ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

SEPTEMBER 2020 ISSUE

Lodges Return to Labor!

Greetings to All! As summer begins to wind down and lodges return to labor, we know that another Masonic term will soon close. In preparation for the next Masonic term, I want to share with you some dates and information relative to typical annual events.

This has been an unprecedented year that we all will forever remember! It is great that our lodges can return to regular stated and special meetings, as dictated by each lodges Uniform Code of By-laws, beginning September 1. Remember the CDC guidelines for gatherings / meetings and having meals or refreshments prior to or following a meeting.

Due to the CDC guidelines caused by COVID-19, there are numerous planned events that may or may not be open, or even be held. We will do our best to communicate information prior to each event in as timely a manner as possible.

Here are some dates and events to put on your calendar.

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

IN THIS ISSUE

From the President 2
Inspection awards..... 3
Living Our Oblication 4
2021 Inspection Schedule 5
New England Items For Sale..... 5
York Yarns 6
District Golf Outing 6

2020 Dates

September 13 – VA Hospital Visitation has been canceled.
October 15 – 14th District Annual Meeting, Northwest Masonic Temple, 7:00pm
There will not be a dinner, if the meeting is held in-person. Should we be forced hold the meeting virtually, the information will be shared in early October.
November 2 – Lodge annual meetings begin
December 12 – Past Master Convocation, Northwest Masonic Temple, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm. All Worshipful Masters-elect are required to attend
*Should CDC guidelines still be in place, this meeting will be closed. *

2021 Dates

January 5 – Inspection season begins. See schedule in this edition.
January 6 – Franklin County Memorial Lodge annual meeting.
Hiram Lodge No. 18, Delaware.
*All details currently pending. * Will confirm by January 1, 2021
February 25 – 14th District quarterly meeting. Location TBA
March 13 – 14th District annual reception. Villa Milano, 5:30 pm.
May 27 – 14th District annual awards dinner and presentations. Location TBA

Contacts

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

Communication Committee
RWB Ken Cohen
WB Adam Michael
WB Craig Shumaker
WB Michael Emery
WB Eric Longstreth

Editor
WB Craig Shumaker

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

From the President

WB Tim Robinett, 14th District President

Brethren, it's hard to believe that September is already upon us and that fall is just around the corner. I hope that everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer.

I know the year has proven to be a challenging one. Many events, masonic and non-masonic, have had to be cancelled. Our daily lives and activities, in most cases, have had to be altered to coincide with the mandates set by the governor of Ohio and the Grand Lodge of Ohio. But as these mandates and restrictions are lifted or lessened, and lodge activities start to resume, I urge everyone to continue taking the necessary precautions to stay safe and to keep their fellow brethren safe. It is with utmost importance that we continue to practice social distancing while at our lodge meetings, activities, and/or events.

Speaking of activities and events, this month we celebrate Labor Day. "What is the meaning of Labor Day? Do you get weekends off work? Lunch breaks? Paid vacation? An eight-hour work day? Social security? If you said "yes" to any of these questions, you can thank labor unions and the U.S. labor movement for it. Years of hard-fought battles (and the ensuing legislation they inspired) resulted in many of the most basic benefits we enjoy at our jobs today. On the first Monday in September, we take the day off to celebrate Labor Day and reflect on the American worker's contribution to our country." (https://nationaltoday.com/labor-day/).

While most festivals in our local communities have been cancelled, many will continue traditions of inviting friends and family over for cookouts or just social gatherings. I want to wish all a safe and enjoyable holiday!

On a final note, with many of our Masonic events having been cancelled for the year, it has sometimes been a challenge to communicate these cancellations to everyone. As a reminder, the District uses many resources (the Ashlar, the District's Facebook page, emails sent out to your local lodge secretaries and worshipful masters) to inform the brethren of these cancellations. If at any time, you have a question or concern, please feel free to reach out to me or any of the District Officers.
I want to thank all the brethren of the 14th District for the patience and support you have given us over these last several months. Stay healthy! Stay safe! And stay strong!

