

DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE



Volume 2024
Issue 5
Nov-Dec

WHAT? CHRISTMAS ALREADY?



The 2024 York Rite Christmas Observance will be held on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4:00 pm. This event is open to the public so it is a chance to allow friends, neighbors and family a glimpse into what it means to be a Mason. There are people who would come if invited simply to see the inside of the building.

The Worshipful Masters from Omega and Sherwood Lodges along with the High Priest from Ensawocsa Chapter, Illustrious Master from Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council and the Commander of Defiance Commandery will be hosts and will have an opportunity to introduce distinguished guests of their respective bodies. A potluck dinner will follow with meat and beverage provided.

The Christmas Observance includes a memorial service for members from Defiance who passed away since our last service. In keeping with the purpose of the observance, there will be a Christmas message and music. Sir Knight and Rev. Mark Harris will bring the message along with some music.

Following the service, there will be time for fellowship at a potluck meal in the dining room. Meat and beverages will be provided. **Family and friends are encouraged to attend.**

GRAND MASTER RE-APPOINTS 5th DISTRICT LEADERS TO SERVE IN 2024-25

At the 215th Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, MW Brother William M. Carter III was elected and installed as Grand Master for 2024-25. As his representatives for the 5th Masonic District, he has commissioned RW Brother James Parsons and RW Brother Martin Lawrence to carry out the duties of DDGM in the 5th District. Worshipful Brothers Craig Szczublewski and Dennis Richardson will continue as District Education Officers. RW Brother Bob Rettig was re-appointed District Advisor.

Congratulations and thanks to these brothers for accepting these leadership roles for our District.

PAST MASTER'S CONVOCATION TO BE HELD IN WAUSEON ON DECEMBER 7 AT 9 a.m.

All Worshipful Masters elect are required to attend a Past Masters Convocation, not only to receive the Past Masters Degree, but also to learn what the Grand Master would like to accomplish this year with their help. Along with the DDGM's presentation for the masters of the lodges and the degree, the DEO's will conduct an LEO conference at 9:00 and also provide a seminar at 10:30 for the Deacons and Wardens of our Lodges. Both sessions are open to any brother wishing to attend.

DEFIANCE COMMANDERY WINS FIRST PLACE

At the 182nd Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Sir Knight Dale A. Exline, KCT, was elected and installed as Right Eminent Grand Commander. Appointed to serve the Northwestern Division as Deputy Division Commander was Sir Knight Matthew G. Gloor, who was also named a Knight Commander of the Temple.

The Defiance Drill team, under the leadership of Sir Knight Wayne Cripps, won first place in D-6 Competition. Sir Knight Cripps was also awarded the Ned E. Dull Drill Captain's award for his excellent performance in leading the team.

Congratulations go out to these Sir Knights and to our Drill Team for their diligent work for our Commandery and the Grand Commandery.



Omega Lodge #564-1st Sat 9am/Bkft 8:30 & 3rd Tue 7:30pm
James Hanna, W.M. Luis Rivera, Sec.

Greetings Brothers!!

Omega Lodge is happy to report that we were able to Raise Brother Corey Mohr to Master Mason on October 5 with the help of multiple 5th District Lodges! So far this year, Omega has raised 5 candidates and has a 6th that will be raised by year end. We will be looking forward to maintaining the momentum going into 2025 under our next WM. Which brings up that we will be holding dual Lodge installations with Sherwood Lodge on November 19 at 7:30 pm. We are excited to see a number of new faces moving through the seats. The future is bright!

Fraternally, James Hanna, WM



Sherwood Lodge # 620—First and Third Monday
Scott Carwile, W.M. Wayne Cripps, Secretary

Greetings Brothers!

We are back in full swing in another Masonic year. Fall is upon us, soon it will be the Holiday Season and after the holidays it will be inspection season again. It will come and go before we know it. This year, Sherwood Lodge inspection is going to be in the Master Mason Degree on March 7, 2025. Pre-Inspection is slated for February 17, 2025.

I'd like to remind you all of some important dates coming up and it is my hope that we continue to have the great turnouts we've had so far this year. Our annual election of officers is coming up at our November 4 stated meeting. Then on Tuesday November 12, we will have a Temple Board meeting. All Master Masons from BOTH Omega and Sherwood Lodges as well as members of the Defiance York Rite Chapter, Council, and Commandery are encouraged to attend. On Tuesday, November 19, we will be having a Dual Open Installation of Officers with Omega Lodge. Please plan to attend and family members are invited to attend and share in the fellowship. As we round out November, let us give thanks to our Father for all of the blessings He has bestowed upon us on Thanksgiving day, November 28.

In December, we start on Monday, December 2 with our regular stated meeting. Then on Saturday, December 7, the annual Past Masters Convocation will be held at the Wauseon Lodge. On Tuesday, December 10, our monthly Temple Board meeting with the annual election of officers will be held at the Defiance Temple. To round out December for Sherwood Lodge's stated meeting will be on Monday, December 16.

We will begin practicing for the Master Mason Inspection at each meeting and getting our roles filled as best as we possibly can. With a little luck and some hard work, we may possibly have our own live candidate as well.

Sherwood Lodge Brothers have been invited to Lansing Lodge #33 to their Open Installation on January 10, 2025, as they celebrate their 175th Anniversary. The Michigan Grand Officers will be doing the Installation and the Mayor of Lansing will be in attendance. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm and Installation will begin at 7:30 pm. This is the lodge of Brother Timothy Hines who is also a member of Sherwood Lodge.

