

2018 February Newsletter

Volume 4, Number 1

Linden Lodge #637, F&AM

2436 West Dublin-Granville Rd, Linworth, Ohio 43235 (614) 799-9637

A Job Well Done

Congratulations go out to Linden's entire Officer line who did an excellent job in bringing our newest member to light during our inspection. We are all proud of a job well done.



More Light Night

Scouting & Freemasonry: A Brotherhood of Values will be a special education program open to all scouts and masons at the invitation of Linden Lodge. We would like to invite all who wish to come and learn more about the Scouting Heritage in Linden Lodge and between Scouting and Freemasonry in general. We will hold this event at 7:00 PM, May 17th at the Northwest Temple. This is open to both members and non-members so you are welcome to invite your family and friends. There will be Fellowship & Refreshments following the program.

Did you know that Linden Lodge is home to at least a dozen Eagle Scouts and 6 Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Awards?

District Inspection Season Still Under Way

There's still time to attend some inspections in the 14th District. Check our website for a list of inspections and their locations. We hope to see you there.



Upcoming Meetings

March 1, 2018
7:30 PM

Stated Meeting

March 15, 2018
7:00 PM

Special Meeting
Master Mason
Degree Work

April 5, 2018
7:30 PM

Stated Meeting

April 19, 2018
7:00 PM

Fellowship Meeting
Possible Degree Work

May 3, 2018
7:30 PM

Stated Meeting

May 17, 2018
7:00 PM

Fellowship Meeting
More Light Night

June 7, 2018
7:30 PM

Stated Meeting

All these meetings will be at the Northwest Temple unless otherwise stated.



Congratulations

We would like to congratulate WB R Kent Wright who received the honor of Knight Commander of Zerrabuabel by the Grand Council of Knight Masons, USA. Kent has worked hard in this group and it is an honor well deserved.



Contact Information

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(Leave a message)
lindenlodge637@gmail.com

WB Keven Clouse
Worshipful Master
(614) 402-6388
brotherclouse@yahoo.com

RWB Ron Leonard
Secretary
(614) 778-4168
rleon95596@aol.com

**Do you know
someone you think
would make a good
Mason?**

You can download and
print membership
petitions from our web-
site.

You can also find
petitions for
Restoration, Affiliation,
and Dual Membership
there too.

Did you know that Linden Lodge has members heavily involved in most of the Masonic bodies beyond the Blue Lodge including all aspects of York Rite, Scottish Rite and the Shrine as well as all the youth groups? For more information about these bodies just ask around and we will let you know about what's available and how to join in.

Calendar For The Remainder Of The 2018 Lodge Year

Listed below is the proposed calendar for Linden Lodge. All of these events will be at the Northwest Temple unless otherwise stated. As always, due to changes in our degree work schedule as well as other things beyond our control, these events are subject to change. Also other events may be added so keep watching and keep up to date on what we're doing by visiting our website or ask to be put on our email list.

- March 1, 2018 - Stated Meeting
- March 15, 2018 - Special Meeting for the Master Mason Degree
- April 5, 2018 - Stated Meeting
- May 3, 2018 - Stated Meeting
- May 17, 2018 - More Light Night
- June 7, 2018 - Stated Meeting
- June 21, 2018 - Lodge Family Cookout
- July 18, 2018 - Ohio Village Visitation
- September 6, 2018 - Stated Meeting
- October 4, 2018 - Stated Meeting
- November 1, 2018 - Annual Lodge Meeting and election of Officers

Information About Your Lodge Dues

Over the last few years we have noticed a lot of misconceptions, misinformation and general misunderstanding about the Lodge Dues that you pay. Hopefully, this article will clarify and answer your questions and concerns.

First, you should understand the 3 tiers of our dues. Those 23 members who have chosen to become Endowed Members do not pay any Annual Dues. They contributed \$800.00 which the Grand Lodge invests and returns the value of that investment each year to the Lodge to offset those dues. This is also a Legacy program in that those funds continue to be returned to the Lodge even after the member has passed to the Celestial Lodge Above.

Second, those members who have had 50 or more years in the Fraternity, not including any time under suspension, only pay \$22.00 per year which just covers the annual per capita from Grand Lodge and the 14th Masonic District plus some postage. This is 6 cents per day or 42 cents per week. This is not an impact on a Senior's income. About one-third of our membership, or about 72 members, is in this category.

Third, all of the remaining 100 members pay \$60.00 per year which is 16 cents per day or \$1.15 per week, less than a cup of coffee from most places. Brethren, we have held our dues to the above 2 categories beginning in 2014 and we do not have any plans in the works to increase them any time soon. Obviously, our expenses are going up for food, rent, supplies and programs for the membership but we have been able to offset those costs by the income from our Investment Portfolio, which is governed by the spending policy provisions.

The Secretary mails the Dues notices out around Labor Day which has been the norm for more than 25 years. This is done for 2 reasons: to give you time to pay them by the Annual Meeting on the 1st Thursday in November and to beat the Christmas expenses. Actually the Grand Lodge Code requires the Dues be paid by the Annual Meeting which gives you a 2-month window to do so. Over the last few years, approximately 70-72 % of our members pay their Dues by that date. Once you miss that date, you are considered "Not in Good Standing". The next deadline is December 31st each year, after which, by the Code, you have automatically suspended yourself.

