

Highland Lodge #762 F&AM
216 East Washington Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

www.highland762.com

Tidings from the East!

Brothers, what an incredible first two months for Highland Lodge! It truly amazes me how the Lodge has really come together in the pursuit of worthy Masonic goals.

Thinking back just two years, I remember being called into a special emergency meeting of Highland Lodge. Worshipful Brother Steve Tegtmeier had called the meeting because of the dire straits that the lodge was in. Not having enough Brothers to fill the seats and open, not having enough Brothers to perform any degree work. The time had come to seriously consider and discuss surrendering the charter. Due to the courage and tenacity of both Worshipful Brother Tegtmeier as well as Worshipful Brother Roger Swisher Sr., a plan was laid down and Brothers started to answer the call. Today, we see the fruitful rewards of that hard-work and dedication to the Fraternity.

February's stated meeting continued to build upon the plan of growth and excellence. We enjoyed a tasty dinner of Tasty Pizza, from our Junior Warden John Tuttle and we look forward to additional delicious meals before stated and called meetings. Please come and join us, you will have a great time!

We opened in full form on the Entered Apprentice degree as we had three EA's in attendance. Minutes were read for January stated and the January called meeting for the EA Degree. Two petitions for the degrees of Masonry were received and read. Investigating committees were assigned to review the worthiness of these candidates.

The Lodge was then called from Labor to Refreshment, and we had a very special presentation from the Knights Templar York Rite of Free Masonry. We were honored to receive the Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Indiana into our Lodge, along with the Aide to the Right Eminent Grand Commander, SK Edward Fodrea. In total there were 11 Sir Knights present to help confirm the Knight Templar Flag Presentation Ceremony. After that very moving performance, the lodge was called from Refreshment to Labor and we continued with the rest of our business.

Masonic Home Ambassador Ed Snyder gave us an update on the Adopt a Resident Program. Family committee discussed the date for the Ladies Night April 6th after the Highland Lodge Open House. Brother Mark Goebel brought up our Fund Raising contract with the Memorial Coliseum and it was decided by the lodge to not continue with that type of fund raising effort.

Brother Tim Gehring gave us an update and clarified the Blue Book law of using unauthorized ciphers in lodge. WBro. James Bishop, Bylaws Committee Chairman deferred his report until

New Business. Brother Paul Martin, Masonic Education Chairman then gave us a wonderful presentation regarding the perception of Masonry in the public's eye.

The upcoming dates of the Lodge were set:

February 7 at 7:00pm– FC Practice

February 13 at 6:00pm – FC Practice

February 20 at 6:00pm – FC Practice

February 27 at 7:30pm – FC Degree

February 28 – Lodge visitation to Maumee Lodge

March 6 – Stated Meeting

March 23 – Arena Dinner Theater

April 6 – Ladies Night

Brothers, also remember that our Secretary has the Masonic License Plate forms to take to the BMV to get your Masonic plates. This is a great way to show that you are a Mason, and promote the Fraternity. In addition, think of your wife and children's vehicles.

Indiana Grand Lodge scholarships need to be turned in shortly to our Secretary. If anyone knows of a person who can qualify, please have them fill these forms out and submit them.

Lastly, we have several Brothers who are recovering from sickness and surgery. Bros. Jim Gentry and Jack Glass are recovering nicely. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

We continue to strive to find better ways to serve the membership of Highland Lodge and provide joyful camaraderie and masonic instruction for the benefit of all.

Be great my Brothers! Lux ex tenebris.

Respectfully and Fraternaly,

Kurt A. Begue, PM
Worshipful Master