

**ROCKY RIVER LODGE NO. 703 F. & A. M.
20149 LAKE ROAD
ROCKY RIVER OHIO 44116**

November 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Dates:

- 11/01/18 MM Degree Exemplar
- 11/08/18 Annual Meeting and Fish Fry
- 11/15/18 MM Degree
- 11/16/18 Open House
- 11/17/18 Past Masters Convocation
- 11/18/18 Past Masters Breakfast
- 11/22/18 Dark - Happy Thanksgiving
- 11/29/18 Installation of Officers

**Please join us for dinner on
meeting nights at 6:30 P.M.**

Volume 76 - Issue 07

More Light in Masonry

- www.rockyriver703.org
- www.freemason.com
- www.freemasonuniversity.com
- www.facebook.com/grandlodgeohio
- www.ohiodistrict22.org



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ROCKY RIVER

TRESTLEBOARD

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 216-337-0012 *aftershock1973@gmail.com*

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 440-759-3261 *MRantala@lcport.org*

Rodger L. Edwards..... *Junior Warden*
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Brian G. Spooner P.M *Treasurer*
 440-734-2741 *bspooner@spoonman.net*

Russ Kilpatrick, P.M. *Secretary*
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Russ Kilpatrick, P.M. *Editor*
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In Memoriam

Edgar Hunter Kilpatrick

Brother Edgar H. Kilpatrick was born on February 14, 1929 in Cleveland, Ohio. Brother Kilpatrick was initiated an Entered Apprentice on September 22, 1950, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on October 6, 1950 and raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason on October 21, 1950.

All degrees were conferred in Windermere Lodge #627, which merged with Acacia Lodge #651. Brother Kilpatrick affiliated with Rocky River Lodge #703 on April 4, 1999.

Brother Kilpatrick was called to the Grand Lodge above on October 7, 2018 at the age of 89, ending 68 years of continuous Masonic affiliation.

George Washington's 1789 Thanksgiving Proclamation

by Midnight Freemasons Contributor W. B. Gregory Knott

Written by George Washington in 1789, this was the first official Presidential Proclamation made in the United States. Shortly after the Thanksgiving Proclamation was written, it was lost for 130 years. It was probably misplaced when the US Capitol moved from New York to Washington, D.C. It now resides in the Library of Congress. And it reads:

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to “recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness:”

Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday, the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been able to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations (especially such as have shown kindness to us), and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as He alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand, at the city of New York, the 3d day of October, A.D. 1789.

WB Gregory J. Knott is the Past Master of St. Joseph Lodge No. 970 in St. Joseph (IL) and a plural member of Ogden Lodge No. 754 (IL), and Homer Lodge No. 199 (IL). He's a member of both the Scottish Rite, and the York Rite, and is the Charter Secretary of the Illini High Twelve Club in Champaign-Urbana. He's also a member of the Ansar Shrine (IL). Greg is very involved in Boy Scouts--an Eagle Scout himself, he serves the Grand Lodge of Illinois A. F. & A. M. as their representative to the National Association of Masonic Scouters.

Installation Notice!

The annual Installation of Officers will be Thursday, November 29. Our Senior Warden, Worshipful Brother Mark Rantala, P.M., is under the impression that he will be elected as Master! Can you imagine that? This will be an open installation and non members are welcome.

Dinner will be at 6:30 pm with the program beginning at 7:30 pm. Please mark your calendar for this important date!

Fraternally,
Russ Kilpatrick, PM,
Secretary

From the Secretary's Desk

Well I must apologize Brethren. It has been difficult to get back into the swing of things at the secretaries desk as of late.

My father has been in a bad way since September and with his passing in October, as I'm sure you would all understand, my world has been jumbled about. Worshipful Brother Spooner, our treasurer, has been gracious enough to assist me in sending out dues notices and other information as I stumble though the *Trestleboard* and my other duties as secretary, work and just getting through a new normal.

I will get my head in the game Brethren. I promise.

Anyhow, during this time I've had some time for self reflection and my relationship with my Lodge, my Brethren, and my role within all of this.

What I found vastly needs improvement. Really.

I joined Freemasonry to be part of something greater; to "learn to improve myself". I feel as though somewhere along the way I got lost. I came to lodge, went through the motions, did what I thought I had to do. I've compared myself to Brethren that I thought were better Masons than I. They were always there to help, lending a hand, traveling to other lodges, attending the functions of not only our lodge but the open events of the Eastern Star Chapter and Jobs Daughters, in our Temple, and the Temple Christmas party, etc. For me it was always "I'm too busy" or "I really don't feel like going", "Let the younger officers take care of this stuff, I've paid my dues".

