



THE SPRIG OF ACCACIA



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ACCACIA LODGE NO. 51



FROM THE EAST:

BY WM EDDIE CLYMER

Welcome to the year 2022! I am Edward Clymer and serving as Master of Accacia this year. I am excited for the year and completing some degrees to continue the path of Masonry for our members. My favorite part about being master of the lodge is that my father, brother-in-law, and other extended family members have sat in this chair before me! Wishing everyone a happy new year and look forward to seeing you at the lodge!

WM Eddie Clymer

FROM THE WEST:

BY BR UMAROU YAYA SW

Greetings from the west, what an exciting year, as I look forward to the new experience in my Masonic journey. With the desire to improve myself, I continue to work on being a better person. With petitions coming in, I can wait to give the candidates their first experience in their Masonic journey. While hoping that things get better with Covid we can interact with no restrictions. Wishing the Brethren all the best as they continue to move towards the East.

FROM THE SOUTH:

BY BR ADAM MARTIN JW

Greetings from the South! I thought I'd write a little about myself and my Masonic journey thus far. My name is Adam Martin and I have the pleasure of being Jr. Warden of Accacia Lodge #51. My wife (Michelle) and I live in Woodbury with our two-year-old son, Theodore, and our Boxer, Chaucer. I work for a company called Prime Therapeutics for which I am a lead software engineer.

I have lived in Minnesota all my life growing up in Cambridge. Masonry, as far as I know, has not been part of heritage. From the time I was a senior in high school, I found that I was very curious about Masonry but didn't really pursue any inquiries into a lodge. When I moved out to attend college at the U of MN in 1997 I got a job at the Roseville Olive Garden as a server. I specifically remember a large group of about 15 people sitting in my section (both men and women). They were having what I would consider an intense meeting in which not everyone was happy.

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FROM THE SOUTH CONT:

I ended up asking one of the men when they were finished and paying what the group was and he told me they were Masons.

I don't know if it was an Eastern Star meeting or if the women were their wives but what I do know now is the men were members of Tusler-Summit. The Brother invited me to their lodge and to that day and I wish I would have entertained the offer. It wasn't until 21 years later that I would reach out to Accacia Lodge after moving to Woodbury because it was only a mile or so from my house. I was invited to dinner at the next lodge meeting and I thought I might as well take the plunge and see what I might be getting myself into. The Brethren were very friendly and curious about me. WB Doug Weisbrod, who would end up being my mentor, took me around the lodge and answered general questions.

After that visit, my mind was made up that I would petition the lodge and receive the degrees of Masonry. I was regularly initiated as an EA at Forest Lake Lodge #344 on 08/23/2018, passed to Fellowcraft at Accacia on 12/19/2018, and raised as a MM at Lake Harriet Lodge #277 on 03/04/2019. I am a 32° Scottish Rite Mason and member of the St. Paul Valley, a member of the Osman Shriners, and a member of the York Rite Chapter and Council both MN #1 and St Paul #1 respectively. The Brotherhood has changed my life. I cannot say enough about the Brethren from Accacia and what they mean to me. Through the lodge and the appendant bodies, I have gotten to know and befriend so many wonderful brothers. I am honored to be elected as Jr. Warden and hope I can serve the lodge and Worshipful Master the best I can.



WM Eddie Clymyer installed as Master



WM Eddie Clymyer with IBGC Jerry Johnson at Installation.



Our newest Master Masons during our joint degree with Newport Lodge



Our newest Entered Apprentices at our recent EA Degree

LEO:

GEORGE WASHINGTON MADE A MASON:

271 years ago, George Washington was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in the Masonic lodge at Fredericksburg, Virginia. The lodge at Fredericksburg was organized in 1752 and comprised mostly of Scottish immigrants and merchants. The lodge's first secretary, Daniel Campbell, would later secure its charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland in July 1758. After the formation of the Grand Lodge Virginia, the Lodge at Fredericksburg was re-chartered as Fredericksburg Lodge № 4 on January 30, 1787. The lodge continues to meet in its lodge hall, which is over 200 years old. Prior to receiving the Third Degree, Washington was initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason on November 4, 1752, and passed to the degree of Fellow Craft on March 3, 1753. The lodge's minute books record Washington attending the next meeting of the lodge on September 1, 1753.

