

THE TRESTLEBOARD



FROM THE EAST

BY WORSHIPFUL MASTER ROBERT SPILLER

For Franklin Masonic Lodge, the year 2004 has begun with a full plate on the table! We have had many exciting projects going on. Please let me tell you of a few.

First of all, we have the new Franklin #14 Scholarship Fund. With funds raised throughout the year, we hope to be able to provide at least two local students with some assistance for their further education. Toward that purpose, "Frankie" the piggy bank has been receiving pocket change and donations at all of this year's Third Masonic District Lodge inspections and Franklin Lodge functions. Next time you see Frankie, please be sure to make a donation, no matter how small.

Next, we had probably the most financially successful spaghetti supper the Lodge has ever had. Wow! But I'll let Senior Warden Tim Ray tell you about that below.

This year, we're supporting the Grand Master's Charitable Foundation. Ohio Grand Master Steven J. Krekus has requested \$1 per month from every Ohio Mason. That's only \$12 for the entire year! If you are willing and able to assist in

this worthwhile fund, please make your check out to the "Grand Master's Charitable Foundation" and mail it (or bring it) to Franklin Lodge. We'll see that it gets passed to the Grand Lodge.

Also, we've got a phone call list. Our goal is to reach every Franklin Lodge Brother by telephone. If you haven't been contacted already, you will be. Our Line officers would like to take a moment to find out how you are and have a friendly chat. Our purpose is to see if you can attend Lodge. With all of the terrific projects going on in your Lodge, we truly would like your assistance. More importantly, we need suggestions from each of you on how to make our Lodge stronger and how to make your Masonic experience better. If you need a ride to Lodge, please don't hesitate to say so — we'll get you there! And, if you feel intimidated by forgotten due-guards and signs, don't worry — we'll have a Brother sit with you.

Fact is, we need you! We want your attendance. It's never "too late" or "too long" to be away. And if you feel that your age is keeping you away, please remember what Oliver Wendell Holmes once wrote: "Old age is fifteen years older than you are." Hope to see you in Lodge!

SPAGHETTI SUPPER RAISES FUNDS FOR OHIO SPECIAL OLYMPICS

\$3,000-PLUS TO SUPPORT STATE ATHLETES

BY BROTHER TIMOTHY RAY

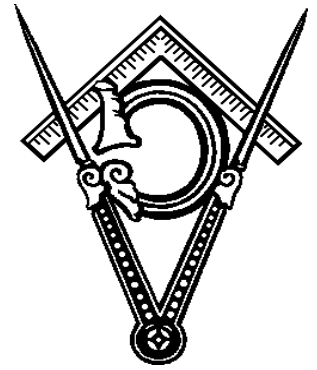
Franklin Lodge had tremendous support this year for the Spaghetti Supper, held at the Masonic Temple on March 13, from 4:00 to 7:00pm. A great big "thanks" goes out to all of the Brethren, many of their spouses, supporting members of the Eastern Star, many local merchants, and all those who purchased tickets. We served 366 meals, including 92 carryouts, in the short three-hour period. (That's a complete meal served up every 29 seconds!) The dining room was full for most of the evening, and especially for the outstanding half-hour musical presentation by the Riverside Bell Choir.

Total receipts, as of this printing, are in excess of \$3,850, and, although the final cost dollar amount is not yet in, the net amount going to support Ohio Special Olympics will be well in excess of \$3,000. Of this amount \$1,500 will go to the Ohio Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation, in support of the annual statewide underwriting of Special Olympics Ohio by Masons throughout the state. The balance will be paid directly to Miami County Special Olympics, supporting the approximately 65 athletes from Riverside who participate in the state games in Columbus each June. According to Tom Helbig, Director of

Miami County Special Olympics at Riverside, this amount will be a most significant contribution toward meeting their costs for sending these athletes. This year's Franklin Lodge contribution will be about double that of 2003, and Mr. Helbig will attend the next stated meeting (April 6) for the presentation of these funds.

The following products were used for the supper: 40 pounds of ground beef, 14 #10 cans of spaghetti sauce and 12 three-pound jars of sauce, 16 pounds of onions, minced garlic, garlic salt, miscellaneous spices (all of this masterfully combined and cooked the morning of the supper by Senior Deacon John Chang, yielding a delicious sauce for which we received many compliments); 70 pounds of uncooked spaghetti, 47 pounds of salad mix, two-and-a-half gallons of salad dressing, 13 #10 cans of applesauce, four large sacks of Italian bread (approximately 50 loaves), four pounds of butter, drink mix, coffee, carryout supplies, cups, napkins, etc. Much of this was donated. And much was paid for by direct cash contributions in excess of \$500.

Many thanks to all who worked so hard the night of the event. It was very busy and a bit hectic, but extremely worthwhile. And again, thanks to all who sold and bought tickets. Everyone doing their individual part added up to one great evening and one very successful fundraiser. Let's plan to do it again next year!



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Spring 2004

Troy, Ohio 45373

Box 501

Franklin Lodge #14 F&AM




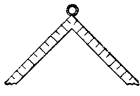


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SPRING 2004

THE TRESTLEBOARD

MAY 2004

"And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea." Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 • Master Mason Degree Rehearsal 9:00am (Tentative)
2	3	○ Full Moon • Noon Luncheon • Temple Board 6:00pm • #14 Blue Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30pm	4	5 • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am	6 • Eastern Star 7:30pm	7
<i>Mother's Day</i> 9	10	11 • Coleman Commandery 7:30pm	12 • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am	13	14	<i>Armed Forces Day</i> 15
16	17	• Noon Luncheon • Potluck 6:30pm • #14 Blue Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30pm	18	● New Moon • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am	19 • Eastern Star 7:30pm	20
21	22	23	24	25 • Franklin #24 Chapter & #14 Council 7:00pm	26 • Coffee Klatsch 7:00am	27
28	29	30	31	<p>Continuing the tradition, Franklin Lodge plans to perform a Memorial Day raising this year. Degree work is scheduled to begin at 6:00am sharp. Breakfast will be served following the conferral of the degree. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!</p>		
30	<i>Memorial Day</i> • Master Mason Degree Special Meeting 6:00am	31				