2026 ISSUE #5

ASHLAR

14TH DISTRICT

May 2026



Let's build a bigger brotherhood.

As you have seen and will see in the pages of the Ashlar, a Grand Master's Class has been announced for May 2nd.

Does your lodge have any brothers working their way through the degrees that are in need of assistance to finish their journey? Do you know any men that would be a good fit for this event? If so, please consider participating in this event.

Lodges must provide an apron, Bible, and mentor for each candidate (if you must do multiple mentors per candidate, 2 candidates per mentor is the maximum). Any mason in good standing is free to attend to observe. You will find information regarding the event in the Around the District section. Please contact our District Advisor with any questions at:

Adasm563@yahoo.com

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Helping Our Lodges Be Three-Pillar Strong
RWB Chris Greise

From the very beginning of our Masonic journey, we are taught that our lodges are supported by three great pillars: Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty. These pillars are not just symbolic—they are practical guides for how we lead, support, and sustain our lodges for future generations.

Wisdom

When we think about wisdom in managing our lodges, we should reflect on how we combine our life experiences and education with the lessons we have received through Masonry. Wisdom allows us to develop thoughtful plans that ensure the continued success of our lodge.

One of the greatest ways wisdom is preserved is through mentorship. Past generations of leaders train the next generation. Experienced Masons teach newer brothers their proficiencies as they progress through the degrees, and leaders help younger officers understand why certain traditions and practices matter—not just how things are done.

We are especially fortunate in our district to have strong District Education Officers offering valuable opportunities such as SYSK classes and training for junior officers like Stewards and Deacons. Masonry has always been about learning the lessons and then passing them forward. One of the clearest signs that we truly understand those lessons is our willingness to teach the brothers who follow behind us.

Beauty

There is nothing more beautiful than stepping outside on a sunny day and appreciating the world the Great Architect has provided for us. In Masonry, however, there is another kind of beauty—the beauty found in fellowship, brotherly love, and shared purpose within our lodge.



Helping Our Lodges Be Three-Pillar Strong, Cont'd
RWB Chris Greise

When a lodge emphasizes beauty in its culture, participation naturally grows. Brothers look forward to attending meetings and events because they leave refreshed and encouraged. That spirit becomes contagious. It inspires new members and strengthens the connection they feel to the lodge from the very beginning.
Beauty in Masonry is not just what we see—it is what we experience together.

Strength
True strength in a lodge is found in harmony. We are all human, and disagreements can happen. But when petty quarrels disrupt harmony, even strong lodges can quickly begin to lose their identity and momentum. Strength requires us to resist the urge to criticize openly when quiet guidance would be more effective.

There is certainly a place for mentoring and education so that younger officers do not walk into avoidable difficulties. That is why we are encouraged to whisper wise counsel rather than create division. Our zeal for Masonry should always build unity—not weaken it.

Moving Forward Together
So, with all this in mind, we should:

- Participate actively in our lodges
- Mentor the next generation of leaders
- Avoid becoming trapped in the mindset of "that's how we've always done it"
- Focus on why we do what we do

Every brother who walks through our doors should feel that he is essential to the success of the lodge. Each should feel welcomed, valued, and encouraged to share his unique gifts. Brothers should be encouraged to travel, meet new brethren, and experience other lodges.

Masonry gives us a framework that simplifies life down to its core values. It challenges us to smooth our rough edges, step outside our comfort zones, and strive to be more than average—so that together we can make a lasting and positive impact on our brothers, our lodges, and our communities.



The Order and The Chaos
WB Michael Emery

Masonry teaches us to govern ourselves. To create order and regularity. We aim to keep ourselves within due bounds, and we struggle to shape perfect stones from the crudeness of the quarry. What do we do, then, when our temple itself creates chaos and irregularity?

It has recently become my opportunity to experience the irregularities of life, as I have been diagnosed with a heart condition that turns the most fundamental aspect of human life, the heartbeat, into a chaotic and dangerous rhythm. Last night, as I lay in bed feeling it pound and flutter in my chest, I thought about the working tools of our profession and what this experience can teach me. We are taught to regard the working tools as methods to control our lives, or even to control our very *selves*. But this experience has guided me to approach them in a different light.

Time, for example, is different for me now. I am unconsciously dividing my life into periods where I am enduring an episode vs. time where I am not. The 24 inch gauge teaches me divide my time, but I have come to view its lesson in a more abstract sense, in that I need to regulate my time and my actions as the situation allows me to. Efficiency has become key.

