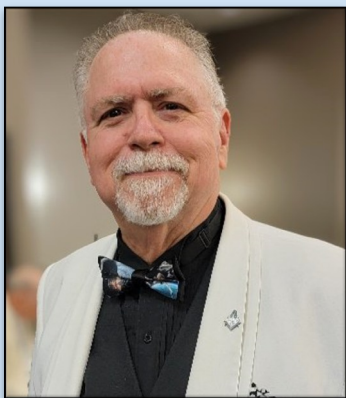




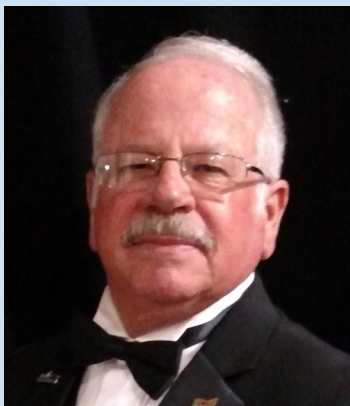
The Crossed Quills

Bulletin of the Secretaries Association F. & A.M. of Ohio

Volume LXXXVI March 2026 Number 1



Steven M. Grathwohl
1st V.P.



Terry L. Pringle
President 2024-2025



James A. Klausing
2nd V.P.



W. Edward Lowe
3rd V.P.



David L. Holmes
Secretary



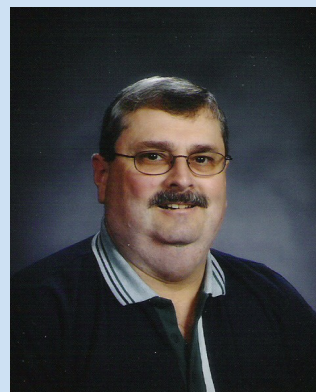
Robert H. Coster
Assistant Secretary



Matthew Pollock
4th V.P.



David Glass
5th V.P.



Jeffery Slattery, II
Chlain

2024—2025 OFFICERS

Terry L. Pringle (Janice) (783) President (740) 350-7643	New Matamoras
Steven M. Grathwohl (483) 1 st V.P. (513) 205-3034	Cincinnati
James A. Klausing (Angela) (418) 2nd V.P. (567) 208-7831	Findlay
W. Edward Lowe (213) 3rd V.P. (216) 956-1856	Twinsburg
Matthew Pollock (70) 4th V.P. (740) 262-4033	Marion
David Glass (Cindy) (278) 5th V.P. (740) 541-4940	Guysville
David L. Holmes (Melissa) (120) Secretary (513) 310-9562	Cincinnati
Robert H. Coster (Judy) (356) Asst. Secretary (513) 607-2137	Cincinnati
Jeff Slattery, II (Janet) (723) Chaplain (740) 592-6124	Athens

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

1	David Holmes	120	11		
2	Kim Sparks	742	12	John Dixon	7
2	Mike Stephenson	159	13	Sam Zinn	591
3	Paul Bathgate	174	14	Edward W. Badger	631
3			14	Douglas Moshier	20
4	Ronald E. Schmidt	580	15	Matt Pollack	70
5	Craig Szczublewski	248	16	Daniel A. Brake	359
6	Tim Redick	254	17	Terry Pringle	374
7	Eric Williams	321	18	Tyler Dunlap	5
7	William Carson III	48	19	Tom Rodgers	116
8	Jeff Garringer	392	20	John Scott Allen	151
8	Jackie D. Butler, II	421	21	W. Edward Lowe	213
9	Douglas K. Kirk	226	22	Jeff Kopacka	714
9	Andy Cure	674	23	Ronald Shaw	446
10	Kenneth D. Chamberlain	227	24	Joe Wicker	471
10			25	Luke Whittenberger	246

EXECUTIVE PLANNING MEETING

August 8, 2026
 Grand Lodge Office
 1 Masonic Drive
 Springfield, Ohio 45504

If there is no representative
 or only one from your-
 district and you would like
 to get involved, please call
 the President or Secretary
 of your Association.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING

March 13, 2027
 Aladdin Temple
 1801 Gateway Circle
 Grove City, Ohio 43123

PROGRAM

87th Annual Meeting

March , 2025

Saturday Morning (Grand Ballroom)

- 7:00 A.M. Registration (Coffee & Donuts available)
- 8:30 A.M. Opening of Regular Session by RWB Jeffery Rannebarger
Invocation—WB Jeffery Slattery, II
Introductions
Necrology Report—WB Jeffery Slattery, II
Audit Report—RWB Richard George
Review of 2025 Minutes—WB David Holmes
OMC Overview—Bro. Steve Petitjean
What should we do with returned paraphernalia? RWB Terry Pringle
AASR Dyslexia Centers/Refilling the Lamp— RWB Cameron Shandersky
Masonic Communities Resources-Update – Community Outreach Coordinators
Other Business
Report of Nominating Committee—WB Robert W. Hubert
Election of Officers—Comments from outgoing and incoming President
Remarks—Grand Secretary, MWB Keith W. Newton
Grand Master, MWB Shawn A. Johnson - Installation of 2025-2026
Officers and his personal comments.
- Approx. 12:00 Lunch (Lunch tickets required)

