



News and events from the organizations that meet at Suburban Lodge #740.

From the East:

Suburban Attends Grand Lodge



By Clayton Carrier
Worshipful Master

Brothers, it has been one of the greatest honors of my lifetime thus far to serve as Master of Suburban Lodge #740. I have had so much support this year from so many different people and I couldn't be more grateful. I recently attended the 224th Annual Grand Lodge of Kentucky meeting where we voted on many important items and voted on the 2023/2024 Grand line officers. Congratulations to the newly elected 2023/2024 Grand Line Officers:

Most Worshipful Grand Master
Richard Dick Short

Rite Worshipful Deputy Grand Master
Mitchell May

Rite Worshipful Grand Senior Warden
Luke Martin

Rite Worshipful Grand Junior Warden
Terry Whayne Boggess

Rite Worshipful Grand Treasurer
F. Keith Drier P.G.M.

Rite Worshipful Grand Secretary
Donald Yankey P.G.M.

Congratulations also to the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master E. Darren Wilson on a great year!

Suburban Lodge was presented 2 different awards at the Grand Lodge session. The first was an embroidered apron from the Masonic Homes presented at the Master Masons dinner and the other was an award from the Most Worshipful Grand Master E. Darren Wilson himself. It was the last award he gave out and it was a very special moment. I was called up onto the stage as the representative for the lodge and presented with a very nice award for our donation of \$1000 to help cover the cost of the pins he was selling for his Tacos for Kids program. He even asked me if I wanted to say a few words to the brothers present. Needless to say, I was not anticipating giving a speech at Grand Lodge however nervously I managed to throw together a few words and thank him for the award. I am so proud of our Lodge and the great work we do.

I would like to thank Brothers Gary Rainey and Tom Holcomb for filling the vacant officer chairs in the last couple of months, as well as all of the Past Masters of Suburban Lodge who understood my crazy work schedule this year and still allowed me to step up as Master of the Lodge. Lastly, I would like to thank my wife, Kristen,

and two daughters, Piper and Sydney, for allowing me the time away from home not just this year but for the last six years as well. Their patience, understanding and encouragement are what has helped me through this amazing journey at Lodge. I love them with my entire heart.



I would like to leave you with this: "Each of us has within us a man that we wish to be. That man is our perfect ashlar. The working tools enable us to find that man within ourselves and transform the rough ashlar to the perfect." Thank you again for allowing me to serve the craft as Master this year.

Fraternally Thine,
Clayton Carrier
Worshipful Master, 2023
Suburban Lodge #740 F&AM

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3901 South 3rd Street, Louisville, KY 40214
Clayton Carrier, Master • Jim Jordan, Secretary

Masonic Youth:

Cherokee DeMolay Thankful for the Suburban Fish Fry



Greg Coffey
KY Executive Officer,
Active Member,
International Supreme
Council, Order of
DeMolay

For many years, Suburban Social Club has made donations to Cherokee DeMolay. In exchange, our Advisors, DeMolay and parents have worked at the Fish Fry. These donations have impacted Cherokee Chapter in many positive ways.

Every year for our DeMolay “Day of Comfort Observance” we do something to help others such as: Boxes of Love (to feed families that don’t have a meal), Angel Tree (to buy toys or gifts for children at Christmas), Toys for Tots or Shop for a needy family that’s just down on their luck. Last year, Stacie Jones assigned us a family with the Holiday Program for the Cabinet for Health & Family Services. The family consisted of a mother, father, son and daughter. They were expecting a third child. We shopped for clothing, toys and other needed items from their wish list for the family. The mother asked for nothing for herself, but requested some help to prepare for the new baby (diapers, wipes, clothes, etc).

Our DeMolays were able to deliver these items to the family in person and meet them. The mother went through the two totes of items that Mom Coffey put together and started crying.

