



The Foundation Light

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Lakewood Masons Meet Around the Table

Clifton Lodge (now Clifton-Gaston Allen Lodge) #664 began its tradition of holding an annual Table Lodge in 1980 during Brother Bob Niebaum's first term as Worshipful Master.

His logic was as much practical as fraternal. In prior years it seemed that, more often than not, the Lodge conferred Master Mason Degrees in June when, depending on the weather, the Lodge Room could be uncomfortably warm. In consultation with fellow officers and members, it seemed useful to schedule a Table Lodge for the last meeting in June, to be held in the Banquet Room in which, being partially below grade, June temperatures were usually very tolerable. A late June date was also particularly appropriate since it fell close to the annual St. John the Baptist feast day on June 24. The Table Lodge experience was also a good way to end the Lodge's Spring season in a less formal and highly congenial manner before summer break.

The Brethren enjoyed the new fraternal experience, and subsequent Worshipful Masters continued the new tradition which is now in its fifth decade, missing only one year during the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

Many years later, Bro. Niebaum, during an informal conversation following a Super Excellent Master Degree at Chagrin Falls, was made aware of a Table Chapter ritual; and in September 2015, during his first term as High Priest, conducted Cunningham Chapter's first Table Chapter. Again the logic was both fraternal and practical, scheduling the Table Chapter for September as a congenial way of resuming labor for the Fall season.

Also in September 2015, following the same logic, during his first term as Master of Lakewood Council R&SM, Bro. Niebaum began the annual tradition of holding a Table Council.

While the Table Lodge, Table Chapter and Table Council rituals are unique to their respective organizations, they share a common format consisting of a meal, opening and closing ceremonies, an educational speaker, a series of toasts and a collection for charity.

This year members and guests of Lakewood are invited to attend a special open Table Council per the invitation below. Will you be there?

Lakewood Council #125 R&SM

Presents

Annual Table Council (Open to Invited Guests)

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

6:30p Dinner — 7:15p Program

Speaker

Elizabeth Johnson

Director of Development

Camp Ho Mita Koda

Dinner will be Chicken Marsala with mashed potatoes, Au Gratin potatoes, penne pasta with marinara, Spinach Salad and dessert.

Cost of the meal will be \$20/person. The event will support Camp Ho Mita Koda's emergency generator fundraising effort.

Please RSVP to IC Jonathan Hupp, (440) 452-8564
by Monday September 1.

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New Ways to Donate to our Foundation

Nearly every Mason and Eastern Star who has been a member of our Lakewood Masonic Family has fond memories of his/her experiences. These memories are all the more vivid because of our beautiful Lakewood Masonic Temple, specially designed as a home uniquely capable of supporting our fraternal activities. Many of our members have gone the extra mile by making contributions above and beyond their annual dues. Amazon has ended its Amazon Smile program, but there are still several other new ways to donate to our Foundation.



Facebook users may donate through our Facebook page. Facebook does not charge a fee to our Lakewood Masonic Foundation or other not-for-profit organizations.



Starting in 2023, holders of traditional (not Roth) IRAs must begin taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) in the year they turn age 73. Distributions made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our Lakewood Masonic Foundation can count toward your required minimum distribution, subject to a collective limit of \$100,000 per year. Such distributions do not incur either federal income or estate taxes but also do not count as itemized deductions for tax purposes.



Donations can be made after death by naming The Lakewood Masonic Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, life insurance policy, IRA, TOD (Transfer on Death) account or the like, either as a fixed amount or a percentage. A will can be amended by codicils without having to be rewritten in its entirety. In matters such as these, you are best advised to discuss your intentions with an attorney and/or tax accountant.



Gifts may be in the form of cash, securities or property. Gifts of appreciated securities and/or charitable gift annuities can be especially beneficial to the donor. In matters such as these, you are best advised to discuss your intentions with an attorney and/or tax accountant.

Some employers have payroll deduction plans and/or matching gift programs for charitable giving. Check yours.

Gifts and bequests to our Lakewood Masonic Foundation (but not our Lakewood Masonic Temple Endowment Fund or our Lakewood Masonic Temple Company Operating Fund) are deductible for federal estate and income taxes to the extent permitted by law. As always, we encourage you to consult your legal and financial advisors for assistance in determining in what form and in what amount you should make any major gift or bequest.

