suffering with spinal problems following an auto accident in which his vehicle was ‘rear-ended’.

Maxine Fine – wife of Bro. Paul, recovering in Hillcrest Hospital following major surgery.

Millie Rosenberg – wife of Wor. Bro. Alex, is back in the hospital following surgery.

Congratulations to:

Bro. Simon ‘Sy’ Apple – celebrated his 101st birthday on December 5th. He will be receiving his 70-year pin when Grand Master Charles R. Murphy visits Los Angeles early in 2009. Those wishing to send a card to Sy should mail it to: 8750 Burton Way #334, West Hollywood, CA 90048-3838.

Bro. Myron and Ruth Lane – celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in November.

Bro. Alan and Bernice Ruben – celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in December.

Alexis – granddaughter of W.B. Julian Cohen, was Bat Mitzvah this past month.

Contribution(s) to the Sunshine Fund

Received from Bro. Harvey Boardman

***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.

KNOW OUR ADVERTISERS

For several years now your editor has extolled our advertisers who help defray the costs of our bulletins. Beginning with this issue, and continuing throughout the year, we will try to personalize these advertisers for you. We will do 2-3 each bulletin, and they will be taken exactly in the order in which they appear on our advertising page.

Jerome S. Kustin, DDS, is a Past Master of Forest City Lodge, having served in 1994, exactly thirty years after being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Jerry is currently the treasurer of our lodge. His dental office is located, and has been for many years, in Parma, Ohio. He is married to Gayle, and the two of them love to travel.

Action Pest Control is owned by Bro. Marvin Smith, a previous Forest City Lodge Mason-of-the-Year. They have

been in business for forty-five (45) years. Marvin’s father was a Mason in Boston, MA. Marvin was raised in 1997, and served superbly for a number of years as our lodge Tyler. He is married to Barbara. As a current customer of Action Pest Control, your editor is very satisfied with their work.

Schreibman Jewelers is four (4) generations old. Bro. Howard Shreibman, who is married to Marcy, was raised in 1952. Shortly thereafter he became a 32nd degree Mason. In addition to carrying a fine line of jewelry and quality gift items, the company does custom design, repair, and restoration. Schreibman Jewelers has locations at Kamm’s Corners, Fairview Park Shopping Plaza, and at Landerhaven Plaza. As Howard puts it, “Our business is **service**”.

36 Years and Going Strong

Yes, our Annual Brotherhood Night or Night With the Clergy recently held its 36th edition. After all these years one would think that the brethren and guests would be a little tired of a re-run – NOT. This year's program was as fresh and new as though it was the 1st time making its appearance in Forest City Lodge.

The evening began with the ever popular feast of prime rib or salmon, cooked to perfection by Chef Kathy White and her crew. This put everyone in attendance in a great and receptive mood.

Once in Lodge, the program was turned over to the inimitable co-chairmen of this event – namely Wor. Bro. Jay and Bro. David Kaufman. Those who originally started, nurtured, and firmly established this event are sadly no longer with us. They must not be forgotten however. They were Wor. & Illus. Bro. Bert M. Tobin, Bro. Ben “little brother” Kaufman, and Wor. Bro. Lewis Fine.



The guest speakers for the evening were all outstanding, beginning with RWB Gary L. McElfresh, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of Ohio. He was followed by Rabbi Rona Shapiro of Congregation Bethaynu, Father Joseph Hilinski of the Diocese of Cleveland, and finally, Most Wor. Bro. Charles R. Murphy, the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio.

The final highlight of the evening was the dispensing of the \$2,500.00 which Forest City Lodge Brethren had donated during the year. It was given in \$500.00 increments to the Salvation Army, the Cleveland Food Bank, Temple Israel Ner Tamid for their monthly ‘feed the needy’ efforts, the Diocese of Cleveland home for battered women and others, and to the Grand Lodge of Ohio Charitable Foundation which during its relatively brief existence has aided and supported many needy Masons and non-masons alike. AS ALWAYS, a hearty congratulations to the Kaufman brothers.

Brotherhood Night Addendum

After listening to the speakers and to the representatives of the charitable organizations, your editor thought about how he might comfortably make a more substantial donation to our Brotherhood Fund. I found a clean, clear plastic milk container into which at least 25 cents is placed everyday. Come next December there will be about \$100.00 available to be donated.

IF each of us put away just \$1.00 a week until our next Brotherhood Night, conceivably we might have \$5,000-\$10,000 or even more with which to help alleviate hunger and want from the many who are less fortunate than ourselves. With the current economic situation, can any of us in good conscience do less? THINK ABOUT IT!!!!