Fraternally,
Tim Robinett
President

Ritual Award Winners for 2020

The District Deputies Grand Master of the 14th Masonic District are happy to share with our district the ritual award winners for the 2020 inspection season. Regrettably, this year a few lodges did not have the opportunity to participate due to COVID-19. However, for those lodges who had held their inspection prior to COVID-19, the decision was made to recognize the Brothers and the lodges who were selected as the winners.

EA Degree
Best Degree – Arts & Sciences Lodge #792
Best Apron Lecture – Michael Gamble, Arts & Sciences Lodge #792
Best Lecture – Craig Shumaker, Blendon Lodge #339
Best Charge – Jason Anderson, Blendon Lodge #339

FC Degree
Best Degree – Reynoldsburg Lodge #340
Best Lecture – Dan Radanovich, III, Groveport-Lockbourne Lodge #801; Co-Winner
Best Lecture – Jim Jones, Goodale Lodge #372; Co-Winner
Best "G" Lecture – Ken Cohen, Reynoldsburg Lodge #340
Best Charge – Peter Scott, Groveport-Lockbourne Lodge #801

MM Degree
Best Degree – Sparrow Lodge #400
Best Lecture – Aaron Wycoff, Linden Lodge #637
Best Charge – Kevin Bice, Linden Lodge #637
Best Craft Team – University Lodge #631

Please join your District Deputies Grand Master in congratulating our Brothers!

Dates

10/15 – District Annual Meeting – Northwest Masonic Temple – 7pm

12/12 – PM Convocation – Northwest Masonic Temple – 8am

1/5 – Inspection – Sparrow 400 - EA

1/6 – Franklin County Memorial Lodge – Hiram

1/12 – Inspection – Hiram 18 – FC

1/15 – Inspection – Capital City 656 - MM

Lodge and Individual Inspection Attendance Award Winners

On behalf of the 14th District Officers Association, we would like to congratulate the winners of the Lodge and Individual Inspection Attendance Awards.

100 % Lodge Attendance Award Winners:
Hiram #18, Magnolia #20, Reynoldsburg #340, West Gate #623, University #631, Linden #637, Capital City #656, Canal Winchester (Ralph R. Rickly) #670, Grove City #689, Sunrise #783

90% - 99% Lodge Attendance Award Winners:
Avery #493

80% - 89% Lodge Attendance Award Winners:
Goodale #372, Neoacacia #595

100 % Individual Attendance Award Winners:
Daryl Cox, Mike Martin, Phil Miller, West Carnahan, Tim Robinett

The overall Traveling Award Winner went to Sunrise who took the award at 4 of the inspections.

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

Living Our Obligation

WB Eric Longstreth

"In times of difficulty and danger in whom do YOU place your trust?"

One of the first questions we were asked when we took our first step into Freemasonry.

I remember it well, I'm sure you do to.

As a past Master whenever I helped a man to his feet at the start of his Masonic journey I felt a supreme sense of obligation in getting him off on the right foot. To this day I still feel a tremendous amount of responsibility to each and every man I have given the obligations to.

We submitted ourselves to our guide and to the Brethren of our Lodge. We should never take this lightly. We should always be a guide to those around us - to our Brethren, to our families, to our co-workers, and to those in need.

Due to the pandemic we are indeed in difficult, and in some instances, dangerous times. Our world is in a time of upheaval - socially, morally, financially, politically, and emotionally.

In whom do we place our trust?

In the MM Degree, one of the most important parts of our obligation is to "aid and assist all worthy, distressed Master Masons, their widows, and orphans, so far as we can without causing material injury to ourselves or family."

Are you living this part of our obligation?

Aid and assistance comes in many forms: prayer, a phone call, financially, household chores, etc.

There are many of our Brethren going through some difficult times right now. A simple phone call from you might mean the difference between a good day and a bad day. Simply checking in on someone lets them know they aren't forgotten. Helping one of our widows do something around the house lets them know we care. Lifting them up to the Supreme Architect in your daily prayers may help them more than anything we can do

I know we are all busy but are we too busy to help one of our Brothers?

As you read this if you, or someone, that you know, needs help or just someone to call and say hello, let me know.

