

BEACON

A JOINT PUBLICATION OF THE GRAND LODGE OF OHIO AND THE OHIO MASONIC HOME

Annual Session of Grand Lodge in Dayton On October 15 and 16

On Friday, October 15 and Saturday, October 16, the Grand Lodge of Ohio will hold its annual session in Dayton, at the Dayton Masonic Center, 525 West Riverview Avenue. All Master Masons in good standing are welcome to attend. It will be necessary for those attending to bring an apron and dues card.

Every Lodge must be represented by their Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens at the annual communication. If one or more of

these Brethren is not able to attend, he may give his proxy to another elected officer or Past Master, who is able to attend.

The headquarters hotel will be the Crowne Plaza at 33 East 5th

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The Annual Session of Grand Lodge will be held at the Dayton Masonic Center.

5-Stars Two Years and Counting

For the second consecutive year, Springfield Masonic Community and Western Reserve Masonic Community have earned the overall 5-star quality rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Rating System of Nursing Homes.

In addition to the overall 5-star rating, both facilities also earned 5 stars in the Health Inspections category. Springfield Masonic Community was the only Clark County facility to achieve the overall 5-star rating.

"It says a lot about the professionalism of our staff to earn this rating twice," said Iva DeWitt-Hoblitt, Springfield Masonic Community Administrator and Vice President. "When I joined this team I was amazed to learn



that throughout the history of Springfield Masonic Community that staffing patterns rank well above the national average."

Ratings are based on three sources including health inspections, quality measures and staffing. The system was created as a guide to help consumers, their families and caregivers compare nursing homes more easily and help identify areas in which they may have questions. For more information on the system, go to www.medicare.gov/NHcompare.

Although it doesn't currently have skilled nursing, Browning Masonic Community also achieved a high honor earlier this year, ranking eighth out of 547 state-wide assisted living facilities in a recent survey with a 98.08 percent out a possible 100 against a state average of 92.07 percent.

The Ohio Department of Aging 2009 Residential Care Facility Resident Satisfaction Survey ranks residential care facilities, or assisted living, based on face-to-face interviews regarding their perceptions of the facilities in which they live. ✧

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A Commitment to Excellence

By Terry W. Posey, Grand Master

Several years ago, I was told by a Past Grand Master who I respect that this year would be the fastest year of my life. As I look back on my life, I don't know if that is true or not, but I can say this year has gone by very quickly.

It seems like only yesterday that I was honored by the delegates at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge at Toledo by being elected and installed to the high office of Grand Master. I have received many honors in Freemasonry, but none as great as this.

I realize that I have stood on the shoulders of others. Though I received this great honor, I did not get here alone. Because I have stood on the shoulders of others I have a reciprocal responsibility to allow others to stand on my shoulders. It is the quid pro quo of life.

I realize that for others to stand on my shoulders, I must be committed to excellence, I must be ready to work, I must be ready for sacrifice and I must care for others.

I further realize that each of us must find a place that will provide

continuity in our lives, a place of spiritual sustenance, unshakable and unmovable. We should find our God and be faithful to Him.

Sir Isaac Newton first stated the phrase:

"We stand on the shoulders of giants. We see more and things that are more distant than they did, not because our sight is superior or because we are taller than they, but because they raise us up and by their great stature add to ours."

My brethren, 2010 has been a great year in Freemasonry. It has



Terry W. Posey,
Grand Master

been a great year in the lives of Cheryl and myself.

I urge each of you to attend the Annual Communication in Dayton. I further urge you to support the Grand Lodge Officers as you have supported me this year. ✦

Annual Session of Grand Lodge in Dayton

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Street, Dayton, and the Ramada Plaza at 2301 Wagner Ford Road, Dayton, will serve as the overflow hotel. Shuttle busses will run regularly between the Crowne Plaza and Ramada Plaza Hotels and the Dayton Masonic Center.

Several vendors will offer information and items of interest to Ohio Masons on the first floor of the Dayton Masonic Center from:

7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Friday
7:00 a.m. to 12 Noon on Saturday

Agenda

Friday, October 15, 2010

7:00 a.m.	Registration of delegates and visitors
8:30 a.m.	Opening of a Lodge of Master Masons by John W. Durst Lodge #716, Annual Session;
11:30 a.m.	Recess for lunch
1:30 p.m.	Grand Lodge resumes labor
4:00 p.m.	Meeting of Ohio Lodge of Research Dayton Masonic Center, 2nd Floor, Center Lodge Room
4:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting of Masonic Veterans Association Dayton Masonic Center, 2nd Floor, South Lodge Room
7:00 p.m.	Grand Lodge Banquet Dayton Masonic Center, Banquet Hall (Ticket Required)

Saturday, October 16, 2010

7:00 a.m.	Registration resumes
8:00 a.m.	Grand Lodge resumes labor and concludes with the installation of 2010-2011 Grand Lodge Officers
	Conclusion

The Beacon is published bi-monthly

Please report all changes of address to your lodge secretary, who, in turn, will notify the Grand Secretary, who maintains the database that produces The BEACON mailing labels.

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Masonic Fraternity Making A Difference

By Marion Leeman, Managing Chief Executive Officer

On the way into my office, I stopped and chatted with a concrete contractor doing sidewalk and step repair on the Springfield campus. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and enjoys his work. Much of his joy comes from knowing that the residents and staff benefit from his and his staff's hard work.

