



**Message From The East**



My brethren, I believe I can say it without worry—summer has arrived! After a winter and rain that seemed like each would never end, we rang in summer in our usual grand fashion, with our marching in the University Heights Memorial Day Parade followed by a Picnic at Rt. Wor. Bro. Hugh Harris’

residence (although we really know it was Christine who gave permission). I’d like to give thanks again to Hugh and Christine for, once again, allowing us to have a great time in their backyard.

We now have a new Mason of the Year for 2011, Bro. Dick Burk. Some of you may not know him, but his work behind the scenes managing the finances of the lodge is critical to our operations, and is the base from which we support the numerous events and activities that we present each year. Some do not see Bro. Burk often, but his contribution to our lodge is outstanding. Congratulations to Bro. Dick Burk on this well-deserved honor.

Also as summer begins, we enter the season of traveling and vacations. If you are lucky enough to be going on a vacation this year, I suggest you keep an eye out for signs of Masonry as you travel. Usually there is a story attached to each one, and you may learn something about Masonry you never knew before.

Many years ago, I had the privilege of visiting the battleground of Gettysburg and one of the monuments in particular—the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial. Dedicated in 1993, it relates the story of a Confederate officer who was assisted after being mortally wounded by a Masonic brother, who was a Union soldier. These two men may have fought on different sides of the war, but they were brothers first and foremost, and were true to that bond to the end.

In that vein, I would like this monument and its story to serve as a reminder, especially in these politically turbulent times. The partisan political nature of the nation right now can put many people at odds, sometimes to the point of alienating friends and other close relations. However, among fellow Masons, we should remember what we have learned from the working tools. Of one in particular, we are told not to have any contention, except that noble contention, of who best can work, and best agree. And while we may still have disagreements between brethren, we should remember that core ideal—we are on the same level, and should always remember to treat each other in a fair and decent manner.

I wish you all a safe and healthy summer, and look forward to seeing you at the lodge picnic at Pioneer Waterland on July 10<sup>th</sup>!

Fraternally,  
Matthew E. Newberry  
Worshipful Master

**Pioneer Waterland  
and  
Dry Fun Park  
July 10, 2011  
11:00 AM to Closing**



**Games – Rides – Pool – Slides**

**Picnic dinner  
(hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken)  
served 4:00 to 6:30 PM**

**Rays from  
University Heights Lodge**



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**Bro. Richard Burk is the 2011 Mason of the Year**



The 27th Annual Ill. & Rt. Wor. Bro. Joseph H. Silbert Mason of the Year award was presented on Thursday, May 27, 2011 to a very surprised Bro. Richard Burk.

Wor. Bro. Matthew Newberry greeted the brethren of University Heights Lodge and guests to begin an evening of entertainment and celebration. Colors were presented followed by a stirring "Ode to the Flag", recited by Wor. Bro. Marc Reiff.

Oh behalf of the Charity Committee, Wor. Bro. Keevin Berman was called upon to announce the local organizations who will receive charitable contributions from our lodge this year.

Wor. Bro. Newberry then turned over the festivities to the chairman of the evening, Wor. Bro. Dennis Linden, who then introduced 'Treble Makers' and 'Kaleidoscope', a women's singing quartet from Solon High School. Each group's four-part harmony barbershop style filled the lodge room with wonderful songs from the past and present.

Following the entertainment, Wor. Bro. Linden honored the past recipients of the Mason of the Year award by roll call with those in attendance coming forward to be recognized.

It was then time to announce the 2011 Mason of the Year. Wor. Bro. Linden did a great job of building suspense before surprising Bro. Burk as the 2011 recipient in the presence of his wife, Pat, and their three children and one grandson, who traveled from Georgia, Tennessee, and Illinois to share in the joy of the honor. First watching from the wings, they entered the room and joined their parents in the east for the intimate presentation by Wor. Bro. Linden, who wrote it with secret help from Bro. Burk's family.

Bro. Burk, a sixty year-Mason who is eighty-one years young, exemplifies the ideals and spirit that makes a man a Mason. He has served as the lodge's financial advisor since becoming a member. Adding further meaning to the honor is that his father-in-law was Rt. Wor. & Ill. Bro. Joseph H. Silbert, who was the founding force behind University Heights Lodge, and for whom the award is named.

The award presentation was followed by a dessert reception and the opportunity for everyone to congratulate a surprised and grateful Bro. Burk.

