



# The Cornerstone

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

Visit us on our website: [www.niles794.org](http://www.niles794.org)

**SEPTEMBER 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  
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## Serving Community Meals

Continuing our participation in the Community Meals program, we will be serving meals from **4:00—6:00 P.M. every Thursday of September** at New Hope United Methodist Church, 21 Fairview Ave., Niles. New Hope is a co-sponsor with us.

Free, hot, nutritious meals will be served to everyone who comes through the doors. Your help is really needed before we open the doors for set up, during the evening for serving and bus-ing, and also afterward for clean up.

It is very satisfying to witness the appreciation, gratitude and thankfulness of those served. But you get so much more than they through your participation and help. Please do your part and assist in this very important community service project of your Lodge and become active.

## Nature of Masonic Education

From *The Quest for Light* by Wallace McLeod: 'Of the various specific functions of Masonry, in my opinion the most useful will be in Masonic Education, the dissemination of practical new ideas. My own view is that the Brethren should be at least made aware that there is such a thing as Masonic scholarship, and possibly that they may be able to learn about it from research lodges or research groups. Otherwise, Freemasonry will seem shallow and even wrong. Let me be a bit autobiographical. When I was a young Mason, I used to listen to what was called 'Masonic Education'.

You know the sort of thing: awkward demonstrations of the wrong way to give the signs; boring lectures about Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth; grotesque sermons on the moral lessons to be drawn from the Setting Maul; rambling travelogues on the great Pyramids of Egypt; mystical ravings based on the Pythagorean Theorem; shallow discussions of the meaning of the word 'Landmarks'; the story of the first twenty-five years of a lodge nobody ever heard of; the life of some guy from a century ago who never did anything worthwhile. None of this was very exciting, but it seemed to be what Masons did, and so I listened patiently. I belonged to the Craft for over fifteen years before anyone told me that someone had actually written a book on Masonry.

Let me curtail myself. All of the topics we have mentioned seem to me to be important. But no matter what happens in the future, the main functions of Freemasonry are still carried out in the lodge room. Let me remind you of the words spoken by V.W.B. Otto Klotz, when he addressed a Ladies' Night Program held by Alma Lodge #72 on December 1864:

"The object . . . of meeting in the lodge is of a twofold nature, namely to cultivate and enlighten the mind, to induce the habit of virtue, and to strengthen the fundamental principles of our Order: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. And if these meetings are blended with social mirth, and a mutual interchange of fraternal feelings, then Freemasonry will be shown in its true light, as an institution which fosters and improves the best affections of our na-

ture, and carries into active operation the practice of the four cardinal virtues . . ."

Has anyone said it better? When you attend your Lodge, don't ever forget why you are there. Moral instruction and social intercourse! But, in the final analysis, the duty, the responsibility of making these decisions, devolves upon you. I keep on coming back to the old poem by a non-Mason, Ella Wheeler Wilcox, that tells us exactly where the buck stops.

Do you wish the world were better?  
Let me tell you what to do.  
Set a watch upon your actions,  
Keep them always straight and true.  
Let your thoughts be clean and high.  
You can make a little Eden  
Of the sphere you occupy.

Do you wish the world were wiser?  
Well, suppose you make a start,  
By accumulating wisdom  
In the scrapbook of your heart.  
Do not waste one page on folly:  
Live to learn, and learn to live,  
If you want to give men knowledge,  
You must get it, ere you give.

Do you wish the world were happy?  
Then remember day by day  
Just to scatter seeds of kindness  
As you pass along the way.  
For the pleasure of the many  
May oftentimes be traced to one.  
As the hand that plants the acorn  
Shelters armies from the sun.

Goodness, wisdom, happiness. It's up to you. Think about it.'

## Membership fees payable soon

You will soon receive your notice of payment due of your annual membership fee. Our annual membership fee remains at \$100.00 and is payable to *Niles McKinley Lodge #794* by our Annual Stated Meeting—**Monday, November 7, 2016**. This should give you ample time to save up and make your payment. If you have to make your payment through monthly installments until then,

I'll assume that that is fine also. A little more paperwork for the Secretary, but hopefully no problem.

If you are unable to remit your payment at this time, please, please notify our Secretary so the problem can be addressed by your Lodge Brethren. We don't want you to suspend yourself as a member of Niles McKinley Lodge so please let us know as soon as possible.

I would like to encourage you, if you are able and so inclined, to feel free to donate to either our Lodge's General Fund or our Benevolent Fund, the Ohio Masonic Home Endowment Fund, the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation or the Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund. You can include these extra donations with your membership fee **noting in the memo section of your check** exactly what your donation is to be used for. Your extra contributions are greatly appreciated.

