ASHLAR

THE MONTHLY NEWS PUBLICATION FOR MASONS

AUGUST 2025

14TH MASONIC DISTRICT

www.14thmasonicdistrict.org

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Family Summer Picnic

Games - Prizes - Fun & Fellowship!

Family Picnic and District Meeting

Sunday, August 3, 2025 12 pm – 5 pm

Lunch will be served at 2 pm

Highbanks Metro Park
Northern Shelter
9466 Columbus Pike
Lewis Center, Ohio 43035

Everyone is Welcome!

This is a no-cost event, fun for the entire family!

Thursday, August 14, 2025

7:00 pm

Northwest Masonic Temple

Join Deputy Grand Master, Shawn Johnson to learn of his plans for the Grand Lodge in 2025-26.

ALL OFFICERS SHOULD PLAN TO ATTEND

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

Worthington Historic Homes Tour

Bro. Robert Burns



What a great day in Worthington!

I had the absolute pleasure of spending the day with Worshipful Brother Richard Snow (93) and his lovely wife, Mrs. Snow (88), we welcomed nearly 100 guests through the doors of the historic 1820 New England Masonic Lodge.

WB Snow shared stories, history, and insight into the world of Freemasonry with charm, warmth, and just the right touch of humor. Folks were genuinely engaged—many stayed after his 15min presentation to ask questions and share their own reflections.

This was the kind of day that reminds us why preserving and sharing our history matters so much to these communities.

A big thank you to everyone who stopped by, and an even bigger thank you to Brother and Mrs. Snow for making it such a special event. We're grateful for the time, the memories, and the conversations.

Scroll through the photos below to catch a glimpse of our day!

P.S. without breaking any rules - a special thanks to one of NE4s newest EAs who helped drive us, direct tourist, and answered as many questions as he could. If he did not know the answer he did not hesitate to rope myself or WB Snow in, most of the car ride was spent working on his return that will be coming up July 28th at our special meeting which starts at 7pm at the Northwest Masonic Temple - please feel free to come out and support one of our newest brothers.







We Are Empowered to Make a Difference

RWBro Chris Greise

Lately, I've found myself counting down the months until I'm eligible to retire. It's a strange feeling—realizing I have fewer days ahead in my professional life than I have behind me. In reflecting on this, I've come to appreciate how different my Masonic journey has been from my work life.

One of the things I treasure most about Freemasonry is the sense of empowerment. We are encouraged to try new things, to step in when something isn't working, and to push beyond mediocrity. In the working world, we may feel overlooked or underutilized, limited by office politics or stagnant roles. But in Freemasonry, we are given the space—and the support—to grow. We can take on leadership roles, test new ideas, and challenge ourselves without fear of failure.

Yes, we may stumble. But unlike the workplace, where missteps can feel like falling from a high wire onto concrete, Masonry offers a safety net—brothers who catch us, encourage us, and lift us up to try again. It's not always easy, but growth rarely is. Failure, in this space, is not the end. It's part of the process.

One of the biggest reasons I agreed to serve in a district leadership role was because of the many brothers who guided me through the chairs of my lodge. Their wisdom, patience, and encouragement helped shape me into a better team player, servant, and leader. Giving back by rolling up my sleeves and helping develop the next generation of Masonic leaders feels like a fitting way to honor their legacy.

It's comforting—and liberating—to know we are not alone. That kind of support is rare. Too often, the workplace is plagued by unethical behavior, favoritism, and manipulation. In contrast, lodge feels like a sanctuary—a place to recharge, reflect, and reconnect with higher ideals.

This week, a brother reminded me: *"The right attitude is the difference between an ordeal and an adventure."* It's a powerful truth. Let's resist the temptation to complain or settle for the average path. Life slips by too quickly to drift through it. Take hold of the empowerment Freemasonry offers. Collaborate. Stay humble.

A wise man once said, *"Ego is the anesthesia that deadens the pain of stupidity."* Let us cast ego aside and embrace gratitude for those who came before us. Let us honor their contributions by lifting others up, lighting the sacred flame of another without dimming our own.



After all, what is a well-spent life if we do not use our most valuable commodity—our time—to help another rise?

