

# DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

*DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE*



**Volume 2017  
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Mar-Apr**

## **GRAND MASTER'S CLASS - MARCH 25 IN DEFIANCE**

The opportunity to become a Master Mason in one day has been made possible again by MW Brother Douglas N. Kaylor, Grand Master of Masons in Ohio. As a part of the 300th Anniversary Celebration of the modern era of Freemasonry, Omega Lodge will be hosting this event in the 5th District.

Brother Jeff Odenkirk of Fulton Lodge is chairing this event in the 5th District and he has submitted the following letter for this edition of the "Bulletin". This being the first event of our celebration, we welcome your attendance at this historic event.

Hello Brothers:

I hope this letter has reached you within the length of your cable tow. I am in need of a few brothers to fill into the degree work for the One Day Class. Please contact me if you are able to help. The class practice for the class is on March 11 at 1 pm in Defiance lodge.

The day of the class is going to be March 25 at 8 am. We will have a breakfast and lunch for \$10.00. All brothers are welcome to come and help for all of the degrees. This is will be a great day for Masonry to help raise some men into the light of Free & Accepted Masons.

Please contact me at [jtodenkirk@yahoo.com](mailto:jtodenkirk@yahoo.com) or by phone at 419-322-5935

Thank you, Bro. Jeffrey Odenkirk M.M., Your Chairman

## **GRAND MASTERS RECEPTION APRIL 28**

The Fifth Masonic District Grand Master's Reception this year will be held in the Voinovich Room at Northwest State Community College, Archbold, Ohio. The date set is April 28 with a social hour beginning at 6 pm and dinner at 7pm. The cost remains the same as previously, \$25 per person if paid in advance and \$30 if paid on the night of the reception. 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. To make reservations contact your lodge secretary. For questions contact Steve Brunn, 5th District President at 419-344-8441 or [sbrunn4@roadrunner.com](mailto:sbrunn4@roadrunner.com).

## **OMEGA LODGE RECONSECRATION APRIL 29**

In celebration of 125 years of being chartered as a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Ohio, Omega Lodge has invited the Officers of The Grand Lodge of Ohio to reconsecrate their lodge on April 29, at 10 am. It is coincidental that this event also occurs during the same year the Grand Lodge is celebrating 300 years of Freemasonry. It is an event none of us will want to miss.

## **ANNUAL BREAKFAST TO SUPPORT DIABETIC KIDS' FUND**

The annual Pancake-Sausage breakfast to raise funds for the Grand Council Diabetic Kids' Fund will be held on Saturday, April 8 from 8—10 am. We are proud that Diabetes Youth Services in Lucas County is a group which receives support for their camp from Grand Council.

Diabetic Kids' camps allow young people to be "normal" as they spend time with others with diabetes. Doctors, nurses, and others 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 is safe.

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

**Changes in address** Please contact Bob Rettig (contact info on pg 4) or John Jelinek at 419-399-9320 or [linek88frank@twc.com](mailto:linek88frank@twc.com) ASAP if your address or other contact information changes. We pay when newsletters are returned because they cannot be forwarded. Please help us be good stewards of our funds!

**TEMPLE BOARD UPDATE**

Brethren, our building is over one hundred years old and there are some problems popping up more often than we would like while our cash flow to pay for the repairs is down. As the Secretary of Omega Lodge, I made a plea when I sent out the dues notices and I was pleasantly surprised with the response that I received. Thanks to all those who responded for the generous gifts. I thought that the other bodies might do the same next year and maybe we can build up a fund that would be able to do some of the repairs to the building. If we don't do something soon, we will be looking at some large fixes in the future. We have the nicest Lodge building in the district and it would be a shame to let it deteriorate to the point were we could not afford to maintain it any longer. So I would hope that we can count on our brethren as we have in the past to help. If we all give just a little extra or what ever you feel you can spare for the building upkeep each time we pay our dues, we can make the repairs as problems appear. I thank you all for taking the time to read this and give it your attention.

Fraternally,  
W Richard Coffman,  
Secretary and Building  
Maintenance Supervisor (or as  
most of us know it, Janitor)



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

Brethren,

We have voted on and passed bylaw changes to have meetings every third Tuesday for degree work and possible business. We are still looking for ANY Omega member who may be willing to participate on a Fellowcraft team for the Master Mason degree to be held at 10 AM April 1. Please stop by the monthly meetings or contact me directly if you are interested. If we can start getting volunteers now, we can get some good practices in. Omega lodge will be the site for this year's Grand Masters Day of Degree Conferral on March 25, 2017.

Our Omega Lodge brother, George Ellison, passed through the pearly gates 2/1/17. He has laid aside the working tools of life and, having wrought well and conscientiously, will surely hear from Him who reviews each human life, no condemnation, no censure, no reproach, but those life-giving, soul-strengthening words, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Please take a moment of silence and say a prayer for strength for his family.

Final date to report candidates JGD Weglage is March 1, 2017.

Also, here are other important dates to note for Omega Lodge:

April 1 - Inspection, Master Mason degree at 10 AM, lunch served after.

April 29 - Reconsecration of Omega at 10 AM.

I look forward to seeing you!

Fraternally, Lou Rivera, W.M.



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

Greetings Brethren!

Our Inspection is over and we got a "favorable report" from RWB Kelly. He did point out that some of our younger Brothers did excellent work and that in all, he saw "positive attitude and pride" our Lodge. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all, Brothers, for coming together and making this a good experience for our newly obligated Brother. Now is not the time to rest on our laurels, though, as there is always room for improvement in whatever we endeavor to do. That being said, there will be an opportunity to demonstrate our zeal for the institution and make improvements in ourselves during the Grand Master's One Day class on March 25. Omega Lodge is hosting the event, but I'm sure that there will be plenty of parts that will need to be filled.

