

THE TRESTLEBOARD



FROM THE EAST BY WORSHIPFUL MASTER BRENT BAIRD

As we assemble the March Trestleboard, I realize that the first quarter of our Masonic year is soon to be added to the archives. I find it difficult to believe that we spend many years preparing for our time in the East and then year passes by so quickly. The officers and I have many goals to accomplish with so little time in which to do so.

A look at the officers for 2003 may provide some unfamiliar faces to many of the brethren. This year's line is filled entirely with brethren that are non-Past Masters. As a matter of fact, four of the officers were raised to the degree of Master Mason within the past year. Our inexperience has created some challenges, but we have received tremendous support from the Past Masters and other seasoned brethren. However, along with inexperience comes fresh ideas and re-

newed energies. Together we are working to provide a Lodge that all of the brethren, old and new, can be proud of.

We are in the process of planning many events to bring more brethren back to the Lodge. The Game Room is back in full swing, so sharpen up your Euchre skills or your pool game. If you haven't been to Lodge recently or for many years, please join us to renew old friendships or create new ones. You may be surprised at what you'll find!

As you see by the calendar on page two, March is shaping up to be quite busy. Listed at right are several dates to which I would like to draw your attention. Please mark your calendars for these dates.

I look forward to seeing you at the Lodge!

GRAND HONORS

BY BROTHER TIM RAY

During the regularly stated meeting of the Masonic Franklin Lodge 14 in Troy on January 21, several area men were honored for their longstanding membership in and service to the Masonic Fraternity.

Those present and receiving certificates and pins in recognition of 25 years of membership were John (Jake) Heffner of Troy and Michael Wahl of Dayton. Not present, but also recognized, were Sie Callebs of Piqua and Robert F. Houser of Troy.

50-year pins and certificates were awarded to George Furnas of Troy and Carl Reck of Covington. Joseph E. Drieling of Troy and William N. Drieling of Bradford had been recognized earlier in the month for their 50-year membership. Not present, but also recognized for 50 years of membership, were Ned

Elleman of Troy, Blair Irvin of Westerville, and Thomas E. Miller of Piqua.

Honored for 60 years of Freemasonry membership and service, though unable to attend, were Boyd L Cecil of Pleasant Hill, Paul F. Irvin of Huber Heights, and John A. Thompson of Covington.

Long-time Franklin #14 Tyler Brother Bill Cusac celebrated his 75th birthday on February 5, and Right Worshipful Brother Donald Mumford (DDGM) recognized this event that evening by having the brethren present at Arcanum Lodge inspection sing *Happy Birthday* to Brother Cusac. Franklin Lodge is blessed to have a brother as dedicated and active as Brother Cusac, and our hearty congratulations and best wishes go out to him.

Congratulations

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick is the patron saint Ireland who spent his life converting the Irish to Christianity. March 17 commemorates the anniversary of his death in 461 A.D. Irish-Americans celebrate by having parades and even those who are not of Irish descent get into the act. Wearing something green is one way that many show their solidarity. Shamrocks and leprechauns symbolize the folklore traditions of the old country.

One way to allow children to enjoy the spirit of the holiday is to play "Find the Hidden Treasure". According to legend, Leprechauns, those tiny imaginary crea-

tures akin to fairies, will try to buy their freedom if captured by offering to tell where a pot of gold is hidden. Simply hide the "pot of gold" (use the chocolate gold foil wrapped coins) and let the children rush to find the hidden gold treasure. A variation of "Warm, Hot & Cold" will be a helpful aid for younger children.

Here's a new way to get that milk down those youngsters! Before pouring the milk, secretly add a few drops of green food coloring to the glass. Won't they be surprised to see the milk turn green as you pour it into the glass!

OHIOREADS PROGRAM BY BROTHER TIM RAY

The Grand Lodge of Ohio has selected the OhioReads Program as a perspective activity to be undertaken by brethren from Masonic Lodges throughout Ohio. And there is great need for volunteers in the local Troy elementary school system.

