2025 ISSUE #12

ASHLAR

14TH DISTRICT

✦

DECEMBER 2025



We're trying a new look!

As officers of the 14th District, we pride ourselves on the quality of our members, as well as the wealth of events, thoughts, and information they produce.

The Ashlar has served for more than ten years as our primary means of sharing this information with you. Through the hard work of dozens of brethren, The Ashlar has given you a window into the District.

As the new year begins, we would like to take another step forward with this venerable newsletter. As editor, I have been asked to update our look for the next phase of the Ashlar's life.

To that end, we're trying a new look for this edition. We'll still have all the features you've come to expect, just with a new coat of paint.

We know that change can be *a lot*, so we don't want to make a move like this without getting your feedback. Please send your thoughts to ashlar@14thmasonicdistrict.org and help us take the Ashlar one more step into the future.

We can't wait to hear from you, and hope that you can't wait to hear from us!



Michael Emery
Editor

In The Ashlar, you can expect:

- Letters from leaders
- Social events
- Appendant body updates
- Volunteer opportunities
- District calendars
- Thoughts from your brothers



Inspection season is just around the corner

Spring in the 14th District means inspections, chances for our 21 incredible lodges to demonstrate their proficiency to the Grand Lodge, and make a memorable night for their brothers in the process.

Inspections will be kicking off in 2026. Please note that the information in the calendar below is subject to change in case of emergencies!

Inspections are a great chance to meet new friends, learn more about the district, and gain more perspective on how other lodges do things. Make plans now to attend one next year!

LODGE NAME	#	INSPECTION DATE	Degree	DDGM	DEO	DO	
Hiram	18	Tuesday, February 10, 2026	EA	KF	JH	KG	
Avery	493	Tuesday, February 17, 2026	EA	KF	MH	JM	
Linden	637	Thursday, February 19, 2026	MM	KF	JH	PM	
New England	4	Monday, February 23, 2026	MM	EL	MH	PM	
Neoacacia	595	Wednesday, February 25, 2026	EA	EL	MH	JR	
Magnolia	20	Saturday, February 28, 2026	MM	CG	MH	JW	**
Goodale	372	Saturday, February 28, 2026	FC	KF	BL	JW	**
Community	684	Monday, March 2, 2026	EA	CG	BL	JW	
Sunrise	783	Tuesday, March 3, 2026	MM	CG	BL	JR	
Canal Winchester	670	Wednesday, March 11, 2026	FC	CG	JH	KG	
Blendon	339	Monday, March 16, 2026	EA	CG	BL	JM	
Sparrow	400	Saturday, March 21, 2026	MM	CG	MH	JM	*
Westgate	623	Monday, March 23, 2026	EA	KF	JH	JW	
Triangle	748	Thursday, March 26, 2026	MM	EL	BL	PM	
York	563	Saturday, March 28, 2026	EA	EL	MH	JM	***
Capital City	656	Saturday, March 28, 2026	FC	KF	BL	KG	***
University	631	Saturday, March 28, 2026	MM	KF	BL	KG	***
Reynoldsburg	340	Tuesday, April 7, 2026	FC	EL	JH	JR	
Groveport-Lockbournce	801	Tuesday, April 14, 2026	FC	EL	JH	JR	
Arts & Sciences	792	Thursday, April 16, 2026	FC	EL	MH	PM	
Grove City	689	Monday, April 20, 2026	FC	CG	JH	PM	

All EA and FC Inspections begin at 7:00pm (dinner 6:15pm) (UNLESS NOTED BELOW)
All MM inspections begin at 5:30pm (dinner at 6:15), second section at 7pm
*Sparrow 400 - breakfast at 8:00 am, degree at 9:00 am
**Two Degrees - MM 900am-1145am, Lunch 1200pm-1245pm, FC 1245pm-230pm
***Three Degrees - FC 9am-1030am, EA 1100am-100pm, Lunch 100pm-145pm, MM 145pm-330pm

Franklin County Memorial Lodge: Wednesday January 7, 2026 7:30 pm - Hiram Lodge 18
District Quarterly Meeting: Thursday February 26, 2026. Location TBA
14th District Reception: Saturday March 14, 2026 - Bridgewater
District Awards meeting: Thursday May 28, 2026 - Location TBA

Your District Officers



President
Patrick Mayer

Avery Lodge No. 493
patrickandtaryn@gmail.com



1st Vice President
Jay Miller

Hiram Lodge No. 18
jmiller.bbull@gmail.com

ASK A DISTRICT OFFICER ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT THE DISTRICT BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF CLUB 14!