So, I ask you sincerely: **How are you living?**

14th District Officers

President
WBro Eric Kletrovetz

1st Vice President
WBro Patrick Mayer

2nd Vice President
WBro Jay Miller

Treasurer
WBro John Hicks

Secretary
RWBro Brian Bolyard

Sergeant-At-Arms
WBro Kenneth Goble

Chaplain
WBro Jeff Robeano

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RWBro Ken Cohen
RWBro Adam Michael
WBro Craig Shumaker
RWBro Brian Bolyard
WBro Jeffrey Hall
WBro Adam Lappert

Interim Editor
RWBro Ken Cohen

If you are having an event and want to invite the district, please send an email to:

ashlar@14thmasonicdistrict.org

District Advisor
RWBro Adam Michael

Mission Continues: Operation Support Veterans

WBro. Trip Eagleson

Goodale Lodge #372 has reengaged its philanthropic efforts to support our Veterans by initiating a Gun Raffle fundraiser to provide funds to support our Veterans through Honor Flight Columbus.

Honor Flight Columbus was started in Springfield, Ohio in 2005; it is the seminal organization for chapters throughout the United States. The organization maintains its mission to honor our nation's senior Veterans, to share their stories for the benefit of future generations and celebrate their homecoming, thus affirming their allegiance and service to our country.

Veterans are flown by Honor Flight Columbus to Washington DC, at no cost to them, for a one-day excursion to see the monuments and memorials that illustrate their triumphs and accomplishments. When the Veterans arrive in Washington DC they are greeted and saluted by current military personnel, roads are cleared for them, and they are escorted through the city as any Ambassador or National Representative would be. When the Veterans return to Columbus, they leave the airport through a corridor of volunteers cheering and thanking them for their service to our country and they are given a proper welcome home.

With the conclusion of the 2024 flight season, Honor Flight Columbus has successfully flown 138 missions to Washington DC, totaling over 10,170 veterans. The next Honor Flight at the John Glenn International Airport is Mission 144, Tuesday, September 4, 2025.

The Goodale Raffle raises money through the sale of $20 raffle tickets. Each individual raffle ticket is capable of winning 23 separate days during the month of October, 2025. The winning ticket number is drawn every weekday during October (weekends are excluded). Brothers of Goodale Lodge support the Raffle by selling tickets to Brother Masons, family, friends, coworkers, and at gun shows throughout Ohio.

The Raffle, however, would not be possible without Goodale's partner, Vance Outdoors, located at 3723 Cleveland Ave, a Columbus sporting goods store established in 1938. Goodale's fundraising efforts support Vance's perpetual giving program to raise funds for Honor Flight Columbus. The Goodale Raffle prizes are supplied by Vance Outdoors. Goodale and Vance's look forward to increasing their donations to the notable organization of Honor Flight Columbus and recognizing the efforts of the men and women who dedicated their lives to serving and protecting our country.

Goodale Lodge urges you to contribute to this effort by purchasing a raffle ticket, proceeds from which will provide our veterans with one full day of appreciation and pride for their huge efforts of selfless sacrifice protecting and promoting our safety and our country's values while in the service of our country.

To contribute to this cause by purchasing Raffle tickets, please contact:

Freeman Eagleson (WM): 614-565-2609 or 614-565-3899, email: brownsbacker64@gmail.com
Tim Donahue (Se'): 614-448-7072, email baldeaglebsa1980@yahoo.com or Contact any Brother of Goodale Lodge.

For more information on Honor Flight Columbus, visit https://www.honorflightcmh.org/

The Cardinal Virtues: A Masonic and Stoic Guide for Living with Purpose

WB Jeffrey Hall



How Ancient Virtues Illuminate the Path Inside and Outside the Lodge As Masons, we are called to a higher standard — not just in ritual or ceremony, but in the way we live each day. One of the foundational teachings of Freemasonry is the cultivation of the Four Cardinal Virtues: Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice. These principles are not just theoretical ideals — they are working tools that help us shape our character, guide our conduct, and elevate the Craft.

In studying these virtues more deeply, I've recently begun a personal journey into Stoic philosophy, a school of thought that echoes many of the same moral truths we hold sacred in the Lodge. The Stoics also taught that a good and meaningful life is built on Courage (Fortitude), Temperance, Justice, and Wisdom (Prudence) the very same four virtues. It is no coincidence. Both traditions spring from the same well of classical philosophy, calling us to a life of reflection, self-mastery, and virtue.

Temperance: Mastering the Self In the Lodge, Temperance reminds us to govern our words and passions, to avoid excess, and to be thoughtful in action and speech. A temperate Mason contributes to peace and harmony.

In life, temperance is even more vital. We live in an age of constant stimulation and distraction. Practicing moderation in all things — our desires, opinions, and appetites — allows us to maintain balance and integrity.

The Stoics taught that true freedom comes from self-control. We are not enslaved by what we want, but empowered by what we can rise above.

Fortitude: The Courage to Endure Fortitude gives us the strength to carry out our Masonic duties with determination, to persevere when learning ritual, and to lead even when the task is heavy.

