ASHLAR

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DECEMBER 2017 ISSUE

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ASHLAR:

December 10, 2017

The 103rd Past Masters Convocation to be Held



Now that the annual meetings and elections have been held for the lodges within our district, those brethren who have been voted to serve their respective lodge as Worshipful Master must take their next step in fulfilling their obligation. Those brothers who plan to serve as Worshipful Master are required to attend the Past Masters Convocation on Saturday, December 9th at Northland Masonic Temple located at 5885 Cleveland Ave. The afternoon will be hosted by Neoacacia Lodge No. 595. If you are a past master of your lodge, you are cordially invited to attend the session, as showing your support for the incoming masters would be extremely beneficial for those assuming the east for this masonic year. Fellowship and registration will begin at 7:00 am and a lodge of Past Masters will open at 8:30 am. *Masters, please make sure you bring the* ***Grand Lodge Form 52 – Certificate of Election*** *with you.*

14th District Masonic Officers Association Annual Meeting



The Fourteenth District Masonic Officers Association will be holding its Annual Meeting at 1:00 pm on December 9th at Northland Masonic Temple. The meeting will be held following lunch after the Past Master's Convocation and each lodge of the district is expected to be represented. There will be a short business meeting followed by the installation of the new officers for the 2018 Masonic year. Please join us and support your district officers.

Contacts

14th District Officers

President
WB Harold Davis
1st Vice President
WB Adam Michael
2nd Vice President
WB Brad Love
Treasurer
RWB Jeff Rannebarger
Secretary
RWB Brian Bolyard
Sergeant-At-Arms
WB Tim Robinett
Chaplain
WB John Hicks

Communication Committee
WB Mike Saum
RWB Ken Cohen
WB Adam Michael
RWB Tim Rice

Editor
WB Adam Michael

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

Franklin County Memorial Lodge



The 53rd annual meeting and installation of the Officers of Franklin County Memorial Lodge will be held on Wednesday, January 10th at Ralph R. Rickly Lodge located at 1120 Barnett Road. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm (your choice of veal parmesan or lasagna) and the cost for the dinner is only $10. Please remember that ladies are also invited to the dinner. A brief business meeting and the installation will follow at 7:30pm.

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 other regular 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 5th. Members of the Memorial Lodge can opt to receive phone calls if they are called upon to assist in performing a masonic funeral service if the fallen brother's lodge needs assistance. Membership dues are just $1 per year so spread the word and help increase the membership. Or bring along another member of your lodge to the dinner and invite them to join. Did you know that the officers of the Memorial Lodge are appointed annually by the Grand Master of Masons in Ohio?

This will also be the evening when the 2018 district directories are distributed. They will be passed out by the district officers shortly following the Memorial Lodge meeting.

Ralph R. Rickly Lodge No. 670 to Hold Masonic Veterans Dinner



On Monday, December 11th, Ralph R. Rickly Lodge No. 670 will be hosting a Masonic Veterans Appreciation dinner in honor of those who have fought for the liberties that we are all thankful for. This special dinner will held at 1120 Barnett Rd. starting at 6:30 pm and ladies are more than welcome to attend. If you plan to be present, please RSVP by Friday, December 8th to WB Greg Adams at 614-316-8389. In your message, please include your name and how many will be in your party. A stated meeting of Ralph R. Rickly Lodge will follow the dinner with the ladies having social time in the dining room.

Installations From Around the District



Columbus Lodge No. 30



Whitehall Lodge No. 761



Linden Lodge No. 637



West Gate Lodge No. 623



Blendon Lodge No. 339

Dates

12/9 PM Convocation

12/9 District Annual Meeting

12/25 Christmas

1/1 New Year's Eve

1/3 Master Craftsman Workshop at 7pm – South Gate Potter 782

1/10 Franklin County Memorial Lodge

1/15 First Inspection – Blendon 339 in FC

1/16 Inspection – University 631 in EA

1/17 Master Craftsman Workshop at 7pm – New England 4

1/20 SYSK at Luther B. Turner Lodge

1/23 Inspection – Groveport 240 in MM

1/24 Inspection – New England 4 in EA

1/26 Inspection – Triangle 748 in EA

1/30 Inspection – Magnolia 20 in EA

3/10 Grand Masters Reception – Villa Milano



Avery Lodge No. 493



Neoacacia Lodge No. 595



Capital City Lodge No. 656



Community Lodge No. 684



Master Craftsmen Workshop

SOUTH
January 3, 2018 at 7:00 PM
South Gate-Potter Lodge No. 782
651 Groveport Road
Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110

