ASHLAR

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14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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Living Our Obligation

WB Eric Longstreth, 14th District President

"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 President

Contacts

14th District Officers
President
WB Eric Longstreth
1st Vice President
WB David Gizzo
2nd Vice President
WB Eric Kletrovetz
Treasurer
WB John Hicks
Secretary
RWB Brian Bolyard
Sergeant-At-Arms
WB Patrick Mayer
Chaplain
WB Jay Miller

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

Editor
WB Jeffrey Hall

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

New Masonic Year

Greetings Brethren! Our Fraternity, as well as our world, is going through some trying times. While this has been a rough couple of months for everyone, I hope this message finds you and your loved ones well.

Our new year began with the installation of the new District Deputy Grand Master and district education officer. We congratulate, and welcome to the 14th Masonic District leadership team, RWB Keith Fields as District Deputy Grand Master, and WB Brad Love as District Education Officer. Please extend your congratulations and best wishes when you see them. Congratulations to our brothers!

As our lodges conclude their annual meetings and officer installations in November, we ask that the lodge secretary please complete the officer roster, using the new fillable PDF document, and submit via the email address roster@14thmasonicdistrict.org. This will assist us in formatting and printing the 2024 district directory and keep the formatting costs down.

Please note that we've updated the officer roster with less requested information, and hopefully easier to complete. The new roster will be emailed to the lodge secretary.

Our district has a busy schedule in 2024; our hope is that each of you will take an active role in our district as we focus on strengthening the 14th Masonic District as we move into the new Masonic year. Remember, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth are the tenants of our Fraternity, we must all work together to live and share these tenants within our district.

Please add the events listed below to your lodge schedule of events.

December 9 – Past Master Convocation, Northwest Masonic Temple
Registration begins at 8:00 am, convocation convenes at 9:00 am.
All newly elected Worshipful Masters are required to attend.
January 3 – Franklin County Memorial Lodge annual meeting.
Reynoldsburg Lodge No. 340
Dinner at 6:30pm, meeting convenes at 7:30 pm.
Contact WB Greg Adams for dinner reservations.
January 20 – SYSK Class #1 – Sunrise Lodge No. 783
February 17 – SYSK Class #2 – Canal Winchester Lodge No. 670
February 20 – First inspection of the season.
February 22 – 14th District quarterly meeting. Location TBA.
Dinner at 6:00 pm, meeting convenes at 7:00 pm
Open to all Master Masons
March 9 – 14th District annual reception.
April 27 – SYSK Class #3 – Hiram Lodge No. 18
May 25 – 14th District annual awards dinner and presentations. Location TBA.
August 4 – 14th District annual family picnic - Highbanks Metro Park, Lewis Center

2024 District Officers

The annual meeting of the 14th District Masonic Officers Association was held on Thursday, October 26 at Hiram Lodge No. 18. During this meeting, new officers were elected and appointed to serve the 14th District in the 2024 Masonic year. Please join us in congratulating these hard-working Brothers!

President – WB Eric Longstreth – Hiram Lodge No. 18
1st Vice President – WB David Gizzo – York Lodge No. 563
2nd Vice President – WB Eric Kletrovetz – Sparrow Lodge No. 400
Treasurer – WB John Hicks – Sunrise Lodge No. 783
Secretary – RWB Brian Bolyard – Neoacacia Lodge No. 595
Sergeant At Arms – WB Patrick Mayer – Avery Lodge No. 493
Chaplain – WB Jay Miller – Hiram Lodge No. 18
Trustee – WB Craig Shumaker – Blendon Lodge No. 339
Trustee – WB Garrett Watson – Triangle Lodge No. 748
Trustee – WB Kyle Merkel – Sunrise Lodge No. 783



Dates

11/25 – One Line Signers Due

TBD – Deacons and Stewards Training – Magnolia – 7pm

11/29 – LEO and WM Workshop – Neoacacia – 7pm

12/9 – PM Convocation – Northwest Masonic Temple – 8am

1/3 – Franklin County Memorial Lodge – Reynoldsburg

1/20 – SYSK #1 – Sunrise Lodge

2/17 – SYSK #2 – Canal Winchester Lodge

2/20 – Inspection – University - EA





2024 Inspection Schedule

The District Deputies Grand Master have finalized the 14th Masonic District inspection schedule for 2024. See below.

