



The Cornerstone

**Niles McKinley Lodge #794 F. & A.M.
1350 Shannon Rd., Girard, OH 44420**

Visit us on our website: www.niles794.org

JUNE 2016

Serving the needs of Niles' Freemasons, their families and the community.

Stated Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, 7:30 P.M., except July and August.

Charles W. Chagnot, Jr.—Worshipful Master
Phone: (330) 307-3405 Email: chaggy2@aol.com

Brian S Williams—Secretary
Phone: (330) 360-5530 Email: bswilliams5667@sbcglobal.net

Community Meals every Thursday of the month

We will be serving free meals to anyone who comes through the doors of New Hope United Methodist Church, 21 Fairview Ave., Niles, every Thursday of this month—**that's June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016.**

This is a community project that we've participated in for, I believe, at least 43 years, that's what I said—43 years if not more. Seems just like yesterday we put on our new, clean Stewards' aprons and began serving coffee and providing nutritious meals at the former Masonic Temple in Niles. New Hope United Methodist Church has again graciously allowed us the use of their kitchen and Fellowship Hall facilities for the meals.

Serving will **begin at 4:30 P.M.** and **conclude at 6:00 P.M. Important:** we need your help throughout the evening for set-up before, serving, busing, dish washing and clean-up during and afterward. With your help we can make these meals the success they have been throughout the years. And don't forget we'll be back at it during September also!!!

Table Lodge this month

A *Lodge of Entered Apprentices and one of Table Instruction* is being prepared for Niles McKinley Lodge. Our younger members might question, "What is a Table Lodge?"

Well, good question youngsters!! For one thing, it's quite different than a normal meeting! It's good food, laughter and fellowship. It's singing (*in and out of tune*). It's Masonic education. But most of all it's learning to live Masonry at its finest—all in Fellowship Hall!

Historically, the Table Lodge was so common in the early eighteenth century that it may be presumed that most meetings were of that character. In simple language it merely meant that the lodge met for dinner and as they sat around the table, eating and drinking, the degree was conferred. We continue that tradition today in the Table Lodge.

The feast as a function, a ceremony, an occasion is very, very old. How old it is is not necessary to determine, but certainly far older than any Masonry we know. This lodge feast carries out a custom which was old when the pyramids were built. From the idea of a feast in which Brethren broke bread together and drank in common, came the Table Lodge of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. In eighteenth century lodges, the feast was of such importance in the life of the lodge that in many of them, the members were seated at the tables when the lodges were opened, and remained there throughout the communication, even when the degrees were conferred! The result was that Masonic fellowship was good fellowship, as in warm and fruitful soil. Acquaintanceship, friendship and affection could flourish—there was no grim and silent sitting on a bench staring across at a wall.

The Table Lodge is an opportunity for all Brethren to share Masonic fellowship in a less formal atmosphere with discussions and talking continued during the evening. By tradition, the Table Lodge is open to all Masons, thereby opening the door to all Brethren of the Lodge—including Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts—to be able to attend the feast in a tyled dining hall.

Niles McKinley Lodge will be hosting its Table Lodge **Monday, June 13, 2016** with dinner beginning the evening at **6:00 P.M.** Reservations will be **limited to 50 Brethren** and at \$20.00 per person they're going fast. Take heed because reservations are required and will be needed **NO LATER THAN MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016** by contacting our Worshipful Master, Charles Chagnot, 330-638-8246 so don't delay. Past Grand Master, M.W.B. Kevin Todd, will be our featured speaker for the evening.

Reservations are going very, very quickly so get yours in today!

You don't want to miss this great evening of fellowship and fun!

Updates requested

We are trying to update our membership records and mailing lists. Would everyone please be so kind as to send your correct, current telephone number, address and email address to Marc Stevens, Phone: 330-442-0893; Email: marc694@neo.rr.com or Address: 1215 High St NE, Warren, OH 44483? Please respond to this request even if you think we have your correct phone number and addresses.

At certain times, correct and current phone numbers and especially email addresses of all our Brethren would greatly facilitate posting notices that have to be announced at a moment's notice, e.g. a Masonic funeral service, a Special Meeting approved by the Grand Master, etc. We'd like to thank you ahead of time for your positive response to this request.

Senior Wardens' meeting

The 25th Masonic District will meet locally **Saturday, June 18, 2016, 9:00 A.M.** for its Senior Wardens' Meeting at the Liberty Masonic Complex. There are several different meetings presented for Senior and Junior Wardens, Junior and Senior Deacons and Secretaries. These meetings will follow breakfast which will be available from **8:00 A.M.** until the meetings begin. For those not officers, we could use all the help we can get to prepare and serve breakfast. Please help out. *All of our respective officers should plan attending the meeting.*

Sts. John Day Observance

Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist are two eminent patrons of Freemasonry. There is nothing in our history to explain how or why they were chosen as our patron saints, but there is no argument that they were the perfect choice because of the manner in which they lived and worked.

St. John the Baptist was a man of character and integrity and someone we would all do well to emulate. In him we have a singular instance of purity, of zeal, simplicity of manners and an ardent wish to benefit mankind by his example. To him we are indebted for the introduction of that grand tenet of our Institution, which it is our glory to support: Peace on earth, good will toward men.

Saint John the Evangelist is considered

equal to the Baptist in his zeal for the same qualities and because of his abilities as a speaker and writer he was enabled to spread the teachings of Saint John the Baptist to a far broader audience.

