

# The Foundation Light

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## Happy 100th Birthday, City of Lakewood!



Brother Nelson C. Cotabish

Our Lakewood Masonic Family extends an enthusiastic "Happy Birthday!" to our own community as the City of Lakewood celebrates its 100th birthday.

What is now the City of Lakewood was originally created as the Hamlet of Lakewood encompassing territory roughly the same as the original Rockport Township. The Hamlet was chartered on August 31, 1889. Rather than a mayor, the hamlet's chief

executive officer was the president of the Board of Trustees. During these years the hamlet developed water and sewer systems, installed electric lights and developed Lakewood's boulevard system.

On May 4, 1903, the hamlet was organized into the Village of Lakewood with about 2500 residents. The village grew rapidly, reaching a population of about 12,000 by January 1, 1910.

Freemasonry established its first formal presence in the village with the chartering of Lakewood Lodge #601 F&AM in 1908. Lincoln Chapter #309 OES (now consolidated into Ann Rutledge Chapter #453) was chartered in 1909; Cunningham Chapter #187 RAM was chartered in 1910.

The City of Lakewood was incorporated on February 17, 1911, with our own Brother Nelson C. Cotabish serving as the City's first mayor in 1910-11. Brother Cotabish was head of the sales department of the National Carbon Company and a large property holder in Lakewood. In 1910, Mayor Cotabish approved the acquisition of the first motor-

driven fire equipment in northeast Ohio. An astute businessman, he also arranged for the City to buy the Tegardine home at Warren Road and Detroit Avenue for \$15,500 to serve as City Hall, selling 100 feet of this site a few years later for a profit of \$40,500, almost three times the total purchase price of the property.

Cotabish was born in Cleveland in 1867; his education ended with the eighth grade in Cleveland Schools. Cotabish's father passed away when Nelson was 19, and he supported his family with the wages he earned as a laborer at the Otis Steel Company and Tyler Wire Works. His first white collar job was as a

*(continued on page 8)*

### LMT 95th Birthday Party

SAVE THE DATE for our Lakewood Masonic Temple's 95th Birthday Party on Sunday afternoon, October 9, from 2:00p to 5:00p at the Women's Pavilion at Lakewood Park. Further details will be shared with your group's representative and published in our next newsletter.

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## Dressing Up for the Parties

As the City of Lakewood celebrates its centennial in 2011, we will be celebrating our Lakewood Masonic Temple's 95th birthday. As a celebratory gift, let's join together to restore the wrapping on our historic home, so important to us and to our community, to its original beauty.

Last year, largely through the generosity of our donors, we made significant improvements to our outward appearance by installing historically appropriate (as required by the City's Architectural Board of Review), modern technology windows on the Lodge Room Balcony level of our building and by completing the tuck pointing of the masonry joints on our limestone façade. While these projects were essential to our historic preservation efforts, they had an unintended (but not unexpected) consequence—namely, the deteriorated condition of the paint on the rest of our windows, especially the large triple hung windows, is now more apparent. But the deteriorated paint is an ongoing and significant problem in its own right as it exposes the underlying wood and steel window frames to unwanted damage.

We project that it will cost as much as \$17,000 to paint the exteriors of our other windows, and this project has become one of our two highest priorities along with restoring various areas of interior plaster and decorative painting damaged by past water ingress. Additional funds are being raised for these interior repairs.

We depend on the continuing loyalty of our members and donors to fund these and other important historical preservation projects. Gifts to our Lakewood Masonic Foundation for these purposes, as well as for our charitable and educational work, are deductible for federal income and estate tax purposes to the extent permitted by law. There are many ways to donate. The most straightforward is to donate to our Annual Fund via this newsletter, by responding to our semi-annual letter appeals or by adding a donation to your annual dues. Most gifts are made by check, but we are also able to accept gifts of stocks or other securities which, in many cases, offer additional tax benefits to the donor. And there is still an opportunity this year, for those 70-1/2 years of age or older, to make gifts directly from your IRA to qualified charitable organizations such as our Lakewood Masonic Foundation. 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 your gift or bequest.

