



A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2014

December 2014

Christmas Social

Sunday

December 14, 2014 at

2:00 p.m.

Moll Dining Room

4th Floor

All Masons, their Ladies

and guests are

invited to

attend.

Special invitation to our

Masonic Widows

Let there be peace and good

will this Christmas

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Neil A. Zizelman,
Worshipful Master
Roger R. Jones.
High Priest
James L. Stevens,
Illustrious Master
Michael L. Hines
Eminent Commander
William Bennett
Trestle Board Editor
Thomas Caster
Photographer

December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Scioto Lodge Stated Mtg. Installation of Officers 7:30 pm	3	4	5	6 Past Master Convocation Orient Lodge #321 Waverly 8:00 am
7	8	9 Chillicothe Chapter #4 R.A.M. Annual Inspection 7:30 pm	10 Chillicothe Chapter #419 Order of Eastern Star 7:30 pm	11	12	13
14 <i>Christmas Social 2:00 pm</i>	15	16 Chillicothe Council #4 R. & S.M. Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	17	18 Scioto Lodge Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	19	20
21	22	23 Chillicothe Commandery #8 K.T. Stated Mtg. Annual Christmas Observance 7:30 pm	24	25 	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Continuing our Historic Journey of Scioto Lodge #6

Having completed out present building in 1904, the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies were more prepared to grow with the time. In 1900 Scioto Lodge #6 had 170 Masons; by 1976 that number had reached 739.

The work of the Lodge preceded at a steady, continuous pace until Camp Sherman opened in Chillicothe in 1917. On August 16th of that year Scioto Lodge #6 made special provisions for visitors from the camp. Almost immediately a flood of candidates poured into the Lodge, most being for courtesy work performed for the benefit of the future Brother s' home lodges/ approximately 1200 degrees were conferred by 1921. To facilitate these numbers the Grand Lodge of Ohio, through Scioto Lodge #6 established a guest house at Camp Sherman with a field secretary. However, all candidates were process through Scioto Lodge #6. As such we met six night a week, resting on the Sabbath, with as many as three concurrent Lodges in operation at a time.

The numbers are approximate: 294 Candidates from 157 Ohio Lodges; 95 from out of state and 200 from Scioto Lodge #6. This totals 589 candidates who received the 1200 degrees. Of note, Scioto Lodge #6 refused any money for the courtesy work conferred at Camp Sherman. Also, in October of 1918 the Board of Health ordered the discontinuance of these meetings because of the Spanish influenza epidemic. As many of you already know, our old temple (The Masonic Opera House) was commandeered into use as a temporary morgue for the bodies of the doughboys from Camp Sherman who had succumbed to the deadly influenza. The quarantine was lifted on November 1, 1918.

Next Month: The Chillicothe Masonic Temple Board and the Masonic Temple Club

Feast of St. John the Evangelist

A special reverence and interest is attached to St. John—"the disciple whom Jesus loved." The only disciple of Christ to not to forsake him in the hour of His Passion at the foot of the cross and he was the first to reach the tomb; when he met the risen Lord at the lake of Tiberius, where he was the first to recognize Him. Also, he is also attributed as the writer of the Epistles of John, and the book of Revelation.

St. John the Evangelist, with St. John the Baptist, is considered a patron saint by the fraternal society of Free and Accepted Masons. The festival of St. John on December 27th is the beginning of the lodge year in many jurisdictions of that fraternity, and is marked by special commemorations. This is the 2nd feast day in the year to celebrate the Holy Saints John. The placement of the holiday also marks the winter solstice, which is directly opposite Saint John the Baptist's day at the summer solstice in June making a notable completion in the cycle of the solar year. The actual dates are slightly off, but you get the symbolism.

The Masons, finding the St. John's day of the church occurred about the time when, for reasons having nothing to do with St. John the Evangelist, they had been in the habit of enjoying a festival season for ages, chose to call it St. John's day, and so observe it; until those who have inherited their Masonry, having overlooked the true Masonic reason for the celebration at this season of the year, have very generally ceased to celebrate it, even as the anniversary of one of their patron Saints.

We regard it as very much to be regretted that Masons fail to celebrate the day of the Evangelist St. John. It is a loss to Masonry. It is a surrender of an opportunity to direct the minds of the Fraternity to the origin of their Institution, antedating the times of Christ and the Evangelist, antedating the times of the ancient Druids, who in celebrating the great winter festival were merely commemorating a season which had been

Eminent Commander's Corner

Cold weather has roared into our area just in time for the holidays. Winter weather is to be expected but too often the holiday season is less then festive for those who struggle during the rest of the year. Children who can get meals at school must find ways to eat at home during times when school is not in session.

This is the time Sir Knights when we can make a huge difference by living our creed—"to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted". Local churches often have lists of those in need and charities such as the Salvation Army and the Mid-Ohio Food Bank do wonderful work with little overhead cost.

