



Second Masonic District

www.secondmasonicdistrict.org

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

JUNE 2009

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R.W.B. Larry Cornett

R.W.B. Jerry Hatton

R.W.B. Steven D. Behme

R.W.B. Richard Shields

Here are key upcoming dates:

- SAT. June 13 Grand Masters Class (One Day Class)
- SUN. June 14 Ohio Masonic Home Day
- SAT. June 20th 2nd Dist. Outdoor Raising–Waynesville
- TUE. June 23 Pillars / Program Roll-out
- FRI. June 26 Special Olympics Columbus
- Benny Roush Golf Outing rescheduled for fall...more details later
- SAT. October 17th Motor Coach Ride to Toledo Grand Lodge to watch installation of R.W. Bro. Terry Posey as Grand Master of Ohio

Recall that June 1st is the deadline to submit candidates for the Grand Masters Class. You should have \$25 per candidate, bibles, and aprons (marked for the three degrees) at the Dayton Masonic Center for the 7 a.m. registration opening. Tables will be set-up for each Lodge...direct your candidates to look for your Lodge name. In addition, the District web site will have a template to help you mark bibles and a spreadsheet to facilitate sending candidate names to W.B. Eric Flasher (eric_flasher@yahoo.com) for registration.

Urge your Brethren to use the secondmasonicdistrict.org web site for details on all these events and for any last minute changes.

This newsletter is produced to keep the Brethren of the Second District abreast of activities of Masonic interest. If you have information, photographs, or other items, please send them to eric_flasher@yahoo.com.

This month's education lesson--regarding the white lamb skin apron--comes from R.W. Brother Steve Behme. He had read it at a recent inspection and many had commented on how they would like to share it in their own Lodges. When asked for a copy, R.W. Behme agreeded. His wife, Diana Behme took time off work to deliver it in time for this edition. Her sacrifice and commitment to helping Masonry is just one example of the many things our spouses do to help our organization. Let's remember them and thank them for their ongoing support.

SPECIAL LETTER FROM DISTRICT ADVISOR, R.W. BROTHER TERRY POSEY, DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

Brethren

As the Inspection season has come to a conclusion, I wish to congratulate those lodges and brethren who made a real effort to attend inspections. In particular, Brookville Lodge, who won the travelling gavel 20 times this year (out of 34 other inspections), should be congratulated.

I had the opportunity to attend Trotwood Lodge's last inspection. The officers did a fine job and I thank them for their work. They will be merging into Brookville Lodge and I think it will be a great fit for them.

As you may know, I have scheduled 13 Rollout Programs around Ohio this summer. The first Rollout will be June 23 at the Dayton Masonic Center and it is particularly targeted to the 2nd and 3rd Districts. The Rollout Program is directed towards the officers of the lodge, but if an interested brother wishes to hear the plans for the Grand Lodge next year, he would surely be invited. Additionally, the Grand Lodge Committee on Education will present a program of interest.

The Second District Officers' Association and the Grand Lodge 2010 Committee have been working hard planning our portion of the Toledo Grand Lodge, which includes the hospitality room on Friday Night October 16, and the installation on October 17. I am humbled to have such great workers helping to assist our Grand Lodge. I hope to see all of you on June 23.

The Lamb Skin or White Leather Apron

Masons have been asked down through the centuries, why members of the Masonic order wear a white apron?

The earliest mention of the apron was when Melchizedek, with Abraham started the first priesthood. Melchizedek was the most high priest and the first to wear the apron as the badge of religious authority. From the days of Melchizedek, the white apron was the symbol of the priesthood.

The apron is the first gift a man receives in Masonry and one of the first symbols explained to him. It is the first tangible evidence of becoming a mason. It is written that the white lamb skin or white leather apron is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Free and Accepted Mason, more ancient than the golden fleece, or Roman eagle, more honorable than the star and garter.

The golden fleece was the golden wool of a sacred ram in Greek mythology. It was kept in a forest near the Black Sea and guarded by a dragon. King Pelias ordered his nephew, Jason, to bring the golden fleece back to him. In this way Jason might prove he was worthy of the throne of his father, whose name was Aeson. He sailed with other heroes on the ship Argo. They had many dangerous adventures, but Jason finally got his prize. Medea and her magic spells helped him, and he returned with the golden fleece to force Pelias from the throne.

The Roman eagle was the Military Standard of the ancient Romans. They believed it was the bird of the Planet Jove, which we know as the planet Jupiter. The Romans believed that dead emperors were carried up to heaven by an eagle. The eagle topped their scepters and were the insignia of the legions. A legion was the principal unit of the Roman army. Comprising three thousand foot soldiers with cavalry. The Roman eagle faced right whereas the eagle on the great seal of the United States faced left until recent years.

The order of the Star and Garter was founded by King Edward III who reigned from 1327 to 1377. In 1349 the king was dancing with the Countess of Salisbury at a great court ball and she lost her garter. As the King picked it up to hand it to her he saw several persons smile and indulge in remarks. This made him angry and he explained in French, "honi soit qui Maipense" (shame be he who thinks evil of it). Then he added that he would wish to wear it, but very few do, only members of the royal family and English nobleman.

Masons wear a white apron because it is found on the scripture, and not on Greek mythology, beliefs of the ancient Romans, or an act of an English King. In all Masonic works a Mason is not properly clothed unless he has on the white apron. The apron that was presented and explained to him when he first became a Mason and will be with him into eternity.



Grand Master's Class - 2009



Saturday, June 13, 2009

Grand Master's Classes will be held at the **Dayton Masonic Center** and in each of the Masonic Districts in Ohio on June 13, 2009, Most Worshipful Brother Charles R. Murphy has announced.

