



THE OHIO BEACON

Volume 23, Issue 1 Winter 2016



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Lodge No. 1

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New OMH Print Shop
Location

3rd Annual Miracle
Miles Golf Classic



Front cover: On December 7, 2015, American Union Lodge No. 1 and Harmar Lodge No. 390 were jointly installed by four past Grand Masters of Ohio. (Left to right) W.B. David Waterman, Master of Harmar #390; MWB Kevin Todd; MWB Ron Winnett; MWB Jim Easterling; MWB Richard Wilson; W.B. Benjamin Anderson, Master of American Union #1.

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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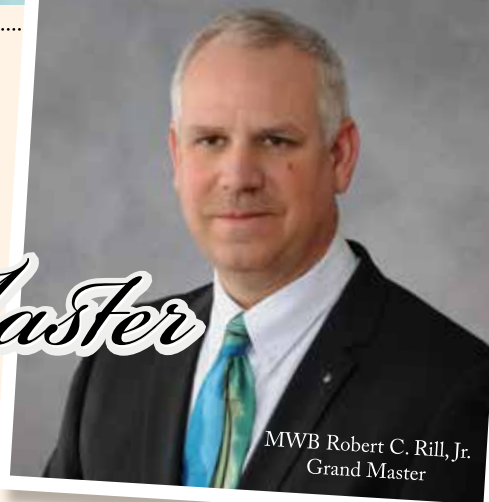
A Message from the *Grand Master*

Brothers, behold how swiftly the sands of time pass. To say that serving as your Grand Master is a whirl wind is an understatement, but I wouldn't trade it for the world.

I cannot express all of the positive events that I have heard about and been able to be a part of throughout our jurisdiction. You, the Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, are engaged, enthused, and demonstrating Freemasonry in a great light; living the Principles of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

I would like to thank all the Brethren, ladies and guests that attended the Grand Master's luncheons in Florida. What a great time we had presenting Service Awards to our deserving Brothers and catching up with friends while sharing stories of days past. Our Ohio Masonic Home family also presented information on all of the exciting and upcoming projects and services available.

This is the time when I encourage you all to attend your lodge functions. Inspection season is in full bloom and there is always an event in which to



MWB Robert C. Rill, Jr.
Grand Master

participate. Enjoy the fellowship and spread the light of Freemasonry.

Brothers, you make a difference. We, as Grand Lodge Officers, can only provide tools and incentives to assist and encourage you. It is up to you to pick up the tools and build. We have all heard the old adage that you can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink. Brothers, for the success of any of our Lodges, it is up to you to make the difference, to provide the leadership, the fellowship, and the motivation for accomplishment - no matter how big or how small.

Soon winter's grasp will slowly give way to a new season. The sound of the spring peepers will fill the night, and the tender leaves of spring will be here. Brothers, I wish you all safe travels and great successes on your journey. May God bless you and your families.

Fraternally and sincerely,
Robert C. Rill, Jr.
Grand Master

Myron McCall installed *as Worshipful Master*

Myron McCall was installed as Worshipful Master of Trimble Lodge No. 557 by Grand Master Robert C. Rill, Jr. on December 19, 2015. McCall is 90 years young and a 60-year Mason. However, this is his first time in the East.

He has served as a lodge officer a number

of times but was unable to progress through the officer line due to relocating for work. After serving as Junior Warden at Trimble Lodge for several years and always regretting that he never served as Master of a Lodge, the Brethren of Trimble Lodge are pleased to help him mark this one item off his bucket list.



Our Journey *Together*

So, I do not know how long it is that Happy New Year greetings still apply; but let me say thank you for a great 2015, and how much I look forward to 2016 serving as your CEO of Your Ohio Masonic Home.

As years come to a close, and a new year approaches, it is common for us to reminisce about the year gone by, and think about the year ahead. This process for me is always interesting as I start to wonder why we do that. For me, it connects to always trying to better myself as a man in all the roles I have in life. I want to assume that that is true for you all as well. Life is filled with change and transitions, and many times we have no control over what happens in the year, but we do have control over how we come to the events in our life from year to year. How we come to and deal with all that life has to give us or take from us, is the key to our mental and physical health. It is possible to get better and better at coming to events in our life regardless of age.

Here at the Ohio Masonic Home, we encourage this philosophy of how you want to age and where you want to age and the choices that go along with

that. So together let's age well and enjoy the gifts we have and share them with each other. Let's together help each other come to events in our lives the best we can, with a level of peace that we are not alone in this journey. Let's together rejoice that we are a part of the greatest fraternity and group of individuals in the world. Let's together live our tenets and principles and encourage each other to live them as well. Let's together show those not part of this great fraternity what upright living can be, through the services and products from the Ohio Masonic Home.

