



Meet Worshipful Master Bob Breeden a Well Travelled Mason

Robert Earl Breeden, Jr was born in Martinsburg, WV on May 16, 1949, and in December of 1968 he traded the hills of West Virginia for the wild blue yonder when he enlisted in the United States Air Force.

Bob's career in the USAF took him to several interesting parts of the world, but for the majority of his career in the postal division of the USAF he was in Taiwan. It was here in November of 1971 that Brother Breeden was initiated into Szechuan Lodge #4 of the Grand Lodge of China.

A brief history of the interesting time of Masonry in Taiwan is found here-https://freemason.org.tw/~freembe3/?page_id=4982 that talks about the original lodges of Taiwan being chartered under the Grand Lodge of England in 1767.

In February of 1972 Brother Breeden was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason still in Szechuan Lodge #4.

Upon his return to the states with the USAF, he was again moved to various commands and finished his lengthy career in the USAF as the Testing Administrator for recruits attempting to join the USAF. So that means if you were attempting to join the USAF from 1986 to 1989 in the Cincinnati area there's a good chance that Bob was the person giving you the test!

Brother Breeden retired from the USAF in 1989 after 20 years of service to this great nation!

In 1999 Brother Breeden started working at Rincon Mexicano in Eastgate where he eventually met WB John Rowe.

For those of you who don't know WB Rowe there are few strangers in his world and between Brother Breeden's Air Force service and Masonic connection WB Rowe wanted to know why Brother Breeden hadn't ever come to our lodge and that's when it was discovered that there was an administrative issue as the Grand Lodge of China had yet again changed hands, government structures, and languages!

Through some diligent work between J. B. Covert, the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ohio and the Grand Lodge of China Brother Breeden was able to transfer his membership to J. B. Covert in December of 2021. In February of 2022 Brother Breeden was recognized for 50 years of Masonic Service by the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

In December of 2025 Brother Breeden was installed as Worshipful Master of this lodge and since then has had a successful Annual Inspection in the Entered Apprentice Degree on January 2nd, conferred the Fellow Craft Degree in February, and won the 6th District's Traveling Gavel 5 times at the writing of this article for Inspection Attendance at other lodges of the 6th District!



Bob Breeden
Worshipful Master

2026 Officers

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Senior Deacon

Matthew Klug

Junior Deacon

Neil Lizakowski

Senior Steward

Timothy Bishop

Junior Steward

William Simison

Chaplain

Carey Disney, PM

Tyler

Otis Davis

Musician

Alfred R. Determan

LEO

Bernard Blust, III PM

Marshal

Russ Shipley

Trustees

Roy Elliott, PM

Dave Olmstead, PM

Ron Campbell, PM

Dana Disney

What's next at J. B. Covert?

Stated Meeting & Masonic Education Session- 3rd Tuesday of Every Month

Dinner at 6pm and Lodge opens at 7pm

Lunch Bunch- Every Tuesday 11:30am until the last dad joke is told! Bring your lunch and join the conversation!



April 18th - Statewide Masonic Open House- 11am - 1 pm at the lodge

May 3rd - Family Movie Day at RJ Cinemas- Movie TBD- Join us for lunch and drinks at the movies from 2pm - 4pm! Look for email with additional details in April or email the Secretary at secretary@jbcovertlodge.com

May 16th - District Picnic and Family Fishing at Washington Township Park in Moscow, OH from noon - 3pm

June 13th- First Ever J. B. Covert BBQ and Grill Master Competition! Bring your favorite entry and a side or dessert to compete for bragging rights and an awesome award while enjoying family friendly fellowship!

June 27th- Join us and other Masons of the 6th Masonic District at the Florence Y'Alls Baseball Game! - Tickets are \$10 and must be purchased ahead of time. Parking is free at the stadium! Contact the Secretary to purchase yours!

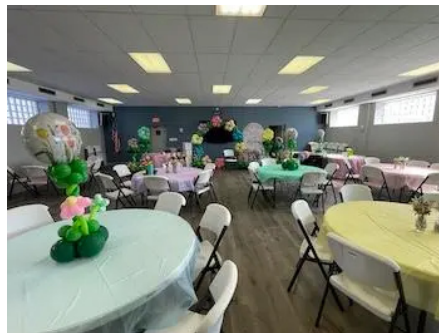


July 21st- July Wear Your Leather Apron to the July Stated Meeting! We do this as annual reminder to ourselves and our families of our desire to wear that apron one last time and to remember the life WB Kyle Adkins.

Due to the expense and time needed to prepare these quarterly newsletters we strongly encourage all members to make sure their email is up to date with the lodge Secretary! We communicate monthly through an electronic newsletter that has more timely information and links for more information or registration.

Our Banquet Room and Patio are available for event rentals!

Email us at web@jbcovertlodge.com or call 513-702-0038



Being good stewards of the resources of the lodge... We're feeling the same impacts of inflation as you are!