Saturday Afternoon (Grand Ballroom)

- 1:00 P.M. Grandview- General Q & A Session for new and experienced secretaries

Grand Lodge and Masonic Community Resource Center will have tables
set up in the main lobby 7:00 A.M. Saturday morning.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Brother Terry Pringle was born at Alton, WV, the third of four sons of Percy and Opal Pringle. The family moved to Ohio in 1960. He is a graduate of Marietta Senior High School and Marietta College with a degree in Religion.

Shortly after high school graduation he enlisted in the US Navy serving as an Operations Specialist at Great Lakes, IL, the guided missile destroyer USS Lawrence (DDG-4), and the Fleet Introduction Team, Spruance Class Destroyers, Ingalls Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, MS, with deployments to the Middle East, North Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea, and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for refresher training.

Brother Pringle is married to the former Janice Sue Antill, They have two daughters and five grandchildren, with the sixth grandchild expected in May. This year they will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Brother Pringle joined Matamoras #374 F. & A.M. July 1990. He served as Master 2010-2012. Since 2013, he has held the office of Secretary. MWB Cokonougher commissioned him a District Deputy Grand Master in 2015, which was renewed by MWB Rill in 2016, and MWB Kaylor in 2017. MWB Schau appointed him a District Advisor in 2018, a position he held until his retirement in 2023. He is a member of Marietta York Rite Bodies, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Cambridge, Nemesis Shrine, Parkersburg, WV, Masonic Thunder, Widows Sons, American Union Council #445, Allied Masonic Degrees, LaFayette Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, a founding member and President of National Sojourners, Mid-Ohio Valley Chapter #572, he holds memberships in Cleveland Chapter #23, and Heros of '76.

MEET YOUR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

RWB Steven Grathwohl is the son of Eunice and Earl Grathwohl and comes from a strong family lineage of freemasons. He has a daughter and son to include three granddaughters.

He currently belongs to Saint John – Westminster Union Church, Delhi, Ohio. During his teenage years he was introduced to the International Order of DeMolay – Oak Hills Chapter and served as the chapters Master Councilor. Shortly after that he wanted to be a part of the US Army Band (trombone) as well as Medical Specialist training, returning to total civilian life in January 1983. Also, during that period, he became a Nationally registered EMT.

His Blue Lodge journey took-off after being raised a Master Mason of Cincinnati Lodge #133 in May 1978 in the fall of '78 joined the Valley of Cincinnati's A.A.S.R. Fall class. Also, during that time, he joined Winton Chapter OES (Dorcas) serving as its Worthy Patron 1981, 1983, 1984 and as of this writing a 32-year member. Steve was very active member of Syrian Temple Shrine (1981 – 2000) Concert Band and Legion of Honor Unit.

In the fall of 1992, he rejoined his lodges progressive line serving as its WM in 1995 and 2002. He was honored to serve the Grand Lodge of Ohio as District Deputy Grand Master in the 1st Masonic District for the year 2006 and earned subsequent appointments through 2008. Steve has been serving his lodge as its secretary for the last 13 years. From his teenage years to an adult, he has always been an active adult supporter of the International Order of DeMolay. Steve is a member of Norwood Chapter #193 – Royal Arch Masons, Hanselmann Commandery #16 – Knights Templar and a Past Sovereign Master of Jacques DeMolay Council #371 – Allied Masonic Degrees.

At the annual awards night meeting in October 2019 of the First Masonic District Officers Association, RWB Steve was honored to be awarded the "First District Mason of the Year" in Hamilton County. Valley of Cincinnati– A.A.S.R., Most Wise Master Carl Wilson – Cincinnati Chapter Rose Croix appointed him to the officer line and also at that time he became an active member of the 14th Ring Service Committee. Due to personal reasons he had to step away from the officer line after being elected Senior Warden.

Steve continues to this day to assist when called upon by his brothers of the Valley and Rose Croix. He also continues to very willingly serve as a member of the 14th degree ring service committee.

To my Colleagues, as I assume the honored roll as President of your State Secretary's Association, I pledge my devotion to this organization and hope to find new ways we can help each other as Secretary of the greatest fraternity in the world!

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WESTERN RESERVE MASONIC COMMUNITY

(330) 992-2722 | 4931 Nettleton Road, Medina, OH 44256 | WRMCOhio.org

From the SECRETARY'S DESK

Greetings Brother Secretary!