[Note: Amazon has ended its AmazonSmile program. We are grateful to all who used this program to support our Foundation.]

The Foundation Light

published quarterly
by

The Lakewood Masonic Foundation
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Vacant
At-Large



Clifton-Gaston Allen Lodge #664 F. & A. M.

Stated Meeting Second Thursday 7:30 p.m. • Special Fourth Thursday • www.cliftonallen664fam.org

Master's Message

I hope you all had a refreshing and enjoyable summer.

As we return from darkness, resuming our work in the usual manner, I would like to thank you all for the honor of again serving as Master of Clifton-Gaston Allen Lodge. I look forward to continued participation in the coming years!

Upcoming Dates at Clifton-Gaston Allen Lodge:

Thu Sept 11	7:30p	Stated Meeting – Business, Education
Thu Sept 25	7:30p	Special Meeting - Likely Degree Work
Thu Oct 9	7:30p	Stated Meeting – Business, Education, Possible Degree Work
Thu Oct 23	7:30p	Special Meeting - Likely Degree Work
Thu Nov 13	7:30p	Stated Meeting – Annual Meeting & Elections
Sat Nov 22	3:00p	Special Meeting – Installation of Officers

Upcoming Events in the 22nd Masonic District:

Fri-Sun Sept 12-14		Grand Master's Weekend – Canton MT
Mon Sept 29	7:00p	22nd District Lodge of Instruction (FC) Dinner 6:00p – Golden Gate Lodge
Wed Oct 29	7:00p	22nd District Lodge of Instruction (MM) Dinner 6:00p – John W. Barkley Lodge
Sat Nov 15		22nd District Past Masters Convocation – Lakewood Masonic Temple
Tue Nov 18	7:00p	22nd District Lodge of Instruction (MM) Dinner 6:00p – West Shore Lodge

If you have not been to Lodge in a while and would like to attend but have transportation challenges, please reach out to myself or our secretary and we will do our best to arrange a ride for you!



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Tyler

John D. Mahoney

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Edward W. Haupin, PM

Trustees

Jonathan R. Hupp, PM
Brian F. Peebles, PM
Robert D. Bruce Bey, PM

Be Legendary



Lakewood Lodge #601 F. & A. M.

Stated Meetings Second & Fourth Mondays 7:30 p.m. • www.lakewoodfreemasons.com

Christianization of Freemasonry

The interpretation of the symbols of Freemasonry from a Christian point of view is a theory adopted by some of the most distinguished Masonic writers of England and this country, but one which Brother Mackey believed does not belong to the ancient system. Hutchinson, and after him, Oliver—profoundly philosophical as are the Masonic speculations of both—have, Brother Mackey was constrained to believe, fallen into a great error in calling the Master Mason's Degree a Christian institution. It is true that it embraces within its scheme the great truths of Christianity upon the subject of the immortality of the soul and the resurrection of the body; but this was to be presumed, because Freemasonry is truth, and all truth must be identical. But the origin of each is different; their histories are dissimilar. The principles of Freemasonry preceded the advent of Christianity. Its symbols and its legends are derived from the Solomonic Temple and from the people even anterior to that. Its religion comes from the ancient priesthood; its faith was that primitive one of Noah and his immediate descendants. If Freemasonry were simply a Christian institution, the Jew and the Moslem, the Brahman and the Buddhist, could not conscientiously partake of its illumination. But its universality is its boast. In its language citizens of every nation may converse; at its altar men of all religions may kneel; to its creed disciples of every faith may subscribe.

Yet Brother Mackey thought, it cannot be denied, that since the advent of Christianity a Christian element has been almost imperceptibly infused into the Masonic system, at least among Christian Freemasons. This has become a necessity; for it is the tendency of every predominant religion to pervade with its influence all that surrounds it or is about it, whether religious, political, or social. This arises from a need of the human heart. To the man deeply imbued with the spirit of his religion, there is an almost unconscious desire to accommodate and adapt all the business and the amusements of life—the labors and the employments of his everyday existence—to the indwelling faith of his soul.

