



the masonic bulletin

THE VOICE OF FREEMASONRY IN NORTHWEST OHIO SINCE 1916



About Shriners and Masons...

You probably know something about the Shriners. Maybe you've seen our distinctive fez hats, our clowns, or the men in little cars riding in parades. You may know us for our annual newspaper sales, our circuses, or the college football bowl game we sponsor.

But what you may not know is that every Shriner is – first and foremost – a Mason. Not someone who works with bricks and stone, but a “Freemason”, or member of the Masonic Fraternity – an organization that you may not know much about, but whether you realize it or not, is a big part of your life.

The Shrine has been described as where Masons go to have fun, and we do have fun. But we do it all for a very important purpose: to help fund and raise awareness for our nationwide network of 22 Shriner's Hospitals for Children, that provide specialized care to tens of thousands of children in need – irrespective of their parents' ability to pay – and, through our research and shared medical expertise, touch the lives of hundreds of thousands of others.

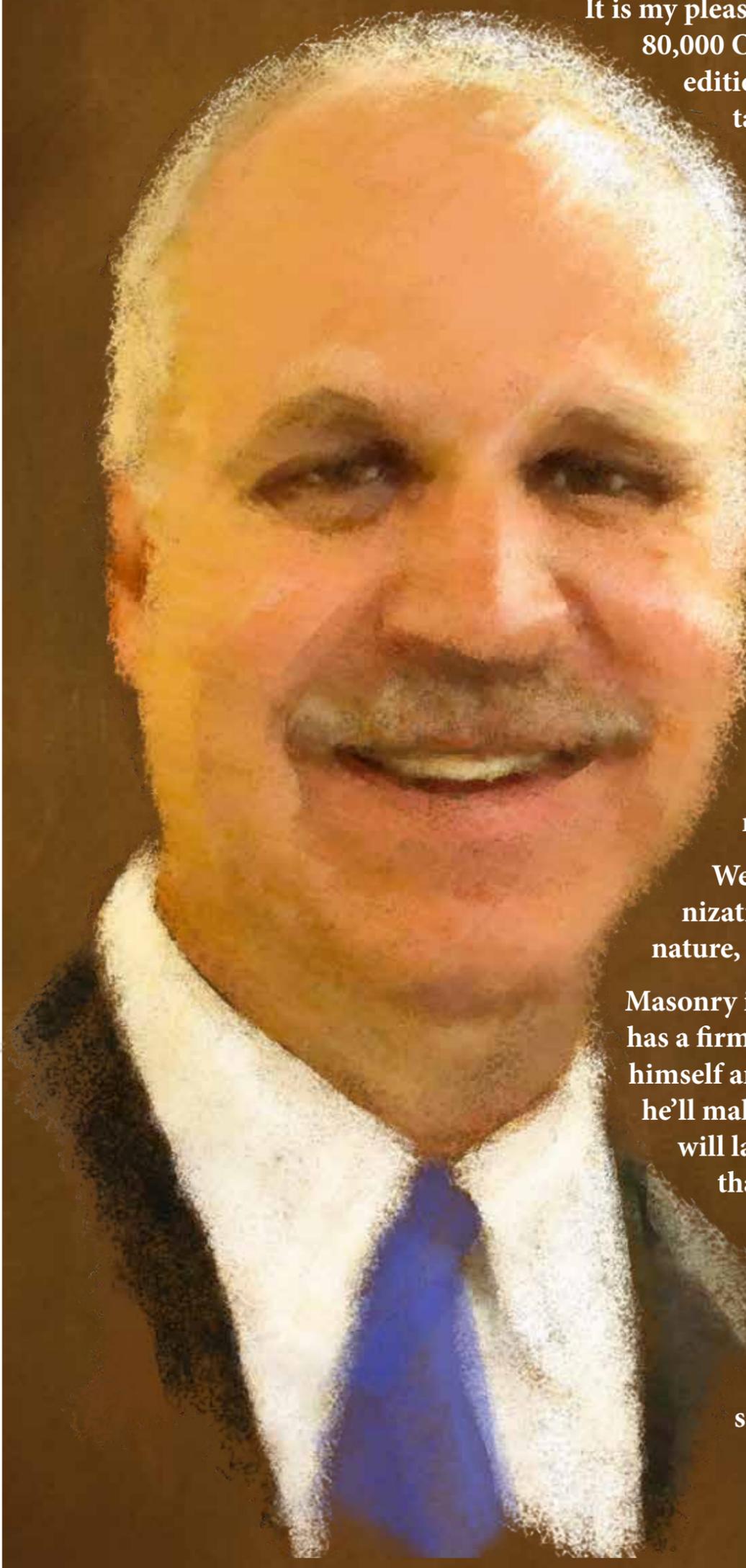
That's a pretty serious responsibility, but it's just one way we express our Masonic values of brotherly love, relief and truth.

