



THE TRESTLE BOARD

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The Christmas Story - The Version from the King James Bible

Matthew Chapter 2

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Seventh Masonic District Past Masters' Convocation

Orient Lodge #321 in Waverly, Ohio will host the 2013 Past Masters' Convocation for the Seventh Masonic District December 7, 2013. The Saturday morning meeting will begin with breakfast at 8:00 am and the meeting will open at 9:00 am. Worshipful Master Neil A. Zizelman will be in attendance at this meeting which is only open to actual Past Masters or Companions of Chillicothe Chapter #4 R.A.M. on whom the Past Master Degree has been conferred.

Inside this issue:

The Christmas Story	1
Past Masters' Convocation	1
Calendar	2
Lunch at the Lodge	3
Christmas in a Nutshell	3
WE REMEMBER	3
Veteran Remembered for Work	4
Commandery December Meeting	4
Installation 2013	5
Notes from Widows	5
Thanks	5
Chillicothe Chapter Inspection	6
Divided Rituals	6
VA Bingo	6
Correspondence Virginia	7
Correspondence Pennsylvania	8

Comments & Suggestions may be made through our website or calling the Office of the Secretary/Recorder of the Chillicothe York Rite Bodies at 774-3485

DECEMBER 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 VA Bingo Bldg #9 1:00 pm	2	3 Scioto Lodge Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	4	5	6	7 Past Masters' Convocation Orient Lodge #321 8:00 am
8 Aladdin Temple Shrine Valley of Columbus Fall Ceremonial	9 Chips, Dips and Euchre 2:00 pm (formerly Lunch at the Lodge)	10 Chillicothe Chapter Inspection Royal Arch ° 7:30 pm	11 Chillicothe Chapter #419 Order of Eastern Star 7:30 pm	12 Hillsboro Chapter #40 Inspection Past Master ° 7:30 pm	13	14
15 Ross County Shrine Club Christmas Dinner	16 Circleville Chapter #20 Inspection Past Master ° 7:30 pm	17 Chillicothe Council Mtg. 7:30 pm Commandery Christmas Observance and Mtg. Following	18	19 Scioto Lodge Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	20	21
22	23	24		26	27	28
29	30 Harry E. Sark Council #186 AMD Portsmouth Masonic Temple 6:00 pm	31	Combined Council Inspections: 12/13 Hockhocking Council #89 Inspection Royal Master ° 7:00 pm —Athens Council #14 Select Master ° 8:00 pm @ Logan Dinner 6:00 pm Combined Council Inspections: 12/14 Bosworth Council #46 Royal Master ° 7:00 pm —Trowel Council #71 Select Master ° 8:00 pm @Middleport Dinner 6:00 pm			

LUNCH AT THE LODGE

The event ***Lunch at the Lodge***, was a program launched in an effort to initiate a social interaction outside the confines of the Lodge Room and the stated meeting venue. Additionally, it was hoped that as a lodge we could open our doors on a social basis to entertain non-Masonic guests and Masonic Widows. The addition of playing Euchre was included as a bonus when it worked was a welcome plus.

The reviews have been mixed in terms of participation on a number of levels. Brother Dean Rinehart came on board as a liaison to reach out to many Masonic Brethren and other non-Masons with whom we worked at Mead. Reservations were never required and there was no cost to those who attended.

The decision to discontinue the event seems to be the correct course of action at this time. Generally speaking, when a program does not hold sufficient interests it is interpreted as not needed or wanted. That is called feedback. With this being the holiday season and schedules so very complex and filled with activity, it seemed to be the most correct time to announce the decision to discontinue the program.

Christmas in a Nutshell

The Christmas Story in a Nutshell

It all started with the Angel Gabriel just over 2000 years ago. The Angel Gabriel proclaimed that Mary would have a very special baby and that the newborn would be called Jesus.