Your donations are kept local and go to those most in need. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers this season and may you have a very Merry Christmas.

Fraternally
Michael L. Hines, Eminent Commander

Chapter Road Trip

Excellent High Priest Roger R. Jones and a contingency of Companions will travel to Loveland Chapter #211 Saturday, December 20, 2014.

Blanchester Chapter #153; Morrow Chapter #143; Batavia Chapter #43 and Loveland Chapter #211 will come together for their annual inspections at Loveland Chapter. Events get underway at 9:00 am for the conferral of all Chapter degrees. Lunch will be served at approximately noon depending on the conclusion of the Past Master Degree.

Blanchester Chapter will confer the Mark Master^o; Morrow Chapter the Past Master^o Batavia Chapter the Most Excellent Master^o and Loveland the Royal Arch^o

Right Excellent Companion Ryan W. Adams and Excellent High Priest Roger R. Jones will travel along with Chillicothe Chapter #4 R.A.M. has 7 Companions that require the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degree to complete their travels in Chapter. Our contingency should plan to arrive in Loveland by 11:00 am.

Fifth Capitular District and Sixth Cryptic Arch Inspections

LaGrange Chapter #68 will host its annual inspection Saturday December 6, 2015 at 7:30 pm in the Past Master Degree. Refreshments will be served prior to the inspection.

Circleville Chapter #20 Will be inspected in the Past Master Degree Saturday, December 15, 2014 at their stated meeting beginning at 7:30 pm.

Fayette Mark Chapter #4 in Jeffersonville will host its annual inspection in the Mark Master Degree Tuesday, December 30, 2014 at 7:30 pm. Dinner will be served.

Trowel Council and Bosworth will both be inspected on the same day.

Trowel Council #70 will be inspected in the Royal Master Degree. Their inspection on December 20th will begin at 5:00 pm with dinner following at 6:00 pm.

Bosworth Council #46 will hold their annual inspection at McArthur, Ohio December 20, 2014 at 7:00 pm following dinner at 6:00 pm. Their inspection will be in the Select Master Degree

A couple were Christmas shopping. The shopping center was packed. As the wife walked through one of the malls she was surprised when she looked around to find that her husband was nowhere to be seen. She was quite upset because they had a lot to do. She became so worried she called him on her cell phone to ask him where he was. In a quiet voice he said, "Do you remember the jewelers we went into about five years ago where you fell in love with that diamond necklace that we couldn't afford, And I told you that I would get it for you one day?" The wife choked up and started to cry and said, "Yes, I do remember that shop." He replied, "Well, I'm in the bar next door."

Happenings of Chillicothe Commandery #8 K.T.



**Eminent Commander
Michael L. Hines**

Eminent Commander Sir Knight Michael L. Hines has announced the 2014 Christmas Observance will be held at our Stated Conclave Tuesday, December 23, 2014. The traditional offering will be taken in support of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

The School of Instruction held this past October was the introduction of the new Full Form Opening introduced by Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Ohio which is comprised of a ten man team.

Chillicothe Commandery #8 K.T. will perform the revised Full Form Opening at its Stated Conclave Tuesday, February 24, 2015. Our Annual Inspection will be held Tuesday, March 21, 2015 at which time the Order of the Temple will be conferred. Presently it is projected that there will be as many as nine candidates to receive the Order of the Temple. Although no schedule has been established at this date for them to receive the Mediterranean Pass Order of Malta or the Order of the Red Cross. That will be established between now at the date of the inspection. Ladies are invited to witness the Full Form Opening on February 24th.



CHILLICOTHE: Leo Woods, 88, of Chillicothe, passed away, surrounded by his family, 6:55 p.m. Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at his residence unexpectedly.

He was born January 12, 1926, in Pike County, to the late Luther "Dink" and Ethel Fassler Woods. On August 28, 1948, he married the former Lova R. Bruno, his wife of 66 years, who survives.

Also surviving are children, Terry (Debra) Woods, of Red Rock, TX and Tony (Christie) Woods, of Chillicothe; a grandson, his name sake, Anthony Leo Woods; sisters, Addie and Essie and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by sisters, Mary and Janey and a brother, Ovid Woods.

Leo was a life member and Past Commander of the American Legion Post 757 where he was the 7th District Adjutant. He was involved in Legion Baseball as a District Commissioner for 20 years. Leo was also a life member of American Legion Post 62, VFW Post 108 and AMVETS Post 4. He was a 66 year member of Scioto Lodge #6 F&AM. He was also a member of Chillicothe Chapter #4, Chillicothe Council #4, Chillicothe Commandery #8 Knights Templar, Ross County Shrine Club and the Aladdin Temple Shrine of Columbus. Leo was also a member of the Legion 40 et 8 and the Navy Petty Officers. He served in the US Army Air Corps for 2 years in the Pacific Theatre.