The hard work of this individual started me thinking of all the things Masons do throughout the year to make the lives of our residents and clients more comfortable.

Collectively, we have 44 trustees serving on our various boards of trustees. These members are generous with their time and talent and I am impressed with their focus to serve in the best interests of our residents, clients and staff. Their preparation and attention to

detail at the various committee meetings and board meetings is truly impressive. For members of



Marion Leeman, Managing Chief Executive Officer

The Ohio Masonic Home parent board of trustees, members arrive on Sunday afternoon and work through the evening in committees and return on Monday morning to continue their main board meeting. They do all this, and more, for no compensation.

Having been associated with The Ohio Masonic Home

for more than 14 years, I have been impressed with the love and support the Masons have shown toward the senior members of our society. It is a pleasure to see the dedication that comes from so many members of the Masonic fraternity stepping up to help one another and to make a difference. ✦

Chairman Appointed to CEO Search Committee

Illustrious Brother William M. Berry, 33° has been appointed to serve as the Chairman of The Ohio Masonic Home's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Search Committee. Brother Berry was a trustee of the Home for 16 years, was Chairman of the Board from 2000 to 2004 and remains a significant supporter.

"The search committee has begun the process of recruiting the Home's next CEO and I am very thankful for the commitment and service the committee members have offered to this important process," said Brother Berry. "I am confident that the committee's efforts will result in a productive search."

"The committee will consider qualified candidates who will enable The Home to continue its charitable commitment to both the Masonic Fraternity and the general public through effective stewardship of Masonic resources and efficient management of current and future operations. The committee will proceed in a deliberate and thoughtful manner." ✦



A New Elks Lodge?

When Michael P. Wold, a Past Master of Marion Lodge #70, moved to Colorado, he knew wildlife conditions would be different than in central Ohio, but he never quite expected this. Worshipful Brother Wold is now Worshipful Master of Estes Park Lodge #183, A.F.&A.M., in Estes Park, Colorado. He found this herd of elk circling the Lodge building recently – something he never experienced as part of Ohio Freemasonry. ✦

Becoming Part of A New Family

When a client employs Masonic Helping Hands, they become part of a new family. For a client like Dr. Bob Fleissner, Masonic Helping Hands is his only family in the area.

Bob's Masonic Helping Hands family from the Fairborn office was there when he needed it most recently, just as a family would be.

Jordan Dearmond, Bob's regular companion since December, arrived at his Springfield home one hot summer day and Bob was nowhere to be found. Jordan went looking through the neighborhood, and soon the entire office staff joined in to help.

After being found, Bob was very confused. Although it was 10:30 a.m., he was convinced it was night and time for bed. Julie Lambert, who was formerly Bob's



**MASONIC
HELPING HANDS**

A Not-for-Profit Organization

companion and now the office assistant, came to help.

Jordan and Julie helped to calm Bob down by talking about some of his regular daytime routines, like going to the post office.

Since this was out of character for Bob, an appointment with his doctor was arranged that afternoon and his medicine was adjusted. Although

the staff doesn't usually stay with Bob for 24-hours, they did in this case to assure his safety.

Soon, the Bob Fleissner who Jordan and Julie are familiar with was back.

Jordan and Bob have formed more than a companion-client relationship, blossoming into a friendship. The pair has mutually benefited from their time together.

Bob was an English professor at Central State University and

published author once listed in *Who's Who in the World*. His main interest is Shakespeare and he has a book coming out on religion in Shakespeare's plays in October, right around Bob's 79th birthday. Being able to share this with Jordan has given him a new perspective.



Julie Lambert, office assistant, Masonic Helping Hands

Jordan often accompanies Bob to various shows and activities at nearby Wittenberg University. Bob also walks two miles a day around Wittenberg's track, which Jordan accompanies him on. "I hope I am in the same shape when I am 79," said Jordan.

And with his nearest family member being in Indiana, Jordan has made Bob a member of his family. They go on visits to Jordan's family, where Bob has bonded with Jordan's grandmother, who was recently widowed.

"I've gotten more out of our relationship than I'd ever imagined," said Jordan.

Bob's case was a learning experience for everyone at the Fairborn office according to Julie. "It makes me more aware of measures we should use with our clients. This gives me a different perspective on compassion."

"I'd say 99 percent of our clients have family members nearby," said Julie. "Bob doesn't, so he is our family. We would do this for any of our clients." ❖



Helping Hands companion Jordan Dearmond, right, has turned his companion-client relations with Dr. Bob Fleissner into a friendship.

For more information, call 877/564-0210 or visit our web site www.masonichelpinghands.org.

Being Well Aware of the Future of Preventative Medicine



What if you could prevent someone from future harm or illness without entering their room or home? Sounds like a preventative medicine dream.

