

NORTHEAST INDIANA MASONIC NEWS

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Editor (260-402-6122)



DECEMBER 2023 EDITION

MASONIC LODGE OFFICERS - 2024

SEND ME YOUR 2024 OFFICERS ASAP – THANKS

Lodge

Angola #236
Star #225
Northeastern #210
Forest #239
DeKalb #214
Ashley #614
Concord #556
Kendallville #276
Meridian Sun #76
Leo #224

Worshipful Master

Michael Anderson
Ray Tracey
Rick Rossi
Tim Smith
Stacey Roth
Dean Shipe
Michael Gettys
Parker Terry
Kevin Brower
Mark W. Reese

Secretary

Jay Minick
Dave Hardiek
Tim VanZant
Bob Tracey
Shaun Purk
Jim Carper
Jim Rosenbury
Aaron Wade
Lee Ray Owen
David Roose

ANGOLA MASONIC LODGE #236 NEWS

ANGOLA LODGE CHRISTMAS PARTY – DECEMBER 5

Angola will have its' stated meeting on Tuesday, December 5. The Lodge will have Santa Claus attend for a Christmas Party. It will be a potluck meal – bring a passing dish and your own plates and utensils - the York Rite will furnish the ham. We will eat, starting at 6 PM.

Ladies and relatives welcome to attend. Bring your children and/or grandchildren – Santa will arrive at 6:30 PM. If you bring a child, you are to bring a wrapped gift so Santa can give to the child. Pictures are always taken. Any Mason and/or family invited to attend.

ANGOLA LODGE STATED MEETING – DECEMBER 5

The stated meeting starts at 7:00 PM. There will be an open installation, so ladies and guests can witness the event.

Officers are to come with coat and tie so an appropriate picture can be taken for local publicity.



The Angola Lodge building is decorated for the holidays. The windows are lite up during the night, which give the public a great view of this large building.

Although it cannot be seen easily during the day, in the bottom center window is a Christmas tree. Very festive view.

Thank Brant Moore for the decorating.

Feast of St. John the Evangelist for Northeast Indiana
This a multi-county event, including Ohio and Michigan

NOTE - Reservations needed as explained below.

A multi-Lodge Feast of St. John will be on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at Angola Lodge #236 in Angola, IN. Gather at 6:00 PM – Meal at 6:30 PM – Table Lodge to follow. The Lodge address is 35 S Public Square (for your cell phone map). Masons from any Masonic Lodge may attend. Men only.

The speaker will be Brother Steven Bates, Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Indiana.

In the early days of Masonry the Lodges sometimes would meet in taverns and would make toasts to Masonry and the leaders of the craft. Today we do a similar assembly, but do it in a Lodge dining room setting. It will include a festive evening meal, toasts made to honor the days of old, the current fraternity, the Grand Lodge, our Blue Lodges, etc. It is important to honor those men of old and today's leaders to keep the Masonic concepts alive and well.

The evening also includes the passing of a basket to collect money for a brother in need. The catered meal will be served thus we need an accurate count – pay that night.

YOU MUST REPORT YOUR ATTENDANCE TO JAY MINICK, SECRETARY OF ANGOLA LODGE AT 260-908-5666 at least 10 days in advance or email Jay at jminick41@gmail.com.

BOOKSHELVES REQUESTED FOR ANGOLA LODGE



Nate Fultz, a member of Angola Lodge is donating a large number of books to the Lodge, with the wish that members would be interested in signing them out. **NEEDED: The Lodge needs two more book cases, somewhat like those shown. If you have one you are not using, please contact Nate at 260-243-8660. He will accept a donation.**

NORTHEASTERN LODGE #210 (FREMONT) NEWS

Northeastern Lodge is experiencing the need to repair or have a new roof for their Lodge. They are requesting assistance from other lodges and individuals. Contributions of any size would be appreciated.

Northeastern #210 continues to have Monday morning coffee and donuts at their Lodge. The group assembles around 8:00 AM and dismisses after the last joke or story is told. Newcomers welcome to attend – there is great fellowship and you will learn what is going on in Masonry from the various Lodges that attend.

STAR LODGE #225 (ORLAND) NEWS



Star Lodge #225 in Orland raises money each year for a Community Project. Here is Benjamin Taylor (left), WM presenting 10 - \$100 gift certificates to Prairie Heights Elementary Counselor Josh Troyer. The money will be used to support families who need family assistance during the holidays, as determined by the Prairie Heights school staff.

This is an excellent Masonic program to help those in their community.

STAR LODGE #225 (ORLAND) NEWS



Ray Tracey (covered-front center), newly elected Worshipful Master of Star Lodge received his Past Master degree on November 27 at the Orland Lodge building.

