



Masonic Times

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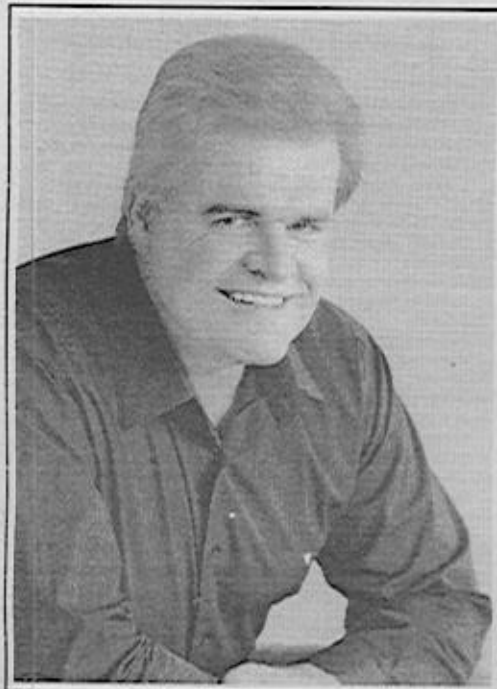
Email: bmasonic@rochester.rr.com

Volume 46 Number 2 USPS 0359-540

Rochester, New York

Circulation 4072 February 2008

April 4th and 5th Weekend College of Freemasonry to Feature Randy Riggle



The Valley of Rochester College of Freemasonry is scheduled for April 4th and 5th at the Shrine Center on Bay Road. As in the past, the focus for the weekend will take up themes related to Freemasons' continuing contribution to the world in which we live. Several prominent Masonic scholars will be featured for Saturday's program.

The Friday night dinner and program will once again be for members of the Scottish Rite and their significant others. It will be highlighted by

the presentation of the *Nostalgia* show, an acclaimed musical-comedic look at our past.

Randy Riggle is a long-time comedy writer, impersonator, television performer and an active Scottish Rite Mason. Because of the demand for his show, he performs all over the Country in all the major performance venues. His performance at the Shrine Center represents the first visit to the Rochester area in many years.

Tickets (\$25 single; \$40 couple) are available by calling the Scottish Rite Office at 264-1160.

Continued on Page 16

A Challenge to All Lodges!

At the January 16th meeting, the Masters & Wardens voted to purchase a new computer-based Child ID equipment at a cost of approximately \$2625.

We challenge all Lodges and Concordant Bodies to donate to the purchase of a second unit. Currently the District only has one on loan from Grand Lodge.



Widows Luncheon

Mark Your Calendar

On April 26th, we will be celebrating the Widows Luncheon of the Monroe District. This is an annual event that is sponsored by the Masonic Service Bureau of Greater Rochester.

Masters, Secretaries and Lodge Chairmen for this event, now is the time to gather your list of Widows. Call them, write to them or send them emails...whatever it takes to get them to attend. It is not too early to get the ball rolling.

Remember it is the Lodge's responsibility to pay for the Widows attending. We would like all the Lodges to be in attendance.

The date again is Saturday, April 26th. It will be at the Burgundy Basin Inn, which is handicapped accessible. Doors will open at 11 a.m. and a sit-down luncheon will be served at 12 Noon.

Chopped Sirloin Steak or Chicken is the choice of entrée. **Reservations with the entrée choice are required.** You will be advised of the cost in the next article.

Any questions should be directed to the Masonic Service Bureau. Your Co-Chairpersons for this event are R.: W.: Herbert Spencer and W.: Angelo DiCataldo.



Angie Retires!

MCC Community Relations Director ends 18-year career!

If you've ever taken one of the bus tour trips to the Masonic Care Community, Angie Caiola was sure to greet you and make you feel at home. Angie Caiola, Director of Community Relations, loved her job and she showed it with such enthusiasm one would like to bottle that energy!

After working at the Masonic Care Community for more than 18 years, Angie retired December 31st. Everyone will miss Angie's enthusiastic personality but we understand her desire to spend more time with her husband, Chuck, her children and especially her many grandchildren. We wish her well in all her future activities and a long and happy life with her family.

Angie wrote, "On one hand I am sad, but on the other hand I am proud of what I have accomplished as the Director of Community Relations and look forward to the next phase of my life. Hopefully it will be a healthy one!"

"In my position I have interfaced with many members of the Fraternity and I am proud to have worked with them. It has been a pleasure working with each of you and I wish you good health and a Happy Holiday to you and your family."

"Keep promoting the Masonic Care Community - it's a great place to live, a great place to work and a great place to visit. Thank you for all your support throughout the years."

On December 21st, a retirement party was held for Angie and more than 200 staff and residents attended! Angie later wrote:

To My Friends at the Masonic Care Community,
Thank you so much for my Retirement Party. It was a sad day for me to leave people I have worked with for 18 years...people I call my friends. I thank Ira Cooperman for all he did to make the party a success. Also, thanks to Ira, Cindy Dardano, Rob Lauducci, Paul Stern, Sharon VanKuren, Gina Sokal, Jill Wynne, Mary Ellen Andreski, Ron Kamp, Dennis Breheny, my sister Carol, my grandson, my cousin Patty, and last, but not least, my

Continued on Page 3



Ernie Maffei (a former "Masonic Kid" who lived at the "Masonic Home" in the 1920s) and his wife, Magdalene, are flanked by Angie Caiola, Director of Community Relations, and Ira Cooperman, Director of Philanthropy. The Maffeis made a donation to the Masonic Care Community

What's Inside?

Did You Know That?	3
Editor's Corner	2
Genesee-Wyoming District	13
Lalla Rookh Grotto News	19
Hot Numbers	2
Livingston District	13-14
Looking Ahead	20
Masonic Service Bureau	2
Masonic War Veterans	19
Memorials	20
Monroe District	4-8
Order of the Eastern Star	18
Ontario/Seneca/Yates	14-15
Scottish Rite News	16
Shrine News	9-12
Tall Cedars of Lebanon	19
Taxes, Taxes, Taxes	3
Wayne District	4
York Rite News	17-18

Have-a-Heart!

At the Malls February 1st - 14th Western New York Masonic Fraternity Supports Ronald McDonald Houses

As you read this article the Have-a-Heart Campaign will be in full swing. It is not too late to help out; just go to one of our locations and hookup with the group already there. Take along a friend or family member and have a good time for a great cause.

Remember the dates - February 1st through February 14th; 12 Noon to 9 p.m., Monday - Saturday; Sunday, 12 Noon to 6 p.m.

Listen to our ads on the radio, thanks to our friends at Entercom, and make sure you do some shopping at our host Malls - Eastview, Marketplace and Greece Ridge.

Many thanks in advance to all who have donated their time to make this year another success. Most of all, and most important, thanks to the people of Western New York for their generous contributions.

See you at the Malls.

Damascus News see page 9

Dated Material



671-9730

Editor's Corner

Are you the guilty correspondent? We had to edit several columns the past three issues because information mentioned was history when the paper was printed. In one case, after our editing, we had nothing left to publish for an organization. There weren't enough details given in the submitted material to even modify the information and produce a story.

We are sure there was something which could have been printed to inform the members of upcoming events. There were probably members celebrating birthdays; anniversaries of their Initiation into membership; good tidings or listings of sickness and distress. Perhaps a gentle hint that Dues are due! Contributions are welcome to the organization's sponsored charity. Any number of things; but you must tell us or we can't print it.

If you look at the different organizations' articles, you will notice that some are very short, while others go into lots of detail. (Some would be even longer if we didn't delete material for space considerations.)

Each subscribing group is "allotted" 600 words (this column is about 350). We don't strictly adhere to that number, as we do have to fill each issue. Since some articles are shorter than others, it balances out when we run the longer ones. We love to publish photographs! Please include identifying names, Office(s) held and other descriptive information to build a caption. Remember our new email address for ALL publication materials:

masonictimes@gmail.com
Documents must be .rtf or .doc extensions; photographs in JPEG format.

Bottom line to all this? If you have questions or concerns about what to do, we are an email or telephone call away. While we can't get timely information delivered, we can report on activities and explain upcoming events. We want to help YOU keep your membership informed. That will make this a more valuable tool for you AND your members.

Thanks for reading!

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Print your NEW address below (including seasonal changes)

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Yesterday's Purpose
How long has the Service Bureau existed? Why was it established? Have you ever pondered these questions?

Masonic charitable activity has been carried out in an organized fashion by a consortium of Masonic Lodges in Rochester since 1810. Among the early Lodges was Morning Star Lodge No. 223 of Pittsford. Activities we associate with "the Bureau" paralleled the establishment of Wells Lodge No. 282, which was Chartered June 5, 1817, along with other early Lodges who came to be known as The Masonic Charities Organization. That became known as the Masonic Employment Bureau in 1916. The title Masonic Service Bureau was adopted in June of 1919, when the first Constitution and By-Laws were officially adopted. A Certificate of Incorporation was sought in April, 1927, for the Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester, NY Inc. Official status was granted by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, 7th Judicial District on June 29, 1927.

The purposes identified in the original application, I believe, are important to reflect upon! They are:

- To help, aid and assist destitute, ill or needy members of the Masonic Fraternity and adult members of their families.
- To procure employment or change of employment when necessary for persons above mentioned and to assist them in bettering their economic condition.
- To look after the social and moral welfare, temporarily or permanently, of such persons as seek assistance from the corporation or such persons as are

Periodical postage PAID at Webster, NY and additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
Masonic Times
979 Bay Road, Suite 2
Webster, NY 14580-1736
Phone: 671-9730
Fax: 671-8390

Submit articles & photos to:
masonictimes@gmail.com

Regular e-mail:
bmasonic@rochester.rr.com

Website:
www.monroemasonic.com

Published Monthly except July and August. Closing Date for Articles is usually the 2nd Monday of the Month preceding the Month of publication.

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Published by
Masonic Service Bureau
of Greater Rochester New York, Inc.

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Printed by:
Empire State Weeklies, Inc.

Subscription Rates
Domestic Subscriptions: Individual, \$10.00 per year. Group rate: \$8.00 per year per member. Group subscriptions for Allied, Associated or Concordant Bodies are billed at \$2.00 per year for those members who already subscribe to the **Masonic Times**. International Subscriptions, \$30.00/year.

brought to its attention who may be in need of such assistance.

- To aid in promoting the spirit of true Brotherhood among members of the Masonic Fraternity generally.
- To assist in all ways in searching for and locating members of the Masonic Fraternity or their families who may have disappeared and reuniting them with their families.
- To purchase, hold, receive by gift, bequest or devise, and administer burial lots in any cemetery wherein to bury Master Masons who were in good standing in the Fraternity at the time of their death and members of their families.

These were the purposes upon which our "Bureau" was founded some 80 years ago! What do you think? I'd appreciate any comments.

Happy Valentine's Day! ✕

MSB Officers Installed



At the January meeting of the Board of Directors for the Masonic Service Bureau, outgoing President, Dr. James A. Ghent, Jr., expressed his sincere appreciation to all for supporting him during his years in Office.

R.:W.: and Rev. Paul R. Gleason then installed the Officers for 2008. R.:W.: M. Donald Darrohn is the President for the next year; R.:W.: Richard Friedman, Vice President; and Herbert Spencer is

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(Left to right) Herb Spencer, Treasurer; Don Darrohn, President; Rich Friedman, Vice President.

Treasurer. Re-elected for another year: Barbara Goodrich, Secretary, and Charles Waterstreet, Executive Director.

R.:W.: Darrohn expressed his gratitude to R.:W.: Gleason for performing the Installation. He then presented a plaque to R.:E.: Jim Ghent in recognition of his service and thanked him for all the work he did for the Masonic Service Bureau during his two years in Office.

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!

By Tom Michielsen

It's "Have-a-Heart" Campaign time and time to think about your own Sweetheart. Does she want candy, roses, a romantic dinner or getaway? You had better do something or believe me, you will spend the rest of the year paying for your thoughtless oversight. Have a heart; be kind to your Sweetheart now and throughout the year.

The Social Security Administration has announced the maximum amount individuals can earn before their Social Security Benefits are reduced. Beginning January 2008, individuals who are under full retirement age can earn \$13,560 per year (\$1,130/month). One dollar in benefits will be withheld for every \$2 in earnings above the limit.

The 7.65% tax rate is the combined rate for Social Security

and Medicare. The Social Security portion (OASDI) is 6.20% on earnings up to the applicable taxable maximum amount (see below). The Medicare portion (HI) is 1.45% on all earnings.

The maximum taxable earnings for Social Security purposes are:

- Social Security (OASDI only) is \$102,000.
- Medicare (HI only) there is No Limit for taxable earnings.

The Internal Revenue Service has released a new Form 8917, Tuition and Fees Deduction, which is to be used by taxpayers who deduct qualified education expenses paid to an eligible post-secondary educational institution in 2007. Using the new form allows taxpayers who file Form 1040A to claim the deduction. Taxpayers filing Form 1040 enter the deduction on Line 34. Taxpayers filing Form

1040A enter the deduction on Line 19.

Low- and moderate-income workers can take steps to save for retirement and earn a special tax credit in 2007 and the years ahead. The saver's credit helps offset part of the first \$2,000 workers voluntarily contribute to IRAs, 401(k) plans and similar workplace retirement programs. Formally known as the retirement savings contributions credit, the saver's credit is available in addition to any other tax savings that apply.

Ways to Jump Start Taxes

Earlier is better when it comes to working on your taxes whether you do them yourself or have a tax practitioner prepare them. Taxpayers are encouraged to get a head start on tax preparation, especially since early filers avoid the last-minute rush and get their refunds sooner.

Here are some easy ways to get a good jump on your taxes long before the April deadline:

1. Gather your records in advance. Make sure you have all

the records you need, including W-2s and 1099s.

2. Take your time. Don't forget to leave room for a coffee break when filling out your tax return as rushing can mean making a mistake.

3. Double-check your math and verify all Social Security numbers. These are among the most common errors found on tax returns. Taking care will reduce your chance of hearing from the IRS and speed up your refund.

4. E-filing is easy. E-filing catches math errors and provides confirmation your return has been received and gives you a faster refund.

5. Get the fastest refund. When you e-file file early, you receive your refund faster. When you choose direct deposit, you receive your refund sooner than waiting for a check.

6. Don't panic. If you have a problem or a question, remember the IRS is there to help. Try the IRS Website at IRS.gov or call the IRS customer service number at 800-829-1040.

7. Are you concerned that your efforts to get ready early may be affected by the Alternative Minimum Tax legislation passed by Congress in December? Most individuals will not be impacted, so it is still a good idea to get an early start on your preparations. Even if you are filing one of five forms affected by the recent legislation, the IRS expects to be ready for your return by February 11th.

Upcoming calendar year taxpayer due dates:

- January 30 - Form IT-204-LL and fee is due
- January 31 - W2s and 1099s mailed to recipient
- February 15 - January Payroll Taxes
- February 28 - Farm Tax Returns for those who do not Estimate their taxes and Paper W2s and 1099s mailed to Social Security and IRS
- March 15 - February Payroll Taxes and Corporate Tax Returns

If you have any tax questions, please forward them to tmichie1@rochester.rr.com.

