

Harvesting Hope

Harvesting Hope

2015-2016 Grand
Lodge Officers
Installed

Introducing Grand
Master Robert C.
Rill, Jr.

Ohio Masonic
Home Resource
Center

Scottish Rite
Building and York
Rite Building
Dedications

Masons Honored
for WWII Service

Ohio Masonic
Home Foundation
Annual Giving
Program

Yarn Buddies
at Western
Reserve Masonic
Community

Grand Master's
Florida
Reunion Trip



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The Ohio Beacon is published quarterly. Please report all changes of address to your Lodge secretary, who, in turn, will notify the Grand Secretary, who maintains the database that produces the BEACON mailing lists.

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What an honor and privilege it is to lead this Great Fraternity of ours. Little did I know when I knelt and took the obligation of an Entered Apprentice that I would have the opportunity to serve my Brothers as their Grand Master. I never could have imagined this. Thank you.

The 2016 theme of our Grand Lodge is Freemasonry - a Brotherhood of Values. I have chosen this because it sums up what I believe this fraternity represents: a brotherhood of men living by the values of honor, of integrity, of charity, of brotherly love and of truth. These are values on which our country was founded.

Every leader must surround himself with great leaders to advise, counsel and challenge him effectively to grow our vision. I would like to introduce to you our Junior Grand Deacon R.W. Brother Steven M. Grindle. He is a Past Master of Toledo Fort Industry Lodge No. 144. He and his wife Jane Ann are a perfect fit to the Grand Lodge family, and I believe he would make a great Grand Master one day.

R.W. Brother Robert G. Sickelbaugh is your new Grand Tyler and a Past Master of Phoenix Lodge No. 123. Bob and I served together as District Deputies of the 11th Masonic District. Bob will do well in guarding our door. He and his wife Anne reside in Perrysburg, Ohio.

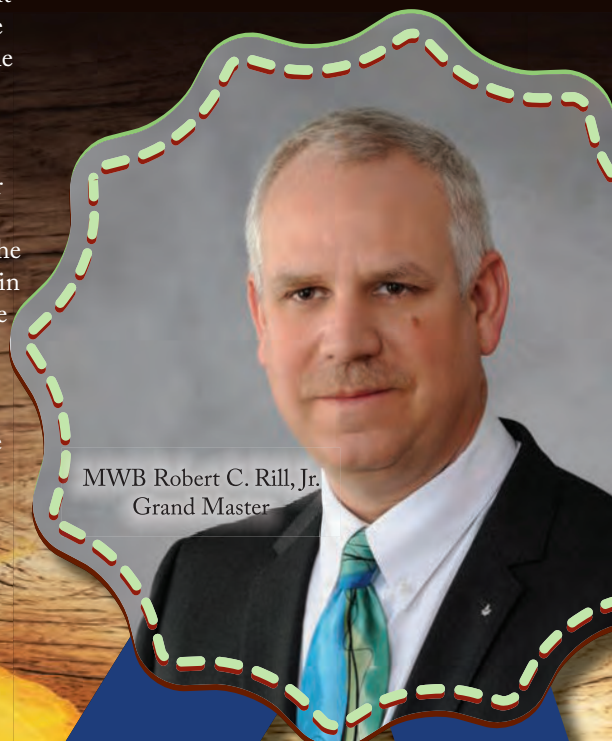
Every person needs the counsel from one who brings the Word of God. I have

reappointed R.W. Brother Gary L. McElfresh to the office of Grand Chaplain. He is a Past Master of Rubicon Lodge No. 237, and served this Grand Lodge as Grand Chaplain when M.W. Brother Charles Murphy was Grand Master in 2009. Gary and Carol are like family to Jennifer and I, and I know he will provide good advice.

I have selected the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation as our charity this year. The wonderful services that the Ohio Masonic Home provides to our Brothers and their families is truly an expression of our Masonic Obligation. The values that we as a Fraternity represent are being put into action every day throughout the state by caring and loving individuals employed through the Ohio Masonic Home.

