ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

OCTOBER 2016 ISSUE

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER ASHLAR: October 10, 2016

Grand Lodge Scheduled

The 207th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio is scheduled to take place on October 14th and 15th in Sandusky at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center. The deadline for reservations at the hotel has passed, but if you are still looking for lodging, there are plenty of options nearby. Full details of the communication can be found on the Grand Lodge of Ohio webpage at www.freemason.com.

The Grand Lodge session will commence at 8:00 am on Friday in the Kalahari Ballroom and will run till approximately 4:00 pm and will then resume on Saturday at 8:00 am until approximately 10:30 pm. The installation of the 2016-2017 Grand Lodge Officers will then take place at 11:00 am. Come prepared with your dues cards and aprons and be ready to vote on the proposed legislation. Your vote counts!

Public Library Dedication Ceremony

REVISION OF DATE: Brothers, the date of the dedication ceremony for the new Grove City Public Library is Sunday, October 16th at 3:30 pm. The new library is located at 3959 Broadway, in Grove City. This location is just 3 blocks from Grove City Lodge. All masons taking part in the afternoon will assemble at the lodge by 2:15 pm and then walk to the library together.

Their official celebration begins at 1:00 pm with guest speakers and presentations. The masonic ceremony is slated to begin at 3:30 pm. All master masons are invited to attend and walk in the procession to the library, from the lodge. Dark suit and apron is the attire for this special event.

Contacts

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

Communication Committee
WB Mike Saum
RWB Ken Cohen
WB Adam Michael

Editor
WB Adam Michael

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

From the President

WB Tim Rice, 14th District President

"October sunshine bathed the park with such a melting light that it had the dimmed impressive look of a landscape by an old master." — Elizabeth Enright.

Halloween has always been filled with mystery, magic and superstition. Much of the same has often been said about our beloved fraternity. With its Celtic origins, Halloween began as an end-of-summer festival during which people felt especially close to deceased loved ones. For these friendly spirits, they left treats on doorsteps and lit candles to help loved ones find their way back to the spirit world. The district officers wish you a safe and happy Halloween.

Your 14th Masonic District Officers continue to offer maple syrup for sale. In addition to our traditional maple syrup, we are also offering a limited supply of syrup aged in bourbon barrels. This specialty syrup has a very distinct and robust flavor and is great on ice cream, fruit, yogurt and pancakes. It can also be used to baste fish or may be added as flavoring to coffee and other types of beverages. See a district officer to purchase yours today.

Preparations are currently underway to compile the information needed for next year's District Directory. The "One Liner" sponsorship forms have been distributed to each lodge in the district by WB Harold Davis. In addition to the sponsorship form, lodges may also want to consider sponsoring an ad in the upcoming directory. This publication wouldn't be possible without your continued support.

Take advantage of the upcoming events around the district. Get involved. This is your district, this is my district and this is our district.

Fraternally,

Tim Rice - President

Bro. Paul Writesel Receives Service Pin

RWB Ken Cohen was honored to present a 50 year pin to Bro Writesel of Groveport Lodge. Also present were Bro Michael Wiseman, WB Cal Bozeman, WM, Bro Roger Wiseman and Bro Ed Peppel, Secretary.



District Raises Money at Worthington Market Day

On Saturday, September 24th, the 14th District Masonic Officers Association participated in a fundraiser at the Old Worthington Market Day. The booth was right in front of the Masonic Temple formerly owned by New England No. 4. The volunteers that manned the booth sold fried bologna sandwiches and drinks to the patrons of the event. The district also continued their sales of maple and bourbon barrel syrup which emerged as a crowd favorite. Many people passed by and told stories of their grandfathers that were masons and how pleased they were to see us taking part in this community event. Some even stopped and said they were masons but had not been to lodge in a while, but they were proud to see us, as we were appreciative to see them. This event will take place next year as it continues to provide funds for the district and awareness in the community. The day turned out to be filled with sunshine, hard work, fellowship and a little fun, as well. Come help us out next year, you won't regret it.



Dates

10/2 – VA Hospital Visitation

10/14 – 10/15 Grand Lodge at Kalihari

10/16 – Library Dedication, Meet at Grove City Lodge

10/16 16th Degree at York Golf Club

10/23 – District to serve at Faith Mission

10/25 – Valley of Columbus 4, 6, 19 & 31 at Blendon Masonic Temple

10/29 – Valley of Columbus 4, 14, 16 & 18 at Blendon Masonic Temple

10/30 – DDGM/DEO Installation at Northwest Temple

11/19 Purple Pancakes at York Golf Club

11/29 LEO Workshop

12/10 PM Convocation

12/10 14th District Annual Meeting

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

Second Saturday at **West Gate Lodge: Breakfast**, 8-11a

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

Last Saturday at **Reynoldsburg Lodge: Breakfast**, 8 - 10a

If you are having a meal and want to invite the district, please send an email to:

14thdistashlar@gmail.com

DDGM / DEO Installation Planned

The installations of the District Deputy Grand Master and District Education Officer, who will be appointed at Grand Lodge, will begin at **3:00 pm** on **Sunday, October 30th** at Northwest Masonic Temple on West Dublin Granville Rd. The installations will be held separately, one after the other and light refreshments will be served following the event.

