



# The Lebanon Light

## Benjamin Franklin

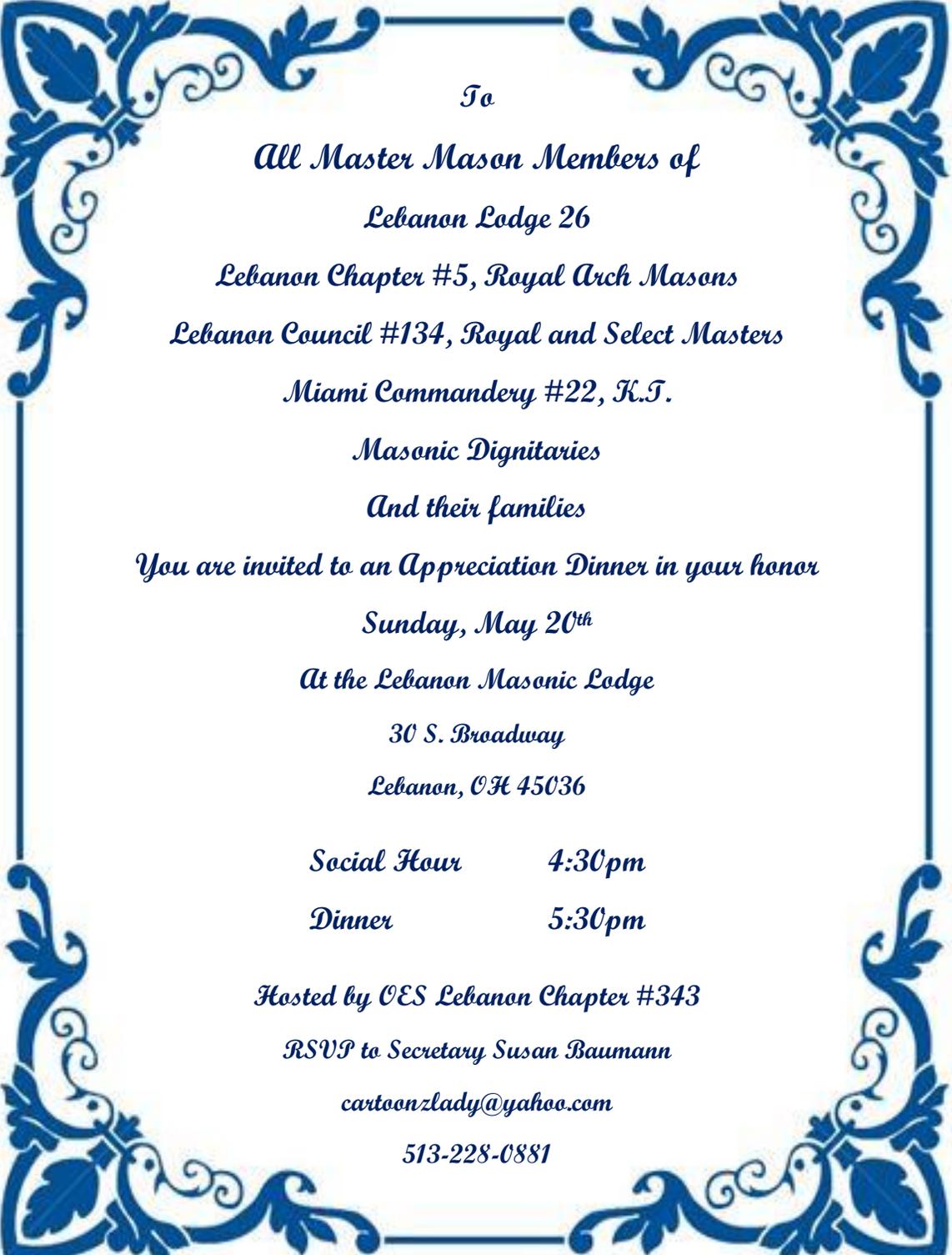
If you decide to peruse the website for the Lebanon Lodge, you will notice under the “About” tab, a video, *A Timely Chat With America*. As a signer to both the Declaration of Independence and The Constitution, Benjamin Franklin is considered a Founding Father and has been referred to as “The President of the United States who was never President of the United States.” Franklin well deserves more examination than this article can provide but will provide a look into a few lesser known facts.

Benjamin Franklin is well-known for his experiments regarding electricity and being the first US Postmaster General. Additional studies, concepts and inventions include not only electricity and the lightning rod, but also include Atlantic Ocean wave currents, oceanography findings, population studies, temperature’s effect on conductivity meteorology, decision-making. traction kiting, the concept of cooling, the wave theory of light, and the invention of the glass armonica, bifocals and the Franklin stove just to name a variety. It is interesting that more pages of his autobiography are focused to his “Thirteen Virtues,” a plan he developed to strengthen his character than any other topic he could discuss. The following are Franklin’s “13 Virtues.”