2nd Vice President
Kenneth Goble

Blendon Lodge No. 339
kennyg219@outlook.com



Sergeant-At-Arms
Jeff Robeano

Triangle Lodge No. 748
jrobeano@gmail.com



Chaplain
Jack Weber

Avery Lodge No. 493
jackweber@gmail.com



Treasurer
John Hicks



Secretary
Brian Bolyard



COMMITTED TO THE CRAFT
RWB Eric Longstreth

Let me begin by introducing myself to those I haven't yet had the pleasure of meeting. My name is Eric Longstreth, and I am honored to serve as the new District Deputy Grand Master in the 14th District.

I was initiated, passed, and raised in 2014, and have been fortunate to serve in several capacities since that time. I was Worshipful Master of Hiram Lodge No. 18 in Delaware, Ohio, in 2019; President of the 14th District Masonic Officers Association in 2024; and for another month, I will continue to serve as Worshipful Master of Franklin County Memorial Lodge. Like many of you, I have had the privilege of holding many other roles throughout my Masonic journey.

If you haven't noticed, the word "serve" holds great importance for me. It defines, at least in my eyes, what it means to be both a Mason and a man. I serve my family, my community, my lodge, this district, my employer, and my employees.

As Kent M. Smith wrote in The Case for Servant Leadership:

> "Servant leadership starts with the desire to serve — a natural, moral desire that is recognized as important by the world's great religions and many great thinkers. Service makes a difference in the lives of both those who serve and those who are served. It builds relationships that offer meaning and hope."

I believe those words capture the very essence of our craft.

Most Worshipful Brother Shawn Johnson's theme for 2026, "Committed to the Craft," resonates deeply with me. To be committed means to uphold our Masonic tenets, our beliefs, and the obligations we have all taken upon ourselves.

We demonstrate that commitment in many ways:

- ·By **serving our lodges faithfully**, whether as elected or appointed officers.
- ·By **performing exceptional degree work** for our candidates.
- ·By **reaching out to brethren** we haven't seen in a while, ensuring they are well and helping them reconnect.
- ·By **honoring our lodge widows**, inviting them to our dinners, picnics, and social events, and offering our continued support.

True commitment requires effort. It means showing up, staying engaged, and **striving to improve ourselves and our lodges—day by day by day.**

As I travel throughout the 14th District this year, I look forward to meeting those of you that I have not met yet.



FIVE VIRTUES
RWB Christopher Greise

As I was driving home from Grand Lodge, I found myself reminiscing about the many brothers I had the pleasure of seeing there—hearing their stories from the past year, both triumphs and trials, and their hopes for the future. During that long drive, I began to reflect on a familiar question: How can we do things better?

Hindsight, of course, is always 20/20. It's easy to see the right path once we've already stumbled through the wrong one. But as Masons, we are taught that self-improvement is a lifelong journey. If we continue to live by the virtues of our craft, we will keep refining our ashlars—day by day, choice by choice.
Our lectures teach us the virtues in one light, but when we connect them with lessons from other degrees, deeper meanings emerge. Each virtue offers us not just instruction, but a way of life.

Temperance
Temperance teaches moderation and self-restraint. It reminds us to guard our words so that we do not reveal what should remain sacred—but it also extends beyond the lodge. Temperance means knowing our limits, avoiding excess, and protecting the lives of others by making responsible choices. True Masonic temperance governs our passions so that wisdom may guide our actions.

Fortitude
Fortitude calls us to remain strong in the face of danger or difficulty. Yet sometimes, the greatest danger lies within—our own pride, fear, or anger. I've had brothers pull me aside to offer counsel or perspective, and I'll admit, my first reaction was sometimes defensive. But over time, I learned these brothers weren't trying to tear me down; they were trying to help me see clearer, to grow stronger.

