

The Trestleboard

A Monthly Newsletter from Urania Lodge #311



102 East Main Street Main City, Ohio 43064

November 2007

From the East:

Greetings Brethren;

I hope that this mailing finds you and your family in good health. After what seemed like a long hot summer, it looks as though fall has finally arrived. The leaves are turning color and football is on many folks minds. We are already looking forward to Thanksgiving, and of course the Holidays are soon to follow.

My term as Worshipful Master is nearing its conclusion. I must admit, I look forward to it with relief, but also with sadness. Sitting in the East has been a great honor and one that I will remember for the rest of my days. Serving as Worshipful Master has provided a source of satisfaction for being able to lead and serve, and yet at the same time it has been a very humbling experience. If the lodge wills, Marc Iman will be assuming the responsibilities of the Worshipful Master for 2008. This is Marc's second trip through the East and I wish him the best; I am confident that our Lodge will be well served by his past experience and his zeal for the fraternity.

Our Lodge is alive and vibrant. We have a good group of men who desire to grow our Lodge into the kind of institution we can all be proud of and that others will want to be part of as well. Our name is becoming better known throughout the community and people are starting to know that we care. I encourage you to be an active part of our Lodge. Take pride in your Lodge, for too long some of our members have not sat in Lodge. Promise yourself to take time to attend one of our meetings in the weeks ahead. As always, we meet at 7:30 pm on the second or fourth Tuesday of each month and we would love for you to be there.

Again I thank you for allowing me to serve as Worshipful Master. May God bless each of you and your family.

So Mote it Be,

Mike Jackson W.M.

Upcoming Events:

Date	Event	Location	Time
Nov. 6	Eastern Star Meeting	Urania Temple	7:30 pm
Nov. 13	Annual Meeting - Elections	Urania Temple	7:30 pm
Nov. 19	Installation of Officers - Open Event	Urania Temple	7:30 pm
Nov. 20	Ritual Team Practice	Urania Temple	7:00 pm
Nov. 27	Stated Meeting	Urania Temple	7:30 pm
Nov. 29	Finance Committee Meeting	Urania Temple	7:00 pm
Dec. 1	Past Masters Convocation	Christiansburg, Ohio	9:00 am
Dec. 4	Eastern Star Meeting	Urania Temple	7:30 pm
Dec. 11	Stated Meeting	Urania Temple	7:30 pm

News & Notes:

The annual November meeting is quickly approaching, and we will be having our elections on that night (Nov. 13, 2007). This is a good opportunity to come to Lodge, and take part in the election process, we all should vote for the officers that will be running our Lodge for the next year. November 19th, 2007 we will have a short lodge meeting, followed by open installations, which will begin at 8 pm, followed by refreshments in the cafeteria. This function is open to all (non masons, and masons).

Something we have been doing lately is to have a dinner served before the meeting. This gives us a chance to socialize, and get to know each other, as well as have a warm meal; the time is usually about 6:30 pm. Our meeting days are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, September thru June, and I hope that you can make it to some meetings this year, remember you are always welcome.

Something a bit different this year will be "monkey move up night" this will give the other platform officers an opportunity to take charge and run some meetings, as well as practice the degree that they will be inspected on, at some future date.

We are planning a number of fundraisers again this year to support our various charities. Some of them will include the usual Plain City events, such as the Car show, the Steam threshers, and our Second Annual Fun Run. Also we plan on doing a couple of spaghetti dinners, and try to bring back the Chicken BBQ. Something new this year will be the builder's fund, which will be seen in the cafeteria. Basically this will be an ongoing fundraiser to make some extra money to put into our building, and to pay off the roof loan. It is made up by half and full squares, costing \$20.00 for the half, and \$40 for a full square. Once \$400.00 is donated the donor will receive a builders certificate fit for framing, and his name will be but on our builders plaque. When the poster is filled, we will have \$4,800 to put toward the building. Another interesting project we may try next fall may be a "Haunted house/barn", we sll be working out the details later this year.

