ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

FEBRUARY 2024 ISSUE

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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Freemasonry and Adversity

WB Nick Bolyard, DEO

Throughout our lives, we will face adversity. Adversity, which is defined as misfortune or difficulty, can sometimes be an arduous task that we face. Whether this adversity is a small setback or a catastrophic event, adversity allows us to utilize the lessons of Freemasonry.

During some recent adversity in my life, I had the opportunity to utilize the working tools and lessons from our fraternity. The first Masonic lesson was the cardinal virtue of fortitude. Fortitude provides us courage in times of difficulty and danger. During adverse conditions, we utilize the cardinal virtue of fortitude to respond with intention rather than with impulse. We have the conscious decision of "throwing in the towel" or fighting through with the proper character. Although we may not realize it, the truth is that tough times allow us to reveal our character as Freemasons much more than celebratory times.

At the beginning of our journey in this fraternity, we are asked a very strong question, to which we all must reflect. "In times of difficulty and danger, in whom do you place your trust?" We answer this question swiftly and without prompting. But in the principles and application of life, do we truly place our trust in God? Do we provide stillness to our life, "press pause", and pray? One of the lessons that Freemasonry has taught us is to put our trust in our deity. The challenge is to not only say that we put our trust in God but to apply that trust in our daily lives.

As we embark into 2024, we must take time to reflect on the impacts that Freemasonry has on our lives. Each step on our path is an opportunity for us can display our virtues to the world. We have a tremendous opportunity to show the world what it means to be Not Just a Man, a Mason.



PDDGMs to Serve Breakfast with West Gate No. 623

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
RWB Adam Michael
WB Craig Shumaker
RWB Brian Bolyard
WB Jeffrey Hall

Editor
WB Jeffrey Hall

District Advisor
RWB Brian Bolyard

14thMasonicDistrict.org

The Past District Deputy Grand Masters of the 14th Masonic District are pleased to announce that they will be sponsoring the monthly breakfast of West Gate Lodge No. 623 on the morning of Saturday, February 10th at the lodge from 9 am – 12 pm as a kick off for the 2024 Inspection Season.

While a donation will be made to the lodge of behalf of the PDDGM Association of the 14th District that will go towards the lodges fundraising activities that will support their efforts in contributing to the various youth groups as well as their local Special Olympics donation, you are cordially invited to gather your fellow brethren and hopefully a prospective member or two who will come out and support West Gate lodge and have breakfast with your favorite PDDGM. Or perhaps your least favorite, the choice is yours.

There may even be a few old-has-beens frying eggs, flipping pancakes, rushing orders out, or manning the dish tank. All this and more can be yours for a modest $7 (or more) donation for each breakfast.

The PDDGM Association is attempting something new this year in supporting a lodges monthly breakfast in the spirit of the beginning of a new inspection season. So, we all hope that you come out and support West Gate lodge, the PDDGMs of the 14th District, and the Fabulous 14th District.

Cya there!



VA Hospital Visitation Resume

Greetings Brethren! Our new Masonic year is in full swing, and the new calendar year has bought us the cold and dreary days of winter. Although our inspection season doesn't begin until February 20th, we are excited to know that our visitation program to the VA Medical Center in Chillicothe will resume on Sunday February 4th. See full details below.

Our committee needs a couple of additional members to assist WB Roscoe Smith and WB David Gubanc in overseeing the visitation program. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee, please contact one of these brothers, or a 14th District Deputy Grand Master.

The VA Hospital Visitation Program is under the direction of the 14th Masonic District Deputy Grand Masters. The involvement of every Lodge is essential if this program is to be a success. Plan your visitation for the hours of 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on the dates listed. Refreshments are a most important part of our visitations, are very well received, and are served immediately following the program.

Apples, oranges, bananas, and store-bought cookies are the items to bring. Please do not bring any cakes, doughnuts, or homemade cookies. It is recommended that six dozen of each fruit and twelve to fifteen dozen of individually packaged, store-bought cookies be brought for each visit.

The first lodge listed for each visitation is designated as the organizational lodge for that month and will be contacted prior to the visit to outline the complete activity schedule. We trust that you will make the VA Hospital Visitation part of your lodge program.

Co-Chairmen
Roscoe R. Smith……..740.972.4033
2638 Carla Drive, Lewis Center, Ohio 43035
David Gubanc……614.496.5444
1352 Crestview St., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

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

FEBRUARY 4, 2024
York #563, New England #4, Blendon #339

MARCH 3, 2024
Groveport-Lockbourne #801, Linden #637, Grove City #689

APRIL 7, 2024
Goodale #372, Magnolia #20, Neoacacia #595

MAY 5, 2024
Triangle #748, Canal Winchester #670, Sunrise #783

My Masonic Journey

RWB Keith Fields, DDGM

My journey into the realm of Masonic travels commenced with my attendance at an inspection alongside fellow brothers from my home lodge. The experience of meeting brothers from lodges beyond my familiar circle was both intriguing and exhilarating. As I walked into the unfamiliar setting, I found myself pleasantly surprised by the extraordinary fellowship that unfolded. It felt as though I had known these brothers for a lifetime, even though it was our initial encounter. The warmth of camaraderie transcended the boundaries of our respective lodges, creating a sense of connection that resonated deeply, as if we were rekindling a long-lost friendship rather than forging a new one. Masonic travel is not just a physical journey, it represents a symbolic quest for knowledge, enlightenment, and unity.

