ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

MAY 2019 ISSUE

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

IN THIS ISSUE

VA Visitation 2
OMH Day 2
District Quarterly Meeting 2
Grand Master's Class.... 3
District Golf Outing 3
Royal Scofield Society .. 4
Magnolia Golf Outing.... 5
Old Past Master 6-7

DEADLINE FOR JUNE ASHLAR:

May 20, 2019

From the President

WB Brad Love, 14th District President



Greetings Brethren. It appears that spring has finally arrived in central Ohio. It is great to get outside and see life begin anew all around us.

I would like to begin by congratulating all of the lodges of the 14th District on an outstanding inspection season. The ritual work, fellowship, and meals were all outstanding. It was a great experience to see old friends, and make new ones. The hospitality and fellowship to all the traveling brothers was very much appreciated.

I hope to see a great turnout to the District Quarterly Meeting on Thursday, May 23rd which will be held at the Ralph R. Rickly Temple. This will also be our annual awards night, held to honor and recognize the members and lodges for their work and also for their attendance during the inspection season. Dinner will begin at 6:00pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00pm. Dress is business casual and wives are welcome at this event.

***** Please note*****
Barnett Road just north of Livingston Ave. is closed until mid-July. To reach Ralph R. Rickly Temple, you must come from Main Street and turn south onto Barnett Road.

There are many Masonic activities planned for the summer. Don't forget about the Ohio Masonic Home Day on June 9th in Springfield, the Opening Ceremonies for the Special Olympics on June 28th and the District Family Picnic on August 4th. Please take advantage of these opportunities and help support our great fraternity.

Finally, if your lodge has an event that they would like to advertise throughout the district, or if you have an article that you have written, please remember to submit your advertisement or article to the communications committee for publication in the upcoming newsletters.

Contacts

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

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

Editor
WB Craig Shumaker

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

VA Hospital Visitation Scheduled for May



Visitations to the VA Hospital in Chillicothe will begin on Sunday, May 5th, 2019 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. On this date, the following lodges are assigned to participate with the first lodge listed as the designated organizer for the day: Groveport-Lockbourne UD, Linden No. 637, and Grove City No. 689. This will be the last visitation before lodges go dark for the summer months.

The next visit will be on Sunday, September 8th, with the following lodges assigned to participate: Goodale No. 372, Magnolia No. 20, and Neoacacia No. 595.

Ohio Masonic Home Day

The 35th annual Masonic Home Day will be held at the Springfield campus of the Ohio Masonic Home on Sunday, June 9th. There will be a number of events throughout the day for people of all ages. Activities for the day begin at 11:00am and culminate with a parade at 3:30pm.

In addition to the day's festivities, the 14th District Masonic Officer's Association will be serving our famous fried bologna sandwiches again this year. Stop by our booth, say hello, and enjoy some lunch!

14th District Quarterly Meeting and Awards Night



The next quarterly meeting of the 14th District Masonic Officer's Association coincides with our annual awards night on Thursday, May 23rd at Ralph R. Rickly Lodge. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm and the meeting begins at 7:00pm. Brethren and wives are welcome to attend.

We will be recognizing the lodges and members of our district for their incredible degree work throughout the inspection season. Please make it a point to attend to show your support for your brethren and their lodges, and congratulate them on their hard work an dedication to the craft.

14th District Grand Master's Class

The 2019 Grand Master's class will be held on May 18th at Turner Temple, located at 2933 Valleyview Dr. in Columbus.

Our One-day Class will begin with registration from 8:00am to 8:45am during which time coffee and donuts will be available. Degree work will begin promptly at 8:45am. We hope to complete the blue lodge degrees by 3:00pm. Please make arrangements for each candidate to have a Master Craftsman assigned to him. Each lodge is responsible to provide the candidate's Holy Book and apron so he can be properly obligated and clothed. Working tools and an apron case from the Ohio Masonic Home will be provided for the candidates.

As per Edict 2019-3, to become proficient, each new Master Mason must return to their home lodge at least once within 60 days following their One Day Class. Please refer to the edict for further information on proficiency.

Appendant bodies are prohibited to petition One Day Class candidates until they become proficient and 60 days have elapsed from the date of the One Day Class.

Please remember to bring you own apron. There will be a limited amount of paper aprons available for $1.00 each.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact WB Adam Michael at adasm563@yahoo.com.