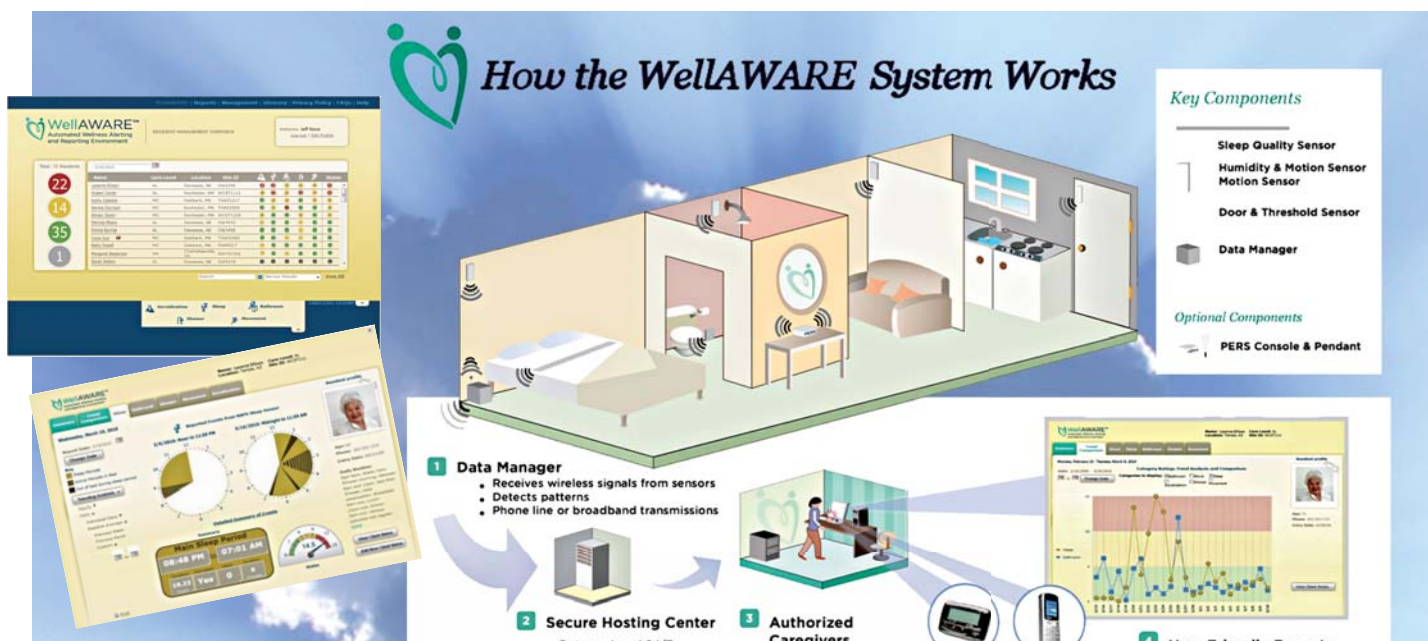
That dream is being pilot tested now at the three Ohio Masonic Home retirement communities. WellAWARE is a system that's wired into a resident's home, apartment or room, monitors their habits then relays the results to staff.

long period of time or if they are not getting a proper night's sleep are among the things WellAWARE sensors relay to a nursing staff, which can be proactive in seeing if the resident needs help.

Only the clinical team can see these reports and it allows them a new opportunity – not to ask someone in general how they are doing, but to address a specific concern.

Dave. "We need to teach our health professionals to be proactive and not reactive. I'm thrilled to know The Ohio Masonic Home is on the front end of this."

Springfield Masonic Community has taken WellAWARE one step further by installing it in not only independent living villas, apartments and assisted living, but also in its skilled nursing and Alzheimer's units. This has led



Browning Masonic Community President Dave Subleski discovered WellAWARE at a trade conference and knew it was something that could benefit the organization.

"When planning for the future, we have to be on the forefront of keeping people well," said Dave. "If we can catch things on the front end it saves residents health care costs and keeps them happy."

Dave compares it to warning lights on an automobile that alert you if something needs maintenance before it becomes a problem.

For instance, if a resident falls, if their stove remains heated for a

"It opens the door to more effective communication," said Dave.

About a third of the units at Browning, apartments and villa homes, have WellAWARE. The pilot program is being conducted on a purely voluntary basis.

Future technology the company is working on will allow families to monitor their loved ones from their own homes. Another will allow residents to make direct contact with community staff.

"This is the future and as a country we are moving more toward preventative care," said

campus independent and assisted living Clinical Manager Paula Rice to a valuable observation.

Of the 25 individual units using WellAWARE, Paula discovered the skilled nursing and Alzheimer's units were of the least concern since those residents had constant supervision. The independent and assisted living resident results were of higher note.

This is where Paula thinks the preventative measures will be most valuable. "For any resident that doesn't have regular staff supervision this is great." ♦

'Rhythm of the Day'® by miVision' A Step Up Against Alzheimer's



Alzheimer's disease remains one of the most dreaded diagnoses in health care. *Rhythm of the Day*® by miVision is becoming one of the most hopeful names in combating it.

The program was introduced at Springfield Masonic Community in June and has produced encouraging results in a short time according to Iva DeWitt-Hoblit, who co-created the program.

Iva joined Springfield Masonic Community earlier this year as its administrator and vice president. She brought with her a passion for treating Alzheimer's and dementia.

Whereas most people can structure their days, those with Alzheimer's cannot. *Rhythm of the Day*® by miVision works by creating a world that makes sense to them.

It is a daily structured program providing a rhythm of ebb and flow. A day is charted out for residents to best meet their peak times of activity and downtimes.

