

Fort Wayne York Rite News Letter – November 2023



Hello Sir Knights and Companions All,

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!! I hope you are all doing well.

It's that time of year again when the days are growing shorter, the temperatures are getting colder and we enjoy spending that unreplaceable time with our families and loved ones during the holiday season. Let us all take a moment to reflect upon the many blessings that God has so graciously bestowed upon us. While we enjoy the time spent with our families and friends, I can't help but think of some individuals who become socially isolated with the passing of a loved one. They may live alone with only themselves for company. Loneliness is an awful feeling especially around the holiday season. If you know someone who is a shut in and all alone, take a few moments to reach out to that person to help them understand that they are not alone. Stop in and visit with them or maybe even take them dinner. A small gesture of kindness can go a long way.

On October 21st a rededication of our Masonic Temple was held at 10:00AM, celebrating its 100th anniversary. Grand Lodge Officers performed the rededication ceremony and each masonic body in our building was represented at this event. Past Grand Master Richard Lentz performed the ceremony and did an outstanding job as always. Afterwards, we enjoyed a light lunch on the 2nd floor where laughter and fellowship could be heard throughout. Later that evening the 100th year Gala took place in our ballroom with the theme being "The roaring 20's". Everyone had a fantastic time, great food, entertainment and dancing was enjoyed by all. Almost everyone dressed in a 1920's attire and I thought it was an outstanding event. A special thanks to Eve Scott for her hard work organizing this event.

On October 28th we had our Commandery Inspection jointly with Huntington Commandery #35. Several Grand Commandery officers attended our inspection, REGC Sir Knight Randal Ellington

as well as Deputy Grand Commander Darling, Grand Inspector General Robins and several Past Grand Commanders. We performed the “Full Form Opening with Rehearsal of Duties” followed with the “Reception of the Commander”, “Rehearsal by Lines”, “Inspection of Officers” and then “Forming the Triangle”. We then moved into the “Order of the Temple”. Afterwards, Grand Inspector General Robins and Battalion Commander Dominic Hamblin made a few brief remarks before turning the floor over to our Right Eminent Grand Commander Ellington. It was a great day of Masonic education and fellowship. I would like to thank Matt Doss, the Eminent Commander of Huntington Commandery and his officers for their hard work and participation.



Our Stated meeting was held on November 15th with dinner being served at 6:00PM. We enjoyed sloppy joe's, pasta salad, chips and a blueberry dessert for dinner. The young men of

the DeMolay and their supervisors joined us for dinner. We opened on Commandery promptly at 7:00PM after which the Commandery was put at ease allowing the young men from DeMolay and guests to enter. Our Most Excellent Grand Master James Catania was in attendance as well. At that time I asked all Grand Officers to be excused so they might be properly received. All Grand officers were received and given Grand Honors after which I turned the floor over to the young men of the DeMolay who then performed their ritual, "The Ceremony of Light". The young men did an outstanding job and were given a standing ovation for their efforts.



Our next Stated Meeting will be December 20th and we will be holding election of officers so please make every effort to attend.

As this year quickly comes to a close, it has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Eminent Commander of Fort Wayne Commandery #4, Illustrious Master of Fort Wayne Council #4 and High Priest of Fort Wayne Chapter #19 for 2023. We hope we have fulfilled your expectations as line heads and we are grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve you.

Illustrious Master Jeff Woodward, my wife Karen and I wish you a very happy holiday season.

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

Fraternally,

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