Did You Know That? Blood Donor Program

By Phil Hurwitz

- The minutes of every Communication - stated or special - shall, in the discretion of the Worshipful Master, or Brother occupying that Office for the time being, be read, corrected (if necessary) and approved by the Lodge, either before it is closed or immediately following the Opening of the next Stated Communication. When so approved, they cannot be altered or expunged. Should it appear that an error has been made in the record, a minute explaining or correcting the same may be added thereto by vote of the

Lodge at a subsequent Communication. *Const. Sec. 322.*

- The proceedings of a Lodge shall be submitted to Grand Lodge whenever required. *Const. 323.*

- Every Lodge shall keep a Record Book of the proceedings of the Lodge. *HBML 601.*

- Failure of a Treasurer to produce Lodge records on the request of the District Deputy constitutes disobedience of lawful Masonic authority and is a Masonic offense. *HBML Supp. Sec. 599.*

By John Jamele

We are continuing to make progress toward our goal of increasing District and Lodge support for community blood drives.

Last month I reported that five Lodges had appointed chairmen or coordinators to organize and execute blood donor programs to be sponsored by their Lodges.

Of those five Lodges, three now have scheduled blood drives of their own, increasing the number of Monroe District Lodges sponsoring blood drives from three to six.

The three new sponsors are Fairport-Flower City, Brother Kel Kelsey, Chairman; Northfield, Brother John Dudley, Chairman and Oatka, Brother Jeffrey Klimek, Chairman.

Fairport - Flower City Lodge will also run the Child ID along with the blood drive and have the OES on board to provide childcare.

We will continue to work at organizing drives for other Lodges, where it is practical.

Site Availability

While we would like to have every Lodge sponsoring a drive of its own, that may not be possible. In some localities finding a suitable site in which to hold a drive is a problem. In other localities, where there are already drives sponsored by other organizations or the population may not be large enough to support new drives.

Webster is a good example of this; there are four Lodges meeting at the Shrine and two meeting at the Temple on Orchard Street. Webster Lodge and the Shrine are currently sponsoring blood drives on a regular basis. If we were to attempt to inaugurate five additional drives in Webster, there would not be enough donors to go around.

It takes 25 donors at any individual drive for the Red Cross to break even, therefore, additional drives there probably would not be practical.

Our goal in these situations is to find other ways in which to support blood donor programs.

There are localities where there are not community drives, but where the Red Cross would like very much to have a sponsor for drives. Fairport, Pittsford and Scottsville have been such communities. Happily, we have Lodges in those communities whose Lodge facilities are satisfactory for the conduct of blood drives, and they have taken on the responsibility of sponsoring blood drives in their communities.

East Rochester is a community without a community blood drive, and where the Red Cross would like very much to have a drive in place, but where no facility is available at this time. ERAC Lodge has accepted the responsibility of conducting drives in East Rochester and such drives will be set up as soon as a satisfactory facility is found. The search for that facility is ongoing.

More Ways to Help

Whether or not his Lodge sponsors a blood drive, every Brother can participate, by giving of his own blood, health permitting, and by spreading the word to other Brothers, family, relatives, and friends.

Recent Blood Drives

November 27 - Unity Lodge, Chairman Andy Tascione, collected 51 pints of blood.

Upcoming Blood Drives

Oatka Lodge - Tuesday, February 19, 1-6 p.m. Jeffrey Klimek, Chairman.

Clio Lodge - Monday, February 25, 1-6 p.m., Gordy Smith, Chairman.

Northfield Lodge - Tuesday, February 26, 1-6 p.m., John Dudley, Chairman.

Unity Lodge - Tuesday, March 25, 1-7 p.m., Andy Tascione, Chairman.

Fairport - Flower City Lodge, Thursday, April 3, 1-7 p.m., Kel Kelsey, Chairman.

Please contact me with questions or comments at: 637 5643 or email: john1@jamele.com.

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April 26th

at Shadow Lake Golf Course in Penfield

Golf Starts at 11:30 a.m. Cocktails - 6 p.m. Dinner - 7 p.m.

Golf, Dinner, Auction - \$100 per person Dinner & Auction only - \$50 per person

Reservations Required by April 21st

Make Checks Payable to: Seneca Lodge 797
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Drumlin Square Lodge No. 1180

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

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Alan E.

Friedman

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(c) 315-521-3279

alan_friedman@

urmc.rochester.edu

Secretary

R.:W.: William C. Jones

315-986-9150

wjones@rochester.rr.com

Palmyra Masonic Hall

161 East Main Street 14522



District Deputy Grand Master

Monroe
District

R.:W.:

Gary

Sanford

425-4240

ggsanford@aol.com

Grand Director of Ceremonies

Monroe



R.:W.:

G. Thomas

Grape

621-5282

gggrape@rochester.rr.com

We started our year with a beautiful 2nd Degree. In the first two Degrees, the symbols and emblems of architecture surrounded us. In the Master Mason Degree, we see a different order of symbolism, cast in the language of the soul - its life, tragedy and triumph.

Recognizing that the 3rd Degree is the first step in the interpretation of sublime and historic steps in "Craft Lodge" Masonry, please join us for the Raising of our two newly passed Brothers on February 20th. We are honored to have the Shrine Degree Team assist us this evening.

I read this quote, taken from a 1974 Masonic Spring Workshop, from Brother Robert G. Aberdeen, and it seems just as applicable today.

"A man who has a fireplace need never be lonely. A fire, correctly tended, requires thought and attention. In return, it offers warmth, music and beauty. And the glow from the hearth means a glow in the heart.

"A man who cherishes his fire wants a solid backlog of oak or hard maple. If he is fortunate enough to cut his own wood and has a choice, he sees to it that he has several kinds. The resin of pine or cedar means quick, hot heat, yellow flames and a pleasant odor; yellow birch gives an orange-blue flame, burns long and steady; old apple wood means fragrance and a clear, bluish flame. Elm has deep russet flames. Balsam and spruce crackle and spit and must be watched.

"Don't poke your fire too much, but use judgment as you put on the logs. A moderately high fire creates its own draft. A good hearth tender uses his broom occasionally, but doesn't worry if a few ashes spill out.

"Tending a fire is for the patient man. It fosters deep thoughts and contentment with the simple basic things in life. Mechanical heat has its good points and one wants it. But somehow it is more meaningful if flames paint a picture in a fireplace and a man has a chance to tend his fire."

Upcoming Event

Help us stoke the fire of Freemasonry - please plan on joining us for our "Brother Bring-a-Friend Night" on March 11th. We look forward to an enlightening evening of Brotherhood and fellowship.

As all our Lodges are busy performing one of our three Degrees at this time of year, be sure you have contacted either John Dyer or Harry DeHollander (our AGLs) to witness one of your Degrees for this Masonic year. Their phone numbers are located in the list of "Hot Numbers" on page two of the *Masonic Times*. Masters, please be sure you have assigned Mentors for our newly Raised Brothers so this process may begin immediately after their 1st Degree.

The *Road to the East* will be starting this month. This course is highly recommended for your Lodge Officers who will eventually be sitting in the East. It provides them with many tools that will help make their job easier. Remember, it always looks easy until you're the one in that chair. You may sign up by contacting R.:W.: Tom Grape. His email and phone number are located in his article and, yes, he will get you into the class at the last minute.

The next District event is the "Have-a-Heart" Campaign, which starts just after you receive this issue. The first 14 days of February, we are in the public eye at three area malls, raising dollars for the local Ronald McDonald House. I'm sure most, if not all, time-slots have been filled. Still, there is always room for you or your group to help out. You may contact George Foehner at 586-5255 to see where that extra hand might be needed.

As I'm writing this article, I know of a Lodge that is planning to obtain the "Traveling Gavel," which has been at Northfield Lodge for quite some time. Hopefully, they will be able to retrieve it and thus have bragging rights for a short time prior to the next Lodge wrestling it away from them. Maybe we should change the rules a little so the Lodge that has it must deliver it to another Lodge within a certain timeframe or pay the price of a donation to the Brotherhood Fund in the name of the Lodge that passed it on to them. I would think this would help with Lodge interaction.

As we continue to move forward and make positive progress, please contact us if we may be of assistance to you or your Lodge.

Six Brothers from the Monroe District finished their journey to light in the 2007-2008 *Masonic Development Course* on January 30th. Congratulations to Brothers Erik Loepker, Josh Loepker, Clark Panzer and David Adams from Northfield Lodge; and Charles Zlotkus and Jason Garland from Fame Lodge, who have gained a deeper understanding of the meaning behind the Ritual of the three Degrees of Masonry. It took considerable effort on the part of these Brothers to attend class at Eunice Lodge in Caledonia. As of this writing the weather has cooperated for the journey south and west.

The *Road to the East* Course for incoming Masters will be offered in February and March on three Saturdays - February 2nd

and 23rd, and March 1st from 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Eunice Lodge, 3141 State Street, Caledonia. It's too late to sign up for this class and I only have two Candidates signed up. I cannot believe that the 26 Wardens from the 13 Monroe District Lodges have taken the Course or are recycling Past Masters who feel they do not need the review. This class will prepare you to take on the mantle of running your Lodge. Every Lodge was sent three copies of the new *24-Inch Gauge* over a year ago. The new book has over twice the information of the older versions. It is a recipe book on how to organize and run Lodge programs.

The Staff Officers of Monroe, Livingston and Genesee-Wyoming Districts have solicited the services of highly competent individuals to present the material in areas of which these men have demonstrated considerable expertise. Those who should be taking this Course (and are not) will short their Lodges and Brothers the guidance and direction they need to grow in Masonry. We spend between 350-400 man-hours to make a new Mason. If we do not provide a meaningful Lodge experience thereafter, it is no wonder that dimits and drops for non-payment of Dues occur.

One of the articles I found was a paper dated August 20, 1880, from the *Steuben Courier* and was a collection of ads. The item that caught my eye was a "Travelers Guide of the Erie Railway," now known as the New York, Lake Erie & Western R.R." It describes the mode of travel, "Pullman's best drawing room and sleeping coaches, combining all modern improvements, are run through between Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Cincinnati and New York. Through Sleeping Coaches and Hotel Dining cars between Chicago and New York." Then a schedule is posted below. I won't list all the stations, but it's interesting to note that these trains stopped in places like Attica, Dansville, Wayland and Bath to name a few.

The important thing is that they had a Schedule to keep and people depended on it for daily travel. In our Masonic Fraternity we also have Schedules that keep us informed and on track. Currently, the Grand Lodge Staff Officers are working on the Schedules for the upcoming Educational Courses that we are going to present to those who want to receive "further light" as they travel to the East.

I know that R.:W.: Thomas Grape and his Team are trying to work out a Schedule that will be of interest to you. On February 2nd and 23rd and March 1st, we will journey again to Eunice Lodge in Caledonia to present this Course. It's because of the Schedule, those who are making presentations know when they are arriving, how long they have to talk and when the breaks are, etc.

February is also for hearts and candy, Valentines and love. We wish all of you who fit into this Schedule a great time.

The Engine this month is under the direction of W.: Richard Shellman and W.: Ray Crandall of Seneca Lodge. Way back in the Caboose are two, keen eyed Brothers, John Williams and Jeff Ross. After all this talk, let's retire for a hot cup of java and head for our Sleeping Car.

Member Development R.:W.: Joseph Privitera Monroe District

Widows Luncheon

The Masonic Widows Luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, April 26th, at the Burgundy Basin Inn. Now is the time to get our Masonic Widows' files in order so we can mail invitations. I know this is a difficult job. I also know that we are going to miss some of them, but we must do our best to contact as many of the Ladies as we can. Let us demonstrate our appreciation to and for them.

School of Ritual

There are two Schools of Ritual scheduled in the Monroe District. One was held January 29th. The next one will be held March 31st at Clio Lodge in Hilton. I guarantee you will learn something at these Schools. For example, for those coming from the East side to Hilton, you will find there is life on the other side of the River.

I hope to see you in Lodge. ✕

Monroe District Chairman Child ID

R.:W.:

Donald Tubman

889-4725

Your Participation in CHILD ID

Grand Lodge believes our children are our greatest assets and the protection of our children is arguably one of the most important things we, as a society, can do.

In 2007, Monroe County Masons held several CHILD ID events - either by themselves or with the aid of the Greece Police, Monroe County Sheriff's Department, New York State Police and several fire departments. Nearly 400 children were processed.

In 2008, we would like to schedule as many events as possible and team again with fire departments, the police and, of course, all Lodges and Concordant Bodies.

We would like to reach those children who are not involved in the school CHIPS Programs and probably the most at risk. (The Monroe County Sheriff's Office and Rochester Police Department have an aggressive in-school CHIPS Program.)

Please think of opportunities where this can be done. If you are having a Blood Drive at your Lodge or your community is hosting a festival where you feel we could implement a CHIPS event, feel free to contact us.

Information about the Masonic ID Program is available online at <http://nychip.org/>.

We can be reached most easily by email to schedule an event at datubman@yahoo.com or rcdowns@rochester.rr.com. You can contact Don Tubman at 889-4725.

The Monroe District is working with Fairport-Flower City and Unity Lodges to raise funds to purchase additional computer units, which at this time are valued at about \$2,600. ✕

Grand Sword Bearer

Monroe
District

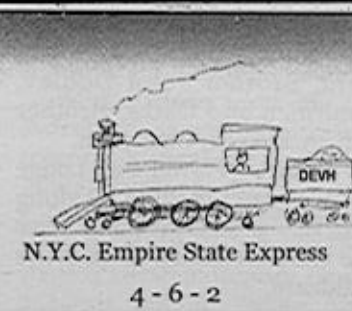
R.:W.:

Derek E.

VanHouten

247-2920

hooter95@rochester.rr.com



N.Y.C. Empire State Express

4-6-2

It's time to get back on the main line and seek out new adventures. We again join together for discussions that conjure up memories of bygone modes of transportation and discuss modern-day reality. So join us in the Observation Car and pull up that comfortable chair as we continue.

Recently, I purchased a collection of old papers - two boxes of old poetry and newspaper articles that ranged from the 1860s to the 1880s. It took me several weeks to sort through the hundreds of individual pieces of poetry from local papers, as each piece was cut out and stored in the boxes. There were even a couple of short articles by Mark Twain. The quality of the paper was well preserved and indicated the early printing processes that were used.

Why, you ask, is this important today? A good question, because it sets the stage for what I wanted to talk to you about.

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Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.



President
W.: George L. Todd
964-5809
gtodd@rgrta.com

Secretary
Patrick K. Nicholson
739-8832
pnichol2@rochester.rr.com

Child ID Program
Due to a scheduling conflict R.: W.: Gary Sanford, DDGM, instructed all present in the use of the new digital Child ID equipment on January 16th. As you know, everyone is supposed to be using this new equipment when putting on a Child ID program.


Grand Lodge Convention
Preliminary planning has started for this year's Grand Lodge Annual Communication in New York City. As May nears, more details will be shared regarding social events for the Brothers and Ladies.

"Have-a-Heart" Campaign
As you know, February 1-14, are the dates for the "Have-a-Heart" Campaign - a major fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House. The amount raised for this very worthwhile event will be shared with you at a later date.

As usual, if you are unable to attend our meeting, please send a representative from your Lodge. I realize our Cabletows are being stretched to the limits. Please try to make our meetings.

The next meeting of the Masters and Wardens will be February 20th at 7 p.m.

