ASHLAR

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JANUARY 2025 ISSUE

Sorrow and Brotherhood: Reflections on Loss and Life

RWB Chris Greise

I am writing this in the middle of the night after another sleepless evening, tossing and turning, as memories of joyful moments with a brother who has now laid down his working tools flood my mind. I am reminded of a phrase that emerged during one of our lodge discussions: “Sorrow is the wage for joy already received.” That sentiment resonated deeply during that discussion, and it strikes even harder now, just days after the loss of another brother. When tragedy strikes, I strive to step back and reflect on the lessons such a solemn experience has to offer.

First, we do not know when our time will end. Do not delay your dreams and aspirations. Dedicate time to each of your priority buckets. Strive for balance, but also recognize that we are often far more capable of achieving our goals than we allow ourselves to believe.

Second, take an honest look at yourself in the mirror. Are you happy with what you see? Many of us—myself included—busy ourselves with helping and assisting others while neglecting our own needs. A friend once told me, “An empty pitcher cannot fill another’s glass.” During moments of reflection, consider how you can improve your health and well-being so that you do not cut short the time you have to share your light with the world.

Third, while this sorrow weighs heavily on me, I find solace in reflecting on the last several years. I had the privilege of working hand-in-hand with our lost brother, and together, we achieved meaningful success. This reminds me that Freemasonry truly works. It builds enduring relationships and brotherhood. Do not shy away from engaging in Masonic labor alongside your brothers—it fosters friendships that last a lifetime.

Additionally, check in on one another during times of difficulty because there is strength in numbers. Leaning on each other helps us navigate challenging times. However, do not wait for tragedy to prompt these connections. Reach out to your brothers randomly. Send a text, make a phone call, share a meal or beverage—create shared experiences.

Finally, my brothers, I want to express my gratitude. Thank you for all that you do for me and for our fraternity. Thank you for the joy I experience when traveling and fellowshipping with you at events. Know that I am here for you in times of need, just as I know you are here for me.

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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Drop the Resolutioins

WB Nick Bolyard

Each year, many individuals make a “New Year’s Resolution.” This list is often not extensive, but consists of things like “lose weight”, or “invest more money”. While these are worthwhile endeavors, an Ohio State University study showed that *“Researchers suggest that only 9% of Americans that make resolutions complete them. In fact, research goes on to show that 23% of people quit their resolution by the end of the first week, and 43% quit by the end of January.”*

If research is so strong that these do not work, why do so many people do a resolution? Inevitably, the lifelong definition of insanity is “doing the same things over and over again and expecting a different result.” So, what would be an alternate solution?

One solution to be impactful is choosing one word for the entire year. According to Jon Gordon, Dan Britton, and Jimmy Page, *“One Word gives us renewed purpose and meaning.”* One word can provide clarity, focus, and intentionality.

Over the last few years, I have found this process to be much more beneficial to our family. Our family each chooses one word for the year, and then put that word on the calendar in our kitchen to see each day. This puts the word, or words, into the forefront of our minds each year. Some words we have chosen: Pray, Joy, Discipline, Calm, and Forward. These words are action words.

Instead of choosing resolutions, consider our values. Choose one value of our fraternity or your faith and make it your purpose for the year. This will give you a renewed vision for the year!

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

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

Contacts

14th District Officers

President
WB David Gizzo

1st Vice President
WB Eric Kletrovetz

2nd Vice President
WB Patrick Mayer

Treasurer
WB John Hicks

Secretary
RWB Brian Bolyard

Sergeant-At-Arms
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RWB Adam Michael
WB Craig Shumaker
RWB Brian Bolyard
WB Jeffrey Hall
WB Adam Lappert

Editor

WB Adam Lappert

District Advisor

RWB Adam Michael

SYSK

WB Nick Bolyard

Seeking the Next Leaders

If you are an aspiring leader of your lodge, our district, and our fraternity, the "Stuff You Should Know" course is for you! This three-day program will take an extensive deep dive into planning their journey and developing leaders within our organization.

The program costs $40 per person. This cost will cover the materials and supplies needed.

Participants will gain valuable experience which will improve their Masonic experience. Participants will also gain valuable relationships along the journey.

SYSK Dates:

Class 1: January 11, 2025 - Sparrow (8 AM - 3 PM)
Class 2: February 8, 2025 - Grove City (8 AM - 3 PM)
Class 3: March 1, 2025 - West Gate (8 AM - 3 PM)
Make Up Class: April 12, 2025 - Reynoldsburg (9 AM - 12 PM)

Seeking Sponsors & Support
If you are a SYSK graduate or a Lodge that would like to help build the future leaders of our district, please contact 14thdistrictdeos@gmail.com

Registration Links:
SYSK: https://forms.gle/fXriufkf5kMqtpGm6

Deacons & Stewards Training: https://forms.gle/dYX9eps91TCjp3Pg8



SYSK

The Masonic Journey

RWB Chris Greise

The Masonic journey should not be limited to just a few years spent moving through the officer chairs at the lodge. Its true value lies in the service we render to the next generation of Masons. I envision this journey as either a relay race or a mountain climb. In a relay race, once a runner passes the baton to the next, their role does not end—they remain invested, cheering on the next runner. Similarly, in a mountain climb, after reaching a higher point, one reaches back to help the climber following behind.