You may designate your gift or bequest to be used for our historic preservation, educational or charitable purposes; split your gift among these purposes; or simply ask that your gift be devoted to our greatest need.

Gifts and bequests to our Lakewood Masonic Foundation are deductible for federal estate and income taxes to the extent permitted by law. You may use the form on page 11 to make your gift.

### ***The Foundation Light***

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by

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At-Large



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

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

## Master's Message

Brethren:

At our Annual Memorial Service on May 26 we were saddened yet honored to mark the passing of several brethren over the past year—**F. Ross Ellis**; **Tyler Theodore W. Hadde**, PM; **Paul H. Bennett**; **Don E. Henderson**; **Charles F. Gilbert**; **Russell L. Larimer, Jr.**; and **Chester J. Brill**. The more joyful parts of the evening were the recognition of our Past Masters and this year's service award recipients—**Jack A. Farrance**, 65 years; **David P. Hull**, **Joseph H. Mason**, **Edwin R. Reiland** and **Frank A. Wharton**, 60 years; **Herbert M. Fetherlin** and **Thomas G. Stauffer**, 50 years; and **Allen G. Fletcher** and **Richard E. Wagner**, 25 years.

The following day we sojourned to Windsor, Ontario, for our annual weekend visitation to Trinity Lodge's Installation and Investiture. We congratulate Trinity's new Worshipful Master **Terry Zahorodney** and his officers and wish for them a very successful Masonic year ahead.

Looking ahead, at our June 9 stated meeting we expect to vote on petitions for degrees and to confer two Entered Apprentice degrees that same evening. Our annual **Table Lodge** will be held on June 30 at 7:00p. Please note that this is the fifth Thursday of June rather than the fourth Thursday. All brethren with the rank of Entered Apprentice or higher are welcome and encouraged to attend. There is a special Table Lodge ritual which includes dinner at a cost of only \$5 per brother. As part of the evening we will have a special education presentation. **Please call or email your Worshipful Master for Table Lodge reservations.**

Lodge will be dark during July and August, but we will look forward to seeing you back in Lodge on Thursday, September 8. We expect to be conferring degrees in conjunction with several of our fall meetings so that we can keep current with our candidates. We also look forward to joining with the other organizations meeting in our Lakewood Masonic Temple at our Lakewood Masonic Foundation's October 9 picnic celebrating our Temple's 95th birthday. Make plans to join us at this joyous event.

Please recall that while our Masonic Code does not permit us to solicit new members, there are no restrictions on telling friends, neighbors and associates about Freemasonry and our pleasure with the Craft. Further, we are allowed to tell those that we know to be good men and true that they would make good Masons. If a such a man responds with an expression of interest, we can continue the discussion. And, of course, we can always respond to inquiries regarding membership. I myself petitioned (along with my father) because a non-Masonic friend encouraged me to petition along with him and because a Clifton Lodge member regularly regaled my father with stories of the Lodge and Shrine activities he enjoyed so much.

Brethren, each and every member is important to our success. Any time that you want to see whose support is essential to our progress, look in a mirror. You will find you answer.

Lastly, please let us know how you are doing these days, especially if you have news of sickness or distress. And watch your email for our news!



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*Junior Steward*  
David M. Kaplan

*Marshal*  
Teddy Ekleberry

*Tyler*  
Richard E. Wagner, PM

*Lodge Education Officer*  
Clever Martinez

*Welfare Chairman*  
Jon C. Paulus  
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# Lakewood Lodge #601 F. & A. M.

Stated Meetings Second & Fourth Mondays 7:30 p.m.

## Junior Warden's Message

Brethren:

It is to say the least that the Brethren at Lakewood Lodge #601 have been hard at work instructing and preparing our newest candidates for their journeys into the mysteries of the Fraternity. We have the pleasure to have recently passed four of our youngest candidates through the Fellowcraft Degree; they are now scheduled for the Master Mason Degree Saturday June 25. There are also a host of young Brethren in the queue for other degrees who are being coached and prepared for their Masonic education.

