

2019 November Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 3

Linden Lodge #637, F&AM

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



New Officers Elected And Installed

Linden Lodge held our Annual Meeting on November 7, 2019 where we concluded our 2018 - 2019 Lodge year. During this meeting we elected new Officers to serve us during the 2019 - 2020 Lodge year. The following Officers were elected or appointed: Worshipful Master - WB Earl Black - Senior Warden, Michael J Flanagan - Junior Warden - David King, Secretary - Ed Kampbell, Assistant Secretary - RWB Ron Leonard, Treasurer - MWB Steven Cokonougher, Senior Deacon - Kevin Bice, Junior Deacon - Nathan Britton, Tyler - WB Aaron Wyckoff, LEO - WB Kent Wright, Chaplain - WB William Hohman, Senior Steward - Dave Stoneman, Junior Steward - Jared Philip Morris. These Officers were installed during a semi-public installation ceremony on Thursday, November 21, 2019.

Linden Lodge Christmas Event

Linden Lodge will be participating in the annual Christmas and Awards event which will be held at the York Golf Club on Friday, December 13, 2019. We will start gathering at about 5:30 PM with dinner being served around 6:30 PM. For dues paid members of Linden Lodge you can attend for free. This free admission applies to you and any member of your household living with you. Others will need to pay \$40.00 per person. If you plan to attend we need to know no later than our Stated Meeting on December 5th. If you wish Santa to have a gift for your youngster please bring a modest, wrapped gift with their name on it. During this event we will also be giving out various awards to our members. Again this year, we will be holding this event in conjunction with several of our fellow Lodges from the Northwest Temple.

Linden Lodge Inspection

On Thursday, November 20, 2020, Linden Lodge will be inspected in the Master Mason Degree. We invite all our members to come out and support us for this important meeting. The evening will begin with the first section of the degree at 5:30 PM, Dinner will be at 6:15 PM and the second section of the degree beginning at 7:00 PM. This degree requires a large cast and while we can normally fill the speaking roles without too much trouble, we do need your help filling out the craft team. This only requires you to walk around the Lodge room and help us raise our new member. We also would like to see you come out so we can show off our new regalia for this degree. Contact WB Earl Black at 614 895-2619 (Home), 614 286-6656 (Mobile), or earl.a.black2.mil@mail.mil if you can help us.

Upcoming Events

December 5, 2019

7:30 PM PM
Stated Meeting

December 13, 2019

6:00 PM
Christmas Party / Awards
Banquet
York Golf Club

January 2, 2020

7:30 PM
Stated Meeting

January 16, 2020

7:00 PM
Fellowship Meeting
Practice in the Master
Mason Degree

February 6, 2020

7:30 PM
Stated Meeting

February 20, 2020

5:30 PM 1st Section
7:00 PM 2nd Section
Inspection in the Master
Mason Degree

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

14th District Inspection Schedule Released

The 14th District released their 2020 Inspection schedule. All inspections in the EA and FC Degrees will begin at 7:00 PM with dinner at 6:15 PM. Inspections in the MM Degree will begin with the first section at 5:30 PM, the second section at 7:00 PM with dinner at 6:15 PM.

Tuesday, 1/7/20, Sparrow, MM
 Tuesday, 1/14/20, Reynoldsburg, FC
 Friday, 1/17/20, Capitol City, FC
 Monday, 1/20/20, Goodale, FC
 Tuesday, 1/21/20, University, MM
 Tuesday, 1/28/20, Hiram, EA
 Thursday, 1/30/20, Arts and Sciences, EA
 Monday, 2/3/20, Blendon, EA
 Thursday, 2/6/20, Triangle, MM
 Monday, 2/10/20, Ralph R Rickley, FC
 Tuesday, 2/11/20, Groveport-Lockbourne, FC
 Wednesday, 2/19/20, Neoacaia, EA
Thursday, 2/20/20, Linden, MM
 Monday, 2/24/20, New England, MM
 Tuesday, 2/25/20, Community, EA
 Monday, 3/2/20, York, EA
 Tuesday, 3/3/20, Columbus, FC
 Tuesday, 3/10/20, Magnolia, MM
 Monday, 3/16/20, West Gate, EA
 Tuesday, 3/17/20, Avery, EA
 Monday, 3/23/20, Grove City, FC
 Tuesday, 3/24/20, Sunrise, MM

SYSK (Stuff You Should Know)

The 14th District will be holding their annual SYSK class soon. This is a intense class to train the moving officers of our Lodge. We are usually able to get several slots to send our members for this important training. The 5 part class will be held at Avery Lodge on January 11th, Blendon Lodge on February 1st, Magnolia Lodge on February 22nd, Sunrise Lodge on March 21st and Reynoldsburg Lodge on April 4th. All classes will be from 8:00 AM to Noon and you need to attend all of them to graduate. If you are interested contact our Worshipful Master, Earl Black, and let him know as soon as possible.