The Christian Freemason, therefore, while acknowledging and appreciating the great doctrines taught in Freemasonry, and also while grateful that these doctrines were preserved in the bosom of his ancient Order at a time when they were unknown to the multitudes of the surrounding nations, is still anxious to give to them a Christian character; to invest them, in some measure, with the peculiarities of his own creed, and to bring the interpretation of their symbolism more nearly home to his own religious sentiments.

The feeling is an instinctive one, belonging to the noblest aspirations of our human nature; and hence we find Christian Masonic writers indulging

(continued on page 10)

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Marshal
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Tyler
David Gresko, PM

Lodge Education Officer
Brian F. Peebles, PM

Be Legendary



Ann Rutledge Chapter #453 O. E. S.

Stated Meetings First & Third Wednesdays 1:30 p.m. • www.annrutledge453oes.org

Matron's Message

The members of Ann Rutledge Chapter have experienced a wonderful summer of fellowship. We gathered twice at area restaurants for Lunch Bunch, traveled to the Grand Chapter Charities Extravaganza, enjoyed the Conductress group's Cuyahoga River cruise, attended a play and enjoyed a Lake Erie Crushers game.

Going forward, we will celebrate the Chapter's birthday at our September Third meeting as well as members' birthdays. The highlight of the day will be honoring those who will receive service awards. Many of our members will travel to Ohio Grand Chapter from September 25th to 28th.

The Installation of the 2025-26 corps of officers will take place on November 5. Congratulations to our Worthy Matron-elect Cathy Vasko and our Worthy Patron-elect Robert Hubert, Jr.

Dates to Remember

- Sept 3 Stated Meeting – Chapter Birthday – Celebrate Members' Birthdays – Honor Service Awards Recipients
- Sept 5 Third District Association Installation – 7:30p – Berea Temple (Dinner 6:00p)
- Sept 7 Sisterhood of Martha Auxiliary – Rocky River Library – 2:00p-4:00p
- Sept 17 Stated Meeting
- Sept 20 Cleveland Dyslexia Center Walk – 9:00a – Western Reserve Masonic Community – Registration 8:30a
- Sept 25-28 Grand Chapter at Sharonville Convention Center
- Oct 1 Stated Meeting – Grand Chapter Report
- Oct 9 Cassidy Theater Play "Young Frankenstein" – 7:30p
- Oct 12 Meet the Deputy – Canton – 2:00p
- Oct 15 Stated Meeting – Celebrate Halloween – Farewell – Installation Rehearsal after meeting
- Oct 19 Meet the Deputy – Chagrin Falls – 2:00p
- Nov 1 Fall Educational Opportunities – Canton Masonic Center
- Nov 5 Stated Meeting – Open Installation following meeting
- Nov 19 Stated Meeting – Celebrate Thanksgiving

Auxiliary

Around the Town meets at noon for lunch. Come to our meeting and find out where we will go next.

THEME

Tend the Garden of Life with a Caring Heart

MOTTO

A Garden Grows with Love and Care

Please report sunshine, good or bad, to our Worthy Matron Elinor Bayse at 216.661.8391 or our Associate Conductress Karol Dalton.

Bloom Where God Plants You



Worthy Matron

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Karol Dalton, PM

Chaplain

Trudy Gollmer, PM

Marshal

Karen Watts

Adah

Shannon Beal, PM

Ruth

Jean Thorpe, PM

Esther

Norma Jean Crown, PM

Martha

Linda Bokan

Electa

Patricia Muntz, PM

Warder

Wanda E. King, PM

Sentinel

Barbara Kovalchik

Organist Pro Tem

Terry Selby, PM

Hostesses

Debbie Wykoff

Kathryn Collins



Cunningham Chapter #187 R. A. M.