I look forward to growing and learning with each of you, and ask for your continued support of the Ohio Masonic Home as we continue to grow and live our mission. We are the living expression of our Masonic Obligation – we serve as the trusted partner to help people age respectfully: how they want, where they want.



Brother Tom Stofac, CEO
Ohio Masonic Home

Find the *Golf Ball!*

Due to a technicality, we have two winners of last edition's Find the Pin search! Congratulations to Gerald Auburn of Hebron Lodge No. 116 and Kenneth Bailey of New Carlisle Lodge No. 100! There were six pins in the last edition.

This edition we are raising awareness of the upcoming annual Ohio Masonic Home Foundation Golf Classic to support memory care on the Browning, Springfield and Western Reserve Masonic Community campuses. Search through this entire edition and count how many times you find the golf ball graphic to the right. Submit the correct answer along with your contact information and Lodge affiliation to

Ohio Masonic Home, ATTN: Kristen Hirschfeld, Beacon Editor, 2655 W. National Rd., Springfield, Ohio 45504 or via email at khirschfeld@ohiomasonichome.org by April 1, 2016, and be entered to win a prize, courtesy of the Ohio Masonic Home Print Shop!

(Your participation serves as permission to include your name and Lodge affiliation in the next edition of the Beacon. See page 16 for more information regarding the 3rd Annual Golf Classic coming soon to memorycaremiles.com.)





American Union *Lodge No. 1*

Down in southeastern Ohio, very close to where the Muskingum and Ohio rivers converge, is the home of American Union Lodge No. 1. Located on Front Street in Marietta, this lodge boasts a charter originating in Massachusetts and dating back to 1776. Meetings found their beginnings in Roxbury, Massachusetts and travelled from there through New York, Connecticut and New Jersey before settling into their forever home of Marietta.

One of many noteworthy pieces of history surrounding the Lodge is its seal, designed by Benjamin Franklin and engraved by Paul Revere. Several notable figures have

visited and been members of the Lodge, but perhaps the most familiar in the history of Ohio Freemasonry would be Rufus Putnam, the first elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio. Today he is remembered annually through the Rufus Putnam Award, given to individuals for distinguished service beneficial to mankind, eminent leadership or achievement in the service of Freemasonry.

Today there are 253 Master Masons belonging to American Union Lodge No. 1, with their membership spanning from a dynamic age of 20 to the experienced age of 94. Annually, they host a degree at Masonic Park and most recently, the Lodge participated in an unprecedented joint installation with Harmar Lodge No. 390 conducted by four past Grand Masters of Ohio (MWB Kevin Todd, MWB Ron Winnett, MWB Jim Easterling and MWB Richard Wilson). A recent and growing tradition is a pork and kraut luncheon open to members, their family and this past year, family friends. Worshipful Master Benjamin Anderson appreciates the privilege of carrying on the tradition of such a proud heritage.



Tom Stofac, CEO of the Ohio Masonic Home visiting American Union Lodge No. 1, with Brother Steve Fulmer and Brother Clyde Huddleston of American Union and Brother Joe Matthews, Mayor of Marietta, Ohio and member of Harmar Lodge No. 390.



John Kern (seated, right), a resident of Western Reserve Masonic Community, received his 70-year pin on January 13, 2016. Presented by M.W.B. James Easterling, P.G.M., the ceremony was held at Western Reserve and was attended by W.B. Gregory Brewer, Secretary of Capital City Lodge 656, John's home Lodge. John's wife, Eileen and Western Reserve's President, Brother Jay Dettorre were also in attendance.



Another Masonic Tradition Restored!

Harmony Lodge No. 8, the oldest Lodge in the 9th Masonic District, recently restored an old Masonic tradition of using real candles as the lesser lights of the Lodge. The candlesticks were forged by Brother Jamie Gier, who is a blacksmith and a member of Goshen Lodge No. 119. They were made to represent the sun, moon, and Master of the Lodge.



Dover Lodge holds "More Light Night"

By William Carter, D.D.G.M.

Dover Lodge was the first to hold a "More Light Night" – a special educational event that Grand Master Robert C. Rill, Jr. has requested Lodges organize and host. Dover's was held in December, featuring a lecture entitled "Freemasonry and Esotericism." The guest speaker was Right Worshipful Brother Ross Brochhagen, past Grand Organist for the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Written invitations were sent to members of Dover Lodge, and an online advertisement invited Brethren from all over the state to reserve their spot at this excellent lecture and discussion. The Lodge Room was temporarily cleared of its usual furniture so that seating could be arranged for the Brethren that would facilitate comfort and open discussion of ideas.

The evening began with the Brethren gathered in the Dover Lodge Fellowship Hall to break in fellowship. Conversations began as light-hearted introductions, but quickly began to take on significant depth as the Brethren anticipated the evening's educational fare.

As dinner began to wrap up the Brethren were invited to the upper level of Dover Lodge at their leisure.