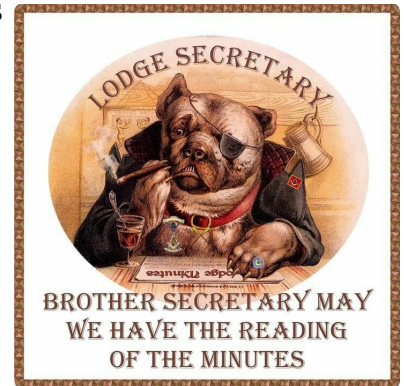
I am proud to serve as your Secretary of the Association. I am still doing my best to get it together.

The dues notices have gone out, meeting and lunch registrations as well. I hope that you are planning on attending and that you will find the presentations beneficial. It is the mission of the Association to provide assistance to the Lodge secretary.

In the days following the meeting, I ask you to write down your thoughts, comments and suggestions for future presentations. You can send these ideas to MWB Newton, RWB Grathwohl or myself. This will be very helpful for the Officers when planning for next Year.

In closing, I thank each and every one of you for accepting the position of Lodge Secretary. This is a pivotal and important office, in any organization, not just the Lodge. Please know that the Officers of the Association and the District Representatives are here to assist you, please do not hesitate to call on us.

David L. Holmes



Dear Brother Secretary:

If you are no longer the Secretary of your Lodge, please see that your present Secretary receives all this Association material.

The Association Annual Meeting will be at Aladdin Shrine Temple, 1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City, Ohio on March 14 2026. The opening session will be our normal Saturday Morning Annual Meeting, then lunch, followed by a Q & A training session about 1:00.

Registration opens at 7:00 A.M., Saturday morning

The following fees are required to support the Annual Meeting:

Secretary's Annual Dues\$20.00

Saturday Lunch (per person).....\$15.00

FINANCIAL REPORT

Secretaries Association F & A.M. of Ohio
October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025
FINANCIAL REPORT

Checking Account Balance as of October 1, 2024 **\$14,851.15**

Income

Dues	\$4,015.00
Advertising	\$ 210.00
Annual meeting Lunch	\$1,095.00
Interest, Checking Account	\$ 0.00
Misc.	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total income	\$5,320.00

Expenses

Crossed Quills & Dues Cards	\$ 228.53
Annual Meeting Lunch & Coffee & Donuts	\$1,200.00
Annual Mtg. Rent balance 2025	\$ 507.50
Annual Mtg. Deposit 2026	\$ 400.00
Contributions	\$2,150.00
Secretary Payments	\$ 500.00
Asst. Secretary (check 1027 not cleared)	\$ 200.00
Misc.	<u>\$ 35.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$5,221.03

Checking Account Balance as of September 30, 2025 **\$14,950.12**

Add check 1027 not cleared/Asst. Secretary \$ 200.00

September 30, 2025 5/3d Statement **\$15,150.12**

PNC Investments 9/30/24	\$16,438.34
PNC Investments 9/30/25	\$16,983.39
Growth over Fiscal Year 2025	\$ 545.05

COMMITTEES

Nominating	Robert W. Hubert (621)	216-521-5557
	Burrell K. Pettet (172)	740-962-6975
Auditing	Fred Somerlot (161)	419-946-9461
	Richard George (303)	740-943-3820



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The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio

KEITH W. NEWTON, PGM

GRAND SECRETARY



1 MASONIC DRIVE
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45504

PHONE (614) 885-5318

TOLL FREE (800) 292-6092
E-MAIL: GS@FREEMASON.COM

March 2026 Crossed Quills

Welcome Brother Secretaries!

It is a pleasure to again greet you. I look forward to the opportunity of personally welcoming you to the Ohio State Secretaries Association Annual Meeting on March 14, 2026 at Aladdin Shrine in Grove City. Having once been a Lodge Secretary in my home Lodge, I can empathize with the challenges you face.

This association has been meeting since the 1940's. The annual meeting of the State Secretaries Association continues to provide an excellent venue for sharing information and experiences among your peers. Benefits of participating in this annual meeting include the opportunity to broaden your network, converse with fellow Secretaries, exchange information as well as discuss Ohio Freemasonry on a broader spectrum.

Throughout the existence of the Association, this gathering has provided benefits of membership to Lodge Secretaries. Issues continue to exist and challenges with the Grand View Membership Program functionality face every Lodge Secretary. New Lodge Secretaries are elected each year and the responsibilities can seem daunting. The need for, and the benefits provided, by the State Secretaries' Association continue as never before.

We plan to utilize the Secretary Association District Reps for statewide training initiatives throughout the year. I look forward to introducing this new program and guidelines. I encourage all Lodge Secretaries to attend the association meeting. Provide input for meeting improvements and agenda training topics you want to see. I'll see you there.

The Grand Secretary's Office is always willing to help with your questions or issues.

