



PROCTORVILLE LODGE #550
P.O. Box 483
Proctorville, OH 45669

NON-PROFIT
U.S. Postage
PAID
South Point, OH
Permit No. 4

Proctorville Lodge #550 F&AM



VOLUME 2 - JULY 2023



INTRODUCTION: by David Perry, Worshipful Master



Welcome all Brothers to the second edition of the Lamp Post. I want to thank the Brothers who have worked tirelessly on this endeavor.

What exciting times at Proctorville #550 we are having. I don't know about you, Brothers, but I am proud of the direction of our Lodge.

There are many things coming up such as the Wild Boar, Table Lodge and our annual Apple Butter Project. As you see, there are many new faces around the Lodge now. We are growing by leaps and bounds, not just in quantity but also in quality. I feel very confident that our Lodge will be in good hands for years to come.

THE SECRETARY REPORTS: by James Mann, PDDGM, & Secretary



From The Cave:

Here are some numbers from and about your Proctorville Lodge #550:

The largest membership in our lodge was 397, in 1998. We have never topped 400 Master Masons. Our current number of Master Masons is 270 active Masons, an increase of 5 since the 2022 annual return.

We currently have seven active Entered Apprentices, and four Fellow Crafts, all with one year or less since their election to those degrees.

We have thirty-two fifty year and five sixty year Master Masons. Also on our membership rolls are 37 lifetime endowed members.

Another sign of progress is the fact that in 2023 we currently have zero Past Masters in our progressive officer line, a positive sign of growth going forward.

Enough of the numbers! I hope you find the above statistics informative, if you have any questions about our membership, please contact me at 304/633-7781, or by email @ jhowellmann@gmail.com and I will try to answer them as quickly as I can.

<http://www.proctorville.net>

Lodge Email: jhowellmann@gmail.com

Proctorville Lodge #550, P.O. Box 483 Proctorville, OH 45669

Find us on Facebook: Proctorville Ohio Lodge #550 F&AM

And Proctorville's Masonic Scuttlebutt



LODGE INSPECTION (Proctorville Lodge #550)

Grand Lodge of Ohio

June 10

Meet the Officers, Candidate, and magnificent 12th Masonic District Officers of Proctorville Lodge No. 550. This image was taken during the Fellow Craft Inspection in March, which included a wonderful breakfast, great attendance, and excellent work by all involved. (As posted by the Grand Lodge on Twitter)



Front Row (L-R) Arlan Elkins LEO; Kenny Ater, JS; David Adkins, SD; John Anson, SW; David Perry, WM; Raymond Newbie, Fellow Craft Candidate; Jamie Akers, JW; Nathan White, JD; Jim Mann, Treasurer; Bill Wood, Tyler; RWB John Dixon, District Officer; RWB John Epple, DEO; Back Row (L-R) Larry Thompson, Treasurer; Tyler Perry, Assistant Secretary & District Officer; Glenn Galloway, SS; RWB Steven Wallace, District Officer; RWB Guy Bing, District Officer



(L-R) RWB Steven Wallace, RWB John Dixon, WB David Perry, RWB Guy Bing, & John Epple, DEO



(L-R) Glenn Galloway, David Adkins, David Perry, Raymond Newbie, Nathan White & Larry Thompson

"Freemasonry has no dogma or theology. It offers no sacraments. It teaches that it is important for every man to have a religion of his own choice and to be faithful to it in thought and action. As a result, men of different religions meet in fellowship and brotherhood under the fatherhood of God. I think that a good Mason is made even more faithful to the tenets of his faith by his membership in the Lodge."

By Brother Norman Vincent Peale, theologian.

LODGE AWARDS NIGHT by WB Larry Thompson



Proctorville, OH – On April 15, 2023, Proctorville 550 F&M held its first Awards Night since the expiration of the Covid-19 restrictions and the first following the increased awards categories and criteria adopted in 2020. The event was well-attended with over 70 Brothers and family members present.

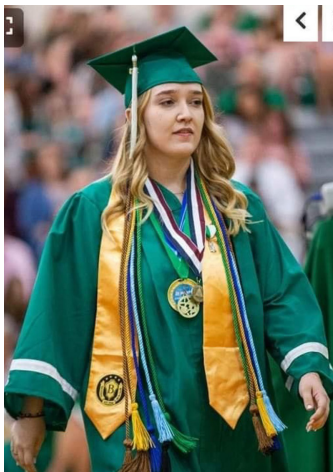
Brothers raised in the last 10 years were mailed invitations to attend and receive a certificate attesting to their Masonic journey and 12 Brothers attended.

Miss Chloe Adkins, granddaughter of Brother Perry Adkins, received the \$750 scholarship award. She will attend Marshall University in the fall and will pursue a study of pharmaceuticals.

The late Brother Rick Jones had been elected Member of the Year for the calendar year 2021. Receiving the award on behalf of Brother Jones was WM David Perry. The awarded plaque will be displayed at the #550 Lodge hall.

Brother Bill Dingus received the 2021 Citizen Service award and he followed with some well-received comments of Masonry and Proctorville Lodge. Brother Dingus is director of the Lawrence County Economic Development Authority and has been instrumental in bringing such growth to the county.