Assisting with the degree were – front row: Mike Anderson, Angola; Dan Ernsberger, Star; Tracey; Jim Milleman, Star; Glen Rogers, Angola; and Bob Spidel (Northeastern). Back Row (left to right) – Yole Velo, Michigan; Wenn Hensel, Northeastern; Buzz Farrand, Michigan; Buzz Farrand, Michigan; Jim Davis, Angola and Jonathon Reed, Michigan. Picture taken by Paul Friend, Angola

HICKSVILLE LODGE #478 (OHIO) NEWS



A year's long tradition of Hicksville Ohio Lodge #478 to give the Master Mason degree at their Lodge on Thanksgiving Day morning continues. The degree work and a tasty breakfast is part of the morning. It is adjourned so the Lodge members can return home for their Thanksgiving dinners.

The picture above shows attendees, which included: front row second from left - Steven Grindel, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio 2022-23; front row third from left - Richard Lentz Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana 2022-2023; front row fifth from left: Paul Weglage - Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ohio 2023-2024; and Steven Bates, second row far left - Senior Grand Deacon of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. Several member of Hicksville Lodge and other dignitaries were also present.



ANGOLA YORK RITE NEWS

York Rite Stated Meetings

The next stated meeting for Angola York Rite will be Thursday, December 7, with the opening on the Chapter. There will be a meal served at 6:15 PM before the opening at 7:00 PM. Election of officers for 2024, will be part of the business meeting.

2023 ANGOLA YORK RITE PRESIDING OFFICERS

High Priest of Angola Chapter #58 is Jon Doehrman.
Illustrious Master of Angola Council #27 is Benton Davis.
Eminent Commander Angola Commandery #45 is Dan Ernsberger.
The Secretary/Recorder of Angola York Rite is Jimmie Milleman.

HOLD DATES FOR 2024

SEEK OUT YORK RITE PETITIONS



Tri-State York Rite Festival 2024 51st Consecutive Year



State contacts to assist you:

Indiana: Mike Anderson 260-319-0586 canda.craig@outlook.com
Ohio: Ken Crouch 419-460-0296 kencrouch85@yahoo.com
Michigan: Don Trumbull 734-775-4045 trumbulldonald@gmail.com

Candidates welcome from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan

Saturday, February 24, 2024 Bryan Ohio Lodge
117 North Lynn Street, Bryan, Ohio
Chapter and Council Degrees conferred

Saturday, March 2, 2024 - Angola Indiana Lodge
35 S. Public Square, Angola, Indiana
Commandery Orders conferred

Degrees to start at 9:00 AM each Saturday. Over by
3:45 PM.

YEOMEN OF YORK – ANGOLA PRECEPTORY #2



TRI-STATE FESTIVAL DATES FOR 2024

York Rite bodies in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan should hold the dates for the 2024 Tri-State Festival. For both dates, there will be coffee and donuts starting a 8:00 AM, with the degrees starting sharply at 9:00 AM. A noon meal will be served, with the collection of the meal money when one registers at the entry door.

Angola Yeomen of York Preceptory #2 members organize and coordinate the festival.

Saturday, February 24, 2024:
Chapter and Council Degrees in Bryan, Ohio.

Saturday, March 2, 2024:
Commandery Orders in Angola, Indiana.



SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY – FT WAYNE

NEXT VALLEY EVENTS – STATED MEETINGS

The next Ft. Wayne Scottish Rite stated meeting is on Tuesday January 9, 2024 at Mizpah Shrine building in Ft. Wayne, with a meal at 6:30 PM and meeting to follow.

THERE IS NO STATED MEETING IN DECEMBER 2023!!

THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE RITE TO BEGIN IN FEBRUARY 2024

The Ft. Wayne Valley of Scottish Rite will be part a program that affords members to observe the Scottish Rite degrees in the convenience of your home or as a group at a central location. It will begin on Thursday February 1 thru Thursday, April 25, 2024, with specific degrees scheduled on specific dates.

Current plans are to show the 8th, 10th, 13th, 16th, 18th, 19th and 20th degrees. To participate, one needs to be a Scottish Rite member and sign up with the Valley Office. This is an opportunity for those who desire to receive all Scottish Rite degrees and add your completion in your Passport.

Ft. Wayne Valley is scheduled to present the 13th degree on March 28th at Mizpah Shrine building. More details will follow.



POKAGON SHRINE CLUB & MIZPAH SHRINE NEWS

POKAGON SHRINE STATED MEETING

Pokagon Shrine Club will NOT have a stated meeting in December. The next stated meeting will on Thursday, January 17.

