# ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

JULY 2023 ISSUE


14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

## Reflecting on Free Masonry.

WB Chris Greise, DEO

Driving home from the Grand Session of Job's Daughter's, it gave me time to reflect on the impact of freemasonry on our members and the youth. It also reminded me of one area that we fall a little short.

So many of us in our journey of life have struggled to fit in. Wondering where we belong. One key factor is the inherent human need for social acceptance and belonging. When individuals feel like they don't fit in, they may experience feelings of isolation and loneliness. Differences in appearance, personality, interests, or beliefs can create barriers to fitting in with a particular group or community.

Ultimately, the complexity of human relationships and the diverse nature of individuals contribute to the challenges people face when trying to fit in.

Freemasonry gives us the framework to help break down those barriers, learn from others, introduce us to people who are not outwardly like ourselves.

So the one area I feel we need to always keep in mind is making sure everyone feels welcomed. I've recently chatted with a few brothers who I haven't seen as much recently. Our conversation pointed out that when they were coming, they didn't feel included or a part of what was going on. I know with everything we are doing that we can lose sight of the big picture. I remember my time as a lodge officer and most meetings I was focused on my lines and what needed to be done.

Recently RWB Michael McCandlish reminded a group of us, "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal. " - Albert Pike

Finally, remember that freemasonry is a team effort and a learning experience. We should all be working together to improve our Ashlars. Do not get stuck in the minutiae of running our meetings that we forget to spread the cement of brotherly love and do the things necessary for Building Brotherhood in our great fraternity. This will help everyone feel that they fit in and part of the bigger community.

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14thMasonicDistrict.org

# What came you here to do? A Reflection on Our Working Tools…

## WB Jeffrey Hall

## The Last Working Tool is that of the Master Mason, The Trowel.

Operative Masons use the trowel to spread cement at the building of King Solomon's Temple. As Speculative masons the trowel should be used to spread the cement of brotherly love and friendship. It does not matter where you are in life nor what you look like, or what clothes you wear, or what your wealth or whence you come. We must show brotherly love to each other. Spreading brotherly love as well as receiving it can be truly difficult at times. As men we sometimes will not ask for help. We will not accept help. This stems from having too much pride. Brotherly love and true friendship can help remove such an obstacle between men.

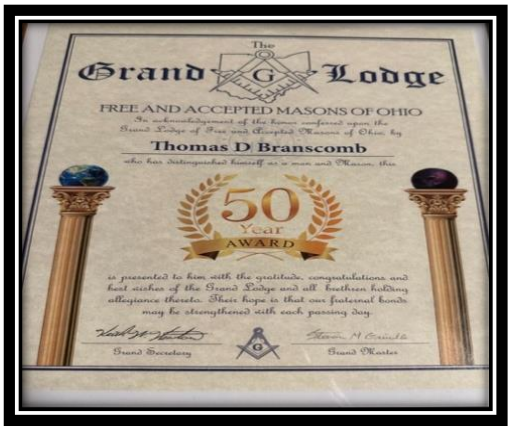
This next part might upset some to be honest. As we look at the trowel, it causes us to reflect on the fact that we need to be part of Masonry. We need to be able to give back. There are too many times many have said, "I just do not have time for Masonry". This causes the trowel to lay unused in one's toolbox. Or, "I don't have time to help others" and once again that trowel lays unused. I believe these unused trowels are going to waste. Telling ourselves that we do not have time for Masonry is simply making an excuse. If you attend one masonic function a month it shows that you are committed to our fraternity but most importantly it allows you to see something that others could miss. As a brother you could be the one that makes that most impact on another brother by your attendance. Maybe that brother is struggling, and you were the person he needed to see. That familiar face that helped him through the rough times.

During my travels I have heard many times brothers living with regret. I have heard them say, "I wish I would have come to lodge one last time as I did not get to see the brother before passed away." Please do not live with regret.

I believe that sometimes brothers do not go to lodge for various reasons such as they cannot remember due guards and signs. This is simple fix we are here to support each other. Please do not let this be a reason to not go. We keep worrying about little things. It does not matter what clothes you wear, and it does not matter what things you remember. Please do not let an excuse be the reason you stay away. We need you to be the light to those in darkness. We need you to be the light to someone whose light is struggling.

In closing, all the working tools are symbolic of certain meanings within the Lodge. And yes, those same implements may have other personal significances to each of us. However, no matter the situation, good use of any tool always benefits the master craftsman. Be assured that if we use these together working tools as a guide for our actions throughout our life's journey so we will be made stronger masons.

# Photos from Around the District



















## 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

## More Photos from around the District



# 14th Masonic District

Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio

## Upcoming Events

| Event | Location | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|---|
| **14th District Golf Outing** | York Golf Club<br>7459 N. High Street,<br>Columbus, OH 43235 | Saturday, July 8, 2023 | 10:30 AM |
| **14th District Picnic** | High Banks Metro Park<br>Northern Shelter House | Sunday, August 6, 2023 | 12:00 PM<br>Lunch<br>2:00 PM |

THOMAS MILLER

# MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

SEPTEMBER 23RD, 2023
REGISTRATION OPENS 7:30 AM
SHOTGUN START 8:30 AM
VILLAGE VIEW GOLF COURSE
210 SOUTH MAIN ST
HARTFORD, OH 43013

- Registration $55 a Golfer - Includes Cart, Golf, Food and One Mulligan
- Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle
- Hole Sponsors - $100
- For More Information - GolfInfo@sparrowlodge.com
- All payment received by Eventbrite
- https://sparrow400golf23.eventbrite.com






One of the Core Values of Scottish Rite Freemasonry is Service to Humanity. We are excited to offer you these opportunities this year where you can join us in this Core Value in Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Join us in supporting our Mid-Ohio Food Bank, in Grove City. The Valley of Columbus has a scheduled opportunities to serve at the Mid-Ohio Food Bank all throughout the year.

We have 14 voluntary rolls to fill for each date listed below.

Pre-registration is needed. These voluntary rolls can be filled by Scottish members, family or friends.

Future Dates:
Saturday, August 12th - 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Saturday, October 14th - 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
Saturday, December 11th – 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Where:
Mid Ohio Food Bank
3960 Brookham Drive
Grove City, Ohio 43123

RSVP:
WB Eric Longstreth
Phone/Text: 1 (740) 816-1717
Email: eric.longstreth@yahoo.com

Mid Ohio Food Bank Facts…
Who We Serve
• People in our area who are eligible to receive our aid are missing, on average, 52 days of eating a year.
• We serve 20 counties covering nearly 10,000 square miles.
• Our goal is to close the 144 million-meal gap in our region.
We provide more than 140,000 meals each day for hungry people in central and eastern Ohio. Our network of 680-member agencies directly distribute the vast majority of the nutritious food the Mid-Ohio Foodbank handles each year.

# MIDDLE CHAMBER CHAPTER

♦ CENTRAL OHIO ♦




# WIDOWS SONS OF OHIO

MASONIC RIDERS ASSOCIATION

***25 Chapters | 600 Members***
***Enjoy Freemasonry on Two Wheels!***

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## OUR MISSION

To aid and assist the Widows of Master Masons.
To promote Freemasonry in the World of Motorcycles.
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