There has been some discussion regarding increasing our dues in the near future. We will need to discuss this further and after a motion is made, determine a date and time to vote on that motion. We need your help, Brothers, in attending these meetings so that we can have a quorum and make the best decisions that we can for the future of our Lodge.

As an aside, there was discussion at some point about verifying membership status after the new dues card was implemented since there is no longer a date on the card. The Grand Secretary's December Newsletter explained that there is a "Member Status Checker" section available on the Internet (<https://oh.moriapp.com/mori/>) that will let anyone who has internet access check on the real-time status of any Brother as long as they can read the Brother's member number on their dues card. You do not need to log into MORI in order to check the status. Might come in handy for anyone seeking to be the Tyler in the future. Ya never know!

Fraternally, Wayne Cripps, WM



Enawocsa Chapter # 89 First Thursday 7:30 PM  
Wayne Cripps, High Priest Ken Crouch, Sec'y

Greetings Companions,

The Inspection season is over and now we need to get back to the basics of maintaining our Chapter. It has been rather disheartening to have to resort to calling Companions to remind them that we have a regularly scheduled meeting coming up, but that appears to be something that might have to continue. Although we only meet once a month (the first Thursday of each month), that seems to be something that slips a lot of our minds when the time comes. Let's see if we can do a better job of remembering when our meetings are and get back to making a difference.

The first part of the Tri-State York Rite Festival was held in Michigan City on Feb 25. The second part will be held in Bryan on March 4. Anyone interested in participating should be there by 8:45 am. Also, don't forget the Grand Master's One Day Class on March 25! And it's also getting closer to the Grand High Priest's Reception (June 17 in Browning Masonic Complex). As you can see there's still lots of stuff happening in Masonry, so let's do our part to make it better for everyone!

Fraternally, Wayne Cripps, HP



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

Upcoming Events at Oc-Co-Nox-Ee: 50 and 60 year awards on March 16

Pancake Sausage Breakfast on April 8

SEM degree April 20



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

Greetings Sir Knights,

We are glad to welcome our newest Sir. Knight, Gary Ries, who was our inspection candidate.

Rather than our typical Easter Observance, we will attend church at St. John's United Church of Christ, north of Holgate at 10:15 on Palm Sunday, April 9.

We welcome members at our meetings. Please come and support our officers.

Fraternally, James Fruth, EC



### OES News

Lillian Chapter (Montpelier) has moved! They will now be holding their meetings and other activities at the Bryan Masonic Center! Attend their events and see Lillian Chapter members in new surroundings!

Deshler Chapter meets on the first Tuesday, Lillian Chapter on the second Wednesday, Bryan Chapter on the third Monday and Fulton Chapter (Wauseon) on the third Tuesday. Meetings are at 7:30 p.m.

It's time for Inspections, Visitations, and Receptions in OES. Please note the following events and support the chapters by your presence:

March 20 – Bryan Chapter Inspection. Bring books for children

April 6, 7 – District 7 Rummage Sale at Wauseon Masonic

April 18 – Reception for Sara Short, Grand Martha, at Wauseon

April 19 – Lillian Chapter Inspection

Please keep Sharie and Dan Tussing in your thoughts and prayers. Sharie had back surgery on December 19. The surgery was fine, but several other issues have arisen. She has been in the hospital or nursing home since the surgery. Cards may be to Sharie and Dan Tussing, 3398 Road 3, Leipsic, Ohio 45856.

Hope to see you along the way. Millie Holzer

### ATTENTION CRITICALLY NEEDED

We are making one more plea for help before having to make a major decision. Both lodges and York Rite bodies need to select trustees who, with their presiding officer, will commit to attend the monthly board meeting on the second Monday of each month. Tonight's meeting was attended by 5 brothers with an average age over "70". If a couple of these men cannot serve for any reason, we would lose continuity and very little would be done to maintain our facilities. For that reason, we really need our younger brothers to pick up the responsibility. If this does not happen soon **we will have to consider employing the services of a management company**. That would necessitate a large increase in rent from each body and in turn, dues increases. We do not think that this is a viable option. We need you presiding officers to make this a priority. Appoint or elect some of your younger responsible members to attend the next meeting on the second Monday (March 13 @7:30) with you. Submitted by Gary Ries



Defiance York Rite  
Association  
125 Clinton Street  
Defiance, Ohio 43512

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Permit Number 335  
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	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	2	Tues.	7:00	1st Capitular District (Defiance)	2nd Quarterly Mtg.
	4	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	4	Sat.	9:00	Tri-State Fest., Bryan	Commandery Orders
	6	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Practice EA
	9	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
	13	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	16	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	50 & 60 Yr. Awards
	20	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	21	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Pre-inspection
	25	Sat.	8:00	5th District	Grand Masters Class
	29	Weds.	6:00	1st Arch Dep. Grand Masters Mtg.	The Barn, Archbold
	April	1	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge
3		Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
6		Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
8		Sat.	8:00	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Pancake Breakfast
9		Sun.	10:15	Defiance Commandery	Easter Observance at St Johns U.C.C. Holgate
10		Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
13		Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
17		Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
20		Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	SEM Degree
28		Fri.	7:00	5th District Grand Master's Recept.	NW State Com. College
29		Sat.	10:00	Omega Lodge	Reconsecration by Grand Lodge Officers

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 [rettig@metalink.net](mailto:rettig@metalink.net).