Gerald Kozack

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## **Memorial Day 2011**

Last year, when I joined the University Heights Lodge, I realized our lodge has many traditions. One being that the members of our lodge gather as a group and march in the University Heights Memorial Day parade. But not just march in any spot in the parade; we have the honor of being the very first group behind the color guard. WE LEAD THE PARADE!

What a wonderful sunny, warm day. You could not ask for better weather for a parade. Our day began as we arrived at the John Carroll University parking lot. Once at the starting point, we gathered to get organized, including putting on our Masonic Aprons. But it was when we began to unfurl a huge magnificent United States Flag that we started to get the patriotic willies! You could almost hear Wor. Bro. Marc Reiff 's Ode to the Flag reverberate in the Street.

It took 18 members and guests to carry the flag, which filled the street from curb to curb. Our mile and a half walk was a lot of fun. We bonded with the residents of University Heights; of course our two cars of members tossing the crowd candy didn't hurt. The highlight of the march included a couple of well orchestrated "360's" with the Flag in the intersections of the main streets where we were cheered for our efforts.

Everyone who was there participated, including spouses and children. We had a total of 22 members and 8 guests. In addition to the 18 carrying the flag, 2 carried the banner, 1 walker with a white dog in a stroller, a bike rider, a bunch riding in two cars throwing out candy, and a couple cheering us on! Everyone who was there participated.

The day continued when 89 members and guests retired to the home of Rt. Wor. Bro. Hugh Harris and Christine for a traditional picnic. Hamburgers, hot dogs and grilled chicken disappeared as soon they came off the grills. A wide variety of side dishes and desserts were provided by the attendees.

Thanks to all who helped make this day a special one. We started the day remembering all of those men and women who died for our country. We ended it bonding with our Brethren and their families, celebrating this wonderful day and the beginning of the Summer Season.

Joe Huber

**Do we have your email address?  
Update yours at [www.uhlodge.org](http://www.uhlodge.org)**

## **Book Review - Freemasonry An Introduction**

By: Mark E. Koltko-Rivera, Ph.D.

A marvelous book of less than 200 pages that leads through history to becoming a Freemason, *Freemasonry An Introduction* explains what Freemasonry is, why men join, how it works, and the symbolism behind the ritual. The book explains that Freemasonry is NOT a religion, a path to power or status, or a conspiracy. But it IS a fraternity that uses ceremonies of initiation to teach symbolic lessons about morality, character, and philosophy. The author notes that men join the fraternity to develop the self and go beyond selfish concerns through service and ritual.

Freemasonry fills a need for men who seek a path to self-development. The book teaches how a lodge works, what lies behind the symbolism, and where Masonry began. We learn what place the women have, where Prince Hall Masonry fits in and about people like Albert Pike and Taxil. The author discusses the movies made about Freemasonry and what is true and what is not. He even discusses how to become a Freemason.

I found this book to be a fountain of information. It is brief but concise. This is a great book for a potential member or a Brother who just wants some basic understanding of the fraternity. The book is an easy read and I highly recommend it.

Alan L. Wittenberg, PM

## **A Few Thoughts on Email**

The Lodge is now using mass email to communicate with our brethren. Since email security is something we should all be concerned with, here are a few ways to be sure that the email you receive is really from the lodge and that clicking on a link is as safe as we can make it.

Currently, we use email for monthly and mid-month "mailings", notice of services for a deceased brother, membership and officer meetings, and notices from the Secretary. Whenever feasible, the words "University Heights Lodge" will appear in the Subject Line and the message will be personally addressed. In the case of funeral notices, the name of the deceased brother will appear in the subject line. Links found in our emails will only take you to the lodge website and flyers about upcoming events.

If you receive an email you are not sure about, it is probably spam and you shouldn't click on any links included. If you receive such an email, please report it to me at [alana@webndata.com](mailto:alana@webndata.com).