A typical day will include physical fitness activities, sensory activities, food and more. The key is to keep the resident engaged the entire day. For example, a scooping technique is used to lead a resident to food in hopes they may be able to feed themselves again.

Iva said staff at Springfield's Pathways Center for Alzheimer's and Dementia Care saw results almost immediately. Some residents who fell asleep in chairs are now participating in activities like noodle ball. In another case, two residents who would stay up all night following one of the nurses began sleeping through the night after just two days of *Rhythm of the Day*® by miVision activity.

"It was as if some of the people were woken up," said Iva. "They are engaged, playing and laughing, using their brains more."

Not only is this helping residents, but staff finds it more involving. They get to spend more time with their residents and are always looking out for things to add to the program.

Family members are also noticing a difference in their loved ones. Iva said family members are welcome to participate in Rhythm of the Day activities at certain times.

Iva is excited for expansion of *Rhythm of the Day*® by miVision. Staff at Western Reserve Masonic Community in Medina are learning the basics and Browning Masonic

Community in Waterville is also interested.

It will also be used in Assisted Living and Independent Living in Springfield soon, which could bring added benefits in terms of preventive medicine. It may lead to assisted living residents being able to stay longer where they are rather than being moved to skilled nursing, and independent residents with spouses dealing with dementia can better care for them.

Although Iva has been working on *Rhythm of the Day*® by miVision for 11 years, it is ongoing. "We're well ahead of schedule and always looking to add to it and continuing to focus on the future." ✦



Rhythm of the Day® by miVision works by creating a world that makes sense to the individuals with Alzheimer's and dementia. At left are examples of various activities that residents are involved with that help keep them engaged during the day.

Charting the Future of Patient Care



The demands on a skilled nursing staff's time are often great. With the bottom line being the best care for the residents, any measures that will help the staff work more efficiently are welcome. In keeping with the need to communicate with all members of the healthcare team and healthcare providers, electronic documentation is an efficient, accurate, and time saving tool.

Medina's Western Reserve Masonic Community is using several tools to enhance the care being given to their residents and ease the flow of communication between providers of care.

The nursing staff is finding more efficient use for its time with an electronic charting system, which is being tried on a pilot basis. HealthMedx allows the nurses notes, patient assessments, and progress notes to be entered directly into a lap top computer. With the roll out of doctor's orders and medication administration records scheduled for the fall of 2010, the system will cover the resident from admission, through their stay of care and discharge. The outcome of the pilot so far is showing time saved, more legible notes, timely assessments and more bedside time for the licensed staff according to Vicki James, RNC, MSN, Western Reserve's Nursing Director.

The system works by the nurse entering notes concerning the resident's condition by computer into a single database. This eliminates the nurse having to enter individual charts by pen and allows all members of the health team access to the resident's information from their worksite.

An electronic charting system is being tried on a pilot basis at Western Reserve Masonic Community. It allows the nurse notes, patient assessments and progress notes be entered by computer into a single data base.



Vicki said the system allows staff to approach the nursing process more from the bedside and less from the nurse's station. This gives the resident and family an opportunity for involvement in care as well as giving the nurse time for patient education and discharge planning.

The organization also is looking at a service, *SecureReach*, in which a nurse is able to alert a family as to the well being of their family member and any changes in the plan of care for the patient. The service allows for a message to be left for the family and they are able

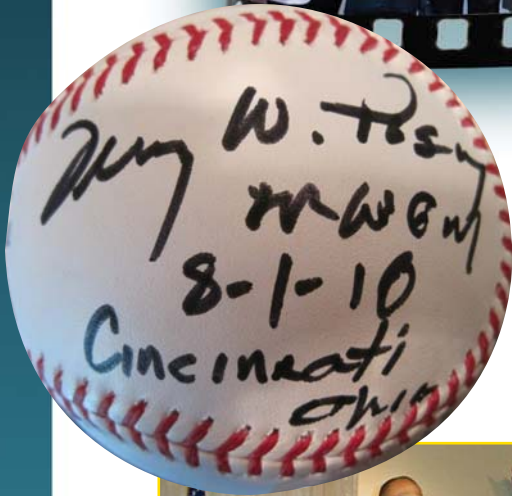
to retrieve the message at a later time. *SecureReach* is used for non-emergency concerns only.

Other systems that could help nursing staff include a system that allows vital signs to be obtained and relayed directly to a computer under the resident's name, saving time of recopying into a chart. That system is called "Nurse Rosie."

"Nursing is not just an art but also a science," said Vicki. "Many changes in health care are coming and Western Reserve wants to embrace them and provide the best care possible to our residents and families." ✧

Grand Master's Year in Review

Most Worshipful Brother Terry W. Posey was installed as Grand Master on October 17, 2009 in Toledo, Ohio. Since that time he has traveled the state and the nation to represent the Grand Lodge of Ohio. The gavel of authority will pass from his hands to those of his successor on Saturday, October 16, 2010 in Dayton, Ohio.



A Grand Master's schedule includes many installations of officers, official visitations, cornerstone ceremonies, reconsecration of Lodges, Lodge inspections, and much more.

"Over the course of this past year, I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet many of my Masonic Brothers and make friends that will last a lifetime. Like politics, all Freemasonry is local, and it is through the dedication of local Brothers that Freemasonry continues to be a force for good in the lives of men and their community," Terry W. Posey, Grand Master.