Outside the Lodge, fortitude is what helps us face adversity with dignity. We cannot always choose our trials, but we can choose to face them with courage.

For the Stoics, courage is not the absence of fear but acting rightly in spite of it. As Seneca wrote, "Sometimes even to live is an act of courage."

Prudence: Wisdom in Action Prudence teaches us to reflect before we speak, to weigh decisions carefully, and to seek wise counsel. It is the light that helps us walk uprightly within the Lodge.

In our daily lives, prudence helps us see the long game. It allows us to think not just of what is easy or popular, but what is right. It is the lens of clarity through which we shape our lives.

To the Stoics, wisdom is not about knowledge but the right judgment. It is knowing what truly matters — and aligning our choices with virtue rather than impulse.

Justice: Living for the Good of Others Justice is the binding force of the Lodge. It demands that we treat all brethren with fairness, honor, and respect. It is the virtue that upholds the Craft.

Beyond the Lodge, justice means standing for what is right, even when it is difficult. It means defending the vulnerable, lifting the fallen, and being a man of his word.

Marcus Aurelius wrote, "What is not good for the bee is not good for the hive." Justice connects us all — as neighbors, as citizens, and as brothers.

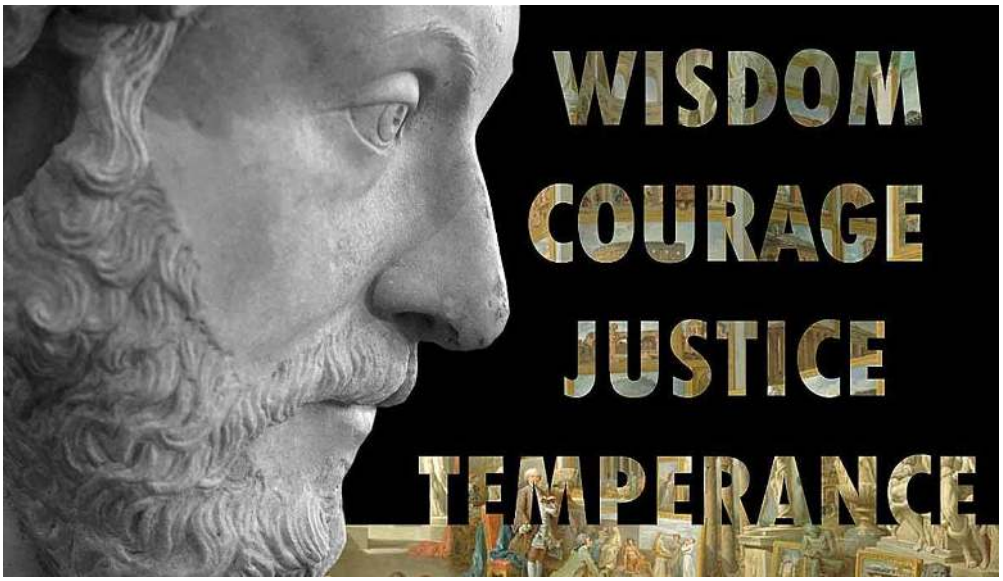
A Stoic Perspective on Control One of the most meaningful lessons from my study of Stoic philosophy is the distinction between what is within our control and what is not. I cannot control when adversity comes, what others say or do, or even the health of my own body. But what I can control are my actions, my words, and my thoughts.

This realization has been transformative. When we focus on mastering what is ours to govern — our responses, our perspective, our intentions — we gain real power. It brings peace. And as Masons, it helps us refine the rough ashlar into the perfect stone. Our Masonic journey becomes richer when we take ownership of our inner life.

A Unified Path Toward Light The four cardinal virtues of Masonry are not just ceremonial. They are a blueprint for a meaningful life. When practiced with intention, they not only make us better Masons — they make us better husbands, fathers, workers, and neighbors.

In aligning Masonic virtue with Stoic discipline, we rediscover something ancient and powerful: a way to live with clarity, with courage, and with purpose. Let us carry these virtues beyond the tiled doors of the Lodge and into the world — where light is most needed.

"Waste no more time arguing what a good man should be. Be one." *Marcus Aurelius*



The Main Thing

WBro Nick Bolyard

In June, my family and I were blessed to finally adopt our daughter. Shortly thereafter, I was blessed to be voted and installed as the Associate Grand Guardian of Ohio Job's Daughters. These items caused much reflection on my life.

Essentially, it kept bringing me back to a simple quote: *"Keep the main thing, the main thing".* While that may not seem so "earth-shattering", it means more than what meets the eye.

