



# THE TRESTLEBOARD

May

Volume 2009, Issue 5

## In This Issue

- *Grand Master's Reception, May 15*
- *Grand Master's One-Day Class, June 13*
- *Fellowcraft and Funeral Teams*
- *Deacons and Stewards*
- *Shrine News*
- *Rainbow and DeMolay News*
- *The Winding Stairs*
- *Calendar of Events on the last page*

## OFFICERS

### Master

Douglas G. Shuler  
(330)591-5270

### Sr. Warden

Richard A. Metzler  
(330) 239-2479

### Jr. Warden

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(330) 723-1310

### Treasurer

Donald G. Moll  
(330) 225-6307

### Secretary

Bill Hurlburt  
(330) 723-0983

### Sr. Deacon

Jeff Schorr  
(330) 725-3949

### Jr. Deacon

Keith Rutti  
(330) 242-1430

### Tyler

Anthony Calco  
(330) 721-7271

### Chaplain

Jim Gilbert  
(330) 667-2170

### Senior Steward

Jay Calderhead  
(440) 734-0464

### Lodge Education

Ted Thomas  
(330) 225-6643

### Trustees

Hal Leach  
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## Spring Is in the Air

It's that time of year one again to open the windows and doors to breath that fresh spring air, and there are plenty of activities going on in the lodge.

The **Grand Master's Reception** is coming up on May 15 at the Western Reserve Masonic Community. The social hour begins at 6:00 p.m. and dinner is served at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

The next big event will be the **Grand Master's One-Day Class** on

Saturday, June 13, in Mansfield. Our lodge has the honor of presenting the Fellow Craft degree.

In addition, I have been put in charge of the **Fellowcraft Team** for the MM degree. I am honored that our district has put its faith in our lodge for these events, but I am even more pleased that our lodge will have several candidates going through the degrees on that day.

Some will be finishing up degree work that they were unable to complete

in the past and some will have their first exposure to our fraternity.

Just as in previous years it is our duty to have a mentor for each candidate, so if you are not an officer we need your help! Please let me know if you are able to be a mentor for one of our candidates.

*Fraternally,  
Douglas Shuler, WM*

## Grand Master's One-Day Class: June 13

Grand Master's Classes will be held in each of the Masonic Districts in Ohio on June 13, 2009, Most Worshipful Brother Charles R. Murphy has announced.

The Grand Master's Class provides the opportunity for experiencing the three initiation ceremonies all on one day. room will be a continuous slide show showing the activities of all of our groups.

After the Class, each Lodge will hold a dinner

for their new members and their families. "It could be a potluck, a picnic, a catered event or a dinner at a 5-star restaurant, whatever works best for the Lodge. This is an opportunity to integrate the new Brethren," explained MW Brother Murphy. "In my estimation this is as important, perhaps even more so, as the Class itself."

Lodges are required to process petitions and investigate candidates in

the usual manner. However, special meetings may be called to act on petitions.

Petitions from prospective candidates must be submitted to Lodges in early or mid May, because Lodges must turn in their FINAL list of candidates to their District Deputy no later than Saturday, May 23, 2009.

*From the Grand Lodge Website*



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## On The Level

As you may know, our inspection for 2010 will be in the Master Mason Degree. As such, we need to put a **Fellowcraft Team** together. Medina 58 has a reputation for doing excellent ritual work, and we need to keep up that tradition. Therefore, I am requesting that any Master Mason who is even slightly interested in joining the Fellowcraft Team contact WB Lloyd Egbert.

I hope we can hold several rehearsals for this degree before inspection, and establish a known Fellowcraft Team so that we don't need to scramble

at the last minute to put on a good MM degree. I am hoping that next year we can do an outdoor raising, and maybe couple it with a family picnic.

WB Ted Thomas is also working to put together a **Funeral Team** with at least two Brothers for each position to improve the presentation. Again, anyone interested should contact Ted.

The new Masonic year is fast approaching, and with it some new challenges. Our Grand Lodge should again be considering legislation to modify the by-laws to allow raffles and such for

fund raising. This could allow us to begin some major fundraising in cooperation with various events within the city. Your thoughts and ideas on this subject are gratefully solicited.

Another reminder, the Grand Master's One Day is coming up on June 13th in Mansfield. Petitions for this event should be in by May 15<sup>th</sup>. Please rush any petitions for this event to WB Bill Hurlburt so that we can expedite them through the system.

