



Second Masonic District

www.secondmasonicdistrict.org

Serving Ohio Lodges in Butler, Montgomery, Preble, and Warren Counties

FEBRUARY 2009

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INSPECTIONS

February is full of Lucky 7 inspections. The LUCKY 7 AWARD is given to the Lodge with the highest over all attendance at seven selected Lodges each year.

DAY	DATE	LODGE	DDGM	DEG	S/T	MEAL	OPEN
MON	2-Feb	St. Johns 13 *	JWH	EA	TUX	No	7 PM
WED	4-Feb	Washington 17	JWH	MM	TUX	No	7 PM
THU	5-Feb	Minerva 98	LBC	EA	TUX	6 PM	7 PM
SAT	7-Feb	King Hiram 88 *	GLN	FC	SUIT	8 AM	9 AM
THU	12-Feb	Bolivar 82	JWH	MM	SUIT	6 PM	7 PM
TUE	17-Feb	Mystic 405	GLN	FC	TUX	No	7 PM
TUE	24-Feb	Vandalia 742 *	SDB	MM	TUX	6 PM	7 PM
WED	25-Feb	Farmersville 482	LBC	EA	TUX	6 PM	7 PM
FRI	27-Feb	Brookville 596	WGB	MM	TUX	6 PM	7 PM

Don't forget to invite newly initiated brothers to visit other Lodges in the District. If you have never visited another Lodge, now is a great time. You can click on the photograph of the Lodge's Building after using the "Addresses of Lodges" button on secondmasonicdistrict.org. Or, even better, car pool with other Brethren from your Lodge!

LODGE OPEN HOUSES

M. W. Brother Charles R. Murphy has asked all lodges to host a PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE on March 21, 2009. Since our District is hosting a Grand Master's Reception that evening, many Grand Lodge Officers will be in our area and plan to visit many Lodges. February is a great month to plan and advertise your Lodge's Open House and look after any maintenance issues that might detract from a newcomer's first visit.

MEETING CHANGE

Due to weather, the January District Officers Association meeting has been changed to Feb. 10th, 7 P.M. at the Dayton Masonic Center—hosted by Solar Lodge #730.

BUTLER

- 17 Washington
- 67 Oxford
- 90 Jefferson
- 686 Hugh L. Bates
- 693 Lincoln Benjamin
- 719 Franklin
- 773 High Point

MONTGOMERY

- 13 St. Johns
- 98 Minerva
- 147 Dayton
- 257 Germantown
- 405 Mystic
- 482 Farmersville
- 596 Brookville
- 716 John W. Durst
- 729 Alpha
- 730 Solar
- 737 West Carrollton
- 742 Vandalia
- 743 Englewood
- 755 Trotwood
- 777 Huber Heights
- 779 Millennium
- 784 Far Hills

PREBLE

- 80 Libanus
- 82 Bolivar
- 88 King Hiram
- 106 Fellowship
- 159 Camden

WARREN

- 26 Lebanon
- 55 Eastern Star
- 135 Butlerville
- 163 Waynesville
- 265 Morrow
- 678 Mason

January Anagram Quiz ANSWERS

An anagram is a word or phrase formed by rearranging the letters of another word or phrase. For example, "Second District" could become "Odd Citric Nests" or "Scenic Dirt Dots".

With this in mind, what Lodges are the following?

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Ram Vine | <i>Minerva</i> |
| 2 | Any Dot | <i>Dayton</i> |
| 3 | Meant Wrong | <i>Germantown</i> |
| 4 | My Tics | <i>Mystic</i> |
| 5 | Reversal Film | <i>Farmersville</i> |
| 6 | Orals | <i>Solar</i> |
| 7 | Swollen Tractor | <i>West Carrollton</i> |
| 8 | Naval Aid | <i>Vandalia</i> |
| 9 | We No Lodge | <i>Englewood</i> |
| 10 | Word Toot | <i>Trotwood</i> |
| 11 | Sheer But High | <i>Huber Heights</i> |
| 12 | Ah Frills | <i>Far Hills</i> |

February Anagram QUIZ Part II

- 1 Thawing Nos
- 2 Rod Fox
- 3 He Shalt Bug
- 4 Hint Go Hip
- 5 Nub Sail
- 6 Vial Bro
- 7 Raking Him
- 8 Elfish Plow
- 9 Ban Noel
- 10 Rare As Tents
- 11 Liver Bullet
- 12 Weasel Vinyl

(Hint: This month all the Lodges in the quiz are not in Montgomery County.)

