# ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

JANUARY 2018 ISSUE


## New District Officers Elected and Installed



During the annual meeting of the 14th District Masonic Officers Association held on December 9th, WB Adam B. Michael of York Lodge No. 563 was elected to serve as President for the 2017-2018 year. Also elected were WB Brad Love of Reynoldsburg Lodge No. 340 as 1st Vice President, WB Timothy Robinett of South Gate-Potter Lodge No. 782 as 2nd Vice President, RWB Jeff Rannebarger of Sunrise No. 783 as Treasurer, RWB Brian Bolyard of Neoacacia No. 595 as Secretary and WB John Hicks of Sunrise Lodge No. 783 as Sergeant-At-Arms. WB Craig Shumaker of Blendon Lodge No. 339 was appointed as Chaplain. WB Harold Davis of Whitehall Lodge No. 761 completed his successful term as President and was elected as Trustee. The officers were installed by the Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, RWB Tim Wheeland.

## Franklin County Memorial Lodge

The deadline for making your reservation for dinner before the Franklin County Memorial Lodge is January 5th. Send your reservation to Secretary, RWB Jeff Rannebarger at rannebargerjl@gmail.com. The 53rd annual meeting of the 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 (choice of veal parmesan or lasagna) and the meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. The cost of the dinner is $10 and the cost for membership in the Memorial Lodge is only $1.

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

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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**DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ASHLAR:**

**January 10, 2018**

## Contacts

**14th District Officers**
*President*
**WB Adam B. Michael**
*1st Vice President*
**WB Brad Love**
*2nd Vice President*
**WB Tim Robinett**
*Treasurer*
**RWB Jeff Rannebarger**
*Secretary*
**RWB Brian Bolyard**
*Sergeant-At-Arms*
**WB John Hicks**
*Chaplain*
**WB Craig Shumaker**

*Communication Committee*
**WB Mike Saum**
**RWB Ken Cohen**
**WB Adam Michael**
**WB Craig Shumaker**

*Editor*
**WB Adam B. Michael**

*District Advisor*
**RWB Brian Bolyard**

14thMasonicDistrict.org

# From the President

**WB Adam B. Michael, 14th District President**

Let me start by sincerely thanking you, my brethren, for electing me as the President of the 14th District Masonic Officers Association. There will be more than a few deviations this year that you will notice, but any changes to your association will be made with the best intentions in consideration to the brethren of our district. I look forward to working with you this year.

While recently attending the annual meeting of a lodge in our district, one of our deputies informed the brethren that he would like for the lodge to plan on and work towards perfecting one goal. That goal could be a lodge function, a fundraiser, charitable work, social events, or any number of activities. I know, from my own personal experience, that each lodge has their own particular events throughout the year that work very well and they should be continually tweaked in order to perfect. Most assuredly, there are ideas that could be administered and tried. Some will work, some will not. But the most important aspect is effort and working together with your fellow brethren in the pursuit of glorifying the tenets of Freemasonry.

At our first inspection, which will be on Monday, January 15th at Blendon Lodge No. 339, you will hear about a new fundraiser that your officers association will be holding this year. The fundraiser's intent considers the brethren and lodges of our district, first and foremost. My hope is that we get an overflow of participation in this activity and we can continue it for many years to come (guess you will have to hear about it at the inspection). So stay tuned.

Also, the District Directory is currently being finalized and will be ready for distribution after the Franklin County Memorial Lodge meeting that will be held on January 10th. I would like to personally thank each of the advertisers and the one line signers for their contributions, as the publication is only possible through your appropriation.