As a society, we are easily distracted. There are so many different things (and stuff) that surround us that we find ourselves constantly feeling that we are up the stream without a paddle. But, inevitably, there is a simpler way.

We are about to embark on a new chapter of a Masonic year. This time of year is challenging because we are so excited to look ahead that we forget to look at the moment. We forget to live in the moment. This year, the Grand Bethel Honored Queen has the theme "Yesterday is History, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. That is why it is called the Present", and the Grand Worthy Advisor has the theme of "Stop and Smell the Poppies." Meanwhile, Ohio DeMolay's new State Master Councilor encourages you to "Be the Reason". So, let's tie this together. Brethren, let's stop the chaos. In a world of distractions, stop to live in the present. Stop and smell the poppies (flowers). Be the reason that others get to embrace the moment.

We have to keep the MAIN THING- Harmony & Brotherhood - as the main thing. Brethren, it's not the titles we receive or the offices we hold. We live together in harmony and on the level. From the youngest Entered Apprentice to the Grand Master, we are brothers. Every brother plays a vital role in our lodges and our fraternity. Does this mean we must always get along? No, we will have differences. But we need to stop and apply the lessons of our fraternity. We must treat each other with harmonious actions to seek brotherhood. We live in a world that wants your gossip, the backbiting, or the drama-filled stories. But, my brothers, that's not the MAIN THING. The MAIN THING in this organization is harmony and brotherhood. I encourage you to pick up your rituals and see how many times those words (or synonyms) come up. Let's agree to make our lodges - our district - our state - and our fraternity - different. Let's keep the main thing as the main thing. Harmony, being the strength and support of all institutions…



Masonic Youth Update

Ohio Rainbow

It has been a very busy Summer for Columbus Rainbow!

In early June we had our biannual Installation of Officers after 'RDJ' day. Our young ladies are excited for new opportunities to grow and learn! RDJ day was a blast, and almost all of our members were in attendance! We had a great time bowling, playing arcade games, chatting, and getting Shirley temples!

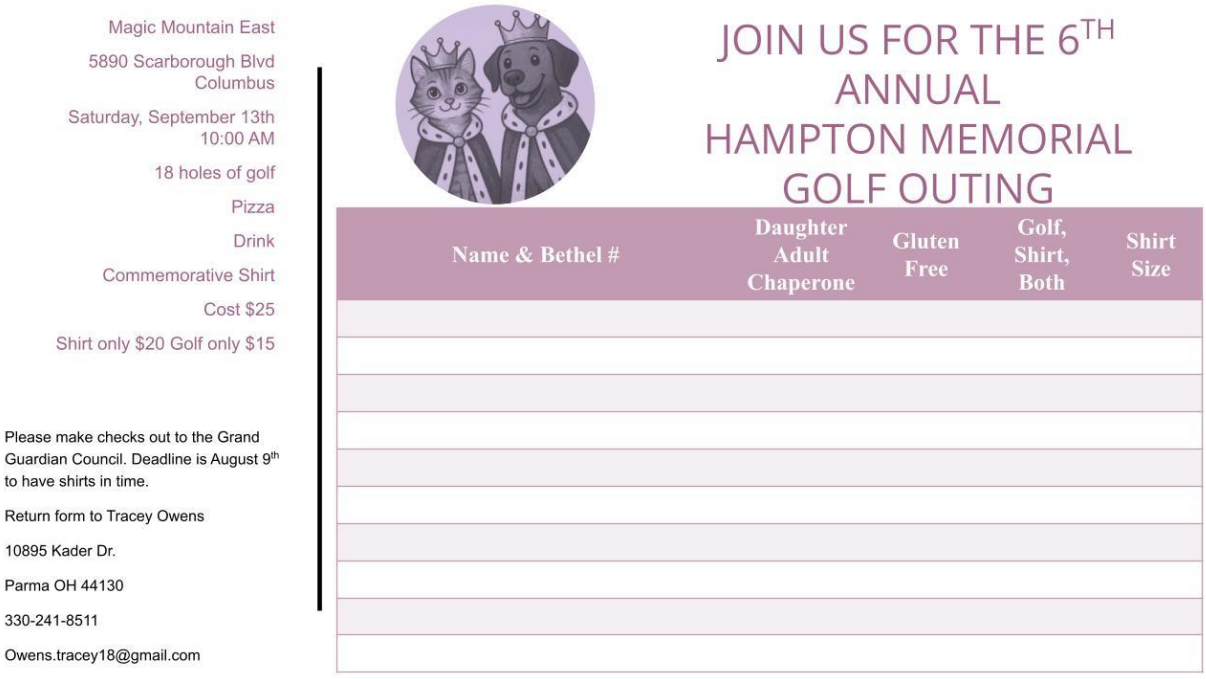


We also 'Found our happy place' during our annual Grand Assembly at Kenyon College! We got to watch our five Grand Officers do their ritualistic part, compete in several contests, and learn about the new 2025-2026 theme! This year will be very special as Madeline K. Is now the Grand Worthy Advisor, and is from our assembly! Most of our girls participated in the Grand Choir, or even by being a Herald and playing the trumpet!

