

# DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE



Volume 2024  
Issue 2  
Mar-Apr

## NEW VENUE FOR GRAND MASTER'S RECEPTION on April 5

The Fifth Masonic District will welcome our Grand Master and Grand Officers at a reception to be held at Birchwood Meadow, 10 Turtle Creek Dr., Swanton. This beautiful reception hall is located on the east side of Swanton just off St. Rt. 20A. On April 5 the social hour begins at 6 pm and dinner at 7pm. Due to rising food costs, it will be necessary to charge \$40 per person for a delicious buffet dinner. Reservations are due with payment no later than March 18. Checks should be made payable to the "Fifth Masonic District Association."

This is a great opportunity to meet the leaders of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and their ladies. It is preferred that reservations be made with the District Secretary, Craig Szczublewski, 707 Main St., Delta, OH 43515, or by email [craig.szczublewski@gmail.com](mailto:craig.szczublewski@gmail.com). For questions, contact Josh Chapin, 5th District President at 419-799-9247 or [Chapin243@yahoo.com](mailto:Chapin243@yahoo.com). Reservations are necessary as no tickets will be sold at the door.

## OPEN HOUSE and ANNUAL BREAKFAST FOR DIABETIC KIDS' FUND, APRIL 13, 8-noon



The lodges and all Masonic bodies meeting in Defiance are hosting an open house on April 13. Be sure to invite any friends or family to visit our recently refurbished lodge room. There are many in the Defiance community who admire our building and are inquisitive of the interior. To make this event more attractive to those who might attend, Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council is also hosting its annual Pancake-Sausage breakfast to raise funds for the Grand Council Diabetic Kids' Fund. We are proud that Diabetes Youth Services in Lucas County is a group which will receive \$8000 for their camp this year from the Grand Council. This year the Grand Council is dispersing \$64,000 to seven camps. The need for financial assistance to youth who would otherwise not be able to attend camp will continue to increase.

Diabetic Kids' camps allow young people to be "normal" as they spend time with others with diabetes. Doctors, nurses and other health professionals work with the kids on ways to control their diabetes. Camp also provides a safe place for parents to send their children for a few days with the knowledge that their child will be safe.

Invite family and friends to enjoy a great breakfast. A donation of \$5 will be accepted at the door.

## SCOTTISH RITE REUNION TO BE IN KENTON – APRIL 20

The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Toledo is going to Kenton for their annual Spring Reunion. The 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> degrees will be portrayed beginning with registration at 8:00 a.m. Current members are encouraged to attend and any Master Mason who desires to continue his journey in Freemasonry by joining the Scottish Rite may do so by petitioning on-line at [www.toledoaasr.com](http://www.toledoaasr.com) or by contacting the Valley of Toledo office at 419-893-2942 or [secretary@toledoaasr.com](mailto:secretary@toledoaasr.com). Any current Scottish Rite Mason will be glad to assist.

As not all details of the reunion are finalized, visit the Toledo Scottish Rite website for updates.

## Northwest Ohio York Rite Festival to Be Held May 11

Plans are being laid to again conduct all the York Rite Degrees in one day (with exception of the SEM) at the Northwest Ohio York Rite Festival in Findlay. Any brother wishing to continue his Masonic journey in the York Rite may petition his local York Rite body and receive all the degrees and orders in one day.

The Grand Lodge officers will reconsecrate Hicksville Lodge at 11:30 am on April 6. All Master Mason are invited and encouraged to attend this celebration and to meet the Grand Lodge Officers.



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

Greetings Brothers!

I am happy to say that Omega Lodge is going strong! We recently initiated Brother Ben Kern as an Entered Apprentice. We have two other EA candidates who will be initiated this upcoming week. We also have had two new petition requests for Omega Lodge. The future is bright!

Fraternally, Jim Hanna, WM



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

Greetings Brothers,

What a joy it is to see another spring around the corner! I know, I can't wait either.

If you missed it, Sherwood Lodge passed the Inspection in the Fellow Craft Degree on January 12. We had an actual candidate, making two new Fellow Craft Brothers for us. Both have passed their Proficiency of that Degree and one has since been raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at the inspection of Bryan Lodge on February 9. This leaves us with one Brother yet to raise which we hope to do on April 1. We all know that it takes a lot of work and a lot of Brothers to make this happen. Therefore, I may be recruiting the help of fellow Brothers to come on out and do what we do best, "Make Good Men Better."

We have several things coming up to mention: February 23, EA Inspection Omega Lodge at 7 pm; February 24, Tri State York Rite Festival in Bryan for Chapter and Council; March 2, Tri-State York Rite Festival in Angola for Commandery; April 5 will be the 5<sup>th</sup> District GM Reception at Birchwood Meadow in Swanton - social hour at 6 pm and buffet dinner at 7pm; April 13 from 8 am to noon, Diabetic Kids' Fund annual pancake sausage breakfast, This will be held in conjunction with our annual Open House that includes both Sherwood and Omega Lodges. Last year was a very successful event for our Lodges and the DKF. I plan to advertise and reach out to as many people as possible so we can be even more successful!; April 6 at 11:30 am will be the 150-year Reconsecration at Hicksville Lodge; April 20 will be the Scottish Rite Spring Reunion in Kenton.

I strongly encourage you to come to the Lodge on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month at 7:30 pm for our regular stated meetings. Come early and enjoy the fellowship and food we have been doing before almost every meeting! We usually start 6 or 6:30 pm.

I would ask that you keep Sherwood Lodge and our Brothers in your prayers. We are an aging Lodge and yet doing our best to be a growing Lodge. Several members are in need of thoughts and prayers for comfort and healing. It is our prayer that the Great Architect of the Universe be with you and yours and guide and protect you wherever your path may lead! SMIB.