Alan B. Arons, PM

## **Hiram Hears**

BRO. MARTY MITTLEMAM reported he arrived back from Florida just in time for the blood bank... BRO. DAVID RESNIK and Carol enjoyed a Passover family reunion with their children, who traveled home from California, Maryland and Virginia...BRO. MARK ALLIANCE and Barbara became grandparents for the second time when Chloe was born to their son who lives in Stow, Ohio. Proud uncle is BRO. DANIEL ALLIANCE...Matthew Stovsky, son of BRO. MICHAEL STOVSKY and Jill, nephew of BROS. RICHARD STOVSKY (Betsy) and MARK STOVSKY (Shannon), and grandson of BRO. BOB STOVSKY, was a top award winner at a recent area-wide Holocaust remembrance student art and poetry contest...BRO. HARRY ZEID and Florence celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary...Turning ninety years young was BRO. ELVIN SHULTZ, father of Marcia (WOR. BRO. ALAN ARONS) and grandfather of BROS. DAVID and JOSHUA ARONS... 2012 wedding bells will ring for Jamie Newberry, daughter of WOR. BRO. ROGER NEWBERRY and Carla, sister of WOR. BRO. MATT NEWBERRY and soon to be sister in-law Diane, and granddaughter of WOR. BRO. ALAN SILVER and Rhoda...Marci Greenberg, daughter of BRO. ART GREENBERG and Debby, sister of BRO. STEVE GREENBERG, and niece of WOR. BRO. MARC REIFF and Joan, was married to Will Cox on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Following an Italy honeymoon, the newlyweds made their home in Phoenix, AZ...Becoming a Bat Mitzvah was Skylar Wittenberg, daughter of BRO. MARC WITTENBERG and Lori, granddaughter of Joan Wittenberg (late WOR. BRO. STUART WITTENBERG), niece of BRO. DAN WITTENBERG and Tracey, and niece of WOR. BRO. ALAN WITTENBERG and Margo... BRO. JAMES FLAIZ and Laura had a baby boy, Daniel Paul, who is the great grandson of BRO. ELVIN SHULTZ, grandson of WOR. BRO. ALAN ARONS and Marcia, and nephew to BROS. JOSHUA and DAVID ARONS...Indeed, University Heights Lodge is a family affair!...BRO. IRA SCHOBEL reported that he has recovered and has been sent home from Menorah Park's rehabilitation unit...BRO. GIL ARIAN was also seen in the rehabilitation unit...BRO. HARVEY CHODOCK had a kidney transplant over the winter and is doing well. "Sure beats dialysis," he reported...Susan Friedman, wife of WOR. BRO. DAN FRIEDMAN, underwent surgery in April and is recovering nicely...BRO. MATT HARRIS underwent surgery on his neck...WOR. BRO. ALAN SILVER had knee replacement surgery in April. He was home for all of four days when he fell and fractured his hip and wrist. He is back to rehabilitation at

Menorah Park...BRO. ROBERT SCHWEID spent a few days at Hillcrest Hospital to recover from pneumonia...Ruthe Linden (late BRO. HAROLD LINDEN) also spent time at Hillcrest Hospital...Jill Strauss, wife of RT. WOR. & ILL. BRO. EDWIN STRAUSS, JR, spent some time at the Montefiore Home after surgery...Betty Lev, wife of WOR. BRO. ALEX LEV, mother of WOR. BRO. HOWARD LEV (Barbara) and grandmother of BRO. MATTHEW LEV, spent a night at Hillcrest Hospital in early spring...WOR. BRO. ALEX LEV had successful surgery, as did Helen Weisler, wife of BRO. ED WEISLER, who is recovering well. Hiram was thrilled to see them both at Mason of the Year...and to see BRO. NORM ENGEL and Estelle, who had fallen, at the Memorial Day picnic...Wendy Shugarman, wife of BRO. BRUCE DeBERRY, lost her mother...Condolences to Natalie and WOR. BRO. KEN VINOCUR, who lost his aunt ...and to BRO. MELVYN DIAMOND (Helene) on the loss of his mother... Hiram can only tell what he hears and wants to hear it all ... Anyone with news for Hiram can mail it to the lodge, or email it to [hiram@uhlodge.org](mailto:hiram@uhlodge.org), or tell him in person when you see him.

## **Lodge Opens September, 1, 2011**

### **Blood Bank A Success**

There were several new wrinkles when the Red Cross Blood Bank made its annual visit to University Heights Lodge. For the first time, this event was held on a Thursday, before a regular meeting. There was new energy in the room, as new committee members came in waves during the afternoon to help out wherever they were needed. All the changes seemed to help, as we had a near-record number of donors stop by enabling us to exceed our goal for successful donations.

A total of 14 volunteers helped out during the day, including one young man who met Chairman Bro. Les Levine when he was putting up one of the advertising posters the Red Cross provided. He may well become a candidate for membership when he is eligible in about three years.

Everyone who attended, including the Red Cross staff members and several brethren who arrived for the meeting, enjoyed several varieties of pizza courtesy of our lodge. The committee is already building on this year's success to make our next blood bank event even more successful.

Les Levine