1. **Temperance.** Eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation.
2. **Silence.** Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself; avoid trifling conversation.
3. **Order.** Let all your things have their places; let each part of your business have its time.
4. **Resolution.** Resolve to perform what you ought; perform without fail what you resolve.
5. **Frugality.** Make no expense but to do good to others or yourself.
6. **Industry.** Lose no time; be always employ'd in something useful.
7. **Sincerity.** Use no hurtful deceit; think innocently and justly, and if you speak, speak accordingly.
8. **Justice.** Wrong none by doing injuries or omitting the benefits that are your duty.
9. **Moderation.** Avoid extremes; forbear resenting injuries so much as you think they deserve.
10. **Cleanliness.** Tolerate no uncleanness in body, clothes, or habitation.
11. **Tranquility.** Be not disturbed at trifles, or at accidents common or unavoidable.
12. **Chastity.** Rarely us didn'e venery but for health or offspring, never to dullness, weakness, or the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation.
13. **Humility.** Imitate Jesus and Socrates.

Interestingly, Franklin did not work on all thirteen at once. Instead, he would work on only one each week “leaving all others to their ordinary chance.” Although Franklin said himself that he fell short of living by his virtues many times, he believed the attempt made him a more successful, happier and better man. He firmly believed that the newly formed republic could survive only if its people were virtuous. His “13 Virtues Plan” was intended to be shared to strengthen this country and better its people. Clearly, “to make a good man better” was a belief he truly embodied.

In 1731, at the age of 25, Franklin was initiated into the local Masonic lodge in Philadelphia. He became Grand Master in 1734. That same year, he edited and published the first Masonic book in the Americas, a reprint of James Anderson's *Constitutions of the Free-Masons*. Not only was Franklin active as a Mason in Pennsylvania, he was active in lodges in Europe when he spent several years abroad, attending lodges in England and affiliating with lodges in France. He became a member in France of the Nine Sisters Lodge and later elected Venerable (WM); Saint Jean of Jerusalem Lodge where he received an honorary Venerable and was also provided with an honorary member of the Good Friends Lodge. (More “Tidbits” on page 4)



To

*All Master Mason Members of*

*Lebanon Lodge 26*

*Lebanon Chapter #5, Royal Arch Masons*

*Lebanon Council #134, Royal and Select Masters*

*Miami Commandery #22, K.T.*

*Masonic Dignitaries*

*And their families*

*You are invited to an Appreciation Dinner in your honor*

*Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>*

*At the Lebanon Masonic Lodge*

*30 S. Broadway*

*Lebanon, OH 45036*

*Social Hour            4:30pm*

*Dinner                    5:30pm*

*Hosted by OES Lebanon Chapter #343*

*RSVP to Secretary Susan Baumann*

*cartoonzlady@yahoo.com*

*513-228-0881*



Hello Sisters and Brothers,

Get your running shoes on!

Yes, Dare to Run will be May 12<sup>th</sup> with a start time of 8:30 at ARMCO park, Shelter #33.

But there is much more running happening!

Hillsboro joined us for friendship night at our last stated meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup>. They brought a lot of people especially considering the forecast was for a snow storm. Despite the forecast, everyone had a great time! On a sad note, however, we draped the alter for the passing of PGM Gloria Voltz and draped our charter for the passing of Virginia Reidmiller and Harold Sebecke.

Busy times are just around the corner!

On Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be going to Hillsboro Chapter for Friendship Night there. We will meet at the lodge parking lot at 6:00 and leave no later than 6:15.

April 10<sup>th</sup> is Harmony Circle at 7pm at the lodge.

April 13<sup>th</sup> is Mason Chapter's inspection. WGP David Sexton will be the Inspection Officer.

April 16<sup>th</sup> will be New Vienna's inspection

April 17<sup>th</sup> – Lebanon Stated Meeting – We will be doing initiatory work.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Home City SW Team #3 in District 18 will have their inspection by the AGP

April 27<sup>th</sup> – Double Running! – Miami Chapter will have their inspection and Hillsboro will be hosting a fundraiser Sock Hop at 8pm!

