



May - June 2025

The Trestle Board

A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

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Scioto Lodge #6 F.& A.M. 2025 Chicken Noodle Dinner



Scioto Lodge #6 held their annual Chicken Noodle Dinner Thursday April 3rd from 11:00 am until 6 pm at the Ross County Shrine Club located on Bellevue Avenue in Chillicothe.

All \$3,000 of the proceeds from this event will be donated to the Ross County Special Olympics. During the course of the day we had about a dozen or more "celebrities" join us for dining who were members of the various Special Olympic teams. Each was introduced with a thunderous round of applause from the workers and other people enjoying dinner at the time.

Prior to the dinner getting underway, we also had a special visitor from the Ross County Special Olympics who presented us with a Chicken Trophy for all the work we do to help support this worth well endeavor in our community.

Special Thanks to all the ladies who donated time and ingredients to baking such delicious deserts which were a huge hit this year. These included everything from cookies, to cakes, brownies, pies, etc. and sold for just \$2.00 for a large helping. A total of over \$300 was raised from these wonderful treats alone.

Thanks to all who helped make this such a successful event!

M A Y 2 0 2 5

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	2	3
4	5	6 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	7	8	9	10
11	12 Masonic Temple Association 1st Quarter Meeting 7:00 pm In the J.W. Best Library	13 Chillicothe Chapter # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Chillicothe Council # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	14 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	15 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Chillicothe Commandery #8 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	28 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	29	30	31

J U N E 2 0 2 5

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1	2	3 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	4	5 Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	6	7
8	9	8 Chillicothe Chapter # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Chillicothe Council # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	9 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	17 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	20	21
22	23	22 Chillicothe Commandery #8 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	23 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	26	27	28
29	30					

Ross County Special Olympics Celebrity Basketball Game



Scioto Lodge #6 had it's own celebrity play in the Ross County Special Olympics Celebrity Basketball Game at the CHS High School Gym. WB Dan Riddle (below the white arrow in the above picture) did an outstanding job of keeping the bench warm and taking up space on the court from time to time. He also took the brunt of all of the comedians jokes at center court as a half time routine. Guests could "vote" on their favorite player by donating cash in their name, of which Dan raised the most at the event. Great Job and Thanks for who you are Dan!

Prior to the start of the game, Scioto Lodge #6 was recognized with a plaque for all of our donations to Ross County Special Olympics received by White, Ash, & Ashton pictured in center.



Scioto Lodge #6 Scholarship Awards Night and Banquet

Recipients of the Scioto Lodge #6 Scholarship Awards will be invited, along with their family, to attend a dinner at the Masonic Lodge on June 3rd at 6:00 pm just prior to our Stated Meeting. They will each be presented with the scholarship award after dinner but prior to our opening Lodge in the Blue Room.

The Scholarship Committee has met to select the recipients of the three \$1,000 scholarships to be presented to this graduating class of 2025. It was a hard decision again this year as we had a total of 45 applicants.

In order to be eligible, the student must attend school in one of the seven High Schools located in Ross County. We had a total of 30 girls and 15 boys submit applications for consideration.

One boy and one girl with top honors, ACT scores, scholastic achievement, school participation and community service will be selected to receive one of the \$1,000 scholarships. In addition, one student that has/had a family member who is affiliated with a Masonic Order will be awarded the 3rd \$1,000 scholarship.

Thanks to the Scholarship Committee consisting of WB's, James Fritz Schafer, Michael L. Hines, Steven R. Grant and Michael A. Ash, who has been on this committee since it's inception in 1998.

Answer to Picture This? - This is an old style, early 1900's, of a fire extinguisher that is still hanging above the 4th floor where the old elevator equipment is located. On the internet these are being sold for around \$200 each in this condition although we have no plans of doing so at this time.

