



# The Sprig of Acacia



Euclid Masonic Temple

27271 Tungsten Road

Euclid

Ohio

216-731-9857

Volume 7, Issue 4

Second and Fourth Fridays

July / August, 2010

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

## From The East



As I write this article I cannot comprehend how quickly the time has gone and many of our degrees and programs are history.

The last three events, (Armored Forces Night, Friendship Night and Table Lodge) were well attended and those that attended commented they were happy they were there. Special Thanks to Bro. Craig Niederriter and his wife Joan for planning and preparing a great Armored Forces Day program on May 14, 2010 and delicious meal and to WB Robert Roffe for his assistance in the program. Joan, I will come to your house for dinner anytime. Yummy. Thank You.

Our Lodge summer picnic is scheduled for Saturday July 17, 2010 at Pioneer Water Park in Chardon, Ohio. Children under 40 inches tall are FREE. Cost to you for all other Family and Friends, 40 inches tall and above, is only \$8.00/person offered by Acacia Lodge. The cost also includes a Hot Dog/Hamburger lunch prepared by the chefs of Acacia Lodge with the fillings. FREE Pepsi products are available by the Park all day. If you plan to attend and your last name starts with A-L, please bring a side dish or appetizer to share with others. If your last name starts with M-Z please bring a dessert to share with others. We will have a Pavilion with cement floor, wood tables, electrical outlets, a water source, and a large 5ft X 5ft cement grill. Rest Rooms are nearby. This is a Rain or Shine event. Some restrictions apply. You are invited to spend your day with us from 11:00am to 7:30pm. You will not be able to get a better deal for your money than this. Bring your Family and Friends. What a great way to promote Freemasonry. Reservations for this event are a necessity and need to be in and paid for by July 10, 2010. No exceptions. Call Bob Hibjan at 440-248-

3497 or James Cogan at 440-257-6964 for reservations.

The 9 hole Acacia Golf Outing will be held again this year on August 14th at Green Ridge Golf Course in Wickliffe. Liquid refreshments will be offered on the course by our professional assistants. Performance prizes and lunch will be provided at the course. Get a foursome together and make your reservation with us now. Call Bob Hibjan 440-248-3497 or Jim Cogan 440-257-6964.

Acacia Lodge will be dark for the months of July and August. We will return with a stated meeting on Friday September 10, 2010. This evening will be devoted to our Past Masters with Past Masters Night. We will have a FREE Hot Dog Dinner at 6:15pm, start our Stated meeting at 7:30pm, conduct a Fellow Craft Degree by Past Masters and have a short Masonic education program by our Lodge Education Officer Craig Niederriter. If you are a Past Master and are reading this, please call me, Bob Hibjan 440-248-3497 or WB Don Ritchie at 216-731-3030 for a part in the Fellow Craft degree. I am quite sure you still know how to do it.

Fellow Craft and Master Mason Degrees have been scheduled for the months of September and October. We need your assistance, please attend.

Our Annual Chili Cook off is scheduled for Friday October 22, 2010 at 6:00pm. Mix up your favorite batch and enter the contest. Make enough to share with others. You will all vote on your favorite recipe, but (butt) be prepared for the next day or two.

Save Sunday October 10, 2010 for our Clam Bake. Details and location will be given to you at a later date.

A Masonic trip is still in the planning stages with Doric Lodge #630 in Pennsylvania to witness the Master Mason degree. The Master of Doric Lodge and I are discussing the possibility of Saturday,

October 9<sup>th</sup> or October 23, 2010. Stay tuned for further details.

The 201<sup>st</sup> Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio will be held in Dayton, Ohio on Friday and Saturday October 15/16, 2010. Several of the Officers and members of Acacia Lodge plan to attend. New Grand Lodge Officers will be elected and appointed. The new Grand Master elect may just come from this District. We will share with you the Report of the Grand Lodge session in Lodge on October 22, 2010.

