



# Alpha Lodge Newsletter

## April 2007

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### FROM THE EAST

Brethren, by the time you read this, two major Alpha Lodge events will have already taken place: our **Annual Inspection**, attended by the Grand Master, on March 20<sup>th</sup> and the **Grand Master's One-Day Class** (March 31), during which Alpha Lodge acquired more than a dozen new members. We are encouraging these new members to return to Lodge to get their dues cards and for further instruction about the Degrees that they have received. Brethren, please take the time to extend the hand of brotherhood to these new members and to answer their questions about Freemasonry.

Our Secretary recently looked at the retention rate for Masons made in Alpha Lodge in One-Day Classes, and he was sad to find out that only ~63% remained active Masons. He then reviewed the retention rate for Masons made in Alpha Lodge the "regular way," and found that the retention rate was actually about 1% less than that of the "One-Day-Classers." Reports at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge show that this is a typical finding throughout the state. There seems to be no significant difference in retention of members irrespective of whether a Mason joins through a One-Day Class or the "regular way," but we DO have a SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM WITH RETENTION that applies to BOTH methods of entry. It would appear that it isn't how the degrees are scheduled or run that makes the difference. It's how the candidate is received and treated by his Brethren and how quickly he is actively incorporated into the life of the Lodge that seems to make the difference. That's why it is so essential that you meet, greet, and interact with these new Brothers. Show an interest in them and their families. Find out what

they like to do. Find out what they hope to get out of the Lodge.

This year the ladies of Alpha Lodge helped in preparation of the refreshments at Inspection. It was good to see the revival of participation of our ladies in Lodge functions. In years past the ladies played a very important supportive role in Lodge social functions and charitable activities. It is my understanding the ladies are in the process of developing a ladies' program and establishing a regular meeting schedule. If your lady has any interest in this program, I'm sure she would be eagerly welcomed by the group. She can call my lady, Shirley Nicholson, at 434-8507 or Willa Jean Smalley or June Livesay.

Speaking of ladies, don't forget **LADIES' NIGHT** on 4/21. The entrée is delicious "chicken supreme" and the entertainment is "The Beaver Creek Strummers." **BROTHERS AND FRIENDS NIGHT** will take place on May 1. This will be an area of emphasis which will provide an opportunity to educate the community about Freemasonry. It will be advertised in the Neighborhood Section of the DDN in hopes of increasing community attendance and off-setting the drop-off in petitions that is often present for several months following a One-Day Class.

### Ladies Night

Saturday April 21st is the Annual Ladies Night here at the Lodge. Dinner will be served at 6PM followed by entertainment, "The Beaver Creek Strummers". As always the ladies meal will be free and the cost of the man's meal will be \$7. Oh course, reservations are required so we know how much food to prepare. The Junior Warden, Arnold Grubb will be glad to take your requests by calling him at 266-7881 or seeing him for tickets at the Lodge.

## **Alpha Lodge**

### **Officers and Committee Contacts**

434-8507 Gary Nicholson .....Wor. Master  
293-1404 Russell Oliver.....Secretary  
754-1090 Roy Livesay Jr. ....Treasurer  
902-0488 Lawrence Richardson Sr. Warden  
266-7881 Arnold D. Grubb .....Jr. Warden  
294-4840 Alfred C. Butler ..... Chaplain  
432-0265 Daniel Sullivan .....Sr. Deacon  
253-6266 Kent Lyon..... Jr. Deacon  
643-1852 Joseph D. Zeek . . . .Sr. Steward  
435-9823 Antoine Banna.....Jr. Steward  
241-6338 "Bubba" Robinson.... .. Marshall  
433-2928 Jerry Jamieson.....Tyler  
433-5449 Edgar Wightman.....LEO  
865-0810 Douglas N Kaylor.....Trustee  
253-2549 Jude Madden.....Trustee  
426-6622 Howard Bailey.....Trustee

### **Memorial Services**

754-1090 Roy Livesay Jr.

### **Blood Bank**

233-9991 Dwight Morgan

### **Kettering Masonic Center**

294-2588 Gene Skinner President  
426-6622 Howard Bailey Vice-President  
293-1404 Russ Oliver Secretary

### **729 Craft Club**

254-0226 Ted West  
252-4741 Dick Massie

### **Good Cheer and Welfare**

434-8507 Gary Nicholson Master

### **Instruction**

293-1404 Russ Oliver (EA)  
252-4741 Dick Massie (FC)  
372-1586 Bill Whitaker (MM)

### **Investigation**

848-4502 William Bretscher

### **Widows**

433-3832 James St John

### **Grim Reaper Report**

Once again another one of our members has passed as we go to the printer. Brother Ralph Ullery passed away on February 15th. May he hear those welcome words well done good and faithful servant thy task well done enter thou into the joy of our Lord. Brother Ullery was one of our charter members there being only 11 more left.

### **One Day Class**

The Lodge registered 11-12 candidates for the 2007 Grand Master's Class. A program of instruction and education has been scheduled for April 10th at the Stated Meeting on that date. They will receive their dues cards as well as other information at that time.

## **Threstleboard**

April 1-7 HOLY WEEK

April 6	Seniors	9-11AM
April 7	Breakfast	7-10AM
April 10	Stated Meeting	7PM
April 13	Seniors	9-11AM
April 17	Special Meeting	7PM
	Entered Apprentice Degree	
April 20	Seniors	9-11AM
April 21	Ladies Night	6Pm
April 24	Stated Meeting	7PM
	Demolay Night	
April 27	Seniors	9-11AM
May 1	Brother & Friend Night	7PM
May 4	Seniors	9-11AM
May 5	Breakfast	7-10AM

### **Breakfast**

The first Saturday of each month a full breakfast is served for the cost of a donation. As most of you know by now the money raised goes toward the purchase of equipment for the building. So it not only for the benefit of the Lodge but the Eastern Star and the White Shrine as well, anyone who uses the building. Your support helps all of this and makes this possible. We are currently serving about 90 people on a Saturday. We need your support both by eating breakfast with us and your help working in the kitchen.

### **Ohio Masonic Home Day**

Once again Alpha Lodge will work in the 2nd District Officers' Association food booth. Open house will be on Sunday June 3rd with a parade by Antioch Shrine and lunch. Alpha Lodge will work in the food booth from approximately 9:30AM until 2PM when Vandalia Lodge will relieve us. Volunteers will be needed as usual to man these stations. About 10 or 12 people are needed. If you would like to join us please call the Secretary at 293-1404. This is one of the fun events we do during the year. The work is not hard and the pay is priceless as we serve our older members and some of the elder widows.