# VA Hospital Visitations Scheduled for February

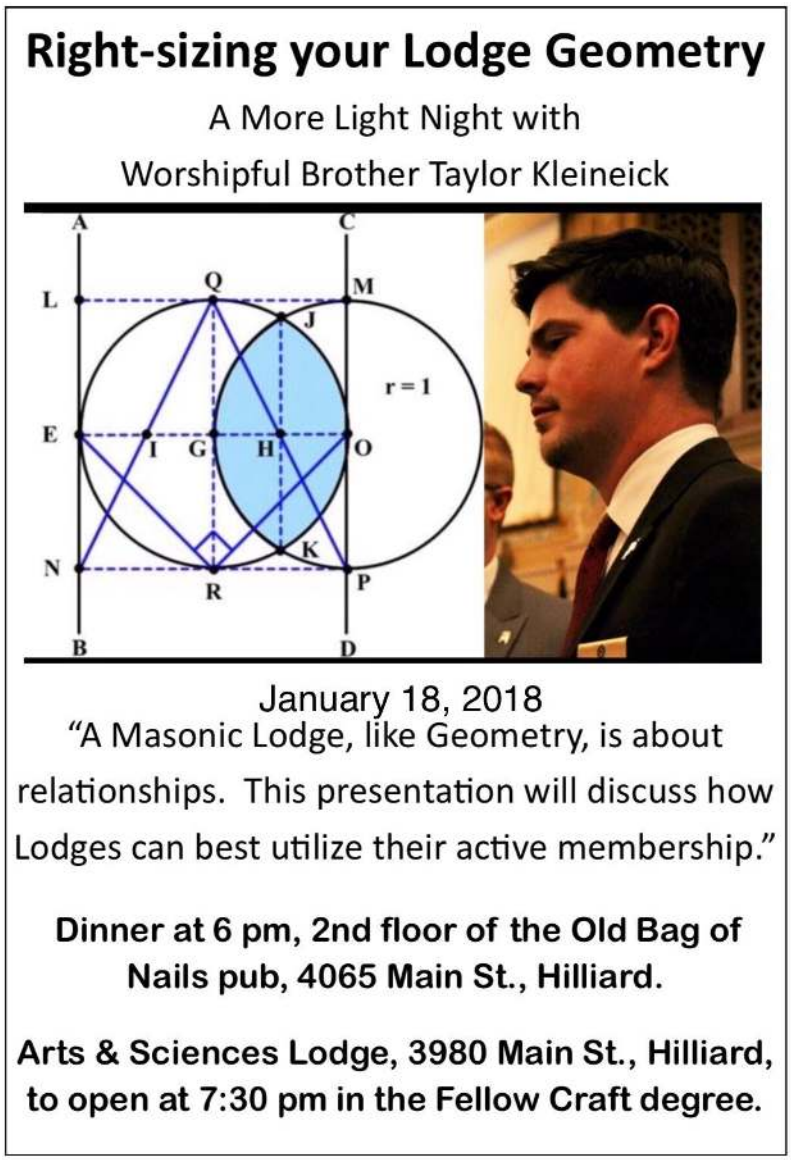



Visitations to the VA Hospital in Chillicothe will begin on Sunday, February 4th, 2018. On this date, the following lodges are assigned to participate with the first lodge listed as the designated organizer for the day:

Arts and Sciences Lodge No. 792, Avery Lodge No. 493, West Gate Lodge No. 623 and Luther B. Turner Lodge No. 732

# More Light Night at Arts & Sciences Lodge

Geometry is about understanding relationships. Freemasonry, in much the same way, uses relationships in the lodge to build our character. Like a man wearing clothes that don't fit, many modern lodges operate in ways that don't take advantage of the natural relationships Freemasonry fosters. Come hear a few ways we can tailor the lodge experience to fit a lodge's current size.




On the evening of January 18th, dinner will be held at 6:00 pm on the 2nd floor of the Old Bag of Nails pub, 4065 Main St., Hilliard, Ohio. Lodge will open at 7:30 pm in the Fellow Craft degree. Recommended attire is jacket and tie. Please RSVP to our Lodge Education Officer Clifford Nicol, cliff_n@msn.com, by January 15th.

WB Taylor Kleineick is a Past Master of High Point Lodge No. 773 in Monroe, Ohio. He is an active participant in a number of online Masonic forums, co-founder of the Front Porch Masonic podcast, and a well-traveled Freemason.

## Dates

**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**

**2/17 Valley of Dayton Mid-Winter Program**

**2/22 District Quarterly Meeting – Blendon Lodge 7pm**

**3/10 State Secretaries Association – 830am**

**3/10 Sparrow Lodge Reconsecration – 1pm**

**3/10 Grand Masters Reception – Villa Milano**



## 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**

# PM Convocation Held

Twenty three Worshipful Masters from the 14th Masonic District were in attendance on Saturday, December 9th at Northland Masonic Temple, which was hosted by Neoacacia Lodge No. 595. The Grand Lodge requirement of meeting in a Past Masters Convocation convened by the District Deputies Grand Master of the 14th District was fulfilled. The new Masters proved their proficiency by opening a lodge of Master Masons. The deputies then assumed the stations as the officers of a Lodge of Past Masters and they portrayed that degree. Each Worshipful Master took the oath of a Past Master and one lucky Master even assumed the oriental chair. The afternoon was filled with instruction, direction and clarification on Masonic Code. Guidance was also offered to each in order to assist with a successful year.




