



The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 7, Issue 2

Second and Fourth Fridays

March / April, 2010

"Freemasonry – It's all in the Family" --- Grand Masters Program

From The East



On January 22nd, Acacia Lodge was honored to award our brethren with service awards of 25, 35, 40, 50, 60, 65 and 70 years of service to the fraternity. We were joined on this evening with the District Education Officer, WB Henry Mankowski and our District Deputy Grand Master, RWB Mitchell L. Alperin. Those who were able to attend had a fine dinner and a very enjoyable evening. We are working to have the Grand Lodge Awards (50+ yr.) presented to all the brethren who were unable to attend this very special evening.

As you have been told in previous issues of the Sprig of Acacia we are trying to replace the Dining Room Piano. The current one is beyond repair and we would like to have music for the numerous events held in this location. We wish to thank our brethren who have donated to this worthwhile cause (John Beres, James Cogan, Robert Hibjan, Richard Keiter, Allen Krause, John Wolfenden and John Wood). We have identified the instrument to replace the piano as a Yamaha (mod. YDP 223) with a bench. We will be asking the other organizations meeting in the Temple to assist in the fund raiser. As you know, music is one of the seven liberal arts and sciences and always adds to the quality and beauty of any event. If you would like to donate to our fund please send a check to Acacia Lodge #651 with "Piano" in the memo section.

Our Valentines dinner was held on February 13th with over 50 attending this special evening. The Scottish dancers provided the entertainment for this very enjoyable evening. The freewill offering provided over \$200.00 for the Special Olympics.

We are having a Bowling party on March 5th at Maple Heights Bowling Lanes, 15809 Libby Road, Maple Heights. We have the entire area, 12 lanes, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm for only \$10.00 per person. You will be provided with shoes, bowling

ball and there will be gutter bumpers for the children. Refreshments will be provided (Pizza, hot dogs, bratwurst, soft drinks and cash bar for adults). There will be prizes for game performances. Please make your reservations as soon as possible with WB James R. Cogan, 440-257-6964.

Acacia Lodges Annual Inspection will be held on March 26th in the Master Mason Degree. We will open lodge at 5:00 pm and conduct the first section of the Master Mason Degree. Dinner will be served at 6:15 pm. At 7:15 pm we will reconvene our lodge and continue with the Master Mason Degree. Your lodge officers have worked hard to make this a very special evening. Plan to attend and show your support for Acacia Lodge. Dinner reservations can be made by calling WB James R. Cogan, 440-257-6964.

Acacia Lodge experienced its 90th anniversary on October 16, 2009. We will celebrate this milestone by gathering together for Dinner, Dancing and good socializing on Saturday April 10, 2010 at Sterle's Slovenian Country House, 1401 E. 55th St. at 5:30pm. A good time is planned for all. Please mark your calendar now and complete the reservation form in this publication and mail it to WB James Cogan with your check (\$12.00 per person) made out to "Acacia Lodge #651".

Mark your calendar – **July 17, 2010** Summer Picnic at Pioneer Waterland Park in Chardon, Ohio. Hosted by Acacia Lodge and Theodore Breck Lodge #714. Watch for additional information in future publications of the "Sprig of Acacia". Saturday **August 14, 2010** is our 9 Hole Golf Outing with free lunch for Members, Family and Friends. Bring a non Member as your guest.

Looking forward to seeing you soon in Lodge.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Hibjan, PDDGM
Worshipful Master

From the West



Brethren,

I hope everything has been well in your lives since our last newsletter reached you. The last two months have treated the Lodge well. We had an excellent Awards Night in January where we and the Grand Lodge of Ohio recognized and honored those brethren who have served the fraternity for decades. It was nice to reminisce about times past (I learned a lot about 1950, for example) and see the families of some of our most distinguished members. And, as is always the case when we hold an Open Lodge, we enjoyed seeing the faces of our brethren's friends and family. From those I spoke with after the event, many came away greatly impressed with Masonry in general and our Lodge in particular.

We also have conferred the Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft degrees for our newest brother, Bro. James Davidson. As a happy coincidence, Brother Davidson happens to be a Police Officer. This is inline with Most Worshipful Bro. Terry W. Posey's wish that Ohio Lodges reach out to those in law enforcement, public safety, and the Armed Services. We are happy to start with Brother Davidson, and hopefully, this will be the beginning of a trend for Acacia Lodge.

Even with all that is behind us, there is plenty to look forward to in the coming months. Inspection season officially kicked off for the 22nd Masonic District on February 4 (a list of every Lodge's Inspection date is available at <http://www.ohiodistrict22.org/inspec10.html>). In particular, I look forward to attending the Inspections of our neighboring Lodges at the Euclid Masonic Temple. Collinwood #582 and Raymer-Covenant #683 are being inspected in the E.A. and M.M degrees, respectively. And of course, our turn will come on March 26, when we will be inspected in the M.M. degree as well. The M.M. is always a fun degree to put on because we get to see more faces than we usually see. Also, notable will be the chance to see our Fellowcraft team in action. W.B. Bro. Ted Daly has been coordinating the team since before I joined Lodge, and has helped to put on an impressive show.