Get your reservations in early for the above events.

Hope to see you soon.

Fraternally,  
Robert J. Hibjan, WM  
Acacia Lodge #651

---

THINGS WE SHOULD KNOW.....maybe

1. Money isn't made out of paper, it's made out of cotton.
2. The Declaration of Independence was written on hemp (marijuana) paper.
3. The dot over the letter i is called a 'tittle'.
4. 40% of Mc Donald 's profits come from the sales of Happy Meals.
5. 315 entries in Webster's 1996 Dictionary were misspelled.
6. The 'spot' on 7UP comes from its inventor, who had red eyes. He was albino.
7. Chocolate affects a dog's heart and nervous system; a few ounces will kill a small-sized dog.
8. Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants. (The Little Perv.)
9. Ketchup was sold in the 1830's as medicine.
10. Upper and lower-case letters are named 'upper' and 'lower' because in the time when all original print had to be set in individual letters, the 'upper case' letters were stored in the case on top of the case that stored the smaller, 'lower case' letters.
11. Leonardo Da Vinci could write with one hand and draw with the other at the same time, hence, multi-tasking was invented.
12. Because metal was scarce, the Oscars given out during World War II were made of wood.
13. The name Wendy was made up for the book Peter Pan; there was never a recorded Wendy before!

---

**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](mailto:coganj@sbcglobal.net)

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

---

**Sojourning Brethren:**

Goliad Lodge #94, the oldest Masonic Lodge in continuous use in the state of Texas, dedicated in 1854. This lodge is recorded as a Texas Historical Landmark. On May 6, 2010 our Brother Bil Montague received his 25 year award in his new home lodge. Yes, the Worshipful Masters in Goliad wears a cowboy hat. Congratulation on Brother Bil receiving his service award but also for getting active in his local lodge.



Don Angell    Bil Montague    Louie Kramer    Glen Mize  
Master        Sr. Deacon        DDGM        Secretary



Our Brother Wayne Stalnaker received his 50 year pin from his son, Mark. Brother Mark Stalnaker is the current Senior Warden of Columbia Lodge #58 in Frederick Md.

Although some of our brethren no longer live in our area we still want to hear from you. Please send us your stories and pictures for our Sprig of Acacia newsletter.

---

### **What is meant by 'Travel In Foreign Countries?'**

Our ancient operative Brethren desired to become Masters so, when they travelled in foreign countries, they could still practice their craft.

Speculative Freemasons still desire to "travel in foreign countries" and study their Craft that they may receive such instruction as will enable them to do so, and when so travelling, to receive a Master's Wages.

But the "foreign countries" do not mean to us the various geographical and political divisions of the Old World, nor do we use the Word we learn as a means of identification to enable us to build material temples and receive coin of the realm for our labor. "Foreign countries" is to us a symbol.

Like all the rest of the symbols, it has more than one interpretation, but unlike many, none of these is very difficult to trace or understand.

Freemasonry itself is the first "foreign country" in which the initiate will travel; a world as different from the familiar workaday world as France is different from England, or Belgium from Greece. ... Surely such a land is a "foreign country" to the stranger within its borders; and the visitor must study it, learn its language and its customs, if he is to enjoy it and profit thereby. ...

Freemasonry has many "foreign countries" within it, and he is the wise and happy Freemason who works patiently at the pleasant task of visiting and studying them. There are the Masonic "foreign countries" of philosophy, of jurisprudence, of history. No Freemason is really worthy of the name who does not understand something of how his new domain is governed, of what it stands for, and why. And, too, there is the "foreign" country of Symbolism, of which so much has already been said.

As a Master Mason, a man has the right to travel in all the "foreign countries" of Freemasonry. If he will but learn the work and keep himself in good standing, he may visit where he will. But it is not within the doors of other Lodges than his own that he will find the guide posts of those truly Masonic "foreign countries" to which he has been given the passport by his Brethren. He will find the gateways to those lands in the library, in the study club, in books and magazines, and, most and best of all, in the quiet hour alone, when what he has read and learned comes back to him to be pondered over and thought through.