And so, in the following pages, we'd like to tell you more about what we believe to be the greatest brotherhood in the world, the Masonic Fraternity.

Charles R. Murphy, Zenobia Shrine Potentate
Past Grand Master of Masons in Ohio



A Brotherhood of Values

A close-up portrait of Robert C. Rill, Jr., a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white dress shirt, and a blue necktie. The background is a solid, dark brown color.

It is my pleasure and honor, on behalf of the more than 80,000 Ohio Masons, to welcome you to this special edition of *The Masonic Bulletin*. We hope you'll take the time to glance through it, and learn a little bit more about our organization.

Each year, Masons in the U.S. are responsible for more than a billion dollars in charitable activities and contributions to our society. But charity is not our purpose. We are charitable because of who we are and what we believe.

We are called "Masons" because, by tradition, we are the descendants of the craftsmen who built King Solomon's Temple. But while they worked in stone to build a physical temple, we focus on that "house not made by human hands," by developing the character and values of each individual member. Caring for those in need is just one part of that.

The goal of Masonry is simply to make good men better.

We're not a "Secret Society" or a closed organization, and while our teachings are religious in nature, we are not a religion or a substitute for it.

Masonry is open to any man of good character who has a firm belief in God and a strong desire to improve himself and the world he lives in. And in the process, he'll make great friends and build relationships that will last a lifetime, become a true Brother to more than five million Masons worldwide, and experience the satisfaction of being a part of something much bigger than himself.

We hope you'll take the time to learn more, and consider whether our "Brotherhood of Values" may have something of value to offer you.

Robert C. Rill, Jr.
Grand Master of Masons in Ohio

Who are the Masons?

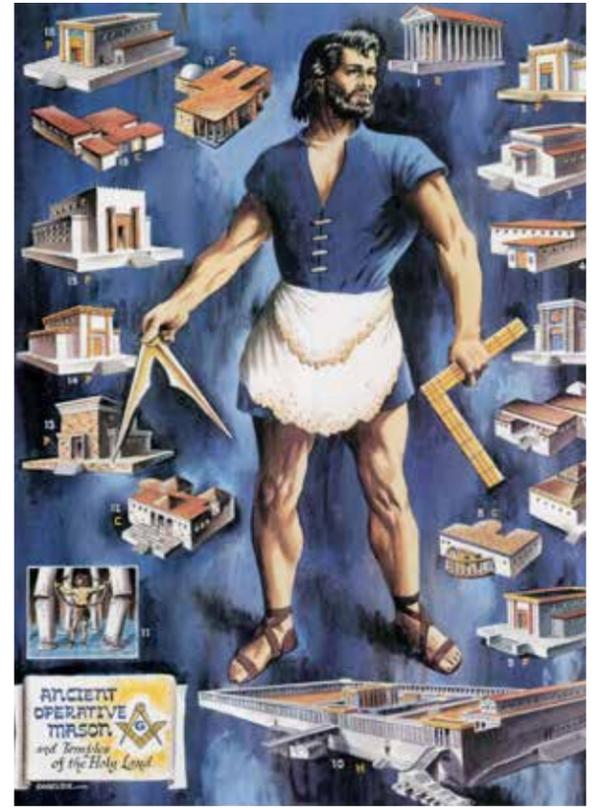
We're members of the world's oldest and largest fraternal organization, one that is hundreds – if not thousands – of years old.

We are Presidents and plumbers, factory workers and faculty members. We are farmers and physicians, soldiers and students, architects, artists and accountants and astronauts.

