



# Alpha Lodge Newsletter

## June 2007

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### FROM THE EAST

#### My Brothers:

As usual, Alpha Lodge will “go dark” in July, but we have a full schedule until that time. A number of events will occur during the summer despite our being “dark,” so please pay close attention to the *Trestleboard* in the current newsletter.

It appears that we will be conveying the Entered Apprentice Degree for two candidates on May 29th. We will also be initiating at one additional candidate on June 5th. The Second Masonic District’s “Outdoor Raising” will take place in June 9th in Waynesville. In addition to an excellent Master Mason Degree, the Second District will be presenting awards for the best EA, FC, and MM Degrees given during the Inspection season. Alpha Lodge is a strong contender in the FC category.

The Breakfasts will continue on the first Saturday of the month throughout the summer, the next one being scheduled for June 2.

The celebration of St. John the Baptist’s Day with a Table Lodge and/or conjoint worship is a venerable Masonic tradition. This year Alpha Lodge is planning to hold a Table Lodge of St. John the Baptist’s Eve, June 23rd. The Scottish Rite Choir will provide entertainment. Tickets are \$7.00 and are available through the Junior Warden (Arnold Grubb) or the Worshipful Master (Gary Nicholson). This year marks the first time in several years that St. John the Baptist’s Day actually falls on a Sunday. We invite Alpha Lodge Brethren to mark the day by worship together at 11:00AM at Church of the Cross United Methodist, 3121 Wilmington Pike. Masons from the local church will also be invited

to join us. The church is just south of the intersection of Dorothy Lane with Wilmington. Some of the Brethren and their families will have lunch together after the service. Anyone who is interested in doing so should please notify either the Secretary or the Master as soon as possible so that the proper number of reservations can be made.

Alpha Lodge will have a picnic at Lofino Park beginning at noon on July 14. The Lodge will provide meats, buns, and drinks. Families attending are asked to bring their own disposable dishes and dinnerware and a covered dish that can be shared.

On June 9 we will be doing some lawn and maintenance work around the Kettering Masonic Center, and any Brethren who could volunteer to work for two or three hours that day would be greatly appreciated. July 21 has been designated a possible “Volunteer Work Day.” The purpose of such workdays is to provide assistance to worthy, distressed Master Masons or their families. Elderly or disabled Masons or their widows who have a need for yard work, painting, or minor repairs that could be carried out during a “Volunteer Work Day,” should make their needs known to the Lodge by contacting the Secretary or the Master. Anyone who wishes to volunteer to work should contact the Secretary or the Master.

Fraternally,  
Gary L. Nicholson M.D.  
Worshipful Master

#### **Ohio Masonic Home Day**

Remember the Open House at the Masonic Home on Sunday June 3rd. This is a great family event. Festivities start with church at 10AM with a picnic lunch starting at 11:30AM followed by the Shrine parade with music and entertainment all day.

## **Grim Reaper Report**

The Lodge lost two more members this past month; It was reported that Brother Ted Ritter passed away on April 2nd and Brother Robert C. Fleischman passed away on April 27th. May they hear those welcome words well done good and faithful servant thy task well done enter thou into the joy of our Lord.

## **Summer Schedule**

The lodge will be dark during July and August however the following events will continue; the Seniors will continue to meet every Friday with the except of July 13th, the Lodge will serve breakfast on the first Saturday of July and August as usual. The officers will meet for practice during the summer every Tuesday starting on July 17th. The floor in the lower level will be replace beginning on July 9th and the building will be closed during that week for ALL events. Sometime during the summer the driveway will be sealed and it will need to be kept off of for a few days while it cures.

## **Lodge Events**

The Table Lodge will be held on Saturday June 23rd with dinner being served at 6PM and Lodge opening at 7PM. The dinner will be Italian. Tickets for this are \$7 and you can purchase those from the Junior Warden or call him at 266-7881 for reservations.

## **Lodge Picnic**

The lodge will have a family picnic at Lofino's Park on Grange Hall Road next to the YMCA in Beavercreek on July 14th. Dinner will be served around 1PM please bring a covered dish and your own place setting. The lodge will supply the hot dogs and burgers and the drinks.

## **Workdays**

A work day at the Lodge is being planned for Saturday morning June 9th starting about 9:30AM. The front of the building needs mulch and the weeds need to be pulled around the shrubs. Then on July 21st a work day for the benefit of worthy distressed Brethren will be held. Call the Master for the schedule.

## **Threstleboard**

June	1	Seniors	9-11AM
June	2	Breakfast	7-10AM
June	5	Special Meeting EA Degree	7PM
June	8	Seniors	9-11AM
June	12	Stated Meeting	7PM
June	15	Seniors	9-11AM
June	19	Special Meeting Fellowcraft Degree	7PM
June	22	Seniors	9-11AM
June	23	Table Lodge	6PM
June	24	St. John the Baptist Day	
June	26	Stated Meeting	7PM
June	29	Seniors	9-11AM
July	14	Lodge Picnic	Noon

## **From the West**

Recently the officers of Alpha Lodge conducted a survey of the members. Besides sending them out with the newsletters, we also had a Web version and even a telephone version available.

Here is a summary of the results:

Most of the respondents were over the age of 50, had been Masons for 15+years, were married and belonged to an affiliated Masonic body.

Overall, you thought that we are doing a decent job, but should continually strive to improve our fraternity. Despite the average age, many comments were made about more events. I have discussed this with the other officers, and you can expect to see more family based events in the near future. This will require better attendance as well!

For the many of you that have not been in Lodge, especially in the past couple of years, I strongly encourage you to come see for yourself if things are better. I can tell you that our current officers are well united in making this a better place.

We will be sending out another survey with the dues notices, and I encourage you to keep up to date on our web site (<http://alpha729.freemason.com/>).

We will also be working on better communications tools such as email and telephone calls about events.