

# NORTHEAST INDIANA MASONIC NEWS

Paul Friend PM, Angola Lodge #236  
Editor (260-402-6122)



## JANUARY 2023 EDITION

### LODGE OFFICERS (SEND ME YOUR 2023 OFFICERS)

#### Lodge

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

#### Worshipful Master

Benton Davis  
Benjamin Taylor  
Rick Rossi  
Eric Tracey  
Stacey Roth  
Dean Shipe  
Michael Gettys  
Parker Terry  
Lee Ray Owen

#### Secretary

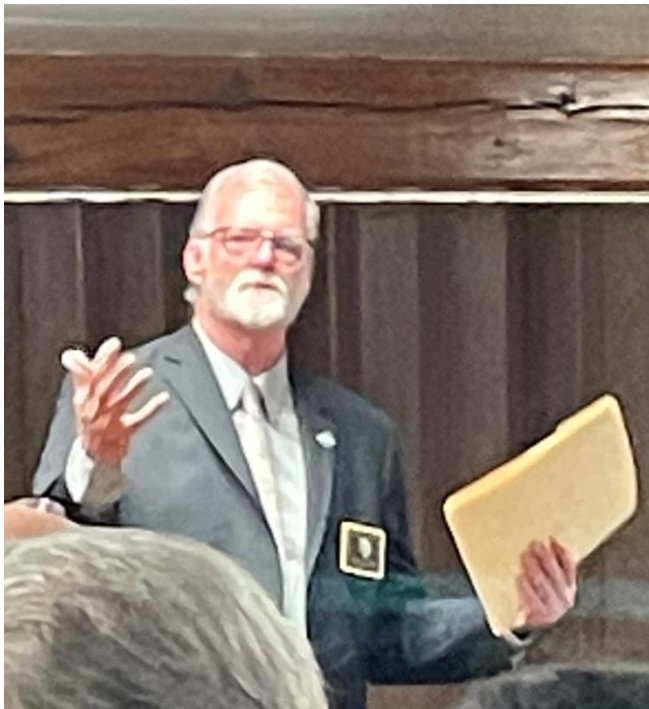
Jay Minick  
Dave Hardiek  
Tim VanZant  
Bob Tracey  
Shaun Purk  
Jim Carper  
Jim Rosenbury  
Aaron Wade  
Chuck Miller

**LODGE DUES PAYMENT DUE – DON'T DELAY**

## Feast of St. John the Evangelist for Northeast Indiana



**50 Masons from 10 Lodges attended, including Concord Lodge #556; Angola #236; Forest #239; Northeastern #210; Star 225; Kendallville #276 Leo #224; Sol D Bayless #359; Waynedale #239 and Hicksville OH #478.**



**What a great evening! Thanks to the Officers of Concord Lodges who planned and carried out the Festival.**

**Richard Lentz, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana was the guest speaker. Brother Lentz is a member of Concord Lodge #556, the host of the Feast of St. John.**

**Brother Lentz spoke on the words and meaning of the songs sung during this festive event and encouraged Masons to involve themselves in their local Lodge.**

**Members of Apollo Commandery #19 and Angola Commandery #45 presented the flag at the opening of the Feast. Jimmie Milleman, Recorder of Angola Commandery #45 presented the Flag lecture. The dining room of Concord Lodge was filled to capacity to help celebrate this Masonic event.**

**A box of Fraternal Assistance was passed, with money collected to be used for a needy family or community project.**





## ANGOLA MASONIC LODGE #236 NEWS

### 2023 OFFICER INSTALLATION

Angola Lodge held their elections in November. Officers were installed December 6. The picture below shows those installed:

**(Front 1 to r): Tim Billow, Senior Warden; Benton Davis, Worshipful Master; Mike Anderson, Junior Warden; and Bryce Turner, Chaplain.**

**(Back 1 to r): Alex Dobson, Senior Deacon; Brant Moore, Treasurer; Jay Minick, Secretary; and Ian Mounfield, Tyler.**

**Not pictured are: Matthew Wignall, Junior Deacon;**



## **ANGOLA LODGE #236 BUILDING NEARING 100 YEARS OLD**

Construction of the current Angola Masonic Lodge building began on April 1, 1923, the cornerstone laid on August 21, 1923, and the building dedicated on St. Johns Day on June 24, 1924. At the time of the dedication, Angola Lodge had a membership of 616.

To celebrate the buildings 100 years of existence, a special coin has been struck to help commemorate the 100 year building. You can purchase the coin for \$10.00.