Brothers, it has been an honor to serve you as your Worshipful Master! We have accomplished some great things and we have suffered some great losses during my time in the East. It is my wish that we continue to grow and see the great things come to us as we grow together as a Lodge of Brothers and friends. If you haven't been to lodge in a while, you are missing out! We welcome you to join us for the fun and fellowship at any of our meetings and it is my prayer that each one of you is blessed and protected by the right hand of our Father and may He protect you and your family upon His will.

Yours Fraternaly, Scott Carwile, WM Sherwood #620

OES NEWS!



It was great to see the 2025 Grand Officers and Deputy Grand Matrons installed at Sharonville at the end of September!

Todd Evans from Bryan Chapter was installed as Associate Grand Patron. He and the other Grand Officers were in Findlay on October 12 to present an Educational Opportunity for all members.

The Deputy Grand Matron for Districts 6 and 7 is Linda Taylor. On October 6, we gathered in Greenwood Chapter (Bowling Green) to welcome her. We look forward to her visits as she gives us guidance and instruction. (continued at bottom of page 3)



Ensawocsa Chapter # 89 First Thursday 7:30 PM
Keith Winnie, High Priest Wayne Cripps, Sec'y

Hello Companions,

Here it is November already and we will be getting busy quickly. Inspections will be starting later this month and ours will be Saturday January 18 at 10 am in the Mark Master degree. There are just a couple of roles we need to fill. So come and assist if you can and enjoy the fellowship.

Fraternally, Keith Winnie, High Priest



Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council #55 Third Thursday 7:30 PM
Keith Winnie, Illustrious Master Robert Rettig, Recorder

Hello Companions,

Summer is gone and the harvest is coming in. Council inspections soon will be upon us and ours will be Saturday January 18 at 1:00 pm. We will be doing the Select Master degree we need to fill a few roles. If you would like to help please come to a meeting with us and we can make this a very good inspection. There will be a lunch between the 2 inspections so come and enjoy the fellowship.

I have been informed that due to the extremely high cost of ingredients, the 1st Arch will not be making peanut brittle this year. We may consider another fund-raiser to help support our Council and the DKF.

Fraternally, Keith Winnie, Illustrious Master



Defiance Commandery #30 Second Thursday 7:30 PM
Eugene Bitler, Commander Matthew Gloor, Recorder

Greetings Sir Knights,

The 182nd Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio was held at the Crowne Plaza Columbus North, Columbus, OH, Congratulations to Sir Knight DALE A. EXLINE, KCT our Right Eminent Grand Commander and his Lady Judy. We wish them a successful year. His theme is "Christ Gives us Direction" and his pin represents the surveyor's magnetic compass.

Under the leadership of Sir Knight Wayne Cripps, Drill Captain, Defiance drill team took first place in the D-6 Asylum drill. Bryan Commandery came in third. Drill competition for next year will be on Saturday July 26, 2025 at the Dayton Masonic Center details to follow. Be ready to start practices early to retain first place. Sir Knight Matthew Gloor received the Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT). Sir Knight Jesse Spillman received the Meritorious Service Award (MSA). In addition, Sir Knight Gloor is now the Deputy Division Commander. Congratulations to all for their accomplishments.

As Thanksgiving is just around the corner, let us remind ourselves what we are truly thankful for. Unfortunately, due to the unrest in the Middle East, nominations are not being accepted for the Holy Land Pilgrimage. Our annual Christmas Observance will be held on Sunday, Dec 8, 2024, at 4 pm. Meatloaf is on the menu along with Lady Diane's homemade carrot cake. Please send reservations to our Recorder, Sir Knight Gloor. As the inspection season is rapidly approaching, we will be practicing the Order of the Temple on Sundays at 4 pm. Our inspection is scheduled for April 12, 2025. The inspection schedule will be available at the temple. We encourage your attendance. Donations to the Knight Templar Eye Foundation are always appreciated.

Fraternally, Eugene Bitler, Eminent Commander

(OES continued from page 2) The Charities Director for District 6 is Vickie Davis. She is a dual member with Bryan and Fulton Chapters. She is already visiting chapters and explaining activities for the coming year. Phyllis Geesey was elected Trustee for the Eastern Star Home. Other members from District 7 are serving Grand Chapter on committees, etc.



Installations are scheduled!

Nov. 9 Bryan at 1:00 p.m.

Nov. 11 Rawson (Mt. Cory) at 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 19 Fulton (Wauseon) at 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 3 Deshler at 7:30 p.m. It really is December!

Your presence and support is always welcome. See you along the way. Millie Holzer

Changes in address

Please contact Bob Rettig at 419-784-6364 or rrettig@metalink.net as soon as possible if your address or other contact information changes. We pay when newsletters are returned - Please help us be good stewards of our funds!



Defiance York Rite
 Association
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 Defiance, Ohio 43512

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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

	Date	Day	Time	Who	What
Nov.	2	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Election of Officers
	4	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Election of Officers
	7	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	11	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	14	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
	16	Sat.	5:30	Grand Council Recept.	Waldo
	18	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Practice MM
	19	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Installation of both lodges
	21	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	S.M. Practice
Dec.	2	Mon.	7.30	Sherwood Lodge	Practice MM
	5	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	7	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	7	Sat.	1:00	5th District P.M. Convocation	Wauseon Lodge
	8	Sun.	4:00	All Bodies	Christmas Observance
	10	Tues.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	12	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
	16	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Practice MM
	19	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	S.M. Practice

We rely on presiding officers to supply information but, if you have Masonic-related news, please send that information. Items will be included on a space-availability basis. If you have questions or other comments, please contact Bob Rettig at 419-784-6364 or by email at rrettig@metalink.net.