If we move forward to Bethlehem, Mary and her husband Joseph, went to town to pay their taxes. Unfortunately, there was nowhere for them to stay, so they took shelter in a stable. There in Bethlehem, in a manger, the baby Jesus was born. A bright star in the East guided wise men to the stable. They brought with them gifts Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. This informal ceremony has extended to the celebration of Christmas as we know it today.

Mary and Joseph had a virgin birth that gave us baby Jesus. Christmas is the celebration of Jesus' birthday.

Admit it, you've given some terrible gifts for Christmas. There's someone who has never given a bad gift for Christmas, though—GOD! For Christmas, however, He gave us something no one could've imagined.

We Remember



Edward F. Barnes, 85 years old, died 7:52 p.m. Tuesday, October 29, 2013 in the Adena Regional Medical Center. He was

born September 1, 1928, in Chillicothe, to the late Herbert R. and Mildred C. Rittinger Barnes. On August 12, 1948 in Greenup, KY, he married the former Virginia M. Steinbrook who passed away on February 10, 1990. **Brother Barnes was Raised to the degree of Master Mason April 9, 2005.**



David Russell Medert, 85, of Chillicothe, passed away at his home on Oct. 29, 2013. The son of Russell and Juanita Riggs Medert, he was born Feb. 29, 1928, in Chillicothe. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, the former Patricia Fife, son, David V. (Andrea) and daughter, Melissa Darby (Don). **Brother Medert was Raised to the degree of Master Mason December 19, 1955.**



Douglas E. Byrum, 65, of Chillicothe, passed 11:34 a.m. Wednesday, October 16, 2013 in the Adena Regional Medical Center unexpectedly.

He was born March 18, 1948, in Chillicothe, to Eugene C. and Margaret A. Andrews Byrum. On April 1, 1970, he married the former Reba N. Bond who survives.

Brother Byrum was Raised to the degree of Master Mason November 21, 1997.

Man Remembered for Work with Veterans written by David Berman Gazette Staff Writer

CHILLICOTHE — Dave Medert, an Army veteran and historian who served as the driving force behind the construction of a local World War II memorial, was being remembered this week as a patriot who cared tremendously about his fellow veterans. Medert died Tuesday [October 29, 2013] at his home in Chillicothe at the age of 85. Medert wore many hats during his lifetime, which began Feb. 29, 1928, in Chillicothe. He was a sergeant in the 82nd Airborne Division, a lieutenant in the Ohio Highway Patrol and a fruit farmer in Athens County.

But he will perhaps be best remembered in Ross County for his efforts to preserve and celebrate American history, particularly the country's military history and the contributions of his fellow veterans. "The first thing that comes to mind when I think of Dave is that he was a true patriot," said Ray Pryor, who served with Medert on the Ross County Veterans Council. "He was all about keeping our history alive and promoting the great things this country is all about." Medert's interest in the military and its members spanned decades. He was a member of both the Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. As a member of the latter, he served as its commander in chief from 1995 to 1998. Medert was the last surviving charter member of the Joshua Sill Chapter Civil War Round Table, which was organized in Chillicothe in 1957. He also was a member of American Legion Post 62.

Along with his wife of 64 years, local historian Pat Medert, he was deeply involved in the Ross County Historical Society. In 2011, the couple was honored with Lifetime Achievement Awards through the historical society's First Capital History Award program. "He was a major supporter of the historical society and volunteered quite a bit of time here," society director Tom Kuhn said. "He meant a tremendous amount to us." Kuhn described Medert as a "larger than life" figure who captured people's attention when he would enter a room. "He was a retired state trooper and had that professional bearing. He never slouched," said Neil Miller, who came to know Medert through their work on the Ross County Veterans Council. Miller said Medert was the catalyst behind the effort to construct a World War II memorial in Veterans Park on Yoctangee Parkway. According to his obituary, Medert led the campaign to raise funds for the memorial and assisted in its design. It was dedicated in 2004. Medert also organized fundraising campaigns to restore the Civil War monument in Grandview Cemetery and the Civil War and World War I monuments in Yoctangee Park. In 2010, Medert was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame, in part because of his efforts to remember veterans.