There is a common theme this year in our Lodge that has really been the drive for our current members and new folks who are just entering into our Order. The very theme and energy is fellowship. In discussions with our members of Lodge education sessions and individual interests, fellowship proves to be the key driver for this 2010/2011 Masonic season. A renewed interest in civic and Temple activities are what the Lodge is trying to catalyze; harnessing the synergies of all our members regardless of what their involvement or tenure happens to be. Upcoming events such as the Memorial Day picnic, Lakewood Arts Festival and the October Foundation picnic at Lakewood Park are just small examples of what the members of Lakewood Lodge #601 have in our sights to help make it fun for all sorts of activities. Lodge education also provides a vehicle for our members to enhance the fellowship component within our group. We have plans to hold study sessions and degree practices later in this Masonic year in order to prepare our Lodge members for future growth. This activity is also very important for us to cement our skills together and work better during degrees and other Masonic intercourse. Newer members have also expressed interest and a great deal of knowledge in today's social networking web arena. Facebook proves to be a great social spot where Brethren and future Masonic seekers can meet to collaborate and communicate. This improves our fellowship as we are able to communicate information quicker and have dialog with members to better have a feel for what their concerns and interests are. Lakewood Lodge #601 has future plans on developing our Lodge's web presence with an improved and dedicated web site which should be launched within the next month.

Lakewood Lodge Awards Night is scheduled for June 13 at 7:30p and will honor our Past Masters and 50 year plus members. Please make time to join us, as we always look forward to seeing everyone there to support our honored guests this night.



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**Freemasonry . . .**

**"Faith, Family, Brotherhood and Charity"**



# Ann Rutledge Chapter #453 O. E. S.

Stated Meetings First & Third Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.

## Matron's Message

Spring has long sprung, and summer draws near! A time when school is out for our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Our gardens are in and growing quite well, vacations or camping trips have been planned as we spend more time outside with the long cold winter we had fading from memory.

As another quarter of our Order comes to a close, the events and gathering a memory, the positive impact and success of the presentation by "Pilot Dogs Inc," the "Around the Town Dinner Group," the positive glow of our Inspection, etc. We must not lose focus. We still have work to do though this next quarter is by far the shortest. We have a great deal ahead of us to get done before we go dark for the summer.

Let's take time to reflect on the positive growth we have made thus far, build on that, and grow even more as a whole as an Order of love with In the Spirit of Peace and Love. Let's let our wings carry us to new heights and understanding without restraints or binds.

I would like to ask all of you to keep the children of "Providence House" in your heart and mind. Pray for them. Pray they will be at peace and have love and guidance.

(continued on page 10)

## Stated Meetings

- June 1            Honoring the Treasurer  
                    Honor June Birthdays  
                    Annual Election of Officers
- June 15          Honor Flag Day  
                    Honor Fathers Day  
                    Sister/Neighbor Afternoon
- July & August    No Meetings
- September 7    Welcome Back from Summer, "Chapter Birthday Dinner"  
                    At Pier W Restaurant at 5:00p, reservation a must to the  
                    Worthy Matron by August 17, 2011.  
                    Honor July, August & September Birthdays  
                    Speaker from "Cleveland Christian Home"
- September 21   No Meeting due to Grand Chapter in Dayton

## Auxiliaries

- Around the Town Dinner Club* meets the 4th Friday, 6:00p, dates TBA.
- Busy Bee* meets the 3rd Friday, Noon, at the Temple.
- Evening Star* meets the 2nd Tuesday, location announced at Chapter.

## In the Spirit of Peace & Love

Report sunshine to Wanda E. King, 440.331.7211 or Roberta Ress, 216.712.7304.



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Rachael Pierce, PM

*Ruth*  
Carolyn Onyak

*Esther*  
Lois Schultz, PM

*Martha*  
Mary Alice Cush, PM

*Electa*  
Jean Killinger, PM

*Warder*  
Clara Walker

*Sentinel*  
Ann Mollick, PM

*Guest Organist*  
Elaine Hammond, PM



# Cunningham Chapter #187 R. A. M.

Stated Meeting Fourth Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

## High Priest's Message

Companions:

Another season has passed, and summer is now upon us. The Inspection season has come and gone. Cunningham's Inspection in the Past Master degree went very well; in fact, it went much better than expected. This may have been due to the fact that the sidelines were almost full, as this was our District Deputy Grand High Priest's final Inspection. What an honor to having been chosen for the last Inspection.

