



# BARKLEY LIGHT



*John W. Barkley Lodge No. 621, F & A.M.*

*Vol. LXXI*

*November - December 2021*

*No. 39*

## A VIEW FROM THE EAST

My brothers and friends, just recently I witnessed something I thought I never would, it was the end of an era in Major League Baseball. The Cleveland Indians have come to the end of the road, just as I have come to the end of the road as worshipful master of JWB lodge. And I have to say that it has been the honor of a lifetime, with all that we have accomplished through the year as well as in years past. We have all taken a giant step forward towards the goals that we have tried to achieve in our beloved craft, as well as confirming the support we get from our families that give us the opportunity to do all that we need to. We can take pride in the year we have had and our ability to contribute and participate in our events and special occasions. Even with the challenges we had from Covid-19 while continuing to do the work of the lodge whether online or in person, we have begun to put back together the things we need with care and love while keeping each other safe in the process.



We have started many young brothers on their journey this year and will have raised a couple more before it's over, all of these brethren will need guidance in the new year as well as years down the road. As a Past Master of this lodge, I will make it my mission to continue to guide these men as well as any we may initiate in the future.

In closing my brothers, the future of our lodge is very bright. We have a wonderful officer line for years to come, and many more behind them that will make an excellent addition to the leadership we all admire and respect of JWB #621

It has been the honor of my life to have been the Worshipful Master of JWB lodge #621

Jimmy Dixon, PM  
Worshipful Master

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## FROM THE DESK OF YOUR SECRETARY

November thru December 2021

By the end of September all of the brothers of Barkley Lodge should have received your 2022 dues notice. As of the writing about 25 % of the brothers have sent in their 2022 dues and or donations. In early October I have received the NEW dues cards. Once I receive your dues, I will send your NEW dues card that is good for at least five years.

John W. Barkley Lodge No. 621 is meeting on a regular schedule and we would love to see your smiling face in our meetings. Things will be different from now on. Most of our brothers have had their Covid shots. We will be having early refreshments and some refreshments after our meetings.

We had our outdoor Master Mason degree on Saturday, September 25th and we have a new Master Mason among us. There were about 25 brothers in attendance on a cool day. We had a hamburger and hot dog cook out after the degree.

On the third Wednesday in September, we conferred a fellow craft degree on one of our brothers and all the officers moved up and did good work.

We still have many candidates who have been studying their exams to move on to the next degree. We have one brother waiting to receive his EA degree, seven brothers to give their EA exams, two brothers studying to give their FC exam and two brothers waiting to receive their MM degree. We will be busy for the next year and beyond.

**NOTICE, My Brothers please let me know if you have changed your address right away. I have sent to all our brothers on email of, DID YOU MOVE? To the brothers not on email, DID YOU MOVE? Please let me know ASAP. With the dues notices sent out I have found two more brothers that have moved.**

**My Brothers I am sure you know of someone you can recommend to replace yourself in our lodge. If you know of someone you would feel would be a good Mason, please let me know and I will send you a petition or two**

My Brothers I am sure you know of someone you can recommend to replace yourself in our lodge. If you know of someone you would feel would be a good Mason please let me know and I will send you a petition or two.

The Grand Master is continuing the *Replace Yourself Program* this year. *Our Barkley Lodge members are doing their best to replace yourself.*

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**-- BARKLEY LIGHT --**

Founded in 1949 as Laurel Light by  
 WB Michael T. Dennis &  
 WB Lawrence C. Boyd, Sr.

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*My Brothers please make an honest attempt to attend your lodge at least once a month. We do something every Wednesday. We hope to offer activities and events for you and your lady to attend, please take advantage of these events. **Please check the trestle board and put Barkley Lodge activities on your calendar NOW. This is your Lodge; please support it as often as you can in whatever way you can.***

*There are no strangers here, only friends you have not as yet met.*

Fraternally, Your Secretary  
 Bob Hubert, Jr.  
 robert2176jr@gmail.com

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**MAJOR FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARIES**  
***YOUR DATE ONLY COMES UP ONCE EVERY FIVE YEARS***

*Happy Anniversary*  
**November and December 2021**

*10 Years on November 9th*  
*30 Years on November 15th*  
*10 Years on November 19th*  
*55 Years on November 26th*

*Virgil & Janeen Kramer*  
*Mark & Susan Tornow*  
*Jeffrey & Zora Eizember*  
*Nicholas & Josephine Terec*