I welcome the challenge and look forward to serving you, my Brothers, in this the greatest fraternity in the world. May God bless all of you.

MWB Robert C. Rill, Jr.
Grand Master



Visit our new site online at
theohiobeacon.com and sign up
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ing Hope

Harvest time or fall in general, is one of my favorite times of year. In order to harvest, you have to plant and water and nurture the crops before you could have a chance to harvest them. The same is true for us in our personal lives. Our lives tend to be cycles of planting, watering, nurturing and harvesting. Harvesting in my personal life is when I take stock in the progress and growth I have made in my life, or some aspect of my life, and harvest the reward produced by discipline and hard work. Sometimes that reward is a dinner out. Other times it can be small or large things that I find to be that rewarded. Truly, harvesting is reaping the rewards of the actions you have taken previously. Harvesting also sets us up to thrive in the winter months ahead. For me it also is the fuel for the light of hope for ongoing progress and growth in the cycle ahead.

Hope is an easy thing to lose when we are faced with difficulties in our lives. Hope is also easy to take for granted

when things are going well. I certainly have done both. As I write to you all I wonder what hope really is, and how do we harvest it. Hope seems to be an emotion that looks forward to things to come. We hope that things will get better regardless of where we are. We hope for better weather, we hope that our children will be safe, we hope for peace in our lives and more. Usually hope is connected to things that are out of our control. So therefore, we only have control over how we react, or come, to these events.

Hope, then, is the seed that is planted. Dreams are the water we put on hope that bring it to life. Vision and planning are the nurturing we do to act on bringing our hopes to full bloom. Harvesting is taking the rewards of a job well done. For us at the Ohio Masonic Home, we harvest the hopes of all of you for a healthy



Brother Tom Stofac, CEO
Ohio Masonic Home

and respectful aging process when we provide the best care and services and support possible. Thank you for all of your hopes and support as we water, nurture and bring to full bloom your hopes for your life, so that together we can harvest the crop of the values of this great Fraternity.

This
edition we are excited
to introduce a search and find involving Grand
Master Robert C. Rill, Jr.'s pin. Search through this entire edition and count
how many times you find his pin. Submit the correct answer along with your
contact information to Ohio Masonic Home, ATTN: Kristen Hirschfeld,
Beacon Editor, 2655 W. National Rd., Springfield, Ohio 45504 or via email at
khirschfeld@ohiomasonichome.org, and be entered to win a prize, courtesy of the
Ohio Masonic Home Foundation!

FIND THE PIN!



2015-2016 GRAND LODGE *Officers Installed*

The following elected and appointed officers of the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio were duly installed at the close of the 206th annual communication on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

ELECTED:

Grand Master Robert C. Rill, Jr.
Deputy Grand Master Douglas N. Kaylor
Senior Grand Warden Eric R. Schau
Junior Grand Warden Jess N. Raines
Grand Treasurer Ronald L. Connelly
Grand Secretary C. Michael Watson,
PGM

APPOINTED:

Grand Chaplain Gary L. McElfresh
Grand Orator Keith W. Newton
Grand Marshal Richard A. Dickerscheid
Senior Grand Deacon Timothy S. Wheeland
Junior Grand Deacon Steven M. Grindle
Grand Tyler Robert G. Sickelbaugh