ERAC Lodge No. 163



2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Sean P. McKenna
383-9161
sean.mckenna@kodak.com

Secretary
R.: W.: Terry W. Wihlen, Sr.
346-4380
twihlen@rochester.rr.com

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580
website: www.eraclodge163.org

Historical Lecture
At our last meeting in December, Brother Jeff Parker presented a historical lecture on Freemasonry, just before the rise of and during the reign of Nazi Germany. The presentation was well done, very well received and capped off a Fall of excellent programs. Thank you, Brother Jeff Parker.

December Bell Ringing
On a cold and windy Saturday in December, a number of ERAC's Brothers braved the elements, the long line of cars and very few parking slots to assist the Salvation Army during its Annual Ring the Bell Campaign. The Salvation Army has been impressed with our effort over the last few years and has given us one of their most popular locations - Eastview Mall Entrance #4. Thank you, Brother Rich Friedman, for coordinating the event.

Holiday Visitations
On December 22nd, ERAC visited Brothers who either received a greater than 50-year award or those who are shut in due to illness. We started our

BLOOD DRIVES

Tuesday, February 19th
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Masonic Hall
5 Browns Avenue; Scottsville
Sponsored by O-AT-KA Lodge

For more information, Call Jeff Klimek - 831-0621

Tuesday, February 25th
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Hilton Masonic Hall
287 East Avenue; Hilton
Sponsored by Clio Lodge

For more information, Call Gordy Smith - 392-9261

Tuesday, February 26th
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Masonic Hall
17 Church Street; Pittsford
Sponsored by Northfield Lodge

For more information, Call John Dudley - 586-6426

To schedule an appointment, call
1-800-GIVE-LIFE
Walk-ins are always welcome!

day with fellowship and food at Brother Terry Wihlen's home and then went to visit a number of our Brothers. Thank you, Brother Wihlen, for coordinating the Holiday Visitations.

First Degree
On January 14th, ERAC held its 1st Degree. Twelve Candidates were made Entered Apprentices with two groups of six with Brother Pat Nicholson conferring the Degree. Lastly, thanks to DDGM, R.: W.: Gary Sanford, and AGL, R.: W.: John Dyer for attending.

Upcoming Events
February 11th - St. Valentine's Day Social Event
February 25th - 2nd Degree
March 10th - Q's & A's for the 2nd Degree
March 24th - Gen. Douglas MacArthur Award
Cheers to All!

Craftsman Robertson Lodge No. 969



1st & 3rd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Ralph Jurgens
(315) 524-3686

Secretary
W.: David King
621-8096; cell: 545-5129

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

Our one meeting a month in the Winter turned into two in January, when we combined with Valley-Simes Lodge for a 2nd Degree on the 22nd. We used our meeting night on the 15th for a brief business meeting and then went into a re-

hearsal for the Degree. Everyone seemed well prepared for the big night!

Sickness and Distress
James Jurgens, brother of W.: Ralph Jurgens, has undergone major surgery. Brother Ralph went to the Washington, DC area to be with him during his recuperation. Please keep the whole family in your thoughts and prayers.

Brother Richard Smith finally underwent his back surgery, after some delays while medical tests were conducted to ensure everything was acceptable for the procedure. Latest report was, he was still in some pain. Let's hope by now he has mended enough so the pain has eased and he will be back in the Junior Deacon's Chair real soon.

Our Secretary, W.: David King, reports Brother Richard Barth called after receiving his Dues Card, thanking us for the note we included. He was asking if anyone remembered him, as he has lived out-of-town for a couple of decades. He would welcome correspondence or telephone calls from you. Contact Brother Dave if you would like his address or phone number.

Have-a-Heart
Craftsman Robertson Lodge has been asked to staff the booth at The Mall at Greece Ridge on Sunday, February 3rd, and Monday, February 4th. My Brothers, all this requires is a little of your time. The pitch is to be low-key, so you don't have to worry about your skills as a sales person. Sunday is Super Bowl Sunday, but last year (I was told) there were a lot of

people in the Mall on Super Bowl Sunday, and contributions were generous!

Sunday hours will be from Noon to 6:00 p.m., but we have traditionally broken the day into two, three-hour sessions. Monday's hours are from Noon until 9:00 p.m.


If you can spend any amount of time on those two days, please contact our Junior Warden, Tom Benson, 288-2661. We would like to have at least 3 or 4 people at the booth during each time slot. This can be a family affair, so ask your wife and children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to help out. Since 1988, the Masonic Fraternity has raised over \$220,000 to support the Ronald McDonald Houses on Westmoreland Drive and in the Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong. May we count on you?

Celebrations
Happy Birthday to the following Brothers who celebrate in February: John Walker (5th); Robert Burns (6th); Kenneth Goodrich (9th); Ronald Hibbard (18th); and Gerald Brumfield (26th). Your Brothers hope you have a wonderful day...and many more.

Dues
The mail has slowed down, but W.: Dave will be happy to receive your check and send out your Dues card. We appreciate your prompt attention to this, as it helps us meet our obligations without asking the Trustees for funds.

See you in Lodge.

Valley-Simes Lodge No. 109



2nd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: David W. Mura
637-8695
bigdave@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
R.: W.: Herbert Spencer
334-7493
hspence1@rochester.rr.com

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

Did you notice, it's getting lighter each day. It is after 5 p.m. and you can still see the sun (when it's out). As you read this, I must tell you that I am in the Sunny South (Florida) for a few weeks of sunshine and warmth. I am visiting family and friends and should be back in time for the February meeting.

I hope you have made your reservations for what I understand will be a superb "Sweetheart's Night" on February 12th. Our Master has made arrangements for a full evening of fun and entertainment. I am look-

ing forward to seeing and greeting all on the 12th.

Good News/ Bad News
The only news I know of is that Brother Norris Shapiro had knee replacement surgery in January.

Masonic Anniversaries
The following Brothers were Raised during the month of February:

65 years - Samuel Bogorad
53 years - Paul Gleason
21 years - David Dahrsnin, William Anderson and Sion (Ted) Honea

February Birthdays
Richard Giedd and Douglas Torrance (3rd), Gary Lind and Olindo Nardone (5th), Gerald Merzke (6th), William Anderson (9th), Herbert Spencer (10th), Robert Miller (13th), Jeffrey Amering (16th), Bryan Anderson, John Brill and Scott Herzog (19th), Jack Palmer (20th), David Dahrsnin (24th) and Stephen Moore (28th). This month the youngest is 33 years old and the oldest is 86 years old. If you see or are in contact with any of these Brothers, don't forget to extend them greetings.

After-Lodge Meeting News
After the January meeting we were finally able to play Bridge. We did get a foursome. The Master brought some other games and we had a game night after Lodge closed. There were also refreshments served.

Did you notice what our attendance was at the last two events? At the December "Holiday Celebration" we had 26 Lodge Brothers in attendance; at our January Lodge Meeting we had 28 Lodge Brothers in attendance. Let's keep it up; we're on our way.

Dues have been flowing in and we have about 55% of the Brothers paid for 2008. If you haven't sent in your Dues, please take a moment and write that check. I provided return envelopes for your use. Just stick in that check, seal the envelope, add a stamp and away it goes.

Please do not send me any emails with notes or reservations. My computer will be down until February 10th. You should contact the Master with anything - especially reservations.

Dinners
As always, we have a dinner before Lodge. Cost for dinner at a Lodge meeting is only \$5 per person. Reservations for dinner are required, so we can properly feed everyone. Call our Junior Warden, Mike McBride, at 315-904-9024 (it's a local call) or 722-7714 (work); email: mcbride1@rochester.rr.com or michael.c.mcbride@kodak.com.



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**WEBSTER
LODGE NO. 538**

1st & 3rd
Thursdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Edwin
Malchoff
(315) 483-1961
edmal@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: Bernard Russell
872-1353
Webster538@juno.com

30 Orchard Street
Webster 14580



I find I am having a little harder time writing this article, as there isn't a whole lot to report. That can be both positive and negative.

As has been the tradition on Christmas Eve Morning, a good showing of Brothers gathered for breakfast, followed by visits and delivery of poinsettias to some we haven't seen in Lodge for a while. As usual, there were stories of good cheer shared after the visitation.

I am proud to say we conferred the 1st Degree with myself in the East and I am humbled by the compliments I've received relative to the quality of our Lodge and its Ritual. The Master of Wayne Lodge, who brought three men to take the Degree, said he has never seen it done better and that meant a lot.

The old adage of hard work pays off is the answer. We practiced and studied and worked together to make it a great Degree. I thank all who participated and all who were on the sidelines. It was great to see 46 Brothers in attendance.

We have some good programs coming up and, of course, we have the ongoing dinners to support our community. Watch the Webster Google Group for updates and next month I'm sure my creative writing will return.

See you in the quarries. ✕

**Union Star
Lodge No. 320**

3 North Main Street
Honeoye Falls 14472

2nd Mondays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: George
Foehner
586-5255
gfoehner@union
starmasons.org



Secretary
Ronald Morthorst, 334-4196
231 Mystic Lane, 14623
marmort@frontiernet.net

Boy, how time flies. We are heading down the home stretch. With three new members in tow, we advance into the "Have-a-Heart" Campaign, February 1st - 14th, and our Table Lodge with our Brothers from Fairport Lodge, to be held February 25th at Union Star Lodge.

January had us recovering from a grand Christmas party. Everyone said they had a great time. It was wonderful to see all the Ladies. Thanks, again, for coming.

Our Annual Budget Communication went off without a hitch. We also welcomed Brother Frank Habitzreuther at that meeting, a recent transplant from the Buffalo area, who immediately joined our 3rd Degree team and practiced with us that very night. He adds talent and experience and is a welcome addition to our Lodge.

After three weeks of rehearsals, we held the 3rd Degree on January 28th. Our congratulations to Brother Andy Weidert and Brother Ken Tomaszewski

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Friday, February 1st
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

at Webster Lodge Hall
30 Orchard Street
Adults - \$7 Children - \$4



on being brought to Light. Both are fine young men, who are looking forward to the Masonic experience. Our Degree Team, led by Scott May sitting in the East, did a fantastic job. My sons Allen and Rob provided dinner. Many thanks to all; it was a proud night for Union Star.

Sad News

On a sad note, we said farewell to Brother Harris Nesbitt, a Past Master, who passed away December 27th.

Good News

Lost in the shuffle was my reporting to the *Masonic Times* in October of Brother Terry Hatch receiving the Symbolic Lodge Award from the Scottish Rite. The award was presented to Terry by Grand Master Neal I. Bidnick. Terry is a tireless worker in Lodge and the award is richly deserved.

See you in the quarries. ✕


**Seneca Lodge
No. 797**

2nd Tuesday
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Dana W. Cline
359-0632
danacline@us.ibm.com

Secretary
Frederic Nortor
22 Red Barn Circle, Pittsford 14534-3721
248-5902
fnortor@rochester.rr.com

30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580



Membership is on the rise here at Seneca Lodge. This month we will complete the 3rd Degree for our three newest Brothers and we'll kick off another round of Degrees for several more. Our need to put on more Degrees is a great thing and provides more opportunities for our members to participate. I strongly encourage you to take a part. Our Ritual is an important part of who we are and you will get all the support you need to be successful at it. If you are one of our newest Brothers, please contact Dick Shellman today and sign up for a role.

While we are on the topic...to perform several Degrees during the Masonic year, we should start to think about meeting more frequently. I have had this conversation with several Brothers and have received some favorable responses. If we were to meet twice a month it would allow us to hold our Degrees on an off night (4th Tuesdays) and use our regular meeting nights for presentations, committee reports and general business.

Degree work is important to our Craft and so is our charity and fellowship. In order to keep our Annual Program complete and well-rounded, we need to add some time to our schedule. Give it some thought and plan to discuss it further in the coming months. I would like to hear your thoughts on the subject and put a plan into action.

In March we will host a Table Lodge. It's been a couple of years since we have had a good

Table Lodge. If you haven't attended one, please come and join us; you won't be disappointed.

April 26th will be our Benefit Auction. I am working on the sponsors and the location will likely be Shadow Lake in Penfield. This is going to be a great evening and all for a good cause. Stay tuned for the details to appear in your next Trestleboard.

In closing, if you haven't contributed to the Brotherhood Fund yet, please do so by contacting Brother Richard Heidorn. Any and all contributions are welcome and appreciated. Let's meet our goal of at least 50% participation. Also, if you have, or know of, a college-bound senior, please direct them to our Website - www.seneca797.com - to complete the Scholarship Application.


Make it a good month and I'll see you at Lodge. ✕

**Wakan/Hubbard
Lodge No. 154**

2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Ronald Lalik
377-0097
ronlalik@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: Donald C. Bell
334-7768
don_bell@hotmail.com



1822A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

I hope the Holidays treated you well. February is our Master Mason Degree month. There are several rehearsals scheduled, as well as a walk through the Lodge. I would deeply appreciate your support for this event. I will look to each of those participating in the Degree to attend as many practices as their Cabletow will permit and everyone to actively participate in the walk through the Lodge. We owe it to our new Brothers to put on the best Degree possible.

Replacement Needed

As many know, we are still in need of a Treasurer. Brother Blystone is no longer able to perform those duties and must turn his attention to his health. If you are able to perform the Treasurer's duties, the Lodge needs your help.

Upcoming Events February

February 2nd; 2 p.m. - 3rd Degree rehearsal
February 9th; 2 p.m. - 3rd Degree rehearsal
February 11th; 7:30 p.m. - 3rd Degree in Lodge Walk Through.
February 25th; 6:30 p.m. - Dinner, 3rd Degree

March

March 10th; 7:30 p.m. - What are the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Shrine?
March 24th; 7:30 p.m. - Short Talk: "24-inch Gauge"
March 31st; 7:30 p.m. - School of Ritual ✕



Brother Lester Freer poses with his three Golden Retrievers, Ebby, Darb, and Raider. At a January meeting, Darb demonstrated his skills developed through dog training techniques by Brother Freer. It is also impressive to watch the dogs work with him during field trial competitions.

**O-At-Ka
Lodge No. 759**

7:30 p.m., 2nd &
4th Wednesdays
Master - 328-3732
W.: Laurence
W. Blazey
lblazey@rochester.rr.com

Secretary - 247-2791
Erik P. Crandall
epc_productions@yahoo.com
Assistant Secretary - 889-4725
R.: W.: Donald A. Tubman
datubman@yahoo.com
5 Browns Avenue
Mail to: 51 Browns Avenue
Scottsville 14546



The month of January has seen the Initiation of four new Brothers, which will increase our Lodge numbers to 85 members. On February 13th, we will be joined by the AGLs for the 2nd Degree. I know some of you are wondering why I am talking about the AGLs coming again as I did mention this back in November, 2007. Well, we forgot to inform V.: W.: Harry DeHollander and V.: W.: John Dyer of the date and time for the last 2nd Degree we did on that date. This time we have emailed them and they have agreed to come. Thanks for coming and apologies for our previous screw-up.

Also on January 9th, we started the evening off with a tasty Oyster Stew, prepared by Brother Bill Flesher's wife, Mary. It was delicious and there wasn't a drop left. We hope to make this an annual event for the first meeting of the New Year. Dessert was enjoyed by all after the Degree work in the newly renovated Fellowship Room.

Speaking of the Fellowship Room, work continues on making that a great gathering place after the meetings for all to enjoy and to promote fellowship. Brother Steve Phillips is our own personal contractor on the construction, and he could use as much time and help as each of

you can provide. When finished the room will be bigger and the bar will be fully stocked for libations and other refreshments.