Their youngest son, who was 5, was so excited about the arrival of the new baby that he had to be the one to take everything out of the totes. Fourteen of us pulled up to the apartment and unloaded the gifts we had purchased. We climbed the 2 flights of stairs to the apartment’s front door. All fourteen of us stood in a very small apartment. The father was at work when we arrived (after dark). You could tell he worked construction, because he was covered in construction dust and look exhausted from toiling all day in the cold. The mother and the 2 children were overwhelmed with joy and appreciation for this gesture from strangers, most of them young men.

The mother hugged every one of us and thanked us several times before we left. We left that apartment with a renewed Christmas Spirit and appreciation for the season. Our DeMolays got to see what it’s like to live a life of challenge. The parents slept on a futon in the living room, giving the bedrooms to the children. It was such a testament to their wanting their children to have more than they had. I honestly don’t know how they both fit on that little futon because the father was over 6ft tall and the mother was 8 months pregnant. I can’t imagine either one gets a good night’s sleep. She was embarrassed about her dwelling and said, “We’re trying to save for a better apartment, but it’s been hard.” She works two part time jobs herself. When you actually see the

end results—faces and not just names on a piece of paper—your efforts meeting and talking to the people that you are helping, well - it makes a bigger impact on us and our youth.

We teach our DeMolay to give back. We teach them to love the unfortunate souls and to help. We teach them to serve Suburban Lodge and they have year after year.

The donations we receive from Suburban also help our DeMolay offset their cost to attend three State DeMolay Conclaves, travel to other DeMolay Chapters to assist them when needed with ritual work, and to take part in other fun activities. Some of our DeMolay families just can’t afford to pay for these things and would not be able to afford to go. Dad Coffey and Mom Coffey do help offset some of these costs when necessary, but the donations that Suburban Social Club make to our young men go a long way to allowing them to experience DeMolay the way they should be able to. Saying we appreciate the continued support from Suburban Social Club isn’t enough! We try to show our appreciation by giving back to our Lodge by working the fish fries, and Dad Coffey cleans the Lodge on Friday as well.

In closing, Cherokee DeMolay could not thrive without these donations. Thank you for your continued loyalty and financial support of our DeMolay, who are the future of this Lodge. ✦



Past Masters Night Dinner

All are welcome | Thursday, Nov. 30 | Dinner at 6:30 PM | Meeting at 7:30

Greeting from the West:

Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth



Steve Freeman
Senior Warden

From time immemorial, Free and Accepted Masons have

taught the true meaning of Masonry, of Brotherly Love, Relief, Truth, Hope, Faith and Charity. From the beginning Suburban Lodge has depended upon the love of its members for what Masonry stands for more especially for those tenets of Brotherly Love and Relief. We practice those tenets through what we do to help contribute to those

charitable organizations our lodge donates to thanks to our Fish Fry. We couldn't do this without your help and through generously spending your time and support for Your Lodge.

My Brothers, each week I look around and focus on an empty chair. Perhaps you are the one who could fill it. I know we meet every Thursday, and that it's hard for you to do that. But I'm not asking you to be there every Thursday. I would just like to see you occasionally. And if you could find it in your heart to help out at the Fish Fry on any Saturday

that you are able it would be greatly appreciated.

Brethren, please come and join us for fellowship as we meet on the Level and part on the Square. Our Master, Clayton Carrier, would like to shake your hand, so why stay home and watch some TV show when on some Thursday night you could come to the lodge? I hope you come by soon and fill an empty chair.

Fraternally Thine,
Steven L. Freeman
Senior Warden ❖

Greeting from the South:

What is a Master Mason



Gary Rainey
Junior Warden

The role and responsibilities of a Master Mason in Freemasonry include

but are not limited to:

- Strict compliance with his obligation
- Loyalty to his Lodge and the Fraternity
- Paying his dues promptly
- Obedience to the laws, written and unwritten, of Freemasonry.
- Always maintaining an affiliation with a lodge
- Participating in the work of a lodge
- Being responsible for its members, finances, and reputation
- LODGE ATTENDANCE There are no mandatory attendance requirements as there were in ancient craft lodges and no specific penalty for not attending (short of ignoring a formal summons from the Master as

you swore to observe in your various obligations). However, every Master Mason has a moral obligation to be loyal to his lodge, and support it by active participation, because through his lodge Masonic Light is made available to him as well as the other benefits which come with his membership in the Fraternity.