It's a Great Day for Freemasonry!

Keith W. Newton, PGM

Grand Secretary

Grand Lodge of F. & A. M. of Ohio



The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio

SHAWN A. JOHNSON
GRAND MASTER
GRAND LODGE OF OHIO F&AM



3561 HARRY TRUMAN RD.
BEAVERCREEK, OHIO 45432
MOBILE (937) 266-5494
E-MAIL: sjohnson@freemason.com

March 5, 2026

Brethren,

In every lodge across Ohio there is an officer whose work often happens quietly behind the scenes, yet whose efforts are absolutely essential to the success of the lodge, the Lodge Secretary.

While many see the Secretary seated at the desk during our meetings, the true scope of your work is rarely confined to those few hours in lodge. Secretaries manage correspondence, maintain records, assist officers, guide members, and ensure that the business of the lodge continues smoothly week after week. Your dedication keeps our lodges organized, informed, and connected to the Grand Lodge.

My theme this year has been “Committed to the Craft.” Few roles exemplify that commitment more clearly than the service of our Lodge Secretaries. Their attention to detail, reliability, and willingness to serve often require many hours of work that go unseen and unrecognized.

As we continue our journey toward the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, it is worth remembering that the strength of Freemasonry, both historically and today has always depended on brethren who are willing to serve faithfully in the roles entrusted to them.

To every Lodge Secretary across the State of Ohio, I extend my sincere gratitude. Your diligence, patience, and steady leadership help ensure that Ohio Freemasonry continues to thrive.

Thank you for your continued service and for all that you do in support of your lodges and our great fraternity.

Fraternally,

Shawn A. Johnson

Most Worshipful Brother Shawn A. Johnson

Grand Master

Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio



Grand Secretary's Office Employee Responsibilities/Contacts

One Masonic Drive, Springfield, OH 45504

Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm, M-F

General Office Line	GLOffice@Freemason.com	614-885-5318, opt. 1
Leave phone message	Supply Order fulfillment	
Email preferred	Membership Awards/Certificates	



Gayle Kozak

1. Membership Management (Grand View Program)
2. Inter-Jurisdiction and Lodge Correspondence
3. Annual Returns & Annual Proceedings

GKozak@Freemason.com

614-885-5318

4. Reports and Dispensations
5. Annual Communication Coordinator
6. Masonic Trial Correspondence

Option #2



Elora Sandrock

1. Bookkeeping/Financial Specialist
2. Accounts payable-Receiveable and Reconciliation
3. Donation/Gift acknowledgement

Accounting@Freemason.com

614-885-5318

4. Reconciliation of accounts
5. Inventory Management
6. Other duties as assigned

Option #3



Jim Hall

1. Membership Program Development
2. Member Resources Management (Grand View resources)
3. Public Relations

JHall@Freemason.com

614-369-4771

4. Freemason.com & Social Media channels
5. Marketing
6. Other duties as assigned



Doug Kaylor

1. Grand Historian
2. Grand Lodge Museum and Library liaison
3. Museum Tours

DKaylor@Freemason.com

Part Time

4. Marketing
5. Other duties as assigned

614-885-5318

Ext. 4

ANNUAL MEETING FORMAT



We are excited to, once again, be at Aladdin Shrine Temple, 1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City, OH. 43123. The facility offers plenty of parking, is still central to the state and has several hotels, near by, if you wish to come down the night before. The large main room for our business meeting and presentations has a great sound and video system.

We are following the one-day format adopted a few years back, this seems to be a welcome format. Registration and donuts at 7:00 am, opening of session at 8:30 am. The Knife and Fork unit will be providing lunch, lunchmeat/egg salad subs and sides. Nobody should go away hungry!

The Grand Lodge staff will be on hand, to answer any questions you may have, and have supplies and materials. The Masonic Communities staff will also be present and have a table of information and materials that you can take back to your Lodges. Unfortunately there will be no representatives from New London Regalia present, please contact them for any of your needs.

We look forward to seeing you.