We are your neighbors, your co-workers, the people at your church.

In other words, we're a lot like you.

What makes us different, though, is that we have pledged our lives to a higher cause: to help ourselves and our Masonic Brothers reach our full potential and become better men, and to make the world a better place in the process.



We believe in God.

We believe that character counts, that morality matters, and that truth is eternal.

In our Lodge and in our world, we meet as equals, sharing the fellowship of like-minded friends, and enjoying the

special relationship that comes with being part of something far greater than any one of us.

We work hard raising money to support a wide range of worthy causes, from sponsoring Special Olympics and providing counseling and tutoring to children with

afflictions from diabetes to dyslexia, to giving aid and assistance to the elderly and those with Alzheimer's and dementia.

We're in our communities and neighborhoods, helping to feed the hungry and comfort those in need.

And most of all, we're making a difference.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN



“My grandfather was a Mason but, like most of the people I meet, I never knew anything about it. When I looked into the organization and what it stood for, I decided it was something I wanted to be a part of. It’s not only given me avenues for personal growth and leadership, but when I apply the lessons of Masonry in my everyday life, it’s making me a better husband, a better father, and a better person.”



Jeffrey Sime
Airline Pilot

“I was a high-school dropout and heading nowhere. I became interested in Masonry reading Dan Brown’s *The Lost Symbol* and everything else I read made me realize I had a deep respect for Masonic philosophy and I wanted to be a part of it. It changed my life. Now, I have my degree, I’m Chaplain of a Lodge, I feel like I’m improving myself every day, and I’m looking forward to a much brighter future.”



“Each year, our Lodge raises thousands of dollars for Special Olympics athletes by putting on Chicken BBQs. It’s a lot of work. But then, we go down to Ohio State for the Special Olympic Opening Ceremonies and march into the Stadium with Masons from all over the state. And the feeling we get, with all these brave and wonderful kids clapping and cheering for us, makes it all worthwhile.”



Brage Elliott
Web Developer

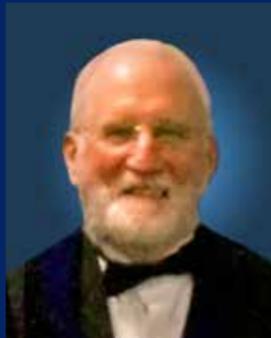
“To me, being a Mason is about surrounding myself with men of integrity who share my values and beliefs, men whose word can be trusted, who care about each other, and care about helping others. Let’s face it. We’re only on this earth for so long, and all our earthly treasures and talents are gifts from God, and for me to share those with others is the right thing to do.”



Ray Slates,
Electrical Contractor



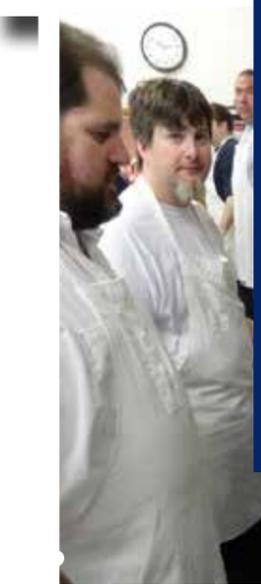
“My father and grandfather were Masons, so it just seemed natural for me, too. Now, after 50 years, I can honestly say that it has made a real difference in my life. Most of my friends are Masons, because they’re the kind of people I want to be associated with. If you have good character and want to be a better man by associating with those who share your values, Masonry is for you.”



Richard Fries
Recorder
Zenobia Shrine



“I actually became a Mason so I could be a Shriner around in the little room then I discovered the history, principles and philosophies embodied in the degrees that have given me a far better understanding of the meaning of life. It teaches every day is an opportunity to improve ourselves as beings, morally, spiritually, intellectually and socially.”



WANT TO BE A MASON?