They were greeted by candlelight and an open Library featuring the Lodge's lecture tracing boards on display for all to view and discuss. Also on display was memorabilia for the visiting Brethren to get a taste of what it means to be a Dover man.

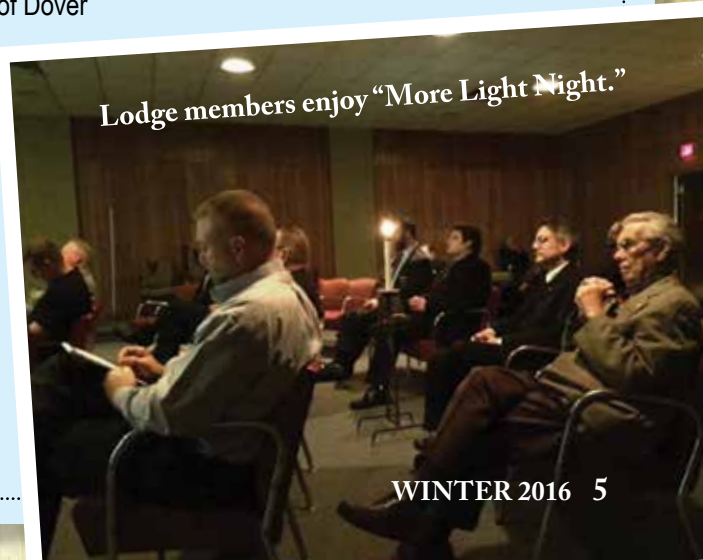
"...a firm expression of how Masonry should drive a man to be the best he can outside of Lodge as well as inside it."

At 7:00 p.m., Right Worshipful Brother Brochhagen proceeded to the lighted dais to deliver a fascinating and engaging lecture and discussion on numerous aspects of Freemasonry.

The information presented was educational, and was delivered with heartfelt emotion as he shared how the deeper aspects of Masonry go beyond a mere intellectual exercise and extend into the most sentimental parts of his own life experience. He had physical props to share, life stories to relate, some laughter to bring and a firm expression of how Masonry should drive

a man to be the best he can outside of Lodge as well as inside it. Most impressive was his reinforcement that charity and brotherhood are driven by the esoteric aspects of our Craft, versus esotericism being the exclusive pastime of a few curious Masons.

The lecture closed at 9:00 p.m., and the Brethren retired back to the Fellowship Hall and library for further discussion. Despite having Brethren come from several districts the final discussion closed at 12:15 a.m. The candles were then extinguished, the doors were closed, and the Light of Masonry went out into the world.



Ohio Masonic Home Foundation *Annual Giving Calendar*

Produced by the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation, the annual giving calendar highlights individuals living on our three campuses. Focusing on people aging how they want and where they want, the calendar gives a visual expression of how important the gifts of the Fraternity are in supporting its Brethren, their wives and families in their aging journey.

Between the period of Grand

Lodge, 2015, and March, 2016, the calendar is given as a token of thanks for every gift given to the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation.

Besides the wonderful pictures and stories in the calendar, there is information about the Ohio Masonic Home Resource Center as well as ways Brethren and Lodges can support the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation throughout the year.



"Like many parts of the Springfield Masonic Community (SMC) campus, 2015 brought drastic changes to the Fitness and Wellness Center. In addition to a beautiful, new gym and classrooms, seven new pieces of equipment specifically tailored to the fitness needs of seniors were added, bringing residents a wide variety of options for physical activity.

Physical Wellness Coordinator, Matthew Allen (Clark Lodge 101), does his best to make working out fun by creating musical playlists and themed classes to keep everyone engaged and excited.

Rollie Lattner (New England Lodge 4), Past Grand Master and SMC resident, can be found in the fitness center four or five times a week. His goal, as well as the rest of those who visit the center, is 150 minutes of exercise per week. He makes sure to incorporate his favorite activities: the treadmill, seated elliptical and even a bit of weight lifting. Rollie even has his own playlist which includes

"For these residents in particular, Matthew has created a special workout program..."

the great singers and musicians of the 1940s.

While exercise is very important to Rollie, he has another reason for spending time in the Fitness Center. A small group of Hillman residents, all in the early stages of dementia, come down several times a week to take advantage of the new equipment. When Rollie's wife, Joy was diagnosed with dementia several years ago, she began visiting the Hillman residents and listening to them read. As a teacher for 23 years, this simple activity allowed her to feel like she was back in the classroom. When Joy passed away, Rollie took over; forming a special attachment. Rollie even makes the trip upstairs to accompany the Hillman residents down to the Fitness Center.

For these residents in particular, Matthew has created a special workout program featuring a combination of seated

exercise and trivia, to keep not only their bodies active, but their minds as well. Music is also an important part of this group's routine, causing a notable increase in activity and willingness to participate.