Brothers earning service awards from 25 to 50 years and who had not been honored during the Covid years were duly recognized. A 70-year award had been earned by Brother Paul Thomas who could not attend due to health reasons. Receiving the award on his behalf was his brother-in-law, PDDGM Dale Burcham who hand-carried and presented the award to Brother Thomas at his residence. The event was judged by all to have been most successful and plans are already being made for next year's event.



Ms. Chloe Adkins



Bro. Rick Jones



Dr. William (Bill) Dingus



Bro. Paul Thomas



Arlan Elkins, LEO, hosting the evening's ceremonies



RWB Dale Burcham presenting the 70 Year Membership Award to Paul Thomas



David Perry thanking Ms. Akers for her service to the Lodge



??



?? "The Apple Butter Gang"



Dr. Bill Dingus accepting his award for The Citizens' Service Award



David Perry, WM, opening the Awards Night ceremony



Master Masons receiving their membership certificates



Dr. Bill Dingus and Mike Riley honored for their 50 years of membership



COMMUNITY OUTREACH: By; W. Bro. Tyler M. Perry, DEO, Chaplin



We are pleased to report that Proctorville Masonic Lodge #550 has increased our community outreach. Namely, we have accomplished this with the sponsorship of youth sports. Several months ago, the members of Proctorville Lodge voted to sponsor Little League Baseball for both Fairland and Chesapeake School Districts. In years past, the lodge has purchased a sponsorship banner for the Fairland Little League. However, this year, the lodge sponsored an entire team and sponsorship banners for each of the little league fields in both school districts.

You may ask, why would we want to sponsor youth sports which have no direct ties to the lodge? I believe the answer is very simple and meaningful. We are trying to strengthen our community bonds.

The benefits of doing this very simple sponsorship include:

Community Pride and Engagement: When local organizations support youth sports, they demonstrate a commitment to the well-being of their community. This investment not only fosters a sense of pride and unity among residents but also encourages increased community engagement and collaboration.

Economic Impact: Youth sport sponsorship can have a positive economic impact on local communities by creating jobs and generating revenue through events, tournaments, and facility use. This financial boost can help improve local infrastructure and contribute to the overall economic growth of the area.

Social Responsibility: For organizations, youth sport sponsorship presents an opportunity to demonstrate social responsibility and ethical practices. By investing in the well-being of young athletes and their communities, an organization can enhance their reputation and earn the respect and loyalty of the public.

Awareness and Visibility: Sponsoring youth sports allows organizations to increase their visibility and awareness among a diverse audience of the community, parents, coaches, and community members. This increased exposure can lead to new membership enquiries and help establish a positive image.

I was able to see this firsthand through our sponsorship of Fairland Little League in particular. This year, I was asked to help coach one of the 8U little league teams that my oldest son Josiah was playing on. So, of course, I had to ask if our team could be the one that was sponsored by the lodge and the little league association gladly

accepted. For the opening day of the season, the lodge purchased pizzas for the entire Fairland Little League. Additionally, at the end of the season after the lodge's team completed their last game, the entire team and their families came to the lodge where we provided them dinner and took the kids and their parents on tours of the lodge. This was a great evening with the kids and their families at the lodge.

Simply put, youth sport sponsorship is an essential investment that benefits not only young athletes but also the entire community. And this investment I am proud to say we accomplished, and I hope this will continue in the future.



"If you have anything really valuable to contribute to the world, it will come through the expression of your own personality, that single spark of divinity that sets you off and makes you different from every other living creature."

TABLE LODGE

The Proctorville Lodge conducted its scheduled Table Lodge on June 24th at 6:00pm under the leadership of Wilson Shoemaker, RWB, who served as the host for the evening. The Table Lodge is a Lodge of Entered Apprentices to enable the Entered Apprentices and Fellow Craft to benefit by table instruction and to enjoy Masonic fellowship early in his Masonic life. There was a fine dinner served and exchange of motivational ceremony, lodge ritual, formalities and terminology, not to forget to mention great fellowship among all Brothers.



RWB Wilson Shoemaker
hosting our event



AROUND THE LODGE



Hallway entrance to Masonic & Scottish Rite Temple, Valley of Cincinnati



Mike Riley (front left) accepting his 50 year Scottish Rite membership award, VOC



DEO Tyler Perry installed as officer in the VOC Scottish Rite



COMING SOON!

WILD BOAR DEGREE



Saturday, August 5th 2023
8:00 a.m. to 12 Noon Lunch
PROCTORVILLE #550 F&AM
Cornor of Front and Grant Street
Proctorville, Ohio 45669

SEE YOU THERE!

COMING SOON!



Eat & Shoot: Starting back in September.
Will be meeting at Bare Arms. (Gun safety is #1)
For more information contact Mike Riley



Brown Bag Company: Ongoing. With Brothers
& guests. Social time at the lodge and elsewhere.



Billiards (8 Ball) Tournament
Members only, starting in September



Apple Butter Season
(bring your gloves!)
Starting this September.
Contact David Perry

We wish to thank the Brothers of our Lodge for their confidence in our newsletter
and hope that it serves as an instrument of continued success!

Proctorville #550 F&AM is alive and well!