Inspections are a great way to meet Brethren from around the district and to see the wonderful work that our Lodges do. While we all practice the same ritual, the distinctive character of each Lodge shines through with their own exceptional flair. Something as simple as inflection, or as grand as a unique twist on an old lecture might even inspire you in your own ritual.

Inspections are a great way to introduce a new member to the wonderful fellowship of our fraternity. We are blessed in the 14th District to have so many lodges filled with amazing humans doing wonderful things. Grab a few members from your lodge and travel to as many inspections as you can. We promise you won't regret it. And of course, there is the Gary Fortner traveling award at stake, presented to the most traveled Lodge of the inspection season.

LODGE NAME	#	INSPECTION DATE	Degree	DDGM	DEO	DO
University	631	Tuesday, February 20, 2024	EA	CN	BL	EK
New England	4	Monday, February 26, 2024	EA	KF	BL	DG
Reynoldsburg	340	Tuesday, February 27, 2024	MM	RW	NB	EL
Arts & Sciences	792	Thursday, February 29, 2024	FC	KF	NB	PM
Blendon	339	Monday, March 4, 2024	FC	CN	BL	EL
Sunrise	783	Tuesday, March 5, 2024	EA	KF	NB	EK
Groveport-Lockbourne	801	Tuesday, March 12, 2024	MM	KF	NB	JM
Sparrow	400	Saturday, March 16, 2024	EA	RW	CG	EL
West Gate	623	Monday, March 18, 2024	FC	CN	CG	JM
Hiram	18	Tuesday, March 19, 2024	FC	CN	CG	EK
Neoacacia	595	Wednesday, March 20, 2024	FC	KF	BL	DG
Goodale	372	Monday, April 1, 2024	MM	CN	CG	PM
Canal Winchester	670	Wednesday, April 3, 2024	MM	RW	NB	EK
Magnolia	20	Tuesday, April 9, 2024	EA	KF	CG	JM
Triangle	748	Thursday, April 11, 2024	EA	RW	NB	DG
York	563	Monday, April 15, 2024	FC	KF	CG	EL
Avery	493	Tuesday, April 16, 2024	FC	CN	CG	DG
Linden	637	Thursday, April 18, 2024	EA	RW	BL	PM
Community	684	Tuesday, April 23, 2024	FC	RW	BL	JM
Capital City	656	Friday, April 26, 2024	MM	RW	BL	PM
Grove City	689	Monday, April 29, 2024	MM	CN	NB	EL

All EA and FC Inspections begin at 7:00pm (dinner 6:00pm)
All MM inspections begin by 5:30pm (dinner at 6:15), second section at 7pm
*Sparrow 400 - breakfast at 8:00 am, degree at 9:00 am

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-Lockbourne 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

How best can we work and best agree?

WB Chris Greise, DEO

Every day as I leave work, I find myself checking the traffic to ensure the freeway isn't shut down because of an accident. I'm also amazed at the drivers going extremely slow or wildly out of control. Sometimes I wonder if I'm going to see an accident right before my eyes. Are we driving in a way that we best work and best agree?

The same goes for our Masonic journey. We are all traveling at different speeds or are at different locations. One of us might be stepping into a deacon's role next year or being asked to serve in a district position. We all have our own opinion on what is best but does it lend a hand in how we can best work and best agree?

I know in my short time as a mason I've heard, "Oh that brother shouldn't be master because…" or "How did he get picked to do that …" I know I might not have been the best master for my lodge but it did push me out of my comfort zone and made me a better person in the process. Each of us have worked on our Rough Ashlars but they are still rough. Some sides still have jagged edges. But are we working with each other so that we can best work and best agree?

I want my brothers to give me the benefit of the doubt even if they don't agree with me. To be curious, not judgmental. To whisper wise council when I might be approaching danger. Geometry is the relationship of one object to another. One stone to another. One brother to another. Masonry gives us all the tools to keep working on our Ashlar and how it best works and best agrees with each other.



District Education Opportunities

The District Education Officers have announced training dates for the incoming Lodge Officers.

- **TBD** – Deacons and Stewards Training – Magnolia Lodge – 7:00pm
- Wednesday, November 29 - Worshipful Master and LEO Workshop – Neoacacia Lodge – 7:00pm

Please mark these dates on your calendars. The respective officers for every lodge are expected to attend the training.

Royal Scofield Society

The Royal Scofield Society exists to reward those who value Masonic education and work to put that education into action; providing avenues, resources, and support to expand Masonic education, and inspire lifelong learning.