For years, the Lodge opted to cover the per capita for a second year, hoping the delinquent member would pay. Most of the time the member did not pay which cost the Lodge those funds with no income from the member. As of the January 4, 2018 Stated meeting, a motion was approved to no longer do this. Accordingly, if a member does not pay his Dues by 12/31 of each year, the member is SUSPENDED FOR NON-PAYMENT OF DUES and is reported to the Grand Secretary's office. This is the same provision most Lodges, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine follow. This also has the effect of suspending your membership in ALL Masonic Bodies.

Each year in the Dues notice, it is noted that any member, who may be having a financial or health reason why he cannot pay his dues, needs to inform the Lodge Secretary of that need for the Lodge to consider Masonic Charity. Do not let this problem keep you from membership in your Lodge.

The Lodge operates under a yearly Budget which is predicated on the membership doing its part by paying their dues. Hopefully, this explanation will guide you to processing our Dues request in a more timely fashion in the coming years. If you still have questions, contact the Lodge Secretary and he will try and resolve those questions.

Sick And Distressed Members

Brethren, often we are not aware that you, someone in your immediate family or another member of the Lodge that you know has experienced a hospitalization, or death. Contact our Senior Warden, Ed Kampbell, and let him know. He will report that information to the Lodge. You will find Ed Kampbell's contact information listed on the next page.

About Your Lodge Membership Card

Remember that you have received a plastic membership card which is intended to be used for about 5 years. Don't throw that card away, you will not receive a new card each time you pay. This does not mean you don't need to pay your dues each year. Even though there is not an expiration date on this card, it is not valid unless you pay your dues. If your card gets lost or damaged, contact RWB Leonard for a replacement. If you have moved and changed your address in the last couple of years contact RWB Leonard to make sure your records are up to date.

Who are your Lodge Officers?

Worshipful Master	Keven Clouse	brotherclouse@yahoo.com	614 653-6388
Senior Warden	Ed Kampbell	ekampbell@sbcglobal.net	614 579-0975
Junior Warden	WB Earl Black	earl.a.black2.mil@mail.mil	614 895-2619
Secretary	RWB Ron Leonard	rleon95596@aol.com	614 778-4168
Assistant Secretary	WB Aaron Wyckoff	aaronjwyckoff@gmail.com	614 406-8080
Treasurer	Thomas McCauley	mccauley.thomas1@gmail.com	614 893-7670
Senior Deacon	Michael J Flanigan	imhammer1@yahoo.com	614 736-6775
Junior Deacon	David King	dking.2@go.ccad.edu	513 341-3472
Tyler	WB Kent Wright	rkentwright@columbus.rr.com	614 329-5970
LEO	WB Richard Lohnes	rlohn614@gmail.com	614 537-1067
Chaplain	WB Ted Pummell	(none)	614 263-2828
Senior Steward	Kent Wareham	kentwareham@att.net	614 878-6838
Junior Steward	Kevin Bice	kevbice@gmail.com	614-905-1000

Endowed Membership

Brethren, have you ever thought about leaving a legacy to Linden Lodge? Perhaps you have made provisions in your Will or you have designated a Life Insurance policy, some stocks ,etc. There is another way you can do this and at the same time eliminate the need to pay dues. The Grand Lodge has established an Endowed Membership Fund and the funds collected are invested and each year, a portion of the investment is returned to the Lodge in lieu of the Lodge collecting your Dues. The Legacy is the fact that after your death, those funds continue to be paid to the Lodge in your memory.

At present, the cost to purchase an Endowed Membership is \$800.00 plus one more year's dues at the next Annual Meeting following the purchase. If you desire, you may purchase the Membership on the Installment Plan. If you choose this method , you will still pay your Annual Dues each year until the \$800.00 is collected plus one last year's of Dues as noted above. Obviously, this would be a great choice for our younger members, but would also work for anyone.

If you are interested in this, please contact the Lodge Secretary and he will start the process and let you know the steps involved. You must be current with your Lodge Dues, so if you are reading this and your Dues card does not say 2017, you need to get current.

E-mail Contact

Brethren, would you like to find out what is happening at the Lodge in a more timely fashion? Snail-mail is not a timely way to keep you up-to-date. We can provide quick notification of Lodge meetings, Funeral Specials, Degree conferrals or other events in 24 hours or less. But, we cannot do this by traditional methods. For the last year or two, we have found that e-mail gets the job done. If you have an e-mail account, simply send your address to the Lodge Secretary. His e-mail address is: rleon95596@aol.com. Your e-mail address is not published in any way. Only the Secretary and our e-mail coordinator, W. Bro. John P. Stains, will have it.

Masonic Services Of Ohio

Brethren, your Ohio Masonic Home has a number of programs for the Brethren of Ohio. Many of you who are reading this Newsletter are Senior Citizens. Perhaps many of you could use some help but do not know where to go to obtain what you need. The program is called the "I-CARE Program". It is part of the Masonic Senior Services. If you live in Ohio, all you need to do is make a phone call and talk to one of the service coordinators and let them know what type of help you need and they will try and assist you. The "I-CARE Program" serves Masons, wives, widows and Eastern Star members, age 65 and older. If you need assistance with applications, making connections with service providers, need referrals to agencies offering resources or support, need governmental services or other Senior-related issues, help is just a phone call away. Call toll-free at 888-286-0010 or go online to www.ohiomasonichome.org .