Please reserve this date on your calendar and plan on attending so you can personally congratulate our brothers who have been chosen as the newest leaders in our district.

Annual Lodge Education Officer Workshop



The 14th District Education Officers are pleased to announce the LEO Workshop for the 2016-2017 Masonic year which will be held Tuesday, November 29th at Northland Masonic Temple located at 5885 Cleveland Avenue from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Dress is business casual and Worshipful Masters are encouraged to attend.

In prior years, the workshop was held on the same day as the Past Masters Convocation and brothers would have to choose which to attend. This change will allow Worshipful Masters to attend the LEO Workshop and for LEO's who are Past Masters, they can now attend the PMs Convocation as well.

VA Hospital Visitation



October 2nd with New England No. 4, Triangle No. 748, Blendon No. 339 and York No. 563

The visitation is planned from 1:00 pm – 3:15 pm. The first lodge listed is the organizational lodge and will contact the representatives of the other lodges to arrange what to bring. Refreshments of six dozen of each of apples, oranges, bananas, and about 12-15 dozen cookies (not homemade) are appreciated for the patients.

Next visitation – November 6th with Groveport No. 240, Grove City No. 689 and Lockbourne No. 232

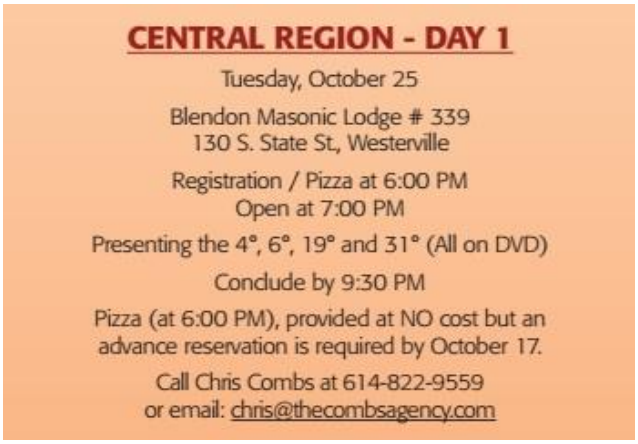
Purple Pancakes

Saturday, November 19th is the date for the 8th Annual Purple Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer. This fundraiser is being held at York Golf Club at 7495 N. High Street (north of 270) and will be held from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. A silent auction is also planned. See below for more details.



Valley of Columbus AASR to Portray Degrees

The Valley of Columbus AASR will be putting on "Candidate Days" in October for the central region of the valley. The degrees that will be shown and portrayed will provide masons with the required Scottish Rite degrees before receiving the 32° on November 12th at the Fall Reunion. These opportunities are primarily for first line signers and their petitioners, but all Scottish Rite Masons are invited. Please remember that there is no cost for members and candidates, but meal reservations are strongly encouraged. See below for more details.





The Old Past Master
FAILURE

"WHAT'S troubling you?" asked the Old Past Master of a serious-faced brother who sat down next him.

"So much I hardly know where to begin to tell it," came the response. "I try to be an optimist, but I can't help feeling that, practically speaking, Masonry is a failure, and it depresses me horribly, because I love it."

"Now that's too bad," said the Old Past Master soberly. "Masonry a failure, practically speaking! That would depress me, too, because I also love it. In fact, I should think it would depress a great many men."

"Yes, it would…a lot of men love it," said the troubled brother.

"Suppose you explain why it is practically speaking a failure," said the Old Past Master. "If I ought to be depressed because of such a condition I think I ought to know it."

The troubled brother looked up suspiciously, but the grave face in front of him wore no smile. If the old eyes twinkled they were hidden by solemn lids from the penetrating glance of the troubled brother.

"Well, it's this way," he began. "Masonry teaches brotherhood. Naturally, your brother is a man on whom you can depend; he is worthy of trust. One believes in one's brother. One backs his note and expects it to be paid; one is willing to trust one's wife, one's life, one's good name, to a real brother.

