

FEB 2014 HIGHLAND

Greetings Brothers,

We have had a great 2013, thanks to a great officer line lead by WBro. Kurt Begue. Now we enter upon a new year. One of continued building. We have a lot to do and the officers this year are ready to put forth the effort to continue to make Highland Lodge better.

Mark Goebel presides in the East as Worshipful Master.

Mike Doxsee is our Senior Warden and is committed to learning and to the success of our Lodge. He is working hard to prepare for the East and has come a long way in a very short time. I can think of no one better suited to be the right hand of our Worshipful Master.

Brother Johnnie Johnson III was raised to the Sublime degree of Master Mason in December. Congratulations and welcome to Freemasonry and to Highland Lodge Bro. Johnnie. We hope this is the beginning of a meaningful, lifelong journey.

Congratulation to Brother Ed Snyder, who received a very fine engraved plaque from the Fort Wayne Commandry in "thanks" for over 1500 hours of work on the Fort Wayne Masonic Temple. As President of the Associated Masonic Trustees, he is responsible for the care, maintenance, restoration and rental of the Temple. That means, get the money in and spend it responsibly. Great job Brother Ed.

Several of you have not only paid your dues for 2014 but have also contributed to the Indiana Masonic Home and/or its Foundation or our Benevolence Fund. We thank you. If you have not paid your dues, you will be hearing from our Secretary, me, and charged a late fee. Please make sure that is in before the February stated meeting or the Dues Committee will be contacting you personally. Membership in appendant bodies is dependant on your Lodge membership.

Scholarship forms are now available for the Indiana Grand Lodge College Scholarships. If you have a son or daughter, or if you are a Master Mason under 25 and are attending an Indiana College or University and could use up to \$1300 for school costs, contact me for the application. 486-5900.

We have a vacancy in the Junior Wardens station, due to the resignation of WBro. John Tuttle. He is a plural member of Wayne Lodge #25 and feels the strain of being vital in both Lodges. We thank him for his service to Highland Lodge. WBro, John, you are a great ritualist and as a Past Master, a great "go to guy". You will be missed.

We will be voting on a new Junior Warden and installing him at this coming stated meeting, Feb; 5th. This is an important position leading to the East. Please give it careful consideration.

I'm confident that our new Master welcomes the new line officers and looks forward to working with you. Let's stay focused on building and we can accomplish some very good things.

We started out this year with 4 of us attending Founders Day on Jan. 18th. We plan on a big attendance at the Area Conference on March 25th at Kendallville Lodge #276. Somewhere along the line we will be having an outing to the Arena Dinner Theater, Lodge visitations, family BBQs and more.

We attempted, in vain, to set up a calling tree last year. The system just didn't work. We will try again with a new system. If you get a call, please take a minute to listen. We will keep you posted as to Masonic Funerals, Degree work and Lodge events with short, quick, information. If have a different phone number than the one we have for you or you want to be left off the list, contact me. My contact info is in the header of this article.

There will be a Fellow Craft Degree coming soon. Stay tuned.

Please be aware of those who may wish to join our Fraternity and become a member of Highland Lodge. The Treasurer, Ed Snyder and I have petitions. The fee for the 3 degrees is

\$150.00 to accompany the petition. You may now ask a good man, one whom you could vouch for, to become associated with us in this great and good endeavor.

I ask you to remember all of those serving in our armed forces, many of whom are Masons. Whether serving at home or on foreign soil, pray that God bless and protect them.

Highland will be having another great year. Please come and be a part of it, at stated meetings, degree work meetings or outside events. Look for updates on our website at highland762.com

God Bless our Fraternity and God Bless America.

Fraternally,

Jim Bishop PM, Sec.