Introducing

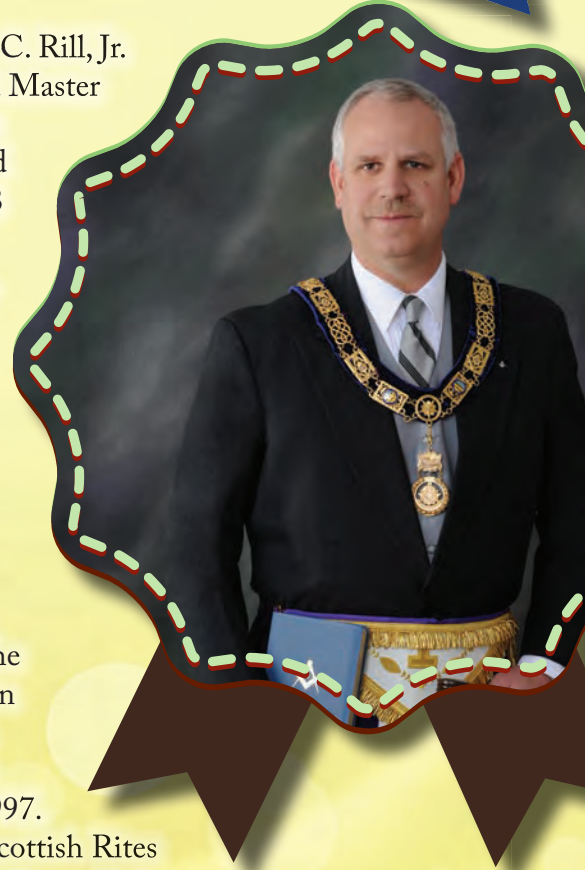
GRAND MASTER
ROBERT C. RILL, JR.

Right Worshipful Brother Robert C. Rill, Jr. was elected and installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio at its 206th annual communication, held in Columbus, Ohio on October 23 and 24.

He is a graduate of the University of Toledo and the Vice President of Field Operations and Marketing at Jones & Henry Laboratories. He and his wife Jennifer have been blessed with two daughters (Jamie and Jessica) and two granddaughters (Ariah and Sadie).

Grand Master Rill was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Northern Light Lodge No. 40 on February 23, 1993. He served his Lodge as Worshipful Master in 1997. He is a member of the York and Scottish Rites as well as the Order of the Eastern Star and the Shrine.

Right Worshipful Brother Rill served the Grand Lodge of Ohio as a District Deputy Grand Master for the 11th Masonic District from 2006-2008. He was appointed by Most Worshipful Brother Charles R. Murphy as Junior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Ohio in 2009. He was subsequently appointed as Senior Grand Deacon, Grand Marshal and Grand Orator and was elected Junior Grand Warden, Senior Grand Warden and Deputy Grand Master.



Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge No. 2

CELEBRATING 225 YEARS!

On September 8, 1791, the Grand Lodge of New Jersey granted a charter to a small group of pioneers living in Cincinnati, a newly settled city tucked in the southwest corner of the untamed Ohio Valley. The dangers of the frontier delayed the charter for more than three years, but in December of 1794, the first members of Nova Caesarea (New Jersey) Lodge No. 10 met to elect their officers. (1)

At 224 years old, Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge No. 2, as it has been known since 1813, is one of Ohio's oldest Lodges; predating the Grand Lodge and even Ohio's own admission into statehood. From humble beginnings in a log cabin, NC Harmony's membership quickly grew, and in the early 1900s the Lodge began meeting at the stately Cincinnati Masonic Center. Currently, NC Harmony claims approximately 350 members as it merges with Columbia Lodge No. 44 in Miamitown.

As Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge No. 2 looks forward to its 225th anniversary, Worshipful Master Rodney Epperson has been working on some truly wonderful plans for the event. As one of the six Lodges to form the Grand Lodge of Ohio, NC Harmony will host a celebration during which all six Lodges will perform an Entered Apprentice degree together. "We hope that everybody will be able to enjoy that day and be part of the celebration with us. Not a celebration to us, a celebration with us,"

Brother Epperson said. "That's what we're really trying to accomplish here.

Just reminding ourselves of what we can accomplish together."

(1) Baer, Henry.

