ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

AUGUST 2023 ISSUE

214th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio.

RWB Adam Michael, DDGM

The 214th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio is scheduled to take place on Friday, October 20th at the Kalahari Resort located at 7000 Kalahari Drive, Sandusky, Ohio 44870. Full details including the itinerary and lodging options for the Annual Communication can be found at: glohio2023.com or by clicking this link: https://oh.grandview.systems/events/4074/.

Reservations for the various events must be made through GrandView by September 9 so start making your plans to attend now. You can also find information on making hotel reservations and all activities throughout the weekend at the site.

This year the Grand Lodge business session will commence at 8:00 A.M. on Friday and close at 3:00 P.M. The installation of the 2023-2024 Grand Lodge officers will then take place at 5:00 P.M. at the same location.

Register with the Credentials Committee at the session upon your arrival and come prepared with your due's cards and aprons. As you may recall from last year's communication, several pieces of legislation did not pass for immediate consideration and were ultimately laid over until this year's session.

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

In this Issue

Debunking Bias……2

Photos from around the District..... 3

Upcoming Events/Mid Ohio Food Bank 4

Sparrow Golf Outing….5

All of the proposed legislation to be considered at the annual communication will be administered to all the lodges in September and must be read at a stated meeting of your lodge. So, for all those who are eligible to vote, come prepared and be ready to raise your card for the future of our fraternity and celebrate with our new Grand Lodge officer's as they embark on leading our ranks in the great state of Ohio.

Contacts

14th District Officers

President
WB Keith Fields
1st Vice President
WB Eric Longstreth
2nd Vice President
WB David Gizzo
Treasurer
WB John Hicks
Secretary
RWB Brian Bolyard
Sergeant-At-Arms
WB Eric Kletrovetz
Chaplain
WB Patrick Mayer

Communication Committee
RWB Ken Cohen
RWB Adam Michael
WB Craig Shumaker
RWB Brian Bolyard
WB Jeffrey Hall

Editor
WB Jeffrey Hall

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

Debunking Bias.

WB Nick Bolyard, DEO

As a teacher, we are in one of the most resting parts of the year, summer break. This allows teachers, staff, students, and families to take a deep breath from the chaos of a school year. Whether actively involved in sports or academic rigors, the summertime often provides opportunities for everyone to rest. However, with this time, comes some biases from the outside. Teachers and staff members receive ridicule that they are "doing nothing" for the summer months. This creates unconscious biases towards these individuals. During the summer months, some teachers continue coaching sports at their schools, working in their schools, preparing for classes the following year, taking professional development, or doing global trips with their students. Inevitably, while teachers do have time off, it is not to the biases that some may realize.

This begs the question about our fraternity - "What are our biases?" We are again approaching the part of the year when we are preparing for the end of our terms and the beginning of new terms. Many lodges have summer or fall traditions to have meetings to prepare for the following term. During these meetings, how many times do we consider the words *should, always,* or *never?* According to research provided regarding mental health studies, these are expectation-provided words. In other words, these are our biases. For example, "all lodges *should* have a moving line with no Past Masters, and all Masters *should* have done lectures and charges." These are biases towards our own organization, which causes us to provide negative favor, consciously or unconsciously, to each other. We may look down upon another brother or lodge that does not meet these unconscious biases that we possess. For example, if a lodge has had the same Worshipful Master for three years in a row, we may begin to question the strength of the lodge. *The lodge should have a new Master yearly.* However, in reality, maybe that lodge believes in having a business-style approach and maintaining the Worshipful Master at the top to create consistency.

These biases change how we view each other. Inevitably, we all have different walks of life. There are no requirements for a Worshipful Master to have done all three lectures and charges. So, why do we place this unconscious bias on these brethren before ascending to the East? Our typical response is "*They should",* or "*That's the way it has always been done."* Look closely at the verbiage we are using. We are, unconsciously, putting expectations on our brethren. Are we running off potentially tremendous talent in leadership due to our own unconscious bias? Are we placing more anxiety on our brethren than what is required by the organization?

Consider the biases we face from the outside already. Each of us faces the same biases regarding who we are, simply by our choice to be a Freemason. These are irrational expectations and biases toward us. So, why place them on each other?

As we plan and transition for our new terms, I encourage each of you to reflect upon your own biases. We all have our own unconscious biases. With reflection, we can successfully debunk these from our lives and create a better experience for ourselves and for our brethren.

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

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.

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
14th District Picnic	High Banks Metro Park Northern Shelter House	Sunday, August 6, 2023	12:00 PM Lunch 2:00 PM
Sparrow Lodge No. 400	Village View Golf Course 210 South Main Street Croton, Ohio 43013	Saturday, September 23, 2023 https://sparrow400golf23.eventbrite.com	07:30 AM
214th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio	Kalahari Resort located at 7000 Kalahari Drive, Sandusky, Ohio 44870	Friday, October 20, 2023 https://oh.grandview.systems/events/4074/	08:00 AM

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