The OhioReads Program is designed to assist children in grades K through 4 who have demonstrated a difficulty in learning to read. Volunteers are matched up with a student, and work with that student throughout the semester as a reading tutor. Generally, the volunteer and student work together for 30 minutes to one hour at a time, once each week (or more if the volunteer wishes). The work is done during school hours at the school facility,

and usually in a quiet environment that enables concentration. All volunteers undergo a short training session, which can be done in a group if enough brethren from Franklin #14 are able to volunteer.

Franklin Junior Warden, Brother Tim Ray, has made contact with OhioReads coordinators at Kyle, Cookson, and Van Cleve Elementary Schools. These schools have indicated a need for volunteers, and are excited about the perspective participation of the Franklin brethren as volunteer tutors. Brother Ray has information on how to proceed available at stated Lodge meetings. You may also contact him directly for telephone and email information of the different school coordinators.



Brother Ray may be contacted evenings at 339-8393, or via email at timray48@yahoo.com.

Your participation in this effort to aid our young folks in learning to read is encouraged and appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **March 8**, Franklin Lodge 12th Annual Inspection, MM Degree, 7:30pm, Dinner 6:30pm (RSVP: WM Baird 648-2674, or Charles Spicer 339-0163 before 7 March)
- **March 15**, 15th Grand Master's Reception, Upper Valley JVS 6:30pm, tickets \$13, available at the lodge
- **March 21**, 21st Franklin Lodge Spaghetti Supper, 4:00 to 7:00pm, tickets \$5, proceeds to Ohio Special Olympics
- **March 29**, 3rd Masonic District 29th All-Degree Day, Temperance Lodge, Sidney

Hungry? Bring your lady and a dish to the potluck dinner, every third Tuesday at 6:30pm in the Franklin dining room.

If you have an article or an announcement that you would like to see in The Trestleboard, please submit it to David Leytze, c/o Franklin Lodge #14, or e-mail it to dleytze@earthlink.net. We'll do our best to get it in.

Can't walk the steps? Franklin Lodge provides elevator service to both the dining room and Lodge room floors.

ALL-DEGREE DAY

BY THE GRAND LODGE OF OHIO

The Freemasons of Ohio are attempting to repeat their successful 2002 membership drive by holding one-day membership ceremonies in 25 local areas during the month of March 2003.

On April 27 of last year, more than 7,700 men joined the Masonic fraternity in ten different regional locations. This one-day membership ceremony resulted in the Mason's largest membership growth since 1957. "By offering a chance to join the fraternity in one day, we reached out to qualified men who may have been reluctant to join because of time restraints or fear of memorization," said George O. Braatz, state secretary for the Ohio Freemasons. He explained that to be qualified to join the fraternity a man must believe in God, be of good moral character, and be recommended by two members of the fraternity.

"Not only did such a large number of men join the fraternity, but many of them have become active in their local Lodges," said William P. Mayberry, Sr., the fraternity's state presiding officer. "Almost every Lodge in the state has at least one new member from last year's class as one of their new Lodge officers." Mayberry expressed his hope that by holding this year's one-day class at the local level another large group of men will apply for membership.

The 7,700 new members have quickly become involved in the fraternity's various community outreach programs, such as awarding scholarships, sponsoring training for teachers, disaster relief, sponsoring Special Olympic athletes for the Summer Games, and hosting summer life-skills camps for at-risk youth.

For more information about the Masonic fraternity or the one-day class, visit www.freemason.com, call 800-292-6092, or contact Brother Tim Ray locally at 339-8393.

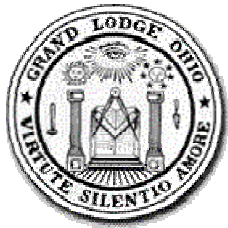
ETYMOLOGIA MASONICA

BY BROTHER DAVID LEYTZE

Cowan ("KA-wan"), n.: Masonically, "cowan" is an old Scottish term for an unskilled stonemason. In the Middle-Age antiquity of Freemasonry, the Norman-French noblemen, who formed the majority of the Scottish Lowland aristocracy, preferred the French tongue. The French word *couenne* (pronounced "koo-WAHN") means an "ignoramus" or "bumpkin," either choice being a feasible Scottish description for an unskilled laborer.