Past Master Convocation

The 14th District will be holding their Past Master Convocation on December 14th at the Northwest Temple.

Have You Paid Your 2020 Dues?

They were due at our Annual Meeting in November.



Contact Information

Linden Lodge #637
 2436 West Dublin-
 Granville Rd, Linworth,
 Ohio 43235
 (614) 799-9637
 (Leave a message)
lindenlodge637@gmail.com

WB Earl Black
 Worshipful Master
 (614) 895-2619 (Home)
 (614) 286-6656 (Mobile)
earl.a.black2.mil@mail.mil

WB Ed Kampbell
 Secretary
 (614) 579-0975
ekampbell@sbcglobal.net

**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.

Who are your Linden Lodge Officers?

Worshipful Master	WB Earl Black	earl.a.black2.mil@mail.mil	614 895-2619
Senior Warden	Michael J Flanigan	imhammer1@yahoo.com	614 736-6775
Junior Warden	David King	dking.2@go.ccad.edu	513 341-3472
Secretary	Ed Kampbell	ekampbell@sbcglobal.net	614 579-0975
Assistant Secretary	RWB Ron Leonard	rleon95596@aol.com	614 778-4168
Treasurer	MWB Steven Cokonougher	scoko72@gmail.com	614 946-1320
Senior Deacon	Kevin Bice	kevbice@gmail.com	614-905-1000
Junior Deacon	Nathan Britton	nsbritton@gmail.com	614 506-5732
Tyler	WB Aaron Wyckoff	spoons214@yahoo.com	614 406-8080
LEO	WB Kent Wright	rkentwright@columbus.rr.com	614 329-5970
Chaplain	WB William Hohman	williamhohman@sbcglobal.net	614 876-2579
Senior Steward	Dave Stoneman	dave.stoneman@frosthawk.com	614 315-7794
Junior Steward	Jared Philip Morris	jared.morris77@gmail.com	614 338-5128

A “Farewell to the Troops”

Brethren,

Thank you for making the Linden Lodge Year 2019 a productive one. We accomplished a lot this year, including earning the 14th District’s Best Fellowcraft Degree Award for our annual inspection. But one of our most promising accomplishments is that we initiated three new members in their early twenties; two of which have already been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason. Good ritual work is important as that is part of those first impressions that these young men have of Free Masonry. Linden Lodge is known for its good ritual work and I hope we always will be. That being said, we have our work cut out for us in the coming year ahead as we work to perfect the Master Mason ritual. We need to fill the roles of the craftsman and master their respective movements. I am anticipating that there will need to be extra practices to get these movements mastered. I’m sure that WB Earl Black is going to be counting on a lot of volunteers stepping up to fill these roles. Our new costumes look great, but they will be for naught if we don’t fill them with competent players.

While losing any one of our brothers is disheartening, 2019 took from Linden Lodge three very active brothers who will be missed going forward. The one brother I have missed the most is WB John Sherwood Stains. He was always there for us in these past seven plus years that I have been a member of Linden Lodge. He was a key player in Lodge meetings being able to fill any officer’s chair needed. He was a great prompter; and a great player in the ritual work. He served us as a trustee it seemed like almost in perpetuity. Don Carlock was our anchor on the north side of the Lodge. Always ready to participate when asked. And there was WB Ted Pummell who loved his role as Chaplain. With these losses we need our past master corps now more than ever as we move forward without these brothers in our Lodge.

On a personal note, I want to thank the Lodge for allowing me to serve them as their Worshipful Master in 2019. It was definitely hard work; but it was also a very great honor to have been afforded that privilege. I look forward to my next role within the Lodge and to seeing the Lodge continue to prosper as a good example of Blue Lodge Free Masonry. Not just in the bringing in of new members or increasing in our ritual strength; but also in finding the time to have good fellowship with one another and living the principles of Free Masonry while we are doing so. Let’s make 2020 another great year for Linden Lodge.

Fraternally,
Norman E. “Ed” Kampbell, 2019 WM Linden Lodge

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 is in this category.

Third, all of the remaining 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, Michael J Flannigan, and let him know. He will report that information to the Lodge. You will find Michaels contact information listed on the previous 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 paid your current (2020) years dues. If your card gets lost or damaged, contact WB Ed Kampbell for a replacement. If you have moved and changed your address in the last couple of years contact WB Ed Kampbell to make sure your records are up to date. You can also use Grand Lodge web portal to do this (<https://oh.grandview.systems>). Currently only a few of our members have taken the time to go to this site and set up their member portal. It's simple; only requires one's membership number and the email address they have given the lodge. They set their own password and then they can keep their records current for us (a blessing to the already overworked lodge secretary).