The Master Mason is the face of the lodge, and as such, he should be someone who is respected by the community. He should be a man of good character, someone who is known for his honesty and integrity. He should be someone who is seen as a positive role model, someone who sets an example for others to follow.

Being a Master Mason should give you a sense of pride and accomplishment. It is a position of honor and respect, and it comes with a lot of responsibility. But it also comes with a lot of rewards.

As a Master Mason, you have the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. You also have the opportunity to help others in need, and to make a difference in your community.

Masons should always practice Brotherly Love. If your brother in Freemasonry should stumble or slip, offer your hand to him without judgment or harsh criticism.

In my experience having many Brethren present to witness and assist in the degrees of new Masons makes the experience more meaningful for them. For you, experiencing a degree over the years, from either the sidelines or as a member of the degree team, can help bring new insights.

I encourage you to attend lodge as often as possible and join in the fellowship that is a significant part of Freemasonry. ❖

Masonic Youth:

Rainbow Girls Thankful for the Suburban Fish Fry



Kassie D. Parrish,
Supreme Deputy of
the International Order
for Rainbow Girls in
Kentucky

I am so grateful for this opportunity to inform the brothers of Suburban Lodge No. 740 F&AM about how the partnership between the International Order for Rainbow Girls (IORG) in Kentucky and the Suburban Fish Fry helps Rainbow Girls so much and is much appreciated.

In 2021 the Lorraine Assembly of Rainbow Girls who regularly met at Suburban's Lodge Hall became inactive. Subsequently, a Suburban Social Club representative contacted Kentucky's IORG to see if we could divide amongst the state's six active Rainbow Assemblies the responsibility the Lorraine Assembly previously had undertaken to help with the Fish Fry every other week. We agreed to do so, and at the beginning of each year we distribute the weekends based on the availability of each assembly. Some assemblies are smaller and are only able to take one or two dates, while other bigger and/or local assemblies take three or four. If we are unable to find an assembly able to work the weekend, state officers and supporters will take it, or we reach out to other groups for assistance.

Last year, Rainbow volunteered to help at the Suburban Fish Fry for 20 weekends. At the close of that season,

the Suburban Social Club sent KY Rainbow a \$4,000 check which is equivalent to \$200 per weekend. We distributed proportionate shares of that amount to the six local assemblies based on the number of weekends they volunteered their time at the Fish Fry. They in turn used those funds to help offset the cost of Grand Assembly and other activities for their local assembly. There were also a couple weekends when our District 1 Social Club worked on our behalf because of State Rainbow functions. We went to pay them their share, but they donated it back to our organization. The funds not distributed by KY Rainbow were used to assist in the Scholarship program.

Each year at Grand Assembly, which is our state meeting held in June, KY Rainbow's Scholarship program awards scholarships to young ladies who are pursuing higher education after high school, whether it be college or a trade. The scholarship is \$500 for the fall semester and \$250 for the spring semester if the renewal is requested; however, we are increasing the spring scholarship to \$500 starting with the scholarships awarded at the 2024 Grand Assembly so that each scholarship in total will be \$1,000.00. At the 2021 Grand Assembly we gave 9 scholarships, in 2022 we gave 3, and in 2023 we gave 5. Each year varies based on the number of applicants. One year we gave 12 scholarships.

We have also been fortunate to have bake sales at the Fish Fry. The funds raised at the bake sales are earmarked to assist with Scholarships, Rainbow Camp, Supreme Assembly, and our 75th Grand Assembly Session in 2025. Rainbow Camp is a fun filled weekend of camping, team building challenges, and fellowship. Supreme Assembly is a biennial gathering of all the jurisdictions of the IORG. The 2018 session was held in Virginia Beach and we contracted a bus to take girls to the 4 day session. We also stopped for a fun day at the beach. The 2020 session was virtual due to Covid. The 2022 session was in Oklahoma and only one assembly was able to send girls due to the expense. The 2024 session will be back at Virginia Beach and we are raising funds for another bus to take a large group of girls and chaperones to Supreme Assembly.