This derivation is further supported by the French *couarde* ("koo-ard"), which arrived in English as "coward." The Tyler, then, protects the lodge meeting from the ignorant (cowans) and the curious (eavesdroppers).

- Adapted from John Robinson's "Born in



MARKETING COMMITTEE

FORMED BY BROTHER TIM RAY

For the benefit of disseminating information about noteworthy events concerning Franklin Lodge #14, a new committee has been formed. Brothers John Chang, Joe Simpson, and Tim Ray have been appointed to serve on the Publicity and Marketing Committee, with Brother Ray serving as the chairman.

The focus of the committee is to be two-fold: First, to write and distribute press releases highlighting those activities of the Lodge which can be shared with the community, including awards nights, charitable donations, and fund raisers such as the upcoming Spaghetti Supper, and second, to gather current e-mail addresses from as many Lodge #14 brethren as possible, enabling better communication within the Lodge fraternity.

Brothers are asked to send current e-mail addresses to Tim Ray at timray48@yahoo.com for inclusion in the Franklin Lodge #14 e-mail directory. Also, please inform the committee of any distressed or ill brethren, or any item of news or interest. Other committee member e-mail addresses are: jchang@woh.rr.com (John Chang) and marjosim@att.net (Joe Simpson).

Franklin Lodge #14 F&AM

107 West Main Street
Troy, Ohio 45373

- Franklin Blue Lodge: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays
- Franklin Council: 4th Tuesday
- Franklin Chapter: 2nd Monday
- Coleman Commandery: 2nd Tuesday
- Eastern Star: 2nd & 4th Thursdays

A STANDING INVITATION

FROM YOUR FRANKLIN LODGE

Has it been a while since you've been to the Lodge? If so, please don't be afraid to come and enjoy the ritual and the fellowship with your fellow brethren. There are many new and great things going on, and the Franklin Lodge is much in need of your participation, even if that simply means attending the stated meetings. Please, won't you join us?

Do we have your correct address? If not, please let us know so we can keep you up-to-date with what's happening in your Lodge!

Special thanks to the new Marketing Committee for their numerous contributions to The Trestleboard.

March 2003

"Time is that wherein there is opportunity, and opportunity is that wherein there is no great time." Hippocrates

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 • Franklin Annual Inspection (MM*) Practice 9:00am
2	3 • <i>New Moon</i> • Fort Black #413 Annual Inspection (FC*) 7:30pm, Dinner 6:30pm	4 • Franklin Lodge #14 Stated Meeting 7:30pm	5 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am	6	7 • RSVP deadline: Franklin #14 Annual Inspection Dinner	8 • Franklin Annual Inspection (MM*) Practice 9:00am
9	10 • Franklin Chapter	11 • Coleman Commandery	12 • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am • Franklin #14 Annual Inspection (MM*) 7:30pm, Dinner 6:30pm	13 • Eastern Star	14	15 • Grand Master's Reception 7:30pm, Upper Valley JVS
16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> • Bradford #593 Annual Inspection (EA*) 7:30pm, Dinner 6:30pm	18 <i>Full Moon</i> • Potluck Dinner 6:30pm • Franklin Lodge #14 Stated Meeting 7:30pm	19 • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am • Jackson Center #458 Annual Inspection (EA*) 7:30pm, Dinner 6:30pm	20	21 <i>First Day of Spring</i> • Franklin Lodge #14 Spaghetti Supper 4:00 to 7:00pm	22
23	24	25 • Franklin Council	26 • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am	27 • Eastern Star	28	29 • 3 rd Masonic District All-Degree Day, Temperance Lodge #73, 8:00am - 3:00pm
30	31 • Warren #24 Annual Inspection (MM*) 7:30pm, Dinner 6:30pm					

Franklin Lodge #14 F&AM
Box 501
Troy, Ohio 45373

March 2003

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Troy, Ohio

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