January was so busy that the Brothers needed a few minutes of relaxation, and Brother Lester Freer offered that moment by giving us all lessons in dog training. Brother Lester and his dog Darb demonstrated his techniques for dog training and Darb cooperated fully. Brother Lester does field trial competitions with his three Golden Retrievers and it is very impressive to watch them work. Thanks, Brother Lester, and especially Darb for that enjoyable night.

Well, Brothers, don't get too relaxed. February is booked with events on both of our regular Communication nights. As I mentioned before, the Ritual for the Fellowcraft Degree is February 9th and Brother Bring-a-Friend Night is February 27th. Don't forget to call Brother Jeff DePuy (328-4916), Brother Bill Flesher (278-7389) or W.: Tim White (617-4695) with your guest list as soon as possible if you haven't already done so. By the time this issue of the *Masonic Times* reaches you, some of the invitations have already been sent and, most importantly, we need a headcount for the dinner.

March will be a little less hectic with the 3rd Degree on the 12th and then another evening of fun with Movie Night. The plan is to show some programs, March 26th, on Masonry that have appeared on TV or a movie that has had Masonic highlights in it. Popcorn will be available. One other night of fun will be a game of Masonic Jeopardy. We are not sure yet what night this will be, but if any Brothers from other Lodges are interested in competing in this game, stay tuned to our column for more details. ✕

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UNITY

Lodge No. 479



2nd & 4th
Mondays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Donald
B. Hunter
746-3718

dbhunter111@yahoo.com

Secretary

R.: W.: David Jones, 647-9896

djones02@rochester.rr.com

133 South Union Street, Spencerport 14559

A Primary Duty

Remember our sick and distressed Brethren. That's what the subject of this paragraph refers to. We have a few on the roles with whom we've been in contact.

Brother Dana Spencer in Blacksburg, VA communicates when he can. He was near the University of Virginia Campus when it was attacked last Summer. A professor had come running into the shop he was in to say to take cover because a madman was shooting wildly nearby. Brother Dana is on oxygen 24/7 and because of a number of physical limitations, is restricted in his activities and did lay low. He does like to stay in contact with the Lodge, through the Masonic Times articles about our District and Spencerport. He is a relative of Lebbeus Spencer, a Charter Member of Etolian Lodge.

Sickness and Distress

It seems that Brother Gary Cornelius didn't take too well to his return to Texas. On arrival there in September, he accompanied his wife Annette on a medical checkup. He took the same tests though never having symptoms. Within days, he was hospitalized for a heart catheterization resulting in an immediate double bypass. A mass was found in his lung and it turned out to be a malignancy that was removed. The lower lobe of his right lung was scheduled for removal in late January. By the way, Annette was fine after her healthy heart scan.

R.: W.: Brother Ruel Lovett moves in a sprightly fashion after doing all the exercises required following a left knee replacement. He is nearly ready to schedule the same procedure on his right knee, all of which are intended to make it easy to walk 18 holes again as a daily ritual at Churchville Golf Course. In the meantime, he's resumed bowling and is lowering his handicap every week in the Masonic Seniors League.

Brother Pablo Lopez needs to know there are those among the Brethren who care for him and are his friends. He's experiencing some difficult times, personally, and needs a reaffirmation of our cardinal virtue of Brotherly love. Give him a call at 647-1983 and remind him he's still part of the family, and you are there with moral and personal support.

Recent Past at Unity

We had our end-of-December celebrations. Lodge members and the Ladies from Starlight Chapter, OES, came together with Jim the Magician and good ole' St. Nick. Junior Warden, Chad Kyler; Steward, Ted Wolfley; Senior Warden, John Jamele; Junior Deacon, Tom Perrone, and their significant others provided the meal, set up and dismantled equipment. A Lodge or Chapter cannot oper-

ate effectively without such dedication from members.

In January, we not only heard what our financial status was at one of our Communications, but culminated our first series of Degrees when Brothers John Lemke and Sam Augello became Master Masons and members of Unity Lodge. Congratulate them when you see them!

R.: W.: Joe Privitera is keeping us current on the elevator.

The Merger is Complete!

Our DDGM, R.: W.: Gary Sanford, has informed me that the long-awaited word from Grand Lodge has been received! Churchville Lodge has become part of Unity Lodge. This will be one for the history books as it was in 1867 when Etolian Lodge sponsored the Churchville Lodge creation. A celebration date is being planned and I would ask that ALL Masons reading this column plan to come out and celebrate with us! Please contact our Treasurer W.: Tom Michielsen at 352-4831 for details.

The "West Side" now consists of three Lodges - Clio in Hilton, Oatka in Scottsville and Unity in Spencerport. Take a look at the "blog" www.spencerportny.com where a son of our member R.: W.: Jay McCullough has captured the history of Etolian Lodge that was in the Unity Lodge Dedication Ceremony. Not only are we recorded there, but the recently released movie *National Velvet II* has renewed interest in this Craft of ours. Our District Deputy has more to say on the subject of Masonry in the media.

What's to Come?

On February 11th, a Tartan Square Club Program will be featured at our regular Communication. If you don't know what that body is, here's your chance to learn all about it.

This will be followed by our return to the presentation of the Entered Apprentice Degree on February 25th. Our Secretary, R.: W.: Brother David Jones, will assume the East for the Degree. Should we not have a Candidate in waiting, the Junior Warden will conduct a program of his choice.

As always, dinner will be served at 6 p.m. on Degree nights, so confirm with the Secretary, 647-9896; or the Treasurer, 352-4831, in the case of the February Degree night. In the quarries then, my Brothers!

A Note from a Deployed Brother

Greetings! I just wanted to wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year, and many thanks for the care package and cards I received over the Holidays. It truly brightened my day knowing that folks back home are thinking of us here in the "Bread Basket of Civilization."

Please send my regrets to the gracious Ladies of Etolian Chapter, for not being able to attend dinner on January 14th. I do intend to make it a point not to miss their excellent cooking upon my return.

Our time here is moving along steadily, and we're down to four months left on this deployment. I'm really looking forward to coming home and cutting the grass on my lawn this Summer!!! "Then we shall fight in the shade..."

From Tyler Ekwel in Iraq

Elevator Update

By Joe Privitera

The elevator for Unity Lodge is progressing on schedule. By December 28th, the shaft was framed and the drywall was being nailed to the framing. On Monday, January 14th, the installation of the "LU/LA" (Limited Use/Limited Access) elevator was scheduled to begin.

The door to the outside has to be installed, the security system must be put in place, and many other detailed things have to be done. With time, patience, and perseverance we will accomplish this task.

This project is scheduled to be completed in early February. We will have the appropriate ribbon cutting on a date to be announced.

We all owe a great deal of gratitude to W.: Tom Michielsen for being the contact person in this effort. Without Tom, this project would have been more difficult to complete. ✕

NORTHFIELD

Lodge No. 426

Instituted March 1857

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.



Master
W.: William
D. Spillane
334-6596

W.: John A. Dudley, Secretary

586-6426

jdudley1@rochester.rr.com

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

For as far back as I can recall, I have always waited with bated breath for Punxsutawney Phil's prediction to see how much more fun time I could eke out of my dwindling Wintry Days. There's always so much to do in the Winter.

Perhaps I should pause a second, for those of you who haven't been yet properly acquainted - Punxsutawney Phil is the name of the groundhog living in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, who receives headline news on February 2nd when he comes out of his home on Gobbler's Knob to predict how much longer Winter will last. Purportedly, if he sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of the Winter; if not, we can expect an early Spring.

According to his Official Spokesman on his official web page, <http://www.groundhog.org>, he has been accurately making predictions for 120 years. Can you imagine being that sharp after all that time? Especially for a rodent that normally only lives six to ten years. Maybe it's because he's a celebrity; he doesn't have to engage in the life-shortening labor of "chucking wood" (groundhogs and woodchucks being the same animal). He can devote more time to his famed precognitive meteorological pursuits. But, I digress.

As I was saying, there's always so much to do in the Winter! Our recent bout of balmy days had really set me on my heels! Who ever heard of 65-degree weather in January? All that wonderful snow was gone in a snap. It didn't even make the ground all mushy like Spring normally does...it just kind of sublimated. As my sled languished in the shed, and my skis mocked my doleful caprice, I was stricken with an epiphany. Just because there's no snow, doesn't mean there isn't anything to do.

On February 7th, any and all Brethren are welcome to come join us at our regular Communication, which is also our Sport Shirt Night. That evening we will also be honoring the Past Masters of our Lodge.

In keeping with the traditions of St. Valentine's Day, we are sponsoring a Sweethearts and Ladies Night on Saturday, February 16th. The details of this night are a surprise. Suffice to say, it will be a great chance for us to honor those who give us our measure of Cabletow to participate as we do.

And, finally, our Trestleboard shows that we have a 1st Degree scheduled for February 21st. As of this time, there are no Candidates, so it looks to be just a rehearsal for us. So, my original thought is true - there is a LOT to do this Winter!

Brother Jim Deasey, for example, is the Chairman for our Lodge's newly formed Fundraising Committee. He reported a successful completion to our first undertaking: candy bar sales. With a small sum voted upon by the brethren, the fundraiser doubled our seed money. Inspired by this success, some Brothers have offered to the committee other fundraising ideas, and we all look forward to the next attempt.

Have-a-Heart Campaign

Also, February is Have-a-Heart Campaign month for all of us. Thanks to Brother Josh Loepker, our Have-a-Heart Chairman. The Brothers at Northfield Lodge look forward to seeing you at Eastview Mall on February 2nd. Last year, we (as Masons) made a significant accomplishment, as I recall. I also remember seeing a lot of people shy away from us, and guiltily avert their eyes. I don't know what kind of experience they've had with other such drives, but I know that we all made sure to warmly thank everyone from the \$10-donor, to the child who shyly gave us a nickel, to the busy lady that dumped the jumble of change in her purse into our jar. No donation is too small, and even just a friendly hail is always welcome. If you see us, please stop and chat!

In other news, our Treasurer, R.: W.: Dean Smith, will be taking a sabbatical for the rest of the Winter. Brother Josh Loepker, has stepped up to the challenge, and was voted in by the Brethren to act as Treasurer pro-tem. Brother Loepker is very excited about this and has worked very diligently with Brother Smith and our Worshipful Master, R.: W.: William D. Spillane to ensure a safe and efficient transfer of responsibilities.

One Last Note ...

The Traveling Gavel has become comfortably ensconced within our chambers. It is a fixture, to be sure, as much as the mortar that holds the stones of our building together. It's been there so long, I simply can't imagine the Northeast corner of our Lodge Room without it there. But, by now, I've realized that such an occurrence is certainly far-fetched. I've wheedled, cajoled, and even implored, but to no avail. I now realize that no Lodge has shown the temerity to attempt such a dangerous undertaking, nor are they likely to do so. I can understand their dread. Our Lodge is filled with such dire threats as genial men in suits and aprons, good food (on occasion), and a rich history. Only the stoutest heart could possibly contend with laughter and lively conversation. The mere ideas that seven men could overcome such dangers is ludicrous, let alone rescue a guarded and coveted relic, such as the Traveling Gavel. Ah, such things are what inspire legends, no doubt. ✕

Fairport-Flower City

Lodge No. 476

2nd & 4th
Mondays
7:30 p.m.



Master
W.: G. Michael
Morris
223-2828

morris@apollooptical.com

Secretary - 383-1947

W.: George R. Bracht

geobracht@juno.com

Fairport Masonic Temple

87 South Main Street

In January, we started out the year right! We had a good turnout at the "Dinner with Our Ladies" Night at NapaGino's Italian Restaurant on January 10th. There were 16 people in attendance. Everyone had a great time, and I assure you that no one went away hungry!

On January 14th, the Shrine Degree Team turned out in full force to confer the 3rd Degree with Brother John Faro in the East. It was an impressive Degree! Over 40 Brothers were in attendance and were treated to the renowned "Fairport-Flower City Steak Dinner." Special thanks to Head Chef, Tom Goodrich, Master Steak Chef, Kel Kelsey, Sy Kopen, Brian Bills, Greg Ludwig and Bernie Lazerson and all the Brothers who helped make the dinner one to remember.

February Events

This month we will be holding our "Dinner with Our Ladies" night on Thursday, February 7th, at the Fairport Village Inn, 103 N. Main Street. As you may know, the Fairport Village

Continued on Page 8



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Fairport-Flower City

Continued from Page 7

Inn is owned and operated by one of our own - Brother Wayne Beckwith. The food will be spectacular. Come join the fun and fellowship. Heads up, Brother Wayne - you can expect a crowd that night! Social - 6 p.m.; Dinner - 6:30 p.m. For reservations, please contact Worshipful Brother Bernie Lazerson by Tuesday, February 5th; Phone: 271-7446 or email:

lazerbd12@aol.com.

Stated Meeting

At our stated meeting Monday, February 11th, the program will be a "Walk About the Lodge" for our newly Raised Master Masons. Lodge will open at 7:30 p.m.

"Have-a-Heart" Campaign

The Annual "Have-a-Heart" Campaign to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House will be taking place from February 1-14. Fairport-Flower City Lodge is being asked to staff the booth at the East View Mall on two days this year - Wednesday, February 6th and Wednesday, February 13th. The Have-a-Heart booth will be open from 12 noon - 9 p.m. Each day there will be three shifts - 12 noon to 3 p.m., 3 - 6 p.m. and 6 - 9 p.m. Ideally, we would like to have at least two to four people during each shift. Brothers, spouses,

kids and friends are all welcome and encouraged to participate. Make it a family affair! To volunteer for this year's Have-a-Heart Campaign, please contact me to sign up for a time slot - Worshipful Mike Morris, (223-2828; email: morris@apolloptical.com.

Thank you for your commitment and support for this important and worthwhile community fundraising event!

Union Star Table Lodge

On Monday, February 25th, the members of Fairport-Flower City Lodge are invited to join our Brethren at Union Star Lodge for a special Table Lodge to be held at the Union Star Lodge, 3 North Main Street in Honeoye Falls at 6:30 p.m. As I understand it, our Brothers at Union Star really know how to party! Come join the festivities. It will be a memorable evening! For dinner reservations, please contact our Junior Warden, Worshipful Brother Sy Kopen, by Thursday, February 21st (377-4435, e-mail: sgkopen@frontiernet.net)

February Birthdays

Lastly, I wish "Happy Birthdays" to our Brothers who have birthdays in February:

Peter Swanson (2nd), Terrence Adams (3rd), Daniel Barish (6th), Ralph Hansen (7th), George Bracht (12th), Michael DeSpain (13th), Richard Bud-

geon (15th), Fredrick Ogborne II (18th) and Bruce Keplin (26th).

Masonic Anniversaries

Best wishes also to the following Brothers who were Raised during the month of February:

1948 - Maurice Solomon

1950 - Hank Wiener

1953 - Philip Kates

1955 - David Stein

1975 - Reed Patterson

As always, if you have any questions, suggestions or comments, or know of a Brother in need of our aid or sympathy, please let me know.

See you in Lodge!

F A M E
Lodge No. 722

2nd & 4th Thursdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
V. W. Daniel Walker
429-6572
optidan@frontiernet.net

Secretary
W. David Foster
244-0194
dnfveg@rochester.rr.com
979 Bay Road, Webster

We had a great kick-off to 2008 with a really nice Brother Bring-a-Friend Night on the 10th of January. Thanks to all who were there and to the four guests. Encourage them to fill out the Petitions as soon as possible. We need to "do our stuff" before the 2nd meeting in February.