Eric Longstreth
14th District Chaplain
740-816-1717
Eric.longstreth@yahoo.com

2021 Inspection Schedule

The District Deputies Grand Master have finalized the 14th Masonic District inspection schedule for 2021. See below.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the decision has not been made as to whether the inspections will be open, or if they will be closed. The DDGM's will monitor the CDC guidelines over the next couple of months and decide in December.

Let us hope that January 1, 2021 will begin a new year where COVID-19, social distancing and wear a mask will not be the primary phases used in everyday conversation!

LODGE NAME	#	INSPECTION DATE	Degree
Sparrow	400	Tuesday, January 5, 2021	EA
Hiram	18	Tuesday, January 12, 2021	FC
Capital City	656	Friday, January 15, 2021	MM
University	631	Tuesday, January 19, 2021	EA
Arts & Sciences	792	Thursday, January 21, 2021	FC
New England	4	Monday, January 25, 2021	EA
Community	684	Tuesday, January 26, 2021	FC
Blendon	339	Monday, February 1, 2021	FC
Triangle	748	Thursday, February 4, 2021	EA
Groveport-Lockbourne	801	Tuesday, February 9, 2021	MM
Neoacacia	595	Wednesday, February 17, 2021	FC
Linden	637	Thursday, February 18, 2021	EA
Goodale	372	Monday, February 22, 2021	MM
York	563	Monday, March 1, 2021	FC
Canal Winchester	670	Wednesday, March 3, 2021	MM
Magnolia	20	Tuesday, March 9, 2021	EA
Reynoldsburg	340	Thursday, March 11, 2021	MM
West Gate	623	Monday, March 15, 2021	FC
Avery	493	Tuesday, March 16, 2021	FC
Grove City	689	Monday, March 22, 2021	MM
Sunrise	783	Tuesday, March 23, 2021	EA

New England Items for Sale

Brethren of the 14th Masonic District, New England Lodge #4 is in the process of clearing out two storage units which contain furniture and other items removed from our original 1820 Lodge building when we lost possession of that a few years ago. We have published the availability of these items to our members first, and now we are expanding the offering to all Masons of 14th District.

You can see a gallery of available items at:
http://members.newengland4.org/gallery.jsp?album=Contents/Uploads/Gallery/Public/Storage%20Unit%20Items

This gallery will be updated on a weekly basis as more items are excavated from layers buried deep in the storage units. These will include large fireproof safes usable as gun safes. Please check the link often. We want these storage units to be cleared out ASAP. All items are free to a good home

York Yarns

On Monday, August 17, 2020 York Lodge No. 563 was pleased to host the first installment of York Yarns (Weaving a Tapestry of Education). This new, online educational series, open to all Masons, is an effort to provide Brethren with the opportunity to give a short presentation about any topic that has piqued their curiosity and inspired their research.

For our first event, we had ten excellent presenters, including several District Education Officers and the Senior Grand Warden, Right Worshipful Brother Timothy Wheeland. Each speaker was allotted 5-10 minutes in which to give their presentation. Topics presented were wide ranging and included historical, practical, and esoteric areas of research.

The second installment of York Yarns is scheduled for Monday, November 30, 2020. We hope that you will join the Brethren of York Lodge online that evening for a new slate of topics.

For further information about attending or presenting at the next York Yarns, please contact Michael Threloff, Junior Deacon, at mthreloff28@gmail.com

14th District Golf Outing Recap

On Saturday, July 11, 2020, the 14th District held its 9th annual golf outing at Bent Tree Golf Club in Sunbury. It was a beautiful day for golf, and teams from across the district showed up ready to play.



The team of Keith Fields, Brian Roberts, Greg Turner, and Kurt Lanam won the innagural C. Rolland Lattaner Cup with a score of 63. Coming in second with a score of 66 was the team of Adam Michael, David Gizzo, David Keiser, and Ken Harris. Brian Roberts won the Poker Run and Harold Davis won the Pink Ball raffle.

This event is a lot of fun to plan, and even more enjoyable to see the brethren from around the district come together outside of Lodge and show their support.

Covid put a damper on a lot of plans this year, but it was great to see so many Brothers again for the first time in what seems like forever.

The 2021 edition will celebrate 10 years of this wonderful event, and we look forward to seeing you there!