Originally, I had thought of the lessons of the common gavel simply in the light of elimination of bad habits. But what if those bad habits include how I view myself? I have needed to apply its lessons to think more positively about the future of my life, to divest myself of fear and doubt, and to chip away the anger I feel at my own physical body.



The Order and The Chaos, cont'd
WB Michael Emery

It is difficult to think of yourself as a just and upright man when your body makes it occasionally difficult to stand upright. It is thus even more important, brethren, to remember that it is the internal qualifications of a man that masonry regards. There is no path but the forward path. The only way to see a better tomorrow is to reach it.

Our temples may crack. They may crumble. They may betray us. This demonstrates to us how important it is that we are surrounded by brothers who will be ready to apply the lesson of the hand to back, and support us in our times of need.

In doing so, we therefore provide order when it seems that there is none. We provide governance and structure to adapt to the chaos the world brings to us. We see the flaws in our stones, and we build anew in the hopes of an even more glorious future.



ONE DAY CLASSES SCHEDULED
RWB Adam Michael

The Grand Lodge of Ohio has expanded the 2026 Grand Master Class program to include eight locations across multiple dates, and is placing additional emphasis on supporting degree completion for our Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts, in addition to initiating new candidates.

These Grand Master Class events are intended to offer meaningful opportunities for Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts to complete their degree work and advance to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

Any Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft may attend any of the scheduled events to complete their degree work. To participate, please contact your Lodge Secretary.

These events are also open to new candidates who wish to begin their Masonic journey this spring or summer. If you know of a man interested in petitioning, please direct him to your local Lodge to begin the process.

To participate in a Grand Master Class, candidates **must be degree ready by the registration deadline.** This includes:

1. Submission of a petition
2. Completion and reporting of the investigation
3. Election and acceptance by the Lodge

Candidates, along with their Mentors and accompanying Brethren, may attend any Grand Master Class event regardless of district. Lodges may also send different candidates to different events as needed.

Lodges are responsible for coordinating attendance and providing Mentors. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts must contact their Lodge Secretary to request participation and obtain Lodge approval. Master Masons in good standing may attend as observers and must also register through their Lodge Secretary.



ONE DAY CLASSES SCHEDULED, CONT'D
RWB Adam Michael

All outstanding degree fees (if applicable) and registration fees must be paid to the Lodge. All attendees are expected to pay the registration fee, which covers meal and facility expenses.

Schedule of Grand Master's Classes

May 2, 2026 – District 7 (Chillicothe, Scioto Lodge No. 6)
Registration Opens: 8:00 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: April 25, 2026

May 30, 2026 – District 16 (Tiffin, Tiffin Lodge No. 77)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: May 23, 2026

June 13, 2026 – District 12 (Gallipolis, Morning Dawn Lodge No. 7)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: May 30, 2026

June 13, 2026 – District 23 (Cambridge, Scottish Rite Auditorium)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: May 30, 2026

June 27, 2026 – District 2 (Dayton, Dayton Masonic Center)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: June 13, 2026

June 27, 2026 – District 14 (Columbus, Aladdin Shrine)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: June 13, 2026

July 25, 2026 – District 21 (Canton, Canton Masonic Temple)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $20 | Deadline: July 11, 2026

July 25, 2026 – District 22 (Cleveland, Berea Masonic Temple)
Registration Opens: 7:30 a.m. | Degrees Begin: 9:00 a.m.
Fee: $30 | Deadline: July 11, 2026

If you have questions or require assistance, please contact your lodge Secretary, your assigned District Deputy Grand Master, or you may contact the Grand Lodge office at MemberServices@Freemason.com or 18002926092.

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

WB Patrick Mayer
President

WB Jay Miller 1st Vice President	**WB Kenneth Goble** 2nd Vice President
WB John Hicks Treasurer	**RWB Brian Bolyard** Secretary
WB Jeff Robeano Sergeant-At-Arms	**WB Jack G. Weber III** Chaplain

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

RWB Ken Cohen
RWB Adam Michael
WB Craig Shumaker
RWB Brian Bolyard
WB Adam Lappert

EDITOR

WB Michael Emery

DISTRICT ADVISOR

RWB Adam Michael

WANT TO BE FEATURED?