Also, in attendance at our BBAF Night, was our then Fellowcraft, Tony Digiaco. Next time you see him, welcome him to our Lodge. With two Brothers from their Lodge, he took his 3rd Degree at Fairport-Flower City Lodge on January 14th. I thank them for allowing us to ride on their coattails for the Degree. They had a wonderful Steak Dinner prior to the meeting. The Shrine Degree Team performed a dynamic Degree with about 24 of them present.

Upcoming Events

We are scheduled to staff the "Have-a-Heart" booth at The Mall at Greece Ridge on our usual day and time - Sunday, February 10th. I am guessing we will be somewhere in the connector near J.C. Penny's. This will be from 12 noon 'til 6 p.m. and, if you want to help out with any of the other shifts, please let me know and I will let our Coordinator know.

Next will be Sunday, February 24th, which is our Annual Fame Lodge Ladies Gala at Nick's Seabreeze Inn. We'll gather around 3:30 p.m. and eat around 4:15 p.m. It will again

be a Buffet Dinner and prospective members and our widows will be invited. I would like to see a turnout of around 40 folks. That would be a lot of fun.

February 28th we will confer the Entered Apprentice Degree. If you are doing a part, please look at it and do your best to memorize it. If you have any questions about the work or your part, please ask me. Having served three years as an AGL, if I don't know what it is, I'll find it for you.

Our 2nd Degree will be March 27th and the 3rd Degree will be April 24th. We will be doing a Lodge of Remembrance on April 10th. We have three years to catch up on. Then on Saturday, April 26th there is the Annual Widows Luncheon. This will be at the Burgundy Basin Inn and we will need a couple of

Brothers to drive. We also have a couple of new widows this year and we need to do all we can to make them feel welcome.

After that, Linda, Lindsey and I will be taking a train to NYC for Grand Lodge on May 3rd-6th.

Well, that's the news, as I know it. If you have any ideas for the Masonic Minute for next year, please let our Senior Warden know. Also, if you would like a certain Office next year, let our Senior Warden, Doug Jones, know ASAP as he is putting his Trestleboard together for next year, if so elected. **Please** elect someone. Two years as Master is plenty and I am looking forward to serving the Lodge in a much less capacity than Master.

Once again, remember that many hands make light work. We'll see you in Lodge. Peace. ✕

Angie Retires

Continued from Page 1

friend Glen Wood for all the wonderful words they spoke about me. It truly meant a lot to me and I will never forget all of you.

Having my personal family by my side on this important day also made it a lot easier to leave my "Masonic Family." Also, I thank all the people in the Administration Building for the Chesterfield's Gift Card and other wonderful gifts.

Have a wonderful New Year and may God Bless you all!

We wish you well, Angie! Enjoy your retirement in good health and God bless you and your family. ✕



Angie standing in front of a Masonic Care Community exhibit booth, along with Rob Lauducci and Cindy Dardano, while promoting the services of the M. C. C. at a public event.



Angie Caiola receiving her 15-year Employee Award from Executive Director, Bill Luley (right), and Associate Executive Director, Keith Heinrich (left). She is surrounded by her friends and colleagues, including (from left to right) Ira Cooperman, Cindy Dardano, Keith Heinrich, Rob Raffle, Bill Luley and Rob Lauducci.

CLIO
Lodge No. 779

1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W. George L. Todd
964-5809
gtodd@rgta.com

Secretary
W. Sean Noonan, 392-8156
snoonan@esl.org
287 East Avenue, Hilton, 14468
www.mastermason.com/clio779

Would you believe it's the middle of January and there is no snow cover? I am sure we will pay before Spring. But each day without snow means there will be fewer days we have to endure prior to Spring.

I have very little to report because we haven't met prior to submitting this article. Therefore, I will use this to let you know of February Birthdays, Upcoming Events and a little Masonic prose.

Staffing the Booth

Thanks and a job well done to all the Brothers, Sisters of Leah Chapter and the Triangle Girls who have committed to staff the Have-a-Heart booth

for three days. It's effort like yours that makes this a very successful event. Your efforts will be greatly appreciated by the families who use the Ronald McDonald Houses.

February Birthdays

Tony Panella, Claude Barclay, Scott Brickman, David Goodrich, Joseph Bresko, William Hess, Larry McCracken, Gus Neidrich, William Rate and Jeff Ross. My apologies if I omitted your name. Call or email me and let me know.

Upcoming Events Spaghetti Dinners

For the rest of this Masonic year, including June, the Spaghetti Dinner schedule is:

February 13th and 27th

March 3rd and 12th

April 9th and 23rd

May 14th and 28th

June 11th

Other Events

March 31st - Clio Lodge will host the School of Ritual.

April 26th - Widows Luncheon, Burgundy Basin Inn; Reservations required.

May 3rd - Ox Roast; This is our big fundraiser for the year. Your help will be needed.

I See You've Traveled Some

Wherever you may chance to be, wherever you may roam,
Far away in foreign lands, or just at Home Sweet Home.
It always gives you pleasure, it makes your heartstrings hum
Just to hear the words of cheer, "I see you've traveled some."

When you get a Brother's greeting, and he takes you by the hand,
It thrills you with a feeling that you cannot understand.
You feel that bond of Brotherhood that tie that's sure to come
When you hear him say in a friendly way "I see you've traveled some."

And, if you are a stranger in strange lands all alone,
If fate has left you stranded dead broke and far from home;
It thrills you; makes you numb,
When he says with a grip of fellowship, "I see you've traveled some."

And when your final summons comes, to take a last long trip,
Adorned with Lambskin's Apron White and gems of fellowship;
The Tiler at the Golden Gate, with square and rule and plumb,
Will size up your pin and say, "Walk In; I see you've traveled some."

Author Unknown ✕



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Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

February 2008

Shrine and Divan Meetings:
Dinner Reservations Required
Call: (585) 671-7701 or (585) 671-3565

Shrine Office Hours:
Monday — Friday
9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.



LARRY CANFIELD
POTENTATE

Thank you to everyone who attended our Open Installation. We had more than 160 in attendance making it an evening I will never forget. So many folks helped make the night really special. They are Chief Aide, Noble Norris Shapiro, Noble Rick Ponticello and all the Wheelers who did an outstanding job providing everyone with a great Steak Dinner with all the trimmings. Thanks to the Triangle Girls and the DeMolay Boys for serving the dinner along with the Wheelers. Also, to my Lady



JIM SLOCUM
RECORDER

We are off and running with a new Potentate and some new Members on the Divan. We have some new ideas from the new Potentate and Members and should be an exciting year, as you know it is as exciting as you want to make it by being involved.

We had a real big turnout for the Open Installation and program. The patient from the Erie Hospital sure opened people's eyes as to what the Shrine is all about in helping kids live a normal life, and how appreciative the parents are for what we do. Remember, this year Erie Hospital Day is June 1st. A bus is being lined up for anybody to travel to Erie and

Ellie and Betty Nohle for the decorations, and Noble Oscar Wilson and his bar crew for all their hard work.

Everyone enjoyed seeing Emma, our Hospital patient, who made the night; thanks to Rich Friedman for making the arrangements. Congratulations to all the Club and Unit Representatives who were installed.

Your Divan has put together some programs for the year, which we hope will be both interesting and enjoyable for everyone. Our main theme for the year is the Hospital Children. You will notice a very large piggy bank on the bar. It is part of our fundraising efforts this year. Please feel free to drop in some change and, yes, quiet money is also okay. All monies collected will be donated to our Hospitals.

We would encourage you to use the website for information about coming events. It will be kept current so you can learn what is happening in your Shrine Center. We will also publish upcoming events via email and other forms of communication. Our goal is to make sure everyone is informed regarding activities.

Remember your Divan is here to help. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or any member of your Divan. Let's communicate and have a nice year for everyone.

see one of the jewels of our system. If you are interested, let me know in the Office and we will put you on the list.

Sad News

I am sorry to report that we had to say goodbye to a very dear and close friend, Past Commander of the Legion of Honor, a husband, a father and a grandfather, Noble James Lynch, who has gone to the Great Architect of the Universe. Jim was one-of-a-kind, always ready for fun and a party, and he loved to play golf. We will miss him very much. There were a lot of family and friends who paid tribute to him at a Wake held at the Shrine Center.

Membership

It is with a heavy heart that we had to drop some members for Non-Payment of their Dues for two years. The Shrine cannot afford to continue to carry them and still support the Hospitals and other programs. If you know (or think of) somebody who has not paid their Dues (and are wondering what happened), let me know and maybe we can help in some way.

It's time to really start to shake the bushes for new members to join the Shrine. I know the Membership Committee is working hard, but we need new members to replace the Nobles we have lost to the Black Camel and NPD. If you don't have a Petition, pick up one or two from the Office. You never know when you might have someone come up to you who might just ask, "How do I become a Shriner?"

Public Installation Ceremony for 2008 Potentate, Larry Canfield



Installing Officer, Ill.: Bruce Chilton, PP, hands gavel of authority to newly-installed Potentate Larry Canfield

By Cyrus Kloner, PP

I was fortunate to attend the Public Installation of Officers at Damascus Shrine Center on January 5th. I am certainly glad I did. As President of the Caberi and a Past Potentate who truly cares about our Temple, I walked out of that building with a renewed confidence and faith in the future of our Shrine. It would not serve any purpose to delineate the worries that existed, but I can tell you that, because of this Installation, I (along with many other Nobles) have high hopes.

There were 168 in attendance for dinner. That, in itself, is incredible. There was a buzz going around that they didn't know how they were going to seat everyone in the Meeting Room. There were only 152 place settings and that was with an overflow table. Boy, those are nice problems to have. We haven't had these situations in quite a while.

The dinner was the traditional "Shell-a-Buck" Dinner - \$1 for Nobles with a 2008 Dues Card, and \$10 for guests. The Wheelers prepared the dinner along with Chief Aide, Noble Norris Shapiro, and they outdid themselves. Nobles, we are fortunate to have a Unit that is this willing to do what they continue to do for Damascus. The dinner was served. Yes, served. It was a sit-down dinner, which was also a treat because we don't get too many of those. The Triangle Girls and DeMolay Boys shared the task of serving and they did a great job.

Because of the number of people for dinner, the Installation time was delayed by a half hour, but no one seemed to mind. Noble and R.:W.: Paul R. Gleason was called upon for the Invocation. Because it was a Public Installation, Ill.: Bruce Chilton, PP, read a short history of the Shrine stating how it was founded, by whom and what it is today. As I listened to what he was saying, I glanced around the room and felt a total sense of pride from the Nobles and guests in the room.

We hear about our Hospitals and the good work they do all the time. Rarely do we have the opportunity to hear someone speak solemnly, while all around him there was a little girl running, jumping

and playing - caught up in her imaginary world and oblivious to the people and her surroundings. In fact, I think a few people were a little annoyed with "Emma" until she was later introduced as a patient of our Erie Hospital. (I'll tell that story later.)



Emma in the "East."

Bruce called for and installed the Presiding Officers of the Clubs and Units. Mike Grady, the Installing Marshal, escorted the Elected and Appointed Divan West of the Altar for Installation. As I listened to the words and watched as Bruce delivered them, it seemed as if he has written them and was really asking the Divan for a commitment to the words. Their responses sounded sincere and they appeared excited to be a part of it. The Potentate, Lawrence Canfield, was given his obligation and escorted to the East. His wife, Ellie, was invited to the East and presented Larry with a special gavel. Bruce finished the Installation and handed the gavel of authority to Larry.



Ellie Canfield made special gavel presentation to husband Larry, following the public installation ceremony.

The newly installed Potentate then spoke and his message was clear as a bell. As he spoke, he made eye contact with everyone in the room and promised a few things, which I would term as "back to basics." He promised there would be more communication and more fun. He said he wanted the atmosphere to be one of warmth, fellowship and friendship. He wants the Shrine Center to feel like home to the Nobles that be-

Continued on Page 12

For Dinner Reservations
Call the Hotline - 671-3565
 by Monday morning
 of Meeting Week

Public Installation

Continued from Page 9

long. He said all the usual comments regarding membership and stated there would be a greater commitment to our Hospitals. From the look in the eyes of the Divan, I surmised this had already been discussed and agreed upon. If I am right, we have made the first step toward better communication and a stronger Temple. After his talk, Larry asked his son and daughter-in-law, who flew in from Florida, to make a presentation.

The Potentate thanked everyone for coming and the people responsible for cooking and serving and he invited the Beloved Queen of Triangle and a Representative of DeMolay to share a few words. It was truly enjoyable to have the Masonic youth groups with us.

The end of the evening was highlighted by our High Priest and Prophet, Rich Friedman, who introduced the Guest of Honor, Erin, mother of Emma. She came to the podium with Emma, the little girl



Emma and her mom, Erin Barush.

who was running around the room while Bruce was speaking. I now know why he had a smile on his face. Emma, up until six months ago, had a cast on the lower half of her body. Erin explained to us she was told at a local hospital that



Officers of the Clubs and Units of Damascus Shriners (above) were installed on January 5th at the Public Installation Ceremony in the Shrine Center. Elected and Appointed Officers (below) were also installed. The event was preceded by a Steak Dinner. Damascus Wheelers, under the direction of Chief Aide, Noble Norris Shapiro, cooked the Steaks, while young ladies from Fidelity Chapter of the Order of Triangle and young men from the Rochester Chapter, Order of DeMolay, waited tables for this sit-down event. The night was capped off with Eric Hospital patient, 2-1/2-year-old Emma Barush, thanking the Shriners for making it possible for her to walk.



Emma would never walk. As I looked around the room, I saw grown men's lips quivering. We Nobles all have the same feelings regarding our love for a child. Emma then leaned into the microphone and said, "Thank you," and that tied our hearts in knots. After leaving the podium, Emma came up to me, as I sat in the Junior Warden's chair, on her own. I looked down at her and she said, "I love you," as she did to other Nobles.

My faith has been renewed, Nobles, and I will (as I hope all of you) endeavor to help the Divan and Temple in any way I can. This was a fantastic start for a new year at Damascus and I am happy to be a part of it.

Calendar Winners for December

DAY	NO.	WINNER
12/1	532	Matt Fisher
12/2	976	Paul Zielinski
12/3	839	Craig Coleman
12/4	137	Damascus Shrine
12/5	758	Christine Smith
12/6	000	Damascus Office
12/7	268	Doris Colegrove
12/8	540	Donald Cox
12/9	961	Daniel Pritchard
12/10	131	BJ Radford
12/11	036	Damascus Shrine
12/12	957	Damascus Shrine
12/13	803	Dennis Guzalak
12/14	643	Damascus Shrine
12/15	529	Sarah Wilson
12/16	812	Beth Bowman
12/17	783	Marilei Stallery
12/18	479	Joe Nye
12/19	117	Damascus Shrine
12/20	140	Brian Wells
12/21	845	Lance Ward
12/22	522	Cynthia Fitzgerald
12/23	325	Kathleen Cororan
12/24	154	Nick Verdino
12/25		XMAS
12/26	695	Cindy Zink
12/27	060	Ronald Stephens
12/28	420	David Swanson
12/29	084	Damascus Shrine
12/30	910	Gerald Dunst
12/31	027	Jim Slocum

We thank all the boosters of the Damascus News for 2008:

- Chapin & Jean Blake
- Ken & Mary Buckland
- Dan & Marie Emerson
- John Faro
- Henry & Shirley Tunk
- Franklyn Ghysel
- Russ & Mary Gillett
- John & Mary Henderson
- Edgar & Mary Louise Hallowedel
- Larry & Marge Wood
- Douglas & Ruth Hunt
- Robert Hunt
- Dave & Edna King
- Don & Winnie McDill
- Joseph D Nye II
- Rose Paprocki
- In Memory of Eva M Patterson
- Norris & Annette Shapiro
- Jim & Beverly Slocum
- Ron & Mary Sterling
- Ted & Bonnie Tennant
- Jim Toogood
- Wayne Wagner
- Lance & Lynn Ward
- Skip & Diane Waterstreet

Want to sign up?
There's still time...\$10/year.
Contact Nicole in the Shrine Office - 671-7701

Save the Date!