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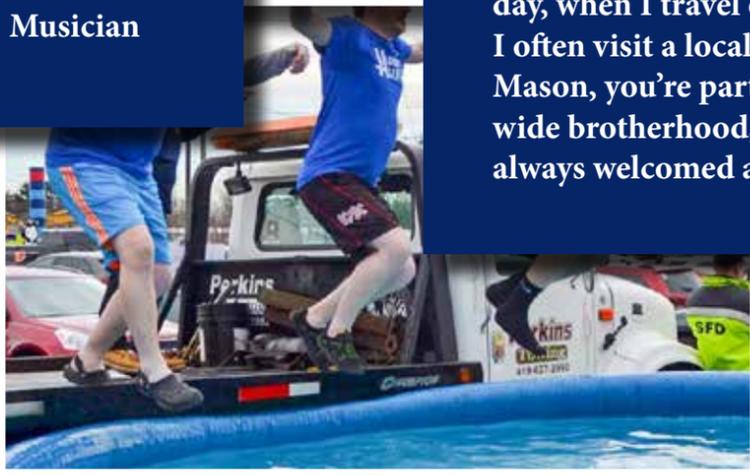
Dustin Caddarrette
Musician



“I became a Mason in New Jersey almost 30 years ago and, in my career, I’ve dealt with people all over the country, many of whom have been Masons. I’ve always found them to be men of principle and integrity. To this day, when I travel out of town, I often visit a local Lodge. As a Mason, you’re part of a worldwide brotherhood, and are always welcomed as such.”



Erik Erickson
Hazardous Materials Specialist, CSX Corp.



“When Masons meet, we meet ‘on the level.’ That means that it doesn’t matter who you are, what you do for a living, what you have, or even how you choose to worship God, as long as you believe in a Supreme Being and are a man of good character, we are equals and we are Brothers. To me, that’s the part of being a Mason that I like best. Well, that and the fact that we have a lot of fun, too.”



Steve Grindle
President,
Champion Credit Union

“Masonry changes your outlook on life. It has given me the best friends, Brothers, and mentors I could have ever asked for. It has given me a greater desire for knowledge, and the ability to use that knowledge to make myself a better person and my community a better place. It has given me a greater sense of purpose and understanding.”



Mark Allred, Jr.
Teacher

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Doug King
Attorney

“A few years ago, I had a chance to see the Masonic Bible that was used for Brother George Washington’s inauguration. I just stood there staring at it for the longest time. To me, Masonry is about following in the footsteps of the men who founded this great nation of ours, and the ideals, values, philosophies and principles that made it great.”



Bill Markin
Editor, The
Masonic Bulletin



The Masonic Family

Although every lodge member who has received the Master Mason degree is a Mason, there are also many additional bodies in the Masonic family, offering something for everyone and for every interest, from musicians to motorcycle enthusiasts. Here are a few of the more active branches of Masonry in our area.

THE YORK RITE

COMMANDERY

The Commandery of Knights Templar is unique in Masonry in that it requires a belief in the Christian faith. Members are distinguished by their black uniforms with white feather plumes, which they also wear ceremonial occasions, such as their annual Easter Sunday Sunrise Service at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Arlington, VA. Among their activities are sponsoring guided tours of the Holy Land for clergy.



COUNCIL

The Council of Royal and Select Masons is Also known as "Cryptic Masonry" for their rituals concerning the crypts beneath King Solomon's Temple, and are especially known for their support of children with diabetes, such as Camp Big Shot and Camp Little Shot in Northwest Ohio.



CHAPTER

The Rituals of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons occur during the excavations of King Solomon's Temple in preparation for the construction of the Second Temple. A special charitable activity for Royal Arch Masons is the Adopt America Foundation, which was co-founded by our Masonic Brother, Dave Thomas.



ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

The Eastern Star is open to both Master Masons and women with a Masonic relative. Though the character-building lessons taught are stories inspired by Biblical figures, the Order is open to people of all religious beliefs. Nationally, the Order supports Alzheimer's, juvenile diabetes, and juvenile asthma research; provides financial aid to students of theology and religious music. In Ohio, the group supports a retirement home for older persons in Mt. Vernon, OH, and regenerative medicine research. In addition, individual Chapters have programs to aid our troops, the elderly, poor and infirm.



THE LODGE

The foundation of all Masonry. Here, an aspiring Brother, after demonstrating his character and beliefs, receives three degrees: the Entered Apprentice degree, Fellow Craft degree, and, finally, the Master Mason degree, which is considered the highest degree in all of Masonry.



