ASHLAR

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14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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Freeze Masons

WB Eric Kletrovetz

What do you get when you mix a dozen Freemasons, a pool full of 40-degree water and a fundraiser for Ohio Special Olympics? The Freeze Masons Polar Plunge Team, of course! What started as a desire to push the limits of human cold exposure between a few lodge buddies, quickly turned into a small army of dedicated fundraisers who were "freezin' for a reason." We had members represented from 5 different lodges and numerous appendant bodies.

Donations poured in from all over the 14th District and beyond. Over the span of a month, the gang was able to raise an impressive $7,500 and rank in the top 10 out of over 50 teams. The culmination of the fund-raising campaign came on Feb. 10th when hundreds of "plungers" assembled at Lower.com Field to get cold feet, among other body parts. In all, the campaign raised over $273,500 for Ohio Special Olympics.

Once we shook off the cold, everyone reconvened at Gemut Biergarten, a locally owned bar & restaurant frequented by many of our 14th District members. Fun and fellowship were in full effect that day. The PR we received as a fraternity along with the immensely worthy cause makes this a no-brainer for next year.

The Freeze Masons plan to reassemble with an even larger team next year and look forward to an even better (and wetter) fund raising campaign in 2025. Who knows? Maybe you'll find yourself "freezing your ashlar off" with us next year!



Contacts

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WB Eric Kletrovetz
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14thMasonicDistrict.org

Embracing the Everyday – A Contrarian Perspective on YOLO

RWB Keith Fields

In a world where the mantra "You Only Live Once" (YOLO) is celebrated as a call to action, urging individuals to embrace the thrill and excitement of life, there exists a contrasting viewpoint—one that challenges the conventional wisdom of YOLO. Instead of viewing life as a single shot to take daring risks, some argue that life should be seen as a continuous series of moments, encouraging us to live each day to the fullest. The popular saying "You Only Live Once" has permeated modern culture, inspiring people to engage in enjoyable and exhilarating experiences, even if they are unconventional or slightly perilous.

The acronym YOLO has become a rallying cry for those seeking adventure, spontaneity, and a break from the monotony of routine. However, for those who view life through a different lens, the perspective is clear, "You only die once, and live every day." This philosophy emphasizes the significance of appreciating the everyday moments, valuing the routine, and making the most out of each day, rather than focusing solely on grandiose, once-in-a-lifetime experiences. Living every day doesn't necessarily entail embarking on extreme escapades or taking unnecessary risks.

It's about finding joy in the ordinary, cultivating meaningful connections, and savoring the beauty in the mundane. This perspective encourages individuals to appreciate the journey, recognizing that life is a continuous flow of moments, each holding its own significance. The contrarian viewpoint challenges the notion that life's richness is solely derived from extraordinary exploits. Instead, it highlights the importance of being present in the now, finding fulfillment in daily accomplishments, and embracing the journey as a whole. This approach encourages individuals to seize the opportunities for growth and joy that exist in their day-to-day lives.

Making the most out of every single day doesn't require grand gestures or extreme acts. It involves finding purpose in the small moments, acknowledging the beauty in the routine, and nurturing one's overall well-being. Whether it's connecting with loved ones, pursuing personal passions, or simply taking a moment to appreciate the world around us, living every day becomes a conscious choice to cherish the present.

In conclusion, while the YOLO philosophy may advocate for seizing once-in-a-lifetime opportunities, the alternative perspective encourages us to recognize that life is an ongoing journey filled with meaningful moments. "You only die once, and live every day" serves as a reminder to appreciate the ordinary, find joy in the routine, and make the most of each day. After all, life's true richness lies not just in the extraordinary, but in the beauty of the everyday.



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 Deputies Grand Master. 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

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



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

March is DeMolay Month

WB Nick Bolyard, DEO

Every year, the month of March is very special to DeMolay. DeMolay, which is our Masonic Youth Group for young men between the ages of 12-21, has changed the lives of millions of young men worldwide. On March 18, 1919, Dad Frank S. Land founded DeMolay in Kansas City, Missouri. Since then, DeMolay has taught incredible virtues to young men worldwide. In each of the lodges in our district, you will find Senior DeMolays (individuals who were in DeMolay), DeMolay Advisors, or former DeMolay Advisors.

Many years ago, RWB Keith E. Hacker posted an educational topic, which you can find on Grandview, *Do We Need DeMolay and Does DeMolay Need Us?* Brethren, there is a resounding **YES** to this. WE NEED DeMOLAY AND THEY NEED US!

The young men in Ohio DeMolay sometimes have a masonic relation, while others may not. Some DeMolays join for the aspect of joining their friends. DeMolay provides fun experiences, such as ski trips, game nights, trips, and other fun activities. If you ask any Senior DeMolay or DeMolay advisor, they can attest to the amount of fun that DeMolay offers to young men.

So what is the point? We need to accept the challenge that we do not do enough as a fraternity for our young men and women in our Masonic youth groups. We may offer them time in our buildings without rent, and we may donate to them when they ask. I would challenge each lodge to say that those are normal responsibilities of having a youth group and that those men and women need more. Take the lodge to a Masonic Youth meeting and meet these young men and women. We must give them a reason to join our fraternity. It is not enough to say that we give financially. We must give them a true reason to join our fraternity. For the young ladies, show them the values of a Mason so they can become better women and wives in the future. They may marry someone and convince that man to join our fraternity because of the impact we made on her life. Speaking from personal experience, not all DeMolays that I was active with joined a lodge. **This is something we can do better!**

As we embark on DeMolay month, go out and visit your DeMolay chapters. Then, pose pictures with the DeMolays and Advisors and post it on social media. Ask yourself - **What can WE do as Masons to do more for our Masonic Youth?**



Pictures from around the District















Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
District Annual Reception	Pinnacle Golf Course Grove City, Ohio	Saturday, March 9, 2024	5:30 pm Afterglow from 9pm to 12 Aladdin Shrine
SYSK Class #3	Hiram Masonic Temple	Saturday, April 27, 2024	8am – 3pm
District Award Night	Grove City Masonic Lodge	Thursday, May 23, 2024	7pm- 8pm
14th District Golf Outing	York Golf Course	Saturday, July 13, 2024	1 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 ITS 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