Chillicothe York Rite Bodies

The annual election of officers will be taking place during the May Stated Meetings of all of the Chillicothe York Rite Bodies with discussions to be held at the meetings in April. Anyone interested in holding an office in Chapter, Council and/or Commandery should make their wishes known to Michael Hines, Michael Laws, or Eugene Hardman so a slate of officers can be compiled to be introduced to the membership for voting.

Members desiring to gain access to becoming a Knight of the York Cross of Honor must be a Past Master, Past High Priest, Past Illustrious Master and Past Commander to be eligible for consideration to this high honor. As we see more and more closings occurring in Chapters, Councils and Commanderies around the state, this honor will become more difficult to obtain and will have fewer numbers in its membership. Come and start (or continue) your journey today!

Chillicothe Commandery #8 “The Christian Order of Freemasonry”



Eminent Commander, Sir Knight Eugene L. Hardman, would like to thank all the members of Chillicothe Commandery #8 who made our inspection such a success. An excerpt from the Inspection letter from Stephen E. Roth is as follows:

“I congratulate you and your Officers on successfully completing your inspection. It was an honor and pleasure to represent our Right Eminent Grand Commander Dale A. Exline at your inspection. Upon arrival Lady Traci and I were met by EGW Ash who introduced us. I took this opportunity to explore the Chillicothe building guided by SK Steele.

The Banquet was served in the Dining room preceded by the Blessing. Sir Knight Ryan Adams thank you for the fine meal. The introductions were performed in a fine manner followed by my comments and those of our Right Eminent Grand Commander, SK Dale A. Exline. The Order of the Temple was very well done. I especially appreciated the little details, from the power point Ascension scene, the precision of the posting of the guards and the Emotion SK Hines exhibited during the readings. The correct spacing and attention of the Triangle guard helped set the scene for the fifth libation. Sometimes we overlook the small parts and the impact they can have on the Order.

Eminent Commander Hardman, you set the tone and let your light shine throughout the day. The lectures were all done well and I commend Sir Knights, Ash, Hines and Schilling for Delivering lectures which were Ritual Competition ready. All of the Officers did a fine job. There were a few prompts or adjustments needed throughout the day and those prompts were given by Past Commander Ashton the designated prompter.

The Full Form Opening went well, and I Command the Knights of the South East Division for stepping up and helping Chillicothe Commandery have a successful Inspection. SK Hines, excellent job as Prelate. The Lord’s Prayer being sung is something that I want to Incorporate into my own Commandery. The Eminent Commander and the Prelate are the two most important offices, and they were both done well.”

Courteously, Stephen E. Roth KCT, Aide to the Grand Commander Dale A Exline.

Masonic Temple Board News:

We are still actively looking for volunteers to help clean, separate, chronologically organize and file the archives of the four separate bodies including Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery along with many artifacts that are treasures of the Masonic Orders. At this time decisions will need to be made as to what is important to keep and what can be discarded as no longer needed. For example, not all bank statements will be necessary to hold onto for over the 140 year spread. Of course samples of such statements may find a home as a reminder as to their form and function of the time.

New Master Mason receives gifts from Masonic Member of Lodge in Australia

Parker Steele, Son (and now Brother) of W.B. Stephen Steele and brother of W.B. Evan Steele was recently raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason at Scioto Lodge #6. When a friend of his he had met through the armed forces, WB Justin Suwart, learned of this accomplishment, he wanted to present Parker with a gift from his home Wollongong Lodge in Australia. A Masonic Tie and a sprig of acacia Lapel Pin were sent to Scioto Lodge #6 along with an email asking if W.B. Michael Smallwood would be so kind as to present this to him during our next Stated Meeting.

Pictured L-R are W.B. Michael Smallwood and Brother Parker Steele holding the tie sent to him from Wollongong Lodge in Australia.



Would you like to learn a Lecture or a Charge to recite at Lodge?