NORTH
January 17, 2018 at 7:00 PM
New England Lodge No. 4
2436 W. Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235

Inspection Schedule for 2018

LODGE NAME	#	INSPECTION DATE	Degree	DDGM	DEO
Blendon	339	Monday, January 15, 2018	FC	Rannebarger	Saum
University	631	Tuesday, January 16, 2018	EA	Rice	Simpson
Groveport	240	Tuesday, January 23, 2018	MM	Brewer	Saum
New England	4	Wednesday, January 24, 2018	EA	Rannebarger	Ward
Triangle	748	Friday, January 26, 2018	EA	Rice	Ward
Magnolia	20	Tuesday, January 30, 2018	EA	Hollback	Bell
Hiram	18	Tuesday, February 6, 2018	FC	Hollback	Simpson
Linden	637	Thursday, February 15, 2018	EA	Brewer	Ward
Capital City	656	Friday, February 16, 2018	MM	Rannebarger	Simpson
Avery	493	Tuesday, February 20, 2018	FC	Rice	Simpson
Arts & Sciences	792	Saturday, February 24, 2018	FC	Brewer	Bell
Ralph R. Rickly	670	Monday, February 26, 2018	EA	Rannebarger	Saum
Whitehall	761	Tuesday, February 27, 2018	FC	Rice	Bell
Sparrow	400	Tuesday, March 6, 2018	EA	Brewer	Ward
Neoacacia	595	Wednesday, March 7, 2018	EA	Rice	Saum
Grove City	689	Monday, March 12, 2018	EA	Rannebarger	Simpson
Luther B. Turner	732	Tuesday, March 13, 2018	MM	Rice	Bell
West Gate	623	Monday, March 19, 2018	FC	Brewer	Simpson
Sunrise	783	Tuesday, March 20, 2018	EA	Hollback	Bell
York	563	Monday, April 2, 2018	FC	Hollback	Ward
Reynoldsburg	340	Thursday, April 5, 2018	EA	Brewer	Bell
South Gate Potter	782	Monday, April 9, 2018	MM	Rannebarger	Saum
Columbus	30	Wednesday, April 18, 2018	MM	Rice	Saum
Lockbourne	232	Thursday, April 19, 2018	MM	Hollback	Bell
Goodale	372	Monday, April 23, 2018	MM	Brewer	Saum
Community	684	Tuesday, April 24, 2018	FC	Hollback	Ward

A&S 792 inspection will begin at 1pm (lunch at noon)
All other EA and FC Inspections begin at 7:00pm (dinner 6:15pm)
All MM inspections begin at 5:30pm (dinner at 6:15), second section at 7pm

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 **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

Purple Pancakes

The 9th Annual Purple Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer Breakfast was held on November 11th at York Golf Club. A silent auction was held with all proceeds benefiting the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. The culinary abilities of the chefs was only outdone by the fellowship that was had. Make sure to join us next year and support a worthy cause.













The Old Past Master
THOSE SYMBOLS

"I THINK I shall have to take an evening off and read a book about symbols!" said the Very New Master Mason to the Old Past Master at refreshment. "I find I don't know all about them."

"When you find the book which teaches you all about them, lend it to me, won't you?" asked the Old Past Master. "Why, I'm sure there must be such a book," answered the Very New Master Mason, surprised. "And I know *you* know all about symbols, anyway."

"I have never read a book which even attempted to tell 'all about symbols'" answered the Old Past Master. "I never knew the Mason who was willing to admit he knew all about them. And I never thought I knew very much about them, although I have studied them for forty years!"