In October, however, Major Washington was sent by Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie to warn the French to vacate western Pennsylvania. After returning from this mission, and the second one in 1754 that ended in military disaster at Fort Necessity, Lt. Col. Washington attended January 4, 1755, lodge meeting.

General Washington remained a member of Fredericksburg Lodge № 4 after it received its Grand Lodge of Virginia Charter which came under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1778. The Grand Lodge of Virginia's Annual Proceeding of 1800 lists Washington among the recently departed of Fredericksburg Lodge № 4 in the necrology.

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CONSTRUCTION & BUILDING UPDATE!:

BY BR LLOYD CHENEY JD

Greetings Brothers and Friends of Accacia Lodge No 51!

As I reported in a previous edition of The Sprig, the City of Cottage Grove has said we must have a ramp on our deck and front entrance. This was in the original plans but we had to adjust for the size of the deck and cost. WB Ryan Lowry drew up plans for the deck and due to the length of run requirement, we opted to add the ramp to the rear of the building.

IBGC Jerry Johnson, WB Doug Weisbrod, and a good work friend of WB Doug added a handicapped door entrance to the rear of the lodge. Thanks to these brothers for their work. Special thanks to IBGC Jerry for his hard work and painting the trim and other essential work.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE CONTINUED:

BY BR LLOYD CHENEY JD

The holes for the footings were dug and construction will begin this spring. Once the footings are poured and set we can get our inspection from the city. Then we will proceed with ramp construction. There will be handicapped marked parking spaces near the ramp as well.

We also will complete our trim work and finish carpentry of the windows inside the Lodge room. The Lodge room itself needs some updating. We will replace the carpet and it will complement our center room featured checkered carpet that is west of the altar.

The upstairs kitchen will also be getting a renovation. We have already added new lighting fixtures and will change all new windows to match the new ones in the Lodge. We also plan to completely re-sheetrock the walls and ceiling and paint the room. We then will tile the floor and the room will gleam!

The next phase is to start downstairs on the basement windows and window well replacement.

Eight windows will need replacement and we are adding in window wells with drainage material.

We also plan to do a restroom renovation. We want to keep two restrooms because it is useful for our pancake breakfasts, dinners, and other fundraisers we do. Also, the Eastern Star likes to have a separate facility.

We plan to remove the whole existing restrooms and salvage our toilets, urinal, etc. We will rebuild larger restrooms with new cabinets, pedestal sinks, new sinks, new mirrors, and new lights.

So we will need wallboard, lumber, light fixtures, mirrors, cabinets, pedestals, etc. Anything our Brothers can do to help us with this ongoing project would be most appreciated. We are asking for some donations to our construction fund and those brothers and friends that are able we would very much appreciate the monetary support.

Accacia 51 is alive and growing! We just need to care for our building so we always have a place for our Lodge.

**Donations can be made directly to the Lodge via the Secretary: Mark Simmonds
Accacia Lodge**

11094 70 St S

Cottage Grove, MN 55016

Write Building Fund in the memo line.

SECRETARY'S CORNER:

BY WB MARK SIMMONDS SEC

Greetings to all!

Welcome our newest Master Masons:

Br Dave Martin - Cottage Grove, MN

Br Douglas Henry - Maplewood, MN

Br Clifford W Schrader II - Wyoming, MN

Br Joseph Gall - Cottage Grove, MN

Br Jeffery Lennartson - Cottage Grove, MN

Along with our newly made Master Masons, we have grown our lodge with other Master Masons who now have joined our lodge:

IB Russ Meister

Br Brian Raykowski

Br Rob Winters

We also have three new Entered Apprentices:

Br. Alex Diamond

Br. Mitchell Born

Br. Richard Michel

And we have one new petitioner:

Mr. David Mencarini

Welcome to Accacia!

Accacia Lodge is very fortunate to have so many good men seeking the light of Masonry and found a home in our humble Lodge.