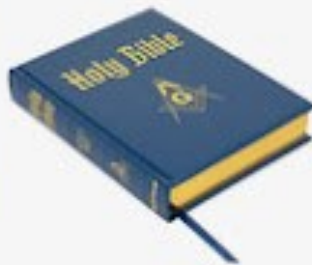
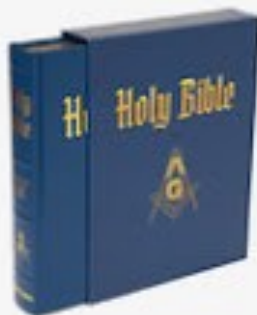
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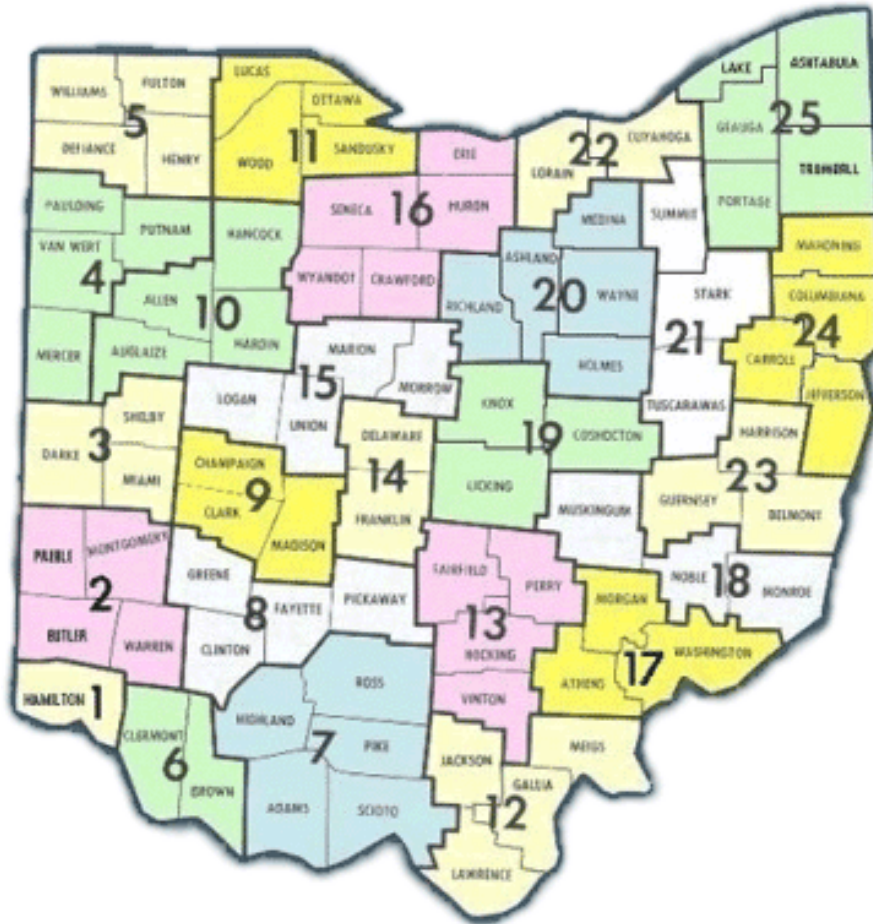
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- Membership Pages
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- Hubbed Spine
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- Presentation Section
- Membership Pages
- Biblical Index on Freemasonry

ASSOCIATION DISTRICTS



1st Vice President

1 2 3 4 5

2nd Vice President

6 7 8 9 10

3rd Vice President

11 12 13 14 15

4th Vice President

16 17 18 19 20

5th Vice President

21 22 23 24 25

BY-LAWS OF THE SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION F. & A. M. OF OHIO

Adopted January 13, 1940; Revised January 26, 1946; January 26, 1952; January 22, 1955; January 20, 1961; May 27, 1978; March 17, 1990; March 13, 1993; March 8, 1997; March 10, 2001; March 10, 2007, and March 14, 2015.

ARTICLE I—NAME

The name of this association shall be the “Secretaries Association, F. & A. M. of Ohio.”

ARTICLE II—PURPOSE

The purpose of this Association shall be to assist Secretaries in their duties by exchanging ideas at our meetings and through such publications as the Association shall provide, and also to strengthen the relationship between the Secretaries of the subordinate Lodges and the Grand Secretary

ARTICLE III—OFFICERS

The officers of this Association shall consist of a president, who shall serve no longer than one year; five Vice-Presidents, a Secretary-Treasurer, and Assistant Secretary, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. All officers shall be a current elected and installed secretary of a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, or a Past President of this Association. An incumbent officer may continue as an association officer if he assumes an assistant secretary position in the Lodge.

The State Shall be divided into six districts as follows: North West, North East, Middle West, Middle East, South West, and South East, according to the boundary lines on the map presented at the Annual Meeting. The Presidents and Vice Presidents shall each be from a different district.

There shall be an Executive Council consisting of the Officers and Past Presidents of the Association. This Council shall conduct the business of the Association between Annual Meetings. The District Representatives may be invited at the discretion of the President.

ARTICLE IV—ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on the 2nd or 3rd Saturday of March. Special meetings may be called by the officers at their discretion.

ARTICLE V—MEMBERS

The members of the Association shall consist of the Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries of the Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in Ohio, and all Past Presidents of this Association who may no longer be Secretaries of their Lodges. Each Lodge has one vote.

ARTICLE VI—DUES

The dues of this Association shall be \$20.00 for the elected Lodge Secretary. Dues are due and payable on or before the Annual Meeting. Past Presidents and Past Secretaries of the Association are exempt from paying dues.

