



# The G. C. Builder

May 2011- Issue 3

## The Editor's Message

Greetings brothers! Grove City #689 has continued to stay busy during the first quarter of the new year. Grove City's annual inspection was held on March 7th in the Master Mason degree. The Master, officers and craft team put on an excellent degree. Grove City continues to have a steady group of interested candidates and has been busy performing degree work, including working two FellowCrafts at the old lodge room at the Grand Lodge in Worthington. The Temple Company and Craft Club have continued to upgrade the lodge building and enhance the ritual experience. In the last couple of months, the Craft Club purchased a new digital projector for lectures (which replaces the old Kodak projector which was noisy and difficult to use) and purchased new lanterns for the Craft team. The Temple Company purchased sound deadening panels in the dining room and had several rooms painted. The Temple Company is now looking into insulating the lodge room, upgrading the lighting and upgrading the water tank to supply more hot water for the dishwasher, particularly for Craft Club breakfasts which have been consistently serving well over 100 meals! As always you are encouraged to attend whenever available for any of the lodge events! Have an enjoyable summer!

**Secretary's Corner:** Over the past three years since the economic downturn of 2008, Grove City Lodge has remitted dues for approximately thirty members each year in order to avoid suspending members for non-payment of dues. In January, we were facing possible suspensions of 60 members. This number has been reduced to 15 but is still larger than we would like. The Lodge needs your help in that all members need to try to pay their dues. We are talking about 20 cents per day. If a member would just set aside 2 dimes each day, in 365 days he would have his \$70.00 dues. The Lodge tries to help those members who find themselves temporarily in financial difficulty and remit their dues. However, remitting dues over a long period of time for the same individual (and yes, there are circumstances that call for this and exceptions are and will be made) and remitting dues for large numbers of members places a huge financial obligation on the Lodge. So, please, when September rolls around and your dues notice is received pay it promptly and help us keep Grove City Lodge on sound financial footing.

The Lodge now has 61 Endowed Memberships which have been returning annually \$30.00 for the older \$600.00 endowments and \$40.00 for the newer \$800.00 endowments. Grand Lodge invests these endowment funds with Merrill-Lynch. With our dues at \$70.00, there is a shortfall of \$30-\$40 for each living endowed member. Many of our endowed members ask about the shortfall each year and make financial arrangements of one degree or another. This is NOT A REQUIREMENT on the endowed member's part. However, the Lodge greatly appreciates the dedication, loyalty and generosity expressed by our Endowed Members.

## Stay in touch

Lodge website- [grovecity689.com](http://grovecity689.com)

*If you would like to receive email updates from the lodge, please email our Secretary, Bro. Bill McNicol at [wmcnicol@ameritech.net](mailto:wmcnicol@ameritech.net)*

*If you are in need of lodge information or services from the lodge please email our Worshipful Master, David Sweeley-davidsweeley@att.net or call him (614)871-1432*

If you have any feedback or ideas for the newsletter, please contact E. Mikel Goldhardt, PM, editor is [large-biggoldy@aol.com](mailto:large-biggoldy@aol.com)

## The trestle-board

5/15- District Awards Presentation- 2pm@ New England lodge

5/21- "Freemasonry & the Civil War" Symposium- 9am@ Westgate lodge

5/26- 14th District Meeting- SouthGate Potter

6/4- Craft Club breakfast- 7:30am-10:30am-100% of proceeds donated to Special Olympics

6/12- Masonic Home Day@ Springfield Masonic Home

6/13- Past Master's Night@ Grove City lodge

6/17- Grove City picnic@ Battelle Darby Park (Shagbark Shelter) 5:00pm

6/24- Special Olympics Opening Ceremony

6/26- St. John's Day observance- St John's Lutheran Church 11:00am

8/7- 14th District Picnic@ Highbanks Metro Park- 1pm

9/5- Labor Day meeting- return from summer

<p><b>This months article</b></p> <p>In the Entered Apprentice Lecture we are taught to have Faith in God, Hope in immortality, and Charity for all mankind. The greatest of these is Charity; for Faith may be lost in sight; Hope ends in fruition; but Charity extends beyond the grave through the boundless realms of eternity.</p> <p>Over the course of the last couple of years, through both the Craft Clubs fundraising and membership contributions, Grove City has been very active in supporting several charities- both Masonic and non-Masonic. It is truly rewarding to be able to have an impact on those in need. Below you will find a description of charities the lodge has supported in the last two years.</p> <p>The lodge hosts a Red Cross blood drive on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at the lodge hall. The blood drive consistently surpasses the unit donation goal set forth by the Red Cross; in addition to providing the facility, the lodge provides volunteers to run both the clerical sign-in and canteen for the effort.</p> <p>During the Christmas holiday season, the lodge donates money to the Southwest Ministerial Association- a collaborative effort between multiple churches in the Grove City area who support needy families by putting together food deliveries. This past year, Grove City also gained knowledge of a family in need and "sponsored" purchasing gifts for seven kids in the household. Annually, Grove City purchases fruit baskets and delivers them to the widows of members of the lodge; whenever possible the deliverer interacts with the ladies offering them the lodges' support.</p> <p>Grove City has also been making an effort to support the community through its charitable donations. This year, Grove City sponsored a Grove City Parks and Recreation baseball team and the Southwest Stallions traveling baseball team. In addition, the lodge made a donation to GC Parks and Rec to help defer the signup cost for kids in need. For the first time this year, the lodge provided a scholarship for a high school senior at Central Crossing. Grove City also provided a donation to the school system which allowed the special needs students to visit the Columbus Zoo. Grove City also made a donation to assist a Franklin Heights student in raising funds to be an International Ambassador through the People to People Program.</p>	<p>(cont'd)</p> <p>Last year, after learning of the need, Grove City provided a donation to assist in the completion of an Eagle Scout project designed to help the community. The lodge also sponsored a trophy for the Grove City Historical Society's car show (the money raised will be used to maintain and further develop the historic village on Orders Road).</p> <p>Grove City continues to support several Masonic and Masonic affiliated charities. Grove City participates with the 14th District in the Chillicothe VA Hospital visits, in which snacks and games are provided for residents. Annually, donations are made to the Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation which provides assistance to those in need nationwide. The lodge also supports the 14th District Masonic Services Association which locates and provides medical equipment and supplies to those in need at no cost to the recipient (including non-masons). The Scottish Rite Learning Center is another charity which Grove City supports annually; the Learning Center provides world class teaching to students with Dyslexia, again at no cost to the students. Last year, through fund raising efforts, the lodge made a donation to the Cincinnati Shriners Hospital; this facility provides both physical and psychological treatment to children who have been burn victims (again at no out of pocket cost to the patients). The lodge is very passionate in its support of Special Olympics, the lodge annually holds fund raisers which directly sponsor athletes competing in the events. The upcoming breakfast on June 4th, from 7:30-10:30, will provide 100% of the profits to Special Olympics; if possible, plan on attending!</p> <p>In addition to the above charities, Grove City has also made donations to support the Eastern Star Cancer Walk-a-thon, Groveport DeMolay, Jobs Daughters Pageant, the Grand Lodge Scholarship Fund and the Ohio Masonic Home in Springfield.</p> <p>This article is not meant to boast, but rather to inform the brethren who are unable to be active participants in lodge functions that their lodge continues to follow the obligations set forth by the fraternity. As always, your continued support is very much appreciated.</p>