When we learn to listen instead of react, we transform those moments of discomfort into opportunities for growth. Mental and spiritual fortitude means facing our own rough edges with honesty and patience—and trusting that our Brothers are there to help us smooth them.

Prudence
Prudence reminds us to act wisely, both inside and outside the Lodge. Whether we realize it or not, others are always watching us, and our behavior reflects the craft itself.
Before I became a Mason, a true friend once pulled me aside to warn me that my actions were being misinterpreted. My intentions were good, but my conduct was sending the wrong message. That conversation changed my life. It taught me the importance of aligning action with intent—and of seeing the world from another's perspective. Prudence calls us to be thoughtful, intentional, and self-aware in all we do.

Justice
Justice reminds us that titles and honors in Freemasonry are not badges of authority, but opportunities for service. We should never use our stations for power or pride, but rather to build harmony and understanding.
Every day, we are tried and tested. Some days we stumble. But justice—and brotherly love—teach us to lift ourselves up and to extend that same helping hand to others. A rising tide, after all, raises all boats. As leaders, our greatest duty is not to judge, but to guide, to encourage, and to lift.



FIVE VIRTUES, continued
RWB Christopher Greise

Truth
Truth is the foundation of every virtue and a divine attribute. It liberates us. Within the Lodge, truth means being honest with ourselves and our brothers. We need not exaggerate our accomplishments or hide our imperfections. When we leave our egos at the door and meet each other on the level, we discover the true beauty of the craft—authentic fellowship and genuine growth.
Over time, we find that the real wages of Masonry are not titles or recognition, but the quiet satisfaction of laboring together in truth and love.

Conclusion
We are all living examples of Masonry to those around us. Through our words, actions, and character, the world forms its impression of our Fraternity. Let that impression be one of integrity, humility, and compassion.
May our conduct reflect the light of the virtues we profess—so that when others see us, they see the goodness, wisdom, and brotherly love that define Freemasonry.

LODGE BREAKFASTS

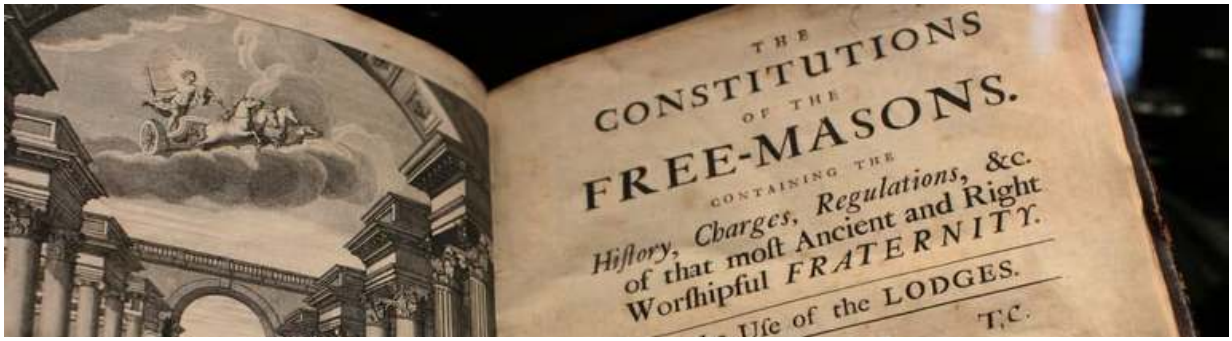
GROVE CITY
1st Saturdays, 8-10A

HIRAM
1st Saturdays, 8-10A
(Except July and August)

WEST GATE
2nd Saturdays, 9A-12P

GROVEPORT
3rd Saturdays, 7:30-10A

REYNOLDSBURG
Last Saturdays, 8-10A



COMMIT TO THE CRAFT THROUGH MASONIC EDUCATION

WB Jeffrey Hall

In Freemasonry, we are taught that commitment is not measured by words alone but by the actions, habits, and disciplines we cultivate every single day. The Grand Master's theme — Commit to the Craft — challenges each of us to take a deeper step into our Masonic journey by strengthening our knowledge, refining our skills, and dedicating ourselves to continual improvement.

