



Nov.– Dec. 2024

The Trestle Board

A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

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The True Secret Word of a Master Mason

At the beginning of his Masonic career each candidate for initiation is instructed that “Freemasonry is a beautiful system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols.” The design of the Masonic Institution is to make its members wiser, better and consequently happier. To that end we are reminded by symbols to circumscribe our desires and to keep our passions within due bounds. Our lodges are universally opened with a prayer. In many jurisdictions we beseech the Grand Architect of the Universe, whom each of us worships privately in his own way, to “grant that the sublime principles of Freemasonry may so subdue every discordant passion within us, so harmonize and enrich our hearts with Thine own love and goodness, that the lodge at this time may humbly reflect that order and beauty which reign forever before Thy throne.”

Our degrees teach and constantly remind us of our duties to ourselves and our fellow creatures. In the Entered Apprentice degree, we are taught to extend true charity to all. Not just material charity, but also that more noble charity of the mind and spirit that inspires us to help every other human being who is in need. We are reminded to act with Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. The last of these cardinal virtues, Justice “enables us to render to every man his just due without distinction”.

The Fellowcraft degree instructs us to engage ourselves in the pursuit of knowledge, not just during the degree, but always. In particular it encourages us to study the classical liberal arts and sciences, which lead to a liberal and enlightened mind. That mind is free from the dross of all prejudices, national, cultural, ethnic, racial, and religious. It could hardly be otherwise, for we are also taught that Masonry is universal, extending its benevolence throughout the entire terrestrial globe. By so freeing our hearts and consciences from all prejudices we are taught that we will earn, not be given, wages of spiritual nourishment, refreshment, and joy.

The Master Mason goes even further. It is called “sublime”, that is “elevated in thought”, “inspiring awe”, because it teaches us of our further duties to each other and indeed to all humankind. In that degree we undertake certain serious and solemn obligations to each other as brothers. But these duties are not exclusive to us. The true, mature Mason understands they apply to all persons in every situation. We bind ourselves to each other only as a starting point, a point from which the real Mason travels onward.

The Master’s degree, however, comes with a warning that we must act and not just hope. The Master’s degree also informs us that the secret word of a Master Mason has been lost to us through the perfidy of our unseemly desires and passions. It is our duty to seek out that secret word, that hidden meaning, even though it will always remain inexplicable to others. By: David Llewellyn

NOV 2024

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 6 | 7 Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 Masonic Temple Board Meeting for 3rd Quarter 7:00 p.m. All Masons are Wel- come | 12 Chillicothe Chapter # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Chillicothe Council # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 13 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 22 Ladies, Widows Veterans Night Banquet 6:00 pm Social Hour 7:00 pm Dinner | 23 Chapter All Degree Day Scioto Lodge 8:00 am Cof- fee & Donuts 9:00 Work |
| 24 | 25 | 26 Chillicothe Commandery #8 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 27 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm | 28 Happy Thanksgiving  | 29 | 30 |
| | | | | | | |

D E C 2 0 2 4

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|--|--|--|-----|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 4 | 5 Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 6 | 7 Scioto Lodge Christmas Party 6:30 pm |
| 8 | 9 | 10 Chillicothe Chapter # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Chillicothe Council # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 11 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm | 12 | 13 | 14 Jackson Commandery Inspection 12:00 noon |
| 15 | 16 | 17 Chillicothe Commandery #8 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Christmas Observance | 18 | 19 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24  Twas the Night before Christmas ... | 25 Merry Christmas! | 26  | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

*IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR BRETHREN CALLED BY THE
SUPREME ARCHITECT OF THE UNIVERSE*

Robert Christopher Counts



Born: November 19, 1958

E.A.: September 12, 2020

F.C.: September 12, 2020

M.M.: September 12, 2020

Died: September 24, 2024



John Michael Willis



Born: September 12, 1957

E.A.: May 5, 2007

F.C.: June 21, 2007

M.M.: August 2, 2007



David Earl Consolver



Born: July 29, 1942

E.A.: January 13, 1969

F.C.: April 7, 1969

M.M.: June 7, 1969



Died: August 20, 2024

Brethren- This is to serve as a solemn reminder as to the importance of letting your family know if having a masonic funeral service is important to you so they may carry out your wishes upon your being called by the Supreme Architect of the Universe. It will also be necessary to know where your White Lambskin Apron is being stored so it can be retrieved and accompany you to the funeral home of your choosing.

Chillicothe York Rite Bodies

Chillicothe Commandery #8

“The Christian Order of Freemasonry”

Chillicothe Sir Knights Michael Hines and Michael Ash were installed into the Grand Commandery at the 182nd Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery of the State of Ohio on Saturday October 12th as Grand Prelate and Grand Warder respectively. Congratulations to these Sir Knights as they represent the Ohio Grand Commandery as well as our very own Chillicothe Commandery #8.



2025 Grand Commandery Officers of the South Eastern Division



Pictured left to right: E. Deputy Division Commander John Goins, Division Commander and E. Grand Sword Bearer Larry Byer, E. Grand Prelate Michael Hines, R.E. Grand Commander Dale Exline, E. Grand Standard Bearer Lloyd Eichenlaub, E. Grand Sentinel Robyn Leonard, E. Grand Warder Michael Ash, and Grand Aide Mark Mooney.