"Pioneer Masonry in the Northwest Territory, The Story of Nova Caesarea Harmony Lodge No. 2, Cincinnati." The Builder Magazine November 1927

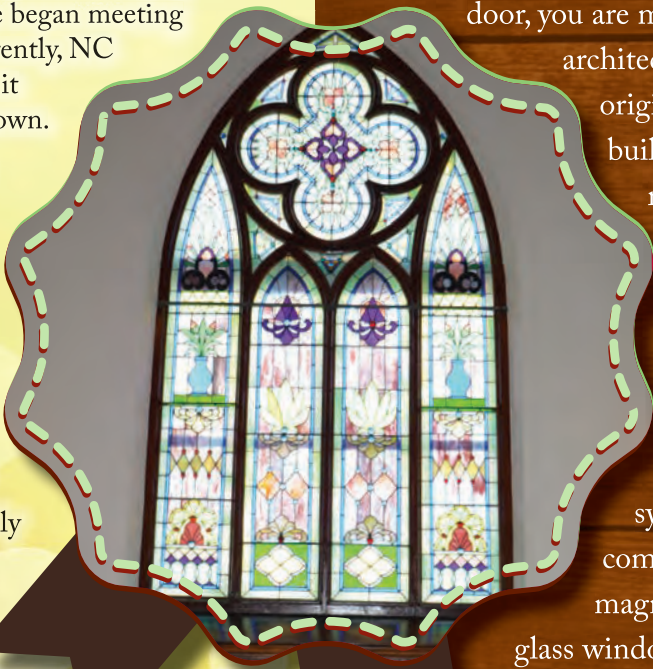
Columbia Lodge No. 44 F. and A.M.

This Lodge of the Masons was started in Harrison, Ohio, October 21, 1817. The Honorable Othniel Looker, former Governor of Ohio, was the first Worshipful Master. It moved to Miamitown in 1836. This is the oldest building of an active Masonic Lodge in Ohio.

The corner stone for this building was laid, June 24, 1850, and contains the Bible, proceedings of the Grand Lodge, copy of the by-laws, and a list of officers and members. There are over 82,000 bricks in the original building and it took three years to build. Daniel Herder was the first Master in the new lodge hall.

In the beginning, the lower floor was used for various purposes such as a store, shop and dwelling. Meetings were held on the second floor. On May 5, 1984, a new lodge and banquet room which were added to the south side were dedicated.

1853



Old Erie Lodge

A MASONIC MUST-SEE

Located in the center of scenic Warren, Ohio, Old Erie Lodge No.3 was chartered in 1803 by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. Over the next four years, master craftsmen from the area transformed the former granary into a Lodge of which any Mason would be proud to be a member. From the moment you step through the door, you are met by stunning

architectural features original to the building. A short ride in a classic elevator, and you arrive on floor of the Lodge room. Full of craftsmanship, symbolism and complete with a magnificent stained

glass window, it is a sight to behold, causing an involuntary intake of breath as you cross the threshold. As one of the original six Lodges behind

the formation of the Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Ohio, it is a must see for any Mason, and welcomes all visiting Masons and non-Masons with open arms to tour the Lodge room.

New Mason

REVIVES AN OLD CRAFT

Brother David Bacon was raised a Master Mason in Canton Lodge No. 60 just last May. Professionally, he has been a tattoo artist for over a decade. As a new Master Mason, he has taken up the old craft of illuminating Masonic aprons by hand.

Prior to the industrial revolution, hand painted leather or silk aprons were a regular part of any Master Mason's personal regalia. However, as the regalia industry grew and took on a

life of its own, personalized Masonic aprons became a thing of the past. Some examples can still be seen displayed as relics on lodge walls or in display cases. However, it is rare to find an artist today with the ability or interest to illuminate a Masonic apron.

"I first tried tattooing an apron, but that didn't work. So I tried using permanent ink, which won't flake off the leather like paint would," explains Bacon. "My first real success was an apron that I did for a member of my Lodge, Right Worshipful

Brother Tom White." Since then, Bacon has completed a number of aprons. He even recently illuminated an apron for Brother Tom Stofac, CEO of the Ohio Masonic Home.

As a Mason and a tattoo artist, Brother Bacon loves the deep philosophy and rich symbolism of the Masonic fraternity. However, when asked why he became a Freemason, he explained, "I'm a Shriner baby. When I was born I was severely pigeon-toed. My great grandfather, who was a Mason, told my mom that the Shriners could help me to walk, and they did!"

