ASHLAR

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Make Sure You Prune Your Tree

WB Chris Greise, DEO

I remember that in the fall my uncle would prune the apple trees to the point I always said he butchered them. Being young I figured he just killed them. But each spring they would grow back bigger than before with even more fruit.

One of the benefits of COVID is that we all got to step back and reevaluate our priorities and goals. Last year at some of our inspections I spoke about filling our jar with the rocks and stones first before we got to the sand. It is amazing that before you know it our jar can fill up with sand before we get our priority rocks inside. Too many times we go months without reevaluating our priorities. I'm as guilty as the next Brother.

Life is about balance. Sometimes we are spending all of our time at home and skip out on lodge and our appendant bodies. Or we are so caught up in three or four Masonic events in a week we neglect our families. A balanced life allows you to spend time with your family and brothers.



So, I challenge you to prune your tree of wasted time, of your vices and superfluities and excesses that don't match your priorities. Then watch your tree of life blossom with new possibilities.

I hope everyone enjoys the holiday season with their family and friends.

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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Investing in Our Masonic Legacy: The Lodge Endowment Program

RWB L. Keith Fields, DDGM

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
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Communication Committee
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WB Craig Shumaker
RWB Brian Bolyard
WB Jeffrey Hall

Editor
WB Jeffrey Hall

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

As members of our cherished Masonic fraternity, we stand united by principles of brotherhood, charity, and the commitment to build a lasting legacy. Today, I bring to your attention a unique opportunity that not only benefits you but also ensures the sustained prosperity of your beloved lodge—the Lodge Endowment Program.

What is the Lodge Endowment Program?
Our Lodge Endowment Program is a long-term investment in the future of our Masonic family. It provides a way for each of us to contribute to the financial well-being of your lodge while securing a legacy that extends beyond our own lifetimes.

Key Benefits:
Freedom from Dues:
By participating in the Endowment Program, you can liberate yourself from the burden of annual dues. Imagine the financial relief and peace of mind that comes with contributing to our lodge without the recurring obligation of dues.

Paying It Forward:
Your commitment to the Lodge Endowment Program is an investment in the future vitality of your Masonic lodge. Even after you pass away, the funds generated continue to support the lodge's initiatives, charitable efforts, and the Masonic principles we hold dear.

Securing Our Legacy:
Every contribution to the Endowment Program ensures a secure financial foundation for your lodge, allowing us to continue our charitable works, community outreach, and the perpetuation of Masonic teachings for generations to come.

How Can You Participate?
Participating in the Lodge Endowment Program is a simple yet profound commitment. By making a one-time contribution or setting up a structured giving plan (if your lodge allows it), you are not only securing your own Masonic legacy but also strengthening the foundation of your lodge.

An endowment may be purchased in your name, in honor of someone else or in memory of someone. Endowments purchased to honor or memorialize someone can be named for a person who is not a mason. Thus, for example, you could purchase an honorary endowment to honor your wife, friend, son, daughter, boss, or pastor. In another example, if the brother who carried your petition has passed away, you could purchase an endowment in his name as a memorial to acknowledge and remember him.

Next Steps:
Speak with Lodge Officers: Your officers are more than willing to discuss this program with you individually, offering personalized insights and guidance. Consider this a call to action—a chance to make a lasting impact on your lodge's future. Embrace the freedom from dues and join hands with your brethren in securing a legacy that transcends time. Let us continue to build upon the traditions and values that make our lodge exceptional. Together, we shape the future of our Masonic journey.

Photos from Around the District













Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
Franklin County Memorial Lodge	Reynoldsburg Masonic Temple	Wednesday, January 3, 2024	6:30 Dinner 7:30 Meeting
SYSK Class #1	Sunrise Masonic Temple	Saturday, January 20, 2024	8am – 3pm
District Officer Degree Night	Blendon Masonic Temple	Monday, January 29, 2024	6pm Dinner 7pm Degree
SYSK Class #2	Canal Winchester Masonic Temple	Saturday, February 17, 2024	8am – 3pm
District Quarterly Meeting	Reynoldsburg Masonic Temple	Thursday, February 22, 2024	6pm Dinner 7pm Meeting
SYSK Class #3	Hiram Masonic Temple	Saturday, April 27, 2024	8am – 3pm
District Annual Reception	Pinnacle Golf Club Grove City	Saturday, March 9, 2024	

2024 Inspection Schedule

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

District Updates

On January 3rd,2024, Franklin County Memorial Lodge will host their Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers. Dinner will be at 6:30 PM and Meeting starts at 7:30 PM at Reynoldsburg Lodge. Open to all Master Masons and the annual dues is $1.00.

On Monday January 29th at Blendon Lodge the 14th District Officer Association will perform the Fellow Craft Degree. Dinner will be at 6:00 PM and the degree will start at 7:00 PM. Please come out and support your District Officers.

Educational Training

The 14th Masonic District will offer an educational opportunity on Tuesday, January 30th at Reynoldsburg Lodge starting at 6 PM with Masters Craftsmen Training followed by Stewards and Deacons training at 7:00 PM.

Are you interested? Sign up here - https://forms.gle/Z6NsRqJx9J3ZopcP8

Past Masters Convocation

RWB Ron Wike, DDGM

Q. What do Eagles and Worshipful Masters have in common?
No - it has nothing to do with being Bald….

A. When gathered as a formal group, you have a Convocation. On December 9, 2023, the WM's of the Fabulous 14th gathered for the 109th Annual Past Master Convocation.
In case you do not know, newly elected WM's are required to receive the Past Master Degree before being installed (Masonic Code 18.02b). The purpose of this requirement is to try the qualifications of a Master Mason before becoming the Worshipful Master of a Lodge. To ensure this requirement is met and the newly elected WM's can be installed, the DDGM's of each District hold a Past Master Convocation around the first Saturday in December. This is also a day of instruction and education regarding etiquette, Code changes, and edicts of the newly elected Grand Master.

Other immeasurable benefits of this Convocation are Brotherhood, Fellowship and Fun! ***#BFF***. This should sound familiar if you follow RWB Fields on social media. I love this because it really sums up the Why of Masonry for me. Why do I look forward to going to events and meetings? Because I know the Brotherhood, Fellowship and Fun that awaits when I gather with my Brothers. On December 9, we had 32 men show up to support the 21 new WM's in the room. In attendance were DDGM's from the 9th & 13th Districts, 13th District Advisor, 14th District DDGM's / DEO's and Officers, Past Grand Masters, several PDDGM's, Past Potentates, 14th District Past Masters, and many other distinguished Masons from Scottish and York Rite bodies. All these men showed up to show the new WM's that they care and to help get the new year started with so much Brotherhood, Fellowship, and Fun!

The DDGM's are grateful to everyone who showed up and made this day meaningful. We are looking forward to watching the 2024 WM's soar like Eagles to new heights in the coming year!

14th Masonic District

Masonic Leader

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