



Alpha Lodge Newsletter

February 2007

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FROM THE EAST

Brethren, I hope you have all had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year has been a good one for you so far. Most of us have barely gotten used to writing “2007” on our checks, but the Grand Lodge is already asking all Ohio Freemasons and all Ohio Lodges to start preparing for 2008. The reason: in less than a year, on January 4, 2008, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio will celebrate its **200th birthday**. The Grand Lodge is using the occasion to search out and record the history of Freemasonry in Ohio. It has asked all Lodges—including Alpha Lodge No. 729—to assist in the effort by developing and recording their own histories and submitting their findings to the Grand Lodge.

Freemasonry probably began in what is now Ohio [1803] on January 28, 1790 when Brothers under the leadership of Jonathan Heart (later killed in the battle of St. Clair’s Defeat in 1791), formed American Union Lodge no. 1 in Marietta. The Lodge had grown out of Military Union Lodge No.1, which had been previously formed for Revolutionary War soldiers by the Provincial Grand Master of the *Moderns* in Boston.

On January 4, 1808 five Ohio Lodges (American Union #1, Cincinnati Lodge #13, Erie Lodge # 47, Scioto Lodge #1, and Amity Lodge # 105) met in Chillicothe (the state capital) to form the first Grand Lodge of F & AM of Ohio. They agreed to have the first Annual Communication the following year on January 5, 1809. Only four Lodges showed up in 1809 (American Union being absent). The *Ancients* had held that five Lodges were necessary to form a Grand Lodge, but the *Moderns* pointed out that the Grand Lodge of England was itself formed from only four “Ancient Lodges,” and a committee held that there was no particular number of Lodges necessary to form a Grand Lodge. Rufus Putnam declined to be Grand Master due to age and health issues, and

Samuel Huntington, then Governor of Ohio, was elected Grand Master.

WB Kenny Kier and RWB Douglas Kaylor have been appointed to direct the efforts to assemble historic information for Alpha Lodge No. 729. Brethren, you can help. If you have any historic photos, paraphernalia, or significant bits of Alpha Lodge history that you could share, we would be very happy to receive them. Photos and documents can be scanned into a computer with the originals returned to their owners.

RIDES PROGRAM: Don’t forget to let us know if you need a ride to Lodge or can help provide a ride for someone else. You can call the Secretary or the WM.

Brethren this is your Lodge, and it is doing some new and exciting things. Show your support by your attendance and be an active part of your Lodge.

-Worshipful Master Gary Nicholson

From The West

Four of our officers are enrolled in the 2nd Masonic Districts’ TELL (The Exceptional Lodge Leader) program, gaining valuable knowledge on improving Alpha Lodge.

Our officer corps has been busy creating a survey of our members. This survey is available in 3 forms; an enclosed form with return envelope, on our **new** web site (alpha729.freemason.com), and via a special telephone survey by calling (800) 289-5570 then PIN: 9990027559. The web site and telephone versions allow for unique input for Past Masters

These surveys will provide our leadership with valuable information on how to improve our lodge and fraternity, and we value your input.

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 Larry 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

293-1404 Russ Oliver Secretary

729 Craft Club

254-0226 Ted West

252-4741 Dick Massie

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

Trestleboard

Feb 2 Seniors	9-11AM
Feb 3 Breakfast	7-10AM
Feb 5 Special Meeting	7PM
Master Mason Degree	
Feb 6 Special Meeting	7PM
Master Mason Degree	
Feb 9 Seniors	9-11AM
Feb 10 Dinner Date & Movie	6PM
Feb 13 Stated Meeting	7PM
Feb 16 Seniors	9-11AM
Feb 20 Fellowcraft Degree	7PM
(Exemplar)	
Feb 23 Seniors	9-11AM
Feb 27 Stated Meeting	7PM
March 2 Seniors	9-11AM
March 3 Breakfast	7-10AM

One Day Class

The One Day Class has as been widely publicized once again the Grand Lodge of F&AM of Ohio will hold another state wide event where a candidate can receive and become a Master Mason in one day without the requirement of any memory work. This will benefit those whose schedules do not permit what we refer to as, the usual manner which requires weeks if not months to fulfill.

The required method for this event is that the perspective candidate obtain a petition (which are available on this website) fill it out and mail it to the Secretary of the Lodge along with a check for \$150, made out to Alpha Lodge No. 729.

We do not solicit members. You must ask. An appointment will be arranged and an interview be conducted, the petition than goes before the Lodge to be voted upon. If you are interested in additional information or with questions concerning this procedure please call the Secretary at 293-1404.

The One Day Class, in this area, will be held on Saturday March 31, 2007 in Dayton, Ohio. Petitions must be turned in by March 20, 2007.

Grim Reaper Report

As we head to the printer we have lost five more members Brothers William B. Sallee passed away on December 7th as did Greene S. Feltner, Jerald D. Allen passed away on December 11th, Joseph A. Gillett on December 13th, and William G. Hamm on January 9th. May here hear those welcome words well done good and faithful servant thy task well done enter thou into the joy of our Lord.

Dinner Date & Movie

On Saturday February 10th another fundraiser for the Brothers Helping Brother Program will be held featuring a chicken breast dinner with a movie to follow. Tickets are available from the Officers at \$7 per person or \$12 per couple. Dinner will be at 6PM with RSVP by February 5th to the Master or Secretary.

Breakfast

The first Saturday of every month there is a breakfast served in the dining room from 7AM until 10AM. The cost is a donation. The breakfast is a complete full menu served at your table, no lines to pass through in other words this is not a buffet. Although primarily for the members and their guests we are open to the public. This would be another way to satisfy your curiosity if you have always wondered "What do the Masons do?" We invite you to come and see. The proceeds go to purchase equipment for the benefit of all that use the building.