

DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE



Volume 2023
Issue 5
Nov-Dec

WHAT? CHRISTMAS ALREADY?



The **2023 York Rite Christmas Observance** will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10, 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. Pastor Kevin King, serving the Ney Church of God and a former Holy Land Pilgrim, will bring the message.

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 APPOINTS JIM PARSONS AND RE-APPOINTS MARTY LAWRENCE AS 5TH DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS

At the 214th Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, MW Brother Paul A. Weglage was elected and installed as Grand Master for 2023-24. 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. RW Brother Bob Rettig was re-appointed District Advisor.

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



CRAIG SZCZUBLEWSKI and DENNIS RICHARDSON APPOINTED 5th DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICERS

WB Craig Szczublewski and WB Dennis Richardson have accepted the appointments by the Grand Master of District Education Officers in the 5th Masonic District for the ensuing year. These brothers have already begun planning educational programs for the upcoming year in our District.

PAST MASTER'S CONVOCATION TO BE HELD IN BRYAN ON DECEMBER 2 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.

**OES NEWS!**

The Grand Chapter session held on September 22 – 24, 2023 brought appointments, plans, and information for District 7! It was a joy to have Most Worthy Grand Patron Lon Lowery of Ohio present for the weekend! Past Grand Matron Carol Gramm Wise (Carol and Chuck are now dual members of Deshler Chapter) presided during the introduction of the 2023 Grand Officers. WGP Rick Miller was her appointment as Sentinel in 2021.

On Saturday Becky Thatcher (Fulton Chapter and also a dual member of Deshler Chapter) was elected Chairman of the Trustees of the Eastern Star Home.

Appointments for 2024 were presented on Sunday. Grand Sentinel is Todd Evans of Bryan Chapter. Tracie Evans is serving as Chairman of Arrangements for 2024 and also Grand Representative of Indiana in Ohio. The Deputy Grand Matron for Districts 7 and 8 is Sharon Witten of Delphos Chapter. Charities Director for District 7 is Kathy Meyer of Fulton Chapter.

On Saturday, October 14, the Grand Officers presented an Educational Opportunity in Tiffin for Districts 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, and 26. Grand Pages and Aides for District 7 were introduced. Page and Aide for the Grand Sentinel are Donna Evans (Bryan Chapter) and Al Lawrence (Deshler Chapter). Pages for the Chairman of Arrangements are Kalyn Bruce and Lida Grisier of Bryan Chapter.

Susan Shull and Al Lawrence will be installed as WM and WP of Deshler Chapter on Nov. 28 at 7:30. Tracie and Todd Evans were installed as WM and WP of Bryan Chapter on Oct. 21. Dee Lawrence and Wayne Carpenter will be installed as WM and WP of Fulton Chapter (Wauseon) on Nov. 21.

Deshler Chapter meets on the first Tuesday at 7:30, Bryan Chapter on the third Monday at 7:30, and Fulton Chapter (Wauseon) on the third Tuesday at 7:00. All chapters would appreciate your attendance at their meetings and activities.

Hope to see you along the way.
Millie Holzer



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

Greetings Brothers!!

I believe this will be my last newsletter entry as Worshipful Master. The last 3 years have been very fun and rewarding I enjoyed my time in the East. We have been busy at the Lodge doing Degree work. We have raised 2 Brothers with another 2 being raised very soon. We have a couple petitions that came in recently as well! Freemasonry is very much still alive and, hopefully, will start thriving again!

I am not sure when you all will receive this newsletter so this might be old news but, the Defiance Masonic Temple will be having an Open House before the Halloween Parade on Saturday 10/28. If you have any friends or family interested in joining the Fraternity bring them out! I believe I have mentioned this is almost every newsletter entry that I have written. If you haven't been to Lodge in a while please stop in sometime. We aren't asking you to sit in an officer chair or learn a lecture but it sure would be nice to see some of you! It has been a pleasure serving as WM for the last 3 years.

Fraternally, Chase Williams WM



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

Greetings Brethren from Sherwood Lodge #620!

It's wonderful to be here with you again and to share my love of Masonry with you all. Where else can we as men get together and support each other, encourage one another, do great things together and give unto others? If I can just touch one life the way being a Mason has touched me, I will thank God for allowing me to do just that. Let us not forget the basics and the principles of Freemasonry. This is something we as men and Masons must never lose sight of.