ARTICLE VII—PROGRAM

The President shall have the power to appoint such committees as he deems necessary to promote a discussion of general interest to the membership at the Annual Meeting, or as may be requested by the membership.

ARTICLE VIII—MEETING NOTICES

The Association will issue a bulletin on such occasions, as the officers deem necessary.

ARTICLE IX—BONDS & HONORARIUMS

The Secretary-Treasurer shall be bonded in the sum of \$10,000.00 by a security company approved by the President. The Secretary-Treasurer's bond shall be filed with the President. The Secretary-Treasurer's books shall be audited by a committee appointed by the President, and they shall make a complete financial report at each meeting. The annual honorarium of the Secretary-Treasurer shall not exceed \$500.00. The annual honorarium of the Assistant Secretary shall not exceed \$200.00.

ARTICLE X—CHANGES

Changes to the By-Laws must be made in writing and delivered to the President or Secretary of the Association on or before the planning meeting, in September. A majority vote of the members present at the meeting at the Annual Meeting will be required for adoption.

Duties of Officers and District Representatives

1. Introduce himself to the officers of the Local District Association
2. Meet and introduce himself to each Lodge in his Districts.
3. Offer his experience and help to all Secretaries in the District, especially the newer, inexperienced men.
4. Inquire and learn where you can best offer help.
5. Maintain a contact with the Secretary and impress on each the need to get the Annual Returns to the Grand Lodge on time.
6. Encourage non attendees to get involved in the Secretaries Association.
7. Meet with the Worshipful Master and/or Wardens of each Lodge and request the Lodge to pay for the Secretary's dues and expenses to attend the Annual Meeting.
8. If the Secretary is not paying dues and being involved, define cause.
9. Ask each Secretary, what the Association can do for him; compile the answers and forward them to the Association Secretary
10. Attend the Association Planning meetings to help improve the visibility throughout the state and the Fraternity.
11. Meet with the District Deputy Grand Masters, and request to be introduced at Inspections and other Lodge and District events and functions.

THE SECRETARIES' ASSOCIATION F. & A.M. OF OHIO
87th ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 8, 2025
Aladdin Temple, 1801 Gateway Circle, Grove City, Ohio

We met at Aladdin Shrine Temple, in Grove City. The location is easily accessible and provides a large meeting room with excellent audio and video equipment. The Knife and Fork Unit provided the donuts and our lunch. We began the day with registration, coffee, and donuts at 7:30.

RWB Jeffrey Rannebarger opened our Saturday morning session promptly at 8:30, welcoming everyone to Aladdin Temple. There were about 100 in attendance when RWB David Glass, Chaplain, gave the invocation. We then pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

RWB Terry Pringle, 1st VP, introduced our Grand Lodge Officers and the Grand Master, MWB Paul A. Weglage

RWB Steven Grathwohl, 2nd VP, introduced the Past Presidents of our Association in attendance.

There were thirteen new Secretaries introduced and given their secretary pin.

RWB David Glass gave his Necrology report; we had a moment of silence in memory of our deceased brethren.

The Audit report was given by Past President RWB Larry Lance, Co-Chairperson of the Audit Committee. He and RWB Fred Somerlot, Past President, will now serve on the Audit Committee. We thank RWB Paul Hinkle and RWB Robert Sanford for their many years of service for this Association. The details were printed in the Crossed Quills, so the verbal report was short. His committee reported that they had checked the certificates of deposit, canceled checks, deposit slips, bank statements and check stubs and determined that all were in order and in balance. The Secretary's itemized records were found to be complete, accurate, up to date and in balance with the bank statement. He reported our total net worth to be \$31,289.49. A motion was made for the acceptance of that report (copy attached to records). This was seconded and passed. It was then moved to make the following donations: \$300 each to the G. L. Charitable Foundation, The Masonic Model Student Assistant Program, and G. L. Scholarship Fund; \$500 to the Ohio Masonic Home Endowment Fund; \$250 each, to Ohio DeMolay, Ohio Job's Daughters, and Ohio Rainbow Girls; for a total of \$2150. The motion was seconded and approved.

The Secretary, WB David Holmes asked the members to read over the minutes from the 2024 Annual meeting and the planning meeting minutes, August 2023, for this event. Motion was made, seconded and approved. He then read correspondence received.

Bro. Steve Petitjean spent several minutes reviewing the activities of the OMH including the demand for Assisted Living. Springfield hopes to break ground in August, creating 46 units as well as affordable housing for independent living. There has been an increase in mental health supports, they are seeing roughly 1600 new cases each year. Also mentioned was the hiring of 2 new staff members. Bro. Petitjean recognized the Trustees and thanked the Association for their kind donation.