Imperial Session

June 30th - July 3rd

Riverboat Cruise City Tours Many Activities

Watch for Details in March and April Damascus News



St. Louis, Missouri

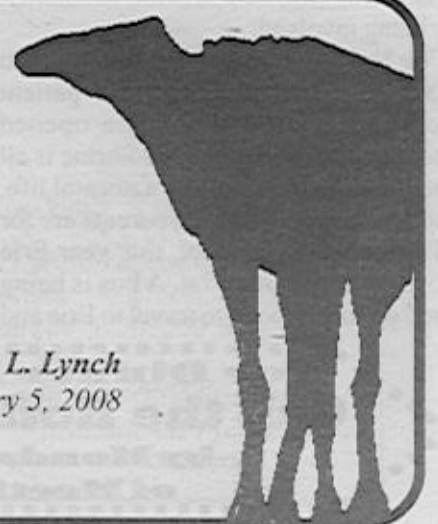
Nobles Celebrating

February Birthdays:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Terrence M. Adams | Gerald K. Harrell | James H. Pray |
| Jeffrey W. Amering | James R. Hart | David B. Riddervold |
| William R. Anderson | Robert G. Helmes | Rodney R. Rittenhouse |
| Bryan C. Anderson | Richard A. Henderson | William Samar |
| Robert C. Black | Scott A. Herzog | Albert O. Schnabel |
| William T. Boyd | James W. Hess | Dale E. Shatzer |
| George R. Bracht | Donald R. Hockenbrock | Douglas C. Spencer |
| Glenn O. Brown | Richard J. Hodges | Herbert Spencer |
| Richard C. Budgeon | Robert P. Hunt | William D. Spillane |
| Charles P. Buisch | H. Douglas Jones | Gary A. Stewart |
| John Cambareri | Ben R. Keel | Ernest L. Swan |
| Lawrence K. Canfield | Donald Krech | Dayne A. Tharrett |
| Richard W. Chapple | Joseph R. Lorah | James E. Toogood |
| George D. Cox | Robert W. Miller | James VanHouten |
| Fred R. Dittiro | John R. Miller | James E. VanSickle |
| Wallace E. Farnsworth | James Miller | Wayne W. Wagner |
| James N. Fegley | John N. Mosher | Donald A. Waizer |
| George Fogarassy | Michael Nohle | Lawrence E. Wetherbee |
| Maurice W. Guinup | F. T. Norter | John G. Whlen |
| Ralph A. Hansen | E. Robertson North | Mark M. Wishman |
| | Theodore H. Peck | |

Dedicated to the Memory of Nobles:

- Harris Nesbitt
December 22, 2007
- Clifford L. Orbaker
December 31, 2007
- James L. Lynch
January 5, 2008
- John A. Moll
January 10, 2008



AUBURN SHRINE CLUB

By Ken Pollard

The New Year is here and the Central New York Winter weather continues to amaze us all. The high winds and cold temperatures did not keep the Planning Committee from meeting to make arrangements for the year's programs. President Gerry Stanton and our Officers are planning to have the most successful year in our long history.

The plans for 2008 include a Valentine's Party, a Sunday Brunch, several interesting speakers, our Steak Roast, a Wine Tasting and, in support of Damascus Shriners, a special night at the Merry-Go-Round Theater. Notices will be sent to all Members, so plan to support the Club and the children at our Hospitals.

Speaking of support, in December the Auburn Shrine Club presented the Shrine Hospital in Springfield with a \$600 check from our treasury as well as \$283.40 from the sale of aluminum tabs. This allowed us to reach our goal of \$2000 in tab sales in 2007. Actually, Damascus Shriners, our Club and many of our friends collected 2,943 pounds of aluminum tabs for a total value of \$2,024.15 - every penny of which went to the Shrine Hospitals. Let's do better in 2008.

While we can point with pride to this figure, let us not overlook the needs that we, as Shriners, have to keep our hospitals viable and on the cutting edge of technology, which is changing fast. In 2007, Shriners spent \$23 every second of every hour of every day to take care of children in our hospitals. And this figure will grow in 2008.

Our Shrine Hospital System is a vibrant, expanding, dynamic Institution. Currently, the Shrine is planning to build or is building, three new Hospitals to replace existing facilities in Honolulu, Los Angeles and St. Louis. In addition, renovations and expansions are taking place

in our Portland, Philadelphia and Shreveport Hospitals. Even as the new Hospital in Honolulu is going up, our surgeons there are planning to carry out the same number of surgeries - 550 a year - in a \$1.4 million mobile operating trailer. These are remarkable and exciting times to be a Shriner.

The Shrine Circus will be held April 25th, 26th and 27th in Rochester. Please pencil in these dates on your calendar so we can man our food booth or do other work at the Circus to make it a huge success. To achieve this will take many hands and many people in the seats. Let's start talking it up.

The calendar sales are over and the reigning champion in sales remains Champion - Sandy Schenck - who was closing in on 100 calendars sold when I



Champion Calendar salesperson for 2006, 2007 and now 2008 - Sandy Schenck. It looks like she will make her goal of selling 100 or more calendars for the Damascus Shriners fundraiser. That is certainly an accomplishment of which to be very proud. Standing with Sandy, is the Vice-President of the Auburn Shrine Club, John Cambareri. John also headed up the Club's Sales Program. Thanks, Sandy, for a job well done.

last talked with her That is an amazing feat by any standard. Thanks, Sandy, for your support. John Cambareri, our Club Vice-President and Chairman of the Calendar Sales, thanks all who supported the effort. I understand that Larry Pritchard and Don Heath, both Past Club Presidents, did their share. I am sure there are others who sold many calendars and we thank each and every one.

Ted Tennant's wife, Bonnie, is in the Hospital. She was able to attend the Geneva Christmas Party and she and Ted had a nice time. Actually, everyone who attended had a wonderful time. The food was well prepared and served, the speeches short, the music was exceptional so that everyone had a truly great time. The Auburn Shrine Club donated the door prizes. We thank Bob and Marilyn Coleman for not only getting the very nice prizes, but for wrapping them and presenting them to the lucky winners. It was First Class all the way.



Officers of the Auburn Shrine Club. Standing (l-r) are: President, Gerald Stanton, and Treasurer, Charles Minster. Front row is Vice-President, John Cambareri and Secretary, David Bowman. This active Club has big plans for continuing its activities to get children for our Hospitals and to build support of the increasing needs of our 22 Hospitals. Join us for the fun and satisfaction of supporting the World's Greatest Philanthropy.

SHRINEABILIA

By Derek VanHouten, PP

The Winner!

Noble John Faro was the first correct answer in naming M.: W.: Clarence Henry in the January issue of the *Masonic Times*. He will receive a free meal at the February meeting. Thanks, John, for reading the *Masonic Times*.

New Question...

In 1984 Rochester celebrated its Sesquicentennial, 1834-1984. What historical item was brought to Rochester and was on display at the Masonic Temple on April 8th, 1984? Noble and R.: W.: Fritz Friedrich was the Chairman for the event. If you know the answer call me at 585-247-2920; first one will get a free dinner at the March Shrine Meeting.

**Reservation
Hot Line
(585) 671-3565**

PERRY SHRINE CLUB

By Ed Hollwedel

The Officers of the Perry Shrine Club for 2008 are Edgar Hollwedel, President; Clarence Bogardus, Vice-President; and Russell Gillett, Treasurer. Our thanks go to Howard Wood for being an Officer for many years.

The February Meeting will be on February 28th at the Hole in the Wall Restaurant in Perry. The Program will be Mr. John Dziedzic from the Wells Fargo Bank to talk about Reverse Mortgages.

As always, Cocktails at 6 p.m.; Dinner at 7 p.m. Order off of the menu. Hope all can attend. Friends and spouses are always welcome.

Joe Marshall, Larry Pritchard, Steve and Candace Sill and Ken Pollard went to Fulton in early December to wish the McKelvey Family well and to see how Seth was doing in his new surroundings. He is the little lad they adopted from China whom we met last May at our Shrine meeting. I am glad to report Seth and the family are doing very well and he gets around with no problem. He will be going to the Shriners Hospital in Springfield to get his prosthetics replaced or repaired for some time as he grows to adulthood.

Many of our members are in the South now. I hope they are enjoying themselves. Included in this group would be Pete Napier, Vern and Beverly Stephens, Bob and Margaret McManus. Larry and Fay Pritchard, Harry and Nancy Dainty, Bill and Janet Grow, Sprague Wheeler, Ed and Glenda Heselton, George Peter, and Gordon and Sally Clarke. So far, no one has wired us for money so they must be sunning themselves.

That is it for this time. Remember, as Henry Ford said, "Whether you think you can or can't, you are probably right." Live well, laugh often, and love much.

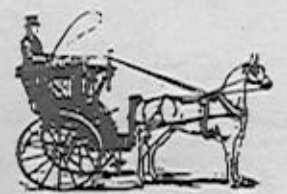
Marshall

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February Shriner and Shrine Center Scheduled Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 <i>Shrine Lunch Club Lalla Rookh Grotto Divan Meeting</i>	5 <i>Primary Election Clown Unit</i>	6 <i>6:00 p.m. Shrine Meeting</i>	7	8	9 <i>Valley of Rochester 18° and 21°</i>
10	11 <i>Shrine Lunch Club ERAC Lodge</i>	12 <i>Valley-Simes Lodge</i>	13 <i>Legion of Honor</i>	14 <i>Fame Lodge</i>	15	16 <i>Grand Lodge iDC Rod & Gun Club[†]</i>
17	18 <i>Shrine Lunch Club Auburn Shrine Club[†]</i>	19 <i>Craftsman Robertson Lodge</i>	20 <i>Lalla Rookh Grotto</i>	21 <i>Valley of Rochester Wayne Shrine Club[†]</i>	22	23 <i>Chili Cook-off and Euchre Tournament</i>
24	25 <i>Shrine Lunch Club ERAC Lodge Geneva Shrine Club[†]</i>	26 <i>Wheelers[†]</i>	27 <i>Directors Staff</i>	28 <i>Fame Lodge Perry Shrine Club[†]</i>	29	

[†] - Off-site event; *Italics* - non-Shrine event

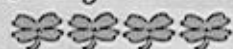
Data current as of January 23, 2008



Damascus Shrine March 5th Meeting

*Come One, Come All!
Come Celebrate St. Patrick's Day
Damascus Shrine Style*

*Enjoy a full Irish Dinner of Succulent
Corned Beef & Cabbage with all the Trimmings*



A great evening of Irish entertainment is being planned as well.

You don't want to miss this one!



Ladies invited to attend.

**PLEASE - RSVP to the Office at 671-7701
or the Reservation Line at 671-3565
no later than Monday, March 3rd**

Damascus Shriners

WINTER PIGNIG

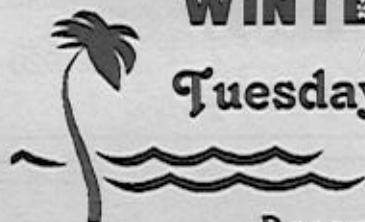
(in Florida)

Tuesday, February 5th

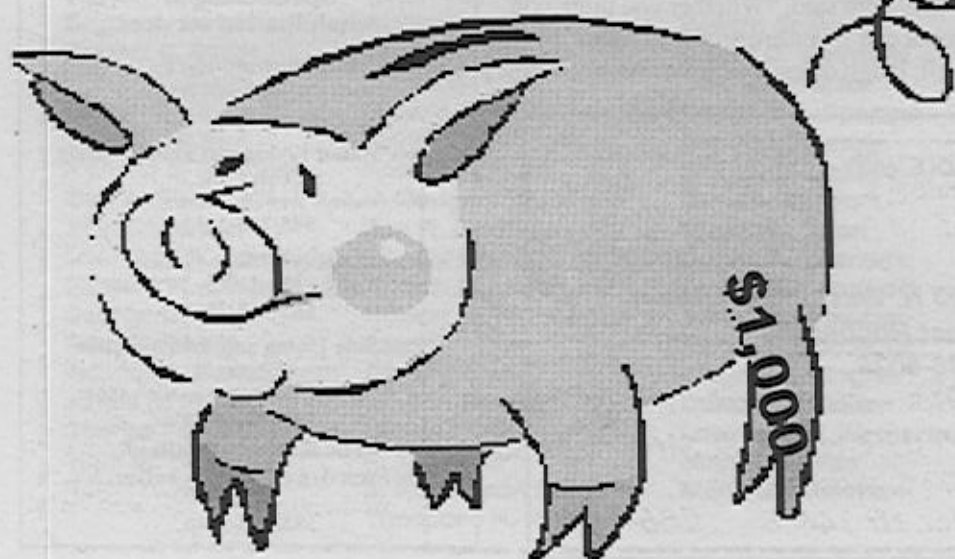
at Punta Gorda Elks Club
Punta Gorda, Florida

Reservations Required!

Call: McKinley Gath (941) 639-9464



*Fill the Piggy Bank to help the Kids at
Shriners Hospitals - Larry Canfield, Potentate*



DIRECTORS STAFF

By Vance Collum

I hope you have not broken any of your New Year's Resolutions yet! Many of us believe that New Year is a time of new beginnings, when we make a mental note of our lives and pledge to ourselves to change a few things. It is very difficult to change a habit or routine and most people admit to failing early and often. I have found that I am more likely to succeed if I work with others who have the same objectives.

It's time to make that New Year's resolution to join the Directors Staff (D.S.). We hold our meetings at DiPacific's Restaurant and have had many good meals and fellowship together.

A number of our members attended the Holiday Party at Club 86 in Geneva. It was a gala event with a corsage and gift of crystal angels for the Ladies. The food and drink were great and each couple had a color photo of themselves and a large poinsettia to take home. Prizes and baskets were raffled off including a money tree from the D.S. Many thanks to Carl and Joan Mason for putting the tree together. The money tree is a coveted prize. Congratulations to Barbara and Joseph Minas who won a large gift basket of goodies.

Circus, Circus, Circus

The Shrine Circus will be here soon and it is not too early to sign up to help out at the D.S. Novelty Stand. Set up/battery day will be Thursday, April 24th

and the Novelty Stand will be open on Friday, April 25th (1 Performance), Saturday, April 26th (3 Performances) and Sunday, April 27th (2 Performances.) We need 3-4 Nobles and/or Ladies to operate the stand for each performance. Let Ron or me know which performances you can work. Working in the stand is a lot of fun and there is never a dull moment when Intermission comes.

The Shrine Directors Association Convention is coming up on April 9th - 12th. Contact Director Lee Collier for forms and information if you would like to attend. There is more information on website: www.shrinedirectors.com Click on "TRIPOLI SHRINERS" then click on "Get 2008 Convention Info Here."