To paraphrase that which has been used previously, "the show is over, those who carried the show have gone, it is now up to us to pick up the tools, clean up and carry on." Well, the "show" is not over; true, there is much work to be done; and we must pick up the tools, clean up and carry on; for there is more light to dispense and knowledge to share. Cunningham is actually going through a time of great opportunity. There are more and more brethren in the symbolic lodges who would qualify to receive the light and knowledge which we can dispense.

Now we must get back to the actual business of the Chapter, and that is to dispense Masonic Light and Knowledge to the qualified Brethren and Companions. This means degree work and the understanding of the same. Each and every time I witness our degrees I get a greater understanding of the degree and of my duty in life.

We, at Cunningham, have a wonderful opportunity to showcase our Masonic home during our degree work. We have a building designed for the degree work that we can present to our candidates and the District. We have the best equipment to highlight our Masonic Temple. This pride of our home is evident in all of the Masonic Bodies that meet here in the Lakewood Masonic Temple.

I could try to list all of what we have here in the Lakewood Temple, but the list would be too long for this message, and I might miss something.

## Rains

It was a custom among the English Freemasons of the middle of the eighteenth century, when conversing together on Freemasonry, to announce the appearance of a profane by the warning expression *It rains*. The custom was adopted by the German and French Freemasons, with the equivalent expression, *Es regnet* and *Il pluit*. Baron Tschoudy, who condemns the usage, says that the latter refined upon it by designating the approach of a female by *Il neige*, the French for *It snows*. Doctor Oliver says (*Revelations of a Square*, page 142) that the phrase *It rains*, to indicate that Cowan is present and the proceedings must be suspended, is derived from the ancient punishment of an eavesdropper, which was to place him under the eaves of a house in rainy weather, and to retain him there till the droppings of water ran in at the collar of his coat and out at his shoes.

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



*Excellent High Priest*

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*Principal Sojourner*

Robert W. Phinney

*Royal Arch Captain*

Harold A. Loebick, PHP

*Master of the Third Veil*

Jorge B. Dorantes

*Master of the Second Veil*

David A. Foyer, KYCH

*Master of the First Veil*

Ryan C. Wilson

*Trustees*

Michael J. Spisak, KYCH  
H. Edward Hampton, PHP  
John H. Whitehouse, Jr., PHP



# Lakewood Council #125 R. S. M.

Stated Meeting First Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

## Master's Message

Companions:

Our Inspection was held in the Royal Master at a Special Meeting on Tuesday, April 26, and is now history. This was postponed from February due to bad weather. We were honored to have Most Illustrious Grand Master Pat C. Lively in attendance as well as Past Grand Masters Merlyn E. Meredith and William E. Laughlin. Most of our Giblytes were companions of the Fourth Arch. I'd like to thank Companions David A. Foyer, Hank Haussman and George Mason for the fine ritual work they did for our Inspection Degree.

Each year we are required to portray the Super-Excellent Master Degree. Since this degree takes a VERY large cast, it has been our practice to work together with Councils in Elyria and Lorain so that we all get credit, which requires that seven of us participate. Of course, the more the merrier. That Degree took place on May 7 at the Elyria Temple. I hope you were able to attend.

Food for thought ... Hate is a poison we take, hoping that others will die.

You've probably heard the expression, "If God brought you to it, God will bring you through it." This is derived from 1 Corinthians 10:13, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." This is an example of the Masonic belief in divine providence. With the light of such faith beaming upon us, how can we ever become despondent?

## Calendar

Jun 1 Installation

## Patron

In the year 1812, the Prince of Wales, becoming Regent of the Kingdom, was constrained by reasons of state to resign the Grand Mastership of England, but immediately afterward accepted the title of *Grand Patron of the Order in England*, and this was the first time that the title was officially recognized.

