

DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE



Volume 2018
Issue 4
Sep-Oct

1st ARCH STEVE HILL SLATED TO BECOME MIGM IN OCTOBER 2018

In a little more than a month, the Grand Bodies will open their Annual Meetings. This year our own RI Companion Stephen Hill expects to be elected and installed as Grand Master of the Grand Council. Your presence at the Monday morning session for his election will be appreciated. Also it is normal that the First Arch make a presentation to him after election. It is important that we show our support by being there. At Grand Chapter, our Companion from the 8th District, MEGHP J. Keith Green will be presiding. Again your presence will be much appreciated. This is a great opportunity to renew and make new friendships with Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights from across the state and, sometimes, from other jurisdictions as well. It does take time to attend the meetings but there are things to be learned at each session. Discussion regarding proposed legislation can also be enlightening.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled:

October 7-9	Grand Council	Kalahari Convention Center, Sandusky
October 10-11	Grand Chapter	Kalahari Convention Center, Sandusky
October 12-13	Grand Lodge	Kalahari Convention Center, Sandusky
October 19-20	Grand Commandery	Crown Plaza north, Columbus

For more information, please contact your secretary or recorder.

RETTIG'S RAMBLINGS

WHAT IS FREEMASONRY? — THE RING

Many of us have been asked numerous times, "What is Freemasonry?" And each of us has given variations of what it means to us. There are many different answers to the question and they all have truth to them. Some of the answers may include the rewards of being a Mason and there are many rewards as well.

This past summer I was fortunate enough to reap one of the rewards of Freemasonry. In mid-July one of our daughters was scheduled for a surgical procedure at Northwestern University Hospital in Chicago. While driving in downtown Chicago is definitely not a reward of Freemasonry, that trip did offer me an opportunity to experience the brotherhood of our fraternity.

As we were in the waiting room during her surgery, I noticed a fellow sitting across from me with a ring that looked to be Masonic, but I couldn't tell for sure. After taking several quick glimpses of that ring I still couldn't tell for sure. I finally got his attention and just plain asked him. That "woke" him up. Recently the ring I've been wearing is not easily recognizable as being Masonic, but we both identified ourselves as being brothers. He stated he was not real active in his Prince Hall Lodge in downtown Chicago while I simply stated I've been an active Mason for over forty years.

We were both close in age and, other than the introductory remarks, very little Freemasonry was discussed. He talked of his life growing up in the inner city where he still resides as well as his children and grandchildren. When I related that I had grown up on a farm and remain on the farm, he stated that one of his most memorable experiences happened when he was a young boy. He and his brother had the opportunity to spend two weeks on a farm one summer. The inner city kid had no concept of farm life before that time and farm life back in the 60's was very different than today, but it was an experience he will never forget. (continued on page 2)

RETTIG'S RAMBLINGS

(continued)

Nor will I forget the fraternal friendship developed with that one hour conversation. After he and his wife were called back to the surgery center, Betty commented that you two really had a conversation going for a long period of time. Meeting each other in the hallway several times that day, we exchanged greetings and a friendly smile.

As I think back on it, that conversation would not have been possible years ago before our Grand Lodges began recognition of each other. I can remember early in my Masonic career a DDGM telling of being approached by a Prince Hall Mason and he had to deny being a member of the fraternity.

The intangible benefits of Freemasonry cannot be explained or understood by everyone, but the fraternal friendship we developed in that short period of time will never be forgotten.

Glad I asked about the ring!



OES NEWS!

Steak in the Park sponsored by the Deshler Temple Board (Sycamore Lodge and Deshler Chapter OES) was held in Deshler on July 11. Excellent music was enjoyed throughout the evening. Our thanks to all who donated, helped in any way, and/or came to enjoy the food and fellowship.

Deshler Chapter OES had a special night in August as Diane Worcester presented her program on "cuddling" babies at the hospital in Toledo. She has been doing this for more than twelve (12) years. She was given thirty-five (35) blankets and several hats for the babies. It was a fun and informative evening!

September 28 – 30 brings Grand Chapter at Kalahari in Sandusky. We look forward to learning of new appointments and projects for the coming year.

Officers for the coming year have been elected and plans are being made for Installations. Your support, physically and financially, are greatly appreciated.

Millie Holzer



Omega Lodge #564-First Sat 9 am/Breakfast @ 8:30 am
Luis Rivera, W.M. Walter Coffman, Sec.

Hello, my fellow brothers!!

This year we are scheduled to do the Fellow Craft degree. We need members to step up and try new roles this year! Our meetings are the 1st Saturday of every month at 9am with breakfast before and every 3rd Tuesday at 7:30pm. If you haven't been at a meeting in a while please come. We would love to see faces we haven't see in a long time. We are also looking for new worthy men to join. If you have someone in mind, please let us know so we can help get the process going.

Omega Lodge is considering doing a concert fundraiser this winter and we need your help. We are looking for live talent, vocal or instrumental (no karaoke) to fill out the evening and make it a great show. This is an opportunity for a nice evening with your significant other and after the show, enjoy some delicious desserts. All proceeds from this event will benefit our building fund. If you are willing to share your talent, please contact Luis Rivera at 419-576-7516 or Gary Reis at 419-438-0660.

We are also looking to enhance our social activity. Recently we were in the basement and came up with several ideas to have members and non-members socialize and interact. There are pool tables, dart boards, and other games. We are looking to place a television to enjoy while we are down there. We need help to clean out some of the items that are in the basement. If you are interested in helping, please contact me at the number above and we will coordinate a clean-up day. Keep in mind, we don't just want the lodge to represent meetings - we want to use our building to its fullest and make it a social gathering place for any time. I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully seeing some of you I haven't seen in a while.