The Worshipful Masters for the 2017-2018 are:

New England No. 4 – Nathan Dana
Hiram No. 18 – Keith Smigle
Magnolia No. 20 – Douglas Moshier
Columbus No. 30 – Shawn Radi
Lockbourne No. 232 – Jason Schmidt
Groveport No. 240 – Michael Lyme
Blendon No. 339 – Michael Emery
Reynoldsburg No. 340 – James Woodward
Goodale No. 372 – James Esswein
Sparrow No. 400 – Eric Kletrovetz
Avery No. 493 – Blake Oates
York No. 563 – David Gizzo
Neoacacia No. 595 – Dean Dabe



West Gate No. 623 – Michael Gleim
University No. 631 – Charles Weikel
Linden No. 637 – Keven R. Clouse
Capital City No. 656 – Marcus Chong
Ralph R. Rickly No. 670 – Arthur E. Lewis, Jr.
Community No. 684 – Brian McMichael
Grove City No. 689 – Stacy McClain
Luther B. Turner No. 732 – Stephen Miller
Triangle No. 748 – Peter Stanford
Whitehall No. 761 – Aaron Beckett
South Gate Potter No. 782 – John Mays
Sunrise No. 783 – William Owen
Arts & Sciences No. 792 – Christopher Griese



# More Light Opportunities





Master Craftsmen Training
"Teach him well; he may be Grand Master one day!"

Taking an Apprentice - adopting a new Brother
- The Apprentice's responsibility
- The Master Craftsman's responsibility

Tools for the Journey
- Proficiency Examinations
- Principles Examinations
- Basic Education Courses
- Inspections & Traveling

From start to finish - scheduling degrees and proving proficiency

Your Apprentice has made Master - what now?

*This two hour training will be offered twice in 2018:*
1. *Jan 3rd - 7 pm at South Gate-Potter Lodge, 651 Groveport Rd, Canal Winchester;*
2. *Jan 17th - 7pm at New England Lodge, 2536 W. Dublin Granville Rd, Columbus.*

***RSVP ASAP to: cesimp@yahoo.com***

**More Light Night**

**"Replace Yourself - One Brother at a Time"**
**By Right Worshipful Brother Caid McKinley**



West Gate Lodge No. 623 is pleased to announce that its More Light Night will feature Right Worshipful Brother Caid McKinley, chairman of the Grand Lodge's Replace Yourself Program. All Master Masons are welcome. Lodge RYP representatives are strongly encouraged to attend.

What: More Light Night - The Replace Yourself Program
When: Monday, Jan. 22, dinner at 6:30 pm, lodge at 7:30 pm
Where: West Gate Lodge, 2925 W. Broad St., Columbus, Oh
RSVP: To LEO Golden, Jgolden1013@gmail.com by Jan. 19





# DO YOU WANT TO

# BE A BETTER LODGE LEADER?

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

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

## WHEN & WHERE

DAY 1: Saturday, January 20, 2018 at Luther B. Turner Lodge, Columbus, OH

Day 2: Saturday, February 27, 2018 at Magnolia Lodge, Columbus, OH

Day 3: Saturday, March 17, 2018 at Grove City Lodge, Grove City, OH

Day 4: Saturday, April 21, 2018 at Ralph R. Rickly Lodge, Columbus, OH

## COURSE PARTICULARS

- Classes limited to 1 person per lodge, sign up thru you lodge
- $25.00 cost for all four classes, covers materials and printing
- Registration deadline Jan. 13th
- 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

Please RSVP to WB Timothy A. Ward at subssn585@columbus.rr.com

# Grand Masters Reception is Scheduled

On Saturday, March 10th, 2018, MWB Eric R. Schau, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Ohio and the Grand Lodge officers will be in the Fabulous 14th District for this year's Grand Master's Reception. Each Worshipful Master received the reservation and sponsorship forms at the Past Masters Convocation in December which includes all the details for the evening. The location of the reception will again be at the Villa Milano Banquet and Conference Center at 1630 Schrock Rd, Columbus 43229. Reservations for the buffet dinner are $40 per person if received before February 17th. Late reservations will be accepted in the amount of $50 per person until February 24th. *No reservations will be accepted after this date so please plan accordingly.*

Social hour will begin at 5:30 pm with introductions beginning precisely at 6:30 pm. Dinner will be entrée choices of beef tenderloin, chicken Marsala, lasagna or vegetarian lasagna. Also served will be Italian salad, rolls and butter, green beans, red skin potatoes along with strawberry shortcake for desert. Coffee, tea, lemonade and water are included and a cash bar available for the evening.