## **ANGOLA LODGE #236 PROJECT**

Angola Lodge is collecting new or slightly used socks to distribute to local groups as Turning Point, Project Help and Women in Transaction. The Lodge wants to finish the project this week. If you have a donation, please take them to the Lodge on Tuesday, or drop off during the day at Fit4Life (the renter below the Lodge).

Check out your sock drawer. Do you still have pair from your Aunt Bertha that you have yet to wear? Maybe go to a local business and buy socks that are now a reduced price.



Please donate as you can to help those that have a need.

## **CONCORD MASONIC LODGE #556 NEWS**

January 6 – Lodge of Instruction – Forest Lodge 7:00 PM  
January 7 – Installation of Officers at 7:00 PM – Open to all  
January 10 – Stated meeting starts at 7:30 PM

Concord Lodge is working with the Spencerville Community Club on a playground equipment project. Need workers later on to assemble.

## **NORTHEASTERN LODGE #210 (Fremont) NEWS**

Northeastern Lodge #210, continues its' Monday morning coffee and donuts at the Fremont Lodge. They will continue to meet throughout the year. Meet around 8:00 AM for fellowship and leave when necessary (usually close to 9:00 AM).

The lodge is located a half block east of the 4 way stop, on the north side of State Road 120. If there is nobody at the Lodge, they will be at the new restaurant a couple buildings to the east.

## **BENJAMIN DAWSON** **MASTER OF ANGOLA LODGE # 236 in 1860**



Benjamin Dawson became Worshipful Master of Angola Lodge in 1860, serving immediately after Jesse Squire, who served the Charter year of the Lodge in 1858 and a second year in 1959. Benjamin served as Master in 1860, 1872, 1873, 1876, 1879, 1880, and 1881.

His picture was found in an 1800's Angola paper. Benjamin operated a general merchandise store in Angola and was a highly respected businessman.



## **SEARCH FOR PAST MASTER FAMILIES CONTINUES!!**

On New Years' Eve, 23 new Past Master pictures were added to the dining room wall. YES 23!! This was a result of work the past 3 months as many helped identify families to help find needed pictures.

There are now only 24 pictures to be found. A total of 98 are now in place. We have had 122 different Past Masters since the Lodge was chartered in 1858. I was able to find the great great granddaughter of Sylvester Fitch, who was Master for 10 years from 1861-1870.

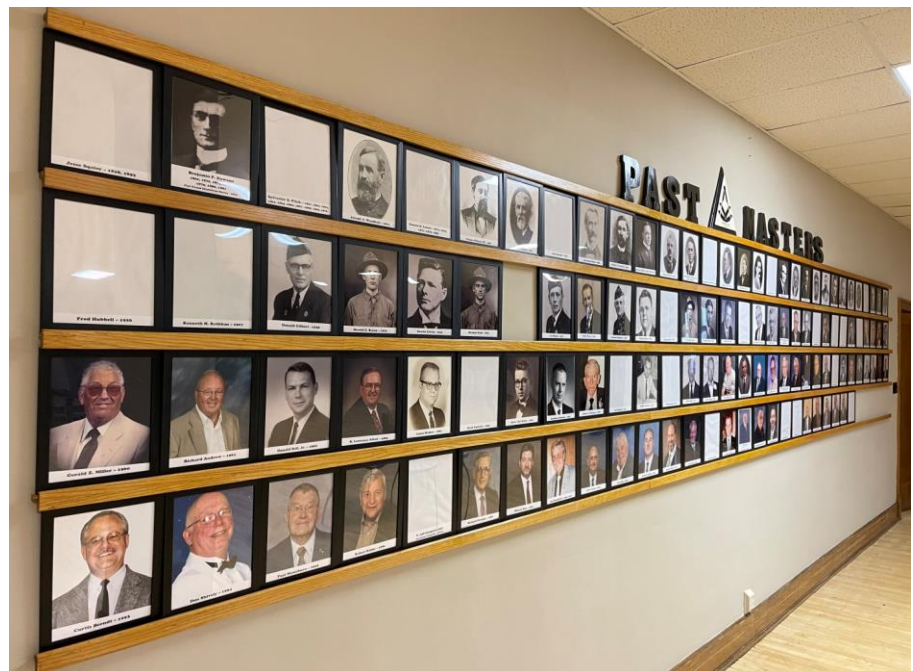
Need your help! I have no clue on where to find some of the early Masters. For example, Jesse Squire in 1858; Simeon Latson in 1874; Otto Schultz in 1884; Fred Snyder in 1897; Clyde Ritter in 1909; Earl Dole in 1921; Kenneth Rathbun in 1927; Wayland Seely in 1937. WHO OUT THERE WORKS WITH ANCESTRY ON YOUR COMPUTER? I have not used it yet but understand it can give a person some leads. WHO CAN HELP TO FIND ANY TYPE OF CLUE? HELP SEARCH AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND!

