

DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE



Volume 2020
Issue 4
Sept-Oct

COVID-19 NOW IMPACTING ANNUAL GRAND SESSIONS

In a little more than a month, the Grand Bodies would normally be opening their Annual Meetings. However, this year none of them are meeting as per usual due to limits placed on the number of persons permitted to gather for indoor functions. Guidelines set to limit the spread of this dangerous virus also limit how our leaders of each of the Grand Bodies can function and those guidelines can change daily, making it extremely difficult to make plans for large gatherings months in advance.

As of this writing, there will be no "in-person" meetings to include delegates for any of our Masonic bodies this year. Current plans for Grand Lodge are to have a much abbreviated session on October 23 to satisfy constitutional requirements. Most business will be conducted via Grandview prior to that date to include reports, legislation, voting, etc. In mid-September more info will be released to the lodges through Grandview. All voting members will have telecommunication access to the session.

Although plans are still incomplete for the Grand Chapter and Grand Council, both bodies will meet on October 7 to satisfy constitutional requirements. Grand Council will have a two hour session in the morning and Grand Chapter two hours in the afternoon. Again, much of the business will be conducted prior to the sessions. It is unclear at this time whether members will have telecommunication access for the actual meetings.

Currently, the Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar who has authority over all the Grand Commanderies has closed down all in person Commandery activity since mid-March. Our Grand Commandery will be having a virtual zoom meeting on October 10. Any Commandery member can register to obtain reports and information relating to the meeting on the Grand Commandery website.

The main concern of each of our Masonic leaders is to protect the safety and well-being of all our members.



ONE DAY CLASS

Originally scheduled for May, the Fifth District recently conducted a One-Day class for brethren wishing to become Master Masons in one day. Actually, the EA and FC degrees were portrayed in Wauseon on August 1. With a cast of primarily PDDGM's, Defiance was the site for an excellent MM degree on August 22.

Defiance Man Receives Community Service Award at Grand Master's Reception



Mr. Raymond Dailey was named the recipient of the Fifth Masonic District Community Service Award recently. Ray has been very active in promoting the Christmas for Kids program for many years. The Grand Master of Masons in Ohio, Keith W. Newton is presenting him a lantern in recognition of his service to the community. Grand Master Newton's theme for the year is "Step into the Light." Mr. Dailey was nominated for this award by Omega Lodge.

SAVE THE DATE

Installation of 5th District DDGM and DEO will be on November 13. More details will be announced after the close of Grand Lodge on October 23.



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

Hopefully those who come behind us will appreciate the dedication to Freemasonry that brought these men together to meet during the COVID-19 pandemic.



May brotherly love prevail in you all,
Luis Rivera, W. M.



Sherwood Lodge # 620—First & Third Monday
Jack Stevens, W.M. Wayne Cripps, Secretary

Hello Brethren,

We are having our regular meeting on the first and third Monday of every month like we always do. Please come and join us for a practice and an evening of catching up since last January. Just bring your mask and everyone knows we have plenty of space to distance 6 feet. We have been having a good turn-out at our meetings with some time to practice for up-coming Inspection. We can all use that. Inspection date at a later time.

Election of officers and Installation will be in November. Exact date will be decided at our meetings. Hope to see more of you at our next meeting on September 21.

Don't forget your masks!!!!

Enjoy your Masonry, It's Fun!!!!!!

Jack Stevens W.M.



Ensa-Woc-Sa Chapter # 89 First Thursday 7:30 PM
Wayne Cripps, High Priest Ken Crouch, Sec'y

Companions,

Welcome back to Capitular Masonry! I hope that everyone is doing well and had a safe and enjoyable Summer.

With the continuing pandemic situation, there have been a lot of changes to the way that we will be doing business. First, to help reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19, the Grand Chapter Convocation had to be cancelled. A letter will be sent to the High Priest, King and Scribe of each Chapter instructing them as to how we will be voting on the business of the Grand Chapter this year.

Also, at this time, the only degree that is authorized to be put on for new candidates per MEC Shaw's edicts is the Mark Master degree. That's a good thing for our Chapter, since that will be our Inspection Degree. If we happen to have an actual candidate, he must agree that he wishes to take the whole degree at that time and that must be entered into the minutes of the Chapter. Of course, all Ohio Health related and Grand Lodge safety provisions must be adhered to. For regular meetings, we will not form the circle at the Altar. MEC Shaw has given directions of how the opening will be handled. While that will look a little unusual to most of us, the procedures have been designed to keep us all safe from possible infection.

Our inspection schedule will hopefully look similar to previous years. Northwest Chapter will start the Inspection season with the Past Master Degree on Nov 21. Haly Chapter will put on the Most Excellent Master Degree on Nov 30. The rest of the Chapters will put on the Mark Master Degree: Wauseon Chapter on Dec 2, Hicksville Chapter on Dec 5 and, of course our Chapter on Jan 16. I guess that we will have to wait and see how this whole thing will work out. Let's pray that everyone stays healthy and that we have a fabulous year!

Wayne Cripps, DDGHP, 1st Capitular District High Priest, En-Sa-Woc-Sa Chapter



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

Dear Companions,

New officers have been elected and installed at our May and June meetings. We welcome one new officer starting in the line. At our September meeting we will likely discuss plans for the year to include inspection cast and the pancake-sausage breakfast. Currently, our membership stands at 42 members.

Best wishes and hope to see many of you at our September meeting.

Fraternally, Bob Rettig, Recorder



Defiance Commandery #30 Second Thursday 7:30 PM
James Fruth, Commander Ken Crouch, Recorder

Sir Knights,

As of this writing, we are not permitted to have an in-person meeting. It is possible that we will have a zoom meeting in September and October. However, that is yet to be decided. Even though it is unknown when we can resume normal activities, we can be thinking about our potential Christmas Observance and February inspection.

Bob Rettig, editor

Changes in address

Please contact Bob Rettig at 419-784-6364 or by email at rrettig@metalink.net as soon as possible if your address or other contact information changes.

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.



Defiance York Rite
Association
125 Clinton Street
Defiance, Ohio 43512

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**THE REAL SECRET OF
FREEMASONRY**
MAKING GOOD MEN BETTER

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Permit Number 335
Defiance, Ohio 43512

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS—DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON OHIO HEALTH ORDERS AND EDICTS OF GRAND PRESIDING OFFICERS

	Date	Day	Time	Who	What
Sept.	3	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	5	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	10	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	No in-person meeting
	14	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	15	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	17	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Stated Meeting
	21	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
Oct.	1	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	3	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	5	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	7	Wed	10 am	Grand Council R & SM	Dayton, OH
	7	Wed	1 pm	Grand Chapter RAM	Dayton, OH
	8	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
	10	See website		Grand Commandery KT	Virtual—Zoom
	12	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	17	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Stated Meeting
	19	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	20	Tues	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	23	Fri.	9 am	Grand Lodge F & AM (Virtual)	Wilmington, OH
	25	Sun.		1st District Re-affirmation Day	Haly, Napoleon