****NOTE THE POKAGON SHRINE CLUB WILL NOW MEET ON THE THIRD THURSDAY. MIZPAH SHRINE HAS CHANGED ITS STATED MEETING NIGHT TO THE THIRD WEDNESDAY (WHICH HAS BEEN THE STATED MEETING NIGHT FOR THE POKAGON SHRINE CLUB) – THUS OUR LOCAL CLUB HAS CHANGED ITS STATED MEETING NIGHT TO THE THIRD THURSDAY.****

For Mizpah Shrine, Friday, December 1 a meeting for the Election of Officers for 2024 will be held at 6:00 PM. No meal but the bar will be open. The public installation will be December 15 at the Shrine Center at 6:00 PM.

On December 2 will be breakfast with Santa, which is open to all nobles and family. Bring your children and grandchildren.

POKAGON SHRINE HOLIDAY PARTY HELD

The fall Holiday Party was held on Saturday, November 11 at the Hatchery. We had a great turnout, meal and meeting.

Below see Andy Fracica, Oriental Guide of Mizpah Shrine who installed Jeff Stanford (right) as President/Treasurer of Pokagon Shrine Club for 2024. John Tchinski will continue to serve as Recorder.



Below see several of the Pokagon Shrine Club members and their ladies enjoying the evening. President Stanford summarized many of the accomplishment of the 2023 year.





POKAGON SHRINE CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2024 ARE:

Jeff Stanford - President/Treasurer
John Tchinski - Secretary

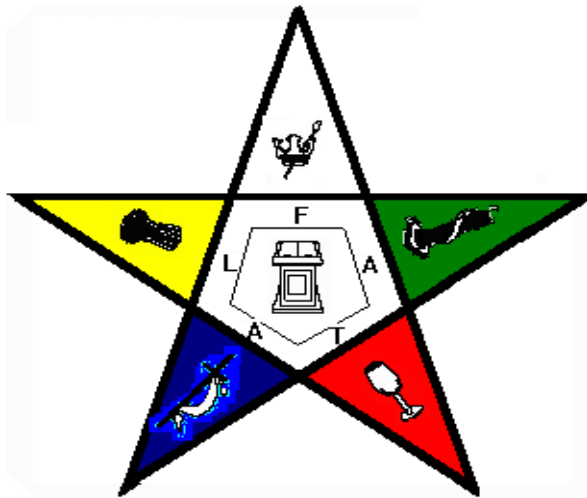
MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS APPROACHES

The Pokagon Shrine Club which consists of Mizpah Shrine members living in Steuben County (a unit of Mizpah Shrine of Ft. Wayne) will be part of the local grade school students to attend the Shrine Circus on Friday, January 26. Last year Angola, Hamilton and Fremont 4th graders were unable to attend due to school delays. If space is available, both 4th and 5th graders from those schools will be able to attend. Prairie Heights was able to attend last year, so only their 4th graders will attend.

The circus will have one less circus show day in 2024, so there may not be room for all potential school students to attend. The Shrine is still working on facilitating all potential students in northeast Indiana. More details later. If you are a local Shrine member, keep January 26 open for potentially assisting.

MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS TICKETS

Shrine members probably received a set of coupon books in the mail recently. If you turn those into the Angola Moose OR Croxton and Roe Insurance, they can be used to benefit the costs for children going to the circus from Steuben County. Don Shively will gather them up from these two businesses in the near future and process them. Thanks.



ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Ashley Chapter #229 meets at the Ashley Lodge.

**Spencerville Chapter #386 meets on the 1st Thursday in Spencerville.
Dinner at 6:30 PM with meeting at 7:00 PM.**

**Sylvan Chapter #251 meets on the 1st Monday at LaGrange Lodge
Dinner at 6:00 PM with meeting at 7:00 PM.**

**Masonic members and your ladies should inquire with Phyllis Gaff
(Ashley) if you wish to join one of these Chapters.**

BLUE LODGE STATED MEETING NIGHTS FOR NORTHEAST INDIANA

CHECK WITH OFFICERS TO SEE IF THE LODGE HAS GONE DARK

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

Angola #236	1st Tuesday Dark July/August	6:15 Meal 7:00 Meeting
Northeastern #210 (Fremont)	1st Wednesday	7:00 Meeting Refreshments follow
Star #225 (Orland)	2nd Wednesday	6:15 Meal at Lodge 7:00 Meeting
Ashley #614	1st Thursday	7:00 Meeting Refreshments follow
DeKalb #214	1st Tuesday	7:00 Meeting
Forest #239 (Butler)	2nd Thursday	6:30 Meal 7:00 Meeting
Concord #556	2nd Tuesday	7:30 Meeting
Meridian Sun #76 (LaGrange)	1st Wednesday Exc Jan & Feb	6:00 Meal 7:00 Meeting
Kendallville #276	1st Monday	6:30 Meal 7:30 Meeting
Leo #224	1st Thursday	6:00 Meal 7:00 Meeting

**** Please inform Paul Friend if any of the dates or times for meetings and meals have changed.**