

FOREST CITY

LODGE NO. 388 F. & A. M.

January - February 2012

Website: www.forestcity388.com

Lyndhurst, Ohio

MASTER'S MESSAGE



I seem to have forgotten, among other things, the “whirlwind” that a new Master encounters when he is elected to office. In the case of our Lodge, the dynamics are compounded when we almost immediately follow Installation with major functions. The planning involved in making all of those events is enormous and my thanks go out to W.B.

Julian Cohen and W.B. Stuart

Marks for their work in planning of Installation and the Officers' Reception, and to W.B. Jay Kaufman and Bro. David Kaufman for their annual excellent job as co-chairmen of Brotherhood Night. I am still unwinding from these activities and entering the process of getting Lodge business done.

To a great degree, my term of office may best be characterized as a “caretaker” – I agreed to step into the lineup in order to afford our newer officers the time and opportunity to learn what Freemasonry and Forest City Lodge are all about. Traditionally, the journey “through the chairs” in our Lodge has been nearly a seven-year program. Unfortunately, we have had some men step down as officers, and we have been forced to fill stations with willing and capable replacements, but who may have little experience or training in the “Forest City way” of doing things. Thus, it becomes incumbent on our more veteran members to help teach them our traditions, and I am asking all of you to help out.

During the coming months we will have some “old programs” and try some new things. Through this Bulletin and our ever-improving web site [www.forestcity388.com] we will try to keep you informed of what is going to happen and what you may have missed. The website is loaded with excellent photos through the camera lens of Bro. Scott Morrison. You won't be in those photos if you don't attend the functions.

Among future programs will be our Annual Master and Wardens' Dinner Dance at Landerhaven on Saturday, May 5, 2012, and a bus trip to the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton on May 12, 2012. While we had hopes of seeing the Space Shuttle on display, the powers that be decided not to send it to Dayton, but there are numerous other historic aircraft at the museum. And we will eat!

I would also direct your attention to the message from the Sunshine Committee inserted in this Bulletin. Please read it and share it with members of your family. Additionally, both the Sunshine Fund and Endowment Fund would welcome your contributions.

At this time of the year, most of us start new calendars. May I suggest that you write the letters “FCL” on the first and third Wednesdays of each month and that you share Freemasonry with your Brethren on those evenings. In the words of our Grand Master – “The Future Of Freemasonry Is Up To You!”

Fraternally and sincerely
HARVEY S. MORRISON,
Worshipful Master

THE MASTER AND WARDENS' DINNER DANCE

The Executive Club at Landerhaven

Saturday, May 5, 2012

Social Hour at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner at 7:30 p.m.

\$37.50 per person



RSVP by check to:

Marvin Danziger

22655 Chagrin Boulevard, #414
Beachwood, Ohio 44122-5314

FOREST CITY LODGE #388

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Forest City Lodge Web Address

www.forestcity388.com and email the Webmaster at Webmaster@forestcity388.com

TRESTLEBOARD

NOTE: We are required by our By-Laws to open a Stated Meeting on the **first and third Wednesday** of each month, excluding July and August. Variations from this schedule, to the extent possible, will be indicated in **bold** type.

Wednesday, January 18, 2012 Stated Meeting
Special Meeting –
M.M. Degree – 1st Section..... 5:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting –
M.M.Degree – 2nd Section 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 21, 2012 Typewritten Ritual
3615 Euclid Avenue – Registration at 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 Stated Meeting
December, January and February Birthdays
Possible Degree Work – TBA 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 15, 2012 Stated Meeting
Possible Degree Work – TBA 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 7, 2012 Stated Meeting
Possible Degree Work – TBA 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 7, 2012 Short Stated Meeting
Dinner with the Ladies 6:15 p.m.
Stated Meeting..... 7:30 p.m.
Entertainment by “Notereity” 7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, April 4, 2012..... Stated Meeting
Possible Degree Work – TBA 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 18, 2012..... Awards Night
and Stated Meeting
Dinner with the Ladies 6:15 p.m.
Presentation of Awards
Mason of the Year

IMPORTANT: For further information regarding times, dinner process, or other details, please contact the Worshipful Master or consult the Forest City Lodge website: www.forestcity388.com. More up-to-date information will be on the website.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, May 12, 2012

**FOREST CITY LODGE BUS TRIP TO
U.S. AIR FORCE MUSEUM
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE**

Cost - \$25.00 person

For Reservations, contact:

W.B. Burt C. Siebert - 216/371-4178

Bro. Dan Lash - 216/531-2668

Reservations are Limited to Bus Capacity

FOREST CITY LODGE SUNSHINE COMMITTEE 2011 - 2012

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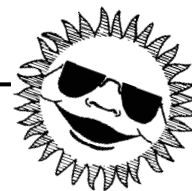
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SUNSHINE COMMITTEE REPORT



Members who have passed to the Celestial Lodge Above

- ▲ Fred Bard – Raised 1978
- ▲ Raymond Union – Raised 1966
- ▲ Alexander Willinger – Raised 1952

Deceased relations of our Brethren and their family

- ▲ Pam Holstein, Sister of Brother Daniel Glick, passed away.
- ▲ Joseph Tatciton, Brother-in-Law of Brother Marco Rotondo, passed away.
- ▲ Brother Gerald Kletsky, brother-in-law of W. B. Marvin Blankfeld and uncle of brothers Joel and Harvey Blankfeld, passed away.
- ▲ Donald Rothman, Father of W.B. Alan, and grandfather of Brother Michael Rothman, passed away in his sleep.

