

**Ionic Lodge No. 31**  
By Chuck Simmermon

“To assist...their widows and orphans”. This obligation that we have all taken is quite often forgotten or laid aside. The contemporary Widows’ Program of Ionic Lodge was founded in 1992 with the acquisition of a display case to memorialize our departed brethren. While communicating with the widows to obtain information concerning their husbands, we learned that they did not feel they were a part of the Masonic community.

A “Widows Committee” was formed and a purpose and goals were developed. We determined that communication and assistance were essential in meeting our responsibilities to these special ladies. A telephone network was established to call each local widow at least once every two months and more frequently if necessary. These calls would consist of the standard questions of “How are you doing?” and “Is there anything we can help you with?” as well as general conversation about them and their families.

When an Ionic Lodge regular communication has a speaker or program that is designated as “open”, our widows are invited to be our guests at dinner and attend the program. We provide transportation for these ladies, if needed.

Laura Pudvan, herself an Ionic widow, acts as liaison with our widows by sending them birthday and Christmas cards. Laura also is an important source of information concerning the ladies.

The Christmas holidays can be a time of sadness for the widows. Our lodge members personally deliver poinsettias to all local Ionic widows to remind them that they are in our thoughts and hearts.

Each spring Ionic Lodge conducts a “Memorial Service” to remember the members who were called from labor. The widows are invited to attend and sit west of the altar while their husbands’ names are called and a flower placed thereon. This annual event has become one that our widows look forward to and attendance is always good.

An active widows program serves the lodge in various ways. It demonstrates to our ladies that they remain a part of the Masonic family after their husbands are gone. The program also helps the members of the lodge rediscover some of the tenets of our fraternity and they, in turn, become better Freemasons.

For further information on the structure of a Masonic Widows Program communicate with the author at [csimjr@aol.com](mailto:csimjr@aol.com) or (610) 255-0711.

**32° Masonic Learning Center  
Charity Golf Outing**

The Wilmington 32° Masonic Learning Center has been successfully helping our community’s children overcome dyslexia. The Learning Center also provides certified instructor training to spread this good work under the skilled instruction of Director Candace Bedrock. Children from Delaware and Delaware County, Pennsylvania have and are being helped.

To help continue and improve this mission, the Valley of Wilmington Scottish Rite led by the Princes of Jerusalem is holding it’s first ever Charity Golf Outing. All proceeds are tax deductible and will go to our Learning Center. It costs about \$5,000.00 to support a child through the program. So for every \$5,000.00 that is raised another child is helped. This successful program deserves our support.

The Charity Golf event is being held on Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the DuPont Country Club on the Championship course. **Voted #1 Private Course in Delaware 2006 (Delaware Today – Best of Delaware & The News Journal – Reader’s Choice).**

Games will be best ball with a shotgun start. There will be a lunch prior and a dinner afterward in the Gold Ballroom of the DuPont Country Club. It is open to everyone, Masons and non-Masons alike. In fact this would be a great opportunity to introduce, Freemasonry, Scottish Rite and most important for this day, our Learning Center to those not familiar with our good labors. The cost per golfer is a tax deductible \$175.00.

M.W.M. Grand Master William R. Stevens is supporting this event by offering a Masons only challenge within this golf event. He is offering a trophy to the winning foursome to be presented by him and declaring the “official” bragging rights for the year. The foursome must be members of the same Lodge. More than one team can represent its lodge. Lodges from other jurisdictions are welcome to enter. Entry fee for this on behalf of your lodge is \$100.00 per foursome. Entry forms are available by contacting Ed Miles at (610)485-3744 or by email at [edmiles@comcast.net](mailto:edmiles@comcast.net).

**Grand Master’s Class 2007**

Grand Master’s Class 2007 will be held at the NUR Shrine Center on Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12, 2007. All Grand Masters’ Class candidate’s registration forms along with a check for \$25.00 must be submitted to Pat Brown no later than May 4, 2007. Checks to be made payable to Grand Lodge of Delaware. Check-in will begin at 6:30 P.M. on Friday evening. All Candidates to petition through the Lodges by the normal petition process.