I'm not here to preach to you but I am here as your Brother and Worshipful Master to encourage you and to remind you of the potential to do great things with Masonry. We need you, Brother! We need our Brothers to come to Lodge, call other Brothers to see if they are well and if we can be of assistance in any way. We need to support our Lodges and live up to our potential. The same small group of Brothers are towing the lines each month. As Master Masons, we have taken three Oaths or Obligations. Who are we letting down when we don't attend?

Sure, we have a whole slew of "Dues Paying Members". But it takes more than your dues to make Masonry what it once was and still can be. When I pay money to be a part of something, I'm going to be there to see what I'm paying for. I know get much more than I pay for from participating and being with my Brothers.

All of our Lodges still meet on the stated meeting times that they have for years. There is no reason not to get on up and come to Lodge. Give your Brothers an hour and a half of your time. Let us have the opportunity to enjoy your company. Come sit on the sidelines, let us "regulars" do the rest! Remember why you became a Mason!

Fraternally and Sincerely, WB Scott Carwile, WM #620



Greetings Companions:

Grand Chapter was held on October 4-5 and we welcomed our Grand High Priest Ryan Adams. We all wish him a successful year. Re-affirmation was held on October 15, 2023 at Defiance Masonic Temple. It was well represented by 1st Capitular District members and their families. The Re-affirmation message, "The Power of the Presence," was delivered by Wayne Cripps, Associate Pastor of Rock Church, Oakwood, OH. Contributions were accepted and donated to the Adopt America Network.

Upcoming events: December 10, 2023 at 4 PM.

En-Sa-Woc-Sa inspection Jan 20, 2024 at 10 AM. We will be practicing for the inspection and your attendance is encouraged.

1st Capitular District inspections are as follows:

- Northwest #45 Nov 18, 2023 10 AM
- Haly #138 Nov 28, 2023 7 PM
- Wauseon #111 Dec 6, 2023 7 PM, and
- Hicksville #188 Mar 25, 2023 7PM.

Fraternally, Eugene N. Bitler, High Priest



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

Companions,

As we come into the winter months, I hope we are all ready for the weather. Hopefully it doesn't get too cold that the roads getting too icy to travel to Council. I would like to let you all know that our very own Walter Coffman has received the Council Man of the Year Award for 2023. In December we are going to be participating in the Annual Christmas Observance and all are invited along with family and friends. As we cross into the month of January, we will be having our Annual Inspection where we will be doing the Royal Master Degree, starting at one o'clock in the afternoon. All Companions are encouraged to attend,

I hope that you all have a Happy Holiday Season from Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas and hop to see you at Council every third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm.

Fraternally, Illustrious Master, Danial Hall



Defiance Commandery #30 Second Thursday 7:30 PM
Matthew Gloor, Commander Danial Hall, Recorder

Sir Knights, Greetings.

Defiance took 5th place with our new drill captain giving a near excellent performance. Congratulations to Bryan Commandery who took 1st place with the drill team. Defiance Commandery nominated Pastor Christian Taylor for the Holy Land Pilgrimage and he was one of the pastors selected by the Grand Commandery to take the trip next year. It was truly an honor for our dedicated Sir Knight Walter Coffman to be awarded the Meritorious Service Award this year. Congratulations to our Sir Knight Coffman.

With Thanksgiving approaching, we all have plenty to be thankful for in our lives. Sometimes we do not see the blessings provided by our God, yet they are all around us. We are gearing up for the inspection season that starts in January involving every Saturday for 16 weeks in our Division. The schedule is available at the temple for all who want it. We will be practicing the Order of the Temple on Sundays 4pm. Our Christmas Observance is on December 10 at 4pm. Our guest speaker will be Pastor Kevin King who traveled to the Holy Land several years ago. Mark your calendars and get your reservation into the recorder SK Dan Hall, email at danial_1970@yahoo.com. Meatloaf is on the menu and this is a potluck dinner, so bring your favorite dish to share. The holidays will come and go and we will be busy with family and friends, enjoying precious time with one another. Remember the Eye Foundation in your annual giving if it is within your ability.

Remember that Christ died for us.

Fraternally, SK Matthew Gloor, Eminent Commander

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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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

	Date	Day	Time	Who	What
Nov.	2	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Practice RA opening
	4	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Election of Officers
	6	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Election of Officers
	9	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Full Form Opening
	13	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	14	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	16	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	R.M. Practice
	18	Sat.		Grand Commandery Recept.	Fairborn
	20	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
Dec.	2	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	2	Sat.	1:00	5th District P.M. Convocation	Edon Lodge (Bryan)
	4	Mon.	7.30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	7	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	10	Sun.	4:00	All Bodies	Christmas Observance
	12	Tues.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	14	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Full Form opening
	18	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	21	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	R.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.