It is results like this that both Matthew and Rollie enjoy seeing. Matthew is very passionate about his job and is constantly trying to motivate people to enjoy being active. Class participation has been steadily increasing and Matthew dreams of even more space and instructors to be able to start tai-chi, yoga and even a Parkinson's exercise class. Rollie calls the Fitness Center "a break in daily life" for his fellow residents, and says everyone sleeps better after a visit."

(January story from calendar)



Matthew and Rollie visit while Rollie uses the treadmill.

Ouroboros

A Masonic Reflection

By Neil Zizelman, Past Master of Scioto Lodge No. 6

A couple of years ago, I was examining the masonic symbols on a pen my wife had given me. I spied a symbol that I had not noticed connected to Freemasonry before. It was the image of a snake devouring its tail; its body in the form of a circle. My curiosity being exited, I decided to learn more about this strange symbol. I found out that it is called an ouroboros and is an ancient symbol, used by many different cultures throughout history.

There are various meanings of the ouroboros symbol, many of which are cyclical in nature - death and rebirth, the perpetual creation and destruction, change of the seasons, day and night, infinity, etc.

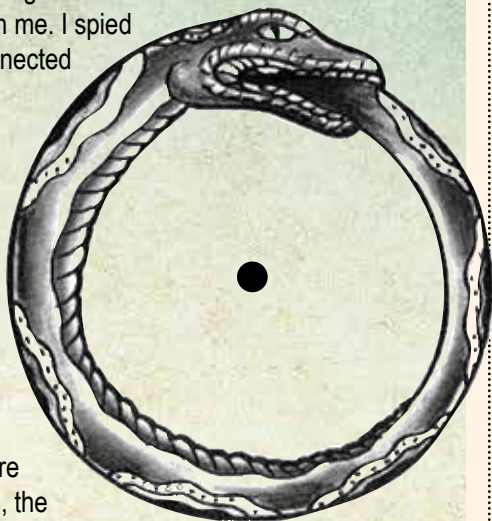
Where might we find a connection to the meanings of the ouroboros within Freemasonry? If we look for just a circle, it might be a bit less obvious, but if we put a dot in the center of the ouroboros symbol it should become more apparent. The circumpunct, or point within the circle.

The most obvious place where we can see the ouroboros symbol is the visualization of the compasses. The compasses create the boundaries within which we are admonished to keep our passions. These boundaries are in perpetual existence.

If we add two parallel lines to either side of Ouroboros we should be able to see another connection – a candidate taking his obligations. The point being the individual brother, the obligations we take are with us, perpetually, for the rest of our lives.

Are there other meanings beyond just being perpetual? Where else might we see a reference to ouroboros? The legend of the Master Builder marks the new beginning of a Brother's life as a Master Mason and repeats the theme of the ouroboros with the death of the old way and the symbolic life of a new Master Mason.

If we consider the universality that our lodge room as a whole represents, we see the planetary revolutions of the sun and moon as viewed here on earth. We see the perpetual and cyclical - day and night. So the ouroboros surrounds the lodge room and the earth in a circular plane that is situated between east and west. Where in the lodge room do all these individual events that involve the candidate take place? Between east and west. Coincidence?



2016-2017 Ohio Masonic Home *Scholarship*

The Ohio Masonic Home Scholarship Program is an endowment established by The Ohio Masonic Home to provide tuition assistance for eligible full time students working toward a bachelor's, associate's or other undergraduate degree program at accredited institutions.

Applicants must meet certain eligibility criteria to qualify for consideration. This criteria is listed on the scholarship forms located on the Ohio Masonic Home's website at www.ohiomasonichome.org under the Resources directory, Masonic Financial Assistance, Financial Assistance Programs, OMH Student Scholarship Program. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Application and supporting documents must be mailed and received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline on Friday, April 1, 2016.

For more information or questions, contact Becky Cason at (877) 881-1623 or rcason@ohiomasonichome.org.

Since its inception, the Scholarship Program has awarded \$170,500 averaging \$1,000 per student award. This award is very significant in assisting students by offsetting the burden of college tuition. The Ohio Masonic Home Foundation gratefully accepts contributions to support the continuance and growth of the Ohio Masonic Home Scholarship Program. When donors specify the OMH Scholarship Program to benefit from their contribution, it allows for additional scholarships to be awarded.

To give a gift, please make your check payable to the OMH Scholarship Program, 2655 West National Road, Springfield, Ohio 45504. You will receive written acknowledgement of your tax deductible gift. Your support promotes the success of scholars!



2015-2016 Ohio Masonic Home Scholarship Winners

Ohio Masonic Home Foundation

Increases its Reach

Recently, the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation (OMHF) shifted a few people to new roles and hired new staff to better serve Ohio Masonic Home (OMH) residents and the Fraternity. This is in direct response to the OMH Mission and to support strategic growth as the Home moves to serve more Ohio Masons and their families, how they want and where they want.