Fraternally yours, Scott A. Carwile, WM Sherwood #620

**Jim Winnie** is presented with his 60-year pin with his sons present. Left to right, Scott Carwile, WM Sherwood Lodge, Jim Parsons, DDGM 5th Masonic District, Keith Winnie, Jim Winnie, George Winnie.



**OES NEWS!**

On March 6, Palestine Chapter will have an Honor Night for Barb Skinner, Gr. Rep. of Michigan in Ohio; Bob Skinner, Grand Parliamentarian; Linda Taylor, Chm. Regenerative Medicine Committee; and Carol Kopfmann, District 6 President.

On March 8, the Grand Officers will be in Findlay to present an Educational Opportunity for all members. The emphasis will be on Initiation.

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Thank you to **Jack and Carol Stevens** for agreeing to put the tabs the newsletters. Without their help, we would have had to resume paying for this to be done at the printer.



Greetings Companions:

Spring is rapidly approaching and we are all thinking about outdoor activities. However, we all know how Ohio weather can be. Thank you to all Companions who participated in the successful portrayal of the Past Master Degree. It was a great day as we enjoyed a delicious lunch and welcomed our DDGHP, Todd Evans.

Looking forward, we need to make an effort to bring in as many candidates as possible. Multiple opportunities are available for degree work: En-sa-woc-sa Chapter, Tri-State at Bryan on Feb. 24, and NW York Rite Festival in Findlay on May 11. Hicksville inspection (MM) is scheduled for March 25 at 7:30 PM

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 24 and Holy Week continues toward Easter on March 31. Don't forget Daylight Savings Time is on the second Sunday in March. (Clocks forward)

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,

The annual inspection went well. We did a good job conferring the Royal Master degree, even though we had to have a few of our Companion do double duty with the work because of the small turn out of members from our Council. We would like to have more of you all at the meetings and help with the degree work to make it easier for the entire Council. This also gives newer Companions a great welcome to the Council.

The First Arch will be hosting the Deputy Grand Masters Rollout meeting at St. John's United Church of Christ, Holgate on March 18 at 6pm and ladies are invited. There will be dinner before the meeting at a cost of \$15. Reservations are required – contact Bob Rettig at 419-784-6364 or by email at rrettig@metalink.net. Checks are payable to the First Arch Association.

Upcoming events include our Annual Diabetic Kids' Camp Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on April 13 from 8 until noon. We welcome any members who can help before, during, and after the meal. We also need people to sell tickets and to bring family and friends for the breakfast.

On April 25, we will be conferring the Super Excellent Master Degree with Bryan and Wauseon Councils at Bryan starting at 7:30pm. The cast for the degree will be handed out at our March meeting in March. You are encouraged to come to the meeting and find out how you can help.

The May meeting will be our annual Election of Officers for the upcoming year, with Installation of Officers in June. Please come to any or all of our above events to help support the Council and officers.



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

Sir Knights,

Spring is upon us and so is the chance to renew your faith in our savior as Easter approaches.

We welcomed a new Knight to our Commandery, SK Bob Coop, at the Tri-State York-Rite festival held in Bryan and Angola, Ind. on Feb 24 and March 2. Let us all plan to attend our Easter Observance on Sunday March 24. We are planning on again meeting at 10 am and attending St John's United Church of Christ, located just north of Holgate on Rte 108. Dress uniform less sword is preferred if you have one, otherwise a dark suit is OK.

April will be a month of planning and rolling out the upcoming Commandery year. We are roughly 4 months away from starting a new year. June is Election of Officers. If you are interested in participating in the officer line, reach out to me. In closing, remember to let your light so shine that all may see it and we can be proud of our Fraternity and the fellowship we share. May God's peace be with you and God watch over you all.

Matthew G. Gloor, Eminent Commander

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Inspection Season is here! Please review the schedule below and attend as many as can fit into your calendar!

- March 4 Woodbine Chapter (Pemberville) 7:30 p.m.
- March 9 Lotus Chapter (Perrysburg) 7:30 p.m.
- March 11 Rawson Chapter (Mt. Cory) 7:30 p.m.
- March 12 Port Clinton Chapter 7:30 p.m.
- March 13 Bryan Chapter 2:00 p.m.
- April 2 Delphos Chapter 7:30 p.m.
- April 16 Yondota Chapter 7:30 p.m.
- April 17 Palestine Chapter (Browning) 7:30 p.m.

Chapters welcome your attendance and support. See you along the way. Millie Holzer





Defiance York Rite  
Association  
125 Clinton Street  
Defiance, Ohio 43512

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

## UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>What</b>	
March	2	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting	
	2	Sat.	9:00	Tri-State Fest., Angola	Commandery Orders	
	4	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting	
	7	Thurs.	7:30	EnSaWocSa Chapter	Stated Meeting	
	14	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting	
	14	Tues.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting	
	18	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting	
	18	Mon.	6:00	1st Arch Dep. Grand Masters Mtg.	St. John's U.C.C., Holgate	
	19	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting	
	21	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Stated Meeting	
	24	Sun.	10:15	Defiance Commandery	Easter Observance at St. John's U.C.C. Holgate	
	April	1	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	MM Degree
		4	Thurs.	7:30	EnSaWocSa Chapter	Stated Meeting
		5	Fri.	6:00	5th District Grand Master's Reception	Swanton
6		Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting	
6		Sat.	11:30	Hicksville Lodge	Reconsecration	
9		Tues.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting	
11		Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting	
13		Sat.	8:00	All Defiance Masonic Bodies	Open House & Pancake Breakfast	
15		Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting	
18		Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Practice SEM	
20		Sat.	8:00	Scottish Rite	Spring Reunion in Kenton	
28		Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	SEM at Wauseon	

### Changes in address

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

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](mailto:rrettig@metalink.net).