Stated Convocation Third Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • www.cunningham187ram.org

High Priest of the Jews

The important office of High Priesthood was instituted by Moses after the completion of the directions for erecting the tabernacle, and was restricted to Aaron and his descendants, and was so confined until the time of the Asmonean dynasty, when it passed into the family of Judas Maccabaeus. The High Priest was at the head not only of ecclesiastical but of civil affairs, presiding in the Sanhedrim and judging the people. He superintended the Temple, directing the mode of worship, and preserving the building from profanation. He was inducted into his office by anointment, and sacrifices, and was invested with a peculiar dress. This dress, as the Rabbis describe it, consisted of eight parts, namely, the breastplate, the ephod, with its curious girdle, the robe of the ephod, the miter, the brodered coat, and the girdle. The materials of which these were composed were gold, blue, red, purple, and fine white linen. As these garments are to a certain extent represented in the vestment of a High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter, a brief description of them may be expedient:

The High Priest was first clothed in a pair of linen drawers. Over this was a coat or shirt of fine linen reaching to his feet, and with sleeves extending to his wrists. Over this was a robe of blue, called the *Coat of Ephod*. It was without sleeves, but consisted of two pieces, one before and one behind, having a large opening in the top of the passage of the head, and another on each side to admit the arms. It extended only to the middle of the legs, and its skirt was adorned with little golden bells and pomegranates. Above all these vestments was placed the ephod, which has already been described as a short garment coming down only to the breast before, but somewhat longer behind, without sleeves, and artificially wrought with gold, and blue, and purple, and scarlet, in embroidery of various figures. It was looped on the shoulders with two onyx stones, on each of which was inscribed the names of six of the tribes. On the front of the ephod he wore the breastplate; at solemn ministrations a miter of fine linen of a blue color. This was wrapped in several folds, and worn about his head in the manner of a Turkish turban, except that it was without a crown, being open on top, and sitting on his head like a garland. In front of it there hung down upon his forehead a square plate of gold, called the plate of the golden crown, upon which were inscribed the words *Holiness to the Lord*, which were engraved in the ancient Hebrew or Samaritan characters. The vestments of a High Priest of a Royal Arch Chapter are intended to represent—though the representation is imperfect—the gorgeous apparel of the Jewish Pontiff. They are a miter, breastplate, and a robe of four colors. To these the Masonic ritualists have ascribed a symbolic signification. The miter teaches the High Priest the dignity of his office; the breastplate, his responsibility to the laws and ordinances of the Institution, and that the honor and interest of the Chapter should always be near his heart; and the robe, the different graces and virtues which are symbolized by the various colors of which it is composed.

—From Mackey's *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, 1946.



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Master of the Third Veil
Thomas D. Standen, PHP

Master of the Second Veil
Christen A. Hoyer, PHP

Master of the First Veil
Philip R. Bade

Guard
John D. Mahoney

Chaplain
Damion E. Chatmon

Education Officer
Ronald J. Bokan, Jr., KYCH

Be a Beacon



Lakewood Council #125 R. & S. M.

Stated Assembly First Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • www.lakewood125rsm.org

Master's Message

It is hard to believe, but our summer break is rapidly coming to an end, and as such it is time for our annual Table Council meeting.

Our speaker will be Elizabeth Johnson from Camp Ho Mita Koda. Since Ms. Johnson is not a Mason this year's Table Council will be open, so feel free to invite significant others—friends, prospective Council members or any Mason to this event. Dinner will start at 6:30p. Cost will be \$20/person and will help raise funds for the Camp's generator fund. RSVP to me by Monday September 1.

Reminder, dues were due in June. If you have already paid, thank you. If not please remit them as soon as possible. It is also time to get petitions for new members in. Please speak to any Royal Arch Mason not already a member of Council about continuing their York Rite Masonic journey.

If you know of any Council member not receiving our emails, please have them email me (or our Recorder John Mahoney), so we can get them added to our list. One of my goals this year is to update our roster, particularly emails.

Debate

Debates in a Masonic Lodge must be conducted according to the fraternal principles of the Institution. Masonic debate or discussion should not become wrangling disputes nor quarrelsome contention. In the language of Doctor Oliver, "the strictest courtesy should be observed during a debate, in a Mason's Lodge, on questions which elicit a difference of opinion; and any gross violation of decorum and good order is sure to be met by an admonition from the chair." It must always be remembered that the object of Masonic discussion is to elicit truth, and not simply to secure victory. When, in a debate, a Brother desires to speak, he rises and addresses the chair. The presiding officer calls him by his name, and thus recognizes his right to the floor. While he is speaking, he is not to be interrupted by any other member, except on a point of order. If called to order by any member, the speaker is immediately to take his seat until the point is stated, when the Master will make his decision without debate. The speaker will then rise and resume his discourse, if not ruled out by the Master. During the time that he is speaking, no motion is permissible. Every member is permitted to speak once on the subject under discussion; nor can he speak a second time, except by permission of the Master, unless there is a more liberal provision in the by-laws of the Lodge. There are to this rule two exceptions, namely, when a member rises to explain, and when the mover of the resolution closes the debate by a second speech to which he is entitled by parliamentary law.