This is a great way to experience some quality fellowship with old friends, meet new ones and possibly reacquaint yourself with old friends you have not seen in some time. When a lodge has a group of members and their wives at these events it seems to bring them closer together and create a family atmosphere, which also helps with the working relationships in lodge. It is also a chance to show your wife or significant other just how much you appreciate all the time she is willing to share you with your lodge.

If there are any questions, please reach out to WB Brad Love, 1st Vice President at blove5484@wowway.com.



# The Path

**MWB Steven E. Cokonougher, PGM of the Grand Lodge of Ohio**



It's cold. As I walked Bear (my dog) this morning I realized that I always walk him on the same path every morning. Why? Because it is familiar, non-threatening, comfortable, and I can do it without engaging. In other words, it is a no brainer.

In life, we have many paths to go down. Most of them are familiar to us. We take the path of least resistance just to get where we think we want to go. After all, life is too short to take chances that might cause us to get out of our comfort zone! Right?

Joining Freemasonry is a path that we have chosen to follow. There are many forks in this path, some lead to success, some to complacency, and some to failure.

Failure is the easy path. On this path we don't participate. We just pay our dues and don't attend lodge. We might even demit or let our membership become suspended for non-payment of dues. We offer no help. Some will continue to show up to lodge, but participate very little in the "business of Masonry". This path will surely lead to failure.

The path to complacency is a popular one. On this path, we only visit familiar places. We let a brother repeat many times as Worshipful Master. After all, he has been Master many times and he surely knows how to run the Lodge. We repeat the same events as we have in past years with the same group of members participating. Familiarity is comfortable. Staying with the old "traditions" should be enough for our members. "Why do we need to modernize, do new things?" Masonry is steeped in traditions. Complacency is where many of us want to live.

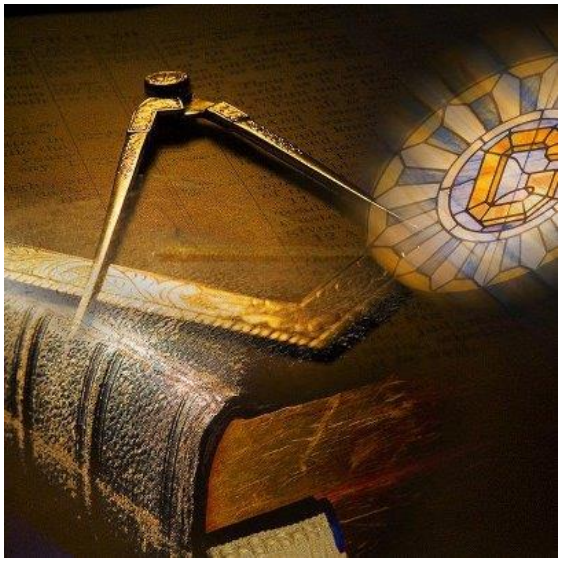
The hardest road to travel is the one to success. How do we define success? There are many different ways. Are our members participating in the events the lodge is sponsoring? Do the Lodge Officers react to suggestions for new events or processes? Are the lodge members supporting our future by identifying good men and selectively inviting them to our fraternity?

This year, our Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Schau, has initiated the "Replace Yourself" program. I really hate to call it a program, because it should be a "way of life" for Masons. We don't need just numbers, we need quality members. There are thousands of men in our communities who would make good Masons and have never been exposed to the principles of Masonry. They have very little knowledge of what we do, why we do it, or how to join. That is where the Replace Yourself program comes in.

It is our responsibility to see that our future is bright by bringing new men to Masonry, men who will assist in perpetuating the principles, ethics, and morals that we stand for. The "Code of Conduct" that these create is needed in society. Masonry has led the charge in society for centuries, and it is up to you, me, and all Freemasons to ensure that our influence continues.

(Continued on next page)

We are all asked to mentally search our database of friends and identify which of them will make good Masons, and then act on it. It is permissible to tell them, "I think you would make a good Mason" and tell them why. It is that simple.