***A total of 18 wedding anniversaries will be celebrated in November 2021***

*40 Years on December 13th*      *Larry & Donna Nousek*

***A total of 6 wedding anniversaries will be celebrated in December 2021***

***If any dates or names are missing or are incorrect please let the Secretary know***

**JOHN W. BARKLEY LODGE #621 F. & A.M.  
NORTH OLMSTED MASONIC TEMPLE**

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*All dinner reservations must be made and paid to Senior Deacon Jason Liss  
at least one week prior to the event!*

*A reservation made is a reservation paid, and a reservation paid is  
a reservation made!*

*No Walk-ins, without reservations, will be served.*

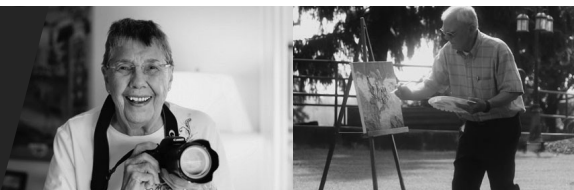
# Trestle Board

## September and October 2021

Nov 3	(Wed):	Annual Stated Meeting- Early refreshment at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:30 pm
Nov 10	(Wed):	Special Meeting Trivial Per-Soup- Dinner at 6pm, open to families
Nov 17	(Wed):	Stated Meeting at 7:30pm
Nov 24	(Wed):	Dark- No Meeting
Dec 1	(Wed):	Stated Meeting - Early Refreshment 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:30pm
Dec 3	(Fri):	Installation of Officers- Dinner at 6pm, Event at 7:30pm
Dec 8	(Wed):	Special Meeting- TBD Meeting at 7:30pm
Dec 15	(Wed):	Stated Meeting- Education Speaker Series, Meeting at 7:30pm
Dec 18	(Sat):	Kid's Christmas Party 11am
Dec 22	(Wed):	Dark (Holiday Observance)
Dec 29	(Wed):	TBD- Dark (Enjoy your families)

We hope to see you and your family at your lodge often!

### Experience Western Reserve Masonic Community!



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- Pathways memory care center
- State-of-the-art rehabilitation and licensed therapists
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To learn more please call The Palmary at Western Reserve Masonic Community - (330) 350-5340

*The Palmary*  
at Western Reserve  
Masonic Community



For more information, call us at  
**330-721-3000**

WHERE LIFE<sup>STYLE</sup> SPARKS NEW BEGINNINGS



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## Welfare & Sunshine Report

- MWB Norman Mick Died June 2 20201. He was a past Grand Master of Masons in Ohio and he will be missed by all who knew him.
- Bro. Dave Folk informed me his youngest Granddaughter Kacie (Also Bob Millers Great Grand Daughter) contracted a severe case of Chicken Pox in August and will be in hospital for 10 days.
- Bro Dave Folk also had a surgical procedure on 8/26 to remove a squeamy cell carcinoma on the top of his head. It is a simple procedure and there were no complications
- Lady Lois wife of WB Edward Nageotte fell, was taken to Fairview Hospital and is currently receiving Hospice Care. Please keep them both in your prayers
- WB Ed Evans that he has been in Medina Hospital with pneumonia this past summer. Recovery was slow but he is better now.
- We learned of the passing of Brother Jay Lagorin on Aug 23; he was 73 years old. Originally from Cornerstone Lodge # 699. He was a 43 year member of the fraternity.
- We also learned of passing of James Sabourin, the Father of Brother Dan Sabourin our Brother from St. George's Lodge up North in Canada. After a struggle against Cancer James has found rest. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Dan Sabourin, his family.
- We learned of the passing of Bro. David McNeilly who passed away on Aug 27th. He was originally from Brooklyn Lodge 454 and he was a 55 year member. David is survived by his wife Barbara of 63 years. He will be missed
- Bro Geen Let us know of the continued improvement of WB David of Lagrange Lodge who earlier this year survived a terrible accident. He is slowly recovering and has a new ramp at his house provided by the VA.
- Bro Geen informed us he became an uncle, again as his biological brother, who lives out of state, had a healthy baby girl in September.
- RWB John Young informed us of the illness of Margarie, the wife of Brother Ron Mills.
- Brother Mike Ruby's Father had a tumor removed from his throat and he is recovering nicely.
- Brother John A. Karas (101 ½) passed away September 6, 2021. He was originally from O.N. Steele Lodge 621 and he was a 53 year member. John is a 32nd degree Mason and a past president of the Al Koran Shriner's and Shriner's International and a 53 year member of John W. Barkley Lodge No 621. He is also a member of the Kentucky colonel's and the Parma elks. Originally born in Greece, he flew airplanes during WWII against the Germans. He was an active member in his church Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church on West 14th, and he held an active barber's license cutting hair until he was 95. John is survived by his wife Ismini of 66 years.

