

The Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio

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Grand Secretary's Newsletter

June 6, 2014

Lodge Annual Returns— Notify Grand Lodge!

IMPORTANT—PLEASE READ!

When you have completed your final membership updates in MORI for the year, send an email to Gayle Kozak at the Grand Lodge Office (gkozak@freemason.com) letting her know your name and Lodge number and that you are ready for your Annual Return to be processed.

NOTIFY THE GRAND LODGE OFFICE NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1st.

When you have notified us that your updates for the year are complete, your Annual Return will be printed and sent to you along with the amount owed by the Lodge. When we receive the Lodge's check, we will mail a report of your Lodge members eligible for a 25, 35, or 40 year award. Also, a 50, 60, 65, 70, 75, and 80 year award order form will be sent to the Lodge. Lastly, your 2014 dues cards will be mailed in this package.

The Lodge's check (not a personal check) must be received prior to August 31, 2014.

If the check is not received by this date, then the Worshipful Master or his Proxy **will not** receive mileage and per diem for attending Grand Lodge in October. This check must be separate from any other Lodge check coming into Grand Lodge, such as donations to the Charitable Foundation, Scholarship Foundation, or Endowed Membership, etc.

Annual Grand Lodge Communication—2014

Information concerning events, meals, and lodging for the 205th Grand Lodge Communication to be held in Sharonville (Cincinnati), Ohio on October 17 & 18, 2014 was sent to each Lodge in May. Please share this information with your Lodge delegates as soon as possible. Don't wait until your September stated meeting to get this information to them. Make your reservations now to attend our Annual Communication!

Proxies and Call Items will be mailed in a few more months.

You can also register online at: www.annualcommunication.com

Charitable Foundation News

Since its inception in 1995, the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation has approved over 375 charitable grants totaling over a half million dollars.

To enable the foundation to continue to assist with an increasing number of requests for aid and assistance, contributions from individuals and Lodges are needed. Only the income from the Foundation's endowment may be used to finance such grants.

As a reminder, to recommend an individual for possible assistance, a Lodge must present the written definition of the need to the DDGM. He will then present the need to the Charitable Foundation.

Suggestions for Searching for Deceased Members

Here are a few suggestions when trying to determine if a member is deceased:

- www.tributes.com This is an online obituary search. Simply enter the first and last names and the city.
- Perform a browser search, such as Google, for: name/city/obit For example, Mike Watson/Troy, Ohio/Obituary
- www.genealogybank.com/gbnk/ssdi This will take you to a formatted screen of the Social Security Death Index. Enter the Last Name, First Name, and birthdate of the member.

Deputy Grand Master's Programs

The Deputy Grand Master's rollout programs are designed to attract the leaders of the Lodges in Ohio. The Deputy Grand Master is requiring attendance by all current Wardens and Deacons. LEOs are also requested to attend. The meetings are open to any Mason who wants to attend.

While a planned program will be presented, these sessions are to allow the Deputy Grand Master to hear of your concerns as well as the Lodges to hear of his planning and expectations for the next Masonic year.

Brethren are highly encouraged to bring their spouses to the meeting. The Deputy Grand Master's wife will share her charity and her plans for next year.

Dress for the programs will be business casual. Please take a few hours to learn the programs that will help your Lodge become more proficient in the programs and promotion of Ohio Freemasonry. The rollouts will be an open forum gathering—a tiled meeting will not be opened.

Rollout programs will be held in each of the 25 Masonic Districts. For a complete schedule please visit the Grand Lodge website: www.freemason.com.

Reminder: Special Olympics-June 27th

The opening ceremonies for the Summer Games of the Ohio Special Olympics will be Friday, June 27, 2014, 6:00 P.M. at The Jesse Owens Sports Complex on the campus of The Ohio State University in Columbus. Masons in aprons will lead off the parade at the opening ceremonies.

Traditional dress has been black (dark) trousers with short sleeve white shirts. Remember to bring your apron!

Hats and pins will be offered to registered Masons. Refreshments will be provided by Grotto following the presentation.

Deaths Reported Since our Last Issue

Lemuel O. Teague, PDDGM 1st District; Superior Lodge #179; passed 3/10/2014

Richard E. Saltzwedel, PDDGM 18th District; Secretary, Masterton Lodge #429; passed 4/25/2014

John A. Weyrauch III, Secretary; Far Hills Lodge #784; passed 5/8/2014

Lodge Mergers Since Grand Lodge

Since our Annual Grand Lodge Communication in 2013 there has been 1 Lodge merger:

- Colerain Lodge #759 merged into Western Hills Cheviot Lodge #140, the surviving Lodge, on December 3, 2013.

