

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

April 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Dates:

- 4/04/19 Special-Alternative Proficiency
- 4/11/19 Stated-Dinner at 6:30 pm
- 4/18/19 We will be dark for Holy Week.
Happy Easter!
- 4/22/19 Monday-The Order of Eastern Stars
Dinner
- 4/25/19 Stated-Dinner at 6:30 pm
- 5/02/19 Special -A.A.S.R. Night.
Dinner at 6:30 pm
- 5/04/19 A.A.S.R. Reunion
- 5/09/19 Stated-Dinner at 6:30 pm
- 5/16/19 Special meeting open to the public
"Masons In Space"
- 5/23/19 Stated-Dinner at 6:30 pm
- 5/30/19 Cleveland Axe Throwing

See inside for more information.

Volume 77 - Issue 04

More Light in Masonry

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

BROWN PLEASANCE
florists

17419 Detroit Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216-226-7850
Flowers for Every Occasion
www.brownpleasance.com

Law Offices of
BENJAMIN F. FARAH
Attorneys & Counselors at Law Ltd.
1154 Linda Street Suite 175
Rocky River, OH 44116
Ph: 440-331-0801 Fax: 440-331-0733
Email: bfarah@riverlaw.com

Architectural Signage Computerized Graphics
Nameplates Pre-Inked Stamps
Self Inkers Embossing Seals
Daters Rubber Stamps



ROYAL /ACME
Your Identification Specialists
3110 Payne Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114
216-241-1477 Fax: 216-241-1479



**THE WM. PLOTZ
MACHINE & FORGE CO.**
ESTABLISHED 1888 - INCORPORATED 1992

Jim and Tom Plotz
2514 Center St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1111
216-861-0441

Showroom: 440-331-1055 Fax: 440-331-1149
Beachcliff Cabinet & Design Company
"Creative designs for your
life-styles & living space"
**CHARLES P. SIMMELINK
STAN ZEAGER**

- Kitchens & Baths 1150 Linda Street
- Additions Rocky River, Ohio
- Windows & Doors 44116

ZEIS
McGreevey
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICE
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED

JOHN G. "Jack" McGREEVEY
(216) 221-0220
zmfh.com

Fax (216) 529-1028
Res. (440) 356-0017
1-800-536-0220

16105 DETROIT AVENUE
LAKEWOOD, OHIO 44107

ROCKY RIVER

TRESTLEBOARD

Rocky River Lodge # 703 F. & A.M.
20149 Lake Road
Rocky River, Ohio 44116
Phone: (440) 331-4797

2019 Officers

Mark Rantala P.M...... *Worshipful Master*
 440-759-3261 MRantala@lcport.org

Rodger L. Edwards..... *Senior Warden*
 440-335-0136 repilot@wildblue.net

William P. Ritley, P.M. *Junior Warden*
 216-337-0012 aftershock1973@gmail.com

Brian G. Spooner P.M. *Treasurer*
 440-734-2741 bspooner@spoonman.net

Russ Kilpatrick, P.M. *Secretary*
 440-530-0600 pmredscot@gmail.com

William P. Ritley, P.M. *Welfare*
 216-337-0012 aftershock1973@gmail.c

Russ Kilpatrick, P.M. *Editor*
 440-530-0600 pmredscot@gmail.com

In Memoriam

Gregory Dale Hayden

Worshipful Brother Gregory Dale Hayden was born on June 24, 1949 in Berea, Ohio.

Worshipful Brother Hayden was initiated an Entered Apprentice on February 4, 1982, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on March 18, 1982 and raised to the sublime Degree of Master Mason on April 15, 1982. All degrees were conferred in Rocky River Lodge #703, F. & A.M.

Worshipful Brother Hayden served as Master of Rocky River Lodge in 1986.

Worshipful Brother Hayden was called to the Grand Lodge above on March 16, 2019 at the age of 69, ending 37 years of continuous Masonic affiliation.

From The East

With inspection behind us, we have a Spring of activities for the Lodge. We had a very successful FC degree for Inspection and we should be proud of the progress we have made this year.

Thursday, April 4, is a special meeting Alternative Proficiency presentation. DDGM Jim Hieb and DEO William Fletcher will make a presentation about the new Alternative Proficiency process. Together they will demonstrate this process in the Fellow Craft degree. It should be a very educational program. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm and attire will be business suit

Thursday, April 11, is a stated meeting with dinner at 6:30 pm.