Ohio Jobs Daughters

Brethren, you are hereby challenged to compete against Ohio Job's Daughters at our September 13, 2025, Hampton Memorial Golf Outing. The cost is $25 (golf only is $15). We challenge you and the members of your lodge to show off your putt-putt skills against Ohio Job's Daughters.

The deadline to RSVP is **August 9, 2025.** We look forward to seeing you on the course! Remember, a bad day of golfing is better than a good day of work!



Ohio DeMolay

Congratulations to Groveport Chapter, 2025 Chapter of the Year

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Time
14th District Summer Picnic	Highbanks Metro Park, 9466 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center, OH 43035	Sunday, August 3, 2025	12 pm Lunch 2 pm
Steaks & Stogies	York Golf Club 7549 N High St, Columbus, OH 43235	Tuesday, August 12, 2025	5:30 pm
Deputy Grand Master Rollout	Northwest Masonic Temple 2436 W Dublin Granville Rd Columbus, OH 43035	Thursday, August 14, 2025	7 pm
Masonic Weekend	The Masonic Temple Canton, Ohio	Friday, September 12 – Sunday September 14	
Grand Lodge Annual Communication	Kalahari Resorts	Friday, October 24, 2025	
14th District Annual Meeting	Avery Lodge 3980 Main St Hilliard, Ohio	Wednesday, October 29, 2025	Dinner 6pm Meeting 7pm

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:

ashlar@14thmasonicdistrict.org



Question for thought

Every tool has a purpose. Sure, you can use a hatchet to chop down a tree—but the results will be inefficient and messy. In life, just as in Masonry, we must stop, reflect, and choose our tools wisely. Ask yourself: are the tools we are using each day—our words, our actions, our technology—bringing us together as brothers? Or are they silently driving us apart?








Masonic Lodge
F&AM



Free to a good home! Last call!

New England Lodge has a few more items in our storage unit we need to clear out. If there are no more takers for these rare and precious items they will be consigned to that Grand Lodge in the Sky (i.e. "recycled") at the end of the Summer.

Check out these items. For photos and descriptions go to:
http://members.newengland4.org/gallery.jsp?album=Contents/Uploads/Gallery/Public/Storage%20Unit%20Items

Descriptions:

There is a nice looking, fake wood-grain finished, steel 4-drawer file cabinet. We also have a smaller, gray, 2-drawer filing cabinet.

New England Lodge is digitizing out Past Master photos. We have many frames available if your lodge frames Past Masters; all have glass, many have mats.

There is a tall, steel storage cabinet that apparently once belonged to an obscure District Chapter. How it came into possession of New England Lodge is a mystery.

There are two bookcases that formerly housed Worshipful Brother Dick Snow's Masonic Library.

The old Grand Lodge Tyler's desk could make a nice tool chest in your garage.

Do you know of a Lodge anywhere that might be interested in historic officers' chairs? Those pictured are from the old Grand Lodge in Worthington and must be close to 70 years old if they are the original chairs. All solid and in good shape. Own a piece of Ohio Masonic history!



Interested? Reply to secretary@newengland4.org and we can arrange viewing and pickup.




Steaks & Stogies
$45 member of Scottish Rite
$50 non-member
$40 for dinner only
5 Packs of Cigars
from WB David Gizzo's Collection
$20
(While supplies last)
Proceeds benefit Adopt America
August 12, 2025
York Golf Club
Social Hour 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm
Includes steak dinner, 2 Culebra cigars, and dessert.
Cash bar available. Appropriate golf attire required.
Please RSVP with the Valley Office by 8/5 (614-766-2272).


THOMAS MILLER
MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING
SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2025
REGISTRATION OPENS 8AM
SHOTGUN START 9 AM
VILLAGE VIEW GOLF COURSE
210 SOUTH MAIN ST
HARTFORD, OH 43013
• Pre-Registration $60 a Golfer - Includes Cart, Golf, and Food
◦ Day of Event $70
• Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle
• Hole Sponsors - $100
• Pathway Sponsors - $50
• Registration on Eventbrite
• https://sparrow400golf25.eventbrite.com
• For More Information - GolfInfo@sparrowlodge.com or Geoffrey McCash 614-582-8039