GRAND LODGE OF OHIO

Each state has its own Grand Lodge, whose elected officers establish the rules, regulations, requirements, priorities and programs for Masonry within their state. Each Grand Lodge, in turn, has been recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, but are entirely independent organizations. The Grand Lodge of Ohio meets annually with representatives of all the Lodges in the state to consider, discuss and vote on any proposed legislation or changes, as well as to elect Grand Officers for the following year.



THE SCOTTISH RITE

The Scottish Rite provides further exposure to the principles of Masonry, through a series of 29 degrees building upon the ethical teachings and philosophy offered in the Lodge through dramatic presentations of the individual degrees. In addition to a host of charitable activities, including awarding scholarships for worthy high school seniors, the Scottish Rite also has developed an innovative and comprehensive program to help children and their families overcome dyslexia.



THE SHRINERS

The "playground of Freemasonry" also includes more than two dozen units, such as the well-known clowns, Jeepsters, miniature motorcycles and airplanes, and the motorcycle escort so often seen in parades, the Highlanders bagpipe players, a band and a drum and bugle corps, and many others, all working to support The Shriners Hospitals for Children.



GROTTO

Formed to provide an informal setting for fun and fellowship among Master Masons (and their wives), The Grotto is more than just a social group, having raised millions of dollars to provide dental care to needy children.



DeMOLAY AND RAINBOW GIRLS

Masonic youth organizations that stress leadership training and service. These groups are open to all young men and women of good character, and no Masonic affiliation is required.



GRAND LODGE OF PRINCE HALL MASONRY

Although the Grand Lodge of Ohio welcomes men of good character of any color, African-American men have traditionally favored the Prince Hall Masons, a separate system of Masonic bodies named for its founder, a freed slave named Prince Hall. The two Grand Lodges share recognition and frequently work together, and were honored by the Ohio House of Representatives for their contributions to better race relations in Ohio.



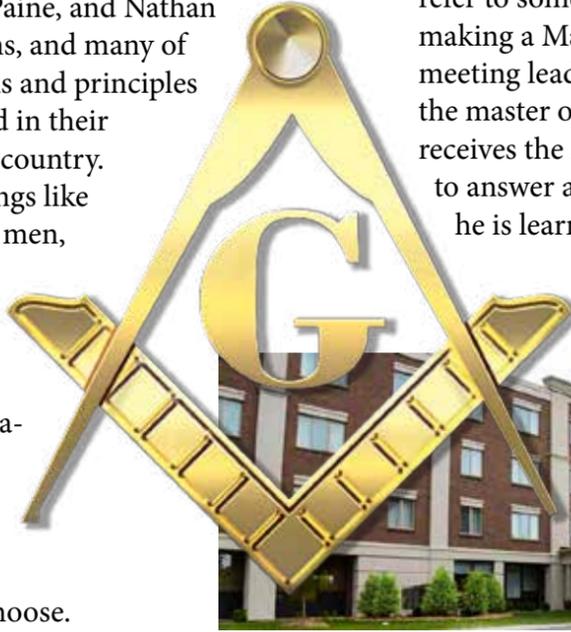
Masonry in Your World

Where did masonry come from?

No one really knows for sure. Ritual tells us it started with the building of King Solomon's Temple. The most common explanation is that it derived from the guilds of craftsmen that built the great cathedrals, although some historians link it to the Knights Templar, the medieval crusading order that became so rich and powerful that the French king had them outlawed and their leaders arrested on Friday, October 13, 1307. At least one scholar traces their history all the way back to the Phoenicians who helped King Solomon build his Temple and whose descendants later became the administrators of the Knights Templar.

Regardless, Freemasonry (as it is formally known) has had an important influence on the world you live in today. It is not without reason that America is sometimes referred to as "The Great Masonic Experiment." Many of our

founding fathers, including George Washington, Ben Franklin and John Hancock, as well as such well-known patriots as Paul Revere, Thomas Paine, and Nathan Hale, were Masons, and many of the Masonic ideals and principles were incorporated in their vision of the new country. These include things like the equality of all men, their right to choose their own leaders, the importance and value of education and, perhaps most important of all, their right to worship God in the way they choose.