Our Grand Lodge Secretary, MWB Keith Newton gave a presentation/explanation about the letters that are sent out to potential candidates, petitioners and newly initiated, passed and raised brethren. MWB Newton explained the steps and schedule of these letters. When Grand Lodge receives an inquiry, they send out an immediate response and general information. A similar letter is sent every 7 days to maintain communication. A letter is then sent to inform the prospective member that he will be contacted by the Lodge. After a petition has been received by the secretary and entered in Grandview, he receives a letter welcoming him to Freemasonry. The Brother will receive a letter after each degree congratulating him on his advancement. A newly raised Master Mason will receive letters throughout his first year of membership. Several secretaries had questions for MWB Newton, and it was suggested that a form letter be sent to secretaries to facilitate the initial communication with the new petitioner that will correspond with the letter sent out by Grand Lodge. This was a very informative and descriptive overview of the process from initial contact through the website to the point of raising a Master Mason. He hopes to have a sample of each of these letters put in Grandview for the Lodge Secretary to see. He hopes that these will help facilitate communication between the lodge and candidate.

Our second speakers of the day were from the Ohio Masonic Communities Resource Center. We were happy to hear from Samantha Loy, Rachel Lancaster, Bobbi Schickler, DeAnna Kinney, Trinity Davidson and Brook Simonson. Each spoke about the services provided by the Resource Center. It all begins with a call from YOU, the secretary or a Brother from the lodge asking for assistance! The intake coordinator, Rachel, will gladly assist.

you and get the ball rolling. Some of the services that are provided: Emergency assistance with aging, health and safety needs, medical equipment, home accessibility, burial assistance and transportation to/from appointments. They provide a Bereavement program for any member, call and respect a packet. There is also a Masons Care Program that includes a widow/widower program. Call your Region Coordinator or the Intake Coordinator and keep your brothers and their families taken care of.

After a short bathroom break, our next speakers, Capt. (Ret.) Doug Cope City of Xenia and Ryan Cope, Xenia Township, presented on First Aid and CPR for the lodge. What is important for the lodge to have in case of emergencies? First, a written safety plan in place, your local community Emergency Director should be able to assist. This plan provides step by step instruction for emergencies and materials needed. Each lodge should have an AED device, our members are getting older, fire extinguishers and First Aid/CPR kit. They recommended that you have a Life Vac, which is used to help clear obstructions in a person's airways. Reach out to your local Police and Fire for any classes they offer in your community. Fire extinguishers should be no further than 75 feet from any location. Have clear exit routes and signs indicating routes. A Basic First Aid kit should include bandages, ointment, Benadryl, life vac and possibly Narcan. Remember to grab the kit when doing outside events.

Election of Officers – In the absence of Our Nominating Committee Chairperson, WB Robert Hubert, Jr., WB Holmes presented their report. The report was read, with no nominations from the floor, the following officers were declared elected.

OFFICE	NAME	LODGE	DISTRICT
President	RWB Terry L. Pringle	374	
1st Vice President	RWB Steven M. Grathwohl	483	1 through 5
2nd Vice President	RWB James A. Klausung	418	6 through 10
3rd Vice President	WB W. Edward Lowe	213	11 through 15
4th Vice President	RWB Matthew Pollock	70	16 through 20
5th Vice President	RWB David Glass	278	21 through 25
Secretary	WB David L. Holmes	120	
Ass't. Secretary	RWB Robert H. Coster	356	
Chaplain	WB Jeff Slattery, II	723	

RWB Jeff Rannebarger had a few closing comments for the Association and thanked all for a good year. He then turned the floor over to MWB Keith Newton for his closing remarks.

Our Grand Secretary began by calling in the Grand Lodge staff present, Gayle, Darlene and Elora. Thanking them for their continued assistance and service to the Grand Lodge. He then touched upon the topics of the secretary manual, available on Grandview. Lodges have direct deposit so that the checks from Grand Lodge are not misplaced or lost. The rest of his time was going down the list of the District Representatives, renewing their commitment or asking for volunteers to replace them. His intention is to create a program for the representatives to present in their districts. We need to improve and increase our presence around the state.

RWB Steven Grathwohl, 1st V.P. spoke about the important events happening in the First Masonic District this May. Cincinnati-Lafayette Lodge, in conjunction with several others, will be celebrating the 200 yr. of General Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette's visit to Cincinnati.

Our Grand Master, MWB William M. Carter, III began by asking any Assistant Secretaries to raise their hands. He thanked them for being present, with the Secretaries, for the passing of the Baton. He then thanked the Officers and members of the Association for all that they do. He believes that the secretary is the Chief Operating Officer of the Lodge- Building growth and fulfillment in every mason's life. The secretary is the Holder of the Heritage of the Lodge. MWB Carter then installed the 2024-25 officers.

Our incoming President, RWB Terry Pringle made a few closing remarks.