Thursday, April 18, we will be dark for Holy Week. Happy Easter!

Monday, April 22, The Order of Eastern Stars dinner will be prepared and served by the Rocky River Lodge Officers and Brethren. It is a great opportunity for us to further strengthen our relationship with River Chapter OES.

Thursday, April 25, is a stated meeting with dinner at 6:30 pm

Thursday, May 2, special Meeting to recognize the Scottish Rite members of Rocky River Lodge with a special program. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm.

Saturday, May 4, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Reunion – 3615 Euclid Ave.

Thursday, May 16, special meeting open to the public. Please feel free to bring your family. Dinner will be at 6:30 pm. Special Presentation by District Education Officer William Fletcher about “Masons In Space” I have seen this presentation it is out of this world!

On Thursday, May 30, let’s try our hand at axe throwing at Cleveland Axe Throwing. The cost is \$20 per person and we have room for 24 members. Looks like a fun night similar to our range night. Please call Mark Rantala at 440-759-3261 for details.

Fraternally,
 Mark W. Rantala, W.M.

I was thinking of WB Bill Gay this morning and particularly enjoyed his “The Wisdom of Solomon” articles. I, by no means am the wordsmith that Bill was, so I thought I’d share some of his musings. Here are a few of his early works. Miss you Bill, we all do.

(From September 2003)

The Wisdom of Solomon

#703 should be a common denominator to most of our Lodge recollections but what do you know about the untiled goings on of Lodge #703½.

For the most part it seldom opens without #703 first closing, it never chairs a master but does employ some very fetching Stewards, never conducts any business and those issues that it does deal with, are usually done at refreshment. This ridiculous riddle concerns a tradition that has evolved which occasions those brethren who attend #703 to re-gather after closing at a beverage purveying establishment known as the Linden Lounge for purposes continued fellowship, Masonic discussion, outrageous bragging, and impartation of Solomonic wisdom. (Brother Frank Westerman will have to advise if there is any such adjective as "Solomonic Wisdom") Examples of Solomon's wisdom gleaned from a

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

recent Thursday night gathering include such sayings as "my first date necessitated me having a discussion with the girl's father about the "hereafter". Seems he felt he knew what I was "here after". Also "when I was in high-school, I wanted a car so bad I prayed to God for one. Then somebody told me that wasn't the kind of thing you prayed for, so I stole one and asked God to forgive me." See what you're missing with your absence.

See you next month, yours truly, "Ole Sol".

(From December 2003)

The Wisdom of Solomon

At no disappointment to the ownership of the Linden Lounge, Lodge #703½ continues to convene after the regular meetings adjourn. The legitimacy of this fine collection of thirsty souls has been officially recognized by the awarding of the first #703½ Membership Certificate to Lodge Secretary Bill Gay. His humble receipt of same is soon to be duplicated to other faithful members of this august society.

A recent topic of Masonic discussion concerned cigars. Ah yes cigars, the bane of all eating, drinking and other socially oriented current day establishments. W.B. Don MacLeod recalled that ashtrays and cigars used to be standard issue at all annual meetings up until the advent of the 1990's. W.B. Mel Fink puffed away in enjoyable fashion along with many other Brethren despite the increasing displeasure of many more. How divine the Lodge must have smelled when the ladies of the Eastern Star next met in the Lodge room.

It was also pointed out that the search for the "Jewell" in the Master Mason degree often produced several cigars snuck into the candidates coat pocket by the Marshall for the Fellowcraft Team to discover. Alas, these things no longer happen but still stand as good memories of good times to be had by good guys getting together for the purpose of enhancing their Masonic fellowship.

Why not share some of your memories with "Ole Sol" of this type of "goings-on" from Lodge days gone-by. If we are prohibited from continuing their usage, we can certainly still reminisce. And so it goes at the old watering hole, seating still continues to be available. More BS next month.

Yours truly,
"Ole Sol", Secy. Lodge #703½

The Wisdom of Solomon

Lodge #703½ has been successfully in Thursday night session at the Linden Lounge for the last several months (one night 14 parched and dissipated souls gathered therein). Meaning and stature has also been conferred on the assemblage by the occasional presence of a Grand Lodge Officer (in case you thought this was just a rag-tag collection of beverage Masons).