One of the most powerful ways we fulfill that charge is through Masonic education.

Why Masonic Education Matters

Education is the engine that keeps our lodges strong. It elevates our ritual, deepens our understanding of symbolism, sharpens our leadership, and prepares the next generation of officers to thrive.

When we invest in education:

- We preserve the integrity of our ritual
- We build confident, knowledgeable officers
- We ensure that every brother—newly raised or decades in—continues to grow
- We ensure that every brother—newly raised or decades in—continues to grow

To truly commit to the craft is to commit to learning.

Upcoming Educational Opportunities

Stewards & Deacons Training
Wednesday, December 17th at 7:00 PM
Reynoldsburg Lodge

This workshop is designed to help Stewards and Deacons understand not only the mechanics of their roles, but also the deeper purpose behind their stations and duties. This is one of the most important officer development sessions of the year, and all eligible officers are strongly encouraged to attend. Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/2025stewdeactraining

SYSK – "Some Things You Should Know"
SYSK is a comprehensive officer development program designed to sharpen ritual skills, enhance leadership readiness, and give brothers the tools they need to serve effectively in the lodge. This program benefits any brother who aims to grow—whether you are currently in the officer line or simply preparing for future leadership.

- SYSK Class 1: Saturday, January 10 – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Avery Lodge
- SYSK Class 2: Saturday, February 7 – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Sunrise Lodge
- SYSK Class 3: Saturday, March 7 – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Sparrow Lodge
- SYSK Class 4: Saturday, April 11 – 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Hiram Lodge

Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/2026sysk

When our officers train, our lodges thrive. When we learn together, we grow together. When we commit to education, we truly commit to the craft.

We look forward to seeing strong representation from across the 14th District as we continue building a culture of excellence, brotherhood, and personal growth.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DEC 17

DEACONS AND STEWARDS TRAINING
Reynoldsburg Lodge
7PM

JAN 10

SYSK SESSION 1
Avery Lodge
8AM

JAN 28

BLUE JACKETS NIGHT
Nationwide Arena
7PM

FEB 7

SYSK SESSION 2
Sunrise Lodge
8AM

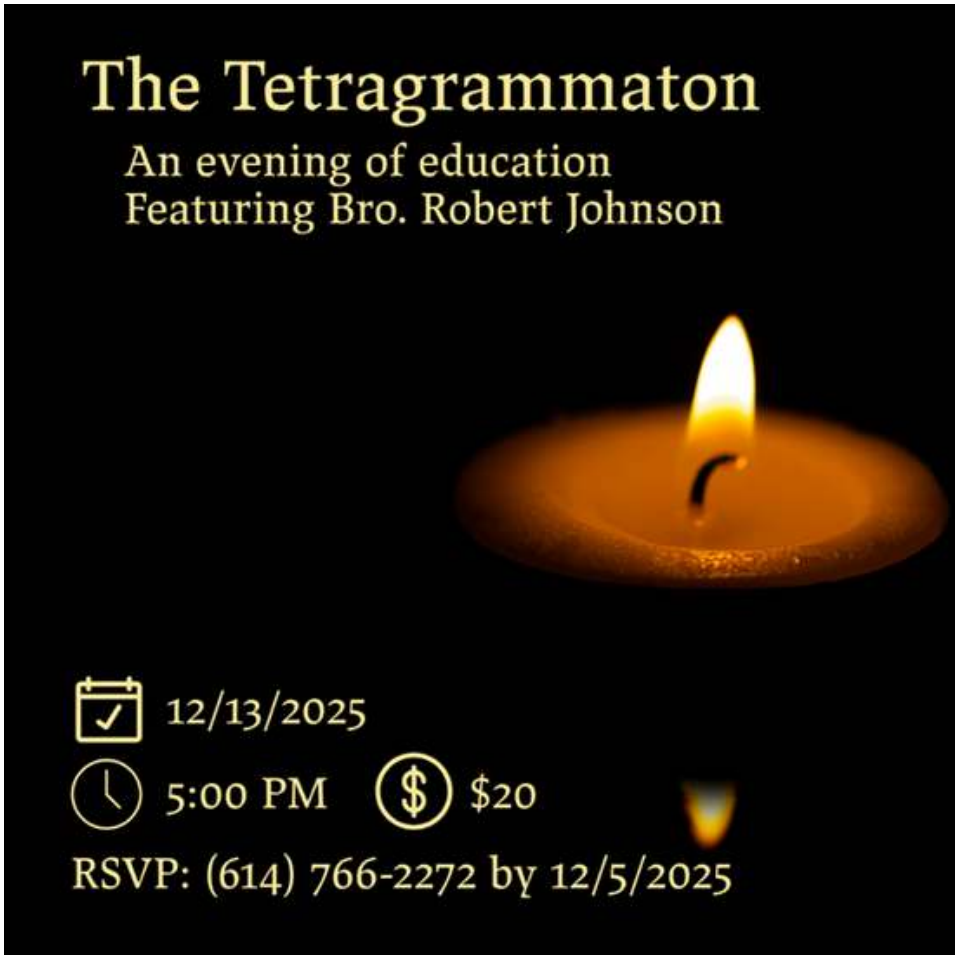
Have an event you want featured in the Ashlar?