Brother David R. Medert was a member of Scioto Lodge #6 F. & A. M.

CHILLICOTHE COMMANDERY #8 K.T. MEETING RE-SCHEDULED

October 22, 2013—Eminent Commander, Sir Knight David V. Medert announced a change to the Stated Conclave for December. Following the Stated Assembly of Chillicothe Council #4, December 17th, Chillicothe Commandery #8 K.T. will open for purposes of conducting any business that may come before the members. Sir Knights will gather in the center of the Asylum for the Annual Christmas observance and ceremonial toasts. A collection will be taken at the conclusion of the meeting which will be sent to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. If you can't attend but wish to participate in the annual support of this most worthwhile charity of Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio you may contribute by check or money order. Please do not send cash via the United States Mail. Fraternally and Sincerely William Bennett, Recorder.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 2013



Friday, November 15, 2013

The Installing Team of Right Worshipful Brother David V. Medert, Installing Officer, Worshipful Brother Chad Simpson, Installing Secretary, Worshipful Brother John R. Ashton, Installing Marshall and Worshipful Brother Michael A. Ash, Installing Chaplain completed the installation of officers for Scioto Lodge #6 F. & A. M.

A social in the Moll Dining Room set the tone for the evening with appetizers featuring a broad array of finger foods served to 44

members and guests.

Pictured above (front row) Right Worshipful Brother David V. Medert; Worshipful Brother William E. Landrum, Treasurer; Worshipful Brother Alvin E. DePugh, Chaplain; Neil A. Zizelman, Worshipful Master; Brother Mark I Cooper, Senior Warden; Brother Evan M. Steele, Junior Warden, Worshipful Brother Stephen J. Steele, Lodge Education Officer; Brother Michael L. Hines, Senior Deacon; Brother Kyle William Henderson, Senior Steward; Brother John W. Malone, Tyler; Worshipful Brother William Bennett, Secretary; Brother Harold C. Ramsey Jr. Junior Deacon and Brother Michael A. Hoffner, Junior Steward.

NOTES FROM WIDOWS

Dear Bill & All,

I want to thank you for the lovely Thanksgiving Day Card you sent me. It's beautiful. I really appreciate the dinners you invite us widows to attend, you are great cooks! Since I don't drive anymore...I can't get out unless someone takes me so this note will have to do. I wanted to thank you all for what you do. God Bless

Mrs. Lola Beeler

Widow of Brother Jack Beeler

Dear Sirs:

November 16, 2013

I am writing to express my gratitude for the beautiful Thanksgiving card I just recently received. The lovely scenic picture of our hometown, the scripture verses that bless me, and the prayers of thanksgiving created a message of an exemplary nature. I felt honored to be remembered in such a special way.

Thank you for thinking of me, I will always be happy and proud that my husband was a Mason.

Sincerely

Donna M. Bowsher

Widow of Brother Joseph A. Bowsher

THANKS

Thanks to Sir Knights Michael A. Ash, Robert K. Brown and R. Joseph Shilling formed an Honor Guard for the presentation of colors at the Installation of Officers for Order of Eastern Star of Waverly, Ohio. Showing their appreciation for this service they were presented a check in the amount of \$50.00 as a contribution to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation. These funds will be included in the offering at the Christmas Observation December 17, 2013.

David V. Medert, Eminent Commander

To Scioto Lodge #6

On behalf of the AMVETS Post 4 Chillicothe, I would like to thank you for the Veterans' Night Honor Banquet and the great hospitality that you displayed. The dinner and ceremony was excellent and very enjoyable. It is very good to know that there are organizations such as yours that really care and take the time to Honor the Veterans' of this Great Country and the sacrifices that they have made. **David R. Clemmons, Commander**

CHILLICOTHE CHAPTER #4 R.A.M.