We'd love to hear your thoughts or help you advertise your event in the Ashlar. It just takes two easy steps:

1. Gather your information
   a. What's happening?
   b. Who is invited?
   c. Where is it?
   d. When is it?
   e. How much does it cost?
2. Send to ashlar@14thmasonicdistrict.org

Submissions must be sent before the 15th of the month before publication (i.e. January 15th for the February Ashlar).

Around the District

MAY
14

NEOACACIA
14th district degree conferral (FC)
6 PM Dinner 7 PM Open

MAY
28

NORTHWEST TEMPLE
District quarterly meeting
6 PM





Blendon 339 annual fish fry








14TH MASONIC DISTRICT
GOLF OUTING
Swing for Brotherhood!
JULY 11TH, 2026
11:00 AM – Registration & Lunch
1:00 PM – Shotgun Start
$120 per Golfer
18 HOLES OF GOLF
DINNER & PRIZES
RAFFLES & FUN!
ALL MASONS & GUESTS WELCOME!
York Golf Club
7459 N High Street

OHIO COUNCIL OF DELIBERATION GOLF OUTING

REGISTRATION

Completed Form and Paid Reservations are Due by June 17, 2026

Date
Monday, June 22, 2026

Time
Registration: 10:00 AM - patio
Shotgun Start: 1:00 PM
Driving Range and Locker Room are available all day
Lunch - $9 per person
Hot dogs, brats, cookies, chips
Dinner:
Chicken or Steak, Salad, Baked Potato, Rolls and fixins
Dinner Only (no golf): $35

Place
York Golf Club
7459 N. High Street
Columbus, OH 43235

Questions
Craig Lobdell
Phone: 614-906-5627
Email: clobdellms@gmail.com

Sponsorships
Hole Sponsorships are available for $100 each!

Call Charles at the office (614-766-2272) and get yours today. Last day to purchase is June 15.

Prizes
Various prizes will be awarded for game play

Ladies are Welcome!

REGISTER YOUR TEAM TODAY!

Team Name: _____

Player 1 Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Lunch: ❒ Dinner Only (no golf): ❒ Choice for Dinner: Chicken ❒ Steak ❒

Player 2 Name: _____

Email: _____

Lunch: ❒ Dinner Only (no golf): ❒ Choice for Dinner: Chicken ❒ Steak ❒

Player 3 Name: _____

Email: _____

Lunch: ❒ Dinner Only (no golf): ❒ Choice for Dinner: Chicken ❒ Steak ❒

Player 4 Name: _____

Email: _____

Lunch: ❒ Dinner Only (no golf): ❒ Choice for Dinner: Chicken ❒ Steak ❒

Registration Fee: $95 per Golfer

Registration fee includes golf, cart, dinner, 3 drink tickets and clubhouse from 8:00 AM until the event closes. Drink carts and Grill Room are open for beverage purchases all day.

Make checks payable to AASR, Valley of Columbus. Mail this form with a check to AASR Valley of Columbus, 290 Cramer Creek Court, Dublin, OH 43017.

BLENDON LODGE #339
PRESENTS:



MASONIC VOLUNTEER TRAINING

CONTACT RACHEL LANCASTER (877-881-1623X4 OR RLANCASTER@OMCOH.ORG) TO REGISTER OR REQUEST A TRAINING PACKET PRIOR TO JUNE 22ND

- Become an MVP Committee member for your district to partner w/the Resource Center to help identify & assist those masons, wives, widows & stars in need.
- Learn how to provide effective outreach on behalf of your Lodge or Chapter.
- Understand the programs of the Resource Center, in particular our financial assistance, and how we can help members of your Lodge or Chapter





JUNE 22, 2026 at 630pm
Blendon Lodge # 339
130 S. State St., Westerville

14th DISTRICT PROSPECT DAY 2026

OPEN TO ALL LODGES

Bring all prospects and anyone who may be interested in learning about Freemasonry!

This is a great opportunity to introduce them to the Values, History, and Brotherhood of our Craft in a Morning of Fellowship

An opportunity to see if any of your Prospects would want to be in the Grand Master's One Day Class

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Blendon Lodge | 130 S State Street, Blendon, OH 43081

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Saturday, May 16, 2026 | Casual Dress

Blendon Lodge will be holding their Breakfast from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO RSVP

CONTACT: Chris Greise | Mobile: 614-746-4672 | E-mail: cgreise@gmail.com