



R.W.B. James F. Easterling
Senior Grand Deacon

CONGRATULATIONS!

To all of our new Master Masons and new Scottish Rite Masons that were in our 2007 Spring Reunion Class. In all there were 197 new Master Masons raised on Saturday, March 31, 2007, in the 21st Masonic District and over 2800, state wide for the **Grand Master's One Day Class**. My Brethren, we all need to take a strong look at how we educate and inform these new master masons, either in our Blue Lodge or in the Valley of Akron. I was recently at a welcome dinner for new candidates and I asked them what they thought of the Grand Master's Class. They all indicated, there was too much information and they were not sure of everything that went on that day. I told all of them, that the more that they came back to Lodge and asked questions, the more comfortable they would be. Brethren, we need to be there to answer the questions and go over what happened to them on that day; most of all make them feel welcome along with their families. I encourage all of us to follow up on these Brothers and help in any way possible. Some of these new members just may be the Leaders of our Lodge's one day. Our new members sit in Lodge and know few, we sit in Lodge and know many. May that not always be the case in the 21st District.

Fraternally,
Jim Easterling, Jr.

VALLEY OF AKRON WEBSITE

As a part of our Valley of Akron's, **Long Range Plan** to disseminate more information to our brethren, a new

website has been created. The URL is aasrakron.org and the webmaster is **Gerry Sawyer**. Please take a look at the website and if you have any suggestions for additions, use the link for the webmaster at the bottom of the first page to send your comments.

SCOTTISH RITE MASONIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REPORT

On December 17, 2006, Masons and their family members delivered bags of groceries to needy families in Summit, Stark, Medina and Portage Counties. Ninety-eight families in our communities were assisted during the holiday season.

The 2006 year was a very good year for contributions. Including the carry-over balance from last year, donations from Masons totaled \$6,438.90. We spent \$3,344.26 for 76 food baskets and \$1,100.00 for 22 food certificates. There is currently a balance of \$2,294.64 in the Masonic Assistance fund, which will be used during the coming year to assist families in need.

For the last 16 years, the Valley of Akron has teamed with Acme Grocery Stores for this project. Unfortunately, our good friend Mr. Wiley Brooks from Acme Grocery will be retiring and will no longer be involved with our project. This coming year, we will purchase our groceries from local wholesalers and assemble the food baskets at Craftsman's Park for delivery on Sunday, December 23, 2007.

This past year's program has been another success because of the generosity of so many, many people. I especially want to thank the Scottish Rite brethren who attended our stated meetings in September, October and November, where \$749.00 was collected for the Masonic Assistance Program. Scottish Rite Masons can be proud of their generosity in time of need and proud of the final outcome of the 2006 Masonic Assistance Program.

Thomas L. Spencer, 33°
Chairman

EVENTS

May 11, Friday, 21st Masonic
District Reception for the **Grand Master**. See page 3, for details.

May 14, Monday, at 7:00 PM,
Officers Association Meeting

May 15, Tuesday, Aeros Baseball
Game, see Page 1, for details.

May 17, Thursday, at 6:00 PM,
Trustees' Meeting, at 7:30 PM,
Stated and **Annual Meeting**.

May 23, Wednesday, at 7:00
PM, 33° Assoc. will confer the
Master Mason Degree. For
details see page 3.

May 24, Thursday, at 7:00 PM,
Annual Installation of Officers.

June 1 & 2, Friday & Saturday,
OCD in Columbus.

June 9, Saturday, at 6:00 PM,
Abbott Scholarship and Officers
Dinner. For details, see Page 4.

June 18, Monday, Eaglesticks
Golf Outing. For details see
Page 4.

June 18, Monday, at 7:00 PM,
Officers Association Meeting

June 21, Thursday, at 6:00 PM,
Trustees' Meeting, at 7:30 PM,
Stated Meeting. Medina Chapter
DeMolay will portray the
DeMolay Degree

July 9, Monday, Mankey-Misner
Golf Outing. For details, see
Page 7.

July 14, Saturday, Annual Pig
Roast, 2:00 PM till 7:00 PM, at
Craftsman Park, See Page 7, for
details.

August 11, Saturday, Annual
Picnic, 1:00 PM till 7:00 PM, at
Craftsman Park. For details see
Page 7.

Sept. 8, Saturday, AASR
Officers meeting in Columbus,
from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Sept. 15, Saturday, Jenkins -
Stauffer Outdoor Lodge.

Sept. 17, Monday, at 7:00 PM,
Officers Association Meeting

Sept. 20, Thursday, at 6:00 PM,
Trustees' Meeting, at 7:30 PM,
Stated Meeting.

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projects or extracurricular activities); and attributes (good character and citizenship, self discipline, dependability, leadership and patriotism).