The Officers and Companions of Chillicothe Chapter #4 R.A.M. will open the doors Tuesday evening, December 10, 2013 for its Annual Inspection. Excellent High Priest Joe D. Curtis will welcome guests for Dinner at 6:00 pm with the Inspection beginning at 7:30 pm. The Chapter will be inspected in the Royal Arch Degree.

Other Inspections for Fifth Capitular District in December:

December 12th Hillsboro Chapter #40

December 16th Circleville Chapter #20

Ladies are invited to attend.

A father buys a lie detector robot that slaps people when they lie. He decides to test it out at dinner one night. The father asks his son what he did that afternoon. The son says, "I did some schoolwork." The robot slaps the son. The son says, "Ok, Ok. I was at a friend's house watching movies." Dad asks, "What movie did you watch?" Son says, "Toy Story." The robot slaps the son. Son says, "Ok, Ok, we were watching porn." Dad says, "What? At your age I didn't even know what porn was." The robot slaps the father. Mom laughs and says, "Well, he certainly is your son." The robot slaps the mother. Robot for sale.

How Children View Angels:

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets out his breath again, somewhere there's a tornado. John age 9

Angels have a lot to do and they keep very busy. If you lose a tooth, an angel comes in through your window and leaves money under your pillow. Then when it gets cold, angels go south for the winter. Reagan, age 10

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter. -Jared, age 8

DIVIDED RITUALS

The Office of the Secretary maintains a list of Brethren who checked out Divided Rituals. The following rituals have been loaned and are overdue for return. Please check to see if you have or know the people who checked out the Divided Degree Rituals.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Entered Apprentice Booklet #2 last loaned to Brother Scott Claytor | 4. Fellow Craft Booklet #1 last loaned to Brother Kyle Jones |
| 2. Entered Apprentice Booklet #3 last loaned to Joseph Lawhorn | 5. Fellow Craft Booklet #3 last loaned to Brother Richard Wardell Jr. |
| 3. Entered Apprentice Booklet #5 last loaned to Brother Ryan Minney | 6. Master Mason Booklet #1 last loaned to Brother George Richards |
| | 7. Master Mason Booklet #3 last loaned to Brother Graham Thompson |
| | 8. Master Mason Booklet #4 last loaned to Mark Virgin |

SEVENTH MASONIC DISTRICT VA BINGO

Masonic Lodges in the Seventh Masonic District slated to host the VA Bingo Project at the Veterans Administration Hospital **Sunday, December 1, 2013**

1. Bainbridge Lodge #196
2. Frankfort Lodge #309
3. Logan Elm Lodge #624
4. Manchester Lodge #317
5. Scioto Lodge #6

All refreshments are to be prepackaged as homemade foods may not be served. Please arrive between 12:30 and 1:00 pm for set up preparations.

Attendance 2013:

January 6, 2013	13 Brethren—2 Non Masons
July 7, 2013	12 Brethren—4 Non Masons
August 4, 2013	18 Brethren—6 Non Masons

Fraternal Correspondence—Archives from Richmond, Virginia

October 14, 2013

My name is Josh Wilberger and I am a Master Mason of Richmond, Virginia, in Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19 under the MW Grand Lodge of Virginia, A.F. & A.M. My father, who is also a Mason, recently came into a book of postcards at an auction. We noticed one is a picture of your temple from 1906. It is post marked Sept. 6, 1906 from Vigo, Ohio it looks like. It even has a time stamp of 11 A.M. It should seem it was sent to/from a Mr. T.M. Burke aboard the U.S.S. Des Moines to / from P.W (M.) New York City, N.Y. The hand writing is a bit hard to make out. Interestingly enough it made its way through my side of town, through Norfolk, VA on Sept. 8. I think the post card features an actual picture of your Temple from that time, and if you all would like it, I'd be more than happy to send it to you all. Please feel free e-mail me back with a contact to whom I may mail it. I'd love to see this card make its way back home.