Finally, I look forward to seeing everyone at Acacia Lodge's Bowling Party on Friday, March 5. Details are abound elsewhere in this Newsletter. As with Awards Night, we are welcoming friends and family of Lodge members to join us from 6-9 p.m. that night. We have the building to ourselves and there will be plenty to eat. Hope to see you there!

Faternally,

Bro. Mark Novak

"The most valuable of all talents, that of never using two words where one will do." - Thomas Jefferson

Secretary's Corner



We need your help in keeping our member database current. Please remember to tell us when you move. Contact me by phone (440) 257-6964, snail mail or email

coganj@sbcglobal.net

Your Lodge Secretary, James R. Cogan, P.M.



In Memorium

Brother	Passed
Brother Lawrence Twigger	01-31-2004
Wor. Brother Clark A. Johnson	12-01-2009

They rest from their labors.

Help!

In one of our obligations, we are admonished to take care of our widows and orphans. To this end, we would like to have a dinner in honor of the widows of our deceased brethren of Acacia Lodge. Should you know of an Acacia Lodge widow please call or email:

Secretary 440-257-6964
coganj@sbcglobal.net

Worshipful Master 440-248-3497
rhib@sbcglobal.net

Provide the name, address and phone number so we can establish an active database and invite them to a recognition dinner.

"To be content with what one has is the greatest and truest of riches." - Cicero

Newsletter Editor and Information

Editor: James R. Cogan – 440-257-6964

Email: coganj@sbcglobal.net

Lodge Website: www.acacia651.org

If you would like to receive your Lodge Newsletter by email please send your email address to the editor.

Acacia Lodge Officers

2009 – 2010

- W. M.** - Robert J. Hibjan, PDDGM, 440-248-3497, rhib@sbcglobal.net
- S. W.** - Mark Novak, 216-406-5856, man0579@aol.com
- J. W.** - Ted Daly, P.M., 440-974-1185, tdaly@oh.rr.com
- S. D.** - Jeffrey W. Heston, 216-289-9674, deeworld42@yahoo.com
- J. D.** - John Wood, 216-341-3673
- S. S.** - Tonie Willoughby, 440-842-4223, toniew3@att.net
- J. S.** - Michael Kerestesy IV, 440-392-9157,
- Tyler** - Todd Jenkins, 216-229-1702, jenktodd23@yahoo.com
- Secretary** - James R. Cogan, P.M., 440-257-6964, coganj@sbcglobal.net
- Treasurer** - N. Allen Paynter, P.M., 216-381-0614, mrclean274@aol.com
- Chaplain** - Tom Daly Jr. P.M., 440-942-9426, tomedalyjr@netzero.net
- L.E.O.** - Craig A. Niederriter, 440-884-1376, lowhorseman@aol.com
- Marshall** - Stephen K. Gregory, 440-946-0080
- Lecture Dir.** - Tom Daly Jr. P.M., 440-942-9426, tomedalyjr@netzero.net

Brethren,

In my waking hours I excised that narrow cell in my mind that restores beautiful thoughts and I am convinced that our meeting on February 12, 2010 was totally the best organized and executed Stated Meeting I have ever witnessed in my 39 years as a Master Mason.

From my vantage point in the Chaplin's chair, I witnessed complete cooperation of the young, old and in between. Our Officers helped each other in setting up and taking down the Lodge and in the

performance of their duties in opening in the EA Degree, conducting an EA exam, going to refreshment, opening in the MM degree, conducting a MM exam, closing this degree, opening a lodge in the FC degree, conferring the FC degree, lecture and charge, closing this degree, returning to the EA degree for our business meeting. At this time we read minutes, communications, paid our bills, discussed upcoming events and a few other items I probably missed.

Brethren if your at home, you missed it! But you have another chance to see these officers perform on the 26th of March when they will be inspected in the Master Mason Degree.

In the 22nd district the District Deputies judge each lodge on the proficiency of their work and award the top three lodges of each of the three degrees. We were first several years back in the Master Mason Degree and have a good chance to repeat this honor. We will be good, so don't miss it. The brethren that haven't been at lodge for awhile would be pleased and proud of the work that is being done in the name of Acacia Lodge.

Fraternally,

W.B.Tom Daly Jr., Chaplin

Grand Masters One Day Class

This year any three lodges can join together to have a Grand Masters One Day Class with a number of caveats. Acacia Lodge is joining with University Lodge #738 and Forest City Lodge #388 to put on this event. Other lodges may be joining us on SUNDAY, April 18, 2010, at 1:00 PM at the Lyndhurst Masonic Center at 5516 Mayfield Road.

