



September - October 2025

The Trestle Board

A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

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Chillicothe Flag Drawings on loan to Historical Society

One afternoon, one of our very own members and owner of the Antique Emporium, Brother Bryan Fields, attended an auction that came down to several envelopes of documents and miscellaneous folders of various paperwork. Noticing that one of the folders contained items from Cecil S. Blair who was a local lawyer, Masonic Brother and the Right Eminent Grand Commander for the State of Ohio in 1968, drew his attention and caused him to bid.

Winning the bid Brother Fields realized he had just purchased the initial drawings and designs that Cecil Blair had created in an effort to come up with a design of a flag for the city of Chillicothe, which is still being used today. A contest was held in 1974 which anyone could enroll a flag design and one would be chosen as the official flag for Chillicothe.

Bro Fields presented his find at a stated meeting of Scioto Lodge #6 and stated he would like to donate these documents to the Lodge. A discussion was held and it was determined to share these with the Chillicothe Historical Society for display however, they would remain the property of Scioto Lodge #6 and returned if they should be removed from display anytime in the future.



Flag designed by Cecil S. Blair

The red, white and blue were adopted from our national flag. The pennant shaped flag was taken from the Ohio Flag which was first used as such at the Buffalo Exposition in 1901, and adopted by the Legislature as the Official Flag of Ohio on May 9, 1902.

The large triangle represents the hills and valleys surrounding Chillicothe, especially Mt. Logan, which forms the background for the Great Seal of Ohio. The circle in the triangle represents the initial of Ohio, also the Buckeye, the nickname of Ohio. It also represents the rising sun, which also is a part of the Great Seal of Ohio. The broad band across the triangle represents the Scioto River, which lies between Chillicothe and Mt. Logan. The letter “C” in the center of the circle represents the City of Chillicothe, and the star in the center of the letter “C” alludes to the First Capitol of Ohio which was located in the City of Chillicothe.

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SEPT. 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	3	4 Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	5	6 VA Bingo 1-3pm Building #9 Ohio Priory Mtg. 1:30—7:30 pm Northwest Masonic Center
7	8	9 Chillicothe Chapter # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Chillicothe Council # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	10 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	19	20
21	22	23 Chillicothe Commandery #8 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	24 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	25	26	27
28	29	30				

OCT. 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2 Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	3	4 Ohio Job's Daughters Cele- bration 2-4 pm
5	6	7 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	8 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	9 Ohio Grand Commandery Meeting Crown Plaza North Hotel	10 Ohio Grand Commandery Meeting Crown Plaza North Hotel	11
12	13	14 Chillicothe Chapter # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Chillicothe Council # 4 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	15	16 Scioto Lodge #6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm Ionic Lodge # 6 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	17	18
19	20	21	22 Eastern Star Chapter #419 Stated Mtg. 7:30 pm	23	24	25
26	27	28 Chillicothe Commandery #8 Stated Meeting 7:30 pm	29	30	31	

Scioto Lodge #6 Scholarship Awards Night and Banquet

The Scholarship Committee has met to select the recipients of the three \$1,000 scholarships to be presented to the graduating class of 2025. It was a hard decision again this year as we had a total of 45 applicants.

In order to be eligible, the student must have attended school in one of the seven High Schools located in Ross County. We had a total of 30 girls and 15 boys submit applications for consideration.

One boy and one girl with top honors, ACT scores, scholastic achievement, school participation and community service will be selected to receive one of the \$1,000 scholarships. In addition, one student that has/had a family member who is affiliated with a Masonic Order will be awarded the 3rd \$1,000 scholarship.



Scholarship award winners were as follows: Maya Free of Unioto H.S. attending Bowling Green, Landon Mautz, Chillicothe H.S. attending Marietta and Ava Palmer, daughter of Brother D.C. Palmer, of Unioto H.S. attending The Ohio State University.

Recipients of the Scioto Lodge #6 Scholarship Awards were invited, along with their family, to attend a dinner at the Masonic Lodge on June 3rd at 6:00 pm just prior to our Stated Meeting. They would each be presented with the scholarship award after dinner but prior to our opening Lodge in the Blue Room.

