ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE

Franklin County Memorial Lodge

The annual meeting of the Franklin County Memorial Lodge will be held on Wednesday, January 13 at Ralph R. Rickly Lodge. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm (choice of veal parmesan or lasagna) and the meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. The cost of the dinner is $10.

The Memorial Lodge was created in 1964 for the purpose of conducting funeral services for masons sojourning in the central Ohio area. They hold no regular other meetings, but assemble when the need arises.

Reservations for dinner are due to Secretary, RWB Jeff Rannebarger at rannebargerjl@gmail.com NO LATER THAN January 6. Members of the Memorial Lodge receive phone calls when necessary. Membership dues are just $1/year. The officers of the Memorial Lodge are appointed annually by the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio

The 2016 district directory is expected to be distributed following the Memorial Lodge meeting.

Wardens and Deacons School

The Wardens and Deacons School will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at a location to be announced. Contact your DEO for details.

Reporter(s) Needed

The Ashlar is looking for a few good men! For more details, contact us at 14thdistashlar@gmail.com.

VA Hospital Visitation

No visitations in December or January. Next visitation: **February**

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ASHLAR:
December 10, 2015

Contacts

14th District Officers
President
WB Mike Saum
1st Vice President
WB Tim Rice
2nd Vice President
WB Harold Davis
Sergeant-At-Arms
WB Adam Michael
Chaplain
WB Brad Love

Communication Committee
WB Mike Saum
RWB Ken Cohen
WB Adam Michael

Editor
Your name here?

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

Masons Lead Better Enters 2nd Year

Masons Lead Better
In their Lives, Families, Jobs and Communities

The Masons Lead Better program had a wonderfully successful first year. Almost 800 masons were trained last year in 25 sessions throughout the state, including over 25 from the Fabulous Fourteenth District. The Master Builder phone calls and Master Builder Group has been up and running.

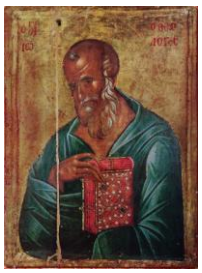
This year, the program is being continued and expanded. The original Masons Lead Better course has been renamed "Becoming Masonry." This course is based on the premise that in order to be a great leader, you must first learn to lead yourself. The class will be offered in only 12 locations this year (rather than in each of 25 districts statewide). One of those sessions is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 23, 2016. Signups for this class and additional details will appear as we get closer to the class.


2014 "Becoming Masonry" class

A new class called "The Masonic Leader's Trestle Board" will be offered in 8 locations statewide. This class has a prerequisite to complete "Becoming Masonry" and will teach the students how to lead and execute change. This class will be offered on June11, 2016 in the 14th Masonic District. For more details on Masons Lead Better, go to their website: http://MasonsLeadBetter.com.

Saint John the Evangelist

On June 24, 1717, four lodges met at the Goose and Gridiron Tavern in St Paul's Churchyard in London to form the Grand Lodge of England. Why June 24? They were celebrating the Feast of St John the Baptist.



We all know of the Holy Saints John, but did you know that their feast days are considered Masonic holidays? December 27 marks the Feast Day of St John the Evangelist, one of the patron saints of Freemasonry. There are many ways a lodge can celebrate. Some lodges choose to attend church as a lodge. Others hold a dinner. Still others may hold a table lodge or festive board. However your lodge chooses to observe this holy day, the staff of the Ashlar wish you a very happy St John's Day (along with any other holidays which you and your family may observe.)

Past Masters Convocation/Education Conference

All brothers who plan to serve as Worshipful Master are required to attend the Past Masters Convocation on Saturday, December 5 at Luther B. Turner Lodge. You must be an ACTUAL past master of a lodge to attend this session. Registration begins at 7am, and a lodge of Past Masters will open at 8:30am. Masters, please bring the necessary paperwork as directed by your District Deputy Grand Master.