Congratulations to York Rite Companions WB Lloyd Cheney and BR Adam Martin on entering Damascus Commandary. They have received the Order of the Red Cross and will be conferred with the Knighthood of Malta on April 12, 2022 and the Order of the Temple on June 11, 2022.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.



Upcoming Events and Activities!

Accacia Lodge has many events and activities that are coming up this summer and for the remainder of 2022!

We are going to need work crews for help with:

- **Degree Work** - Our cycle has started and we will be conducting all of our degrees as necessary.
- **Lodge Clean up** - Basement and a deep clean of the Lodge in April 2022
- **Construction:** Work crew for the ramp construction starting in April and May and continuing throughout the summer.
- Work crew for floor and upstairs kitchen renovation.
- Work crews will be needed for the carpet and renovation of the main lodge room, balcony, and window casework.
- We are once again conducting a **Sportsmans Raffle** this year! With more prizes. The gaming licenses are being applied for and the funds from this endeavor go to our charitable giving. Last year's raffle brought in an amazing amount for charitable giving. We will be seeking dispensation from Grand Lodge and licenses in April 2022.
- **Family Picnic and Open House** are being planned.
- **Scholarships** - If you have an HS Junior or Senior that is going on to school that is of good character and attributes of Masonic principles please have them contact us or the Master of the Lodge WM Eddie Clymer or Secretary WB Mark Simmonds
- **Pancake Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt** -
 - **APRIL 16, 2022 EASTER EGG HUNT 11AM**
 - **PANCAKE BREAKFAST - 8AM TO NOON**
- **Spaghetti Dinner** - Yes we are looking forward to this event and being able to have it again this fall.
- **Degree Work!**



OSMAN SHRINERS

Cinco de Mayo Ceremonial

Sunday, May 1, 2022

3:00 PM - Candidate Registration

3:30 PM - Candidate and Lady Orientation

4:00 PM - Open Ceremonial and Candidate Fezzing

5:00 PM - Social

5:30 to 6:30 PM - Dinner*

(*Adults \$20. Kids under 12, \$15.)

Initiation cost is \$250 which includes 2022 dues, initiation fees, Candidate and Lady's dinner

OSMAN SHRINE EVENT CENTER
2750 SIBLEY MEMORIAL HWY., EAGAN, MN. 55121

RSVP by April 21, 2022 to Osman Office at 651-452-5660

Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry – Valley of Saint Paul

2022 Spring Degree Reunion

Petitions must be submitted by April 13.

All Master Masons are invited!



The 2022 Spring Reunion will be held on consecutive Wednesdays beginning on April 20, 2022. Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

4^o – April 20, 7:00 p.m.
14^o – April 20, 8:00 p.m.
18^o – April 27, 7:00 p.m.
30^o – May 4, 7:00 p.m.
31^o – May 11, 7:00 p.m.
32^o – May 18, 7:00 p.m.

RSVP to Valley Secretary @ 651-222-2676
Dinner reservations required.

Your Invitation!

Masonic Meet and Greet

Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 6:00 PM

St. Paul Masonic Center
200 Plato Boulevard East
St. Paul, MN 55107

All interested in Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite are welcome as our guest!
Join our Pizza party with games and fellowship

Find out about
Freemasonry
and the Scottish Rite

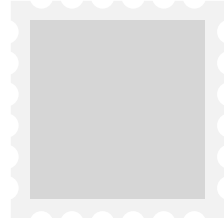


Men only! Meal Cost \$10.00 per person guests are free



RSVP by April 11th to Jim Moore, 32^o K.C.C.H.
email: secretary@stpauls.org or office: 651-222-2676

ACCACIA LODGE No. 51
11094 70TH STREET SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MN 55016



NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.™

Lodge Meetings - Tuesdays nearest the full moon. Dinner at 6:00 PM
Next 3 meetings: Apr 19 - 7:00 PM, May 17 - 7:00 PM, Jun 14 - 7:00 PM

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook, also our website is:



@accacia51



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<http://www.accacia51freemason.org>

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