The Grand Master's Class provides the opportunity for experiencing the three initiation ceremonies all on one day.

After the Class, each Lodge will hold a dinner for their new members and their families. "It could be a potluck, a picnic, a catered event or a dinner at a 5-star restaurant, whatever works best for the Lodge. This is an opportunity to integrate the new Brethren," explained MW Brother Murphy. "In my estimation this is as important, perhaps even more so, as the Class itself." You should have already received a letter from R.W. Bro. Pelfrey regarding an \$11 dinner opportunity at the Dayton Masonic Center.

Lodges are required to process petitions and investigate candidates in the usual manner. However, special meetings may be called to act on petitions.

Petitions from prospective candidates must be submitted to Lodges in early or mid May, because Lodges must register the FINAL list of candidates and count of mentors to W.B. Eric Flasher no later than **Monday, June 1, 2009**. No candidates will be permitted to participate in the Class who have not been registered. (A template spreadsheet is on the secondmasonicdistrict.org web site to facilitate registration.)

Joining a Masonic Lodge and becoming a Freemason is a time-honored tradition, which can be experienced in two ways. A petitioner elected to membership can experience the three initiation ceremonies on three separate occasions or all on one day.

Registration Deadline: Monday, June 1, 2009

The Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio

CLIFFORD P. KOSS
PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER
SECOND MASONIC DISTRICT



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Subject: Grand Master's Reception – October 24, 2009

Worshipful Sir,

At the District Officer's Association Meeting on April 29, 2009 a proposal was presented to the membership which was enthusiastically endorsed. The proposal was to offer the lodges of the Second District an opportunity to sponsor a Grand Lodge Officer at the 2nd District Grand Master's Reception.

The purpose is to help reduce the expenses associated to the Grand Master's Reception, and allow us to maintain the cost of our dinner at \$20.00.

The cost to sponsor a Grand Lodge Officer is \$200.00 and will defray the cost of Lodging and the meal for both he and his wife.

In return, the sponsoring Lodge will receive a full-page ad in the Grand Master's Program as well as recognition on the inside of the front cover identifying that Lodge as sponsoring the Grand Lodge Officer's participation in the 2nd Districts Grand Master's Reception.

I respectfully request that you give serious consideration to participate in this endeavor. If your Lodge circumstance is such that you can not financially support this effort, you might consider joining with another Lodge and together provide the requested support of a Grand Lodge Officer.

Your consideration of this request is appreciated.

Fraternally,

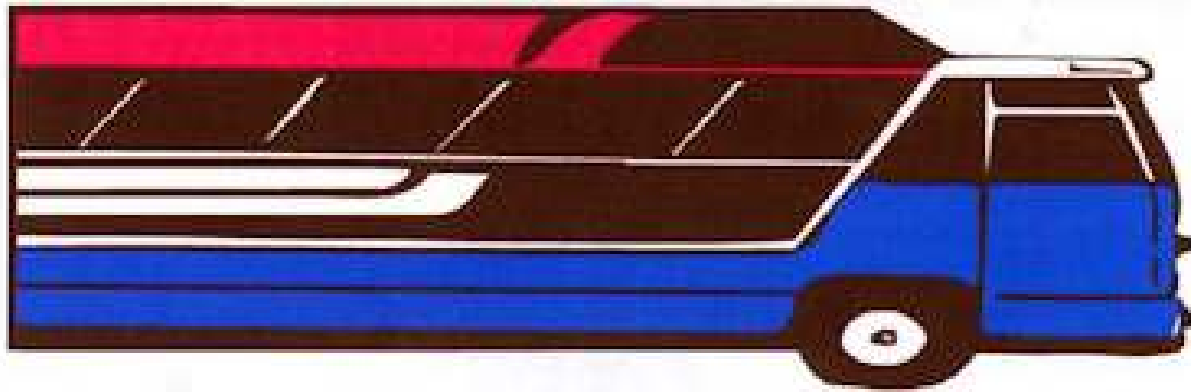
Clifford P. Koss, PDDGM
General Chairman
Grand Master's Reception



SECOND MASONIC DISTRICT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION



Grand Lodge Toledo – 2009



Saturday, October 17, 2009

Bus will depart DMC at 7:00 am

Bus will return at 7:00 pm

\$48.00 / Person – Bus Trip & Luncheon

To commemorate the installation of our Deputy Grand Master RWB Terry W. Posey as Grand Master, the Second Masonic District Officer's Association will be sponsoring a bus trip to Grand Lodge in Toledo this October. The bus will depart the DMC early morning and arrive in Toledo for Grand Lodge ceremonies. The Second District will also be hosting a luncheon to honor our new Grand Master, please make plans to attend.

Reservation deadline: October 1st, 2009 We have to have at least 40 riders to cover the expense of the motor coach.

**To reserve your seat, please contact Mike Johnson at
(513) 885-1627 or (513) 737 – 6576.**



Second Masonic District Officers Association



Outdoor Raising

When: Saturday June 20th, 2009.

- *1st Section: 4:00 PM*
- *Cookout: 5:00 PM. \$8 for meal*
- *2nd Section: 6:00 PM*

*Where: Lemay Estates, Waynesville, Ohio
Wilkerson Lane, Waynesville. Look for the signs.*



Please RSVP by Sat. June 13th* for dinners.

Please contact Bryan Worley for RSVP and questions:

***same day as Grand Masters Class – Pay \$8 the day of the event to 2nd DOA
(937) 417-9473 or osuweldengineer@who.rr.com**