*Fraternally,*  
*Richard Metzler, SW*

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*"Medina #58 will sponsor several candidates to the Grand Master's One-Day Class on June 13."*

## By The Plumb

Continuing my monthly bit about the jewels of the Lodge officers, I offer some information from the book **Freemasonry for Dummies** about the Deacons and the Stewards and their rods and jewels:

### **Senior Deacon**

The Senior Deacon sits to the right of the Worshipful Master. He is the Master's messenger and does lots of walking. He welcomes and escorts both visitors and new candidates into the lodge and usually introduces distinguished visitors. During degree rituals, he is the guide for the new candidate, conducting him around the lodge room. In

the opening and closing ceremonies of the lodge, the Senior Deacon opens and closes the Bible, and lights or extinguishes the candles at the altar. In many lodges, he also carries the ballot box around the room when new members are voted on.

Both the Senior and Junior Deacon carry long staffs, or rods. Because they are messengers of the lodge, the rods they carry are symbolic of the caduceus, or wand, that the Roman winged god and messenger Mercury carried. The rods are topped by their jewels of office, to match the ones on their collars.

The Senior Deacon's jewel is a square and

compass, with a sun in the middle. The sun signifies that his position is in the east, with the Master. (In other parts of the world, the jewel worn on the collar of the Deacons may be a dove, while their rods are topped by a figure of Mercury or a dove with an olive branch.)only with a member of our Fraternity, but with uprightness, honesty and dependability.

### **Junior Deacon**

The Junior Deacon sits to the right of the Senior Warden, guarding the door to the lodge. He is the messenger of the Senior Warden, as well as the lodge "doorman."

*Continued on Page 4*



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## The Shrine Window


I would like to take this opportunity to add some information about the Canadian Rockies Train Trip in 2010. It is tentatively scheduled for Sept 8<sup>th</sup> through Sept 18<sup>th</sup>. A bus will take us from AAA in Cleveland to Toronto, CA (Passport Required!) where we will board the train.

There will be several stops and some Hotel stays during the trip which should offer beautiful scenery and lots of good socialization. Again we hope to get the entire train and have a hospitality car

for sight seeing, relaxation and refreshments. This is open to non-Shriners!

Our next ceremonial for initiating new members will be on June 27<sup>th</sup>. (I have petitions!) This will be held in Youngstown, as will our May business meeting.

In trying to keep some fun in the Shrine, our June business meeting will have a "Crazy Shirt Contest" with awards for the "worst" dressed Nobel. I have been told that if you wear a grossly flowered shirt with striped pants you might be considered for



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this award

The parade season is again upon us! The first parade was again held in Chardon, and this year we had excellent weather! Last year it actually snowed during the parade. This parade was even better because I managed to ride a Float rather than walk the route. Our clubs and units are allowed to

attend non-shrine parades and many of them do attend these. I will be participating in the Port Clinton Parade on June 23<sup>rd</sup> with the Fire Brigade.

*Fraternally,  
Richard Metzler, CR*

## Youth Corner

I am pleased to pass along that our youth groups are continuing to be successful. Medina Rainbow has initiated new members and Medina DeMolay has seven young men waiting for initiation. Both groups will be having Installations in the coming months.

Rainbow will have theirs in June and DeMolay will have their Installation in July. Both groups will also be traveling to their Grand Assembly and Conclave soon. I know these fine young men and women

would love to have your support at their meetings and events.

On a personal note as the Worshipful Master of Medina Lodge I would like to sincerely thank each of the adult advisors and parents who have given countless hours to these organizations often times reaching into their own pockets to see that these groups flourish.

*In Service To Our Youth,  
Douglas Shuler, WM*

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*"Medina Rainbow has initiated new members and Medina DeMolay has seven young men waiting for initiation"*

## By the Plumb (continued from page 2)

*"Masons love to eat and will find any excuse they can to have a breakfast, luncheon, or dinner to commemorate just about anything."*



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*"The Winding Stairs represent the progress of an inquiring mind with the toils and labors of intellectual cultivation and study."*

It is [the Junior Deacon's] job to be certain the Tyler is guarding the door on the outside, and he allows visitors to enter, after they've been properly vouched for. He and the Tyler communicate with each other by knocking back and forth on either side of the closed door.

Some jurisdictions split up this position into the Junior Deacon and an Inner Guard.

The Junior Deacon's jewel of office is the square and compass, like his senior counterpart. The difference is that the Junior Deacon's jewel has a moon in the center, signifying that he is in the west.

### The Stewards

Because the Stewards are the low guys on the totem pole of the officers' line, they do much of the grunt work. They're the Junior Warden's assistants, and they help to set up the lodge room. They prepare all new candidates before entering the lodge for their degree rituals, and escort them to the lodge room, where the Senior Deacon takes over. They may also be the kitchen and wait staff of the lodge, which means they're champing at the bit to move up to the Junior Warden's job.

The Stewards, like the Deacons, also carry rods,

in imitation of England's Lord High Steward's rod in the House of Lords. The rods are also topped with the jewels of their offices.