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS - Unspotted by the world

The first gift the newly made Mason receives from the fraternity by the master of his Lodge is the white leather apron; the badge of a Mason. It is tangible evidence, (given to him,) of his admission into the fraternity, and it is the first symbol that is presented and explained to him.

Many a Mason when he was finally presented with his apron, (Signed and dated by the Master and the Secretary of his Lodge,) he is told, or reminded, about preserving it so that it can be placed upon his body or coffin when that time comes, and that he should keep it spotless. Many times the message about keeping it spotless stresses the actual cleanliness of the physical apron.

There are Masons who find this interesting, and some who misunderstand what is meant by the Senior Wardens part when he is taught how to wear his apron as an Entered Apprentice. It is then he is told to keep his apron as an emblem of innocence, unspotted by the world.

When we consider the Masonic Apron we will notice that it is not a square, (as we know a square to be today,) it is an oblong square, and this might be important to remember as it concerns the apron. In ancient times, any 4 sided figure was referred to as a square; when the figure was equilateral it was spoken of as being a perfect square; if it was what we now call an oblong it was called an oblong square. The symbolic meaning of an oblong square is that it is an imperfect square. And this is what is meant when a candidate, and newly made Mason stands forming the right angle of an oblong square: A candidate for the degrees of Masonry by placing his feet in this position is symbolic; the symbolism says that the candidate has tried to live his life, as nearly on the square as is possible for an honest, moral, and upright man to do, 'without the benefit of the great moral teachings of Freemasonry,' which he has come to the Lodge to learn. "Whether the candidate knows it or not he is symbolically saying, to the brethren present, that he has been living the best he could with his limited knowledge; he has a desire for higher things and that is why he has lived straight, and why he petitioned for the degrees. "Had his life been a life of vice and dissipation this idealistic desire would, naturally, have been absent."

In the Apron Lecture the new Mason is told how the Apron is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason: In the second section of the lecture of the degree he is reminded how the lamb in all ages has been an emblem of innocence, and told the apron should remind him of the purity of life and conduct which is essentially necessary for a Freemason. Innocence and purity; two different things: Purity is different because it includes, and has, the meaning of knowledge. "A child is innocent and may be said to be pure also, but its purity is the purity of ignorance and inexperience, not the purity of knowledge and conscious choice. The child, though innocent and clean, has not yet been tried by temptation and its strength has not yet been developed." Purity for the new Mason has the added meaning of knowledge and of his resistance to temptation to do wrong. The White color of the apron symbolizes the Mason's purity, who has experienced all temptations, as well as adverse conditions, and consciously chooses righteousness; to do what is right in the right way because it is right. White also symbolizes innocence; innocence 'is another significant quality because innocence means to the Mason - harmlessness. "The candidate has been taught to be as square as he can be in his relations with others, to lay aside prejudice and to listen with an unbiased mind to that truth which has been handed down from the ages past." "All these lessons have been repeated again and again in different ways and now he is taught that his whole attitude towards others must be one of harmlessness as well as justice."

In the apron lecture of the Preston-Webb work is a sentence that says, "It is yours, yours to wear through and honorable life, and at your death to be placed upon the coffin which contains your earthly remains." From Bryant's Thanatopsis it says in part; "If you disgrace it, the disgrace will be augmented by the consciousness that you have been taught, in this Lodge, the principles of a correct and manly life." "My Brother, may you so wear this emblem of spotless white that no act of yours shall ever stain its purity, or cast a reflection upon this ancient and honorable institution that has outlived the fortunes of kings and the mutations of empires."

So, "Unspotted by the World" does not mean only keeping our aprons physically clean and spotless, it has a deeper meaning regarding our character and conduct; unspotted by the world means each individual Mason living so as to not bring discredit to himself and thus keeping his apron unspotted.

NEWSLETTER - To present information to the Brethren of the Second District, please send it to W.B. Eric Flasher at eric_flasher@yahoo.com. Also, send any Lodge announcements such as community meals or other fund raising activities. The Second District Newsletter is issued the first of each month. Please submit articles seven days prior to the end of the month.