There are many great traditions that were practiced at one time or another by the Masonic fraternity over the last 300 years. Some of them, like illuminated aprons, are returning.





Masons Honored FOR WWII SERVICE

It is never too late to show one's appreciation. The French people have been making good on this old adage by honoring men who helped to liberate France during World War II.

Brother Clarence DeVore, age 91 and a member of Anthony Lodge No. 455, was recognized recently for his bravery during his military service in World War II. He served in the army as a rifleman and was wounded in France in 1944. He was made a Knight of the Legion of Honor by the French government, and presented with this highest of French honors at a ceremony held on the campus of Springfield Masonic Community, where he lives.

Brother Maurice Feren, age 97 and a 60-year member of University Heights Lodge No. 738, was also honored as a Knight of the Legion of Honor. Brother Feren served as a medic in France during World War II. According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, Feren accepted the Legion of Honor, "on behalf of all the Americans who gave up their lives during World War II, and on behalf of all the men who lived, but were forever changed by the experience."

The Greatest Generation is rapidly passing into history, but their examples of sacrifice for the greater good live on.



The Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center (OMHRC) continues to be your trusted partner to help you age how you want, where you want. As a part of our continuing effort to make the newest and best information and services available to all Masons of Ohio, we have partnered with Decillion Healthcare, a company with a philosophy of putting your needs first.

Based in Dublin, Ohio, Decillion Healthcare offers convenient, in-home infusion therapy services to clients across the state, including MS (Multiple Sclerosis) therapies, Rheumatoid Arthritis therapies, Crohn's and Colitis therapies and IV antibiotics, just to name a few. Available 24/7 and with care revolving around the patient experience, Decillion has been chosen to partner with the Resource Center to supply you with up-to-date information and to coordinate infusion services.

Cost and convenience top the list of benefits for in-home infusion therapy. Decillion's highly-trained nurses and pharmacists administer treatment on your schedule, allowing you to avoid the hassle of repeated hospital visits. For all of these reasons and more, the Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center welcomes Decillion, our newest partner and your newest resource. For questions about this or other products and services please call the Resource Center toll-free at 877-881-1623.

Where Does Your Phone Call Go?

OHIO MASONIC HOME RESOURCE CENTER

All calls are toll-free!
877-881-1623

Call comes into the Resource Center.

Becky Cason, Customer Service Representative,
discovers the nature of the call.

Nature of call:

A Mason's widow calls in
and doesn't have money
to buy groceries.

Becky brings in an Aging Services
Representative who connects with
the widow to fill out an application
for emergency assistance.

The paperwork is handed
over to Becky who works with
the Foundation president to
approve the application.

Nature of call:

A Mason's daughter calls in
looking for a solution to help
mom and dad remember to take
their medicine. They are fine
living at home, but need a little
extra reminder where there
medicine is concerned.

Becky shares a number of
products available that serve the
purpose of reminding the person
to take their medicine.

Nature of the call:

A Mason and his wife travel
to a neighboring state where
the Mason falls ill. His wife is
spending money to stay in a
hotel nearby, but they also
need transportation and a
place for him to live in when
they return to Ohio.

Becky brings in an Aging
Services Representative who
works with the family to
arrange for all of their needs.

Becky calls back after an appropriate period of time to see that the situation was resolved in a

Will Go?

ENTER

It is our commitment to provide you with friendly, professional and responsive services.

Nature of call:
A Mason's widow calls in to see if anyone is available to come and clean out her gutters.

Becky reaches out to her husband's Lodge and they offer to come out and clean out her gutters.

Nature of call:
A Mason calls and wants information, for personal use or another person, about one of the Ohio Masonic Home communities or home health.

Becky connects the Mason with a sales representative specific to the site from which he wishes to receive information.



satisfactory manner.

Charitable Outreach

The Ohio Masonic Home Foundation provides assistance to individuals and families who display needs that are associated with aging. All of these programs and services are made possible by generous donations to the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation.

