

DEFIANCE YORK RITE BULLETIN

DEDICATED TO THE FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS OF THE DEFIANCE MASONIC TEMPLE



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Sep-Oct

ANNUAL MEETINGS SET FOR OCTOBER 2017

In a little more than a month, the Grand Bodies will open their Annual Meetings. 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 is an honor and privilege to represent our local bodies at these annual meetings. Because leaders represent the members of their respective body at these meetings, the codes require attendance by at least one of the three senior officers or their proxy. It does take time to attend the meetings but there are things to be learned at each session and sometimes legislation that is presented is approved or rejected by only a few votes. This is a case where your vote does count. Discussion regarding proposed legislation can also be enlightening.

Upcoming meetings are scheduled:

October 1-3	Grand Council	Kalahari Convention Center, Sandusky
October 4-5	Grand Chapter	Holiday Inn Cleveland, Independence
October 7-8	Grand Commandery	Crown Plaza, Columbus North
October 14-15	Grand Lodge	Kalahari Convention Center, Sandusky

For more information, please contact your secretary or recorder.

RETTIG'S RAMBLINGS

This column may be more "rambling" than usual, but here we go. Late in the summer each year I begin preparing for the new Masonic year by often attending the DGM roll-out meeting, reminding the leaders of the bodies meeting in the Defiance Masonic Center that it is time to prepare the first newsletter for the year and also attending the Grand Council of New York. Attending the Grand Assembly in New York is a tradition I began in 1994 and have missed only one session since then.

Each year I question whether I really want to spend 5 to 14 hours traveling to New York, the 3 to 4 days it takes for the trip, not to mention the related expenses. Why do I and other Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights make such an investment of time and resources?

Speaking for myself, and many others, I am thankful for being blessed with an understanding family and the resources that allow me to enjoy the benefits of Freemasonry as I do. Admittedly there are some who look forward to the recognition and jewelry that go along with serving as leaders, but the greatest reward is the fellowship enjoyed by associating with those who have assumed the same obligations and worked in the quarries of Freemasonry.

In the EA degree we are charged to "converse with well informed Brethren who will always be as ready to give as you will be to receive instruction". While we would probably think of this in a more formal setting, there is much to be learned whenever we meet in the name of Freemasonry whether it be a tyled meeting or a picnic in the park.

Having visited the Grand Council of New York for 20+ years, it saddens me that many companions I've become good friends with are no longer with us or their health does not permit them to attend. However, the new friendships made each year and the wisdom gained by hearing the remarks of MW Grand Masters and leaders of the other Masonic bodies (continued on page 2)

RETTIG'S RAMBLINGS

(continued)

does make the visit worthwhile. Individual conversations with those leaders can often provide ideas or thoughts on solving problems or implementing new programs.

As with most other worthy endeavors, you reap what you sow. The more time and effort you spend in your Lodge, Chapter, Council or Commandery, the more you will gain in friendships and knowledge. Freemasonry is a way of life and it can be enjoyed by the member who has never held an office just as well as those who have been rewarded with some of the highest honors of Freemasonry. The choice is yours!



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

Greeting Brothers and Companions,

As we look toward the new year, we always look to change something from the previous year: whether it's to have a more attentive ear or by volunteering more of our time to that which matters most. With that being said, there is much work to be done by the lodge and its members. There are some changes this year that should help us prosper and profit from which will be further explained at our first lodge meeting. I look forward to what this new year will bring. We have some great things planned and, if all goes well, it will be an exciting year.

Our meetings this year will be the 1st Saturday of the month at 9 AM and 3rd Tuesday at 7:30. We do not expect a quorum at our meeting on September 2 as it is Labor Day weekend. Our first meeting of the year will be September 19. I look forward to seeing you all this year and I would like to welcome our newest officers and pay tribute to those we have lost this past year.

Fraternally yours, Lou Rivera



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

Greetings Brothers! I hope that everyone had a safe and wonderful Summer! It's hard to believe that it is time to start thinking about the

new Masonic year already, but alas it is time to start planning our activities. Looking back over my term as Worshipful Master, I want to thank of you for your support and help in making this a memorable experience. Without your active participation in our Lodge, we couldn't continue to survive. Our current Deputy Grand Master, R.W.B Rick Shau is scheduled to be installed as Grand Master of Masons of Ohio at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication in Dayton October 20-21 and has chosen as his theme "Embrace Our Heritage ... Preserve Our Traditions." While there will be many things staying the same, there will also be some changes to the way that we do some of our business. I plan on presenting a modified version of R.W.B. Shau's Roll-Out Presentation at our first stated meeting in September so that we are all on the same sheet of music. We will also need to start practicing for our inspection next year. That being said, I would like to open in the Fellowcraft Degree a few times prior to our election of officers so that we all know our parts and can put on the best degree that has been seen at any inspection.

Fraternally, Wayne Cripps, Worshipful Master



OES NEWS!