At the 2023 annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, our own WB Nick Bolyard became one of the newest members of the Royal Scofield Society. He was also elected to serve as a Regent of the Society for a 3-year term, ending October 2026.



The 14th District now boasts 4 members of this prestigious group:

- RWB Ken Cohen #5
- WB David Gubanc #13
- WB Bob Stacoffe #20
- WB Nick Bolyard #44

RSS consists of 3 levels: Fellows of the Craft, Pillars of the Craft, and Masters of the Craft. Each tier presents opportunities to challenge and improve your masonic knowledge. Tasks range anywhere from taking an online quiz, masonic travel, writing essays, mentoring candidates, and learning ritual, culminating in the Masterpiece; an original research project to be presented in a tyled Lodge.

Completing these tasks is no small feat, and these Brothers should be congratulated for their dedication!



14th Masonic District



SYSK

Reservation Deadline: January 6, 2024

JANUARY 20, 2024
SUNRISE LODGE

FEBRUARY 17, 2024
CANAL WINCHESTER LODGE

APRIL 27, 2024
HIRAM LODGE

Classes from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Coffee & Donuts at 7:30 AM
Lunch Provided
$25 per person

Contact your District Education Officer for more information

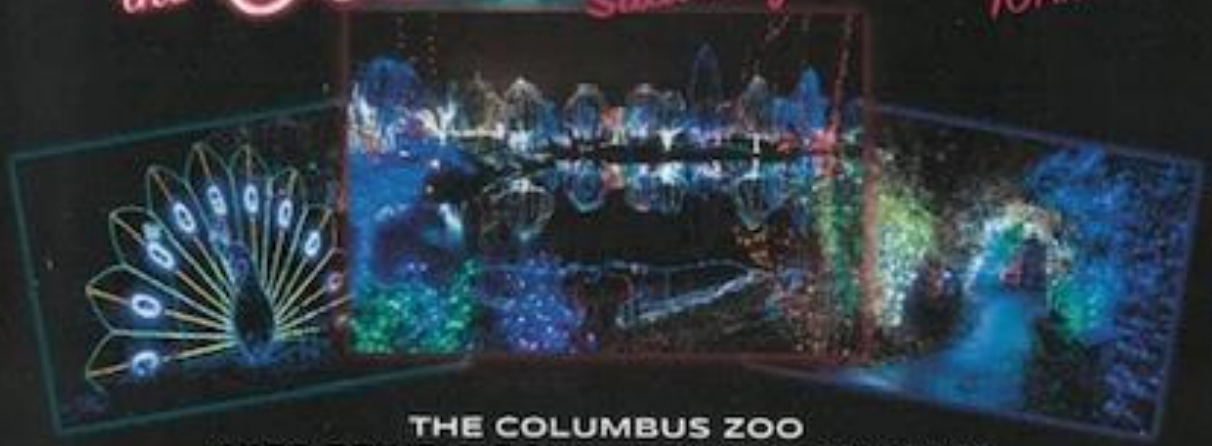
The Valley of Columbus

WILDLIGHTS

at the Columbus Zoo

Saturday, December 2, 2023

10AM - 10PM



THE COLUMBUS ZOO
4850 POWELL ROAD • POWELL, OH 43065

A CHANCE FOR BROTHERS TO COME TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR FELLOWSHIP FOR A DAY AT THE COLUMBUS ZOO

ALL SCOTTISH RITE MASONS ARE WELCOME WITH THEIR FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

THERE IS A LIMIT OF 250 PARTICIPANTS

THE VALLEY IS SUBSIDIZING THE COST OF THIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY EVENT.

Adults: $34 • Ages 2-9 and 60+: $29 • Zoo members: $21

Call the Valley office to pay and reserve your tickets today at 614-766-2272.

RESERVE EARLY – Limited to the first 250 reservations.
Deadline for reservation is November 10, 2023.

Zoo tickets and parking passes will be mailed out to you in November.

Your admission will include all day zoo admission from 10 AM till 10 PM with a parking pass.
We will have a venue from 5 PM till 9 PM to come and rest from our day at the zoo.
Beverages will be served from 6:00 to 8:00 PM which include, water, soft drinks, hot chocolate and Starbucks coffee.
Food will be served from 6:30 to 7:30 PM which will include chili station, hot dogs and cookies.

We recommend arriving by 5pm or earlier to avoid long lines at parking and entrance.

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