STEP #1:

To contact the Ohio Masonic Home for answers to questions about aging, call the Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center toll free at 877-881-1623. The OMH Resource Center is a free information and referral service for anyone who calls.

THE OMH RESOURCE CENTER PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Connect individuals to the Ohio Masonic Home campuses in Springfield, Medina and Waterville
- Connect individuals to home health, hospice, or other home-based medical services
- Connect individuals and families to care managers including Aging Services Representatives and Fraternal Relations Advocates
- Reconnect Ohio Master Masons, their wives and widows to their Lodge
- Answer general questions on aging
- Make referrals to appropriate local agencies
- Assist in obtaining products to enhance the aging process
- Share caregiving resources

PERSONAL ATTENTION TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF OHIO

Care management is delivered free of charge by utilizing two vehicles that partner to address the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being of every person served. Care Management Teams are comprised of Fraternal Relations Advocates and Aging Services Representatives. In order to contact someone for free assistance in Care Management, call the OMH Resource Center @ 877-881-1623.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR OHIO MASTER MASON'S AND THEIR FAMILIES

In order to receive individual financial assistance from the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation, all of the following conditions must be met.

1. Master Mason in good standing or wife/widow of a Master Mason in good standing at the time of passing. Family member of a Master Mason and/or a member of Ohio Eastern Star.
2. Age 55 or older or Disabled as identified by Social Security
3. Financially Distressed

TYPES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE:

- a) Emergency Assistance- intended to address immediate health and safety concerns related to aging
- b) Off-Site Assistance – financial assistance to support an individual's desire to stay in their own home as long as possible
- c) On-Site Assistance – financial assistance to provide housing and other aging services for individuals living at an OMH community.

With any and all questions on aging needs, to request individual care management, or to seek financial assistance, contact the OMH Resource Center @ 877-881-1623.

A Day of C

SCOTTISH RITE
& YORK RITE BUILDING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015



celebration

THE BUILDING
DEDICATIONS
OCTOBER 18, 2015

The day dawned bright and beautiful with picturesque puffy white clouds drifting by on an azure sky. Masons from across the state of Ohio journeyed to the Ohio Masonic Home's Springfield Masonic Community to take part in a monumental day. The new Scottish Rite Building, the first structure built at the Springfield community in 15 years, was being dedicated, and the new York Rite Building was also being dedicated having spent the prior months in renovation. Days such as these are meant to be shared celebrations, and the strong presence of the Fraternity and community supported the mission of the Home to be the trusted partner people can travel with on their aging journey. The Ohio Masonic Home would like to thank each and every individual whose generosity and support made these two dedications possible, and those whose presence made this event memorable in amity and fellowship.

Visions are dreams without plans. Dreams with plans make visions a reality. Welcome to the dedication of a vision coming to reality. When I arrived, we had visions of what we could become: "The living expression of our Masonic Obligation: we serve as the trusted partner to help people age respectfully: how they want, where they want." Almost five years later and many months of planning, this dedication ceremony is an example of how we are bringing our vision, which is now our mission statement, to life.

~ Brother Tom Stofac, Scottish Rite Building
& York Rite Building Dedications

On October 18, 2015, the Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officers re-named and dedicated the Springfield Masonic Community's newest jewels– the Scottish Rite Building and the York Rite Building. What a great day! With over 350 people in attendance, we were able to see the fruits of our labor. The Ohio Masonic Home is the oldest and greatest charity of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

I have attended over 200 ceremonies – but this was the first where we did a "move" from one location to another. Then we took a group photograph and returned for tours and heavy hors d'ouerves.

The leadership of the York Rite and Scottish Rite joined the Grand Lodge Officers and took pride in their stations. The Grand Captain of the Host, REC Ross Black and Past Grand Master Neil Smalley gave remarks at each of the locations. What an exciting memory of this day.

To those who attended: Congratulations. You attended one of the finest Masonic events you will ever see. Our residents and I will remember it forever. God Bless Ohio Freemasonry and our beloved Ohio Masonic Home.