When a Mason embarks on a journey to visit other lodges or attend Masonic events, they are not merely crossing geographical distances, they are traversing the corridors of shared wisdom, experiences, and camaraderie. Masonic events provide a platform for brothers to come together, reinforcing the bonds of fellowship through shared rituals and ceremonies. Whether it's a festive board, a degree conferral, or a special Masonic gathering, these events create an atmosphere where brothers can connect on a deeper level, strengthening the ties that bind them. As my Masonic travels continued to unfold, I ventured beyond the common confines of my own district, accompanied by Most Worshipful Brother Ron Winnett. Exploring lodges in distant districts, I stepped into unfamiliar surroundings greeted by unknown faces. Despite the initial unfamiliarity, a unique and unspoken bond instantly connected us.

My Masonic journey extended beyond the borders of Ohio, leading me to various lodges across different states. To my delight, I discovered that the same unwavering spirit of brotherhood and fellowship awaited me at each destination. Masonic travel allows individuals to forge connections that extend beyond the walls of their home lodge. The bonds formed during these journeys often evolve into lifelong friendships, creating a vast network of brothers who can rely on one another for support and guidance. Each Masonic event is an opportunity for intellectual and spiritual growth. By participating in rituals, lectures, and discussions, traveling Mason's gain insights into different interpretations of Masonic teachings, enhancing their understanding of the Craft.

During an inspection in the 25th district, where I journeyed for over four hours to visit a friend's home lodge, I experienced a surprising encounter. Upon entering unknown surroundings, a voice questioned my presence. To my astonishment, I turned around to find the distinguished figure of the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Steven Grindle, speaking directly to me. This unexpected moment epitomized the essence of what makes traveling so cherished, the genuine fellowship and brotherhood that transcends distances, uniting Masons in shared moments of connection. In a world that often seems fragmented, the Masonic journey stands as a beacon of unity, reminding us that true brotherhood transcends borders, cultural differences, and individual lodges.

Through shared experiences, mutual respect, and the pursuit of Masonic ideals, traveling Masons weave the threads of fellowship, creating a tightly-knit fabric that binds the entire Masonic fraternity together. Masonic travel encapsulates the very essence of brotherhood, friendship, and Fun! A trio embodied in the spirit of #BFF. To truly savor the richness of your Masonic journey, consider grabbing a fellow brother as your companion or embarking on the adventure solo. In either scenario, you're bound to encounter the true essence of Freemasonry, unraveling the depths of camaraderie and shared experiences that define this timeless tradition.

Pictures from around the District















Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
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	5:30 PM

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

UNIVERSITY LODGE NO. 631

IS HOSTING IT'S ANNUAL

PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

Open to the Community

APRIL 20th, 2024 - 8:00 am - 11:30 am

A concurrent Open House for the community will run 8:00am to 3:00 pm

2436 Dublin-Granville Road Donations: $5.00 per Adult
(age 18 & older)
$2.00 per child *(age 12 to 18)*
Children under 12 years of age are Free100% of the proceeds will go to Nationwide Children's Hospital, here in Columbus, Ohio



Menu:

Pancakes
Sausage Links
Orange Drink
Chocolate Milk
Coffee

Blendon Lodge #339 F.&A.M.

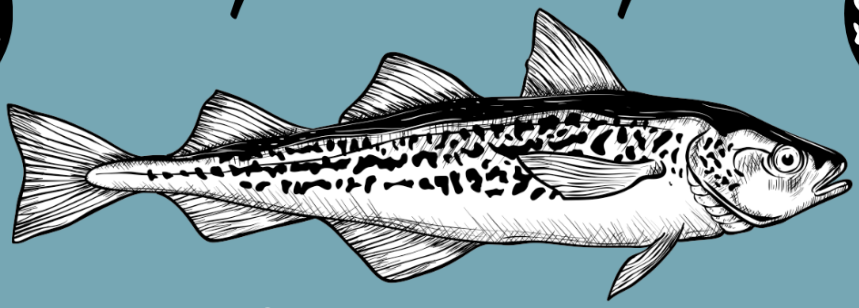
ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH FRY

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024

6th Annual

4:00pm - 7:30pm

$14.00



All proceeds benefit Westerville Special Olympics

HAND BREADED ALASKAN POLLOCK | APPLE SAUCE |
COLE SLAW | FRESH CUT FRIES | MAC AND CHEESE

Carryout orders available!

BLENDON MASONIC TEMPLE

130 S State St. Westerville, OH

blendon339.com/fishfry