Many Masonic terms have become a common part of our everyday language. In Masonry, the square is a symbol of morality, so when you refer to something as a "Square deal", you're making a Masonic reference. When a judge or meeting leader bangs the gavel, their imitating the master of a Lodge. And when a candidate receives the Master Mason degree, he is asked to answer a number of questions about what he is learned. That's where the phrase that someone was "Given the Third Degree" comes from.

Located just west of Waterville off Neowash Road, The Browning Masonic Community offers villas, independent and assisted living options for seniors, as well as the new, advanced-care Pathways Center for persons with Alzheimer's, dementia, and related memory issues. Part of the Ohio Masonic Home family, no Masonic affiliation is required.

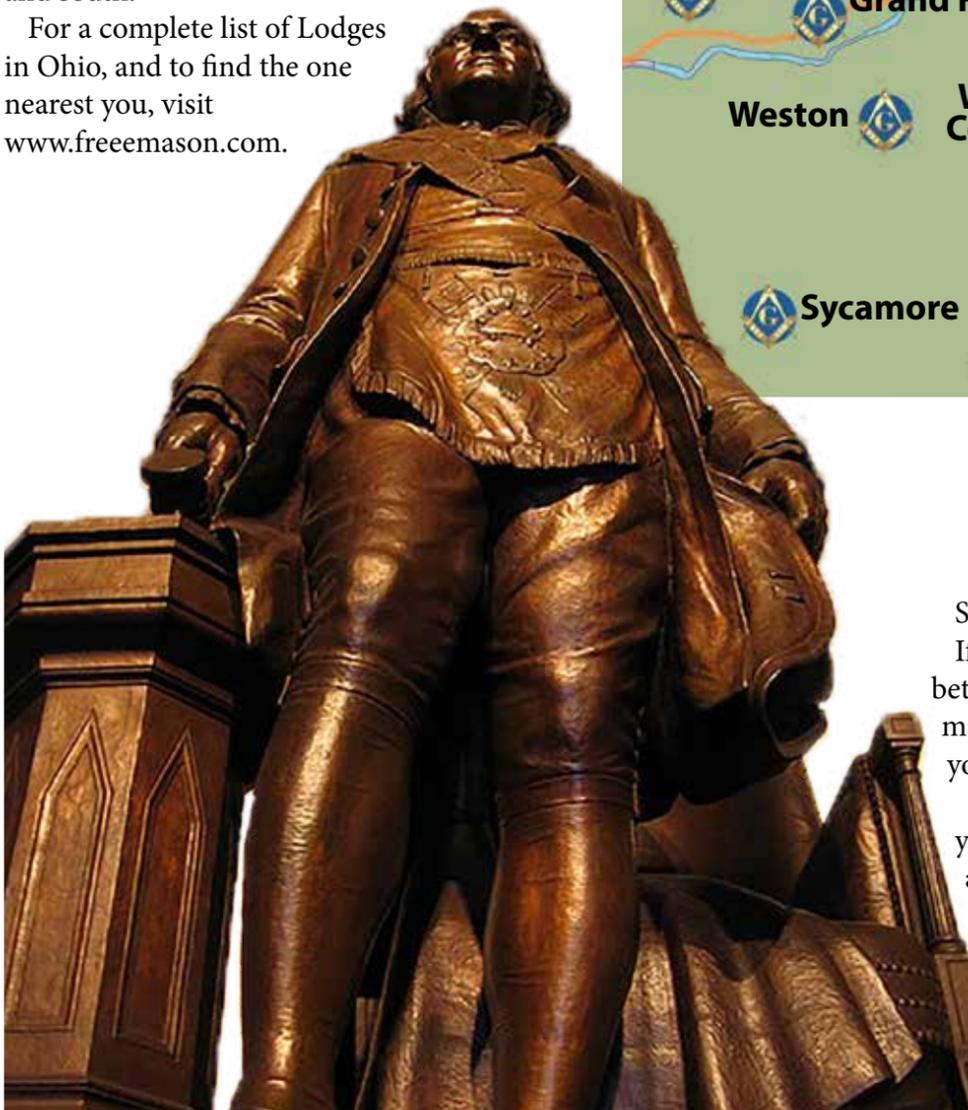
Masonry in Northwest Ohio

Masonry in Northwest Ohio began with the formation of a military Lodge at Fort Meigs during the War of 1812, which later became a permanent lodge in Maumee.