George IV held it during his life, and on his death, William IV, in 1830, officially accepted the title of *Patron of the United Grand Lodge*. On the accession of Queen Victoria, the title fell into abeyance, because it was understood that it could only be assumed by a sovereign who was a member of the Craft, but King Edward VII became *Protector of English Freemasons* on his accession to the throne in 1901. The office is generally not known in other countries, though on the Continent similar positions have been occupied.

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



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*Chaplain*  
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Thomas D. Standen, PIM  
Darrel A. Weaver, PIM  
Jorge B. Dorantes, PIM



# Holy Grail Commandery #70 K. T.

Stated Meeting Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

## Happy Birthday

(continued from page 1)

stenographer for the Variety Iron Works and later at the Otis Steel Company. His career in the dry battery business began with a position as chief clerk of the Standard Carbon Company, a forerunner of the National Carbon Company, of which he became sales manager in 1890. His involvement with the National Carbon Company, founded in Cleveland in 1886, sparked his interest in Lakewood, as in the 1890s National Carbon built a branch plant at Madison Avenue and West 117th Street, on the edge of Rockport, a mile or so beyond the end of the trolley rails. While at National Carbon Cotabish suggested the trade name for the hugely successful Columbia dry cell battery [see the related story on page 9].

Brother Cotabish retired from Union Carbide (the successor to National Carbon) in 1920 but continued his involvement with the City of Lakewood and Lakewood institutions. He served a number of years as Director of Public Service and was ex-officio Director for two decades. At his death in 1942, the Lakewood Post opined, "His years of active interest in civic affairs were important in themselves . . . but, vastly more importantly, they served as a basis for formulating the pattern which was to make Lakewood outstanding among cities of its type."

Beginning with his early days in Lakewood, Cotabish bicycled from his first home on Cove Avenue, just north of Detroit Avenue, to National Carbon, which could be quite the trek in poor weather. He also cycled throughout the hamlet, gaining an intimate knowledge of the community, and eventually finding a new home on Grace Avenue in a new allotment developed by the Nicholson family. The Cotabish family later built a new



residence on the north side of Detroit Avenue covering the entire block between Grace and Cohasset Avenues. (At his wife Nellie's suggestion, the latter street was named after Cohasset, Massachusetts, a town visited by Cotabish on his National Carbon travels and which impressed him by the quaintness of its cobblestone homes.) The Detroit residence was a modified Dutch colonial with a wavy roof and a turret. It had 23 rooms plus a ballroom on the third floor. In his later years Cotabish tended a bounteous garden on the Grace corner, with his wife sharing in the satisfaction of these simple domestic pleasures.

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*Warder*  
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# † Cleveland Assembly #15 S. O. O. B.

Stated Meeting Second Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

## Happy Birthday

(continued from page 8)

In due time Cotabish became an important Lakewood developer in his own right, later expanding his real estate interests beyond Lakewood.

In 1935 Brother Cotabish joined a local attorney, Brother Carl W. Schaefer, in forming the First Federal Savings & Loan Association of Lakewood, with Cotabish serving as President with a board of thirteen other local businessmen. First Federal's first office was on the second floor of William Daniels Funeral Home on Detroit Avenue.

His knowledge of the community and interest and experience no doubt served our Lakewood Masonic Family well when Brother Cotabish became one of nine Masons appointed in 1912 to form a Building Committee to select a suitable site and formulate proper plans for construction of a Masonic Temple in Lakewood. The endeavor led to the incorporation of The Lakewood Masonic Temple Company later in 1912, with Worshipful Brother Phillip H. Keese, the first Master of Lakewood Lodge, as president. Cotabish later became the second president of the Temple Company, serving from 1929 until his death in 1942. (Worshipful Brother Mark G. Snow 33° of Clifton Lodge took the reins briefly, then Carl Schaefer served as president from 1943 to 1961.) Both the City of Lakewood and our Lakewood Masonic Family are indebted to Nelson Cotabish for his selfless service.