Mt. Vernon Lodge raises Navy Cross recipient, Cpl. Todd Corbin of the United States Marine Corps.



Six Grand Presiding Officers attended each others' Lodge Inspections.



William H. Hoover
#770 Oyster
Dinner and Degree



Opening Ceremonies for Ohio Special Olympics



Masonic Youth
Group Leaders

Children's Home Alumni Reunion

Twenty people who lived on The Ohio Masonic Home grounds when it served as a children's home gathered on July 9-10 for their 29th reunion at the Springfield Masonic Community campus. Although their reunion numbers get smaller each year, their devotion toward each other and the one-time home of their youth remains strong.

In addition to taking care of senior Masons, their wives and widows, The Ohio Masonic Home's Springfield campus also served as a children's home from 1897-1956.

The children's home was not a traditional orphanage, as one or both of the residents' parents usually were still alive. But they came to stay there when a parent could not properly support the child or children.

The child is given a place to stay, learned skills, attended school and had lots of time to attend activities and were well taken care of until either a parent's situation improved or they were old enough to graduate from high school.

The biennial reunions are held the first weekend in July and everyone who lived on the grounds was welcome to attend.

Two alumni members, Jim Zeigler and Warren "Swish" Swisher, now live as seniors in the same building they did as youths, now called the Apartments at Cunningham Place. A third, Paul Davis, now lives in the adjoining apartment building, Iredell Gardens.



Ohio Masonic Home children's home alumni gather on the steps of Bushnell Hall on the Springfield Campus during their biennial reunion in July.

The reunions are a chance to reminisce about their days at the home, catch up on what's going on in their current lives and a chance to spend time at a place that helped them grow up. ✨

Alumni worker Dick Snow shows a photo to fellow alumni member Cynthia Cameron during the social night where the alumni and family reminisce about their time at The Home and catch up on their current lives.



Little Things Make a Big Difference

They vary by size and shape. They are consistent in their goal – to help senior Masons, their wives, widows, Eastern Star members and those of affiliated bodies.

They are I-CARE volunteer committees. Committees supplement what I-CARE coordinators do in a variety of ways.

With a new Masonic year beginning, it's time to think about what you can do to make your mark. Forming an I-CARE committee is a great way to begin.

Many I-CARE committee members will tell you it's an extension of what Masons already do. But it goes an extra step.

There are numerous examples of the work – helping take somebody to a doctor's appointment or a lodge meeting; even just spending some time visiting. Such gestures may seem small, but the impact is big.

Following are but a few examples of I-CARE committee accomplishments.

In Northeast Ohio:

- Prince Hall Phoenix Lodge #112 donated an air purifier to Western Reserve Masonic Community's wood shop as well as working with an area Habitat for Humanity project under their lodge and I-CARE banners. The group has plans for the new

Masonic year to assist other members of the lodge who may need major home work.

- Carroll #124 and Augusta #504 in the 24th District and Phoenix Lodge spend an average of 25 hours a month assisting in transporting senior members and widows to doctor appointments and doing small household and yard maintenance.

In Central Ohio:

- In 19th District, a past Grand Chaplain who was a client is now the most active volunteer on the Heath #771 committee.
- The formation of West Gate #623 was unusual. Before the committee was formed, the master of the lodge went out to take care of a car repair for a lodge brother and it inspired the committee to form. Now the widow of that brother is being taken care of.
- Recently, a caregiver wife became ill herself and needed assistance on weekends to take care of her husband. Two committee chairs and the District Deputy of 19th District helped out and the wife is now healthy and back home.

In Southeast Ohio:

- Ohio City #486 I-CARE committee was only in existence a week when the lodge secretary



I-CARE
Independence through Coordination
Assistance Referral and Education

was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. The committee pitched in to help his wife take him to various medical appointments, made visits and phone calls. When he passed away, the committee continued to check on the widow and offered the same to other lodge widows.

- Shadyside #724 committee's four members moved a brother up to the Browning Masonic Community campus. They assist others with yard work, transportation and are planning their first blood drive.
- District 23 Southeast committee has helped with minor home repairs and helped a widow find reasonable construction for her roof. They do nursing home visits and make calls to senior brothers and widows.

We could fill volumes on what committees have done. The next step is to see what you can do to help make your mark. ✦

There are seven coordinators covering each district of the state, each eager to help you get started. For more information, call 888-286-0010 or go to www.msssohio.org.

Pennsylvania-Ohio Masonic Unity Night

On September 14, over 300 Ohio and Pennsylvania Freemasons gathered for the stated meeting of Mahoning New Castle Lodge #243 at the Scottish Rite building in New Castle, PA, to celebrate Pennsylvania-Ohio Masonic Unity.

Thomas K. Sturgeon, Grand Master of Pennsylvania, and his Grand Lodge officers were gracious hosts for Grand Master Terry W. Posey, the Grand Lodge of Ohio officers and the Brethren from Ohio. ✦



Grand Masters Sturgeon and Posey exchange Cleveland Browns and Pittsburgh Steelers jerseys.

Ohio's William H. Taft Instrumental in Founding Of George Washington Masonic Memorial

By George Braatz, Past Grand Master

Approximately 100 years ago, an Ohio Mason – serving as President of the United States – was very influential in launching the movement that led to the building of the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, VA.