"But there are a good many men who are Masons that I know are not worthy of my trust, merely because they are Masons. They are my brethren because I have sworn with them the same obligations and professed the same faith. But I do not think I could trust them with that which is of value to me, and I know they wouldn't trust me with what is of value to them. I don't mean they are not good men, but I don't feel that my Masonic bond is strong enough to give me the complete trust which a real brotherhood should provide and I don't think they feel it either.

"If I were in a strange city and a man came up to me and wanted to borrow two dollars and pointed to a Masonic pin as the reason, I wouldn't lend it to him. And if I walked into a strange bank and tried to cash a check for twenty dollars on the strength of my Masonic pin, I wouldn't get it."

"A pin, you know," put in the Old Past Master, "is not real evidence of being a Mason!"

"No, but even if I could convince the banker I really was a Mason he wouldn't cash my check without identification. And I wouldn't give money to a stranger even if I knew he was a Mason, because…well, because my brotherhood hasn't struck deep enough, I guess. And so it seems to me that, practically speaking, Masonry is a failure."

"And yet you say you love it!" sorrowed the Old Past Master. "My brother, you have, in the language of the street, got hold of the wrong dog.

"Now let me talk a minute. Your blood brother is a man you love. You were children together, you fought with him and for him. You shared his joys and sorrows. You learned him, through and through. If you love him and trust him, it is not because of your mutual parentage, but because of your association. Two boys not blood brothers, but raised as brothers, may have the same tender love and trust. It isn't the brotherhood of flesh, but the brotherhood of spirit, that makes for love and trust.

"You complain because you don't have that feeling for a stranger. Had you been parted from your blood brother at birth, and never seen nor heard of him until he met you on the street and demanded money while offering proof of his blood relationship, would you trust him without knowing what manner of man he

had come to be? Merely because he was a blood relative wouldn't mean he was the type of man you are. He might have become anything during these years of separation.

"Now, my brother, when you became a Mason you assumed a tie of brotherhood with all the other Masons of the world. But you did not assume any obligation to make that tie of brotherhood take the place of all the virtues which are in the Masons of the world, or the virtues possessed by the profane. If you are a true Mason you will extend Masonic brotherhood, practically, to those Masons who hold out the brotherly hand to you; which means those men who are able and willing to prove themselves brothers and Masons, not merely those who belong to lodges and wear pins.

"The world is one big compromise, my brother, between things as they are and things as we would like to have them. You would like to be rich, and you compromise by getting what you can. You would like to be famous, and you compromise by being as well-known as you can and doing the best you can to deserve fame. You would like to be the most highly skilled man in your profession, but you have to compromise with perfection on the one hand, and the need of earning a living on the other. As a Mason, you would like to be able to trust on sight every Mason in the world, but you have to compromise with this fact that all Masons are human beings first and Masons afterwards, and human beings are frail and imperfect.

"Masonry makes no man perfect. It merely holds out one road by which a man may travel towards the goal of spiritual perfection more easily and with more help than by other roads. It has no motive power to drive men over that road; it but smooths the way and points the path. The travel is strictly up to the individual brother.

"If you trust those whom you *know* travel that path, they will trust you…and Masonry will be, practically speaking, for you both a success. If you travel with your eyes open, you will see many who fall by the wayside, not because the way is not plain and smooth, but because they were too weak to travel it. That is the fault, not of the road, but of the traveler.

"And so, my brother, Masonry cannot be a failure, because men fail as Masons. As well say the church is a failure because an evil man goes to it; as well call Christ a failure because all men are not Christians. The failure is in the man, not in the beautiful philosophy which is Masonry."

"And I," said the troubled brother, "am a failure now, because I have failed to understand. But not in the future, thanks to you."

DO YOU  WANT TO

BE A BETTER LODGE LEADER?

THEN YOU SHOULD CONSIDER ATTENDING THE S.Y.S.K. II CLASSES!

S.Y.S.K.  2 B T.E.L.L.

WHEN & WHERE

Day 1: Saturday, January 21, 2017
at Luther B. Turner Lodge,
Columbus, OH

Day 2: Saturday, February 18, 2017
at Blendon Lodge,
Westerville, OH

Day 3: Saturday, March 18, 2017
at Grove City Lodge,
Grove City, OH

Day 4: Saturday, April 22, 2017
At Ralph R. Rickly Lodge
Columbus, OH

COURSE PARTICULARS

- Classes limited to 1 person per lodge, sign up thru your lodge
- $25.00 cost for all four classes, covers materials and printing
- Registration deadline Dec. 31st
- Coffee and donuts at 8 a.m.
- Classes start promptly at 8:30 a.m.
- Working Lunch*
- Wrap up by 3:00 p.m.

* Please bring $5.00 to cover lunch expenses

** Please notify of any dietary needs when signing up