Lodge Education Officers are requested to meet with the District Education Officers at 9:30 am on Saturday, December 5 at Luther B. Turner. They will discuss the requirements for the Grand Master's Education Award for 2016, as well as other issues relevant to Lodge Education Officers and Master Craftsmen. This meeting is open to LEOs, Master Craftsmen and any other officer or brother who is interested in Masonic education. Senior Wardens have found it very useful to attend this meeting in the past.

The brethren of Luther B. Turner will have lunch available for $5. After lunch, the 14th District Masonic Officers Association will hold their annual meeting. In addition to hearing the required financial and membership reports, the new officers of the association will be elected and installed.



WB David Sweeley and WB Timothy Ward, new District Education Officers at their installation on November 1

Dates

12/5
Past Masters Convocation/ Education Conference/ District Annual Meeting
Luther B. Turner

12/12
Blendon Lodge Breakfast with Santa
8am breakfast
9am Santa

12/25
Christmas

12/27
Feast of St John the Evangelist

1/1 New Year's Day

1/9 Wardens and Deacons School

1/13/2016
Franklin County Memorial Lodge Annual Meeting at Ralph R. Rickly Lodge

1/18/2016
First Inspection (see complete schedule on the last page of the Ashlar)

RWB Ward Weber, RWB Ken Cohen, RWB Fred Pfarr and RWB Bill Estell at Ken's installation as District Deputy Grand Master



Masonic Meals

Enjoy Some Great Fellowship

Come out for one of the many breakfasts or dinners around the District and enjoy some great food & fellowship

First Saturday at **Lockbourne Lodge: Breakfast**, 8 - 10a

First Saturday at **Grove City Lodge: Breakfast**, 8 - 10a

First Saturday at **Hiram Lodge: Breakfast**, 8-10a January - November

Third Saturday at **Groveport Lodge: Breakfast**, 7:30 - 10a EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST

Last Saturday at **Reynoldsburg Lodge: Breakfast**, 8 - 11a

If you are having a meal and want to invite the district, please send an email to : **14thdistashlar@gmail.com**

How Rough Is Your Online Ashlar

Matt Johnson, WM Blendon No. 339

We are an ancient tradition in the 21st century. We need to look the part or we're doomed. Period. End of story. Your lodge may have the greatest ritual work, pancakes or the youngest officer line in the fraternity but there's more to being relevant in this age. If you want your lodge to survive in the coming millennia and capture the interest of my fellow millennials, let's get digital.

First let me say, greetings from Blendon Lodge #339 in Westerville, Ohio. I'm Matt Johnson a 30 year old SW this year who has been the caretaker of www.blendon339.com since my raising in 2009. I also happen to be a Professional Marketing Director, with relevant experience that I will be applying into my lodge's future this year. I'm here to ask you some serious questions about the future of our fraternity.

I'm legitimately concerned for us, so let's role-play for a moment. If I know nothing about Freemasonry and live in your area - what am I going to find when I look around? Where am I going to look? I'm going to start by searching online for a local lodge, using my computer, smartphone or tablet. Am I going to find your lodge's website (you at least have one right?) with recent or accurate information? Some lodges haven't updated their websites in over a decade. Many have very confusing layouts & designs reminiscent of the year 1997. Our most basic and essential marketing tool working 24/7/365 isn't being utilized well. You need a perfect online ashlar to build a foundation from.

This is an internet-driven era. You have approximately 10 seconds or less when I find your homepage for me to gauge if I'm wasting my time. I'd be more likely to close the page, never looking back because I think Lodge XYZ is essentially dead. I often hear "we only want the most interested candidates"; that's great, but give them something to be interested in.

Key Thoughts

- Does your lodge look alive to the outside world?
- How easy is it for the curious public to find you & learn more about you?
- Can they subscribe to you via email, Facebook, etc?

You don't need an executive level website or a daily blog; but you do need to consider if you're at least doing the basics. People have the expectation to be able to find information online, to engage that interest.