A Hot Sands Degree is scheduled for June 4th. The D.S. will put on several skits after the Hot Sands Degree. Contact me if you would like to help prepare a new skit for this Degree. The skits are designed for the enjoyment of all and any Noble who would like to participate in a skit is welcome to join the D.S.

We will continue to hold our meetings at DiPacific's Restaurant this year. Our next meeting will be February 27th. Social hour is at 5:30 p.m.; Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and everyone orders off the menu. All Nobles and Ladies are invited. I hope you make a New Year's Resolution to come and visit with us at a D.S. Dinner Meeting soon.

Until next time, God Bless.

CHILI COOK-OFF February 23rd
and
EUCHRE TOURNAMENT 1 - 5 p.m.
Shrine Center



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Hesperus Christmas Baskets (l-r) Santa (W.: Don Kunego); W.: Dick Sands, Christmas Basket Activity Coordinator; Max DiPasuale and Nick Bezinque

1st and 3rd Thursdays 12 Lake Avenue Bergen 14416

Master
W.: Donald Kunego, 494-1624
nanapopa@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
Ted Habgood, 964-5862
triadv98@yahoo.com

The Holiday season brought out members of Hesperus Lodge; Hesperus Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and many local organizations to pack Christmas baskets. Even Santa joined in on the fun. Over 100 baskets were distributed to enhance the Holiday Season for many families and individuals through out the community.

Upcoming Degrees
The Hesperus Lodge Degree Team is planning a series of Degrees. If you want to attend any of the Degree dinners (\$10 per person), please RSVP to nanapopa@rochester.rr.com at

Olive Branch
Lodge No. 39, F. & A.M.

1st Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Nevin A. Brick 768-6473

Secretary
W.: Douglas S. Poole 584-3601
dspoole@frontiernet.net

8 West Main Street LeRoy 14482

Things are finally starting to move forward with the sale of the Lodge. The Developer has received most of the zoning approvals that are needed. It appears we will have until August to vacate the current Lodge. So we have our hands full.

Your Officers are working on two fronts. We are looking at possible new locations as well as at what we want to remove from the 8 West Main Street location. We have salvage rights so we are arranging to move things such as the stained glass windows, Masonic hardware, etc. - objects we can incorporate into a new location. We plan to sell what we have no need for.

The Trustees are working with both Grand Lodge and legal advisors to make sure all details are handled correctly. Our current Trustees are Brothers Bob Bachorski, Frank Davis and Jim Nielsen, who have their hands full. We thank them for all the extra work required. The Wor-

least one week prior to the Degree date to insure that you are included in the headcount.

February 21st - 1st Degree; 6:30 p.m. - Dinner; 7:30 p.m. - Degree held at Hesperus Lodge in Bergen

March 15th - 2nd Degree; 6:30 p.m. - Dinner; 7:30 p.m. - Degree held at Olive Branch Lodge in LeRoy (NOTE: This will probably be the last 2nd Degree performed at Olive Branch Lodge.)

April 2nd - 3rd Degree; 6:30pm dinner, 7:30pm - Degree held at Hesperus Lodge in Bergen

Mark your Calendar!

Don't forget that the Annual Hesperus Table Lodge will be February 7th at 6:30p.m.

You don't want to miss our Hesperus Spaghetti Dinner on February 23rd at 4:30 p.m. It will be held at the Gilliam Grant Community Center; West Bergen Road in Bergen.

Also, check out the Trestleboard on our webpage at www.hesperusLodge.com for news and other upcoming events.

God Bless and Stay Safe. ✕

shipful Master, Nevin Brick, is also putting in 110%.

Of course, all normal activities still go on. Our Candidate will be Raised to Master Mason in February. The meetings continue; but, due to all the activity above, are sometimes a bit longer.

There is some good news for our current location. The Karate Center that took all our parking spaces has already moved. Seems great to be able to always get a parking space! See you in Lodge. ✕

Oakland Lodge
No. 379, F. & A.M.

1st and 3rd Tuesdays (Jan., Feb., Mar.: 1st Tuesday only)

Master
W.: Robert E. Kemp 493-5278

Secretary
W.: Richard L. Smith 493-5408

134 South Main Street, Castile 14427

Let me start by apologizing for not getting an article in last month's *Masonic Times*. I was out of town for business and didn't return until after the deadline had passed. I hope my fellow Brothers had a wonderful Holiday Season and a great start to the New Year.

The weather and Holiday Season put a crimp in the regular Communications for Oakland Lodge this year. Our first scheduled Communication for the

month of December was cancelled due to weather conditions. We held a short business meeting on December 18th to get all business caught up before the year ended. Our only scheduled Communication for January had to be rescheduled because it fell on New Year's Day.

Congratulations to the following Brothers who were Raised in the months of:

- December**
1972 - William E. Wallace
1974 - John C. Wahl
1981 - Donald L. Kemp
- January**
1995 - Daniel B. Hamilton
1998 - Thomas L. DeLude and Thomas L. Kemp
2004 - Arthur D. Robinson

February
1982 - Richard L. Smith and David J. Beardsley

By now, every Brother of Oakland Lodge should have received their Dues Notice for 2008. The Secretary has informed me that he has received a great response so far. I would highly recommend those who have not submitted their Dues for the upcoming year to do so as soon as possible. This will prevent you from falling behind a year and having to double up next year.

The Brotherhood Fund Campaign is off and running again; Oakland Lodge has had a great start with contributions rolling in. I thank those Brothers who have already shown their generosity towards this great cause. The Brotherhood Fund Chairperson for Oakland Lodge is Ken Smith. The best place to make your contributions is at our monthly Communication. For those Brothers who are unable to make these Communications, please send your contributions to: Kenneth Smith, 137 Lake Street, Le Roy, NY 14482. Brother Smith asks that, if you're sending your contributions to him by mail, you include a note indicating to which category you would like your contribution designated.

May we never forget those who have and are still fighting to keep our great Nation free and safe. Remember that freedom isn't free and often comes at a great price. A special prayer goes out from this Brother to all those families who had loved ones away from home this Holiday Season and hope that these loved ones soon return home safe. May the blessings of Heaven rest upon all Masons and their families wherever they may be. ✕

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LIVINGSTON DISTRICT MASONIC ASSOCIATION

FOURTH ANNUAL **LADIES NIGHT**
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH
CONESUS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB
1 PINE ALLEY, CONESUS
(585) 346-2100

Cash Bar - 5:30 p.m. • Buffet Dinner - 6:00 p.m.
Program - 7:00 p.m. • Fellowship - 8:00 p.m.

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LADIES NIGHT
Reservation deadline is **Saturday, March 22nd**

Contact
Richard Trescott, 11 Meadowlark Dr, Avon, NY 14414
(585) 226-9042

District Deputy Grand Master Livingston District

R.: W.:
Richard Trescott
226-9042

rtrescot@frontiernet.net

Well, the *Masonic Development Course* is over, Official Visits are done, and the *Road to the East* has begun and will soon be over as well. Now we can enjoy the fellowship with each other.

Degree Work
We had a 3rd Degree at Eunice Lodge and were honored with the presence of R.: W.: Dennis Breheny, Senior Grand Warden, and his Traveling Companion V.: W.: Charles Toombs, Regional Assistant Grand Lecturer, from the Utica Area. R.: W.: Breheny took the part of the 3rd Craftsman, and V.: W.: Toombs took the part of a Craftsman. The Degree was impressive and again Livingston District came to the aid of one of our Lodges. Seven out of eight Lodges were represented at this Degree. Thank you, Brothers! Remember, there is still a lot of Degree work going on in the District, so please try to be available. I look forward

to the night that all of the Lodges will be represented and I know it will happen soon.

Ladies Night

Don't forget that, on April 5th, Livingston District will be holding their Annual District Ladies Night, again at the Conesus Golf Club. I will send each Lodge a flyer for reservations. This has always been a very special night in the District. It allows us to show our Ladies how we appreciate their help and the time we use for Lodge programs. It is also a time to let the Widows of the District know they are not forgotten. We try to make a special effort to make the Widows know that they are still a part of our family, they're very special to us and we remember the sacrifices all the Widows made for the Craft! Please make every effort to come to this special event. To the Masters of our Lodges...please bring with you the Widows from your Lodge.

Beware of Naysayers

Last night I was watching the History Channel and watched a program on Masonry. I guess we still have people who make unsound judgments about something of which they know little. There still seems to be anti-Masons out there; maybe they will always be there. I don't know. They are very close-minded on this subject. The whole program was full of half-truths - just enough to prove their point, even if that point is wrong. Someday, I hope this will change; it seems that some educated people educate themselves only as far as they want to and never take in the whole picture. I have no idea where they came up with most of the points of view they proclaimed in this program, but I am glad I took the time to look further, as this is the best organization I have ever found. I thank my father for introducing me to this wonderful family! Thanks, Dad! ✕

Grand Steward

Livingston



R. W. K. Rick Howe
395-9233

krhowe@frontiernet.net

I hope everyone had a safe and happy Holiday Season. Now it's time to get back to reality. January was a busy month and February is shaping up to be the same. The *Road to the East* Course starts on February 2nd. If you haven't gotten your applications in, please bring them Saturday. The second session will be on February 23rd, and the 3rd session will be on March 1st. All sessions will be held at Eunice Lodge in Caledonia. We look forward to having a great turnout with many questions and discussions.

The 1st of February is the first day of the "Have-a-Heart" Campaign at the area malls. Many Lodges have already signed up and I'm sure there will be room for more. Ask your Staff Officer or DDGM for information on how to get involved with this worthwhile event. It runs from the 1st to the 14th 12:00 noon - 9 p.m., except Sundays, noon to 6 p.m.

There will be a School of Ritual on February 9th, hosted by Geneseo Lodge at Mount Morris Lodge. Nunda Station Lodge will be doing the work of

the evening. Let's have a great turnout! Grand Lodge Session is upon us and we will need an official count now, so we can work out the logistics. Thanks.

The Association Meeting will be at Livonia Lodge on February 25th. Don't forget your Sweetheart on Valentines Day!!! Thanks.

Nunda Station

Lodge No. 682

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Robert P. Cox
468-5066
robertpcox56@aol.com

Secretary
R.: W.: Gerald J. Hussong
476-2739



We had one meeting in January when we had a Brother Bring-a-Dish-to-Pass Dinner. It has been a Tradition to have this Dinner, leftover from when we used to install our Officers on the first meeting of January. Now it a good reason to have Fellowship and a Dinner.

The Work of the Evening was a 1st Degree with W.: William Wright presiding.

Our Lodge has answered calls to help in Degree work around the District and it is great to reciprocate and meet new Brothers.

I will bring a camera to take pictures of Past Masters. Stop in and see what's happening at the Masonic Lodge.

District Deputy Grand Master

Ontario/Seneca/Yates District



R.: W.: David W. Locke
(315) 585-6360
dwlocke@rochester.rr.com

Brethren, since I did not send my article for the January *Masonic Times* for publication, I am printing portions of it here.

The Holidays are long over now - we finally removed our Christmas tree from the house but the lights are still up.

We have all returned to our Masonic labors and with my second round of Official Visits completed, I will now accompany R.: W.: Ed Carris on his visits. I have now visited every Lodge in the District to deliver the Grand Master's Message for the second time. You will hopefully remember the core of that message as being the acronym:

CCER=M

F

Communications, Community Involvement, Education, and Ritual = Membership all over Fellowship.

It is my sincere hope that every Lodge in our District can make progress in each of these areas in this New Year. Every Mason and Lodge in the O/S/Y District has a unique opportunity this year to support the O/S/Y Freemasonry Information Fair and Expo in April and

achieve progress in all areas of CCER=M over F.

The O/S/Y Freemasonry Information Fair and Expo will take place April 26th from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Ramada Inn in Geneva. Every good thing Freemasons do in the Lodges of the O/S/Y District, New York State and nationally will be showcased for the day. We will be looking for your Lodge to loan banners, signs (not the secret ones), and anything you would imagine that should be on display for the public to see what we do and who we are. We will also be looking for some commitment of time from the Brothers of each Lodge in the District to help man the information tables and booths.

The Brother Bring-a-Friend Program will be a feature of the Information Fair. This means that every Lodge in the O/S/Y District should draft a list of prospective Candidates now to invite to the Info Fair by formal letter. What better way for every Lodge in the District to host a BBF Program - just by supporting the O/S/Y Freemasonry Fair!

There will also be a Child ID Session at the Fair. This is an excellent opportunity to get your hands on the new computer-based Child ID systems. Thanks to the Brothers of Rushville Lodge, we have our own system in O/S/Y. By getting involved in the O/S/Y Info Fair, you can see and take part in the mechanics of running a Child ID Session and then do Child ID in your Lodge!

Thanks once again to the Brothers of Rushville Lodge, who became Platinum Sponsors of the OSY Freemasonry Fair and Expo by donating \$1000!

We will need many more sponsors for advertising - please discuss becoming a sponsor at your next meeting.

- Platinum Sponsor - \$1000
- Gold Sponsor - \$500
- Silver Sponsor - \$250
- Bronze Sponsor - \$100
- Copper Level - Individual Contributions

The John H. Stelter Masonic Study Club needs your help to get going. Remember that this Masonic Study Club is starting with no rules! It is up to you to define how this Study Club operates. Some Brothers have already assumed that it would be like a Lodge of Research - not true! If you are interested in doing and writing Masonic research papers that is fine, but it is not the purpose of the Club. Please contact R.: W.: James H. Rice for details.

The Webmaster, R.: W.: Ken Hall, has been making improvements to OSYDistrict.org and our District site is second to none. The Lodge pages are now available for your Lodge news content. It is time to take that action step and appoint someone from your Lodge to write a one-page Lodge Newsletter for posting each month. If you have recently written a paper version of a Lodge newsletter, please send a MS Word document to Brother Hall.

The Lodge History's page needs updating - if you don't see your Lodge history on OSYDistrict.org, please send it to Brother Hall. All Lodges recently received a letter from our District Historian, R.: W.: Jim Rice, who also requested your Lodge's history write-up - please appoint a Lodge Histo-

rian for your Lodge at your next meeting.

Road to the East (RTTE) will be held Saturday, March 15th, at 8 a.m. at Garoga-Sincerity Lodge; then on March 24th and March 31st at 7 p.m., also at Garoga-Sincerity. Wardens and prospective Masters should attend; registration is open to any Brother. Please be sure to have your copy of the *24-Inch Gauge* with you. There is plenty of time to order your copy prior to the course. Act now. The instructors will be R.: W.: James Rice and R.: W.: Bob Ruggles. There will be refreshments. Cost will be \$25. For further information contact R.: W.: Ed Carris, 315-828-6729, or ecarris@rochester.rr.com.

The Annual Surviving Spouses Luncheon will be held April 12th at DiPacific's Restaurant in Victor. Even if your Lodge holds its own Widows Program, please make it possible for the Widows from your Lodge to attend the District program. Please contact R.: W.: Eldon White or R.: W.: Bob Ruggles for more information.

The 227th Grand Lodge Session will take place May 3rd through May 7th and reservations are due now! The Grand Lodge Trip Bus will depart May 3rd at 8 a.m. and return May 7th by 5 p.m. Please contact me for reservations. The trip flyer and reservation forms will be hand-delivered (most already have) or mailed to each Lodge and are also available by download now on OSYDistrict.org. Please remember this trip is open to your non-Masonic friends. Please mention the trip to family and friends now!

