

LODGE OFFICERS 2015

- Mark Lewellyn.....Worshipful Master
(812)449-9176
- Chad Steckler.....Senior Warden
- Ray Bradley, PM.....Junior Warden
- Hugh Metz, PM.....Treasurer
- Randy Beem, PM.....Secretary
- Walter Rosa.....Senior Deacon
- Don Niehaus.....Junior Deacon
- Karl Fark.....Chaplain
- Chris Lamar.....Senior Steward
- Robert Baugh.....Junior Steward
- Howard Heerdt, PM.....Tyler

FROM THE EAST

Greetings Brethren,

First, I would like you thank you for the opportunity to serve as Woshipful Master this year. I look forward to working with the other officers to make sure that this year is an excellent year for Newburgh Lodge.

Second, while we were not able to organize an event in time for Valentine’s Day this year, we are having a Sweetheart’s dinner on the 26th of February. The dinner will be at the Red Fez restaurant at the Hadi Shrine downtown. Dinner will begin at 6:30. To help plan for the appropriate number of guests, please let me know by phone call, text message or email if you plan on attending as soon as possible.

Third, there are a number of amendments to the by-laws that are mentioned on the next page. These were read and discussed at the February stated meeting, and we will vote on them in the March stated meeting. If you haven’t been to the stated meeting in a while, please join us on the 15th.

If you have any concerns, questions or suggestions, please let me know. Thank you very much.

Mark Lewellyn, WM

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb 26 – Sweetheart’s Dinner. Red Fez starting at 6:30. Please RSVP
- Mar 15 – Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6:00, Meeting at 7:00
- Apr 19 – Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6:00, Meeting at 7:00

FROM THE WEST

Brothers,

I would like to thank you for placing your confidence in me by choosing me to represent you as Senior Warden for the year. I am relatively new to Masonry, having been raised in 2013, but am always looking to expand my knowledge in the craft. With your help I plan to continue to do so. My hope for the coming year is that we can increase lodge activities to promote the bonds of brotherly love and friendship amongst our brothers, as well as increase our public presence in order to attract other potential brothers.

Chad Steckler, SW

FROM THE SECRETARY

Brothers,

The Masonic scholarship applications for 2016 are now available. If you have a student attending a qualifying Indiana college, I encourage you to submit an application for the Scholarship Program. For more information, check out the Grand Lodge website at <https://www.indianafreemasons.com/> , and then go to the "Scholarships" tab at the top. Remember, I must have the fully completed application back no later than March 1st, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact me at (812) 550-0247.

Randy Beem, PM

BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

At the February stated meeting the following amendments to the by-laws. They will be voted on at the next stated meeting.

1. An amendment was proposed to Article 12, Section 3 that officers shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses in traveling to attend Grand Lodge

meetings such as Founders Day, the Secretary's meeting and the Annual Communication meeting. This change is similar to the existing provisions for the Annual Communication meeting, but language has been added to include other Grand Lodge meetings as well.

2. A resolution was introduced that Newburgh Lodge No. 174 participate in the Grand Lodge Petition Information Verification program. This is similar to the petition information verification program that Newburgh Lodge participated in as part of a trial program last year, but is managed via the website to reduce the difficulty in administering the program.
3. An amendment was proposed to Article 8, Section 1 that will change the initiation fee to \$125.00. This change was proposed in conjunction with the change to the Petition Information Verification program. Since Newburgh Lodge will not be paying for the background check that will now be administered by Grand Lodge, this cost is removed from the initiation fee.

There were no objections to the amendments when they were read at the February meeting. There were slight changes to the wording.