

Second Masonic District

October 1, 2005

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D.D.G.M.s

From The District

Brethren,

As we move into fall, things start to get busy. Election of officers is just around the corner.

I hope to see many of you at Grand Lodge in Columbus on October 21st and 22nd.

Don't forget The District Officers Association meeting on October 26th at Washington Lodge #17 in Hamilton.

October 27th at 6:00pm. Ben Franklin Lodge #719 is having a dinner honoring RWB Carl Wilson 33 degree.

On October 29th at 6:00 pm, the 8th district will have their Grand Masters reception at the Roberts convention center in Wilmington, Ohio.

Check Lodge announcements on the web page for more events.

If you have event announcements you would like to have listed in this Letter, please email Rick Shields at rshields1@cinci.rr.com.

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District Advisor

This is the season for the Annual Communications of the various York Rite bodies as well as your own Grand Lodge. To that end, we would like to congratulate WB George Shell, WB Bobby Campbell and WB Burch Zehner for their advancement in the lines of the Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery, respectively. I look forward to their presiding in their various bodies.

I am extremely happy to report that at the last Supreme Council of the AASR, that MWB Neil Smalley was elected Deputy of Ohio. Each of the 15 states within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction has a "Deputy," who is the executive officer for the Rite within his state. He is supported by the remaining Active Members. There is at least one Active Member in addition to the Deputy in each state. Ohio has five Active Members of the Supreme Council and five Deputy's Representatives. Each of the Active Members and Deputy's Representatives preside over one of the ten Valleys in Ohio. On October 16, 2005 at 3:00pm, a reception will be held in the Dayton Masonic Center to congratulate MWB Smalley and all are invited to attend.

Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge: At each Grand Communication, the Grand Secretary is forced to report the Lodges who have not attended this session. Your Charter and the Code requires at least one representative to attend the session. The officers of most of the Lodges in this District have been faithful in their attendance and I hope they will continue this year. To those who must be called to attend, I would hope that this year, you will decide to attend both Friday and Saturday's sessions.

Terry W. Posey
Grand Marshal
Grand Lodge of Ohio

District Deputy Grand Masters

Friendship
By Elbert Bede

The cordiality exhibited here reminds me of the wise king, growing old, who wished to determine which of his two sons was the more worthy to ascend the throne. He called them to him and informed them he would give them a year in which to prove their popularity, which they would be provided with whatever funds they wished, and that at the end of the year the more popular should be selected to rule.

Straightway the elder son started squandering money lavishly upon those who believed (like some of today) that anything coming from the national treasury was free. The royal palace nightly was noisy with high revelry. Young men laughed heartily at the prince's wit, while others professed to be amazed one so young could be so wise. The elder son appeared daily in public places to receive the adulation of the multitude whose money he was squandering.

Publicly the younger son appeared not to enter the contest for popularity. Apparently he went his way just as he had before. His demands upon the treasury were modest. He avoided the blaze of the palace lights under which the many joined in nightly orgies. He went quietly about as before endeavoring to adjust unfair taxes. Often he appeared in court to plead the cause of some tattered wretch. He mingled with the laborers upon public projects and listened to their complaints. He mingled with the merchants in the bazaars and heard their troubles. He mingled with subjects of the realm wherever they might be found, regardless of station. He carried contributions to the unfortunate. Often he was at the bedside of the sick. He sought not the cheers of the multitude, but rather the gratitude of the poor, which is something we hear about in Freemasonry.

At the end of the year the wise old king had the two princes arrested on a trumped-up charge of treason to the throne. He had them incarcerated in a room that communicated with the royal audience chamber, so that, while restrained from entering, the princes might see and hear what happened there.

So soon as the arrests became known, hundreds came to plead for the younger prince, and to protest that one so kind and good could not be guilty of the charges laid against him, while none came except to condemn the elder prince who so lately had had the help of the many in spending their money.

The elder turned to the younger and asked: “How were you able, with no apparent effort, to gain so many friends who now came to plead for you, while I am condemned even by those who so short a time ago were at my heels?” The younger answered: “I did not try to *make* friends, I tried to *be* a friend.”

Didn't he have something there? Isn't there a Masonic lesson of deep design in that little yarn? Friendship cannot be won by formula or some magical hocus-pocus. It can't be purchased by the yard over a counter. It is one of the few things that can't be taken from one worthy of it. It is one thing that mellows and improves with age. It is the one thing that every person, high or low, rich or poor, may possess in quantity. It is the one thing with which every person, regardless of worldly station, may lavishly endow whomsoever he will. It is the one thing you may give and be richer for the giving. It is the one thing that follows us beyond the veil.

Being a friend is Freemasonry fully developed.

Submitted by:
Carlos R. Pratt
SDDGM, 2nd Masonic District

Lodge Announcements

Please see the main page on the website. (secondmasonicdistrict.org)

Inspections

Next years inspections will be posted as soon as they are available.