Money raised by KY Rainbow as a result the Suburban Fish Fry helps us a good deal with our fundraising efforts on behalf of our young ladies and girls so they are able to take advantage of all that their membership in Rainbow Girls offers. I hope this information helps you better understand how KY Rainbow benefits from the Suburban Fish Fry. And that doesn't even include the benefits we all get from making new friends while we work together in a positive environment to support each other and other worthy charitable organizations. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you so much! ❖

The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls is the only youth club that teaches what matters most – leadership, confidence, and citizenship. Every day, across the globe, hundreds of thousands of girls come together to laugh, share, and grow through fun events and challenging workshops designed to empower girls of all ages. Rainbow Girls volunteer for their community and travel around the world, visiting other clubs and making lots of new friends. Along the way, they gather invaluable life skills that help them become the best daughter, sister, student, and friend they can be. If you or someone you know would like to join Rainbow, visit www.GoRainbow.org.

Greetings From the Floor of the Lodge:

Maintain, Sustain, Retain, and Engage



Hank Buckwalter
Senior Deacon

Fraternal Greetings
from Senior Deacon
Henry “Hank”

Buckwalter! I’m sure

some of our Brothers at Suburban 740 haven’t yet met me or sat in Lodge with me, but I highly look forward to the opportunity to do so and share fellowship with all of you in the near future. I was Raised last year and have had the humbling opportunity to be elected to the Senior Deacon position, and I am honored to have the prospective chance to serve in an officer’s chair in 2024. This year I was empowered and happy to confer both the First and Second Degrees, both with the dedicated encouragement and support of our many Brothers and Past Masters here at Suburban. Conferring the degrees have been a test for me, both intellectually and emotionally,

and I can’t wait to confer any of our meaningful rituals going forward.

I joined our exceptional and ancient Fraternity because something was missing in my life. Although professionally I am currently satisfied with my career (with cautious optimism), I yearned for a refining and polishing of my character and all-around development as a man. In my profession, the presence of men is just plain absent, and I knew I needed something more. I have definitely found this here at Suburban, and with various respective benefits from the Fraternity in general as well. My experience has been a positive and refreshing one. Participating in the Lodge and our imperative Fish Fry operation has enabled me to get to know our brothers and take a sincere interest in their own development and welfare. I believe I could not have been able to do this without attending Lodge

and participating in our Fish Fry.

I continue to have a fantastic experience at Suburban, but I do have one considerable concern, that of the survival and flourishing of our grand Fraternity at Suburban and the Brotherhood as a whole. Therefore, these questions arise: “How can we maintain and retain membership?”, “How can we sustain our imperative Fish Fry tradition and operation?”, and “How can we encourage engagement with Lodge and meaningful fellowship between all our Brothers”? All of us must ask ourselves these questions and take one straight-forward, upright step towards answering them as together we collaborate and combat these challenges facing our Fraternity.

Fraternally Thine,
Henry “Hank” Buckwalter
Senior Deacon ✧

He Wore the Apron: *Benjamin Franklin*

Greatest of American diplomats, hero of the War of Independence, distinguished also as publisher and printer, editor and author, a notable philosopher, a scientist whose valuable discoveries are even today highly esteemed Benjamin Franklin was also a devoted Freemason occupying for many years places of official prominence within the Fraternity.

Masonic ideas are the precious jewels of Speculative Masons; they should be kept bright and sparkling for all the brethren to see and to admire. As such, they should be the special care of Masonic leaders particularly those

who teach and interpret the philosophy of Freemasonry.

Certain facts of his Masonic career stand out; particularly it is to be noted that Franklin was not merely a lodge member content with that and nothing more, but a Freemason intensely interested in his Craft, willing to give his enormous powers for its welfare, and leaving an indelible impress on its history in America.

Franklin was initiated into Masonry in 1731; probably at the February meeting of St. John’s Lodge in Philadelphia. The esteem in which he was held is evidenced by the fact that he was elected Grand Master just a few short years later in 1735.