The Foundation staff will continue to focus on being the living expression of our Masonic Obligation by helping donors meet their goals with numerous giving opportunities offered by fund development staff. Brother Mark Harris has transitioned from being the Northern Ohio Regional Fund Developer to serve as the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation Fund Development Director. His job is to oversee a fund development plan that will raise sufficient dollars to provide assistance for the membership of the Fraternity not only on an annual basis, but far into the future. Recently, Brother Price Murphy joined the staff serving as the OMHF Fund Development Associate. Brother Murphy will work to secure new donors, and to build the organization's annual giving program, fundraising events, memorial giving and online giving.

In conjunction with reorganizing Fund Development efforts, the Foundation addressed the call from the Ohio Masonic Home strategic plan for strong relationships between OMH and the Fraternity. Brother Dan Shirk has transitioned from being the

Southern Ohio Regional Fund Developer to serve as the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation Fraternal Relations Director. In order to have a presence throughout the entire state at all three OMH communities and in the field at numerous Masonic Events, the Foundation added Brother Rodney Epperson and Brother Jesse Pertee as Fraternal Relations Associates to partner with Brother Shirk in building the trusted partnership between the Home and the Fraternity. The goal of the OMHF Fraternal Relations effort is to share with the Fraternity how OMH serves the membership as well as to engage the Fraternity in serving the Ohio Masonic Home.

"We have placed focus in our work on two critical components..."

One other important shift in staff is that Mrs. Cathy Spencer has transitioned from an administrative support position to serving as the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation Donor Relations Manager. She is responsible for providing customer service to the organization's donors and tracking donor records and contributions.

Ohio Masonic Home Foundation President Cathy Wigton states, "It is apparent that we have not created separate departments within our Foundation. We have placed focus in our work on two critical components that revolve around each other and are inseparable; being fraternal relations and fund development. We have repositioned proven professionals and added people to best serve our mission, our residents and the Fraternity."



"Beginning my personal Masonic Journey over seven years ago, I finally have an opportunity to combine my career with my passions. Working with our Foundation is even more special now that all three of my living grandparents are proud residents of Browning Masonic Community."

Price Murphy
Fund Development Associate
pmurphy@ohiomasonichome.org



"It is with great care and responsibility that I strive to live up to our Mission Statement. Being the living expression of our Masonic Obligation is due no less than that as we are impacting the very lives of those we serve."

Rodney Epperson
Fraternal Relations Associate
repperson@ohiomasonichome.org



"The opportunity to live out my Masonic Obligation every day through my work with the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation is a dream come true. Never have I worked with or been part of a more passionate, caring, or motivated team."

Jesse Pertee
Fraternal Relations Associate
jpertee@ohiomasonichome.org

**Move-in
Special!**



Scottish Rite Senior Apartments Make 2016 YOUR Year!

Whether you are exploring a new hobby or reuniting with one you've always loved, retirement living at Scottish Rite Senior Apartments will help you reach your 2016 goals, including more time to do the things you enjoy most! Featuring two-bedroom, one-bedroom and studio floor plans, the apartments offer kitchens with stainless steel appliances, washers and dryers, spacious closets and a pet friendly atmosphere. The new Scottish Rite building hosts an on-site physician's office, fitness and wellness center, ice cream parlor and media library within a 250-acre campus setting. Short-term leases are available and there are no entrance, endowment or community fees.

The apartments are filling up fast, so contact Brian Clayborn at (937) 525-3023 for more information or to arrange a visit today!

Upcoming Events:

Scottish Rite Building Community Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Springfield Chamber Business After Hours Event

Thursday, April 7 at 4:00 p.m.

Scottish Rite Building

"The Upside to Downsizing"

Tuesday, April 26 from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Burkhart Auditorium

Springfield Masonic Community is proud to welcome author, speaker and founder of Smooth Transitions, Barbara Morris who will address the freedom of downsizing. Her motivating presentation will be followed by a panel of experts, including a realtor and a financial advisor who will bring their perspectives to downsizing by answering your questions.

Light refreshments will be served.

R.S.V.P. by April 22 with Tiffany Sudduth at (937) 525-1755.





Mad River Lodge Holds Dinner to Support *Special Olympics*

Mad River Lodge No. 161 held a spaghetti dinner to benefit the Logan County Special Olympics, which raised \$925. Several of the athletes were on hand and helped with the dinner. Seen in the photo presenting the check are Brothers Travis Lance, Larry Lance, Paul Wilkins Marty Rizor and Todd Gault. Accepting the check are Rose Canter, Logan County Coordinator for Special Olympics, Junior Baker, Dean Blosser and Cindy Dickenson.