"Why, you amaze me! There are only half a dozen symbols in the lodge; surely they cannot have so many meanings. The tools, the apron, I suppose the pillars on the porch; that's about all, isn't it?"

The Old Past Master turned and looked curiously at his questioner. Satisfied that he was serious, the Old Past Master explained, gently, as to a child.

"I doubt very much that any one has ever had the temerity even to count the Masonic symbols" he began. "Certainly I have not. But there are enough to keep a great many Masonic scholars and antiquarians busy for a great many years to come, as they have in the past, trying to dig out of literature, history, archeology, sacred writings, religion, philosophy and kindred branches of study, a few of the more important meanings of our symbols. Your innocent little catalog of lodge symbols would be pathetic if it wasn't funny, and humorous if it wasn't sad!

"Certainly you could not have meant to overlook the Great Light as a symbol, and …"

"Oh, but I don't understand that as a symbol," interrupted the Very New Master Mason. "That's the Bible, the Book. I thought a symbol was something that meant something else!"

"It is true that in our American and in British Lodges the Great Light is the Holy Scriptures" agreed the Old Past Master. "But in another lodge, in another country, some other sacred Book may lie on the altar. The important thing is not *what* book there lies open, but that it be *the* book which the Masons who kneel before it, venerate as the earthly repository of spiritual knowledge. The Book of the Sacred Law is what Masons reverence, not necessarily any special book. Thus, to our Jewish brethren, the New Testament in our Great Light is not a Sacred writing as is their Old Testament. Yet our Book contains both.

"But the Book of the Law when used in Masonry is more than a repository of Divine Will and Knowledge. It is a symbol of the fountain head of all learning, and a symbol of a Mason's belief in Deity. It is also a symbol of many other things, of which you will find much

in the books you will read, but in none of them will you find it all.

"Did you ever stop to ask yourself why Masons circumambulate in the lodge? Or why they perform this rite at various times and in various ways? Or why that rite in a Blue Lodge is always done in one direction? That is a symbol, my brother, and a very beautiful one. It is a connection, tenuous, but very direct, with those far progenitors of Masonry who lived thousands of years ago and worshipped the Sun as the only god they knew.

"It is human to be like those we strive to admire. The small boy plays at being a soldier or a fireman, and struts with a small cane to be like his father. Imitating, we feel that we are like that which we imitate. Our savage forefathers had this same bit of humanness. They believed that when they imitated that which was powerful, they in turn received power. They worshipped the Sun. The Sun, to them, travelled always from the East to the West, swinging north in the summer and south in the winter. Therefore they believed that if they, in their simple prayers and rites, imitated the course of the sun, they, too, would become godlike and have power. Many religions, rites and ceremonies of a spiritual significance have followed in the footsteps of these early men, and thought to find in circumambulation a power which comes from the Divine Something they worship.

"Of course there are other meanings of circumambulation; these, too, you will discover in the books you will read.

"Not all our symbols are so ancient, although some are even further back in time. You are familiar, of course, with the 'certain point within a circle.' That is a symbol and a great one. It has many meanings; meanings not attributed to it haphazard, hut meanings born in it, as you might say. A Mason may not materially err if he circumscribe his passions within that circle, not because the ritual says so, but because our ancient brethren, who actually built Temples and Cathedrals, found that the point, or center in the circle, and another dot or two, were their easiest means of making their squares perfect, and absolutely at right angles. This is a little problem in geometry with which you are doubtless familiar; if not, the books you will read will explain it to you.

"Get out of your mind, my brother, the idea that any symbols in Masonry are arbitrary; that some man said, for instance 'here is an oblong square; I will make it into a symbol which means the lodge, just because I like its shape!'

''The 'oblong square' my brother, was the shape which our ancient brethren conceived the world to be. We use it as the 'shape of the lodge' because the lodge itself is a symbol of the world, and thus of our life in it.

"My brother, symbolism in general, and Masonic symbolism in particular, is a life-time study. It is ever new, never ending. The more you read and study, the more you understand and enjoy this Masonry of ours. But you will learn it not on one evening or two: not even in many shall you learn it all."

"Unless I spend them talking to you," smiled the Very New Master Mason.