Till we meet again my brothers!
Fraternally, Lou Rivera, W.M.



Sherwood Lodge # 620—First and Third Monday
Jack Stevens Jr., W.M. Keith Winnie, Secretary

Brethren,

We had a very hot summer but now it is backed to lodge. If you didn't know, it is air conditioned now. Our first meeting is the third Monday, September 17. We will be doing an Entered Apprentice that night. You have plenty of time to go over your part and brush up so we are perfect that night.

Be thinking about elections coming up in November and have an idea of what you want to do. See you on the 17th.

Enjoy your Masonry It is Fun!!! Jack Stevens WM.

To all Masons:



Brothers as a secretary of Omega, I find that, sometimes when we move or relocate, we forget to inform our Lodges of this change. Then when the Lodge needs to get in touch with you, it is difficult to find addresses, phone numbers and e-mails. So, on behalf of all the secretaries, I am pleading with you to make that extra effort to inform the Lodge. I assure you that it will be greatly appreciated and I thank you for making that extra effort. Walter Coffman

MINI-REUNION IN DEFIANCE ON SEPTEMBER 22

The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Toledo, will be holding a mini-Reunion in Defiance on Saturday, September 22. Registration begins at 8 am. All Scottish Rite members are welcome.

This will be an excellent opportunity for any Master Mason to begin his journey in the Scottish Rite. Contact Bob Rettig or any Scottish Rite Mason for a petition. On November 10 in Kenton, new members will become 32^o Masons.



Ensawocsa Chapter # 89 First Thursday 7:30 PM
Danial Hall, High Priest Ken Crouch, Sec'y

Companions,

It is that time of the year again to come out and attend your local Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. We are a small Chapter and I am proud to say that I was elected again as the High Priest. This year we are going to portray the Past Master's degree for inspection on the third Saturday in January as usual. Any and all members are requested to come out and help get us ready for inspection and make this a great year.

This is going to be a wonderful year. We have Excellent Companion Cripps going in as the new District Deputy for Chapter this year. Hope we all have a great year and a successful one.

Respectfully, Danial L. Hall, High Priest



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

Greetings Companions,

Hoping your summer went well. Remember, our first meeting is installation of officers. I'm looking forward to another fantastic year of events. I hope to see everyone at our first meeting on September 20.

This will be a special year for the First Arch, having our own Companion Steve Hill as the Most Illustrious Grand Master.

Fraternally, Jim Fruth, Illustrious Master



Defiance Commandery #30 Second Thursday 7:30 PM
Wayne Cripps, Commander Ken Crouch, Recorder

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope that you all had a spectacular summer break and are well rested and ready to start the new year in Commandery! I know that were some very important things happened over the summer, and we would be remiss if we didn't address at least a few of them. First, Sir Knight Al Lawrence had a grilling incident that caused some pretty extensive burns to his hands. We pray that his healing continues and that he will be able to grasp a sword soon! Second, Sir Knight Robert Rettig underwent shoulder surgery and is recovering well. We are hoping that he will be able to wield his sword by October 20! One other very important event that transpired was the addition of a new Lady to our midst as Sir Knight Eric Holzer and Lady Heather were united in Holy Matrimony on July 28. We wish Heather and Eric many happy years of wedded bliss. If there were any events or incidents that I failed to mention, I apologize for missing them. These were ones that I was informed of.

For the upcoming year our Drill team is preparing for competition. We will continue to practice on Sunday afternoons until the competition at the Annual Conclave. Speaking of which, the One Hundred Seventy-Sixth Annual Conclave of the GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF OHIO will be held in Columbus on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 18, 19 and 20 at the Crowne Plaza as in years past. Reservations must be made by October 1 to lock in the special room rate. If you need information on how to make reservations, please contact me and I will pass that info along to you.

Our first scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, September 13. I look forward to seeing you all there as we begin the new year. We have several officers who still need to be installed and we will be taking care of that at that meeting. We will also begin discussing practices for our coming inspection. As there were other activities going on around the customary date of our inspection, we will be inspected on April 6, 2019 with the Order of the Temple first, then dinner and comments, followed by an open Full Form Opening. There are probably a ton of other things that should be mentioned, but at the time, those things escape my memory. Looking forward to a productive and fun-filled year!

Wayne Cripps, Eminent Commander

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.

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!



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 FREEMASONRY**
 MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

	Date	Day	Time	Who	What
Sept.	6	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	10	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	13	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting & Drill Practice
	15	Sat.	4:00	1st Division CTA	Van Wert
	17	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	EA Degree
	18	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	20	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Installation of officers
	22	Sat.	8 am	Mini-Scottish Rite Reunion	Defiance
	28-30			Grand Chapter OES	Kalahari, Sandusky, OH
Oct.	1	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	4	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	6	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	8	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	7-9			Grand Council R & SM	Kalahari, Sandusky, OH
	10-11			Grand Chapter RAM	Kalahari, Sandusky, OH
	11	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
	12-13			Grand Lodge F & AM	Kalahari, Sandusky, OH
	15	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	16	Tues	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	18	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Stated Meeting
	19-20			Grand Commandery KT	Crowne Plaza North, Columbus, OH
	21	Sun.	4:30	1st Capitular District	Reaffirmation Day
	27	Sat.		Grand Council Reception	Perrysburg, OH