—From Mackey's *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, 1946.



Illustrious Master

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Marshal
Pro Tem

Sentinel
Pro Tem

Chaplain
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KYCH

Education Officer
Pro Tem

R U 1?



Holy Grail Commandery #70 K. T.

Stated Conclave First Thursday 7:30 p.m. • www.holygrail70kt.org

Commander's Message

Sir Knights:

Firstly, I would like to thank the Commandery for the confidence reposed in me to be given the honor to serve as Eminent Commander for the coming Templar year.

I am equally proud to be, for the third time in my Masonic career, following in the incredibly capable footsteps of SK Jonathan R. Hupp. He has always left an inspiring example of leadership and dedication which we can all aspire to emulate.

In recent years, we have resumed conferring all three Orders in Full Form. If you are interested in helping with small parts (guards etc), please reach out! We would also like to see Sir Knights on hand to congratulate and greet our new Companions and Knights.

Upcoming Conclaves at Holy Grail Commandery No. 70:

Thu Sept 4	7:30p	Stated Conclave – Order of the Red Cross Practice (Dinner 6:00p)
Thu Oct 6	7:30p	Stated Conclave – Order of the Red Cross (Dinner 6:00p)
Thu Nov 6	7:30p	Stated Conclave – Order of Malta Practice (Dinner 6:00p)
Thu Dec 4	7:30p	Stated Conclave – Order of Malta (Dinner 6:00p)

Events in the North Central Division:

Sat Sep 20	10:00a	CTA School of Instruction (Breakfast Fundraiser 8:00a) - Wadsworth MT
Thu-Fri Oct 9-10		183rd Regular Grand Commandery - Columbus
Sat Nov 16	5:30p	Grand Commander/Grand High Priest Reception - Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg



Eminent Commander

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Sword Bearer

Shannon M. Konold

Warder

Damion E. Chatmon

Sentinel

John D. Mahoney

Christ Gives Us Direction

Cleveland Assembly #15 S. O. O. B.

Stated Meeting First Thursday 7:30 p.m. • www.cleveland15soob.org

President's Message

My Dear Sisters:

How is it possible? Yesterday we were looking forward to summer, and now it is gone. I do hope that you each had a good summer. Thank you to Ellen Wadge for arranging the location for our annual summer picnic and for Summer for handling the children's games and for her husband handling the grill.

Now it is time to get back into the business of upcoming events listed below:

Sept 4 6:00p Dinner with Commandery- Sloppy Joes and side dishes
7:30p Stated Meeting - held in the dining hall
Please plan on attending we will be reading the petition of a new candidate

September Lunch Bunch date to be announced

Sept 21-17 Supreme Assembly held in Omaha, Nebraska. I will have The honor to attend as your Worthy President. Jane Bokan, Debbie Wykoff, Janice Freitag, Kim Burnett Kussman, PSWP and Karen Baughman are also planning on attending. Will we see you there?

Oct 2 6:00p Dinner with Commandery
7:30p Stated Meeting

October Lunch Bunch date to be announced

Nov 6 6:00p Dinner with Commandery
7:30p Stated Meeting

November Lunch Bunch date to be announced

Nov 22 2:00p Annual Inspection with Columbus held at Columbus - More information about the schedule for the day will be announced in the future. We may be installing a new member.

It has been both an exciting and busy year for our Assembly. Please reach out to your family as we truly need new members to keep this beautiful Assembly going. Looking forward to seeing all of you soon.



Worthy President

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Most Worthy Oracle

(Mrs. David) Kimberly Burnett
Kussman, PSWP

1st Vice President

(Mrs. Robert) Deborah Wykoff

2nd Vice President

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Assistant Marshal

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Chaplain

(Mrs. John) Janet Sutter, PP

Director of Music

(Mrs. Ralph) Pamela Sheetz

Standard Bearer

Pro Tem

Color Bearer

Pro Tem

Mistress of the Wardrobe

Pro Tem

Daughter of the Household

Pro Tem

Inner Guard

(Mrs. George) Ellen Wadge, PP

Outer Guard

Pro Tem

Christianization of Freemasonry

(continued from page 4)

in it to an almost unwarrantable excess, and, by the extent of their sectarian interpretations, materially affecting the cosmopolitan character of the Institution.