Niles McKinley Lodge will celebrate the lives of our two patron saints **Sunday, June 26, 2016, 11:00 A.M.** at New Hope United Methodist Church, 21 Fairview Ave., in Niles. The service begins at 11:00 A.M. but please get there **around 10:30 A.M.** so we can assemble in the lounge area to enter and sit together as Masons. After the service, we usually have a number of Brothers and their family members join together to go out for dinner at a local restaurant.

Golf scramble



The battle between David (us) and Goliath (them) tees off **SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016, 8:00 A.M.** at Hidden Oaks Golf Course, 903 Sodom Hutchings Rd. Jerusalem Lodge has retained the sacred, engraved plaque for several years with Newton Falls gaining victories during the past several years. It's high time that we win it back!

All Niles McKinley golfers are needed in this friendly contest between the three arch rivals! Please, help us out. Contact Marc Stevens, 330-442-0893, **BEFORE SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016** so we can put our teams together and plan for the day. We'll be enjoying 18 holes of golf with riding cart, a great steak dinner, awards and prizes afterward all for the price of only \$50.00 per person.

We always have a great time and the joking between the Brethren persists throughout the day. This would be a fantastic event to introduce someone you know who would make a good Mason to one of our more sporting and fun-filled activities.

Journeying to the East

It may be that you are really interested in Masonry. Perhaps you have felt that you would like to participate in the work of the Lodge and sometime rule and govern your Brethren as a Master. Preferment in Masonry can only be acquired through service to the Craft.

If you have a desire to get started in Masonry with a view to receiving its honorable awards, the first thing you must do is to attend the meetings of your Lodge and cheerfully perform any service which may be assigned to you. Learn the work,

help post the candidates for advancement and do what you can to advance the welfare of your Lodge. In due time you may be invited to preside in the East and confer a Degree, but whatever you undertake do it to the best of your ability. It will not be long until the Lodge will recognize your worth and find a place for you in its official line.

Do not try to rise in Masonry by electioneering methods. Nothing will bring disaster to your ambitions as quickly as an effort to force your way to the top. There is no royal road in Masonry. The honors which it awards come through unselfish devotion to the Craft.

It should not be forgotten that participation in the work of Masonry brings self improvement. The ritual being an exact science, its memorization is a great stimulus in developing the mind and strengthening the reasoning powers. Appearance in the ritualistic work of the Lodge is valuable in overcoming that diffidence which affects many men. Aside from the ambition in official preferment it is well worth your while to devote yourself to the work of Masonry because of the self improvement which you will derive.

- from *The ABC of Freemasonry*, 1915
by Delmar D. Darrah

Ready for Summer! (*Job's Daughters*)

By the time this newsletter is printed our daughters will be out of school for the Summer, but our work and fun have just begun!

First, you are all cordially invited to attend our Installation of Officers **Sunday, June 12th at 2:00 p.m.** here at the Liberty Masonic Complex. This is an open ceremony and all are invited, so what a wonderful opportunity to introduce Job's Daughters to your family and young daughters of friends. Recently the rules to join Job's Daughters have been changed to allow non-Masonic related girls to join, with a Mason's sponsorship.

After Installation, our girls will be heading off to our Annual Grand Session State conference, where they will be participating in Art, Cooking, Music and Ritual competitions and we will be anxiously awaiting to see who our 2016-2017 Grand Bethel Officers will be.

As we close out this term, we would like to thank our Masons, Eastern Star and Amaranth for all the support you have given us this past year. Have a wonderful Summer and maybe we'll see you somewhere along the way!

Job's Daughters is a positive, faith-based organization that provides leadership, builds self confidence, and allows girls to make lifelong friendships...please give us the opportunity to share Job's Daughters with you and them!!



Under The Master's Hat—R.W.B. Charles Chagnot

Hello Brethren, first of all I would like to thank everyone who came out and supported the Lodge at our annual Inspection. It was very much appreciated by our officers to see so many of our Brothers on the sidelines, but all the seats were not full, it would have been nice to see you there also!

On another note it seems like in each letter I am begging and pleading with you to come to Lodge, Brethren our Lodge is only as strong as our members!! We have a wonderful core of young men who are enthusiastic about our Lodge and Freemasonry, but they cannot do it alone. They need our help to show them the way to becoming an active, successful Lodge. At our meetings there are more Brothers there with less than 2 years service than Brothers with 10 or more years!! What is wrong with us. This is no way to lead. We must support this next generation of Masons if we want our Lodge to survive. We cannot just hang our apron up and walk away. The Grand Lodge of Ohio is down to around 85,000 members and shrinking daily. Our Lodge gained membership last year and we are on track to do it again this year. Please don't let this membership success be in vain. Would you please take time from your busy schedule and come to your Lodge? We need you.

June Trestleboard

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30— Serving Community Meals, 4:30—6:00 P.M. (<i>See story</i>)	District's Senior Wardens' Meeting, 9:00 A.M. (<i>See story</i>)
June 6— Luncheon, 6:30 P.M.; Stated Meeting, 7:30 PM.	June 20— Luncheon, 6:30 P.M.; Stated Meeting, 7:30 PM.
June 13— Table Lodge, 6:00 P.M. (<i>See story</i>)	June 22— Fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings (<i>See enclosed coupon</i>)
June 14— Lodge's Breakfast Club at Scenna's Restaurant in McKinley Heights, 8:30 AM.	June 26— Sts. John Day, 11:00 A.M. (<i>See story</i>)
June 18— 25th Masonic	*DARK* JULY & AUGUST

Niles McKinley Lodge #794 F. & A.M.
Brian S. Williams, Sec.
46 Brookfield Ave
Boardman OH 44512

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Niles, Ohio
Permit No. 137