If you know of a good man who would make a good Mason and would be interested in taking part in receiving all three degrees in one day please have a petition completed as soon as possible.

All petitions have to be investigated and voted upon. The Grand Master is allowing us to vote on these petitions at stated and special meeting. Should you have any questions please call our lodge Secretary, 440-257-6964 or email him at coganj@sbcglobal.net.

You will find a petition in this publication for your use. Please help us to make good men better and make this a day to remember.

TRESTLE-BOARD

All stated meeting start at 7:30 PM unless otherwise indicated

- Mar. 5 Family Bowling Party at Maple Heights Bowling Lanes – 3 hours of bowling, shoe rental, ball, pizza and sandwiches, drinks for \$10.00 per person. Bring a non-mason to this event – Reservation to WB Cogan (440) 257-6964.
- Mar. 12 Stated Meeting – Master Mason Degree Rehearsal.
- Mar. 26 Stated Meeting – Annual Inspection in the Master Mason Degree – Open Lodge at 5:00 PM, Dinner at 6:15 PM resume MM Degree at 7:15 PM – Reservation to WB Cogan (440) 257-6964.
- Apr. 9 Stated Meeting – EA Degree on two candidates
- Apr. 10 90th Anniversary Dinner Dance, Sterles County House – see attached article – reservations required
- Apr. 23 Stated Meeting – EA Degree on a candidate
- May 14 Stated Meeting – Armed Forces Recognition Dinner – details to follow.
- May 28 Stated Meeting – Fellow Craft Degree

Special Dates:

- Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day
Apr. 1 April Fool's Day
Apr. 2 Good Friday
Apr. 4 Easter
Apr. 15 Tax Day
May 5 Cinco de Mayo
May 9 Mothers Day

New Candidates are needed and welcome – help us make a good man better

"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home." - Edith Sitwell

How Laughter Works

<http://health.howstuffworks.com/laughter.htm>

"Laughter is a great thing -- that's why we've all heard the saying, 'Laughter is the best medicine.' There is strong evidence that laughter can actually improve health and help fight disease. This HowStuffWorks article looks at laughter -- what it is, what happens in our brains when we laugh, what

makes us laugh and how it can make us healthier and happier. You'll also learn that there's a tremendous amount that no one understands yet."

WHY IS A MASONIC LODGE CALLED A "BLUE LODGE"?

Schools of thought give different answers. Some authorities think that as blue has from ancient Biblical times been associated with truth, with Deity, with wisdom and hope; that, as Mackey taught, the blue of the Old Testament is a translation of the Hebrew tekelet, which is derived from a root meaning perfection, blue came into Masonry as its color by a natural association. Others believe that as our ancient brethren met on hills and in vales, over which the blue vault of heaven is a ceiling; that as Jacob in his vision saw the ladder ascending from earth to heaven; that as the covering of a Lodge is the clouded canopy or starry decked heaven, these allusions seem to connote that blue, the color of the sky, is that of all celestial attributes for which Masons strive.

Man's earliest god was the sun. The sun rose, traveled, and set in a realm of blue; to associate the color with Deity was inevitable. Blue also is the color of the ocean, of mountain streams, of lakes of good drinking water - that blue should also become emblematic of purity is equally natural.

The Grand Lodge in England in 1731 changed from a previous determination that white was the Masonic color and denominated blue as that hue. A noted English Masonic student, Fred J. W. Crowe wrote:

- (1) that the Order of the Garter was the most famous Order of Knighthood in existence;
- (2) that Freemasons, in adopting the color (Garter blue) attempted to add to their dignity and the growing prestige of Grand Lodge officers;
- (3) that two Grand Masters prior to the adoption of "Garter blue" were John, Duke of Montagu (Grand Master in 1721) and Charles, Duke of Richmond (Grand Master in 1724) both Knights of the Garter;
- (4) the Duke of St. Albans and the Earl of Chesterfield were both Craftsmen and Knights of the Garter and

- (5) Bro. John "Antis" (Anstis), member of University Lodge, of which Dr. Desaguliers and other Masonic notables belonged, was Register of the Order of the Garter.

The two theories which find the most believers are

- (1) the adoption of the color by early operative Freemasons because of an age-old association of blue with those virtues which are peculiarly Masonic,
- (2) the adoption of the color by the early Grand Lodge in imitation of the nobility, and the fame of the color of the most famous Order of Knighthood in the world.

From More Light – Mehr Licht ©, Masonic Matters © and T.F.S

Religious One Liners

Don't let your worries get the best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.

It is easier to preach the sermons than it is to live one.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

Be ye fishers of men. You catch them - He'll clean them.

