ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

FEBRUARY 2025 ISSUE

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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What Are We Building?

RWB Christopher Greise

I recently started reading a book titled Unreasonable Hospitality, which explores the remarkable power of giving people more than they expect. It chronicles a man's journey in the fine dining industry, offering insights into leadership and team-building to create extraordinary experiences for customers.

This book prompted me to reflect on my own experience as a Mason and the Masonic fellowship we share during our lodge meetings. When I served as the Illustrious Master of York Council last year, I made it a tradition to bake a fresh batch of brownies for our refreshments at every meeting. Could I have simply stopped at Kroger to pick up some pre-made snacks? Of course—but my brothers are worth the extra effort.

This principle of going above and beyond extends far beyond baking brownies. Are we, as a team, challenging ourselves to provide transformative degree experiences for our new candidates? I know I received such an experience, and I feel a responsibility to ensure that the next brother does as well.

Yes, it takes effort, but when we step back and reflect, the work required to create quality experiences is not insurmountable. I wonder if, at times, we rush through degree work simply to check a box, rather than taking the time to make it meaningful and memorable.

My brothers, I deeply value the fellowship I share with each of you. But I ask: Are we doing enough? Are we greeting every brother warmly? Are we making small, consistent efforts to enhance the Masonic experience for ourselves and one another?

Ultimately, we must ask ourselves what kind of Masonic legacy we are building. Are we content with the ordinary, or are we striving to build something truly extraordinary—something legendary?





Endowment Raffle Tickets by 4th DeMolay District

WB Nick Bolyard

Are you looking to get an Endowed Membership in your lodge? Enter into a raffle for just $10! The 4th DeMolay District is selling raffle tickets for 2 Endowed memberships. There are only 400 tickets, and they are going fast! A portion of the proceeds will go to Stockhands Horses for Healing. So not only will you be entering into a raffle for an Endowed Membership, but you will be helping a special cause!

Contact Dad Tom Nelson (tsnelsonjr@yahoo.com) to purchase your tickets today!

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

2025 Annual District Reception

Date: Saturday March 8th, 2025
Time: Doors and Social hour at 5:30pm, Introductions at 6:30pm
Location: 1500 Pinnacle Club Dr, Grove City, OH 43123
Cost: $65 per person, $60 per Club 14 Member
Sponsorships are available

Reservation Deadline: February 22, 2025.
Remit Payment To: 14th District Masonic Officers Association
Mailing Address: Brian Bolyard, PO Box 14034, Columbus, Ohio 43214

As with previous years, Aladdin Shrine Center will be hosting an afterglow immediately following the reception.

If you have any questions - please reach out to your District Officer or WBs Eric Kletrovetz or Patrick Mayer.

We look forward to seeing you this year!

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
WB Jay Miller

Chaplain
WB Kenneth Goble

Communication Committee
RWB Ken Cohen
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

Masonic Leader

SYSK

Applying Japanese Principles to Freemasonry

WB Nicholas Bolyard

In today's society, there is hustle and bustle. The attainment of the next big monetary or artificial item seems to be the motivation. But, as Masons, we are charged to live differently. We are charged to live differently than with worldly wealth and honors. Rather than pursuing prestige, we pursue building our spiritual buildings. We are called to Be Legendary. These callings are similar to the Japanese principles of Ikigai, Kaizen, and Hansei.

Ikigai is "a strategy for discovering your life's purpose, meaning, and "true calling". It can help you align your passions with your actions and find "joy in your life." These purposes and meanings are not necessarily what we do professionally, but why we get out of bed each morning. As Masons, we are called not only to work on ourselves but to improve the world around us. That is a big motivator that can get us out of bed each morning and pursue being legendary.

Kaizen is "a philosophy of continuous improvement that involves making small, consistent changes to achieve goals. It can help you increase productivity, manage time, and improve quality." As Masons, we improve ourselves daily. If we each contemplate our working tools for 5-10 minutes each day, we can truly work on self-improvement. Our teachings instruct us to build ourselves. Much like the building of King Solomon's Temple, building ourselves takes time and continuous improvement each day.

Hansei is "an ancient practice of honest self-reflection that involves analyzing your progress and learning from mistakes. It can help you grow by using both successes and failures as steppingstones." As stated above, reflecting is an integral part of our Masonic growth. We have to analyze, with one humility, our performances. We must reflect upon the designs of our trestle board, and our growth therein.

These principles are deeply rooted into bettering ourselves. If we each better ourselves 1% each day, we will each be 365% better by the end of the year. Can you imagine what our world would look like? The impact that we would make, and that Freemasonry would make on the world would BE LEGENDARY.

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, we need 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.

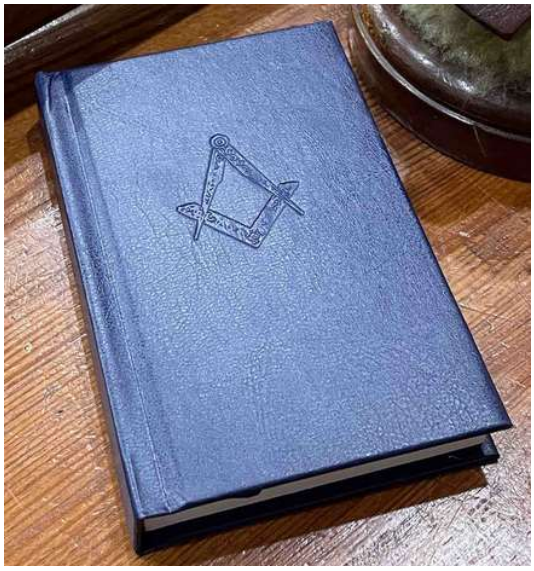
This team will serve several key purposes:

- **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

Photos From Around the District

SYSK 2025 Meeting One









Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
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

Please have all articles and advertisements into the Communication Committee by the 15th of each month to ensure your content is included in the next release

VA Hospital Visitations 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 3rd, we are excited to know that our visitation program to the VA Medical Center in Chillicothe will resume on Sunday February 2nd. 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

FEBRUARY 2, 2025
New England #4, Blendon #339, York #563

MARCH 2, 2025
Linden #637, Grove City #689, Groveport-Lockbourne #801

APRIL 6, 2025
Magnolia #20, Neoacacia #595, Goodale #372

MAY 4, 2025
Canal Winchester #670, Sunrise #783, Triangle #748



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

Random drawing will be held at 10:30 for a $25.00 gift card. All breakfast attendees are eligible to win. You do not need to be present to win.


ALADDIN SHRINE
CIRCUS
March 20-23, 2025
at The Celeste Center, Columbus, Ohio
Find out more at
AladdinShrineCircus.com