According to Old Masonic and family traditions, the cornerstone of the Statehouse in Philadelphia

(Independence Hall) was built while Franklin was Grand Master, was laid by him and the Brethren of St. John’s Lodge.

Franklin lived to be eighty-five years old. Sixty of those years as a Freemason; he lived and wrote and practiced the principles of the Order.

It is not for us to say what he would have been had there been no Freemasonry in his life; it is for us only to revere the Franklin who was among the very greatest of any other nation. Freemasons in America take great pride that this wise philosopher, this leader of men and of nations, had taken to his heart the immutable and eternal principles of the Ancient Craft. ✧

Excerpted from Short Talk Bulletin – Oct. 1933

Thank You

This letter from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is being used at the special request of the family of Ashlee Sizemore by a Brother of this Lodge.

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is an inherited disorder that causes severe damage to the lungs, digestive system and other organs in the body.

Although cystic fibrosis is progressive and requires daily care, people with CF are usually able to attend school and work. They often have a better quality of life than people with CF had in previous decades. Improvements in screening and treatments mean that people with CF now may live into their mid- to late 30s or 40s, and some are living into their 50s.

For more information, visit <https://www.cff.org/>



To Suburban Social Club, Inc:

Thank you for your donation of \$1,000.00 in honor of Ashlee Sizemore on June 22, 2023. Your gift will celebrate Ashlee and will help us get one step closer to realizing our shared dream – to find a cure for cystic fibrosis.

Your thoughtful gift to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation not only helps us accelerate cutting-edge research as we pursue new therapies and a cure for CF – but also ensures that we can advance the best possible care and meaningful programs for people with CF.

We are grateful for your contribution and will utilize it in the wisest way possible - so that someday CF will stand for Cure Found.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Feeley
Patrick J. Feeley
Chief Development Officer!



Dear Suburban Social Club and Members,

I wanted to take a minute to thank all of you for your continued support year after year. Without the help of community members like you, this program could not continue each year. Last year your donation was able to help a family in desperate need. It was a grandmother who took custody of two of her grandchildren from another state. She is on a very fixed income herself, and because the grandchildren were from another state, she could not get any state financial assistance for them from Kentucky. This did not stop her from saying "yes" to taking them in, however.

The children arrived with nothing but the clothes on their backs. They needed everything from clothes to school supplies, shoes, beds, etc. They also came right before the holidays. Your gift not only supplied the children with items to meet their basic needs, but we were able to give them a holiday they will never forget.

I can't thank you enough every single year for helping this program. These children are referred by social workers who know how desperate their situation is.

I hope all of you have a safe and wonderful 2024!

Stacie Jones

Stacie Jones
Volunteer Program Coordinator

As a state attorney whose work before retirement often involved Child Protective Services cases, I worked for several years with Stacie Jones. As reported by Frankfort's newspaper, The State Journal, in October 2011 Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear presented Stacie Jones with Kentucky's Community Service and Volunteerism Award. Jones continued to coordinate this Christmas program led by state social workers such as herself who volunteer their time. They identify children of needy families who cannot afford to give their children holiday gifts or necessities. Oftentimes, they identify abused, neglected or dependent children among their caseload who Courts have placed with relatives, who lack the financial means to provide them with gifts for Christmas or their own religious holidays. Despite her retirement from CHFS, Jones has continued this important work in coordination with her former colleagues. I am proud to call her a friend, and we at Suburban are proud to support her work.

— Tom Mercer, Chaplain

Last year, Suburban paid out \$1,000 scholarships to each of six students for their college education. Here are the Thank You notes (or excerpts) received from three of them. To maintain their privacy, we have included only their initials.

Members of the Lodge,
Thank you for the help with paying my tuition.
I'm so enjoying my college experience, and
any help I can get with the financials makes
the experience all the more enjoyable. Your
contribution to my higher education does not
go without notice or gratitude

Thank you.

S.

Dear Suburban Social Club,
Thank you so much for your generous donation to
my education. Your support goes a long way in
my dream of becoming a clinical psychologist.

Much Appreciation.