There are a plethora of free tools available to help both the geek and non-geek alike account for this, they're not hard to utilize. You just need to take it seriously. Let's explore together how we can help you make your lodge's website one of the working tools of our profession.

Reprinted with permission of the author. Since this appeared in the Beacon, Bro Johnson has been elected and installed as WM of Blendon No. 339.

***Read more at* http://14thmasonicdistrict.org/87-supplemental/116-online-ashlar**

Local Masonic Jewelry Business Must Sell

Established in 2002, L & J Masonic Jewelry must sell due to the illness of the owner John Rust. The store front is currently located in Pataskala, Ohio with a large inventory of jewelry, clothing, and miscellaneous masonic items. Anyone who is interested please call John Rust at 614-570-6808.

Installations and Awards Around the District



Got Photos to share?

Send them to 14thdistAshlar@gmail.com

More Installations and Awards



















2016 Inspection Schedule 14th Masonic District

Lodge	Inspection Date	Degree	DDGM	DEO	District Officer
Blendon 339	1/18/16 (Mon)	MM	B. Estell	A. Wycoff	T. Rice
Magnolia 20	1/19/16 (Tue)	FC	W. Weber	M. Gilmore	H. Davis
Arts & Sciences 792 at Blendon Lodge	1/21/16 (Thu)	MM	F. Pfarr	D. Sweeley	Chaplain
University 631	1/26/16 (Tue)	FC	K. Cohen	M. Gilmore	T. Rice
Groveport 240	2/2/16 (Tue)	EA	F. Pfarr	A. Wycoff	A. Michael
Sunrise 783	2/4/16 (Thu)	FC	B. Estell	A. Wycoff	Chaplain
York 563	2/15/16 (Mon)	MM	K. Cohen	T. Ward	T. Rice
Avery 493	2/16/16 (Tue)	MM	K. Cohen	D. Sweeley	H. Davis
Linden 637	2/18/16 (Thu)	FC	W. Weber	T. Ward	A. Michael
Ralph R. Rickly 670	2/22/16 (Mon)	FC	B. Estell	M. Gilmore	Chaplain
New England 4	2/24/16 (Wed)	FC	K. Cohen	D. Sweeley	T. Rice
Grove City 689	3/7/16 (Mon)	FC	F. Pfarr	M. Gilmore	B. Love
Community 684	3/8/16 (Tue)	MM	W. Weber	T. Ward	B. Love
Triangle 748	3/10/16 (Thu)	FC	B. Estell	A. Wycoff	A. Michael
Columbus 30	3/15/16 (Tue)	EA	W. Weber	D. Sweeley	H. Davis
South Gate-Potter 782	3/16/16 (Wed)	EA	F. Pfarr	T. Ward	B. Love
West Gate	3/28/16 (Mon)	MM	B. Estell	D. Sweeley	A. Michael
Whitehall 761	3/29/16 (Tue)	MM	W. Weber	T. Ward	Chaplain
Reynoldsburg 340	3/31/16 (Thu)	EA	B. Estell	A. Wycoff	T. Rice
Lockbourne 232	4/7/16 (Thu)	EA	F. Pfarr	T. Ward	H. Davis
Goodale 372	4/11/16 (Mon)	EA	K. Cohen	D. Sweeley	B. Love
Hiram 18	4/12/16 (Tue)	MM	W. Weber	M. Gilmore	A. Michael
Sparrow 400	4/19/16 (Tue)	FC	K. Cohen	A. Wycoff	Chaplain
Capital City 656	4/22/16 (Fri)	EA	W. Weber	D. Sweeley	B. Love
Neoacacia 595	4/27/16 (Wed)	FC	K. Cohen	M. Gilmore	H. Davis
Luther B . Turner 732	4/29/16 (Fri)	EA	F. Pfarr	T. Ward	T. Rice

All inspections begin at 7:00 pm
Dinners will begin at 6:15 pm
Master Mason Degrees will hold first section at 5:15 pm