Other activities hopefully planned for the coming year should include the following, past masters dinner, widow's dinner, rusty nail degree. If we have the interest, perhaps we can schedule a pheasant hunt this winter, and a Lake Erie fishing trip over the summer. The Madison Lodge Craft club has a Turkey shoot in the fall, and we could also get a group together and try our luck at their shoot.

I think that is about all I have for now.

Marc Iman, P.M.

Senior Warden

The Secretary's Desk:

Welcome is in order for all the newest members to Urania Lodge #311 in Wonderful Plain City, Ohio: Theodore Paul Shannon and Marc A. Poland. Congratulations!

Again we are empowered to come to the aid of our brethren. I sometimes feel like a broken record but in my heart these new members and old members alike seem to forget where the lodge is on Tuesday nights. I look for answers in myself. Could it be that I am not inviting enough? Could it be that I have forgotten the real meaning of Masonry and Brotherly Love? Could it be that I fall short in the expectations of our brethren? Or maybe it is just that Our brethren do not see what we are about in the first place and feel left out... It is our responsibility to bring the truth of Masonry out in the open I believe. It is also the Officers responsibility to empower new and old members alike. Masonry is more that just a twice a month activity...we must live it everyday; we must share it with our brethren. Thank You, Bro. Charlie Dyer for helping me in my absence from the Lodge. You are an Oak! That's the older Dyer...

One sad comment is in the passing of a long time Bro. Kimball Lewis Howes on September 25, 2007. He will be missed by family and friends.

Again I wish to acknowledge the works of Bro. Chuck Dyer (the young one..ha) for his effort in communicating the works of the Ohio Freemason... Including daily versions. Please send us your email

addresses so that we can communicate the message of Free Masonry to you on a daily basis...You'll be glad you did! My email address is gene.dougherty@verizon.net or contact Charles direct dycrc@ohiofreemason.com.

Some members are making contributions. There are many ways to do so. Some contribute money, time, etc. What is your contribution?

This is not a question that is needed to be answered to me but rather a question to yourself? What I mean to say is that we are a group of individuals that in our society is set apart by our works of charity. I for one have always questioned the legitimacy of those who ask for money. I say unto you it is your responsibility to know the organizations you so generously give to so please when someone you don't know asks for money do not be afraid to look at credentials. Do not be afraid to say "I will check out your organization" give me the address! If found to be worthy I will consider donating...There are a lot of bad eggs out there! A message from the Grand Lodge.

One last comment: Support the Lodge Forever! You can over a 5 year period pay your life membership fee of \$800 and not have to pay dues any longer thereafter. Please consider this...remember your dues will be paid to the lodge even after you are gone. A legacy in your name!

With Love and Affection Brethren,

Gene Dougherty

For the Craft:

The 198th Annual Communication of The Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio was held in the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, October 18-20, in the Taft Theatre adjacent to The Cincinnati Masonic Center, 315 East Fifth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. Those travelling on behalf of Urania Lodge #311 were W. Bro. Marc Iman (SW), Bro. Charles Dyer (carrying the JW's Proxy) and Bro. Brad Baker. MWB Ronald L. Winnett was installed as our new Grand Master on Saturday October 20, 2007. Legislation brought before the Grand Lodge was considered and voted on. The results of those votes will be available from the Secretary and online at our website.

A Ritual Team was established on October 23, 2007 at the stated meeting for the purpose of maintaining proficiency in degree work as required by Grand Lodge. The Ritual Team will consist of all progressive line officers as well as those who wish to participate in the second section of the Master Mason Degree. Additionally, we will be working on the proficiency of the "Pirate Degree"; a new side degree established for Urania Lodge as a fundraiser and special degree conferred only by Urania Lodge #311 in Plain City, Ohio. Those interested in participating in this or regular degree work should see me for more information.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for the faith and support of the brethren from Urania Lodge #311 as well as to those brethren from around the District whom recently elected me to the position of 4th Vice President of the 9th Masonic District. I will dedicate myself to the support of our Lodge and the District in this position and serve with honor. I will be installed to this position on December 1, 2007 at the Past Masters Convocation in Christiansburg, Ohio.

"What we have done for ourselves alone, dies with us; what we have done for others and the world, remains, and is immortal." - Albert Pike

Charles A. Dyer

Senior Deacon