## Cotabish and the Columbia Dry Cell Battery

In 1894, the National Carbon Company began marketing LeClanché wet cells. About the same time, the Company developed a paper-lined, 1.5 volt cylindrical dry cell, which it began marketing in 1896. This sealed, 6-inch, 1.5 volt Columbia battery was the very first intended for widespread consumer use. The trade name "Columbia" was proposed by National Carbon's sales manager Nelson Cotabish. National Carbon, which began marketing the first "D" size cell in 1898, became the first company to manufacture and distribute sealed dry cell batteries on a large scale. This battery and its improved versions were the mainstay of the dry cell battery industry for over half a century until the invention of the alkaline battery in the 1950s by the company now known as Energizer Batteries. In 2005 the American Chemical Society designated the development of the Columbia dry cell battery as a National Historic Chemical Landmark.

In 1906, National Carbon bought a half interest in the manufacturer of Ever Ready flashlights; the latter became a part of National Carbon in 1914, which itself was acquired by Union Carbide Corporation in 1917. Union Carbide's Battery Products Division was sold in 1986 as the Eveready Battery Company and is now called Energizer Batteries. During his lifetime Cotabish headed or actively participated in dozens of civic movements and causes. He was described as "a brisk, practical man with boundless energy." It seems only fitting that the company that evolved from the Columbia dry cell battery is now represented by the Energizer Bunny.



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# Lakewood Chapter Order of DeMolay

*Stated Meetings First & Third Thursdays 7:30 p.m.*

Lakewood DeMolay meets on the first and third Thursday of each month, and all Masons are encouraged to visit at any meeting. Membership is open to young men aged 12 to 21. No Masonic affiliation is required for membership other than to be sponsored by a Mason. If you know of a young man who would be a good DeMolay and who would enjoy the great experience that is DeMolay, please contact Chapter Advisor Dad Craig Haskett at 440.892.1738 or bvhomeloans@yahoo.com. With 58 members, our Chapter is now the largest in Ohio. We especially invite Masons to our semi-annual Inspection on Thursday, August 18, at 7:30p. Our young men are always encouraged by your presence.

*Chapter Advisor*  
Craig Haskett  
440.892.1738  
bvhomeloans@yahoo.com

*Advisory Council Chairman*  
Ed Hampton  
2nndistrict@sbcglobal.net  
216.226.3649

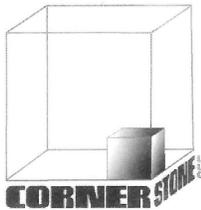
## Matron's Message

*(continued from page 5)*

Lastly, I would like to wish all of our Sisters and Brothers who have a birthday during the upcoming quarter a happy and blessed birthday. Let's keep our fathers on our heart and minds and honor them on their special day. And keep in touch with each other while Chapter is dark. Just because the Chapter is dark doesn't mean we go dark as our Order reaches out In the Spirit of Peace and Love.

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**June**

14	Tues	7:00p	LMTC Board of Trustees
1	Wed	1:30p	Ann Rutledge OES <i>Annual Meeting</i>
15	Wed	1:30p	Ann Rutledge OES
1	Wed	7:30p	Lakewood RSM <i>Installation</i>
16	Thu	7:30p	Lakewood DeMolay
2	Thu	7:30p	Lakewood DeMolay
17	Fri	Noon	Busy Bee Auxiliary
6	Mon	7:30p	Cunningham RAM <i>Installation</i>
20	Mon	7:30p	Lakewood F&AM
8	Wed	7:30p	Holy Grail KT
25	Sat	9:00a	Lakewood F&AM
8	Wed	7:30p	Cleveland Beauceant
27	Mon	7:30p	Lakewood F&AM
9	Thu	7:30p	Clifton-Allen F&AM
30	Thu	7:15p	Clifton-Allen F&AM <i>Table Lodge</i>
13	Mon	7:30p	Lakewood F&AM <i>Awards Night</i>

**July**

7 Thu 7:30p Lakewood DeMolay

**August**

4	Thu	7:30p	Lakewood DeMolay
18	Thu	7:30p	Lakewood DeMolay <i>Inspection</i>
6	Sat	10:00a	LMT Open House during the Lakewood Arts Festival

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