Leadership, at its core, is about helping others succeed, achieve their goals, and grow. It is not about monopolizing the spotlight or being the only one to cross the finish line. True leadership inspires and uplifts others, ensuring collective success over individual accolades.

Masonry provides us with opportunities not only to lead but also to follow and serve. Inspiring Past Masters to remain actively involved in the life of the lodge strengthens its foundation. There are countless ways they can contribute: mentoring new candidates by explaining what it means to be a Mason, training new officers by passing on their hard-earned knowledge, or championing lodge events. Distributing these responsibilities among members ensures that the workload does not always fall solely on the current Master, fostering a stronger and more unified lodge.

Finally, after serving as Master of the lodge, it is vital to find a new purpose. Seek out and nurture future leaders who will guide the lodge forward. Focus on creating a strong and enduring culture within the lodge—one that fosters growth, unity, and dedication. By doing so, your lodge will not only thrive but also become legendary for generations to come.

Let us remember that the Masonic journey is not a solitary endeavor but a shared mission. It is about building, teaching, and inspiring, ensuring that the light of Masonry continues to shine brightly into the future.



Join the New 14th Masonic District Ritual Team!

Are you passionate about Masonic Ritual? Do you have experience delivering lectures, charges,or speaking parts for the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason degrees? If so, weneed you!

The 14th Masonic District is excited to announce the formation of a District Ritual Team, and we're looking for skilled and dedicated members to join this important effort. Our goal is to assemble a team of brothers who can assist lodges throughout the district in exemplifying the Ritual, offering guidance, and stepping in when needed to ensure our ceremonies are conducted with the highest level of proficiency and reverence.

This team will serve several key purposes:

- Support Lodges: Help lodges perform their degrees when they may lack the resources or experience to fill all speaking parts.
- Mentorship: Share your knowledge and expertise to help brothers across the district improve their ritual work and deepen their understanding of its meaning.
- Preserve Excellence: Ensure that the Ritual is conducted with dignity and precision, preserving its beauty and importance for future generations.

Whether you're a seasoned ritualist or someone who is eager to take their ritual work to the next level, this is a unique opportunity to make a lasting impact in our district. Your participation will not only strengthen our lodges but also enrich your own Masonic journey.

If you're interested in becoming a part of the 14th District Ritual Team, please reach out to Keith Fields at keith@oberers.com or 614-404-2334. Let us know which lectures, charges, or speaking parts you are familiar with or would like to work on. Together, we can build a team that exemplifies the very best of Masonic tradition.

Let's come together to inspire, educate, and uphold the timeless principles of our fraternity through exemplary Ritual work.



Club 14

The 14th District Officers Association is proud to present our official online merchandise store as part of our Club 14 fundraiser. We have partnered with The Rock Syndicate in Reynoldsburg to create unique and in many cases, handmade, Club 14 and other Masonic items. There are many discounted items for Club 14 members. T-shirts and Hoodies are available for pre-order, all other items are made to order and will typically be available within 2 business days. Thanks for your support. Please visit TheRockSyndicate.com/14thDistrict for more information.



2024 – 2025 Inspection Schedule

Lodge Name	Inspection Date	Degree	DDGM	DEO	DO
Blendon 339	Monday, February 3, 2025	MM	Fields	Heath	Mayer
Hiram 18	Tuesday, February 4, 2025	MM	Greise	Heath	Gizzo
Groveport-Lockbourne 801	Tuesday, February 11, 2025	EA	Saum	Bolyard	Miller
University 631	Tuesday, February 18, 2025	FC	Saum	Love	Mayer
Neoacacia 595	Wednesday, February 19, 2025	MM	Greise	Love	Goble
New England 4	Monday, February 24, 2025	FC	Saum	Heath	Kletrovetz
Community 684	Tuesday, February 25, 2025	MM	Greise	Heath	Kletrovetz
York 563	Monday, March 3, 2025	MM	Greise	Love	Mayer
Sunrise 783	Tuesday, March 4, 2025	FC	Saum	Love	Goble
Grove City 689	Monday, March 10, 2025	EA	Saum	Bolyard	Gizzo
Reynoldsburg 340	Tuesday, March 11, 2025	EA	Greise	Heath	Goble
Sparrow 400*	Saturday, March 15, 2025	FC	Fields	Love	Gizzo
Arts & Sciences 792**	Wednesday, March 19, 2025	MM	Saum	Heath	Miller
Linden 637	Thursday, March 20, 2025	FC	Saum	Heath	Kletrovetz
Goodale 372	Monday, March 24, 2025	EA	Fields	Love	Miller
Avery 439	Tuesday, March 25, 2025	MM	Greise	Bolyard	Gizzo
Triangle 748	Thursday, March 27, 2025	FC	Fields	Love	Goble
West Gate 623	Monday, March 31, 2025	MM	Fields	Bolyard	Kletrovetz
Capital City 656	Friday, April 4, 2025	EA	Fields	Bolyard	Mayer
Magnolia 20	Tuesday, April 8, 2025	FC	Greise	Bolyard	Miller
Canal Winchester 670	Wednesday, April 9, 2025	EA	Fields	Bolyard	Miller