The "foreign country" of Masonic symbolism has engaged the thoughtful and serious consideration of hundreds of able Masonic students, as has that of the history of our Order. Not to visit them both; aye, not to make oneself a citizen of them both, is to refuse the privileges one has sought and labored to obtain. One asks for a petition, requests one's friend to take it to his Lodge, knocks on the door, takes obligations, works to

learn, and finally receives the Master's Degree. One receives it, works for it...why? That one may travel in far lands and receive the reward there awaiting. ...

Then why hesitate? Why wait? Why put off? Why allow others to pass on and gain, while one stands, the gate open, the new land beckoning, and all the Masonic world to see?

That is the symbolism of the "foreign countries" ... that is the meaning of the phrase which once meant, to Operative Masons, exactly what it says. To the Freemason today who reads it aright it is a clarion call to action, to study, to an earnest pressing forward on the new highway. ...

And at the end of the journey, when the last "foreign country" of Freemasonry has been travelled and learned and loved, you shall come to a new gate, above which there is a new name written ... and when you have read it you will know the True Word of a Master Mason.

- Excerpts from "Foreign Countries" by Carl H. Claudy

---

### **From the West**



Brethren,

This has been a very active and enjoyable six months. We have had the pleasure to confer the Entered Apprentice Degree and two father and sons and have held a Table Lodge that was attended by over forty Masons in just the past two months.

As you can see from the Worshipful Master's article the next six months are just as active. Please check your schedule and try to attend our scheduled activities. This is your lodge and we have developed a schedule that has a diversity of interests.

We are already planning for the 2010/2011 Masonic Year. On July 16<sup>th</sup> the Deputy Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother Bradford A. Goebel will be at the Lyndhurst Masonic Center to talk about what is planned for next year.

Fraternally,

Bro. Mark Novak

---

### **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.

---

**Masonic Study – is life changing, and it lasts a lifetime!**

---

## 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](mailto: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

## TRESTLE-BOARD

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

- July 17 Summer Family Picnic at Pioneer  
Waterland, Water Park, Chardon, OH
- August 14 Acacia Golf Outing at Green Ridge Golf  
Course.
- September 10 Stated Meeting – FC Degree – Past  
Masters Night – Hot Dog Dinner
- September 24 Stated Meeting
- October 8 Stated Meeting
- October 9 Possible Trip to PA Lodge
- October 10 Clam Bake
- October 15 – 16 Grand Lodge Communication – Dayton
- October 22 Stated Meeting – Chili Cook-off

## Special Dates:

- July 4 Independence Day
- Sept. 6 Labor Day
- Sept 9 Rosh Hashanah
- Sept. 18 Yom Kippur

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



## **In Memorium**

<b>Brother</b>	<b>Passed</b>
Brother George J. Harsch	06-14-2010
Brother Jack Funk	02-26-2010
Brother William Arndt Jr.	04-10-2010
Brother Gail R. Dearth	03-22-2010

*They rest from their labors.*

## Newsletter Editor and Information

**Editor:** James R. Cogan – 440-257-6964

**Email:** [coganj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:coganj@sbcglobal.net)

**Lodge Website:** [www.acacia651.org](http://www.acacia651.org)

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

From time to time we lose track of our brethren and I  
cannot find a current address for the below brothers:

Brother Eric Satz  
Brother Michael Hope  
Brother William Jones  
Brother Charles Lantz

If you know how to reach these brethren please call the  
Lodge Secretary, 440-257-6964 or email him at  
[coganj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:coganj@sbcglobal.net).

## From the South



Brethren,

I too would like to state that our year is  
going splendidly. We are very busy in  
Lodge, at work and at home, but it beats the  
alternative.