Dates

5/4 – 14th District Golf Outing – York Golf Club

5/11 – SYSK IV – Turner Temple

5/18 – Grand Master's One Day Class – Magnolia

5/23 – District Quarterly Meeting and Awards – Ralph R. Rickly

6/9 – Ohio Masonic Home Day

6/28 – Special Olympics Opening Ceremonies

8/4 – District Family Picnic and Quarterly Meeting – Blacklick Woods Metropark

14th District Golf Outing

As a reminder, the 2019 14th District Golf Outing will be held on Saturday, May 4th at York Golf Club. Lunch will be served at 1:00pm and shotgun start at 2:00pm. Be sure to bring some extra cash to purchase mulligans and to enter yourself into the putting competition!

Please contact WB John Hicks or WB Craig Shumaker with any questions. We'll see you there!

QUESTIONS ABOUT AGING?

CONCERN • CARE • COMPASSION
RESOURCE CENTER
The Ohio Masonic Home
The Trusted Partner to Help People Age Respectfully

The Ohio Masonic Home
Resource Center
is here to help!

1-877-881-1623

omhresourcecenter.org

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
EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST

Second Saturday at
West Gate Lodge:
Breakfast, 9a – 12p

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 an event and want to invite the district, please send an email to:

ashlar@14thmasonicdistrict.org

Royal Scofield Society

By Bro Ken Cohen, PDDGM

The Grand Lodge Committee on Education and Information opened the Royal Scofield Society on April 2nd. According to their Facebook site (facebook.com/RoyalScofieldSociety), the society "… strives to bring together Freemasons who place emphasis and value on Masonic education, and seek to put that love of Masonic education into action…"



The coursework of the society consists of three levels. The Fellows of the Craft level consists of three elements, online tests which cover the same material as the basic masonic education course a candidate goes through. The Pillars of the Craft level has five elements. They cover the Ancient Charges, Ceremonies of the Grand Lodge, your Masonic lineage, some local travel and the working tools of a Mason. The Masters of the Craft consists of seven elements exploring some advanced topics of education and the external application of masonic principles.

Upon successful completion of all elements, you will become a Fellow of the Royal Scofield Society. You will be invited to the society banquet at Grand Lodge and will get to help shape the future of this program.

Most Worshipful Brother Royal C. Scofield was Grand Master in 1973. He served as the chairman of the Education Committee for many years and helped create the first educational programs and exams used by the Grand Lodge. Any brothers who took the Series IV course were familiar with "the red pen" used by MWB Scofield to personally grade each exam.

The motto of the society is Aedificate Exemplo, a Latin imperative directing members to "Build by Example". Several members in the 14th District are well on their way to Building by Example.

For more information on the Royal Scofield Society, contact your DEO or RWB Ken Cohen at ken.cohen@mason340.com.

Magnolia Lodge #20 F & AM
Golf Outing June, 22nd, 2019

Most Worshipful Brother
Jess N. Raines
Grand Master of Masons
of Ohio in Attendance

1:00 PM Shot Gun Start
Split Rock Golf Club
10210 Scioto-Darby Rd,
Orient, OH 43146

Net Proceeds Benefit
Masonic Model Student
Assistance Program



Entry Fee: $260 per Team, $65 per Person, Individuals are Welcome!

Dinner Only Option: $20 per Person



OUTING INCLUDES:

- 18 HOLE SCRAMBLE
- GOLF CART AND LUNCH AT THE TURN
- AWARDS FOR LONGEST DRIVE, LONGEST PUTT, AND CLOSEST TO THE PIN
- DOOR PRIZES
- ALL YOU CAN EAT BARBEQUE DINNER BY CONCRETE BBQ

See Back for Golfer Sign-up

TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION :

Rick Schleppi | 740-983-2160 | Rlspls2003@gmail.com
Ron Dews | 614-332-2463 | rdews27@gmail.com

The Old Past Master

DO YOU STUDY GEOMETRY?

"I BOUGHT me a high school geometry the other day" confessed the Very New Mason to the Old Past Master, sitting on the benches waiting for the Worshipful Master to call the lodge to labor. "I was so much impressed with what I learned of its importance to Masons, during the Fellowcraft Degree, that I determined to go back to my school days and try again. But I am much discouraged.

"Why so?" asked the Old Past Master, interested. "I recall geometry as rather an interesting subject. I don't suppose I could do a single original now, it's been so many years … I don't know when I have looked in one!"