Dear Brother Wilberger,

Thank you ever to much for the consideration and effort to contact us regarding your find. It would be a pleasure to receive the post card. It would be a great addition to our archives. Brother Thomas M. Burke was a member of Scioto Lodge #6 was Raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on October 20, 1913. We also had a Brother Edmond L.D. Burke who was raised April 16, 1868 and whom I would suspect was his father. Our mailing address is 57 East Main Street Chillicothe, Ohio 45601. I am the Secretary of the lodge. Our telephone number is 740-774-3485. Thank you again for your contacting us about this artifact. William Bennett

November 25, 2013

Good morning Brother Bennett:

Please forgive my unexpected tardiness in getting back to you. Being a student taking on two degrees, working, and caring for a chronically ill fiancé certainly keeps me busy. What a wonderful history to read about this postcard. I'm an antiquarian by trade in a manner, having done yard sales and flea markets as a child. I'm still very much into it but don't possess any where near the knowledge my father does. Thankfully I still have him to learn from and the books he learned from as well.

The postcard will be going out in tomorrow's mail, if not today's. It's an honor to ensure this piece of Masonic history finds its way back home where it belongs. Should I have the fortune of finding myself in Ohio, and I hope I do, I should like to visit sometime. Any Brother passing through the Old Dominion [state] is naturally welcome to visit Masons Hall, home of Richmond Randolph No. 19. It is also the oldest, continually used building for Masonic purposes in the Western Hemisphere.

Thanks!

JSW

Josh Wilberger

Graduate Assistant

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**A PUBLICATION OF THE
CHILLICOTHE MASONIC BODIES**

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FRATERNAL CORRESPONDENCE—PENNSYLVANIA

From Steve Allen of Pennsylvania:

My grandfather was a Freemason, however I know very little about what he did. I have a Masonic sword that was handed down to me. On the ivory handle it has the word Chillicothe Commander, which has lead me to your site. The sword has KT on the handle and top part of the handle is a skull and cross bones. It has the full sheath with very nice etching and the blade is in beautiful shape as well. The name J.W. Howard is on the blade. As I am looking for research on this sword it seems to be much more detailed than most swords I am finding. Could you tell me if J.W. Howard was part of your group and let me know if you have any history on this sword? I believe it is between 1880-1920. I am just wondering where this sword came from to learn about its history. I find it interesting. It is from Pettibone Mfg. Co. Thank you in advance for any help you could provide. Steve Allen.

Reply from the office of the Secretary-Recorder Chillicothe York Rite Bodies:

Mr. Allen, Pettibone Manufacturing produces swords among other Masonic articles and is located in Cincinnati, Ohio. The sword is used when conferring the Orders Knights Templar. The sword was the property of James W. Howard who was made a Master Mason in Scioto Lodge #6 February 7, 1893. He then petitioned the Chillicothe York Rite Bodies and was made a Sir Knight in Chillicothe Commandery #8. The skull and cross bones are a symbol of the mortality of man and teaches the moral lesson that while we are alive we need to recognize the value of life. Relatives of his were also members of the Chillicothe Masonic family, specifically Lorenzo D. Howard who was raised December 26, 1839, followed by Charles H. Howard April 6, 1871 and Edward B. Howard March 28, 1919. I hope this has been of some assistance. Fraternally William Bennett

From Mr. Allen

William,

Thank you so much on this insightful information. I find the Mason history really interesting and the bond and the collaboration even more so. Its neat to know some of the history of J.W. Howard. I'm not sure how it got into our Family. Either way it is a nice display piece. Thanks again on letting me know this in such a prompt fashion, and if you ever have more info on this particular sword or know of his Family members that maybe interested in it please feel free to reach out to me.

To the Sir Knight of Chillicothe Commandery #8 K.T.: Should there be someone with information regarding James W. Howard or possibly his descendants please relay such information to the Office of the Secretary/Recorder of the Chillicothe York Rite Bodies.