WB Jeff Slattery, II, Chaplain, led us in a closing prayer and grace over our lunch.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Holmes, Secretary

Robert H. Coster, Asst. Secretary

Following lunch, we returned to the large meeting room with Gayle Kozak and RWB Garringer, where they led an outstanding training session on Grandview use for both the new and not so new secretary.

Secretary's Note Unknown Author

Forget the hasty, unkind word:
Forget the slander you have heard

Forget the quarrel and the cause
Forget the whole affair, because,

Forgetting is the only way.
Forget the storm of yesterday

Forget the knocker, and the squeak
Forget the bad day of the week.

Forget you're not a millionaire
Forget the grey streaks in your hair

Forget to even get the blues -
But don't forget

To Pay Your Dues!

**THE SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION F. & A.M. OF OHIO
PLANNING MEETING FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD MARCH 14, 2026
WAS HELD ON AUGUST 9, 2025
ZOOM Meeting**

This meeting of the Secretaries Association was called to order by our President, RWB Terry Pringle at 9:00 am. He then gave a Prayer. RWB Pringle welcomed all that were in attendance and explained the purpose of this meeting.

The minutes of the Annual meeting on March 8, 2025, were read and approved.

MWB Newton talked briefly about the District Representatives. At the March meeting MWB Newton called upon current representatives present asking if he would like to continue. If representative of a District was not present, MWB Newton, called on a secretary from that area. MWB Newton is working on a program for the District Representatives.

The Financial Report was reviewed, and we confirmed our current financial Status.

This led to a discussion about the donations made by the Association. RWB Pringle would like to see us include the First Responder/Veterans and the Museum. The following changes were agreed for donations next year. Total donations remain the same, \$2,150.00.

Grand Lodge Charitable Foundation - \$1,000

Museum & Library (\$200)

Veterans & First Responders (\$200)

Masonic Model Student Assistant Program (\$200)

Scholarship Foundation (\$200)

Masonic Relief (\$200)

The Ohio Masonic Communities Foundation - \$400

Ohio DeMolay - \$250

Ohio Job's Daughters - \$250

Ohio Rainbow for Girls - \$250

Our Saturday program will follow the same agenda as past years. Registration begins at 7 am, with coffee and donuts until beginning of meeting at 8:30 am.

We will have (4) topics of discussion this year **1:** What should be done with regalia/materials returned to lodge **secretary 2:** Speaker representing the Education and Speaker programs available to the lodge **3:** Speaker (WB Cameron Shandersky) about the Dyslexia Centers and **4:** Speaker (RWB Keta) about the Masonic Model Student Assistant program offered to local school districts throughout Ohio.

The afternoon session will, once again, be question and answer about Grandview. The afternoon program will be hosted by RWB Jeff Garringer and Gayle Kozak. The questions asked and the information shared have been useful to both the new and experienced secretary.

There was discussion about increasing secretary attendance at the Annual Meeting in March. Is it possible for attendance of secretary to be a part of the Grand Master Award. Will need to discuss this with the Deputy Grand Master each year.

There being no further business, this meeting was closed at 10:05 am with prayer by RWB Terry Pringle.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Holmes, Secretary

Robert H. Coster, Asst. Secretary

LIVING PAST PRESIDENTS

RWB Ernest E. Woeller (287)	1988	Toledo
RWB Paul G. Hinkle, Jr. (218)	1998	Marengo
WB H. Lee Hadley (374)	1999	New Matamoras
RWB Robert H. Coster (356)	2000	Cincinnati
RWB Robert O. Sanford (292)	2002	DeGraff
RWB Darrell R. Detty (366)	2003	Oak Hill
RWB Fred W. Somerlot (158)	2007	Marysville
WB Walter A. Butler (198)	2008	Ironton
WB Robert W. Hubert, Jr. (621)	2010	Lakewood
WB Richard G. Fries (237)	2011	Waterville
WB Richard C. George (303)	2012	Richwood
WB David L. Holmes (120)	2014	Cincinnati
WB Kenneth D. Chamberlain (227)	2015	Findlay
Bro. Joseph H. Rothbrust (245)	2016	Bainbridge
Bro. Edward W. Badger (631)	2017	Columbus
Bro. Charles A. Wentz (1)	2019	Marietta
RWB Jeffrey R. Root (94)	2020	Cincinnati
RWB Ronald E. Schmidt (580)	2021	Paulding
RWB Jeffery A. Garringer (392)	2022	Clarksburg
RWB Larry L. Lance (161)	2023	West Liberty
RWB Jeffery L. Ranbarger (783)	2024	Gahanna
RWB Terry L. Pringle (783)	2025	New Matamoras

GRAND SECRETARY, GRAND LODGE F. & A.M. OF OHIO

M.W. Keith W. Newton, PGM, 1 Masonic Drive, Springfield, Ohio 45504-3658

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