- ☞Candidates will petition Blue lodges
- ☞Petition read in Lodge
- ☞Candidate investigated by lodge members
- ☞Lodge votes on candidate
- ☞Petitioners Blue Lodges will collect all initiation fees from their Candidates.

Entered Apprentice Degree will begin at 7:30 P.M. Each Lodges must provide their candidates with aprons and Bibles. Lodge’s will be responsible for escorting and conducting their candidates during the degrees.

On Saturday, May 12, the Fellowcraft Degree will begin at 9:00 A.M. followed by lunch in the Duck Blind provided by John Peronti. Candidate’s resignation fee will cover their cost for lunch, followed by the Master Mason Degree in the afternoon.

Each respective Lodge will handle future candidate instruction and proficiency checkouts with the newly raised candidates. The Candidate’s Lodge will decide the extent of proficiency. **Minimum requirements for proficiency will be set by Grand Master.**

The Saturday evening of the Grand Master’s Class will be a welcoming reception, with food and music for the new Master Masons and their Ladies to be held in the NUR Shrine Center. The newly raised Master Masons and their ladies will be invited as the guest of the Grand Master. The cost of the event will be \$15.00 per person. For more information contact your Lodge Secretary.

**Tall Cedar –  
Charitable Objective**

Submitted by Earl G. Swanson Past Grand Tall of Brandywine Forest #20

The Charitable Objective of the Tall Cedar of Lebanon is to initiate and stimulate means of raising monies to support (Muscular Dystrophy Association) our charitable objective.

Beginning in 1951, the Tall Cedars became the first organization to offer continuing financial assistance to this most worthy cause the Muscular Dystrophy Association. This year marks our 50th anniversary of dealing directly with that objective, endeavoring through medical research to find a cure for muscular dystrophy and related neuromuscular diseases.

Funds raised throughout the year are paid into the Tall Cedar Foundation. At the end of the year, our total contribution is forwarded to MDA. We participate in the Rose Sales, Shamrock Sales, Pancake Jamborees, MDA Summer Camp, Canister Program, Car Shows, Local Telethons and many other fund raising activities.

The Supreme Tall Cedar and the Tall Cedar Foundation Chairman appear on the Jerry Lewis Telethon each year. The Forest MDA Chairmen are appointed by the Grand Tall Cedars in each Forest for the purpose of developing and implementing programs and projects to raise funds for our charitable objective. They also coordinate activities with the local MDA offices. They work closely with the Forest Grand Tall Cedar, the Scribe and the Treasurer to prepare all necessary forms, requests and reports.

The Goodwill Ambassador is selected each year by the Supreme Tall Cedar Elect on the recommendations of the Tall Cedar Foundation Board of Directors. Any Forest may request the presence of the Goodwill Ambassador at a Forest Function by contacting the Tall Cedar Foundation Director who is responsible for the Child’s schedule.

A Past Goodwill Ambassador is invited to return for five consecutive years after his/her year of service.

**Greetings from the Masonic Club of Delaware**

The Masonic Club of Delaware is a luncheon club that meets once a month to socialize, maintain and establish new lasting friendships. The meeting starts with lunch at 12:00 P.M., followed by a 20/30 minute program and minimal business. Meetings are held on the fourth Friday of the month in the Bedford Room at Highfield, Masonic Home of Delaware.

In the past, the Club has supported and given monetary help to fellow Masons and their widows with financial concerns. The club has also endeavored to provide support to the Scottish Rite 32° Masonic Learning Center, area school districts foreign exchange programs as well as Highfield, Masonic Home of Delaware. From time to time, the Board considers other miscellaneous areas of providing support in the spirit of Masonic brotherhood. Annual club dues help to finance support; current dues are \$15.00.

Current Masonic Club Officers:

President	Paul Spencer, PM	(302)999-8561	Vice President	David Chadwick	(302)324-1244
Secretary	Winnie Lane, PM	(302)994-1820	Treasurer	Bill Godfrey	(302)475-8129

Luncheon meetings are open to all Masons and their guest; you don’t need to be a member to visit. Come out and visit with us and see what the Masonic Club is all about. Meals are \$7.00 each.

For more information or to RSVP call any of the club officers.