### District Outdoor Raising

The 25th Masonic District Blue Lodge Association is sponsoring its annual Outdoor Raising **Saturday, September 10, 2016**. The degree will be conferred at Cortland Lodge's outdoor lodge facilities at 3263 Everett Hull Rd., Cortland. The Master Mason degree begins at **9:00 A.M.** You'll experience some of the best ritual work possible while enjoying a beautiful sun-filled morning.

Breakfast, prepared by Cortland Lodge, will available from **8:00 A.M.** until lodge opens for those in need of nourishment and a good cup of coffee. There's a small cost incurred for breakfast.

A number of Brethren have, in years past, camped out the Friday night before in tents and RVs. I would imagine if someone showed up and wanted to camp out in Cortland's side yard one might be able to come out a day early and enjoy some extra fellowship! Plan now to attend.

### District remains busy

The 25th Masonic District Blue Lodge Association continues its busy month **Friday, September 30, 2016, 7:30 P.M.** with their Election of Officers and Awards Night presentations at Old Erie Lodge #3 in Warren. All

Brothers are encouraged to attend,

### Back to School = Back to Work! (*Job's Daughters*)

First it was great to see so many of our lodge family at the Temple Picnic. I hope if you played any of the games, that you had a good time, it was our pleasure to share in the fun and to have some Jobie 2 Bee's there!!

As the Summer comes to an end we prepare ourselves for the work of our Bethel term. **September 9th and 10th** our Bethel will be attending our Statewide Initiation in Canton Ohio. This will also be the Supreme Officers visit, so we are looking forward to some quality time with the Miss International Job's Daughter, Supreme Bethel Honored Queen, Supreme Guardian and Supreme Associate Guardian. Their visit will include a trip to the Canton Football Hall of Fame as well as some other Akron / Canton highlights.

Our Bethel meetings for **September** are on the **11th** (obligation and council Installation) and **25th** (Jobie 2 Bees meeting also) at 3:00 p.m. Daughters are asked to arrive at 2:30 for set up. All Masonic members are invited to attend our meetings, so we hope to see you sometime!

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!! Recently the rules to join Job's Daughters have been altered to allow non-Masonic related girls to join, with a Mason's sponsorship. We would love the opportunity to introduce Job's Daughters to all girls within the ages of 10 and 20, so please feel free to share this information with your family and friends. Contact Jenn Miligi, Bethel Guardian at (330) 506-0531 for more information, or visit our web site at [www.nilesbethel35.org](http://www.nilesbethel35.org).

**Our mind is capable of passing beyond the dividing line we have drawn for it. Beyond the pairs of opposites of which the world consists, other, new insights begin.**

**- Hermann Hesse**



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

Attention, calling all Brethren, such as Brothers Jim Bates, William Bidwell, Jason Bork, Mark Boyts, Dave Clouser, Dave Collins, Brian Ellis, William Finney, Al Giest, Richard Latimer, Bob Malone, Greg Mohn, Bob Rhinehart, Dave W Rich, Ken Riley, Dave Ruggiero, Lee Russ, Fred Smith Jr, Fred Smith III, Joe Scarnecchia, and WB's Harry Weiss, and Dick Bork and all the rest of the Brothers who have not been to Lodge in a while. We need you to attend Lodge on **Monday, October 3, 2016!!** We are putting on the *Rusty Nail Degree* and it sure would be nice to see all you Brethren there. I know from talking to some of you that you would like to come to lodge but just don't. **October 3, 7:30 P.M.** is the time! The Liberty Masonic Complex lodge room is the place! If you only come to one meeting this year this is it. The Rusty Nail Degree is a program designed to welcome Brethren who have been away from Lodge for awhile back into degrees. It is very interesting as well as instructional and only lasts for about a half an hour. Won't you please take too me and make a concerted effort to attend your Lodge this night.

### **September Trestleboard**

<b>Sept 1, 8, 15, 22, 29—</b> Community Meals Program, 4—6:00 P.M. Everyone's help is really needed! Come join in the fun of giving.	ley Heights, 8:30 AM. <b>Sept 19—</b> Luncheon, 6:30 P.M.; Stated Meeting, 7:30 PM. <b>Sept 30—</b> 25th Masonic District Blue Lodge Assoc. Meeting, 7:30 P.M. ( <i>See story</i> )
<b>Sept 10—</b> 25th Masonic District's Outdoor Raising, 9:00 A.M. ( <i>See story</i> )	<b>Oct 3—</b> Luncheon, 6:30 P.M.; Stated Meeting, 7:30 PM. <b>Rusty Nail Degree</b> ( <i>See U.T.M.H. article</i> )
<b>Sept 13—</b> Lodge's Breakfast Club at Scenna's Restaurant in McKin-	<b>Oct 14—15—</b> Grand Lodge

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