Steak in the Park sponsored by Sycamore Lodge in Deshler on July 10 was a huge success! Over 115 meals were served! Special recognition was given to Avery Evenger for service above and beyond and to the Chief of Police for his assistance with our project to help families of Deshler. 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 to honor the station of Martha on August 1. There approximately 30 people in attendance. Sara Short, Grand Martha 2017, was present to share thoughts and remarks. Also present were Grand Marthas from 1979, 1981 and 2005. Several members who have or are serving in the station of Martha were welcomed. It was a fun evening!

September 22 - 24 brings Grand Chapter at Kalahari in Sandusky. We look forward to learning of new appointments and projects for the coming year.

Plans are underway for Installations: October 14 at 10:00 a.m. is Fulton Chapter (Wauseon), November 8 at 7:30 p.m. will be installation in Lillian Chapter (Montpelier), which now meets in the Bryan Masonic Center.

Mark your calendars and support our Eastern Star Chapters.

Millie Holzer



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

Dear Companions,

As we start a new year in September I would like to welcome you back from a long and rather warm summer. At Grand Chapter this October R.E. Comp. J. Keith Green from our neighboring 8th District is expected to be elected Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of Ohio. The degree for this year's inspection is Mark Master and the date is January 20. Companions I request that you all come and help this year in trying to revive the Chapter. If we don't start increasing the numbers in the lodge room during our meetings then things that are not wanted could happen and I don't want to even think about it. So please Companions please if you have not been to a Chapter meeting in a while please come give it another chance at least once or twice other than inspection. Meetings are the first Thursday of every month at 7:30. There are usually coffee and snacks of some sort after the meeting. So let's all have a good year of friendship, fellowship, and companionship.

Thank you very much,
 Danial Hall, High Priest



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

Greetings Companions,

Summer is over and now it is time to resume our labors! While there isn't a lot of stuff that is pressing at the moment (aside from Installing some of us as officers at our September meeting!!), we do need to start making plans for the coming year. The 188th Annual Grand Assembly will be October 1-3 at the Kalahari Resort in Sandusky this year. If you plan on attending, you will need to make sure that you have made your reservations no later than September 10. The Grand Council has gotten a special room rate at almost half off the customary rate, so if you were looking for a good deal, you've found it here! Also, it's time to start practicing for our Inspection (I believe that it will be in the Royal Master Degree this year) in January. No time like the present to get ready, huh? Looking forward to a fabulous year in Cryptic Masonry!

Fraternally,
 Wayne Cripps, Illustrious Master



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

Welcome back Sir Knights.

It is my distinct pleasure to serve you as Eminent Commander of this fine institution. My only hope is that I can follow in the footsteps of and try my best to emulate those who preceded me. With your help and encouragement, I am sure that I will be able to do just that. As you know, the 175th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Ohio will be October 6 and 7 at the Crowne Plaza North in Columbus. Reservations are due no later than September 12 to ensure that you get the discount rate on your room. Also, on October 7, the current 1st place Drill Team in the State of Ohio will be competing to see if we can "bring home the gold" again! In preparation for that, we are scheduling practices for Thursday evenings (7pm on nights that there is not another function going on, or following the Chapter, Council or Commandery meeting on nights that those organizations have their stated meetings). We also will need to consider scheduling practices for our annual inspection so that we do not monopolize the Masonic Center when other organizations (Chapter and Council) would like to practice for their inspections. More information to follow either at our stated meeting or in the next installment of the newsletter.

Hoping for a successful and productive year!
 Wayne Cripps, Eminent Commander

Changes in address

Please contact Bob Rettig at 419-784-6364 or rrettig@metalink.net or John Jelinek at 419-399-9320 or linek88frank@twc.com 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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UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

	Date	Day	Time	Who	What
Sept.	7	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	11	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	14	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting & Drill Practice
	16	Sat.	4:00	1st Division CTA	Bryan
	18	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Review DGM Roll-Out
	19	Tues.	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
Oct.	21	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Installation of officers
	1-3			Grand Council R & SM	Sandusky, OH
	2	Mon.	7.30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	4-5			Grand Chapter RAM	Sandusky, OH
	5	Thurs.	7:30	Ensawocsa Chapter	Stated Meeting
	6-7			Grand Commandery KT	Columbus, OH
	7	Sat.	9:00	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	9	Mon.	7:30	Temple Board	Stated Meeting
	16	Mon.	7:30	Sherwood Lodge	Stated Meeting
	12	Thurs.	7:30	Defiance Commandery	Stated Meeting
	17	Tues	7:30	Omega Lodge	Stated Meeting
	19	Thurs.	7:30	Oc-Co-Nox-Ee Council	Stated Meeting
	20-21			Grand Lodge F & AM	Dayton, OH
22	Sun.	4:30	1st Capitular District	Reaffirmation Day	
28	Sat.		Grand Chapter Reception	Perrysburg, OH	

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.