A more recent Past Master – ***JOHN (JACK) JOHNSON? 1952.*** According to the old Angola papers, Jack was involved with a Real Estate firm known as Tri-State Improvement, located at 214 West Maumee. He was Worshipful Master in 1952 and helped organize the 1958 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Lodge. He may have worked with brother Jerry Ralston. He had a daughter Pat Johnson, who married the son of Leonard Bearman. Leonard was Past Master in 1959.

**OK LOCAL MASONS!!! –  
HELP ME FIND THESE  
FAMILIES THROUGH AN  
OBITUARY, WHERE HE WAS  
BURIED, HIS  
GRANDCHILDREN, ETC!!**

**TEXT PAUL FRIEND OR  
CALL AT 260-402-6122 with  
possible leads. Thanks!**

**Shown are the current  
98 pictures – 24 to go!  
See the blank picture  
frames? Let's fill them!**





## **YORK RITE NEWS**

Angola York Rites' next scheduled stated meeting is on Thursday, January 5. Meal at 6:15 PM. Meeting at 7:00 PM. Cast members will practice on the Most Excellent Master degree, which Angola York Rite will cast at the Tri-State Festival in February.

York Rite will open on the Commandery, with Dan Ernsberger presiding. Officers be prepared to open on the Council

### **CURRENT ANGOLA YORK RITE PRESIDING OFFICERS**

**High Priest of Angola Chapter #58 is John 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.**

### **ARE YOU READY TO JOIN YORK RITE? PLEASE INQUIRE!**

#### **ANGOLA YORK RITE DEGREE WORK**

**On February 25 and March 4, 2023, Angola York Rite will be part of a York Rite Festival. All 9 degrees and orders will be conferred on two consecutive Saturdays. More specifics mentioned in the next two pages.**

**The festival will allow Master Masons to join York Rite. The initiation fee is \$125 which includes your 2023 dues.**





**Last month a cast from Apollo Commandery #19 and Angola Commandery # 45 did the Most Excellent Master degree in Auburn on two new candidates.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**



**Tri-State York Rite Festival  
2023**

**50th Anniversary Year**



**State contacts to assist you:**

Indiana: Mike Anderson 260-319-0586 [canda.craig03@re-comm.net](mailto:canda.craig03@re-comm.net)

Ohio: Ken Crouch 419-460-0296 [kencrouch85@yahoo.com](mailto:kencrouch85@yahoo.com)

Michigan: Don Trumbull 734-775-4045 [trumbulldonald@gmail.com](mailto:trumbulldonald@gmail.com)

**Candidates welcome  
from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan**

**Saturday, February 25, 2023 Jackson-Coolidge, MI Lodge**

**Saturday, March 4, 2023 - Bryan Ohio Lodge**

**Degrees to start at 9:00 AM each Saturday.**

**Save the dates!! Help pass the word, copy,  
post and/or distribute this notice.**

**TIME TO SIGN A PETITION!!**

## TRI-STATE CASTING FOR THE WORK

**Please notify if there have been any changes!**

<b>Mark Master</b>	<b>Lafayette Chapter #4 (MI)</b>
<b>Past Master</b>	<b>Bryan Chapter #45 (OH)</b>
<b>Most Ex. Master</b>	<b>Angola Chapter #58 (IN)</b>
<b>Royal Arch</b>	<b>Combination of MI Chapters (MI)</b>
<b>Royal Master</b>	<b>Ft. Wayne 33rds (Indiana)</b>
<b>Select Master</b>	<b>Bryan Council #101 (OH)</b>
<b>Red Cross</b>	<b>Angola Yeomen of York #2</b>
<b>Malta</b>	<b>Ft. Wayne Commandery #4 (IN)</b>
<b>Order of the Temple</b>	<b>Bryan Commandery #74 (OH)</b>

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY TRI-STATE FESTIVAL COIN



**This challenge coin was struck to help commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the Tri-State Festival in 2023. It will be given FREE to all candidates. Current members will be able to purchase the coin at the festival.**





## **SCOTTISH RITE VALLEY – FT WAYNE**

### **NEXT VALLEY EVENTS – STATED MEETINGS**

January 10 is the next Scottish Rite stated meeting to be held at the Ft. Wayne Scottish Rite building. Dinner will be at 6:15 PM with meeting to follow. If you are a candidate they will do the first essential degree (4<sup>th</sup>) starting at 5:45 PM.