You've probably passed Masonic Temples (as we call the buildings where we meet), with their distinctive square and compass emblems, many times without even noticing them. Today, there are more than twenty Masonic Lodges in the Toledo area, often sharing a Temple with other Lodges or various other bodies.

The map to the right shows Lodges located in the Toledo area. There are many more east, west and south.

For a complete list of Lodges in Ohio, and to find the one nearest you, visit www.freemason.com.



Is Masonry in Your Future?

Sound interesting?

If you're a man of good character who believes in God and desires to better himself, enjoy the fellowship of men of similar high standards, and make a real difference in the world around him, then Masonry may be for you.

There is a Masonic slogan that says "2Be1Ask1", which means that if you want to be a Mason, you first have to ask a Mason. If you know one, ask him, and if he knows you to be a moral and upright person, chances are he'll welcome the opportunity to introduce you to our fraternity.

Or just visit The Masonic Bulletin online at

www.TMBOhio.com

and tell us a little bit about yourself, and we'll put a nearby lodge in touch with you.

“Hey! I’ll Bet You Know My Brother”

Here are just a few of our Masonic Brethren whose names you may recognize.

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Bud Abbott
Of Abbott and Costello Comedy Team | Buffalo Bill Cody
Founded the “Wild West Show” | John Hancock
First Signer of the Declaration of Independence | Shaquille O’Neal
Basketball Star |
| Roy Acuff
Country Musician | George M. Cohan
Composer of Such Songs as “Yankee Doodle Dandy” | Warren G. Harding
President of the U.S. | Brad Paisley
Country Star |
| Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin
Astronaut and Second Man on the Moon | Nat ‘King’ Cole
Pianist and Singer | Oliver Hardy
Comedian | Arnold Palmer
Professional Golfer |
| Brad Anderson
Creator of ‘Marmaduke’ | Samuel Colt
Firearms Manufacturer who Invented the First Revolver | Patrick Henry
Patriot Who Said “Give me liberty or give me death” | Rev. Norman Vincent Peale
Founder of “Guidepost” magazine |
| Eddie Arnold
Country Musician | Conz Brian
NASCAR Driver of Car Sponsored by the Scottish Rite | J. Edgar Hoover
Director of the FBI | Admiral Robert E. Peary
First Man to the North Pole |
| Gen. “Hap” Arnold
First Head of the Air Force | Davy Crockett
Frontiersman and Politician | Sam Hornish, Jr.
NASCAR Driver, Indy 500 Winner | J.C. Penney
Retailer and Philanthropist |
| John James Audubon
Artist of Birds of America | Cecil B. DeMille
Film Director of The Ten Commandments | Tim Horton
Canadian Hockey Star, Founder of Tim Horton’s Donuts | Gen. “Black Jack” Pershing
Led American Forces in Europe in WWII |
| Stephen Austin
“Father of Texas” | Jack Dempsey
Professional Boxer | Harry Houdini
Magician, Best Known for his Escapes | Paul Revere
Silversmith and Revolutionary Hero |
| Gene Autry
Cowboy Actor and Singer | Gen. James Doolittle
Led the Raids on Tokyo | Sam Houston
First President of the Republic of Texas | Ringling Brothers
Famous Circus Family |
| Frederic Bartholdi
Sculptor of the Statue of Liberty | Herbert Henry Dow
Founder of Dow Chemical Co. | Andrew Jackson
President of the U.S. | “Sugar Ray” Robinson
Six-Time World Champion Prizefighter |
| Count Basie
Orchestra Leader and Composer | Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Physician and Creator of Sherlock Holmes | Edward Jenner
Discovered the Small Pox Vaccine | Roy Rogers
“King of the Cowboys” |
| Robert E. B. Baylor
Founder of Texas’ First Baptist College | W.E.B. DuBois
Co-Founder of the NAACP | Andrew Johnson
President of the U.S. | Will Rogers
Humorist |
| Rev. Francis Bellamy
Creator of the Pledge of Allegiance | Charles H. Ebbets
Owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers | John Paul Jones