-MWB Terry W. Posey, Scottish Rite Building
& York Rite Building Dedications



YOUR GRAND LODGE IS PLEASED TO HONOR YOU AS A PROUD MASON

MASONIC & PAST MASTER DIAMOND & BIRTHSTONE WATCHES

FEATURING SQUARE & COMPASSES OR PAST MASTER JEWEL, YOUR PERSONAL BIRTHSTONES & MONOGRAM,
EXCLUSIVE DIAL DESIGN WITH GOLDEN MASONIC TOOLS PLUS A GENUINE DIAMOND

**THIS OFFICIAL MASTER MASON
DIAMOND & BIRTHSTONE WATCH
IS BEING PRESENTED BY YOUR
GRAND LODGE TO HONOR YOUR
DEDICATION TO FREEMASONRY.**

A serially-numbered edition of personalized watches is being created exclusively for Grand Lodge Brothers, and is available only through this special offering. It will not be sold in any retail stores.

The Master Mason Watch will reflect the following exclusive features found in timepieces costing far more:

- Custom designed watch dial features Gold-finished Masonic Symbols and Working Tools and set with a genuine Diamond at the 12 O'clock position.
- The watch case and band are decorated with genuine Gold and customized with your choice of Masonic Square & Compasses or Past Master Jewel and personalized with your Monogram and five Personal Birthstones. (See choices at right.)
- Fine quartz movement provides years of accurate, dependable service.
- Watch back engraved with Your Initials, Year you became a Mason, and exclusive Serial Number.



Watch case
actual size:
1 3/4" x 1 3/4"

Your watch will be created by Selco of Oklahoma, sellers of fine watches since 1935. Quantity discounts make our watch remarkably well priced at just \$149.00* and can be paid in two installments of \$74.50* with no interest.

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But, we're sure you will want to own this special watch and that it will become a family keepsake in years to come. So, order yours today. You have earned the right to wear this unique Master Mason Diamond & Birthstone Watch.

**Reserve your watch today to avoid
disappointment and obtain a low
Serial Number valued by collectors.**

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JULY RUBY	AUGUST PERIDOT	SEPTEMBER SAPPHIRE	OCTOBER ROSE ZIRCON	NOVEMBER GOLDEN SAPPHIRE	DECEMBER BLUE ZIRCON

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- ☐ **YES!** I wish to order an exclusive Master Mason Diamond & Birthstone Watch, personalized with my Birthstones, Monogram and my Initials and unique Serial Number engraved on the case back. (please print clearly)

☐ Masonic Square & Compasses ☐ Past Master Jewel

Birthstone Month: _____ Monogram Letter: _____

Engraving: Initials _____ Year I became a Mason _____

Grand Lodge State: _____

I WISH TO PAY AS FOLLOWS:

- ☐ **ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK/MONEY ORDER** made payable to "Master Mason Watch" for:

☐ \$149.00*, plus \$19.95* for engraving, shipping & handling as payment in full OR,

☐ \$74.50* down payment, plus \$19.95* for engraving, shipping & handling. I agree to pay the balance in one additional payment of \$74.50* promptly when billed. There is no finance charge.

- ☐ **CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD** as indicated at right:

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- ☐ \$149.00*, plus \$19.95* for engraving, s & h as payment in full OR,
☐ \$74.50* down payment, plus \$19.95* for engraving, s & h. Charge the balance in one additional payment of \$74.50*. No finance charge.

CREDIT CARD: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Card Number: _____ Exp.: ____ / ____

Card Security Code (CSC #) _____ Signature: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: Note: We Cannot Ship To P.O. Boxes. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

(In case we have questions about your order)

* PA RESIDENTS PLEASE ADD 6% (\$10.19) SALES TAX.

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Ohio Masonic Home Foundation

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* Donors who have contributed \$5,000 or more since October 2013.

Rufus Putnam Award

PRESENTED TO THOMAS MOE

The Rufus Putnam award was presented to Brother Thomas Moe, a member of Lancaster Lodge No. 57, for his distinguished public service.