Russ Tolle, resident at Western Reserve Masonic Community as well as a member of Cleveland Lodge and Acacia Lodge, recently received his 65-year pin. He was invited to Acacia Lodge where Right Worshipful Brother Rick Schau presented his pin.

Freemasonry from a *Hospice Chaplain*

By Rev. David Oliver Kling, M.Div

My story within Freemasonry starts back in 1989. I was a young sailor in the United States Navy stationed in Washington, D.C. At that time, and in that area of the country, you needed to be 21 to be a Freemason. I was only 18, almost nineteen, but still too young to join a Lodge. Instead I had the honor and privilege of joining the Order of DeMolay, a youth organization for boys affiliated with Freemasonry. Shortly before I knelt and took my oath within the Order I was asked a question by one of the advisors, a Freemason with the endearing title of Dad. He asked me, "What do you want to rest your hands upon?" I looked confused. He went on to ask, "Do you want to rest your hands upon a Bible, a Quran, a Bhagavad Gita, or some other holy book?" I responded, "What everyone else is using is fine." I was impressed by the degree of openness and acceptance I experienced.

It wouldn't be until 1997 that I made the commitment to join Freemasonry, and at the time I worked as a nursing assistant with an agency that would often send me to the Ohio Masonic Home to attend to the needs of residents. It was in this capacity that I truly started to practice Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, and embark on a commitment to these three simple, yet profound, principles. I endeavored to build upon what I had learned back in 1989.

*"It was in this capacity
that I truly started to
practice Brotherly Love,
Relief and Truth..."*

Several years later, in 2004, my father became gravely ill and passed away. During his long sojourn in the hospital before he died, my mother and I never once saw a chaplain. There was no one to attend to our spiritual or emotional needs. I decided then that I wanted to work to

help others in their most vulnerable time. So I went back to school full time in 2005, and by the end of 2013 I finished with my training in chaplaincy, and started working as a hospice chaplain.

As a hospice chaplain, I attend to patients at the end of their life, and minister to them and their families. I am able to practice Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth in a myriad of ways. Through Brotherly Love I minister to people where they are in their life and walk with them on their journey. I sit with them in their pain. I don't try washing their pain away with platitudes or clichéd statements, but by showing compassion for what they are feeling no matter who they are or how different from me they may be. I show Relief by trying to curb the suffering and grief I witness by being an actively listening presence. Often I encounter people who need to be heard, and who need someone to listen to them tell their story. I witness to Truth by practicing the universal principles of our Order, in that no matter what a person's belief system is, or how different from my own, I will act as the Good Samaritan did to the traveler on the road. We are all travelers on a road, and we are all in need of love, relief from suffering, and the kind influence of someone who cares.

Browning and Western Reserve Masonic Community

Bus Campaigns



Western Reserve currently has one 14 passenger bus with wheelchair capacity. Over the years this bus has been used on almost a daily basis to transport our residents to all kinds of destinations. It has served the community very faithfully providing all kinds of enjoyment and socialization. However, the bus is now nearing the end of its useful life. With each trip the bus rides become more and more uncomfortable, to the point where many residents

are hesitant to attend outings which they used to look forward to. This is unacceptable because resident trips are very important in providing social and emotional well-being.

The solution to these problems is to purchase new buses with the capacity for wheelchairs or scooters. We ask that you join us in helping provide our residents a wide range of travel possibilities. Please consider making a monetary gift to the Western Reserve Masonic Community Bus Campaign or the Browning Bus Campaign. Together we can ensure our residents will continue to age respectfully, how they want and where they want.

"With each trip the bus rides become more and more uncomfortable..."

At the Ohio Masonic Home, Browning Masonic Community and Western Reserve Masonic Community our goal is to partner with people on their aging journey so they can age respectfully, how they want and where they want.

One of the ways this is accomplished is through social events and day trips to everywhere from parks and theatres to museums and grocery stores. We also provide transportation for our residents to and from medical and other like appointments.

Browning Masonic Community currently has one 14 passenger bus with wheelchair capacity. Because of the increasing demand for transportation of residents in wheelchairs to necessary medical appointments, the bus is often unavailable. This has caused the cancellation of many resident outings. While medical appointments are a necessity, resident trips are also very important.

To make a donation, please send your check to the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation, 2655 West National Road, Springfield, Ohio 45504 and write "Browning Bus Campaign" or "Western Reserve Bus Campaign" in the memo line.



20th Anniversary of *First Inter-Visitation*

November 9, 2015 marked the twentieth anniversary of the visit of Brethren from Pride of Ohio Lodge No. 80, Prince Hall, to Frank H. Marquis Lodge No. 690 in Mansfield. This was the first visitation between lodges under the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Grand Lodge of Ohio, F.&A.M., which had just established mutual recognition in October of 1995.

Right Worshipful Brethren, Michael Cecil, then a D.D.G.M. of the 20th Masonic District, and Robert Young, District Grand Lecturer of the 5th Prince Hall District, coordinated the groundbreaking event.