### **INVITATION TO JOIN SCOTTISH RITE**

Any Master Mason is encouraged to join Scottish Rite. One must petition the Ft. Wayne Valley through a current Scottish Rite member. There is a fee of \$150.00 to petition and once voted on, degree work will proceed, starting with the introductory or 4<sup>th</sup> degree. One must take a required set of 5 degrees ending with the 32<sup>nd</sup> degree. Once one receives the 32<sup>nd</sup> degree you are an official Scottish Rite member. Many degrees will be available on a Scottish Rite website in the future.

### **THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE RITE**

Scottish Rite degrees can be obtained through this program. On January 19<sup>th</sup> the 20 degree will be presented on your computer at home. On February 2 the 8<sup>th</sup> degree will be presented and on February 16 the 5<sup>th</sup>. A total of 6 degrees will be presented in this fashion.

Contact the Scottish Rite Office (or Paul Friend) on the way to register for the degrees. You must present a petition to be able to join Scottish Rite, then take the above degrees.

## **SCOTTISH RITE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE NOW!!**

The **ABBOTT SCHOLARSHIP** is available with the following qualifications:

- 1) Must be from a family with a Mason in good standing
- 2) Be a High School Senior – minimum 2.75 grade average out of 4.00
- 3) A student from a deceased Mason is eligible
- 4) Application due May 1, 2023

The **NURSING SCHOLARSHIP** is available with the following qualifications:

- 1) Student enrolled in a nursing program.
- 2) Graduate of a High School in Ft. Wayne Scottish Valley County
- 3) Demonstrate need.
- 4) Family does not need to be connected to family member in Masonry.
- 5) Application due March 1, 2023.



## **POKAGON SHRINE CLUB & MIZPAH SHRINE NEWS**

### **POKAGON SHRINE MEETING IN JANUARY 2023**

The stated meetings of the Pokagon Shrine Club will continue to meet on the third Wednesday of each month. January 2023 date will be January 18 at Glendarin Golf Course. You are invited to order your meal around 6:15 PM and enjoy fellowship while you eat, with the meeting starting around 7:00 PM.

### **POKAGON SHRINE CLUB OFFICERS INSTALLED**

The Clubs' leaders for next year will be Jeff Stanford, President and Treasurer and John Tchinski, Secretary. Both served well in 2022 and will continue another year. The Divan who were present to help celebrate the Shrine year and install the officers for 2033 were (in picture l to r) Brooks Targgart, High Priest; Keith Jacobson, Oriental Guide; President Jeff Stanford; Secretary John Tchinski; and Potentate Jeffrey Baumgardner.



### **POKAGON SHRINE CLUB HOLDS HOLIDAY PARTY**

**A good crowd of Pokagon Shrine Club members and their ladies and Mizpah Divan representatives, attended the Holiday Party at Adams Lake Pub. We had great food and lots of fellowship. Excellent food! Below is one group of Shiners attending.**



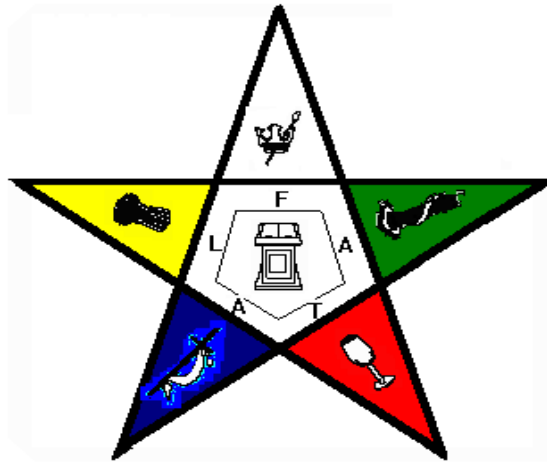


**MIZPAH SHRINE CIRCUS IS SET FOR FRIDAY,**  
**JANUARY 27, 2023**

**Hold the date – Complementary breakfast at Timbers if you help accompany buses. Arrive at 7:00 AM and travel to your selected school at 8:00 AM. All 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from Steuben County have been invited and plan to participate. SHRINE MEMBERS AND LADIES ARE INVITED TO TRAVEL ON THE BUSES WITH THE 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS. LET YOUR DESIRE BE KNOWN TO OUR CHIEF ORGANIZER, DON SHIVELY.**

**POKAGON SHRINE CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2023 ARE:**

**Jeff Stanford           - President/Treasurer**  
**John Tchinski         - Secretary**



**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.**

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

**BLUE LODGE SCHEDULED STATED MEETING NIGHTS FOR AREA 5**

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