Leo was inducted in the CHS Hall of Fame for his community and Cavalier Club service. He was one of 5 men who started the Scioto Valley Youth League Baseball Program with Ruby Jenkins, Zeb Ginther, Bill Sullivan and Clayton Raney. Leo managed and played for the fast pitch softball team, River Oil, which won 5 state championships in A.S. A. He was an umpire and basketball and football official for over 20 years.

Leo retired, following 37 years of service, from the Piketon Gaseous Diffusion Plant. Masonic Funeral Services were conducted by Scioto Lodge #6 F. & A. M. at 7:00 pm.

Veterans' Night Honors Banquet in Pictures by Tom Castor, Lodge Photographer



Seventh Masonic District VA Bingo

December 7, 2014

The following five Lodges are slated to host the Seventh Masonic District VA Bingo in Building #9 on the campus of the Veterans Administration Hospital

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

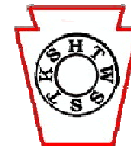
All Masons, their Ladies and invited guests are invited to participate in this district event.

Chillicothe Chapter #4 R.A.M.

Excellent Companion High Priest Roger R. Jones and Companions of Chillicothe Chapter #4 R.A.M. will welcome distinguished guests from around the Fifth Capitular District to its annual inspection, Tuesday, December 9, 2014.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.

Chapter will open in the Red Room promptly at 7:30 pm, then adjourn to the Blue Room for the conferral of the Mark Master Degree upon Brother Jamie Andrew Sharp.



December in History

337

- Earliest possible date that Christmas was celebrated on Dec 25th

1223

- St. Francis of Assisi assembles 1st Nativity scene (Greccio, Italy)

1651

- Massachusetts General Court ordered a fine (five shillings) for "observing any such day as Christmas

1818

- Handel's Messiah, U.S. premieres in Boston
- First known Christmas carol ("Silent Night, Holy Night") sung (Austria)
- Franz Joseph Gruber composed "Silent Night".

1831

- Louisiana and Arkansas are 1st states to observe Christmas as holiday

1843

- Charles Dickens published "A Christmas Carol".

1891

- "Stars and Stripes Forever" written by John Philip Sousa

1938

- George Cukor announces Vivien Leigh will play Scarlett O'Hara

1939

- Montgomery Ward introduces Rudolph the 9th reindeer
- ***Gone With the Wind*** premiered in where else but Atlanta, Georgia

1968

- Frank Borman's Christmas reading while orbiting Moon

2011

- The annual Christmas message is delivered by Pope Benedict XVI in St. Peter's Square, Vatican City

**A PUBLICATION OF THE
CHILLICOTHE MASONIC BODIES**

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Ah! Christmas, the biggest holiday of the year. Christmas has both a strong religious and traditional meaning. It has a certain feel, all to itself, that you usually do not feel at any other time of the year. It creates within us, a sense of kindness and concern for fellow man. At no other time are we more generous and giving. It creates a sense of family and belonging.

Everyone comes home for the Christmas holiday. It is a time of family and giving. It is truly a time that comes but once a year. Christmas is celebrated in most countries around the world!

And so, we invite you to ride along. Join us in celebration of the magic, the wonder and the spirit of this holiday season.



The year 1914 saw the Christmas spirit manifest itself in the most unlikely of places—a World War I battlefield. Starting on the evening of December 24, scores of German, British and French troops in Belgium laid down their arms and initiated a spontaneous holiday ceasefire. The truce was reportedly instigated by the Germans, who decorated their trenches with Christmas trees and candles and began singing carols like “Silent Night.” British troops responded with their own rendition of “The First Noel,” and the weary combatants eventually ventured into “no man’s land”—the treacherous, bombed-out space that separated the trenches—to greet one another and shake hands. According to accounts from the men involved,

the soldiers shared cigarettes and pulls of whiskey, and some exchanged Christmas presents with men they had been shooting at only hours before. Taking advantage of the brief lull in combat, some Scottish, English and German troops even played a pick-up game of soccer on the frozen battlefield. The truce was not sanctioned by the officers on either side, and eventually the men were called back to their respective trenches to resume fighting. Later attempts at holiday meetings were mostly forbidden, but as the war dragged on the “Christmas Truce” would stand as a remarkable example of shared humanity and brotherhood on the battlefield.



Did You Know? While some have objected to using the term “Xmas” as an abbreviation for “Christmas,” this particular form of shorthand has been around for hundreds of years. In fact, the “X” in “Xmas” is actually the symbol for “Chi”—the first letter in the Greek spelling of the word “Christos,” or Christ. Use of the letter “X” as an abbreviation for Christ’s name is over 1,000 years old, and the term “Xmas” has been used in English as far back as the 18th century.