William Howard Taft took office as the 27th U.S. President in 1909 and quickly lent his support to the concept of a Masonic recognition of our first president.

President and Brother Taft attended the second meeting of the George Washington National Memorial Association in 1911.

In speaking at that meeting, he said, “Brethren, every President of the United States feels heavy upon him the burden of following George Washington and being in his place and making himself in some slight way worthy of the First President, the Father of his Country.

“No honor can be greater than to have a direct association with that great man, who in every sense, was the founder of this Republic and who exhibited, as President, as man and as Mason, all the principles of morality, of patriotism and of religion that we like to think is our highest ideal.”

While his oratory was strong, Brother Taft’s support was more than just words. He wrote a personal check to the Memorial to help in the fund-raising for the building. A copy of the check is on display in the Memorial.

The George Washington Masonic Memorial (GWMM) is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

This year the Memorial, for which ground was broken in 1922 and which was dedicated in 1932, was constructed solely with



William H. Taft wearing George Washington’s apron and jewel.

contributions from the Masons throughout the nation. Not one cent of public funds has ever been received by the Memorial Association. The Memorial belongs to the Freemasons of the United States.

Ohio Masons can be proud of their role in the Memorial, and over the years, Ohio is the leading Grand Lodge in terms of donations.

That pride can go back the full 100 years to the influence of President and Brother Taft.

The President also attended GWMM meetings and addressed his Masonic brethren and enthusiastically endorsed the newly formed Memorial Association.

He also discussed why George Washington uniquely inspires Freemasons:

We speak with enthusiasm of the profound philosophy and patriotism of Jefferson, of the wonderful genius of Hamilton, and we can follow

through all that long line of giants of intellect who stood for this country in its country’s need, at the time of the Revolution.

But why is it, my friends, that above them all, not with so much genius as Hamilton, not with so much intellect as Jefferson, not with so much brilliancy as many others, and yet above them all, head and shoulders, stands Washington?

Because of his character.

He united with that character that level-headedness, that pure, disinterested patriotism and that patience which enabled him to unite all these men together in one common purpose, and notwithstanding the jealousies that sometimes interfered with their general movement toward their common purpose, he kept them together, and by that sanity, that judgment, and the influence of his personality and character, he made possible the creation of this republic.

And so it is that it gives me the greatest pleasure as President of the United States, proud to succeed that long line of great men with the greatest at the first, George Washington, to be here and to testify, both in my character as an individual and as temporary President of the United States, to the profound respect that we all feel for him as a fellow Mason, as a citizen, as a patriot and as our Father.

In honor of his contribution and service, President Taft received the first life membership of the Memorial Association. He was also awarded the title of Patron of the George Washington Masonic Memorial.

Taft became the only Past President of the United States to be appointed Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. He

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was appointed Chief Justice in 1921 by President Warren G. Harding, also an Ohio Mason.

On November 1, 1923, the cornerstone of the Memorial was laid in full Masonic ceremony. Among notable dignitaries were Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States (not a Mason), and William Howard Taft, in his role as Chief Justice, both of whom helped spread cement in the cornerstone ceremony.

During its 1930 convention, the Memorial Association appointed a committee to offer sympathy and good wishes to the ailing Chief Justice Taft, who did not live to see the completion of the Memorial that he had so actively supported. He died later that year. ✧

Sons of Union Veterans visit Mt. Sterling Lodge #269

Members of Mt. Sterling Lodge #269 recently enjoyed an educational program about the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and General George Armstrong Custer. William Radabaugh, Master of Mt. Sterling Lodge and active member of the SUVCW, was responsible for organizing the program.

The presentation was made by Shawn A. Cox, Commander of Henry Casey Camp #92, SUVCW, and Robert E. Grim, Past District Deputy Grand Master of the 8th Masonic District and past national commander of the SUVCW.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is a patriotic and educational organization, founded on November 12, 1881 and is the legal heir to and representative of the Grand Army of the Republic.



From left, Shawn A. Cox, Commander of Henry Casey Camp #92, William R. Radabaugh, Master of Mt. Sterling Lodge, and Brigadier General Robert E. Grim, PDDGM and past national commander the SUVCW.

Today, more than 6,360 men enjoy the benefits of membership in the only male organization dedicated to the principles of the GAR – Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty. ✧



Campers raise the flag at Camp Ho Mita Koda near Cleveland

Ohio Masons Support Summer Camps for Children with Diabetes

There are six summer camps in Ohio for school-age children with diabetes. These camps are located near Cleveland, Dayton, Cincinnati, Columbus, Findlay and Toledo and are funded in part from contributions made by Ohio Freemasons, particularly the Grand Council of Royal & Select Masons' Diabetic Kids Fund.

While at camp the children learn how to manage their diabetes in a positive peer environment. They also enjoy activities such as wall climbing, kayaking, arts and crafts, horseback riding, hiking, campfires and much more.

About 1,000 kids attend these special camps each year and about half need financial assistance. The Diabetic Kids Fund provides camperships to enable needy children to attend. Ohio Freemasons have been proud to help children attend these special camps since 1978. ✧

Count Your Blessings! Count Our Blessings!

