



Alpha Lodge Newsletter

May and June

2014

2251 S. Smithville Rd.
 P. O. Box 20191
 Kettering, Ohio 45420
 Phone: 937-312-7315
 Web site: alpha729.com



From the East

Brethren-

Our Inspection was held on April 7th, and our Lodge received a favorable report on our ritual work, Lodge education program, Lodge operations and Lodge activities. We had a large turnout of Alpha Brothers and guests, making it a memorable evening for our candidate, Anthony Williams. My thanks to all who helped contribute to the evening's success, especially Bros Matt McFarland, Russ Oliver, Gary Shifflett, and Stan Brookins. (It's not for nothing that Stan is known as "Mr. Music")

As we move into the spring, there are many things to do before we 'go dark'. May will feature our annual Table Lodge (May 19th), Ladies Night (May 21st), and Memorial Night (May 26th). These activities will give us the opportunity for fellowship and also to honor our deceased Brothers. In June, we will have a meeting with the typewritten ritual and an ice cream social on our final meeting night (June 23rd), which is also 'vacation shirt night'. As always, there are Friday 'seniors' and game nights on the last Friday of the month. Plan to be a part of the activities of your Lodge- we have many interesting, diverse, and knowledgeable Brothers who have a lot to share.

On a personal note- I want to thank all the Brethren who have made my surgical recovery a bit more "bearable". Your kindness, humor (?), and friendship have made a trying time better.

Let's make May and June a great time in Alpha Lodge.

Bob Karl WM

Trestle Board

May	1	Seniors	9-11AM
May	2	Breakfast	7-10AM
May	5	Special Meeting Typewritten Ritual	7PM
May	8	Seniors	9-11AM
May	12	Stated Meeting	7PM
May	15	Seniors	9-11AM
May	19	Table Lodge See Article	6PM
May	21	Ladies Night See Article	
May	22	Seniors	9-11AM
May	26	Stated Meeting	7PM
May	30	Seniors	9-11AM
June	2		
June	5	Seniors	9-11AM
June	6	Breakfast	7-10AM
June	9	Stated Meeting	7PM
June	12	Seniors	9-11AM
June	16	No Meeting	
June	19	Seniors	9-11AM
June	23	Stated Meeting	7PM
June	26	Seniors	9-11AM
June	30	No Meeting	
July	3	Seniors	9-11AM

Memorial Night

May 26th is Memorial Night break out your white lamb skin apron and come on down to Lodge. As part of the meeting the Memorial Service will be performed. Lodge starts at 7PM.

Table Lodge

The Lodge will hold a Table Lodge on May 19th at 6PM. The cost of the dinner will be \$10. You may call reservations into the Secretary at 312-7315. The cutoff date for reservations will be Friday May 15th. As of this date the program for the evening has not been finalized. If you call the Master at 937-287-3087 he should be able to supply this information. It is a Lodge Meeting so please come properly attired.

Ladies Night

Ladies Night will be at Jimmie's Ladder Eleven on May 21st, the time 6:30PM. We will be ordering off the menu therefore, the cost will be contingent upon what you order. Alf Butler is taking the reservations and he can be reached at 271-8145. Deadline should be Sunday, May 17th.

Grim Reaper Report

Brother William N. Conard passed away on March 28th, and Brother Raymond M. Zolman passed away on April 9th. Please remember these brothers' families at this time of their bereavement and may they hear those welcome words 'well done good and faithful servant thy task well done, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord'.

No Lodge Breakfast

We will not have our monthly breakfast in July as that Saturday falls on the holiday July 4th. We will be serving breakfast in August as well as September. All are welcome with the meal starting at 7AM until 10AM. There is no charge only a donation with the proceeds going to operate the building. As our building gets older the maintenance becomes more frequent and the cost of repairs becomes more. The monthly breakfast helps offset some of this and at the same time camaraderie increases among us. We are always looking for help and we won't turn you down. We would like to have two shifts, the early group who set up and cook at around 5AM and a group who comes in about 8:30AM to help clean up. If interested call the Secretary at 312-7315.

Dues Increase

At the Stated Meeting on March 24th the Lodge approved a \$5 dues increase raising our dues from \$75 to \$80 per year affective with the 2016 dues.

Candidate Fees

On the same date, March 24th the Lodge voted to approve raising the candidate fees from \$150 to \$250 effective immediately. All old petitions should be destroyed as they are outdated. If you want a new petition please call the Secretary or go on the Alpha Lodge web site. That address is at the top of the Newsletter. These fees have never been changed since 1950 and it was felt that we were not even breaking even with the cost of raising a candidate. Along with this increase the candidate will receive a better apron, a personal Bible, and a set of working tools. The fees must be paid in full when the petition is submitted or it may be paid in installments as the degrees are received as follows: Entered Apprentice Degree \$110 (\$20 of which goes to the Ohio Masonic Home), \$75 for the Fellow Craft Degree, and \$65 for the Master Mason Degree (\$5 going to the George Washington Memorial).

During the Summer

As most of you know the Lodge will be closed during July and August and will re-open in September.

During the summer we will be having a picnic for all to attend, wife and family. Please check the web site for date, time and location.

Alpha operates the 2nd District's Food Booth at the open House at the Ohio Masonic Home on Sunday June 7th. If you are interested in helping call the Secretary. This is a picnic atmosphere with entertainment for the kids, music, and a Shrine Parade with all types of food booths at reasonable prices.

A group of us meet every Friday from 8AM until 11AM at the Lodge for coffee and doughnuts and to swap lies. Usually there are somewhere between 10 and 14 of us, all are welcome to attend. A doughnut costs you a \$1 and the coffee is free, and is all you can drink.