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Don't put a question mark where God put a period.

Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

Need a Ride?

If you are in need of a ride to come to lodge please call Jim Cogan at 440-257-6964 and arrangements will be made to pick you up. This is my home phone; please leave a message if I don't pick up when you call.

I was wondering....



When the heck is spring coming??

"THE SEVEN FOLD COMPASS OF MAN"

SYMPATHY is the needle of the heart and should always point to the good.

CONVICTION is the needle of the intellect and should always point to the truth.

VOLITION is the needle of the will and should always point to the useful.

ADMIRATION is the needle of the imagination and should always point to the beautiful.

OBLIGATION is the needle of the conscience and should always point to the right.

ASPIRATION is the needle of the soul and should always point to the free.

DEVOTION is the needle of the personality and should always point to God.

Reservation Form Anniversary Party

Date: April 10, 2010
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: Sterles Country House, on 55th street
Cost: \$12.00 per person

Come celebrate our 90th anniversary of the founding of Acacia Lodge #651. There will be good food, music, dancing and more.

Please make your reservations now by sending your check to our lodge secretary James Cogan, 6130 Thistlewood Drive, Mentor, OH, 44060

Please complete and mail with check made out to Acacia Lodge #651 with "Anniversary" in the memo section.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number Attending: _____

Reservation Form Inspection 2010

Date: March 26, 2010
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Euclid Masonic Center
Cost: \$10.00 per person

Our annual inspection will be in the Master Mason Degree. We will open lodge at 5:00 PM to conduct the first section of this degree. Dinner will be at 6:15 PM. Lodge will reconvene at 7:15 PM. Refreshment will be served after lodge.

Reservations required by March 22nd with your choice of Prime Rib or Salmon.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Prime Rib: _____ Salmon: _____

Make check payable to Acacia Lodge # 651 with "Inspection" in the memo section to James Cogan, 6130 Thistlewood Drive, Mentor, Ohio, 44060.

James R. Cogan
6130 Thistlewood Drive
Mentor OH 44060



FEES: E.A. \$70.00 F.C. \$30.00 M.M. \$30.00

Ohio Masonic Home \$20.00

Pet. No.: _____

Date: _____



Petition for Degrees

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of



Acacia Lodge # 651

Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio

The Petition of the Subscriber Respectfully Showeth:

That he has long entertained a favorable opinion of your Ancient Institution and is desirous of being admitted a member thereof, if found worthy;

That he believes in the existence and perfection of God.

Name: _____

Print name in full

Have you ever petitioned a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons anywhere?

Yes ____ No ____ If you have, state what Lodge, where situated and when petitioned.

His present residence is _____

Phone _____ No. _____ Street _____ City _____ Zip _____

Work Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

where he has lived since the _____ day of _____, _____ Soc. Sec. No. _____

He was born at _____ on the _____ day of _____, A.D. _____

His occupation is _____ Place of business _____

Dated at _____ this _____ day of _____, A.D. _____

Signed _____
If no Middle Name write word "NONE"

Recommended By:

Bro. _____
(SIGN FULL NAME. Abbreviations or initials not sufficient)

Bro. _____
(SIGN FULL NAME. Abbreviations or initials not sufficient)

*Questions to be
Answered by Petitioner
On night of Initiation*

PETITION FOR DEGREES



**REPORT OF
INVESTIGATING
COMMITTEE**

1. Do you declare upon your honor that you have never made application to any Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons?

Answer _____

2. Do you have a steadfast belief in the existence and perfection of God?

Answer _____

3. Do you declare upon your honor, that, unbiased by friends and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, you freely and voluntarily offer yourself a candidate for the misteries of Freemasonry?

Answer _____

4. Do you declare upon your honor, that you are prompted to solicit the privileges of Freemasonry by a favorable opinion conceived of the institution, a desire for knowledge, and a sincere wish of being serviceable to your fellow-creatures?

Answer _____

5. Do you declare upon your honor, that you will cheerfully conform to all the ancient usages and established customs of the Fraternity?

Answer _____

Signed _____

Attest: _____

STEWARDS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

ZIP _____

Phone _____

Fee Enclosed \$ _____

Fee F.C. _____

Fee M.M. _____

COMMITTEE

#1. _____

#2. _____

#3. _____

Received, _____ AD _____

Cmte Notified _____ AD _____

Elected, _____ AD _____

Rejected _____ AD _____

* _____ Favorable _____

* _____ Favorable _____

* _____ Favorable _____

** If the report is Unfavorable write "Un" before the word Favorable.*

Initiated _____

By _____

Lecture by _____

Exam _____

By _____

Passed _____

By _____

Lecture by _____

Exam _____

By _____

Raised _____

By _____

Lecture by _____

Exam _____

By _____