Let's face it- everything is more expensive today. We don't need to waste your time with a comparative analysis of how much more expensive the same bills you're paying at your home or business are compared to the same bills your lodge is facing. We can all agree that it is an immutable truth- everything is more expensive!

The lodge has very few forms of income and they are basically:

- Investment Dividends 15%
- Rentals 49%
- Dues 27%
- Degree Fees 1%
- Misc. Donations 8%

The last time the lodge addressed dues was 2016 when we changed the bylaws to read that that the dues would be $\$X + \Y (Grand Lodge Per Capita rounded up to the next dollar) = $\$Z$

Since 2016 the math was this:

- X = \$60
- Y = \$19 (\$18.20 actual rounded up to the next dollar)
- Z = \$79- Charged to each member for annual dues

The Grand Lodge has tried every year to raise Per Capita at the Annual Communication in October, but as of 2025 those attempts were voted down by the lodges and therefore the Per Capita has remained the same.

While our commitment to the Grand Lodge of Ohio has, to date, pretty much remained flat since 2016, that will change eventually. Unfortunately, our other utilities and costs to run the lodge have not remained flat, just like your own bills have not remained unchanged in the last 10 years.

The Finance Committee has officially proposed an increase in dues at the March Stated Meeting which, per the Code of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, was laid over for a vote at the April Stated Meeting. The proposal was to change the dues portion of the above equation to \$70 which would make the amount required of all Master Masons to be \$89. This amount is to be paid in full before the Annual Meeting in November to be considered in Good Standing.

In 2026 the math would be:

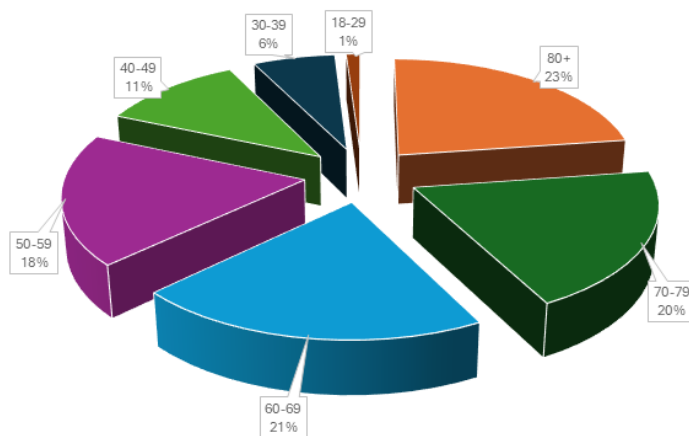
- X = \$70
- Y = \$19 (\$18.20 actual rounded up to the next dollar)
- Z = \$89- Charged to each member for annual dues

Currently your lodge offsets the bulk of its operating expenses through renting our dining room and patio area for private events. This effort requires a lodge member to be present during the hours of the rental as well as some light janitorial work. With our updated public areas the lodge has been able to not do other fundraisers since the remodel was completed during the Covid Shutdown. If this income was not available, the dues increase would have been significantly higher and a much more frequent process than once in 10 years.

Endowed members and those members with over 50 years of Masonic Service are exempt from paying dues, but are strongly encouraged to continue their annual donations to offset the Per Capita that is still paid the lodge for them annually. If you're interested in becoming an Endowed Member, you're encouraged to contact the Secretary. The current Endowment fee for the Grand Lodge of Ohio is only \$800 + the current year's dues. After receipt of the funds, you are no longer required to pay annual dues and, even after you've passed away, the lodge will continue to receive payments from the Grand Lodge of Ohio in your name! There are currently 29 Endowed Members of your lodge!

You are encouraged to attend the April 21st Stated Meeting to participate in the discussion or to exercise your right to vote in the required ballot to amend the annual dues rate.

Membership by Age



What Type of Mason Are You?

Remember there are 3 basic types of Masons - *Active* - *Practicing* - *Sustaining*. We need all members to try and be members of 2 of the types simultaneously!

Active members are the Brothers who are at every meeting or taking on a committee/officer roll.

Practicing are Masons who make a conscious effort daily to live the lessons of our ritual in their daily lives.

Sustaining members are those who donate to the lodge operations on top of or in lieu of being able to actively participate.

Masonry thrives on Time-Talent-Treasure and we're asking you to consider donating at least two of the three as we continue our next 150 years!

Email us at secretary@jbcovertlodge.com or call 513-702-0038 if you're willing to help!



Lunch Bunch Meets Weekly!

Great Fellowship Tuesdays 11:30 am bring your lunch and stop by the lodge for some fellowship with your Brothers!



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Dave Olmstead 513-617-0906
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J. B. Covert Members taking home the 6th District's Traveling Gavel for the 5th straight time at the New Harmony Lodge Inspection February 26th, 2026



Visit our website at

jbcovertlodge.com/credit-cards to pay your dues or make a donation any time during the year!