Thanks to the Scholarship Committee consisting of WB's, James Fritz Schafer, Michael L. Hines, Steven R. Grant and Michael A. Ash, who has been on this committee since it's inception in 1998.

Pictured from R/L is Maya Free, Scholarship winner receiving her gift bag who was in attendance for the banquet and award presentation , WB Michael Smallwood and Michael Ash, Chaplain.

Scioto Lodge Ushers at Outdoor Drama, Tecumseh

Thanks to the many volunteers who helped with ushering during the two weeks at Tecumseh. This is a very fun fundraiser we were fortunate to take part in where we take 4-6 people for 5 nights each week to help



usher the crowd to their seats. The Scioto Society donates \$500 to Scioto Lodge for use with our charities. Since we were not able to have the annual Fish Fry this year, this will be a huge help to raise funds so we can continue to support events in the community.


Answer to Picture This? - Building Manager, WB Stephen Steele making repairs to the sink in one of the nine apartments that are located on the 2nd floor of the Lodge building. This is just a small example of the dedication you will find of several of our members. Taking the picture is WB Harold Ramsey who can often be found helping with plumbing and other various tasks around the Lodge in addition to being the Lodge Educational Officer. Thanks Brothers!

Chillicothe York Rite Bodies

The annual election of officers was scheduled to be held during the July Stated Meetings of all of the Chillicothe York Rite Bodies. Anyone interested in holding an office in Chapter, Council and/or Commandery made their wishes known to Michael Hines, Michael Laws, or Eugene Hardman so a slate of officers could be compiled to be introduced to the membership for voting. Below are those results.


Chillicothe Chapter #4

High Priest:	PHP Eugene Hardman
King:	EC—Bradley Peters
Scribe:	EC—William Greene
Capt. Host:	PHP Michael Laws
Treasurer:	EC Joseph Clarke
Secretary:	PHP John Ashton
Principal Soj.:	PHP—Michael Hines
R.A. Capt.:	PHP Roger Jones
Mstr. 3rd:	EC—D.C. Palmer
Mstr. 2nd:	EC—Daniel Hines
Mstr. 1st:	EC— Matthew Knisley
Chaplain:	EC— Jim Stevens
Guard:	PHP—Tom Castor
Trustee:	PHP Roger Jones



Chillicothe Council #4


Ill. Master:	PIM Roger Jones
Dep. Master:	IC Bradley Peters
P.C.W.:	IC William Greene
Treasurer:	IC Joseph Clarke
Recorder:	PIM John Ashton
Steward:	PIM Eugene Hardman
C.O.C.	PIM Michael Hines
Capt. of Guard:	PIM Michael Laws
Chaplain:	IC Jim Stevens
Sentinel:	PIM Tom Castor
Trustee:	PIM Michael Hines



Chillicothe Commandery #8


“The Christian Order of Freemasonry”

Commander:	SK Michael Laws
Generalissimo:	PC Eugene Hardman
Capt. General:	PC Michael Ash
Recorder:	PC John Ashton
Treasurer:	SK Joseph Clarke
Prelate:	PC Michael Hines
S. Warder:	SK Bradley Peters
J. Warder:	PC Roger Jones
St. Bearer:	SK Daniel Hines
Sw. Bearer:	SK Darrell Palmer
Warder:	SK William Greene
Sentinel:	SK Thomas Castor
Trustee:	SK Thomas Castor



New Master Mason presented with Apron and Bible

Congratulations to Brother Bryan Stark on his conferral to the degree of Master Mason.



Masonic Temple Board News:

At the last quarterly meeting of the Masonic Temple Board, it was decided that we will renovate and update one of the apartments located on the 2nd floor to be turned into a furnished space like an Air BNB where it can be rented out by the day, week or month. We believe this will be a more profitable decision and if ever need be, it can easily be redesigned as a finished apartment with the much needed updates complete.

As with any 120 year old building, there are many things that need to be done that we could use your help. Please consider becoming active and helping YOUR Lodge with small tasks that need attention.

We are still actively looking for volunteers to help clean, separate, chronologically organize and file the archives of the four separate bodies including Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery.