EA and FC inspections begin at 7:00 pm, dinner at 6:00 pm.
MM inspections begin at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:15 pm, second section at 7:00 pm.
*Sparrow 400 - breakfast at 8:00 am, degree at 9:00 am.
**Arts & Sciences inspection will be held at Northwest Temple

14th Masonic District
Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of Ohio

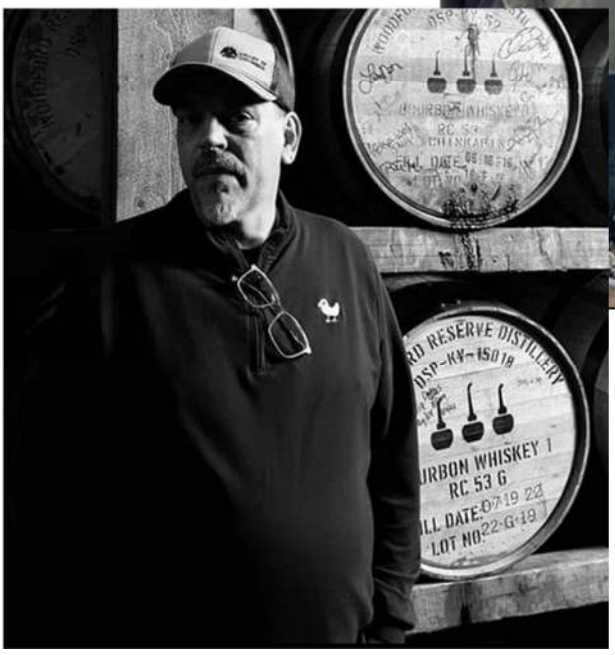
A Photo Dedication to WB David Gizzo




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ABULOUS
14TH






Grand Chapter
Royal Arch Masons
Ohio
HONOR THE PAST
LOOK TO THE
FUTURE
Ryan W. Adams
Grand High Priest







Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
Franklin Co. Memorial Lodge Annual Meeting	Reynoldsburg Lodge, 7350 Broadwyn Dr, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068	Wednesday, January 8, 2025	7pm
SYSK Class #1	Sparrow Lodge, 85 Morning St, Sunbury, OH 43074	Saturday, January 11, 2025	8am-3pm
SYSK Class #2	Grove City Masonic Lodge, 3558 Park St, Grove City, OH 43123	Saturday, February 8, 2025	8am-3pm
14th District Quarterly Meeting	Triangle Lodge, 211 W Johnstown Rd Gahanna, OH 43230	Thursday, February 27, 2025	6pm
SYSK Class #3	West Gate Lodge, 2925 W Broad St, Columbus, OH 43204	Saturday, March 1, 2025	8am-3pm
14th District Reception	Pinnacle Golf Course, 1500 Pinnacle Club Dr, Grove City, OH 43123	Saturday, March 8, 2025	5:30pm
Masonic Night at Aladdin	Aladdin Shrine Center, 1801 Gateway Cir, Grove City, OH 43123	Monday, April 7, 2025	6pm
SYSK Make Up Class	Reynoldsburg Lodge, 7350 Broadwyn Dr, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068	Saturday, April 12, 2025	9am-12pm
14th District Awards Meeting	Blendon Lodge 130 S State St Westerville, OH 43081	Thursday, May 22, 2025	6pm
14th District Summer Picnic	Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, OH 43035	Sunday, August 3, 2025	12pm Lunch 2pm
14th District Annual Meeting	TBD	Thursday, October 16, 2025	6pm

pancake



breakfast

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025

8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Magnolia Lodge #20 F&AM
2933 Valleyview Drive
Columbus, OH 43204

Adults $8.00
Children under 14 $5.00

Menu includes Pancakes, Eggs,
Sausage, Coffee, Milk
and Juice