Why, you surprise me! I thought all good Masons must know geometry. We are taught. … how does it go? … something about a noble science …" his voice trailed off in silence.

"'Geometry, the first and noblest of the sciences'" quoted the Old Past Master, "'is the basis on which the superstructure of Masonry is erected. By geometry, we may curiously trace Nature through her various windings, to her most concealed recesses. By it we may discover the wisdom and the goodness of the Grand Artificer of the universe and view with delight the proportions which connect this vast machine.'"

"Yes, that's it!" agreed the Very New Mason. "And there is a lot more, isn't there?"

"A whole lot!" smiled the Old Past Master, in agreement.

"Well, then, why doesn't a well-informed Mason have to be a geometrician?"

"There is certainly no reason why a good geometrician shouldn't be a good Mason," answered the Old Past Master, "but no reason why a man who doesn't know geometry shouldn't be a good Mason.

"You see, my son, we hark back a great many years in much of our lectures, to a time when knowledge was neither so great nor so diversified as now. William Preston, the eminent Masonic student, scholar, writer, who lived and wrote in the latter part of the eighteenth century, conceived the idea of making the degrees in general, and the Fellowcraft degree in particular, a liberal education! A "liberal education" in those days was comprised within what we still call, after Preston, the "seven liberal arts and sciences." In those days any mathematics beyond geometry was only for the very, very few; indeed, mathematics were looked upon rather askance by the common men, as being of small use in the world, save for engineers and designers and measurers of land.

"But Preston, if his lectures are no longer the real "liberal education" which he planned, and which, in the form of his lectures modified by Webb (and somewhat tinkered with by various authorities and near authorities who at times have kept the husk and let the kernel escape!) builded better than he knew. For we may now justly and honorably take "geometry" to mean not only the science of measurement of surface and area and the calculation of angles and distances, but to mean all measurement. And to
study measurement, my son, means to study science, for all science is but measurement, and by that measurement, the deduction of laws and so the unravelling of the secrets of nature.

"I do not understand geometry any more; it is long since I studied it. But I do study, and do try to keep my mind awake and always filling, if never full. It is true that to many a Mason the study of geometry itself would be a grand mental discipline and thus greatly improve his mind. But I do not think we are to take this admonition literally, any more than we are to accept literal interpretations for other wordings in our ritual. We meet upon the level, in Masonry, and we act upon the square.

But that does not mean that we put our feet upon a carpenter's level, or sit upon stone masons" squares while we "act." The words are symbols of thoughts. I take the admonition to study geometry as a symbol of a thought, meaning that a Mason is to educate himself, to keep his mind open, to keep it active, to learn, to think, to develop his reason and his logic, that he may the better aid him-" self to know himself and his work to aid his fellowmen.

"Even Preston, literal-minded as he was, and focusing all his attention as he did, upon ritual and teaching by it and a formalism which is not yet outworn in our ranks, had a vision of what geometry might mean beside the mathematical science of angles. For … how does it go? In our charge to a Fellowcraft, we say "Geometry, or Masonry, originally synonymous terms, being of a divine and moral nature, is enriched with the most useful knowledge, while it proves the wonderful properties of nature, it demonstrates the more important truths of morality."
"It should be obvious that a study of mathematics of any kind cannot demonstrate morality unless it is considered as a symbol as well as a science. As we are thus told in so many words to use geometry as a symbol, we may well agree with Pike, who wrote learnedly to prove a Mason's inherent right to interpret the symbols of Freemasonry for himself. To me, geometry is a symbol of science, and one which I should use to impress upon myself the need of something else. To a Mason who had had few educational advantages, the word might mean its literal sense, and he be greatly benefitted by a close study of the book which discourages you.

"I do not attempt, my brother, to force upon you my understanding, or to quarrel at all with those Masons who find a different interpretation of the geometry which is Masonry as we understand it. I do but give you my ideas for whatever use they may be to you, and so you will not be discouraged in what is a praise-worthy attempt to profit by the Masonic lectures. Do you recall the end of the charge you received as a Fellowcraft?"

"I … I … I am afraid I don't, just exactly …"

"It runs this way," smiled the Old Past Master "… 'in your new character it is expected that you will conform to the principles of the Order by steadily persevering in the practice of every commendable virtue.' If you study the "principles of the Order" you will, indeed, be learning Masonic geometry.