

Fort Wayne York Rite News Letter – April 2023



Hello Sir Knights and Companions All,

Our Tri-State Festival turned out to be quite a success. I have kept in contact with our new Sir Knights and several of them have been attending our stated meetings as well as our weekly practices.

March 11th was the East Central Department meeting held at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne. The meeting was well attended and S.K. David Kussman, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment ran the session. We enjoyed a great lunch filled with fellowship. That evening, a dinner banquet was served and was very well attended.



Our stated meeting was held on March 15th and a delicious dinner was enjoyed by all. Afterwards, we met on the 4th floor in the Egyptian room for our meeting. Just prior to our opening our Past Grand Commander Ed Fodrea fell in the Quartermasters room and suffered a badly broken arm. An EMS was dispatched to our location and Ed was taken to a local hospital. The following morning Ed had surgery on his broken arm. PGC Fodrea is home and recovering. Please keep PGC Fodrea and Lady Christine in your prayers.

Past Most Illustrious Grand Master David Ulrich had knee replacement recently and is on the mend. Please keep PMIGM Ulrich and Lady Marcia in your thoughts and prayers.

Grand Chapters annual session was held on April 1st at the Seasons Lodge. We all met on Friday night for Most Excellent Grand High Priest Jim Fairchilds outgoing banquet. The meal was fantastic and was well attended. That evening, bad storms rolled through Indiana and we lost power. We woke up the next morning to a dark hotel room. The session didn't start until 11:00am and the only light we had was that of the windows in the event room. It was a challenge for the Grand Chapter officers to say the least, however, all business was conducted as scheduled including elections and installation of officers. After our meeting the Grand Chapter Officers performed the Anointed Past High Priest degree. The degree was confired in full form and there were approximately 15 candidates. The degree was very well done and most impressive I might add. That evening a banquet was held for the new incoming Most Excellent Grand High Priest Dennis Schrader. There were several fund raising events for RARA which turned out to be very successful. Our very own Jason Miller, Right Excellent Grand Scribe, headed up the RARA fund raising efforts. Jason really put in the extra effort to make this years RARA fund raising efforts successful. Jason even went as far as to offer to promise wear an ugly pair of red shoes for the next year's Grand Chapter events if we could help him raise the last small amount needed to top last year's record, and he did. Grand Chapter raised over \$21,000 for the year. Great job Jason and to all of those who graciously contributed.





Most Worshipful Grand Master Richard Lentz and his wife, Lady Donna were in attendance. Grand Master Lentz offered his appreciation for being invited to the event and commented on how even with the loss of power from the storm, we as Masons still came together to overcome the challenge to have a great annual session.

Our Grand Conclave is fast approaching and will be held jointly with the Grand Council. This will be held in Indianapolis April 24th and 25th.

Our next stated meeting is Wednesday April 19th and I hope to see everyone there.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Fraternally,

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Fort Wayne York Rite
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