S. W.

To the Suburban Social Club,
I'm reaching out to formally say THANK YOU
for awarding me a scholarship! I am a senior at
Bellarmine University, and I will be completing a
Masters of Communication [degree] in the coming
two years. This fund will be especially helpful for me
this semester...

I appreciate what you do.

M. W.



Faith, Hope, and Charity



Tom Mercer
Past Master, Chaplin

My Brothers,
From time
immemorial, Free
and Accepted
Masons have

bowed their heads to the Supreme Architect of the Universe and prayed, “May we daily increase in Faith, Hope and Charity, more especially that Charity which is the bond of Peace and the perfection of every Virtue.” How is that prayer regularly acted upon at Suburban Lodge No. 740, F & AM, more especially with regard to Charity? Separate and apart from what each of us do individually for one charitable organization or another, collectively our Lodge annually contributes to various charitable causes. The funds to do so primarily come from our members who donate their time to the Suburban Social Club and work at the Fish Fry on Saturdays during the nine month season and/or on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays when preparation work is being done for the Saturday Fish Fry.

Those who have attended the regular meetings of the Social Club at 6:30 PM on the Second Tuesday of each month know that, after all bills have been paid for the continued operation of the Lodge and Social Club, including but not limited to property taxes, insurance, utilities and maintenance, etc., the Social Club donates each year to various charitable causes out of the remaining revenues from our fish stand operation.

The Social Club meeting at the end of each year when most of these donations are considered and voted upon is a happy time when we commit to pay out to charitable

causes and organizations thousands of dollars we have earned during that year. Our Treasurer writes out the authorized checks and we are done for the year and free to rest up and refresh our bodies and souls for the coming New Year and Fish Fry Season. The totals for 2022 included the following:

\$9,998.15 – the total our customers paid into our tip buckets, 100% of which went to the following charities: Crusade for Children, the Humane Society, and the Arrow Fund (a nonprofit organization that rescues, rehabilitates, and finds new homes for animal victims of extreme torture, abuse, or neglect).

\$6,000.00 - \$1,000 college scholarships to each of six students.

\$6,000.00 – to the Cherokee Chapter for DeMolay Boys who meet at the Suburban Lodge No. 740 F&AM Hall. (This includes \$4,000 to their Chapter in recognition of their help at the Fish Fry and \$2,000 to further support their activities.)

\$6,000.00 – to various Assemblies of Rainbow Girls in and around Jefferson County. (This includes \$4,000 in recognition of their help at the Fish Fry and \$2,000 that was set aside to further support the Lorraine Assembly once it again becomes active and resumes meeting at the Suburban Lodge No. 740 F&AM Hall.)

\$1,000.00 – to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of a Brother’s family member.

\$1,100.00 – to provide gifts at Christmas for abused or neglected children. (Courts generally have removed these children from their birth families and placed

them in the custody of relatives with little or no income or state aid to buy holiday gifts.

NOTE: Cherokee DeMolay also has adopted this program and have personally delivered their own purchased gifts, as their article indicates.)

Other beneficiaries of the Fish Fry include the appendant organizations and others who hold Bake Sales each Saturday to help fund their activities, and our members who enjoy meals (from Fish Fry proceeds) at the various meetings held by Suburban. The Social Club also periodically donates money to Suburban Lodge, which in turn uses that money for miscellaneous charitable causes as they arise. Each and every member also benefits from the work done at the Fish Fry, because proceeds help keep their Lodge dues the lowest in the state.

While our members who attend and vote at the last Social Club meeting know the amounts on the checks and the organizations or people to whom those checks are written, how much do we fully comprehend what those checks mean to their ultimate beneficiaries?

As another Fish Fry Season comes to a close, I thought it might do your hearts some good to hear true stories about or letters of thanks from the beneficiaries of your prayers and especially your work to “daily increase ... [in] Charity.” May these true stories and expressions of gratitude help increase your Faith in God and the basic goodness of humanity and your Hope for a better future. And may they remind your weary body and soul of the importance of your Charity, and why, as Masons, you do the work you do and live the life you live.

So mote it be. ✧