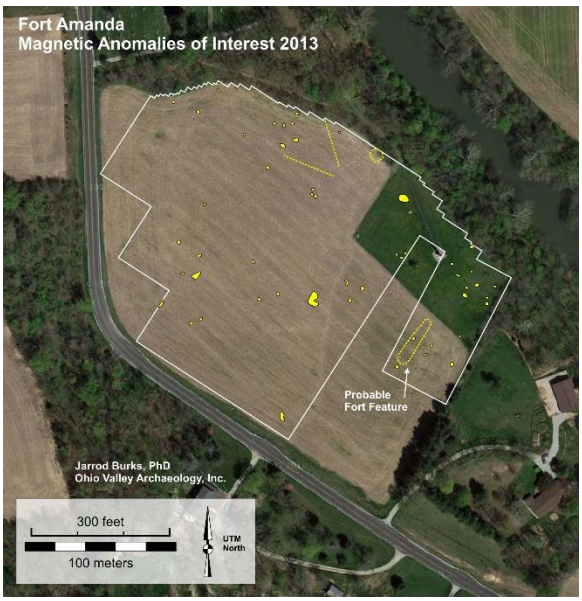


This path is hard. We will have investigations, voting, degree work, examinations, and so forth. These take time, but are not the hard part. The hardest part is getting their petition. After that has happened, then we must welcome them into our Lodges so that they want to come back.

Which path are you on? Which path is your Lodge on? Are you getting new members? Are you welcoming the new members you are getting? Is you Lodge trying new things to appeal to a wider base of members? If you can't answer yes to some or all of these questions, then you are not on the path to success.

## Brother of 14th Masonic District Publishes Book on Fort Amanda

English essayist Max Beerbohm once said, "History doesn't repeat itself, authors repeat other authors." Such was the case for the past 200 years regarding articles written about Fort Amanda, a large military post built in northwest Ohio during the War of 1812. Unfortunately, much of what they had written was based on myths, folklore and the overall lack of scholarly research, which is why it took Bro. David Johnson of York Lodge No. 563 nearly 43 years to write his book, "Fort Amanda – a Historical Redress."




Did you know that the British burned Washington D.C. in 1814 because we burned their capital first? Did you know that you could be exempted from the draft in 1812 if you didn't have any front teeth? Did you know that 90 miles west of Columbus ¼ of the entire United States Army was massacred on November 4th, 1791? Did you know General Anthony Wayne is buried in two places? Did you know the Army had strict regulations on where to place latrines? And did you know that many of the officers involved with the Fort Amanda story were Freemasons?

The book introduces you to some of the men and women associated with Fort Amanda's story including a biography of the families who constructed and operated the fort, as well as pictures of the soldiers themselves.

If interested in obtaining a copy of Fort Amanda, please contact Bro. David Johnson at djohnson43@att.net.

# District Inspection Schedule – UPDATE

Below is the most up to date inspection schedule for the lodges of the 14th District. ***Please note that the date for Goodale Lodge No. 372 has been rescheduled to April 16th.*** The inspection page has also been updated on the district website and will be accurate in the upcoming directory.

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

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

# Valley of Dayton Mid-Winter Program

The Valley of Dayton AASR will be holding another Mid-Winter Program with the assistance of the Valley of Columbus AASR. The program will be held on Saturday, February 17th with registration beginning at 8:00 am. The Valley of Columbus will be portraying the 13° Master of the Ninth Arch at 9:00 am and the Valley of Dayton conferring the 6° Master of the Brazen Serpent. After lunch, the Valley of Cincinnati will be administering the 28° Knight of the Sun and then concluding with the 20° Master ad Vitam. There is no charge for the lunch during the afternoon but reservations must be made through the Valley of Columbus office by February 12th. There is also a bus ride offered to the first 40 members which sign up that will depart from the Grove City, but you must also make reservations through the office if you wish to ride.

# The Old Past Master
# SILK STOCKINGS

"WELL, what do you know about that!" exclaimed the Young Mason, as a dress-suited figure with a jewel on his coat stepped in front of the Altar. "That's Jamison, Past Master of Joppa-Henderson Lodge."

"I see it is," answered the Old Past Master. "But what is it that surprises you?"

"Why, that anyone from Joppa-Henderson should leave the sacred confines of his own lodge and come to a simple, democratic, every-day lodge like this one, let alone a Past Master. I never could get this 'silk-stocking' Masonic idea, anyhow. Of course, you know, they have two hundred dollar fees and forty dollar dues and you can't get in unless you have a bank account, an automobile, a wife with diamonds and a box at the opera."

"Is it as bad as all that?" asked the Old Past Master, smiling. "You didn't, by any chance, make application to Joppa-Henderson and get refused, did you?"

