

The Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio

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GRAND SECRETARY



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Grand Secretary's Newsletter

November 27, 2013

Enclosed Documents

Also included in this mailing are:

1. Memo 2013 of Code Changes—3 copies
2. Order form for obtaining items from the Grand Lodge
3. Grand Master's Edicts for the April 5, 2014 Grand Master's Class

Memo Describes Code Changes

Legislation approved by delegates at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in October has resulted in changes to the Grand Lodge Code.

So Codes can be updated, three copies of the "Memo 2013" are enclosed with this mailing for the Lodge Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens. Additional copies may be purchased from the Grand Lodge Office.

Revised Grand Lodge Order Form

Enclosed is a revised order form for your use when ordering supplies from Grand Lodge. Please discard all previous versions of this order form.

Edicts for 4/5/14 Grand Master's Class

Enclosed are the Grand Master's Edicts for the April 5, 2014 Grand Master's Class. The first Edict permits 18-year olds' to petition for the Class as long as they are 19 on or before April 5th. The second Edict permits Class petitions to be read at a Stated or Special Meeting.

Submit Your Lodge Election Results!

A number of Lodges have not entered their 2014 Lodge Officers in MORI. Please make the update entries for your Lodge election results in MORI. Note: When you enter the year, it is **2014** and not 2013.

In the event the Lodge elects a new Secretary for 2014, the current, i.e. 2013 Lodge Secretary, must make this entry to MORI.

We publish and distribute the annual Grand Lodge of Ohio Masonic Directory from this information you enter into MORI. The sooner you enter this information, the sooner we can get the 2014 Directory created and mailed to you. Please ensure the contact information is correct, including the email address.

For information and instructions on how to make this entry, please refer to page 7 in the Secretary's Manual.

Grand Lodge Mileage & Per Diem Checks

Mileage and per diem checks were recently mailed to the address of the Lodge Secretary. If you did not receive a check it could have been for two different reasons. If the Grand Lodge Office did not receive your annual per capita payment before the deadline of August 31st (Grand Lodge Code, Chapter 7 - Annual Return) then no check was mailed.

Or, while attending the annual Grand Lodge Communication, if the Lodge's representative did not drop his Friday or his Saturday pay slip into one of the collection boxes, the Lodge will not receive payment. An-

nouncements are made during the Communication reminding the delegates how important it is for them to deposit these slips, one on Friday and one on Saturday, into one of the red boxes located at the main entrances to the Lodge room. These pay slips are the only physical evidence we have that the Lodge was truly represented in the session.

Every year we receive calls from Lodges who were present but didn't deposit their pay slips. We can't issue a check without this slip. This is so important to the Lodge in receiving your expense check.

Please save this information and remind your Lodge representative attending next year's Communication to please deposit his pay slips in the collection box. (Note: he receives his slips at the time he registers.)

Endowed Membership Fund Distribution

Endowed Membership distribution was calculated in July by the Grand Lodge Investment Committee. The distribution amounts were then communicated as soon as possible. This is so your Lodge will have more lead time in preparing budgets for the ensuing year and knowing in advance what kind of revenues to expect.

This earlier notification of Endowed Membership distribution has been adopted as policy going forward. So, in future years, you will have this information much earlier than in past years.

Note to NEW Lodge Secretaries:

- Don't forget to create a MORI account in MORI!
- Reference the Lodge Secretary's Manual from our website
- Add your Assistant Secretaries (if needed)

Lodge Forms on the Grand Lodge Website

At the bottom of the home page on www.freemason.com you will see *RESOURCES* and *DOCUMENT LIBRARY*. Select *DOCUMENT LIBRARY* as this is where all the Grand Lodge Forms are located. Note the *Lodge Secretary's Manual*. You might find this a most helpful reference manual for processing Lodge membership related tasks and the companion step-by-step processes for performing those appropriate tasks in MORI.

2014 Inspection Forms can also be found here.

Service Award Policy

When MORI prints your Service Award Eligibility form it lists all members of your Lodge who are eligible for their award regardless if he is a Plural or Primary member.

An individual should only receive his Service Award one time, and that should be from his Primary, home Lodge. He should not receive a Service Award from his Plural Lodges where he holds membership.

When receiving your order form, the Grand Lodge Office has no way of knowing if the named recipient is a Primary or Plural member of your Lodge. Only you, the Lodge Secretary, knows your Plural Members.

When submitting your Service Award Order Form mark-out or do not order a certificate and pin for your Plural members. Only order for your Primary members.

Service Awards: 25, 35, and 40 Year Pins

Like the traditional 25-year pin, the 35 and 40-year pins, made available for the first time four years ago, are in stock. These 35 and 40-year service awards are available for your purchase at a price of \$5.00 each.

Grand Master's Receptions in Florida

Grand Master Mick has planned four visitations in Florida during the month of January. The visitation schedule is:

- Sunday, January 19, 2014—West Palm Beach, luncheon at 1:00 p.m. at Amara Shrine. \$6.00 each.
- Monday, January 20, 2014—Sarasota, luncheon at noon at Peridia Golf & Country Club. \$6.00 each
- Tuesday, January 21, 2014— Ft. Myers, luncheon at noon at Araba Shrine Center. \$6.00 each
- Wednesday, January 22, 2014—Tavares, luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at Lake County Shrine Club. \$6.00 each.