You don't have to be an officer to do so nor do you have to wait to become an officer to serve your lodge in this manner. Simply decide which of these you are the most interested in performing and we will match you up with a member who is currently knowledgeable in this area to help you learn and recite it from memory. Keep in mind we are now splitting these up in sections so you don't have to learn the whole thing at once. This will make it much easier to remember and help in getting you acquainted with the work as a whole.

New Officer Mentor Program taking shape from Past Masters

A new Mentorship Program is being put in place at Scioto Lodge to help the new and existing Officers on learning the responsibilities of their position. A Past Master is being sought to oversee each of the offices in the Lodge and to become an "expert" in that particular chair as it relates to degree work and responsibilities of the officer holding the position. This Past Master will be responsible to help the officer in the line of their duties by assisting when necessary in pointing out the correct way of fulfilling that position.

Each officer will then be required to identify and announce an individual mentor of their choosing from the ranks of the Past Masters who will oversee their growth and development as they progress through all the different offices and chairs during their Masonic Career. Please call to ask to sign up to be a mentor.



New Master Mason Receives Tools

Brother Randy Swepston was presented with his White Lambskin Apron and Masonic Bible at our Stated Meeting on Tuesday April 2nd. Scioto Lodge #6 Lodge Educational Officer W.B. Harold Ramsey Jr. presented the apron along with an explanatory lecture on how to maintain and care for this emblem while the Chaplain W.B. Michael Ash presented the Bible with an explanatory lecture on it's purpose for a well spent life. After the raising of a Brother to the Degree of Master Mason he is entitled to receive these symbolic items along with education to their meaning and use in life. Randy is a consistent figure at all Masonic meetings and events and is very quick to help in all areas needing attention.

Pictured L-R are WB Michael Ash, Chaplain, Brother Randy Swepston, and WB Harold Ramsey Jr., Lodge Education Officer.

Chillicothe York Rite Bodies

During the April Stated Meeting of Chillicothe Commandery #8 a conversation took place on officer positions and fulfillment for the following year. This is what was discussed that will be voted upon at our Stated Meeting in May. It is not too late for changes to be made as almost all Past Commanders filling offices would be happy to step aside for a new officer to take their place.

- Commander:	SK Michael Laws	- Generalissimo:	PC Eugene Hardman
- Capt. General:	PC Michael Ash	- Recorder:	PC John Ashton
- Treasurer:	SK Joseph Clarke	- Prelate:	PC Michael Hines
- S. Warden:	SK Bradley Peters	- J. Warden:	PC Roger Jones
- St. Bearer:	SK Daniel Hines	- Sw. Bearer:	SK Darrell Palmer
- Warder:	SK William Greene	- Sentinel:	SK Thomas Castor

Chillicothe Commandery #8 “The Christian Order of Freemasonry”



Eminent Commander Sir Knight Eugene L. Hardman would like thank all members of Chillicothe Commandery who participated in the annual inspection and the ladies who also attended. The Annual Inspection of Chillicothe Commandery #8 took place on Saturday March 15th beginning with a noon banquet of Chicken Cordon Bleu prepared and served by the Chillicothe Eastern Star Chapter 419.

Right Eminent Grand Commander, KCT Dale A. Exline, attended the inspection with nothing but positive comments on the work that was presented. Our live candidate, SK Daniel Hines was called upon to give his comments on how he believed the day was presented, and he too was very complimentary.

Masonic Temple Association

The Masonic Temple Association and the Brothorn of Scioto Lodge has an excellent and extensive collection of durable medical equipment (DME) available for loan. It consists of crutches, walkers, wheeled walkers with seats, bedside toilets and foldable wheelchairs; all for the use of anybody in need. Many times due to surgery or unfortunate accidents cause us to need a piece of such equipment for a short period of time. Why not borrow such an item from the Lodge. Simply contact the Lodge or WB Stephen Steele for details.



A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

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Return Service Requested



Transportation to Lodge Meetings / Functions

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.

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.

Anyone willing to help pick up a member on your way to Lodge should make your wishes known to the secretary.

Picture This?