Ross Co. Special Olympics Presented Check

Nicholas White Senior Warden, presented a check for \$3400 to Chris Hiles and members of the of the Ross Co. Special Olympics, which has been a favorite project of Scioto Lodge for many years and we hope to continue this rewarding work.



Nicholas White, Senior Warden, Presented Traveling Award



Nicholas White, Senior Warden of Scioto Lodge #6 was presented the Traveling Award from the 7th Masonic District as verification that he attended all of the Blue Lodge inspections for the 2025 Inspection season. He was the only officer / member of Scioto Lodge to have achieved this recognition.

Congratulations Bro. White and Thank You for representing Scioto Lodge so consistently this year.

Pictured left to right are W.M. Michael Smallwood, P.M. John Ashton, mentor to Bro. White, Brother Nicholas White, and Michael Ash, Chaplain.

Past Master Receives Honors

RWB Sam Johnson, District Education Officer for the 7th Masonic District presented WB Terrell Farrow with the "Fellow of the Craft" award from the Royal Scofield Society.

Fellow of the Craft is the first part of a three part series that make up the requirements for the Royal Scofield Society. To complete this first requirement, one must complete three readings along with three exams on the first three degrees of Freemasonry. The readings dive deeper into the degrees and dissects the degrees from preparing for the degrees, the ceremonies, the lecture, and life as a Mason.

Anyone looking to be challenged and obtain a deeper level of masonic education should look into the Royal Scofield Society located on the Grand View website.



Pictured L/R WB Terrell Fairrow and RWB Sam Johnson, Education Office of 7th Masonic District

Chillicothe Flag (continued from Page #1)



Above is a picture of Bro. Bryan Fields who is a member of Scioto Lodge #6, owner of the Antique Emporium and the organist for the Chillicothe Paints. Bryan is responsible for the discovery and donation of the Chillicothe Flag memorabilia to Scioto Lodge #6 that is currently on loan to the Chillicothe Historical Society.

On the left is a painted portrait of Sir Knight Cecil S. Blair, R.E. Grand Commander of 1968 and Sir Knight of Chillicothe Commandery #8 that remains on display in the Red Room of the Lodge today.

How impressive it is to think of the impact our Masonic Members have had on the community in which we live and continue to do so to this day. If YOU have a story you would like to share, please contact the lodge so we can make arrangements to talk to you before the next edition of the Trestle Board.

Medical Equipment Available for Loan

The Masonic Temple Association and the Brothern of Scioto Lodge has an excellent and extensive collection of durable medical equipment (DME) available for loan. It consists of crutches, walkers, wheeled walkers with seats, bedside toilets and foldable wheelchairs; all for the use of anybody in need of such an item.

Many times due to surgery or an unfortunate accident causes us to need a piece of such equipment for a short period of time.

Why not borrow such an item from the Lodge instead of purchasing. Simply contact the Lodge or WB Stephen Steele for details. I'm sure arrangements can be made to have such an item delivered right to your home via a Brother Mason.



A Publication of the Chillicothe Masonic Bodies

Chillicothe Masonic Temple
57 East Main Street
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

Phone 740-774-3485
740-774-1053
cmb@chillicothemasons.org

Return Service Requested



Transportation to Lodge Meetings / Functions	Picture This?
<p>It has come to our attention there may be a need for some of our members who are no longer able to drive at night or simply do not feel comfortable driving to our meetings who may want to be picked up prior to the meeting and/or taken home when the meeting is concluded. If you are in a situation that you would find this service helpful, several of your Brothers have agreed to help with this endeavor to ease the burden of your family and friends.</p> <p>Simply call the Lodge at 740-774-3485 at least 24 hours prior to the function you wish to attend so arrangements can be made of who is available to pick you up or drop you back off. Leave a message with your name, phone number and address to make a better choice of who your driver will be. The WM Terrell Fairrow has also asked that his cell phone number 740-701-1946 be included if you should have any questions or need further assistance.</p> <p>Anyone willing to help pick up a member on your way to Lodge should make your availability known to the secretary.</p>	A photograph showing a person lying on their back on a wooden floor. They are wearing a light-colored t-shirt and shorts. Their legs are bent and raised in the air. They are positioned next to a wooden cabinet or desk. A white plastic bag is visible on the floor next to them.