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## **Welfare & Sunshine Report (Continued)**

- WB Ed Evans informed Brother Secretary that he is being transferred to a skilled nursing facility due to a lung infection.
- Bro Ed Hoover reached caught some kind of a bug in September. It's not Covid but he was planning on taking a few days and resting to try and stop it before things get worse.
- WB David Finley and I had a conversation yesterday, he misses his brethren at lodge but is not as active as he is serving as a care giver to his wife who is struggling with an illness. Thank you for reminding me that, our obligations to our families take precedence.
- Bro Ramzi Jammal informed us that his wife Jackie tested Positive for Covid, they isolated themselves and are both feeling fine, no sever symptoms as they both had the vaccine
- WB Ed Dudek is on Oxygen due to complications from his heart condition, he also has lung cancer. Please keep him in your prayers. This was share by his lady Mary Ann Seno
- Brother Carl Morris went into southwest Hospital and had been there since Saturday Sept. 25 with Pneumonia. He passed on October 4th.

### **In September the Lodge reported on the well-being of its children:**

- WB Clark and lady Cassie have their daughter Kennedy who turned one in September!
- WB Smith's kids Harper is a 7th Grader, started on Tuesday the 7th and Declan is in Pre-K
- Bro SW Chuck Johnson is an empty nester again as his son Zach returned to college to finish up his last semester of college. And Miss Alex continues to prepare for her approaching nuptials.
- Bro SD Jason Liss has a 10 year old as of Sept 5 in his Son Danny who started 4th Grade this year, and his son Elliott just started 2nd grade. Brother Liss shared w me that one of his great joys is coming home and his boys actually Want to play with and spend time with their Dad!
- Bro JD Dave Folk and his lady Peggy hosted there granddaughters recently a 4 year old and a 1 year old who is already walking and trying to do everything that her big sister is doing.
- Bro SS John Franks has a 3 year old at home Able, the little guy is not in school yet which is probably a good thing
- Bro JS Doug Dietzel, is a "super dad" as his lady MacKenzie shared w me, their Daughter Ava is doing excellent and is already developing a unique personality.
- Bro Sean Merat has been absent because he is keeping up with a 10 month old, his Daughter Abigail Jean, who is already walking...best of luck Brother

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## A View From the West

**“To that Undiscovered Country, from Whom Born No Traveller Returns”**

We now approach the end of one Masonic year in anticipation of a new one’s beginning. As a mason, we observe many different cycles and journeys in our ritual and our lives. I’ve previously spoke about the significance of the solstice and the St. Johns – but what about time itself? We do indeed travel upon that level of time, almost completely against our will. Scientifically, as we approach the speed of light, time (from our point of view) actually slows down from the universe surrounding it. If we were to just sit idle, time would surely pass us by, as it does the tall oak standing motionless in the middle of a grassy field.

While there are certainly many lessons to learn in masonry, one of them is the striking reminder our life will indeed come to an end. Memento Mori, as it were. Winter is often used to describe an end. The Omega to the Alpha. One of the pillars of our year. Without Winter, would we have the same yearning for Summer? Without death, would we still have a passion for make the most of every moment of our lives?

*Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost*

Whose woods these are I think I know.  
 His house is in the village though;  
 He will not see me stopping here  
 To watch his woods fill up with snow.  
 My little horse must think it queer  
 To stop without a farmhouse near  
 Between the woods and frozen lake  
 The darkest evening of the year.  
 He gives his harness bells a shake  
 To ask if there is some mistake.  
 The only other sound’s the sweep  
 Of easy wind and downy flake.  
 The woods are lovely, dark and deep,  
 But I have promises to keep,  
 And miles to go before I sleep,  
 And miles to go before I sleep.