The presentation ceremonies are events to behold. They are gala affairs that are conducted with military precision and that observe military tradition. A fine banquet is followed by presentations from many fine military, fraternal and service organizations. The evenings usually conclude with a military ball.

These young Americans, and their instructors, truly embody all that is good in America, at its best. You leave, simply thinking "proud to be an American".

John D. Gustafson, 33°
Deputy's Representative

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making our Scottish Rite degrees very enjoyable to watch, thereby bringing valuable lessons home to each and everyone who was in attendance.

A special thank you goes out to those brethren, who in our year as presiding officers, directed and/or participated in the 4°, 9°, 12°, 14°, 16°, 17°, 18°, 19°, 20°, 24°, 31° and 32°. It takes a lot of time away from your family, in addition to hard work and dedication, to learn the speaking parts and then to portray these degrees for our brethren. Our gratitude goes out to those brethren who signed a Scottish Rite petition for our newest 32° Scottish Rite Masons, who entered through the Valley of Akron's Spring Reunion in 2007, honoring Ill. Bro. William Estes, 33°.

We want to recognize the activities of the Valley of Akron Ladies Auxiliary. Our ladies were always ready to lend their culinary talents by providing wonderful refreshments after our meetings and by sharing in our Valley's activities. We want to say a special thanks to the following people who assured the success of several of our planned family events: Diana Marshall for catering our Abbott Scholarship Dinner in June; Richard and Chris Landals and Mike and Kim Bailey for a successful Pig Roast in July; Richard Landals, Jeff Ennis, Bob Tannehill and Robert Krosnick for another great Scottish Rite Family Picnic in August;

Aaron Bogle, MSA, and his staff for catering the Sweetheart's Dinner in February.

The presiding officers would be remiss if we did not recognize the support and advice that we faithfully received from our Deputy's Representative, Ill. Bro. John Gustafson, 33°. Ill. Bro. John attended our planning meetings throughout the year and gave wise counsel to guide us through the year. Also, at the September Stated Meeting, he gave a very interesting talk about one of his passions, that of pursuing collectable cue sticks.

We, as presiding officers, have many wonderful memories of this past year and each and every one of them includes a memory of a Scottish Rite member who has touched our lives or our families. We could not list all of you in this article, but please realize that your thoughtfulness has touched our hearts and our Valley in so many ways. The presiding officers thank each and every one of you for your support and friendship this past year. We would also ask, that you continue to support the upcoming presiding officers, as their activities begin for the coming Scottish Rite year.

Thomas L. Spencer, 33°, T. P. Master
David A. Wiley, Sovereign Prince
Gerry D. Sawyer, Most Wise Master
William E. Turner, Jr, Com.-in-Chief

JUST RELEASED MUSIC CD

The **HOT AIR BUFFOONS** were glad to have had the opportunity to perform for us recently at the Summit Masonic Complex on Saturday night, February 10, for the Sweetheart's Dinner. Regrettably, their CD recording, **HOT AIR BUFFOONS Will Sing 4 Food**, was not available at that time. But, good things like their CD, **HOT AIR BUFFOONS Will Sing 4 Food** is now available for purchase. As friends of the BUFFOONS, we are able to offer this spectacular recording to you for only \$15 per CD without the *cost of shipping and handling* for orders of 10 CDs or more. If you are interested in this "Special Offer," please contact: Tom Spencer, 6605 Alabama Ave. NW, Canal Fulton, OH 44614, Tel:330.854.5219, tomary@bright.net

MANKEY - MISNER ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The Mankey - Misner Annual Golf Outing at Paradise Lake C.C., will be on July 9, 2007. There will be more information to follow regarding cost. If you need any other information, please contact Aaron C. Bogle at 330.678.1028 or George Seabeck at 330.666.8443.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS DAY PICNIC 2007

We will celebrate the Closing of Summer with our annual Family Picnic on **August 11, 2007**, at Craftsman Park. We will be serving all that you can eat Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Corn-on-the-Cob, which will be supplied by the Valley. Please bring your own tableware and a covered dish to share. If you are lucky and your last name begins with the letter A-H bring your family's favorite casserole or veggie dish; I-P bring those sweet treats and Q-Z bring that nice cool Salad. We will be having all your favorite games, boat rides, fishing contest and live music. Come on out and support your Valley at this great fellowship event of the summer.

ISLAND PIG ROAST

All Scottish Rite Families - MARK YOUR CALENDARS for a great summer of Food, Fun and Fellowship. Let's start out with a great "Island Pig Roast" on Saturday, July 14, 2007, at Craftsman Park. Come enjoy boat rides, live Island music and games for the kids from 3 to 5 pm. Roast Pig with all the trimming, desert and beverages will be served at 5:00 pm. Cost is just \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12. We are asking for everyone to get their reservations in early, so we can get the right amount of food and prizes. Please call Ill. Bro. George Seabeck at the Scottish Rite office 330.666.8443 to make your reservations.