

Fort Wayne York Rite News Letter – June 2023



Hello Sir Knights and Companions All,

May was a very busy month for me and I apologize for not sending out a newsletter. My wife and I attended my niece's wedding in Atlanta Georgia in May and time slipped away on me.

Our Grand Conclave this year was held on April 23rd- 25th in Indianapolis. The first day started with drill competition. There were two Commanderies that participated in the competition and were most impressive to watch. Fort Wayne Commandery #4 participated in the "Pass and Review" that followed the drill competition. The Grand Conclave was well attended led by our REGC Phil Wisner. Randal P. Ellington was elected to serve as our next Grand Commander and all officers were installed in full form. Grand Commander Ellington reflected on the start of his masonic career as a DeMolay and now serves as our Grand Commander.

I have been holding bi-weekly York Rite practices at our Fort Wayne Masonic Temple and have had good attendance. We have some new members that are very interested participating and have taking positions when called upon. I have recently invited anyone in our battalion, who is interested in practicing to come join us.

On May 29th we were asked to participate in a Memorial Day event in St. Joe, Indiana. We met at the Riverside Cemetery in St. Joe at 12:00 noon and presented the colors, led by our Grand Captain General, Dominic Hamblin who gave the commands. After the colors were presented the Flag lecture was given by James Davis of Apollo Commandery. There were several veterans present as well as many citizens of the town. After the ceremony we were thanked by many for taking time out of our day to come and participate in their event.



Our May Sated meeting was opened on Council at which time a petition was read and voted on to accept Brother Robert Miller to receive the York Rite degrees. A date of June 22nd was set to perform the Mark Master degree.

Our next stated meeting was held on June 21st where pizza and cake was the meal for the evening. Past Most Illustrious Grand Master David Ulrich celebrated his Birthday and Dave shared a cake with us all for our dessert. The Trustee's reported that our elevator was only about 3-weeks from completion and the elevator mechanical room was 5-weeks from completion. We will all be very grateful to have a new, working elevator back up and running in our Temple. There was also discussion regarding the Centennial Celebration that will be held on October 21st at the Fort Wayne Masonic Temple. The theme will be "the roaring 20's". Mark your calendars for that date as there will be more information to come regarding this event. After our stated meeting we stayed and set up the lodge room in preparation for the Mark Master degree the following evening.

June 22nd the Mark Master degree was performed and I think all who attended had a good time. Several new members took parts in the degree and did a great job. Robert Miller and Cordell Wiley received the Mark Master degree in full form. It sure felt good to see masonic work starting up again at our Temple.



I will be looking for volunteers for our next two degrees, The Past Master and the Most Excellent Master degree. I will announce a date and time shortly.

Sickness and Distress: Companion Mike Doxsee's mother and daughter were in a very serious car accident at which time they were hospitalized. Please keep Companion Doxsee and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Companion Jason Miller lost his father the evening before Father's Day. It's always hard when a love one passes away but even harder to lose your father the day before Father's Day. Please keep Companion Miller and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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

Fraternally,

Dan Patterson, EC, EHP
Jeff Woodward, IM
Fort Wayne York Rite
260-760-1878