Colonel and Brother Thomas Nelson Moe served in the United States Air Force from 1967 until his retirement in 1995. He completed eighty-five combat missions during the Vietnam War, and endured five years as a prisoner of war. He has been decorated for his service during times of war and peace, and has served in both command and staff positions.

In addition to his military service, he served Notre Dame as the Chair of Aerospace

Studies, Commander of the Air Force R.O.T.C. program, and as a fellow in Military Studies, Kroc Peace Institute.

Since his retirement, he has served as the Director of the Fairfield County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and most recently as the Director of Veterans Services for the State of Ohio.

Brother Moe's distinguished service record to country, education and government make him a deserving recipient of the Rufus Putnam Award, and a fine role model for his fellow citizens.





Yarn Buddies

WARM UP AMERICA AT WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY

As the weather turns, you have undoubtedly started pulling jackets, scarves, and hats from the back of your closet. You might even have several of each from which to choose on any given day. What if that wasn't the case? Where would you turn if you couldn't afford a pair of mittens to keep your hands warm or a blanket to keep the cold out?

Many turn to Warm Up America, a charitable organization that provides knitted and crocheted items to those in need. Items ranging from afghans to hats and scarves are made available to individuals and families through local agencies such as battered women's shelters, homeless shelters, hospice facilities and more. The ladies of Western Reserve Masonic Community have taken on this cause as their own, choosing to donate to Warm Up America's local branch, Warm Up Medina County.

Warm Up Medina County receives donations from community volunteers, who generously spend hours creating beautiful items for those in need. Routinely, these volunteers meet at Medina County District Library. Because they are not always able to attend these sessions, WRMC's ladies have started their own group, called Yarn Buddies.

Yarn Buddies meets once a week to work on donations for this great organization. In just four months, they have knitted and crocheted enough 7" x 9" blocks to make three large afghans, as well as numerous scarves, hats, mittens, and slippers. Each afghan is constructed by joining together 49 blocks, resulting in one-of-a-kind, colorful warmth. Yarn Buddies uses yarn that has been donated to them so they are able to focus the joy of giving on their talents rather than their treasure.

Resident Martha Fousek is a regularly attendee at Yarn Buddies. "This has enabled some resident who are otherwise unable to get out to be involved and contribute. It has made a difference in all our lives as well as the lives of others."

At Western Reserve Masonic Community, we are honored to have such generous, caring women as residents. We know they are the true treasure!



Now is your chance! The 2016 lapel pin is now available with your \$100 donation. Your continued support will grant you the opportunity to be recognized at Home Day 2017 and to receive your tie and scarf set. The Ohio Masonic Home Annual Giving Program is designed to run between October 2013 and October 2017.

OMH Annual Giving Calendar
– Starting in October 2015
and continuing at least through February 2015, all donors will receive a 2016 OMH Annual Giving Calendar when they give a donation in any dollar amount. The calendar will feature stories about some of our residents.

All donations can be sent to the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation, ATTN: Annual Giving Program, 2655 W. National Rd., Springfield, Ohio 45504. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. The Ohio Masonic Home Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) organization and therefore all tax exempt.



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2016 Florida Reunion Trip

FREEMASONRY- A BROTHERHOOD OF VALUES

You are cordially invited to attend.

Sunday, January 17, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

Eisenhower Recreation Center*

3560 Buena Vista Blvd., The Villages, FL 32163

Coordinator: Jerry Hatton

Monday, January 18, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

Sarasota/Bradenton: Peridia Golf and Country Club

4950 Peridia Blvd. E., Bradenton, FL 34203

Coordinator: Ken Gavins

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 12:00 p.m.

Fort Myers: Araba Shrine

2010 Hanson St., Fort Myers, FL 33901

Coordinator: Jim Grimmett



***Location Change**

**For reservations, please call Becky Cason at 877-881-1623.
Please make reservations prior to Monday, January 4, 2016.**