The Stewards' officers jewels are the same: a *cornucopia*, or "horn of plenty," symbolizing — what else? — lots of food. Masons love to eat and will find any excuse they can to have a breakfast, luncheon, or dinner to commemorate just about anything.

*(From Freemasonry for Dummies, Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2007)*

*Fraternally,  
C. Eric Funston, JW*

## The Winding Stairs

In the Fellowcraft Degree, the candidate makes "a regular ascent by a flight of winding stairs, consisting of three, five, and seven steps, to a place representing the Middle Chamber of King Solomon's Temple," there to receive instruction. In the Fellowcraft Lecture, some of the symbolism of the Winding Stairs is explained to the newly passed Fellowcraft, but many Masons are unaware of the Biblical

origins of the symbol. The following is excerpted from Albert G Mackey's **The Symbolism of Freemasonry** (1882), Chapter XXVI, *The Legend of the Winding Stairs*.

Although the legend of the Winding Stairs forms an important tradition of Ancient Craft Masonry, the only allusion to it in Scripture is to be found in a single verse in the sixth chapter of the

First Book of Kings, and is in these words: "The door for the middle chamber was in the right side of the house; and they went up with winding stairs into the middle chamber, and out of the middle into the third." Out of this slender material has been constructed an allegory, which, if properly considered in its symbolical relations, will be found to be of surpassing beauty.

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## The Winding Stairs.....Continued from Page 4

Masonry there is always a progress, symbolized by its peculiar ceremonies of initiation. There is an advancement from a lower to a higher state – from darkness to light – from death to life – from error to truth. The candidate is always ascending; he is never stationary; he never goes back, but each step he takes brings him to some new mental illumination – to the knowledge of some more elevated doctrine. The teaching of the Divine Master is, in respect to this continual progress, the teaching of Masonry – "No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of heaven." And

similar to this is the precept of Pythagoras: "When travelling, turn not back, for if you do the Furies will accompany you."

The Winding Stairs represent the progress of an inquiring mind with the toils and labors of intellectual cultivation and study, and the preparatory acquisition of all human science, as a preliminary step to the attainment of divine truth, which it must be remembered is always symbolized in Masonry by the WORD.

The symbolism of numbers is for the first time presented to the consideration of the Masonic student in the legend of the Winding

Stairs. The theory of numbers as the symbols of certain qualities was originally borrowed by the Masons from the school of Pythagoras. It will be impossible, however, to develop this doctrine, in its entire extent, on the present occasion, for the numeral symbolism of Masonry would itself constitute materials for an ample essay. It will be sufficient to advert to the fact that the total number of the steps, amounting in all to fifteen, in the American system, is a significant symbol. For fifteen was a sacred number among the Orientals, because the letters of the holy name JAH, יה, were, in their

numerical value, equivalent to fifteen; and hence a figure in which the nine digits were so disposed as to make fifteen either way when added together perpendicularly, horizontally, or diagonally, constituted one of their most sacred talismans. The fifteen steps in the Winding Stairs are therefore symbolic of the name of God.

Mackey's entire book can be read online at

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/mas/sof/index.htm>

## Trestleboard Contributors

These members have contributed \$10.00 to the Trestleboard newsletter for the 2008 year. To add your name and message contact Brother Douglas Shuler at (330) 591-5270.

**Rick Wise**

**Bill Evanko**

**Jack Evanko**

**Eric Evanko**

**Jeff Evanko**

**Mark Evanko**

**C. Eric Funston**

**Tom Sowers**

"In Honor & Memory of"

**Albert Evanko**

**Andy Onder**

**John Hrivnak**

"In Honor & Memory of"

**C.E. Funston, PM,**

**Winfield KS #110**

Contributions for 2009 are still being accepted!

**Medina Lodge # 58  
F. & A. M. of Ohio**  
120 N. Elmwood Ave.  
Medina, OH 44256  
(330) 722-0382

### **Stated Meetings**

7:30 p.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays  
Sep thru Jun  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays  
Jan thru Jun  
And Sep, Oct

**Website**  
[www.medinamasonictemple.org](http://www.medinamasonictemple.org)

# Medina Masonic Temple Calendar

# May 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 Medina Rainbow Stated Meeting 7:00 p.m.	5 Medina DeMolay Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	6	7	8	9
10	11 Medina Commandery Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	12 Medina O.E.S. Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	13	14 Medina Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	15 Grand Master's Reception @ WRMC 6:00 p.m.	16 Medina Lodge Breakfast
17	18 Medina Rainbow Stated Meeting 7:00 p.m.	19 Medina DeMolay Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Medina O.E.S. Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	27	28 Medina Lodge Stated Meeting 7:30 p.m.	29	30
31						