(left) Carl Shuster, Master of Frank H. Marquis Lodge No. 690
(right) Lucias Vernon, Master of Pride of Ohio Lodge No. 80



First Inter-Visitation, November 9, 1995.

"It was uncharted territory back in 1995, but we made it happen. It was a great experience for all who attended," explained Cecil. "It's hard to believe that twenty years have already passed."

The Grand Lodge of Ohio was established in 1808. The Prince Hall Grand Lodge was established in 1849 due to the racial segregation of the day. In 1995, after one hundred and forty six years, members of both Grand Lodges voted to officially recognize one another as lawful Masonic organizations and to practice the universality taught in their shared rituals.

York Lodge visits

Residents of Springfield Masonic Community

December 2015 marked the continuation of a long-standing tradition among members of York Lodge, who annually visit residents of the Springfield Masonic Community during the holiday season. The Brethren visit as many of the residents as they can, and distribute a monetary gift.

During the year, York Lodge asks its members to make a donation for refreshments and dinners served in lieu of charging for meals. At the end of the year, the proceeds are divided among the residents at the Springfield Masonic Community. On an early December Sunday, members traveled

to Springfield for the annual visit. Obviously, the few dollars gifted to each resident are not as important as having a visit from the members of the Lodge.

Although an exact date of when this tradition was started is unknown, a wooden donation box was built by Carl House, a Past Master of York Lodge, and the total amount from each year's contribution is recorded on the box. The earliest date is 1944. The tradition has been continuous since. In fact, one

of the first duties of a new officer in the lodge is to make a request during refreshments for "silent donations" to the "Dog House" and describe its charitable purpose.

When York, University, Capital City Lodges along with York Chapter, York Council and Columbus Commandery all met in York Temple on North High Street in Columbus, the visitation and

contributions came from all six bodies. York has continued the tradition to this day, and the residents still express their thankfulness for the visit and the gift.

"...dollars gifted to each resident are not as important as having a visit from the members of the Lodge."

Western Reserve *Lodge 507*

The care, compassion and concern exhibited by the Masons of Ohio are often and rightly extended to the widows of deceased Brothers across the state. One such instance occurred in North Bristol, when the members of Western Reserve Lodge 507 began work on the home of Mrs. Roberta "Bertie" Davison.

Bertie's late husband, Robert was a past Worshipful Master of Lodge 507 in West Farmington and a self-employed welder. He and Bertie lived in the same house for nearly the entirety of their 58-year marriage and, although the interior of their home was always neat and cozy, the outside had gradually begun to show its more than 100 years of age.

After Robert passed away in 2011, the members of his Lodge remained in touch with his widow and in 2014, John Mahan, the then current Worshipful Master, approached Bertie with a plan to spruce up her home. Lodge members spent the summer painting, making repairs to the roof and rebuilding the front porch to its original splendor. As the project continued through to 2015, the Brothers found more tasks to undertake, including replacing the old furnace. Those who were unable to help with the work made monetary donations, supplied refreshments and offered moral support.

"It made everyone feel really good to be able to help," said Brother Mahan. "The neighbors would come over and admire the progress and this little lady's sense of pride went wild. She sat on that front porch all summer long with her iced tea in the evening and you could just tell she was in her glory."

The members of Western Reserve Lodge 507 were all humbled by the chance to serve the widow of one of their late Brothers. Although their display of compassion was one of duty, it was also a true testament to the Masonic ideal of Brotherly Love.



Before



After

Save the Dates!

Friday, March 18:

Ohio Masonic Home Print Shop Open House
2655 W. National Rd., Springfield, Ohio 45504

Sunday, June 12:

32nd Annual Home Day
2655 W. National Rd., Springfield, Ohio 45504

Monday, June 13:

3rd Annual Golf Classic
9600 Wedgewood Blvd, Powell, OH 43065

Saturday, July 23:

14th Annual Browning Masonic Community Cruise In
8883 Browning Dr., Waterville, Ohio 43566

Saturday, August 27:

5th Annual Road Rally, Statewide
Future updates can be found at memorycaremiles.com

Saturday, October 1:

Heritage Fest
2655 W. National Rd., Springfield, Ohio 45504



New Year, New Location

New Services!

In our continuing efforts to meet the needs of the Fraternity, the Ohio Masonic Home Print Shop has recently relocated on the Springfield Masonic Community campus. The new, larger facility includes office space, a showroom and a conference area. "More

and acrylic awards and plaques. Sublimation printing, which is a process that allows full color transfer of images to a multitude of items, is now also available; this service is great for personalized gifts and presentations. The latest service coming to the OMH Print Shop is direct-to-garment printing which is perfect for small-run, full-color, high quality apparel items and custom t-shirts for special events, clubs or businesses without the additional fees of traditional screen printing or embroidery.

importantly, the new facility includes a larger production area, giving us more efficient work spaces" said Brother Scott Haddix, Print Production Coordinator. The new facility also allowed for new equipment and increased inventory capacity to meet customer demands.