Ω

Join us in the coming year as we make education a focus for our membership. “Making Good Men Better” needs to be a guiding principle, not an empty slogan. We have several speakers lined up for all of the second stated meetings of the month. Stay updated by email on the upcoming subjects: If you haven’t yet, send your email to Bob Hubert, PM at [robert2176jr@gmail.com](mailto:robert2176jr@gmail.com) to be added to our list. I hope to see you all at our Installation on Friday, December 3rd, 2021 and I look forward to a great year.

Chuck Johnson,  
 Senior Warden



## A View From the South

Salutations Brethren, I bring you Fraternal greeting from the South

My first words have to be those of Thanks, I want to use this forum to personally thank all the men who during the course of this year have reached out to me to inform me of the welfare of our brethren. I would encourage all of you to continue to do so, we like to hear good news in lodge and we want to help a brother and his family if we can; but how can we do that if we are not informed. Please never hesitate to share your news or the news of a friend and brother we are here to support each other whenever possible.

Recently I received help in the most unlikely of places from a fellow mason...who did not at the time realize how much I needed to be reminded of the three gates. Hold on brothers, this has nothing to do with ritual work, but when dealing with those people around us and when dealing with ourselves it is very easy, at times to get frustrated and upset. And most humans, when we are upset, have a tendency to say things that may not be particularly nice. I was reminded, in this state to ask myself:

### *“Is It True,” “Is It Necessary” and “Is It Kind”*

This is such a simple but powerful message, and one that fits perfectly with the core values of Freemasonry. We must remember not only to be excellent to each other both within and without the lodge, but we must also try to be excellent to ourselves. I think this is why many of us seek out the fraternity; we want to surround ourselves with good people and better men. We, as Masons, strive to be better than the average man. We are taught to offer assistance when we can, to welcome a brother and extend him every courtesy, and to always offer good council when asked.

In our Masonic journey you will realize there is a role for everyone you meet. Some will test you; some will use you; some will love you, and some will teach you. But the ones who are truly important are the ones who bring out the best in you. They are rare and amazing people who remind you that you are worth it. Many of them you will call your brother and a fellow Mason.

Brethren, until next time. See you at the Pillars!

Michael J. Columbro,  
Junior Warden

## **Free Born**

(Author Unknown)

One of the common requirements of joining Freemasonry is being “Free Born”. What does that really mean?

To understand the idea of being “Free Born” as a requirement of joining Freemasonry you have to look back into the guild lodges. For many people, particularly in the United States, it sounds as relating to slavery in Pre-Civil War America. Often even Freemasons believe this is the case, it isn’t not directly.

Someone who is Free Born is a person who is born unencumbered by the debts of their family. In the not-so-distant past, it was not uncommon for families to have multi-generational debt. For the right to work a piece of land, a farmer would have to agree to a large debt that could never be paid in a single lifetime. The farmer and his family would then live and work on the land giving a portion of the crop each year to the land owner. To pay the debt it may go on generations with no chance for the family to escape from the debt, and each new generation assuming the debt. There were also situations where, for various reasons, an unborn child would be apprenticed to a local tradesman, generally to pay off a debt.

Regardless what the reason may be, the concept of being Free Born, simply, put, meant that you had no master that you were obligated to by contract, debt, and yes by slavery. This goes to the common expression, “No man can serve two masters.” If you were already indebted somewhere else, you could not perform the tasks needed to fulfil your apprenticeship with a tradesman. In terms of Speculative Freemasonry, this also meant that your vote in a lodge room was potentially not your own.

In theory, an unscrupulous man could fill an Operative Lodge with individuals dedicated only to him because of debt or other reasons, allowing that person to control the contracts the lodge might accept and alter Freemasonry for their own purposes. In Speculative terms, we have seen this happen in modern times with Italian Lodge Propaganda Due. Where an individual converted the purpose of Freemasonry by controlling the individuals in the lodge.

For the most part in the western world, the idea that someone is Free Born is a given. To the point that some have called for it’s removal from the ritual work and as a requirement for joining the fraternity. Sometimes hoping to wash away the false premise of it’s direct relation to slavery and racism. It is an important reminder though for the individual who is first knocking on the door of the lodge. It should remind all, and be stressed to all that Free Will, which is really what we are talking about when we say Free Born, is critical to Freemasonry as a philosophy, Without Free Will we are left with blind obedience, we are left with a select few making decisions for the larger body of Freemasonry. That smaller group may or may not be working in the best interest of all involved.

Edward Hoover,  
Lodge Education Officer

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