"I certainly did not. And I would not, under any circumstances. Why, you know it isn't Masonic. Here in this lodge look along those benches. There is Branch, who lays bricks for a living, and Taggert, who is a bookkeeper, and sitting next him is Wilson, who is a bank president, and there is Colton, street car conductor, and Dr. Baird, the X-ray specialist, and Hillyard, who sells ribbons down in the department store, and Ellsworth, who is a Senator-democratic, this lodge is! Here you find real Masonry. We really do not regard any man for his worldly distinctions here — but in Joppa-Henderson Lodge —"

"Have you ever heard of any man being refused in Joppa-Henderson because he isn't wealthy?" asked the Old Past Master.

"Certainly not! They never apply there," was the scornful answer.

"Ah! Now we are getting at the meat of the matter. My brother, you could travel about a bit to your advantage. You will find, if you look, that there are many different kinds of lodges. For instance, in the metropolis is a French lodge; that is, almost entirely composed of Frenchmen, who are Americans, not French Masons. You wouldn't want to join that lodge, and perhaps they would rather you wouldn't. Yet it is a fine lodge of fine men. There is a Daylight Lodge in the city which meets in the afternoon. Its membership is almost wholly among theatrical and newspaper men, who cannot meet at night. You wouldn't feel at home among them, perhaps, and yet they are good Masons. There are several lodges in this country composed almost wholly of Masonic students; you wouldn't feel at home with them, but that doesn't mean they are not good men and good Masons. And while it is true that the members of Joppa-Henderson Lodge are almost wholly well-to-do business and professional men, it happens so because the lodge was founded by fifty such, who naturally attracted to each other their own kind.

"If, indeed, what I may call a class lodge refuses an application because he doesn't belong to that class, that lodge is unMasonic. But I don't think

it works that way. I think the class lodge attracts its own kind of people. I would call this lodge a class lodge. It is a very democratic organization, with an intense pride in what you have just noted; that is, mixes all kinds of men in the Masonic caldron and thus cooks a truly Masonic brew. You are attracted to this lodge for that reason, and so were the men you named. But men who are essentially aristocrats may not feel as much at home among the democrats as among their own kind; for such there is Joppa-Henderson Lodge.

‘‘The ideal system of Masonry considers all men are alike and all lodges alike, just as an ideal democracy is founded in the theory that all men are free and equal. This country is a republic, with democratic ideals, yet we all know that we are not all equal, and no words will make us so. The bricklayer isn’t the financial equal of the banker, and the banker isn’t the labor equal of the bricklayer. But don’t get the idea that because two things are unequal, therefore one is better than the other. A circle and a triangle are not equal, but is one better than the other?

“Joppa-Henderson, and all so-called ‘silk-stocking’ lodges, newpaper lodges, class lodges of any kind, are not equal to each other; they are quite, quite different. But that does not mean that one is any better or any worse than the other. And as each attracts its own kind of men, to whom it gives a precious Masonic light, they all do their work. Without some of these class lodges, good men might not he attracted who now are; without Joppa-Henderson, for instance, we might not have visiting us tonight one of the finest Masons, most earnest Masonic workers and most brilliant Masonic officers this jurisdiction ever saw. So I say to you, my brother, beware how you judge the other fellow and his lodge, lest he, in tum misjudge you.

“I have known Joppa-Henderson Masons for years. I have visited their lodge many times. The way they do their work is an inspiration. And I have never known of a man rejected in that lodge that I couldn’t guess why he was rejected; and it was never for anything else than his character. Money plays no part. They are as willing to take the hod-carrier or the chimney sweep as we, if he can live up to their schedule of finances. But the poor man isn’t attracted to that lodge; he goes to a lodge where he finds the simple democracy we have here.

“All lodges who do honest and sincere work, my brother, have their places in the great system we call Masonry. There is room for all kinds; the high, the low, the rich, the poor, the democratic, the aristocratic. This lodge, with an income from dues of twenty-five hundred dollars last year, spent a few dollars more than a thousand for charity. Joppa-Henderson with an income from dues of sixteen thousand, spent ten thousand in charity. Charity is but one measuring stick, but by it, they measure up.” “Yet you,” countered the Young Brother, “stick to this lodge, and don’t demit to Joppa-Henderson.”

“Perhaps I can do more real Masonic work here,” smiled the Old Past Master, looking the younger brother full in the face.

The younger brother had the grace to blush.