



BLUE LODGE BULLETIN

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE TREMENDOUS 22ND MASONIC DISTRICT



Fall 2021

THE KEY TO A FLOURISHING LODGE

BY WB DONALD BERGER,

Living as a mason is an experience of shared values, creating many opportunities from which we learn to be better individuals and improve our lives. These experiences are richer and more meaningful if our brethren are engaged in the activities of their Lodge. Today, people are longing for a more positive connection with others. The pandemic caused a period of great isolation. Now is the time to improve our brotherly connections and create an environment that promotes engagement. Being engaged in Lodge means you feel connected. Many members lack this connection and do not feel they are seen, heard, or valued. The universal needs of people: respect, recognition, belonging, autonomy, personal growth, meaning, and progress need to be regularly practiced to foster a sense of connection.

Achieving a state of connectedness will cause any Lodge to flourish. Quite often in Masonry, the journey provides all the benefits and secrets needed - not arriving at a destination. Spread the wealth of participation within your Lodge. Involve everyone in the many functions of your Lodge even if many of these functions can be successfully accomplished by one or two individuals. Being recognized and relied upon to aid your Lodge by performing a function fosters a sense of recognition and belonging, a sense of connectivity to your Lodge and with your fellow brethren. Even new prospects and brethren learning the degrees should be actively participating in Lodge functions.

The engagement of you and your Brethren will foster a sense of belonging, creating a shared identity, encourage collaboration, and create an active, growing Lodge. Meeting the universal needs of people will engender positive emotions and make us feel connected to our Lodge and brethren, and encourages our brothers to be actively engaged in their Lodge. Leaders who cultivate a culture of connection will unite brethren and create a vibrant, relational environment that will allow your Lodge to flourish.

FALL DISTRICT EVENTS

We have a number of fall events you wont want to miss:

- **Thursday, September 30—*Master's Table Lodge*:** A special event offered to current Worshipful Masters and their Ladies. Worshipful Masters, more information is coming soon.
- **Saturday, October 2 —*Warden and Deacon Leadership Meeting*** -9:00am (8:00am registration): the fourth leadership meeting of the year will be held at Dover Lodge. The topics will focus on development opportunities for Warden's, Deacons, and all Master Masons.
- **Saturday, November 20—*Past Master's Convocation*:** Location & Time TBA

Upcoming CCBLA Meetings: November 30

Meeting locations will be announced as we approach each meeting

Have an article you would like to share? We would love to hear from you! Send your article submissions to Seen212@gmail.com



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BRINGING LIGHT TO THE DARK DAYS OF SUMMER

BY WB KIRK MILLER

As the Dog Days of Summer come to a close, many lodges have been inactive for over a month. Now might be a great time to warm up for our return to lodge, but how?

The first answer that pops into the minds of many of us is “Ritual,” but it isn’t the only answer! Here are my top 5 activities to prepare for our lodges to thrive!

Clean-up and organization: A lot of Lodges have a wish list of things they would like to do for their Lodge or Brethren! Check with the Master or Temple Board to organize a group for clean up or Lodge improvement!

Education Events: An empty Lodge is a sad sight! Education events are an excellent opportunity to enjoy time with brethren and connect with the rest of the district.

Candidate Meet and Greet Night: The 22nd Masonic District has 154 men waiting for us to introduce them to Freemasonry!!! Get to know your candidates before the lodge meets! Your Lodge will be primed and ready to provide them with the experiences that make Freemasonry so outstanding!

Check in with your Brothers: Some Brethren have been absent since 2020. It's hard to believe that 2021 is inching toward Fall! If it has been a while since you have heard from your Brothers, call them! Better yet, go visit them! Be the reason they come back to Lodge!

Community service: Looking forward, the opportunities for community service are plentiful! From manning a water table at the Cleveland Marathon to food drives for the Holidays, there are tons of great ways to show your community that we care! Start planning now for the greatest impact!

Summer darkness has been historically set aside for the harvest of sown crops; a time for preparation! Let’s take this time to make our Lodges thrive in the Fall!

2021 Grand Lodge Annual Communication

This year’s Annual Communication will be held in Cincinnati at the Sharonville Convention Center (11355 Chester Road) on Thursday, October 14 and Friday, October 15. The current plan is for Annual Communication events to be held live, but with some alteration to the traditional schedule. Agendas, lodging information, and additional Annual Communication information is available at:

<https://www.annualcommunication.com/>

You will see a map of the United States on the homepage. Click on the state of Ohio in the U.S. map to be directed to a link for this year’s Annual Communication.

Time is running out—make your plans for the Grand Lodge of Ohio’s 212th Annual Communication!