“Father of the U. S. Navy” | Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the U.S. |
| Irving Berlin
Songwriter, Wrote “God Bless America” | Edward VII
King of England | King David Kalakaua
Last King of Hawaii | Theodore Roosevelt
President of the U.S. |
| Mel Blanc
Voice of Bugs Bunny and Many Others | Duke Ellington
Jazz Musician and Composer | Rudyard Kipling
Nobel Prize Winning Author | Colonel Harland Sanders
Founder of Kentucky Fried Chicken |
| Daniel Boone
Early U. S. Pioneer | Bob Evans
Farmer and Restaurateur | Fiorello LaGuardia
Mayor of New York | Telly Savalas
Actor |
| Ernest Borgnine
Actor | Eberhard Faber
The Pencil Guy | Lewis and Clark
American Explorers | Sir Walter Scott
Novelist and Poet |
| James Bowie
Fought and Died at the Alamo | Douglas Fairbanks
Actor | Charles Lindbergh
First Solo Flight Across the Atlantic | Peter Sellers
Inspector Clouseau in “The Pink Panther” |
| Omar Bradley
American General in World War II | Bob Feller
Hall of Fame Baseball Pitcher | General Douglas MacArthur
Commanded Allied Forces in South Pacific | Red Skelton
Comedian and Artist |
| Joe E. Brown
Actor and Comedian, Member of Rubicon Lodge in Toledo | Sir Alexander Fleming
Discoverer of Penicillin | Rowland Hussey Macy
Founder of R. H. Macy & Company | John Philip Sousa
Marine Band Leader and March Composer |
| Edgar Buchanan
Actor | Gerald R. Ford
President of the U.S. | Peter Marshall
Minister and Senate Chaplain | Sir Frederick Arthur-Stanley
Originator of the Stanley Cup |
| James Buchanan
President of the U.S. | Glenn Ford
Movie Actor | Thurgood Marshall
First African-American on Supreme Court | William Howard Taft
President of the U.S. |
| Luther Burbank
Horticulturist and Naturalist | Henry Ford
Founded Ford Motor Company | Louis B. Mayer
Film Producer | Danny Thomas
Entertainer and Founder of St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, which was patterned after the Shriner’s Hospitals for Children |
| Robert Burns
Poet | Benjamin Franklin
Printer, Author, Scientist and Revolutionary War Statesman | Dr. Charles Mayo
Mayo Clinic Founder | Dave Thomas
Founder of Wendy’s Restaurants |
| Adm. Richard E. Byrd
Naval Officer and Explorer | Clark Gable
Actor | Fredrick Maytag
Developed First Modern Washing Machine | Mel Tillis
Country and Western Music Star |
| Kit Carson
Frontiersman and Explorer | James A. Garfield
President of the U.S. | William McKinley
President of the U.S. | Col. William B. Travis
Commander of the Texans at the Alamo |
| Walter P. Chrysler
Founder of Chrysler Corporation | George VI
King of England During World War II. | Andrew Mellon
Financier and Philanthropist | Harry S. Truman
President of the U.S. |
| Winston Churchill
British Prime Minister During WWII | King C. Gillette
Inventor of the Safety Razor | John Molson
Founder of Molson Breweries. | Gen. Lew Wallace
Civil War General who Wrote Ben Hur |
| Roy Clark
Country-Western Star | John H. Glenn, Jr.
Astronaut and Senator | James Monroe
President of the U.S. | “Pop” Warner
Famous Football Coach |
| William Clark
American Explorer | Samuel Gompers
Led the Formation of the American Federation of Labor | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Prolific Austrian Composer | Booker T. Washington
Educator |
| Moses Cleaveland
Founder of Cleveland, Ohio | Curt Gowdy
Sports Announcer | Audie Murphy
Most Decorated Soldier in World War II | George Washington
President of the U.S. |
| Samuel “Mark Twain” Clemens
Writer and Humorist | Lionel Hampton
Legendary Jazz Musician | James Naismith
Inventor of Basketball | John Wayne
Actor |
| Ty Cobb
First Player Elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame | | Ransom E. Olds
Automobile Manufacturer | Cy Young
Pitched the First Perfect Game in Professional Baseball |

Wonder why so many famous, important, and successful people have joined the Masonic Fraternity? You may find the answer inside.