Hospitalized or recuperating either at Home or in a Nursing Facility

- ▲ Brother James Millier was hit by an auto while walking home from a bus stop. After spending a few hours in the E.R., he is now at home nursing his bumps and bruises.
- ▲ Faffy Wolfson is recuperating at home after having her gall bladder removed.
- ▲ Brother Andy Salamon once again has spent some time in the hospital. This time because of a fall, injuring his head.
- ▲ Goldie Ermine, wife of Brother Daniel, is at home recovering from some surgery.
- ▲ Jackie Block, wife of Jerry Block, P.M., is recovering from a fall after tripping over a curb.
- ▲ Brother Daniel Cohen is recuperating from hernia surgery.

Congratulations

Brother Andrew Simon, son of Brother Larry Simon, is engaged to Amy Altman. They are planning a July wedding.

David Sedory, son of Brother Andrew Sedory and member of Brandon #114 F & AM, just returned from deployment in Afghanistan. He served as a surgeon with the 126th Field Surgical Hospital (FST). In addition, he has been promoted to Major.

Special Congratulations

Worshipful Brother Don Samuels has been elected President of the Interstate Scottish Rite 32° Club for 2012. Please join in congratulating W.B. Samuels on this honor.

Special Thank You

To The Worshipful Master and Brethren of Forest City Lodge #388:

On behalf of the entire Rothman family I want to personally thank you for the overwhelming display of brotherly love and support that we received from the Lodge during my father's and grandfather's recent passing.

The turnout and affection was clearly impressive and made me further realize that we are truly blessed to be a part of the world's greatest fraternity.

Your kindness and generosity has not gone unnoticed and we will further rededicate ourselves to principles that are the cornerstone of our organization.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,
Alan H. Rothman, P.M., Assoc. Sec.
Michael S. Rothman, Tyler

Contributions

Sunshine fund contribution has been received from Brother Larry and Marcia Simon.

Contribution in memory of Donald Rothman, father of W.B. Alan Rothman has been received from:

- ▲ Brother Sam Kool
- ▲ W.B. Burt Task
- ▲ Shirley Nevin
- ▲ W.B. Jerry Kustin
- ▲ Ill. B. Mort Negin

See the insert for an important notice about your Sunshine Committee Report.

VIEW FROM FRESH EYES

What a wonderful experience it has been as a “new” Brother of Forest City Lodge, having been raised in April of 2010. The past 20 months have been an eye-opening learning process.

The story starts several months prior to April, when I petitioned. At first I did not understand the significance of this petition. My father, Sheldon Cohen, has been a member of Forest City 338 for decades. As a child I never thought to ask what that ring was, and why the same symbol of the Square and Compass appeared as a badge on the back of his vehicle. It was many years later as a middle-aged man that I finally felt compelled to ask the question.

It was clear that my father had been waiting a long, long time for me to ask. His eyes lit up, his shoulders squared, his face was flush and his voice dropped to a serious tone. You see, my father is very old school in the way he practices the Craft. If I wanted to know about Freemasonry and what I would need to do to become one, I would have to ask. Just like the bumper sticker “2B1Ask1”, he would never speak a word about Masonry unless I asked.

So now, over 2 years later, the circle is complete. My father left Cleveland in 1979 to pursue a better life. Despite living 1600 miles away, he is still a card-carrying member of the Lodge. Every year I have visited him, I notice the pile of Lodge Bulletins and Beacon Magazines neatly stacked in his library. Worshipful Brother Ronald W. Wolfe signed my petition, just as he signed my father’s petition decades earlier. This is an example of why I feel compelled to devote time and energy to the Lodge. How many other institutions can say that both father and son have learned from the same teacher? Worshipful Brother Wolfe has been inspirational and we thank him.

So as I gaze upon the East, and then to the West, and look over my shoulder to the South, I have the utmost feeling of the need to preserve the traditions of our Lodge. There are so many other people to thank that I will not list names. I fear that I would leave someone out.

Together we must foster a sense of brotherhood. What a great bunch of younger Masons have surrounded me. Past Masters have come forward to coach me. I have been appointed to committees and have gladly cleaned up the social hall after every Lodge event. Being the Chairman for Awards Night and having the opportunity to call and speak with the Veteran Brothers was an amazing opportunity.

Working with Jill Noble on her presentation to bring us greater understanding of light and sight was nothing short of life changing. I will never think the same way again. It never occurred to me to ask a blind person how they dream. What do they see in their mind’s eye?