As of this date we have 497 Ohio Lodges.

Two Lodges Operating Under Dispensation

Grand Master Mick, during his term, has issued two Dispensations for new Lodges. Alembic Lodge UD is operating in the 1st Masonic District, and Morning Star UD is operating in the 9th Masonic District on the campus of the Springfield Masonic Community.

Both of these Lodges are working to receive their charters in October.

Current Email Address for Lodge Secretaries Imperative

In order to reduce printing and postage costs, we will be more and more utilizing email in which to communicate with Lodge Secretaries. Next year presents a goal to get as near a “paperless” environment as possible. With this emphasis on technology, it becomes imperative that we have the current, correct email address of our Lodge Secretary and Worshipful Master.

Please check the beige colored 2013—2014 *Masonic Directory* which lists the Worshipful Master and Secretary of every Ohio Lodge to see that we have your current correct email address.

There are times when I will send a broadcast message to all Lodge Secretaries informing you of something that has come up. This is a quick, efficient and easy way to get timely information to the Lodge Secretaries.

Property Tax Update

Good news! The process created by the Grand Lodge of Ohio to assist lodges and temple companies with their property tax exemption has been successful. Several have received confirmation from the Ohio Department of Taxation. Additionally, ODT staff members have assisted any applicant whose application was missing documentation. If your lodge or temple company has not yet filed their application or if you have questions, please contact Chad Simpson, csimpson@freemason.com.

National Masonic Symposium

The Masonic Restoration Foundation will be held in Cincinnati on August 15—17. Masons from around the country will share information regarding how they successfully restored a worthwhile Masonic experience in their lodges. All Ohio Master Masons are

encouraged to attend. For more information, visit www.mrfsymposium.org.

Table Lodges

Lodges are encouraged to give thought to conducting a Table Lodge. This presents a fine opportunity for the Lodge to enjoy fellowship, a meal, and traditional toasts of Masonic observance.

A Table Lodge is a Special Meeting called for that purpose. It is a tiled meeting on the Entered Apprentice Degree. A Table Lodge meeting cannot take the place of a Stated Meeting.

Since a Table Lodge is most generally held in a room or location other than in the dedicated Lodge room, a Dispensation is required.

For more information on a Table Lodge, please refer to the Ceremonies section of the *Grand Lodge Code*.

Prepayment of Lodge Supply Orders

It is nice and certainly thoughtful that the Lodge Secretary will send a check as payment when ordering supplies from the Grand Lodge Office. However, with many of our orders, especially larger orders, the shipping costs vary and are unknown until the order is actually filled and shipped to you.

Therefore, please pay from the invoice which is sent accompanying your filled order and not at the time you place your order. Thank you!

85-Year Award

Rarely does the Grand Lodge get the opportunity to recognize our members with an 85-year service award. On December 8, 2013, Grand Master Mick presented Brother Richard M. Frederick, a resident of Bucyrus and a member of Carey Lodge #420, with his 85-year award. Brother Frederick passed on

March 22, 2014. He was born on August 19, 1907 and would have been 107 this August. Can you possibly imagine the amount of change Brother Frederick personally experienced during his lifetime? Despite all the phenomenal amount of change in our world over the past 100+ years, isn't it encouraging to know that the time-honored values of our fraternity have remained constant and unchanged; Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

**From MSA: Disaster Relief Appeal for
The Grand Lodge of Serbia**

The Masonic Service Association (MSA) has established a Disaster Relief Fund for The Regular Grand Lodge of Serbia, with all donations to be transferred directly to the Grand Lodge of Serbia for distribution to those in need.

Torrential rains and massive flooding have caused thousands of families to be evacuated from homes in Serbia and surrounding regions. News reports say that the equivalent of three months of rainfall occurred in three days, creating the worst floods since records began being kept 120 years ago.

With the approval of the Regular Grand Lodge of Serbia, the Masonic Service Association is issuing a disaster appeal for assistance.

Please forward to the MSA such funds as you feel appropriate to help our devastated Brothers and their families in this stricken jurisdiction. Please make checks payable to MSA Disaster Relief Fund and send to: Masonic Service Association of North America, 3905 National Drive, Suite 280, Burtonsville, MD 20866.

Unpaid Invoice Reminder!

Don't forget, open, unpaid invoices to Grand Lodge must be paid before your 2015 dues cards will be mailed!

**Quote From Brother Roosevelt
Remembered**

One of my favorite motivational quotes is from Brother Theodore Roosevelt:

It is not the critic who counts; not the many who point out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes up short again and again, because there is not effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat. - "Man in the Arena" Speech, April 23, 1910

*Have a great, safe, and enjoyable
Summer!*