This tendency to Christianization has, in some instances, been so universal, and has prevailed for so long a period, that certain symbols and myths have been, in this way, so deeply and thoroughly imbued with the Christian element as to leave those who have not penetrated into the cause of this peculiarity, in doubt whether they should attribute to the symbol an ancient or a modern and Christian origin.

The foregoing is by Doctor Mackey and to it may be added that the Scottish Rite is essentially Christian, and that the intimate connection of the Hiram Legend with the history of Christ is a most interesting and suggestive study.

—From Mackey's *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, 1946.

Signet of Zerubbabel

This is used in the American instruction of the Royal Arch Degree. It refers to a passage of Haggai (ii, 23) where God has promised that he will make Zerubbabel His signet. It has the same symbolic meaning as is given to its synonym the *Signet of Truth*, because Zerubbabel, as the head of the second Temple, was the symbol of the searcher after truth. But something may be said of the incorrect form in which it is found in many Chapters. At least from the time when Cross presented an engraving of this signet in his *Hieroglyphic Chart*, and perhaps from a much earlier period, for he may possibly have only perpetuated the blunder, it has been represented in some Chapters by a triangular plate of metal. Now, an unattached plate of metal, in any shape whatsoever, is about as correct a representation of a signet as a walking-cane is of a piece of money.

The signet is and always has been a finger-ring, and so it should be represented in the ceremonies of the Chapter. What the peculiar device of this signet was—for every signet must have a device—we are unable to show, but we may suppose that it was the Tetragrammaton, perhaps in its well-known abbreviated form of a *yod within a triangle*. Whether this was so or not, such a device would be most appropriate to the symbolism of the Royal Arch teaching.

—From Mackey's *Revised Encyclopedia of Freemasonry*, 1946.

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The Foundation Board will be pleased to consider
business card and larger size advertisements.

For advertising rates, please contact:
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September

3 Wed 1:30p Ann Rutledge OES
3 Wed 6:30p Lakewood R&SM *Table Council*
4 Thur 7:30p Holy Grail KT
4 Thur 7:30p Cleveland Beauceant
8 Mon 7:30p Lakewood F&AM

10 Wed 7:00p LMTC Board of Trustees
11 Thur 7:30p Clifton-Allen F&AM
17 Wed 1:30p Ann Rutledge OES
17 Wed 6:30p Cunningham RAM *Table Chapter*
22 Mon 7:30p Lakewood F&AM
25 Thur 7:30p Clifton-Allen F&AM

October

1 Wed 1:30p Ann Rutledge OES
1 Wed 7:30p Lakewood R&SM
2 Thur 7:30p Holy Grail KT
2 Thur 7:30p Cleveland Beauceant
8 Wed 7:00p LMTC Board of Trustees
9 Thu 7:30p Clifton-Allen F&AM

13 Mon 7:30p Lakewood F&AM
15 Wed 1:30p Ann Rutledge OES
15 Wed 7:30p Cunningham RAM
22 Wed 7:00p LMF Board of Trustees
23 Thu 7:30p Clifton-Allen F&AM
27 Mon 7:30p Lakewood F&AM

November

5 Wed 1:30p Ann Rutledge OES *Installation*
5 Wed 7:30p Lakewood R&SM
6 Thu 7:30p Holy Grail KT
6 Thu 7:30p Cleveland Beauceant
10 Mon 7:30p Lakewood F&AM *Annual Meeting*
12 Wed 7:00p LMTC Board of Trustees

13 Thu 7:30p Clifton-Allen F&AM *Annual Meeting*
15 Sat 8:45a 22nd District *Past Masters Convocation*
19 Wed 1:30p Ann Rutledge OES
20 Wed 7:30p Cunningham RAM
22 Sat 3:00p Clifton-Allen F&AM *Installation*
24 Mon 7:30p Lakewood F&AM

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