We would love to help you communicate your next lodge event--formal, casual, esoteric, social, or otherwise--to the district. It takes just two simple steps:

1. Gather your event information (What? When? Where? How much?)
2. Send it to ashlar@14thmasonicdistrict.org by the 15th of the month

Our editor will reach out to you with any questions, and that's it! You're set. We're also happy to use any graphics you've made.


Hospitality Unit
KIDS' Christmas PARTY
December 13th - 1pm
Visit with Santa!
For ages 1 - 8 years old
Light lunch included
Gifts & prizes
FREE to attend!
Register at ShrinerEvents.com


The Tetragrammaton
An evening of education
Featuring Bro. Robert Johnson
12/13/2025
5:00 PM
$20
RSVP: (614) 766-2272 by 12/5/2025

MAPLE PRODUCTS SALE

100% PURE **OHIO** MAPLE SYRUP

Our Product List



Bourbon Barrel Aged Maple Syrup
100% Pure maple syrup aged 6 to 9 months in Kentucky bourbon barrels. Our bourbon barrels create a rich, maple flavor.
8 oz | $15
12.7 oz | $20



Milligan's Maple Syrup
100% Pure, Grade A maple syrup. Great on pancakes and waffles. Delicious used as a glaze in cooking, and tastes great on ice cream and in cocktails.
8 oz | $10

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Milligan's Maple Syrup is crafted from the Milligan Family Sustainable Forest and other quality Ohio producers. We offer 100% pure maple syrup.

MILLIGAN'S 100% Pure
MAPLE SYRUP



Milligan's Maple Caramel Corn with Peanuts
Milligan's Maple syrup is cooked to a delicious caramel and tossed with fresh popcorn and Spanish peanuts. A delicious, sweet and savory treat. (Milligan's Maple syrup, popcorn, peanuts, butter, salt.)
4 oz | $6; or, 2 for $10



Milligan's Sweet & Savory Trail Mix
A sweet, savory, spicy, protein-packed, one-of-a-kind treat with an explosive blend of dried chile, garlic, soy and spices. (Milligan's Maple syrup, cashews, pepitas, peanuts, pecans, almonds, cranberries, raisins, butter and spicy seasoning.)
4 oz | $8



Milligan's Maple Nuts
Sweet and salty peanuts, cashews, pecans and hazelnuts glazed with 100% Milligan's Maple caramel and a touch of salt. (Milligan's Maple syrup, cashews, hazelnuts, peanuts, pecans, butter, salt.)
4 oz | $8
8 oz | $15



Milligan's Maple Puffs
Crunchy, buttery and sweet. Huskless, baked corn puffs tossed with 100% Milligan's Maple caramel. (Milligan's Maple syrup, corn puffs, butter, salt.)
4 oz | $8

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