FREEMASONRY AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The following was taken from ElectricScotland.com – “Scots and Freemasonry”

by Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot

Go to the center of government in the State of Indiana, at the Indiana Statehouse located at the northwest corner of Washington and Capitol Streets. There, standing in the south lawn, is a larger-than-life figure of the Father of our Country, George Washington.

Is he wearing the uniform of the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army? No, he is in civilian dress. But, take a closer look. What is that under his coat? He is wearing an apron, a Masonic apron. And what is he wearing around his neck – a medal earned through the trials of military conflict? No, it is a compass with the sun at its center – the jewel of the office of Worshipful Master, the presiding officer in a lodge of Freemasons. Upon closer inspection there is seen a gavel in his right hand – the gavel which rests upon a pedestal is another symbol of the office of Worshipful Master.

Reach into your pocket and take out a **one dollar bill**. On the front you see the image of George Washington. There you see the obverse, and the reverse sides, of the Great Seal of the United States of America. On the right side of the bill you see the image that appears in the carpet of the Oval Office, and upon the lectern whenever Our President addresses the Nation – the Bald Eagle, our national symbol. In its right claw, it holds an olive branch with thirteen (13) leaves – representing our peaceful intentions. In its left claw are thirteen (13) arrows – representing our ability to wage war in our defense. Over the eagle’s breast we see a representation of our national banner with thirteen (13) stripes of red and white under a field of blue, while over the eagle’s head we see a constellation of thirteen (13) stars. In its beak we observe a scroll bearing the inscription, “E Pluribus Unum: or “Out of Many, One”.

Now look at the mysterious, and seldom displayed, image on the left side of the bill, which, reading from left to right, is actually the first thing that you see. A pyramid with thirteen (13) steps or tiers with the Roman numerals MDCCLXXVI chiseled into its base. The thirteen (13) steps or tiers refer to the original colonies or states, and the Roman numerals

read 1776, the year that the original colonies declared themselves to be free and independent states. **But wait**, what is that at the top of the pyramid, and what does the scroll at the bottom say?

The pyramid is surmounted with an image familiar to all Freemasons. It is called, “The All-Seeing Eye”, and it is a representation of the Deity, by whatever Name you choose to call **Him**, who is the Great Architect of the Universe.

More of Mr. Smith’s article will appear in future editions of Our bulletin.



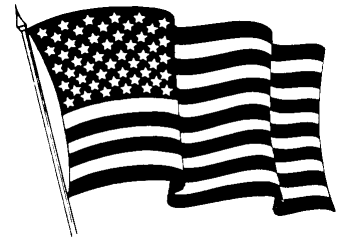
Thanks to Our Brethren and Friends

Between the graciousness of our advertisers, and the patronage of our brethren and/or their acquaintances for our recently completed sale of Entertainment and also Our Town & All-Around Books, Forest City Lodge realized approximately \$2,000.00. For some this amount may not mean anything, but to a Worshipful Master who must carefully budget Lodge funds to operate the Lodge and all of its events, this extra money gives him a little breathing room.

The sale of books will not resume until next fall, but there is room for additional advertisers. Inasmuch as two bulletins have already gone out for the 2008-2009 lodge year, there are **special advertising rates** for the balance of this year. If you wish to advertise your business or profession, or you would simply like to extend a greeting to your brethren, call W.B. Ronald Wolfe at (216) 383-9798.

Forest City Lodge No. 388 F. & A.M.
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FROM OUR IMMEDIATE PAST MASTER

Many years ago when I was a neophyte Mason, and while attending a stated meeting, an officer from the C.C.B.L.A. (Cuyahoga County Blue Lodge Association) was introduced. I turned to the Brother next to me and asked him what was the C.C.B.L.A. He shrugged his shoulders. I trust this article will clearly explain the purpose of the C.C.B.L.A., and how it can benefit our lodge and our fraternity.

The Association's Mission Statement says: "Purposes of the Association shall be to promote and arrange any and all matters pertaining to the welfare of Blue Lodges in Cuyahoga County; to arrange and conduct district meetings for the reception of Grand Lodge Officers on appropriate occasions; to receive such information from the Grand Lodge as District Deputy Grand Masters may deem necessary; to promote Good Will and Brotherly Relations among its members; and to do any and all things necessary to carry into effect the above aims and purposes.

Please remember that this is your Association. It is my goal as the newly elected 3rd Vice-President to actively promote the fraternity and the Association to bring additional light to the craft. If you know of anything that your Association can do to enhance your Masonic experience, please feel free to contact me. As the 3rd V.P., I will be traveling throughout the district. My complete traveling schedule is located on our web site on the future events page. Please consult the schedule to be a part of traveling with me to represent both Forest City Lodge #388 and the C.C.B.L.A.

Alan H. Rothman – Immediate Past Master