"...by providing these services to the Fraternity, we are also supporting the Home."

The Ohio Masonic Home Print Shop (OMH Print Shop) has been serving the Fraternity since 2013, providing quality products and service with competitive pricing. The past few years we have specialized in digital and offset printing operations with various finishing methods. Services include brochures, greeting cards, business cards, newsletters, envelopes, carbonless forms, calendars, postcards and much more for marketing, business and personal use. In 2014, we expanded into laser engraving for custom name badges. In addition to all the typical printing services offered by the OMH Print Shop, we also offer wide format printing and scanning.

2016 is bringing even more services to the OMH Print Shop; these include an expansion of the laser engraving services to include crystal, wood

All of these new services have led to the OMH Print Shop launching a new website. Production Coordinator Angie Mann said, "The old website was limited to paper products and not as easy to use." The new website includes a sampling of all the new items offered by the Print Shop and is much more user friendly. Orders may be placed directly on the website at www.omhprintshop.com.

The OMH Print Shop is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Ohio Masonic Home. We strive to provide great products and great prices to the Fraternity as well as the public. "In addition to savings," Manager RWB Brian Knoll says, "by providing these services to the Fraternity, we are also supporting the Home. Even if we are the same price as a local competitor, our proceeds go right back into the Home, which is just an added benefit." Brian also said to remember that the OMH Print Shop not only provides all these great services to the Home or just the Fraternity, but is open to the public for other business and personal needs. If you find yourself in the Springfield area, stop by, see the new facility and meet the staff of your Ohio Masonic Home Print Shop.

The new Print Shop offices.

14 WINTER 2016

The new workroom allows for increased inventory and new equipment.



Browning Masonic Community

New Villas

New villas are coming soon to Browning Masonic Community! Located in scenic Waterville, Ohio, the details surrounding these beautiful new villas and all of the benefits they offer will be revealed over the coming months. If you would like more information, please contact Tara Lloyd at 419-878-1806!

Ohio Masonic Home Expands Assistance

for Ohio Master Masons



Cathy Wigton
President, Ohio Masonic
Home Foundation

We have been on a mission driven journey the past few years at the Ohio Masonic Home (OMH). With the support of the membership of the Fraternity, we now have reached a critical point on the journey that positions OMH to serve more distressed Master Masons and their families.

In order to do so, we first defined distressed and how we address it as an aging services company. Aging is not for the faint hearted. It brings many speed

bumps and greater challenges than one should face alone. For many of us, aging brings factors such as segregation, desolation and loss of self. Distressed can be associated with emotional, social, financial, physical and spiritual needs. Our Ohio Masonic Home Mission, and the assistance we provide to Ohio Masons and their families,

centers around being a trusted partner to overcome the challenges and find the answers that allow people to age respectfully.

Ohio Masons who need assistance in any area of aging can now receive it from the Ohio Masonic Home wherever they live. We are bringing assistance to Masons in their homes as well as at our three communities across the State. Perhaps, Deputy Grand Master Douglas Kaylor put it best when he said, "Your Home is your castle. OMH brings the Castle to your home."

The Ohio Masonic Home is here to serve all Ohio Masons on the journey. The vehicle to get connected to all that is available is the OMH Resource Center. Service provided for Masons through the OMH Resource Center is free of charge. If you have an aging question or issue or know someone who could use a trusted partner, please call toll free 1-877-881-1623.





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the trusted partner to help
people age respectfully

**Voted
one of the
Top 20 courses
in Ohio!**

The Ohio Masonic Home Foundation invites you to the exclusive Wedgewood Golf and Country Club for a round of golf in the Third Annual Miracle Miles for Memory Care Golf Classic. Voted one of the top 20 courses in Ohio, the Wedgewood golf course, located in Powell, was designed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr. and takes golfers through a majestic course complete with stone laden creeks and mirror ponds.

3rd Annual Miracle Miles Golf Classic

Tees off June 13!

Registration: \$125 or \$500/foursome (Single registrations welcome), noon shotgun start. While you play through this work of art you will be supporting the Ohio Masonic Home Foundation in its initiative to bring enhanced programming for Ohio Masonic Home memory care residents across the state.

Invite your friends, Lodge members, co-workers, or business partners to play at this private course, and enjoy the opportunity of a lifetime. Sign up today by contacting Mark Harris at maharris@ohiomasonichome.org.

Each registration entitles the golfer to:

- 18 holes of golf with the use of a cart
- The use of the practice range
- The use of the locker room and guest showers
- Scoring
- Bag drop valet service with hole assignment
- Dinner