I sat back and wondered why our lodge is shrinking. Attendance is poor. Some events are not even scheduled. I really didn't have any further to look other than my own mirror!

I remembered back when I, as a new Mason, and even as Master, the Senior Brethren of our lodge were here every week! Regardless of the program, weather, or dinner menu. We had Brethren that would attend our lodge because it was closer than their home lodge.

Looking in the mirror I realized that I need to be there for my Brethren, my lodge, and my elected office.

I will recharge my spirit, and it may take some time. But please join me in attending lodge events, traveling, fellowship about the lodge, and this is an important one, Masonic Funerals. It means so much to the families of our departed Brethren.

Fraternally,
Russ Kilpatrick, PM,
Secretary

Annual Meeting!

This is so important I thought I would run it again just to be sure!

Brethren our Annual Meeting is on November 8, 2018. As you know, we have the election of our officers following supper. This is an important meeting and you should attend, and it would be wonderful to see all of your smiling faces again!

Your Brethren have always cooked a wonderful meal of Lake Erie Perch, spuds, salad and whatever else they can pull out of the fridge. Not wild about fish? We can make a burger with the fixins if you prefer. Just let us know ahead of time. Plan to attend and mark your calendar now for that date.

Also, please remember to pay your dues by the Annual Meeting. Our Treasurer, WB Brian Spooner, has set up a method to accept payment by credit card if you don't wish to pay your dues on line. Just call him and he will be happy to help you.

Please call the Lodge if you know of any Brother that may have difficulty in paying his dues.

PLEASE call me (440)530-0600 if you need assistance from your lodge as you could risk being suspended for non-payment of dues. Delinquent dues notices will be sent out the following day and any dues not paid by December 31st will be suspended for non payment of dues.

Fraternally,
Russ Kilpatrick, PM,
Secretary

‘UGLE to introduce Solomon’

United Grand Lodge of England

RW Bro. Stuart Hadler, Provincial Grand Master of Somerset, and RW Bro. Anthony Howlett-Bolton, PGM of Berkshire, delivered an address Wednesday at the Grand Lodge’s Quarterly Communication titled “Solomon: Fostering Curiosity, Developing Understanding.”

Solomon has been in development for three years, and will be unveiled in November, they said. The planning was begun in response to a membership survey, which prompted a desire “to promote Freemasonry as a relevant, worthwhile, and attractive organization in the 21st century.” That survey revealed a need for the fraternity to deliver instruction on Masonic symbolism, moral and philosophical issues, history and traditions—particularly in Royal Arch Masonry.

“Whilst the performance of ritual is a highly valued tradition of our constitution, and social and charitable aspects are of key importance, we were failing many new and current members who seek to improve themselves through greater insight, knowledge, and understanding of Freemasonry,” said the two PGMs. “Furthermore, that only through a personal ability to communicate and share these values can Freemasonry hope to demonstrate its worth and value in the 21st century.”

They acknowledged how books and the web can offer plenty of material to read and enjoy, but “the opportunity to offer an explanation in the lodge or chapter can be much more effective. This can signpost relevant material, and help us along our own personal Masonic journey.”

“Many members are curious and have a sincere wish to improve their understanding,” they added. “They have expectations when they join and these should evolve over time. We have a responsibility to ensure that our members have ready access to the intellectual and practical resources to enhance their Freemasonry, fulfill their interest and help them become more rounded and committed members. There is a genuine concern that a concentration on the performance of ritual, without appreciating what we are doing and why, overlooks the important messages that lie within and is one reason why some members choose to leave.”

What is Solomon?

“Solomon is a central repository of informative material that will answer some of the questions, and point members along the path of daily advancement in Masonic knowledge,” they explained. “It is designed to be used by individual Masons, lodges, chapters, provinces, and districts, and to fit comfortably with the needs of all levels of experience and interest. It can be used on multiple platforms, such as smartphones, tablets, and computers, and currently contains over 350 items. It will continue to grow and evolve.”

There are no “definitive” answers offered, as the Grand Lodge does not advance official points of view of the speculative matters, but “Solomon is a collection of credible views and interpretations. So you may find different explanations of a symbol or ceremony. This variation in interpretation should stimulate discussion and debate. Such is the nature of Freemasonry.”

Congratulations to the United Grand Lodge of England, and to the brethren who are bringing this project to fruition. That is what real leadership gets you.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

The River Chapter and The Rocky River Lodge

presents the

Annual Children’s Christmas Party

Sunday December 2, 2018 at the Rocky River Masonic Temple
Entertainment starts promptly at 2:00 pm. Gifts for all Children 12 and under.

Name _____ Phone # _____
No. of Adults _____
No. of Boys _____ Ages _____
No. of Girls _____ Ages _____

PLEASE RETURN BY NOVEMBER 23, 2018

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