Special Notice: Chillicothe Commandery #8's regularly stated meeting for the month of December will be moved up one week to the 3rd Tuesday to avoid meeting on Christmas Eve so members can enjoy the evening with their families, friends and loved ones. Our annual Christmas Observance will take place immediately follow this stated meeting. It will be an open ceremony for all Masons and their guests to attend beginning no later than 8:15 p.m.

Chillicothe Chapter #4

This serves as a friendly reminder that your Chapter Dues Cards are not to be thrown away as they will not be reissued each year dues are paid. Please keep them to identify your membership in Chillicothe Chapter #4. If you are current in your dues and you did not receive a Chapter Dues card last year, please notify the Secretary by sending an email to cmb@chillicothemasons.org along with your full name so that one may be ordered for you.



Chillicothe Cigar Band's Chili Cook-Off



Members of Scioto Lodge #6 participated in the annual Chili Cook-Off in downtown Chillicothe

They were awarded with the Judge's Choice Award and presented with the golden medals seen wore around their necks.

Pictured left to right in the upper left photo are W.B. Steven Grant, W.B. Evan Steele, Bro. Graham Matter and Bro. Bryan Fields. (See the story on Bryan Fields on the opposite page at the bottom.)

The sign pictured advertising Scioto Lodge #6 was created more than 10 years ago for the purpose of displaying at the Ross County Junior Fair night and is still in use today.

Past Master's Night

Scioto Lodge held it's Past Master's Night at the stated meeting Thursday October 24th as has been the tradition for many years. The Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred on Mr. Bryan Stark by the Past Master Officers. The majority of officers were placed in positions where they were stationed 10 years ago.

Presiding Past Masters were: as Worshipful Master ,Thomas Castor, S.W.- James Fritz Schafer, J.W.- Steven Grant, Secretary- John Ashton, S.D.- Michael Hines, J.D. and LEO- Harold Ramsey, S.S.- Gene Hardman, J.S.-

Dan Riddle, Chaplain- Michael Ash and Tyler- Bro. Joseph Clarke.

All other business was suspended so the work could begin promptly. After the degree was performed, Worshipful Brothers Steven Grant, Michael Ash and James Fritz Schafer delivered the Lecture, Eugene Hardman the Charge and Harold Ramsey gave the degree Education.

Picture This ? Answer: I am quite confident everyone knows this is a manual typewriter that was a staple item in any office environment more than 40 years ago. Take a few moments to remember how long ago it has been since you actually used one and what was the best way to erase a mistake? I don't believe they had a "delete" key!

Masonic Temple Board News



New Boiler Installation in Progress

Earlier in the year, the Masonic Temple Board voted to replace the current 24 year old boiler (Pictured directly to the left) due to it's inability to reliably heat our four story building to the comfort of our tenants. Producing steam and circulating it throughout the many radiators in our large building is no easy task.

The boiler was ordered in the month of March in hopes that it could be manufactured and installed while the lodge was dark over the summer months. Due to a mis-shipment of parts, the build had to be delayed for two weeks until 3 new sections could be rebuilt and shipped.

Each of the 634 lb. sections has to be lowered into the boiler room by a large crane through the temporary hatch in the over-head roof that has to be removed to accommodate such access. The 4 ton boiler can only be handled in such sections.

A total of 13 of these sections are required to handle the amount of steam needed to heat such a large area. We hope to have the new boiler up and running by the month of November and the beginning of the heating season.

Special Thanks goes out to W.B. Stephen Steele, building manager, and W.B. Harold Ramsey who have both overseen this installation. Also thank you to Brother Rob Waller who will be welding to join the new boiler with our current piping fixtures.



Electric Organ Donated to Scioto Lodge #6

This organ was generously donated to Scioto Lodge #6 by Brother Bryan Fields who is the owner / operator of the Antique Emporium located in the downstairs eastern quadrant of the Masonic Temple.

Brother Fields is also well known as being the organist for the Chillicothe Paints for the past 25 plus years.

It is the hope of the Lodge to begin to play real organ music during the conferral of the degrees at such special events as our annual inspection.

A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

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Phone 740-774-3485
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Return Service Requested



Merry Christmas

| Transportation to Lodge Meetings / Functions | Ladies / Veterans Banquet |
|---|--|
| <p>It has come to our attention there may be a need for some of our members who are no longer able to drive at night or simply do not feel comfortable driving to our meetings who may want to be picked up prior to the meeting and/or taken home when the meeting is concluded. If you are in a situation that you would find this service helpful, several of your Brothers have agreed to help with this endeavor to ease the burden of your family and friends.</p> <p>Simply call the Lodge at 740-774-3485 at least 24 hours prior to the function you wish to attend so arrangements can be made of who is available to pick you up or drop you back off. Leave a message with your name, phone number and address to make a better choice of who your driver will be. The WM Terrell Fairrow has also asked that his cell phone number 740-701-1946 be included if you should have any questions or need further assistance.</p> <p>Anyone willing to help pick up a member on your way to Lodge should make your wishes known to the secretary.</p> | <p>Ladies, Widows and Veterans Night Banquet on Friday Nov. 22nd with refreshments at 6:00 pm and Dinner at 7:00. Please call 740-774-3485 and leave a message for # of reservations.</p> <p>Picture This ?</p> A vintage Underwood typewriter on a wooden table. |