By Right Worshipful Brother Timothy B. Strawn, CAE, President,
The OMH Benevolent Endowment Foundation

How many times in our lives have we been reminded to “count your blessings?” Far too many to remember but frequently on holidays (patriotic and religious), during special family events and just some times when something special has happened. The reminder is quickly spoken and, unfortunately, many times just as quickly forgotten. Yet the need to count blessings is ever present, ever meaningful.

I was reminded of the importance of counting blessings recently as my family, returning from vacation, was involved in an auto accident. It would certainly be considered a “minor” incident...and no one was hurt, thank heavens...but the fact is it provided another reminder of the need to be thankful for all we are blessed with. In those few seconds which seemed like minutes in slow motion, as the careening car passed us, bounced off the median, ricocheted across several lanes of


traffic, hit the guard rail, bounced into us and then back to the guardrail, we didn’t know what the outcome would be. But as soon as the “action” stopped and we could determine the three of us were ok, we immediately gave thanks and praise to God for keeping us safe. Indeed, we counted our blessings right there on the spot...and have several times since as we’ve reflected on the accident.

As we all know, “in the twinkling of an eye” life can change tremendously for anyone. We were truly blessed that night and are eternally grateful for that blessing.

Later in August, while attending Scottish Rite’s Supreme Council meeting in Philadelphia, I was again reminded of the importance of the blessings we enjoy and the need to be thankful for them. Of course, a visit to Philadelphia isn’t complete without seeing Independence Hall. On that beautiful Sunday morning, it was almost as if those characters of history...so many of them Brothers of our beloved fraternity...came to life as we stood in the original House of Representatives and Senate chambers where so many events integral to the establishment of our country and government took place. You could almost hear the discussion and debate as first the Declaration of Independence and then the Constitution were created there. You could almost see those valiant men gathering near the front of the room to sign those documents as portrayed in the famous paintings of each occasion. You could almost feel the tension as the “reigns of power” were peacefully handed from our first to our second President right

there as the world watched to see how successful the transition would be in this new country. And it was there that those brave men, knowing the possible consequences of their actions, “...with a firm reliance on Divine Providence,” mutually pledged to each other their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. Especially today, in the times in which we live, we need to be reminded of the blessing each of those men was to our country then and is to us today. What a blessing it is to live in a country whose citizens are free. What a blessing it is to be able to freely gather and travel to enjoy our family, friends and Freemasonry. What a blessing it is to have the freedom to worship our Creator as we choose.


Simply living in this great country brings us so many blessings which none of us count or express thanks for often enough. Resolve with me to make a special effort to reflect on and count those blessings regularly in the coming months. We...and the country...will be better for it!

Of course, we recognize and are thankful...regularly!... for the blessing The Ohio Masonic Home is to our brethren, their wives and widows. And, here in the Foundation, we’re honored to count all of our supporters, friends and donors as blessings in our work. Thank you all for the many ways you bless us! 

For more information about how to make a gift, contact the Foundation toll free at 888/248-2664 or write to us at: Five Masonic Drive, Springfield, 45504-3658. Visit us at our new web site: www.omhbef.org.

Lodges’ Annual Meetings Are Just Around the Corner

Every Lodge holds its annual meeting and election of officers during its first meeting in November. Annual dues are payable on or before that day.

It is a Master Mason’s obligation to attend the annual meeting of his Lodge – family, employment, and logistics permitting. This is a great opportunity to renew old friendships and to learn what is going on at your Lodge. 

Thank You For Your Generosity

We offer our grateful appreciation to the estates, individuals, groups or other Masonic bodies who have supported The Ohio Masonic Home with gifts given between June 1, 2010 and July 31, 2010.

\$10,000 +

Arcana Lodge #272, F&AM
Brister, Charles E.
Sturdivant, Webster
Swigert, Gretta Anne

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Kelly, William H.
Moss, George K.
Schulze, Vivian H.

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Seifert, Dorothy T. & Myron T.
Sheeler, Howard M.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Arters, George D. & B.J.
Davis, Orlando W.
New England Lodge #4, F&AM
Rammelsberg, Merle
Science Lodge #50, F&AM
Valley of Cambridge, AASR
Valley of Youngstown, AASR

\$500 - \$999

22nd Masonic District Association
Bellville Lodge #376, F&AM
Belmont Lodge #16, F&AM
Celina Lodge #241, F&AM
Dayton Lodge #147, F&AM
Ebenezer Lodge #33, F&AM
Elyria Lodge #787, F&AM
Hosler, Bessie V.
Hubler, Lloyd E.
Kelly, Floyd
Kreigh, Robert J. & Jean (French)
Madison Lodge #221, F&AM
Minerva Lodge #98, F&AM
Nickel, Charles A.
Ohio Masonic Home Alumni
Association
Patriot Lodge #496, F&AM
Perseverance Lodge #329, F&AM
Shrive, Harold George
Strader, W. J.
Sunrise Lodge #783, F&AM

Sylvania Pyramid Lodge #287,
F&AM
Temple Lodge #28, F&AM
Thornberry, S. Starr
Tippecanoe Lodge #174, F&AM
W.K. Ricksecker Lodge #606, F&AM
William H. Hoover Lodge #770,
F&AM