I have to complement our Worshipful Master for  
putting together a great year that has activities that  
are Masonic and Family oriented. We want to find  
a balance to meet the needs of all members of  
Acacia Lodge.

Our lodge is dark during July and August but we  
still have two events planned. Our Family Picnic  
and the Annual Golf and Lunch will be held in July  
and August respectively.

September we will start off with our degree work. We currently have five brethren who are working on their degrees so we will have a full schedule with degrees and family programs.

I will end this short article with our sincere hope that you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Fraternally,  
Ted Daly,  
Junior Warden

---

**From the Lecture Team Director:**

My Brethren,

The other day I participated in the conferral of the EA degree on a 21 year old candidate and at the conclusion of the lecture I was emotional to the degree that it almost brought tears to my eyes. There were about 25 of your Lodge Brothers who did their best to teach the lessons of the first degree to this new brother and set him on a path of a new, more spiritual way of life. The age spread of the lecture participants ranged from their 30's to mid 90's and each knew their part by heart. As I conducted this young brother thru the lecture, I witnessed each giving their part with sincere expression. The candidate never took his eyes off of the lecturer and I knew he also was impressed. If you were unable to attend you missed good work that is being done.

It is like going to a Broadway play all you need is a ticket for this event and yours is in your wallet, your dues card.

In my travels, I find this quality of work uncommon. Unfortunately, some lodges are not getting the cooperation from their members that Acacia Lodge is receiving.

If you read our newsletter you have to be impressed by the quality alone and the events that are being offered to us further should arouse your interest. The refreshments and fellowship are unequalled.

For years I've advocated a calling committee to check up on the health of our brothers, but the officers are so occupied with work and family chores that we must rely on our newsletter. How about if we reverse this idea and you members who are at home, give us a call and let us know how your life is going. Also, should you need a ride, Call.

Fraternally Yours,  
W.B. Tom Daly, Jr.  
Lecture Director

---

Old Master's Wages



I met a dear old man today  
Who wore a masonic pin  
It was old and faded like the man,  
It's edges were worn and thin.

I approached the park bench where he sat,  
To give the old brother his due  
I said "I see you've traveled east",  
He said, "I have, have you??"

I said, I have and in my day  
Before the all seeing sun  
I played in the rubble  
With jubala, jubilo, and jubalum.

He said don't laugh at the work my son  
It's good and sweet and true.....  
And if you've traveled as you said  
You should give these things their due.

The work, the sign, the token,  
The sweet masonic prayer.  
The vow that you have taken  
You have climbed the inner stair.

The wages of a mason are never paid in gold  
But the gain comes from contentment  
When you're weak and growing old.

You see, I've carried my obligations  
For almost 50 years  
It has helped me through the hardships  
And the failures full of tears...

Now i'm losing my mind and body?  
Death is near, but I don't despair  
I've lived my life upon the level  
And I'm dying on the square.

Sometimes the greatest lessons  
Are those that are learned anew  
And the old man in the park today  
Has changed my point of view.

To all my masonic brothers  
The only secret is to care  
May you live upon the level  
And depart upon the square.

**Reservation Form  
Summer Family Picnic**

Date: July 17, 2010  
Time: 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Lunch: 12:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Location: Pioneer Water Park in Chardon, Oh  
Cost: \$8.00 per person (over 40" in height)

Come celebrate the summer with friends, family and lodge brothers. There will be good food, water events 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 payable to "Acacia Lodge #651" with "Lodge Picnic" in the memo section.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservation Form  
Golf Outing 2010**

Date: August 14, 2010  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Location: **Green Ridge Golf Course, 29150 Ridge Road, Wickliffe, OH**  
Cost: \$17.50 per person (fee's, golf cart and refreshments)

After the golf outing, around 12 noon, a cookout will be held at Green Ridge Golf Course. **Anyone can come to the cookout at no cost.**

Please make your reservations as soon as possible.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

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

James R. Cogan  
6130 Thistlewood Drive  
Mentor OH 44060