April 30<sup>th</sup> is Milford's Chapter's inspection

May 5<sup>th</sup> is a reception at the Dayton Masonic Center for Grand Secretary Roberta David

May 8<sup>th</sup> will be our Harmony Circle meeting

May 11<sup>th</sup> – Inspection for Neal Chapter, SW Team #3, District 18

May 12<sup>th</sup> – DARE to RUN at ARMCO Park

May 15<sup>th</sup> – **Lebanon Chapter's Inspection**

May 16<sup>th</sup> – Hillsboro Chapter's Inspection

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Cary Chapter's Inspection

May 20<sup>th</sup> – Lebanon Chapter hosting our Masonic Appreciation dinner.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – Inspection for Aldora Chapter in SW Team #3, District 18

May 25<sup>th</sup> – Inspection for Linden Chapter in District 22 by the WGM, Sandi Herman

Whew! LOTS of running during this busy inspection season! Maybe we can catch our breath during the Memorial Weekend when all the inspections will be completed!

Always yours in Star,

*Cindy Fugate*. WM

## Schedule - Upcoming Dates



Blue Lodge meets on the first Thursday of every month. Dinner starts at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:30

Upcoming Blue Lodge Meeting - **April 5<sup>th</sup>**

Next Blue Lodge Meeting - **May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Eastern Star has Harmony Circle on the second Tuesday of every month. Dinner is at 6. Meeting starts at 7.

Upcoming Harmony Circle Meeting - **April 10<sup>th</sup>**

Next Harmony Circle Meeting - **May 8<sup>th</sup>**

Eastern Star has their stated meeting on the third Tuesday of every month. Dinner at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30

Upcoming Eastern Star Meeting – **April 17<sup>th</sup>**

Next Eastern Star Meeting - **May 15<sup>th</sup>**

Royal Arch meets on second Monday of every month. Dinner starts at 6:30. Meeting begins at 7:30

Upcoming Chapter Meeting – **April 9<sup>th</sup>**

Next Chapter Meeting - **May 14<sup>th</sup>**

Council meeting on the third Monday of every month. Dinner is at 6:30. Meeting starts at 7:30

Upcoming Council Meeting – **April 16<sup>th</sup>**

Next Council Meeting - **May 21<sup>st</sup>**

Commandery has their meeting on the fourth Friday of each month. Dinner at 6:30. Meeting begins at 7:30

Upcoming Commandery Meeting – **April 27<sup>th</sup>**

Next Commandery Meeting - **May 25<sup>th</sup>**

### Ben Franklin Tidbits

The State of Franklin was a short-lived independent state formed during the Revolutionary War.

Several US Navy ships have been named either USS Benjamin Franklin or USS Bonhomme Richard (The French translation of his penname “Poor Richard”) In fact, during WWII, Franklin had the distinction of having two commissioned aircraft carriers named after him in operation at the same time.

Daylight Savings Time was one thing he did NOT invent. (He did suggest that Parisians could save money on candles and lamp oil if they altered their sleep schedules to wake up earlier.)

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## Famous Mason Birthdays in April

**Joseph E. Seagram** (April 15, 1841 - August 18, 1919) Founder of the Seagram Distillery, Joseph Emm Seagram served as a town councilor from 1879 to 1886 and then as Waterloo North's Member of Parliament in Canada from 1896 to 1908.

As an entrepreneur, racing administrator, community leader and politician, Seagram revolutionized horse racing and breeding in Canada, winning a remarkable eight successive Queen's Plates between 1891 and 1898, and fifteen before his death in 1919

**Harry Houdini** (April 16, 1874 - October 31, 1926) Born Erich Weiss, Harry Houdini was a world-famous escape artist and trapeze performer, as well as the inventor of the diving suit, and the first successful aviator in Australia.

Houdini was not alone among masonic magicians, a group which included such notables as Harry Keller, Howard Thurston, and Harry Blackstone.

His untimely death has been the topic of much folklore: his burst appendix was not caused by an earlier blow to his stomach nor did he collapse on stage.

**James Buchanan Jr.** (April 23, 1791 – June 1, 1868) was the 15th president of the United States (1857–61), serving immediately prior to the American Civil War.

President Buchanan was the Junior Warden of his lodge from 1821 to 1822, and the Worshipful Master of the lodge in 1825. He was later exalted in Royal Arch Chapter No. 43, in 1826 going on to become Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Said of Buchanan in his work *President James Buchanan: A Biography*, by Philip S Klein, "His many talents, which in a quieter era might have gained for him a place among the great presidents, were quickly overshadowed by the cataclysmic events of civil war and by the towering Abraham Lincoln."

**James Monroe (April 28, 1758 – July 4, 1831)** was an American statesman and Founding Father who served as the fifth President of the United States from 1817 to 1825. Monroe became an Entered Apprentice in Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 at Williamsburg, VA., on November 9, 1775. Unfortunately, there is no record of his taking any further degrees beyond the first. However, the records of Cumberland Lodge no. 8 in Tennessee, June 8, 1819, show a reception for Monroe as "a Brother of the Craft." possibly a Master Mason in 1776.



Our country may be likened to a new house. We lack many things, but we possess the most precious of all - liberty!

(James Monroe)