\$100 - \$499

6th Capitular District Officers
Association
9th Masonic District Association
18th Masonic District Association
Barnes, Eugene G.
Black, Ross R., II & Linda
Brewer, Jess
Brookville Lodge #596, F&AM
Butlerville Lodge #135, F&AM
Camden Lodge #159, F&AM
Carroll Lodge #124, F&AM
Chester Lodge #238, F&AM
Clevenger, Hazel
Crepes, Michael R.
Delta Lodge #207, F&AM
DeWolf, Ronald
East Liberty Lodge #247, F&AM
Ehlers, Arther & Ermille
Engle, Donald L., Jr.
Farmersville Lodge #482, F&AM
Fort Black Lodge #413, F&AM
Fostoria Lodge #288, F&AM
Fouch, Edward L. & Carol
Ft. Miami - Calument Chapter
#191, RAM
Gettysburg Lodge #477, F&AM
Greenville Lodge #143, F&AM
Harding-Concordia Lodge #345,
F&AM
Heber Lodge #501, F&AM
Holcomb, J. Robert & Antoinette
Holt, Gary L. & Judy
Homeworth Lodge #499, F&AM
Hover, Carol
Ionic Lodge #438, F&AM
J. B. Covert Lodge #437, F&AM

Johnson, Owen E., M.D. & Joyce
Karth, Charles E. & Marjorie J.
Kelly, David J. & Gloria
Koher, Stephen D.
Kress, George O., Jr.
La Grange Lodge #399, F&AM
Lindell, Carl A.
Losasso, Donald L. & Theda
Masonic Square Residents Council
Mellott & Mellott
Mentor Lodge #772, F&AM
Mid-Century Lodge #725, F&AM
Morning Dawn Lodge #7, F&AM
Norwood Chapter #193, RAM
Parks, W. Gary & Betty
Parsons, James S.
Pataskala Lodge #404, F&AM
Pequignot, Gene R. & Dolores
Posey, Terry W. & Cheryl
Puskarich, Michael T. & Judy
Reisinger, LeRoy
Rockton Lodge #316, F&AM
Rothhaar, Marvin E.
Schafer, Albert C. & Beatrice S.
Shank, Harold & Josephine
Shomper, Matthew R. & Barbara L.
Sikorski, Randolph R.
Springfield Masonic Community
Pastoral Care
Stanford, Christopher J.
Taylor, Sharon S.
Thomas, Richard D.
Trinity Lodge #710, F&AM
Wakeman Chapter #177, RAM
Waltz, Jeffrey P.
Wayfarer Lodge #789, F&AM
Weibley, James E.
West Milton Lodge #577, F&AM
White, John
Wilkinson, George B.
Williams, Frank R.
Winchester Lodge #236, F&AM
Xenia Chapter #36, RAM
Yeatman-Mt. Washington Lodge
#162, F&AM
Zickefoose, Marshall

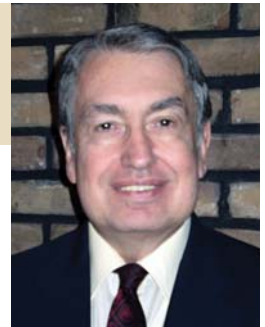


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www.ohiomasonichome.org
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Motivated to Serve

Norm LoBell



Norm LoBell

Norm LoBell looks back now and considers how Masonic Senior Services could have helped in his life. It's a motivating factor in his decision to serve as a member of its board of trustees.

"I wish those resources would have been available to us when we moved to Cincinnati in the late 1980s," he said. "Because of some of my experiences I can help us understand the perspective of those who need the services."

Norm's mother, Jean, who lived with him and his wife, developed stomach cancer. She did not want to leave their home and the family often had to scramble balancing caring for her and their jobs.

The LoBells eventually found a caretaker, referred through word of mouth, to help with Norman's mom. With her help and the flexibility of his employers they were able to provide care until her death six months later.

Similarly, Norm's brother, Jack Evans, also cared for his ailing wife at home. This involved many changes in Jack's life; including retiring

from a job he held his entire adult life since there was no other alternative for her proper care at home.

Norm said having a place to turn to and deal with people you know and trust creates an invaluable resource and that's why he works with the Masonic Senior Services board.

Norm is an officer with Citibank in Florence, Ky. where he's been for 21 years and held a variety of positions in credit and operations dealing with mortgages, manufactured housing lending, indirect auto lending, credit cards and private label credit cards.

"My background has given me experience in fact-finding, evaluating difficult situations and finding solutions to business problems," he said.

Norm's Masonic involvement started late in life. His father spoke about the fraternity with great respect. He was raised a Master Mason in 1994 and has since served as Worshipful Master of Emery Lodge #258, High Priest of Loveland Chapter #211 RAM and

Morrow Chapter #143 RAM. In addition, he belongs to the Ohio

Lodge of Research and the Ohio Chapter of Research and served in numerous other Masonic bodies in the past 15 years.

Norm and Maggie have two grown sons, Troy Henson, who lives in Cincinnati and has his own web design company, and Stacy Henson, a mechanical engineer in Orlando, Fla. Maggie is semi-retired with 25 years in retail management and 10 years as an executive recruiter for IT.

The LoBells are charter members of Epiphany Methodist Church where Brother LoBell has served as treasurer, member of the administrative board and lay conference representative. Norm enjoys reading anything he can get his hands on. He is a 1972 graduate of Ohio State University and a big fan of its sports teams, as well as a Cincinnati Reds fan. ♦

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