A common topic of discourse often deals with the arguments a man occasionally gets into with his wife to which the following situational examples have been advanced. A couple drove down a country road for several miles, not saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their position. As they passed a barnyard of mules, jack-asses, and pigs, the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yep," the wife replied, "in-laws!" Or... A woman has the last word in any argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

Occasional conversations take place regarding Lodge affairs. One such recent observation dealt with the fine practice of our current corps of officers in splitting up the phone registry to call brothers regarding funerals, special Lodge events, etc. The result has been that we have seen faces in Lodge that haven't been there in a while as well as finding out that health misfortunes have befallen some and that a card or a visit would be welcome from their Lodge. We used to have a very active welfare committee and it looks like the desire is there to revisit the practice of stopping by to check on how the house-bound are doing; an effort that produces rewards for both parties.

Topics at Lodge #703½ range from the sincere to the bizarre but are always worth the effort it takes to be there even if you have to sit behind a bottle of "O'Doul's".

Yours truly,
"Ole Sol", Secy. Lodge #703½

Sadly, the Linden Lounge has closed and is now a veterinary clinic. It really has gone to the dogs.

The Convivial Mason

contributed by Tony Huglin - Blyth Lodge No. 2869

I now present to you the working tools of the convivial Mason. They are the Fork, the Knife and the Tumbler.

The Fork is an implement which enables even the most inexperienced Mason to secure, sometimes by reaching across the table, the most delicate and succulent morsels which adorn our festive board to delight the eye and stimulate the jaded appetite. It is further used to convey the various portions to the aperture which has been specially designed to receive them, and which reduces all nutriment to a common level. More especially, should this implement be used in partaking of peas, which, if conveyed to the mouth by aid of the knife, often prove very elusive.

The Knife, when properly ground and sharpened, is used in bringing crude matter into due form, assisting us to dissect the anatomy of even the most venerable rooster; and to further prepare and divide the same into proper proportions to suit the dimension of the aforesaid aperture, so, that it may not be filled to excess, and thus prevent that flow of fervid eloquence which should at all times be the distinguishing characteristics of the convivial mason.

The Tumbler enables us, with accuracy and precision, to ascertain and determine the quantity of liquid which we find best conduces to the preservation of our general joviality, and while all Tumblers have not an engraving or marking upon them commonly known as "the pretty", the skillful craftsman can measure his "tot" by the aid of the two, or three finger rule.

But as we are not met here as speculative, but rather as energetic and operative Masons, we apply these rules to our Morals.

In this sense the Fork points out that we should not at all times sit down and wait for what we most desire, but should reach out, secure, and retain it, profiting by our opportunities, and assimilating the knowledge gained by our experiences. Nor should we forget that the little things of life require to be looked after. And as the prongs of the Fork are equal and mutually assist each other, being joined together in one compact structure, so are we all equal when met together as Masons, and the Fork should teach us to stand shoulder to shoulder, and practice those four qualities which cannot be too strongly recommended to your notice, viz, straightforwardness in our dealings with one another; sympathy with the failings of a brother; good temper in our differences of opinion; and fidelity to the sacred tie which binds us together.

The Knife points out the value of patience and assiduity, for as it requires to be sharp, and in good condition to enable it to cope with some of the problems which confront it, so we are taught to take care of our mental and corporeal faculties that we may not be left behind in the battle of life. It also teaches us not to cut off more than we can comfortably chew, but to limit our desires in every station of life, that, arising to eminence by merit, we may live respected and die regretted.

The Tumbler inculcates the necessity for moderation in all things, for as it has no graduated scale by which to measure its varying contents, the user must exercise his own judgement as to the quantity of liquid poured therein. So we are expected to ascertain, and not exceed the limits of our internal economy, for, as the Tumbler will only hold a certain quantity without detriment to its surroundings, so should we learn our capacity, and thus avoid either overflowing with unseemly hilarity or confusing our mental and physical powers. And as the perfect Tumbler rings true whether it is empty, or whether it contains liquor, so should the perfect convivial Mason ring true after labor at the Supper Table. A cracked Tumbler is despised and rejected.

Thus the Working Tools of the Convivial Mason teach us to bear in mind and act according to the cardinal virtues of Prudence and Temperance, so that when we shall be summoned to drink the Tyler's Toast, after partaking of all the good things which a bountiful Providence has provided for us, we may arise and depart homeward with the gratifying testimony of a contented mind, and equal poise, and a clear brain.