Reservations for each location will be handled through the Ohio Masonic Home. Call **Cathy Spencer** toll free 1.888.248.2664. "Write-ins" or "walk-ins" will not be accepted; a phone call to Cathy is the only way to make your reservation, please.

Please notify the Grand Secretary's Office if you would like to have the Grand Master present a Service Award to one of your deserving members attending one of these receptions.

Grand Secretary and Ohio Masonic Home to Conduct Regional Meetings.

The Grand Secretary's Office and the Ohio Masonic Home will be making Regional stops to meet with you, our Lodge Secretaries. All meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m. and end by 9:00 p.m.

The schedule is:

Tuesday, January 7, 2014—Middletown Masonic Temple, Middletown, Ohio

Thursday, January 9, 2014—Delaware Masonic Temple, Delaware, Ohio

Monday, January 27, 2014—Findlay Masonic Temple, Findlay, Ohio

(Regional Meetings Continued)

Wednesday, February 5, 2014—

Marietta Masonic Temple, Marietta, Ohio

The Grand Secretary's Office will field questions on the property tax exemptions or MORI-related questions.

Brother Tom Stofac, OMH CEO and Mrs. Cathy Wigton, OMH Foundation President, will give brief presentations to update on where OMH is and how it is proceeding this year to make your Ohio Masonic Home your largest expression of Ohio Free Masonry Service and Philanthropy.

Brother Stofac will share details about the Ohio Masonic Home's focus as an Aging Services Provider. Efforts are to serve the greatest amount of Brethren and their families possible through the **new** OMH Aging Resource Call Center, and offering benefits for all Masons through the **OMH Life Compass Program**. Additionally, OMH is forming partnerships with other providers of housing and healthcare to accommodate the needs of the Fraternity that exceed what OMH can meet alone.

Cathy Wigton will share news on the most challenging issue that OMH faces today.

The OMH Foundation has kicked off an annual giving campaign. You will receive information on how Ohio Masons can be involved in the giving program along with changes to the donor recognition levels from past years.

The list of Lodge Secretary Supplies that the Foundation provides has been refreshed. At this meeting lodge secretary supplies will be available for you to take free of charge. The supplies available include; placemats, dues card holders, envelopes, and apron cases.

Masonic Service Association Moves To New Location

The Masonic Service Association (MSA) has moved from its longtime location of Silver Springs, Maryland to:

3905 National Drive—Suite 280
Burtonsville, MD 20866

New telephone numbers are 301.476.7330
Fax: 301.476.9440
Toll Free: 855.476.4010
New email address: msaoffice@msana.com
Please adjust your records with this new information.

Deaths Reported Since the Last Issue

Please remember to notify the Grand Secretary's Office when a PDDGM, a longtime Lodge Secretary, current sitting Worshipful Master, DEO, etc. passes away. This information will not only be reported to you in an upcoming Newsletter, but it will become part of the Grand Lodge Necrology Report for the year.

Fifteen deaths were reported to our office since the last issue.

- David G. Balderson, PDEO 15th District; Palestine Lodge #158; passed 7/26/2013
- Ralph L. Lee, PDDGM 15th District; LaRue Lodge #463; passed 8/30/2013
- Frank Shumway, Jr., PDEO 17th District; Paramuthia Lodge #25; passed 7/19/2013
- George Djelic, Master; Cortland Lodge #529; passed 7/29/2013
- Robert W. Cubbison, PDDGM 22nd District; Theodore Breck Lodge #714; passed 9/23/2013
- H. Ray Evans, PGM, Queen City Lodge #559; passed 9/28/2013
- Kenneth L. Sparks, Secretary, New England Lodge #4; passed 9/28/2013

(Deaths cont'd.)

- Michael Loomis, Secretary, Quarry Lodge #382; passed 10/1/2013
- Del E. Jones, Master, Allen Lodge #276; passed 10/2/2013
- Roy E. Mollenkopf, PDDGM 15th District; Marion Lodge #70; passed 10/12/2013
- Robert A. Pappenfuss, Past long time Secretary, Barton Smith Lodge #613; passed 10/12/2013
- Wilbur B. Smith, PDDGM 22nd District; Theodore Breck Lodge #714; passed 11/9/2014
- Bruce D. Basil, PGC Knights Templar; Findlay Lodge #227; passed 11/10/2013
- Maurice J. Edgington, Jr., PDDGM 11th District; Damascus-Collingwood #643; passed 11/11/13
- Dennen Leach, Past Secretary; Luther B. Turner Lodge #732; passed 11/15/13

Words of the Day

"Perfection is the aim of operative Masonry. Happiness is the aim of speculative Masonry." - William Preston

Puns Intended...

I went to a seafood disco last week ... and pulled a mussel.

Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were a bit cold, so they lit a fire in the craft. It sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

Season's Greetings!

From the Grand Secretary and everyone on staff at the Grand Lodge Office, we wish you a happy holiday season. Our wish for a wonderful holiday season goes out to each of you and your families.

Please pause and give thanks for those manifold blessings and comforts which we all enjoy. Especially keep in your thoughts and prayers those men and women who serve in our communities to keep us safe and those gallant warriors who serve to protect our way of life and bring peace to those who live in troubled environments.

Happy New Year to all and may 2014 be a great year for Ohio Freemasonry.

Grand Lodge Offices Closed

The Grand Lodge Office will close on December 24—25 and December 31—January 1 for the holiday observance.

*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!*