Having gone through my first Masonic year as a Master Mason, I see the year ahead of me, and all of our Brothers, and feel a renewed vigor. Let us preserve the institution and all of the fine traditions. I am honored to be among the other officers voted in or appointed. It is up to all of us, especially us younger Brothers, to view our Lodge with fresh eyes and carry on the ancient traditions of Freemasonry. And I look forward to learning more under the watchful eye of our Worshipful Master Harvey S. Morrison, P.D.D.G.M.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the Brothers who attend Lodge, as it is this camaraderie and brotherhood that is the foundation of our institution. It is with these fresh eyes that we aim to preserve our Lodge so that future generations will benefit from further light gained by joining us in our fraternity.

Every one of us makes a difference. Just like our rituals, every word – every movement has meaning. Get involved. Make a statement. If you want to see things done a certain way, speak up. Together each and every one of us makes the Masonic Year.

Thank You,

Daniel N. Cohen
Senior Steward

AN OLD ME ON THE NEW YEAR

Some time ago, I found that I had put myself into a rather unenviable position at my place of employment. After several years at one position with one company, and following several layoffs of my coworkers, I discovered that I was in the unfortunate position of having a great deal of job security. How this happened to me is still mysterious, but the results are fairly obvious: I was going to be stuck there for a while.

This is not to say that I have a bad job; in fact, it is a very good job on the whole. My position as a technical writer is not overly burdensome, I am good at what I do, and have the (at least outward) respect of my coworkers. In fact, one of the nice things about being a technical writer is that most people haven't the foggiest notion of what we do or how we do it, but everyone agrees that we are important.

Writing documents is not difficult work. The thing about it is that nobody wants to do it. So, once a company loses enough technical writers, they realize they can't get rid of the ones they have unless the programmers want to start writing manuals. The programmers don't want this. Neither do the users.

It is an important job. But it is a largely dull job. Have you ever read a computer manual? Writing them is no more interesting.

So, one day, as I was sitting there at my desk, wishing I was anyone else doing anything else, a funny thought crossed my mind: Michael Jordan.

In 1993, everyone wanted to be Michael Jordan. He was, perhaps, the biggest name in sports in the

world. He was and still is considered the greatest basketball player in history. He was at the top of his game, and he had just completed a three-peat of the NBA championship with the Chicago Bulls. He was at the pinnacle and everyone wanted to "be like Mike."

Well, as it turned out, there was one person who didn't want to be Michael Jordan: Michael Jordan. That's because Michael Jordan wanted to be Mickey Mantle. So, he took a season-and-a-half hiatus from being Michael Jordan to be Joe Shlabotnik in the White Sox farm system.

Jordan isn't the only one to make such strange career decisions. Elvis Presley spent a large part of his career trying to be Humphrey Bogart. George Washington was always trying to enter the role of Cincinnatus. We can even look back to ancient Rome and Emperor Nero, who spent much of his reign trying to be Mario Lanza.

If all these men before me have been bored with the simple task of being themselves, then perhaps there is nothing remarkable in my own reluctance at facing that same task. And if these men would have been better off being better at being themselves, then maybe I can improve myself as a man by at least trying out the idea that I may not be such a bad thing to be. And then, if I can figure out how to do that, then maybe I will be able to appreciate it if I someday find myself being someone else.

Alex Meske

Editor/Junior Steward



Courtesy Scott Morrison Discovery Photo



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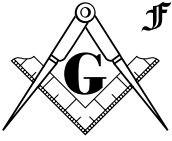
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FROM THE WEST

Greetings, my Brethren – we held our 39th Annual Observance of “Brotherhood Night / A Night with the Clergy” not too long ago and – having been one of the Officers of the Lodge to light the triple-wicked Brotherhood Candle – it occurred to me that many of the Brethren (who do not usually get that close to the candle itself), may not know that there are inscriptions on that candle.

On the base of the candle, one side is inscribed with the word “Hope”, while the opposite side is inscribed with the word “Dedication”.

On two sides of the candle the same message is inscribed – a quote from Rabbi Rosenthal, who was one of the founders of the event: “We cannot solve all the problems, but we can light a candle”.

Toward the end of the year, when Hindus celebrate Dewali – their “Festival of Lights” – Jews celebrate Hanukkah and its Miracle of Light, and Christians everywhere string holiday lights on their homes and

trees, it seemed even more important to spread our own – and our Lodge’s – Masonic Light.

We live in a world in which many people are threatened by war and civil unrest; a world where many are economically stressed; a world where far too many children go to bed hungry, or abused, and with no hope for a better future. We cannot solve all those problems... yet. However, we can reflect upon the hopeful principles inscribed on the candle which was lit in our Lodge that night, and by its Light, resolve to dedicate ourselves to finding more and better ways to light our own candles in our own corners of the world.

May the Blessings of Heaven rest upon us, our families, our communities, our Nation, our world, and our Lodge. Happy New Year!

Fraternally,
W.B. Chester Willey
Senior Warden