For more information about Grand Lodge, O/S/Y District and Lodge news, events and schedules, please visit:

OSYDistrict.org

Once again, please email dwlocke@rochester.rr.com to be added to the O/S/Y District email list.

I look forward to meeting you at Brother Carris' visits, BBF programs, Degrees and other events.

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Masonic District of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York



For Details Visit
<http://OSYDistrict.org>



Eagle Lodge No. 619

2nd & 4th Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Thomas L. Shafer
229-4105
Secretary
Kenneth R. Milner
346-6018
kemilner@frontiernet.net
4994 County Road 36
Honeoye 14471

The last meeting we had was supposed to be the 1st Degree, but our Candidate's schedule wouldn't work for him. Hopefully, we can get him in at a later time. Disappointing, but I guess it all works out.

I am thinking of putting on a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night - either at our February 26th or March 11th meeting. If you have anyone in mind, let me know so I can get the letters to them.

February 1st - 14th is the "Have-a-Heart" Campaign. Hopefully, we can get some Brothers out to help.

We are switching our Annual Steak Roast to earlier in the year, possibly either April 26th or May 10th.

February Events
12th - Regular Meeting
21st - Spaghetti Dinner; 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
26th - Regular Meeting

Milnor Lodge No. 139

2nd & 4th Thursdays
Master
W.: Lawrence Mahoney
394-7322
lmahone3@rochester.rr.com
Secretary
R.: W.: Kenneth R. Hall
289-3801
gsosy@rochester.rr.com
12 Canandaigua Street
Shortsville 14548

Milnor Lodge's Annual Turkey Dinner will be held Saturday, February 2nd, at St. Patrick's Church located on Maple Street in Victor. Tickets can be purchased at the door ... Adults - \$8; Children - \$7. You can eat in or take out.

Milnor's Temple building has been sold and vacated. The sale

closing date is imminent. We are now meeting at Canandaigua Lodge located at 12 Canandaigua Street (Route 21) in Shortsville. Our meetings are still held at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. My thanks and gratitude go out to W.: James D. Herrmann and his Lodge for inviting us to use the Canandaigua Hall and for making my Brothers and me feel welcome.

I have designated the first Communication in February as Hobby Night. Brothers are encouraged to bring articles, artifacts, equipment, pictures and/or samples that will highlight and illuminate their hobbies and pastime activities. As always, we welcome Brothers of other Lodges to visit and take part in our program activities.

Look to our Trestleboard on the O/S/Y website for our planned activities for the year.

Canandaigua Lodge No. 294

1st & 3rd Mondays
Master
W.: James D. Herrmann
315-986-3206
Secretary
R.: W.: George N. Stanton, Jr.
394-6829
Shortsville 14548

January has been relatively quiet for us, and I hope this note finds you well and warm. The weather has been interesting to say the least.

In December, we hosted our Annual Breakfast with Santa for the area children. Thanks to all the Brothers who helped cook and serve, and thank you, Santa, for arriving on time. We also enjoyed a dinner out with our spouses where we presented Brother Richard Stanton's daughter, Ashley, with a Masonic Certificate in recognition of attaining the Girl Scout Gold Award.

As we work toward Spring, we are preparing for several upcoming activities. We are planning a 3rd Degree for two Brothers, a Brother Bring-a-Friend Event, and a Child ID opportunity. I hope all able

Brothers can be available to assist in these endeavors.

Enjoy the remainder of the Winter. Stay safe and God bless.

Ark Lodge No. 33, F. & A.M.

3rd Wednesday
Master
R.: W.: Anthony Khoury
(315) 789-6420
Secretary
V.: W.: Lance R. Ward
(315) 789-4411
lrward@tcll.com
3394 Sutton Road
Geneva 14456



It is truly remarkable and we can very well be proud of our magnificent 200-year record of meeting continuously, no matter the weather, trials or tribulations we encounter.

"Now, my Brothers, what of our future years ahead?" This was asked by our late, great Historian, Brother and Dr. John Stelter, in our 175th Anniversary Booklet. Brother John noted that Lodge membership has been declining very rapidly (1928 - 668 members; 1969 - 468; 2007 - 86 members), and new Brothers are desperately needed.

He related that Ark Lodge has been a vital, functioning Brotherhood of men in the Geneva Community and O/S/Y District, rich in Masonic Spirit and doing many charitable endeavors...wonderful works that are known to all.

I am reminded of the thoughts of two Masonic Brothers, Brother Clement Stone and M.: W.: Charles W. Froessel, Past Grand Master, who said, "What the mind of man can conceive and truly believe, can be achieved." PGM Froessel said, "The future is ours and with confidence, determination and dedication, the best is yet to come." The philosopher Emerson wrote, "This time, like all times, is a very good one, if we but know what to do with it."

Our leaders of the past 200 years tried very hard to promote the blessings of our Masonic Fraternity, the main product being the Brotherhood of Man working together for the good of all mankind. Our actions in the Lodge Room and outside our Masonic Temple have resulted in a greater exposure of the mission and goals of our great Masonic Craft...how to make good men better by our Masonic Teachings and Philosophy. We must continue to work and relate Freemasonry to Geneva and the area.

The Challenge

Who are the Brothers who will lead our Lodge for the next 200 years? We are traveling on uncharted waters and it takes all 86 wonderful Ark Lodge Brothers to help, aid and assist us to navigate the raging seas of our future years. We need to find good Candidates to carry on our Masonic ideals and goals.

Masons Meet, Act and Part

Our Christmas Party on December 12th was wonderful. Forty Brothers, wives and children were present at St. Michael's Greek Orthodox Church, catered by Club 86. Thanks to Brother Thomas Abraham for all his effort in making the Party a huge success.

From Nancy Taylor, "... our 44th Annual issue of the Community Calendar, sponsored by the Geneva Business and Professional Women, is enclosed. Thank you for your loyal support. Best Wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year."

I received a Christmas card from Brother Lloyd Johnson. Please keep him, and these Brothers, in your prayers for good health: Ramon Baroody, Joseph Michaels, Raymond Smith, Max Kaufman, Lloyd Hilimire and Horace Riddle.

I received a beautiful Christmas card from Brother Lloyd Johnson. Please keep him your prayers for good health.

God Bless. We lost Brother J. Andrew Foster, Jr., who was Initiated and Raised in 1962.

I received a beautiful Christmas letter from Grand Lodge Historian, Brother George Peter, all about his family happenings. Brother George is scaling down his many Masonic activities and has resigned as Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New York. Someone else will assume Brother George's Chair of the Masonic University of New York, which he started a few years ago. He will continue to be involved, but he feels younger hands and minds should take over many of his Masonic activities. He still misses his wife, Gloria, but life continues to be good. God Bless you, Brother George Peter, and many more years of good health and much happiness.

February Anniversaries

Maurice Bittman, Edward George, Robert Kane and Raymond Smith.

Goals, plans and activities for 2008 include continuation of what we have always done - support Boy Scouts; Little League Baseball; Child ID; present DeWitt Clinton Award (a few names were mentioned); keep working with the Salvation Army; Red Cross Blood Drives; try to involve the Brothers' Spouses in more of our activities and many other events.

The ringing of the Christmas Bells at the Tops Market was done by Brothers Thomas Bryan, Tom Abraham, Howard Colegrove and Charles Rouse. God Bless you all.

Our Salvation gift of food packages to our Senior Citizens (95 of them) was carried out by Brothers Jed Brandow, Lance Ward, Bob Mattick and Howard Colegrove. (I was in Philadelphia visiting my two daughters and their families for the Christmas Holidays.)

Brother Peter Einset presented the Brother Bring-a-Friend Night on January 9th, a very successful evening of Brotherhood.

Brother Lance Ward reported over \$2,000 has been contributed to the Brotherhood Fund Campaign. Hopefully, many more Brothers will donate.

An auction of Brother and Dr. John Stelter's furniture and belongings will be handled by Brother Joe Hessney, Jr. Ark Lodge has over twenty boxes of Masonic books, papers, letters and memorabilia that we will contribute to the Dr. Stelter Masonic Museum.

February 6th - Brothers and Spouses Dinner Out

February 20th - Regular Communication, 7:30 p.m. Program by Senior Warden, Brother Tom Smart. Please come!

Garoga-Sincerity Lodge No. 200

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Master
W.: Ronald Galens
(315) 548-3453
rgalens@yahoo.com
Secretary
R.: W.: Clayton Ruggles
315-548-3573
cruggle1@rochester.rr.com
67 Ontario Street, Phelps 14532

The New Year has started out slowly. Our first meeting wasn't until January 15th because of the Holiday. The weather was cold and snowy, but we all toughed it out.

In December, our Lodge delivered the O/S/Y District Traveling Trowel to Seneca Lodge. All went well for the twelve Brothers who enjoyed the event. The second meeting in December was our Budget Meeting. The budget was reviewed and approved. Also a motion was made and approved to build a 16 x 32-foot enclosure under the pavilion for storage. Construction is scheduled to begin in the Spring. Thanks to all the Brothers for coming out and expressing their ideas and interest on the subject.

Several of our newest Brothers participated in the Ritual of a 1st Degree on January 15th. Thanks for stepping forward and showing interest. With a busy Trestleboard in February, the 2nd Degree is scheduled for March 4th.

The Trestleboard includes a "Fervency and Zeal" Program by Royal Arch Masons from neighboring Chapters on February 5th and the visit of R.: W.: Edwin Carris, Grand Director of Ceremonies, on the 19th. Your attendance at these upcoming Communications is encouraged.

Thank you to the Brothers who helped deliver the Poinsettias in December. The surviving spouses were very grateful. It was my first year in helping to deliver some of the 32 plants. It was fun and entertaining. I was told a lot of stories by the widows I visited.

Game nights are still planned for the 2nd and 4th Fridays in February. All are welcome. Bring a snack to share and enjoy the evening.

Brothers, let's put our heads together and come up with some new ideas for fundraising events - something new, fun, and exciting.

We send February birthday greetings to Perry Adams (3rd), Al Kamm (5th), Doug Galens (12th) and Jesse Gillespie (15th). A Belated January Birthday to Fred Gifford (25th).

The following Brothers were Raised in February:

- 1945 - Jim Piper
- 1951 - Don Sabin

I have searched the Lodge records for some birthdays that have not been recognized. It seems there was a time when the birth date of a Brother was recorded by Grand Lodge as January 1st, regardless of the actual date. Therefore, I need birth dates for the following Brothers, if they wish to be acknowledged in the *Masonic Times*:

Harold Bloser, Roy Farnsworth, Robert Lannon, Milton Lum, James Newman, John Record, Charles Romeiser and Elmer Smith. I can be contacted by phone, email, or a short note through regular mail.



Scottish Rite NEWS

Consistory
Chapter Rose Croix
Council of Princes of Jerusalem
Lodge of Perfection

Commander-in-Chief



John E. Zabel, 33°
223-3228
cincvroc@mindspring.com

What's Happening

I am writing this just after the Giants/Cowboys game where the Giants won, but they had to work hard to do it. This leads me into what has happened (as you receive this) and what is coming in the month of February. First, I must thank all the Sublime Princes, you know who you are, who conferred the 14th Degree on January 3rd, and the 15th Degree on January 17th.

As we enter February, the Chapter of Rose Croix will confer the 18th Degree followed by the Consistory conferring the 21st Degree on Saturday, February 9th. It will start with registration and light breakfast at 8:30 AM followed by the opening of the Chapter and Consistory at 9:00 AM and the commencement of the degree conferrals. We have not conferred the 21st Degree in about six years; so if your passport is new or you do not have this Degree in your passport, plan to attend.

"Have-a-Heart" Campaign
The Annual "Have-a-Heart" Campaign runs February 1st - 14th. The Valley has signed up to provide workers at Marketplace Mall for Tuesday, February 12th. We would like as many Brothers, wives and families to come out and support the excellent endeavor. I understand that as Masons, we have, over the years, contributed over \$200,000 to the Ronald Mc-Donald Houses in Rochester. I believe this makes us the largest supporter for these Houses. We do need to support this program. Call the Office to volunteer.

Rite Events Calendar

(All events at Shrine Center unless otherwise noted)

February 9th - 18th and 21st Degrees
(Continental Breakfast at 8 a.m.)

February 12th - Have-a-Heart
@ Marketplace Mall

February 21st - Tebeth and Public Degree / BBB

Please call in your reservations at least one week prior to event.

We continue in February with the Council of Princes of Jerusalem holding the "Feast of Tebeth" on Thursday, February 21st. The program will include the Feast and Scottish Rite Public Degree. This is a Brother Bring-a-Brother event, so invite your Masonic friends who are not Scottish Rite Masons to attend. The Feast Ceremony will be short and will be new to the Valley. Of course, there will be a dinner and social time. Social Hour starts at 5:30 p.m. with Dinner at 6:30 p.m. The Public Degree will follow this. Call the Office to make reservations. Guests are free and, if you bring a Brother who joins the Rite, you will earn a future dinner on the Valley.

Opportunities

The Valley offers many opportunities to join its activities on more than an attendance basis. The most common opportunity is as a cast member of one of the Degrees, but there are more and different opportunities. You could be a Degree Director or work on a Director's Staff to produce a Degree. You could work with the production team on staging, sound, lighting, costumes, make-up, etc. For the adventuresome, you could pursue becoming an Officer of one of the bodies leading to becoming a presiding Officer. You could be a Program Chairman or work on a Program Committee. Whatever interests you, we will work to fulfill. Give me a call at 223-3228 or email me at cincvroc@mindspring.com if

you would like more information or to volunteer.

Musing and Miscellaneous

The Supreme Council had developed what they call a "mini" Petition. This Petition is small enough to fit in your pocket, shirt or jacket, so that you would never be without a petition for an interested Brother. Contact the Office if you would like some of these Petitions. I have several and will be using them in the future.

Why would a Master Mason want to become part of the Scottish Rite and join the Valley of Rochester? The inner reasons are unique to each individual, but the Rite offers much to help enhance a Mason's experience in and knowledge of our gentle Craft. Brothers have told me that the Valley is a friendly place where Masons truly meet on the level. We try to avoid cliques and inner circles. Since the Lodge forms the foundation of the Rite, with our members coming from Lodges in the surrounding area, the Valley is a place where Masons can meet Brother Masons from other Lodges and Districts and discuss the similarities and differences in Masonry found in different Lodges. This can lead to finding new and interesting programs or activities to take back to a member's own Lodge to help build the Lodge's foundation. All of this helps every individual and body in the Craft.

Finally, your Cabletow governs what you do for and in the Craft. You need not strain it, but

Valley of Rochester A.A.S.R.

3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 320
Rochester, NY 14618
Meetings at Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster, NY
Phones: 1-800-858-2320; (585) 264-1160
Fax: (585) 264-1161
Website: www.valleyofrochester.com
Email: vrl@rochester.rr.com

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III.: John E. Zabel, 33°
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john.zabel@ITT.com

Sovereign Prince

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Secretary

William R. Lindsay, 32° DSA
(h) 388-8769, (w) 264-1160
Fax 264-1161
wrl@rochester.rr.com

Thrice Potent Master

Angelo DiCataldo, 32°
(e) 461-5253
adicataldo@frontiernet.net

Most Wise Master

Seymour Kopen, 32°
(h) 377-4435
sgkopen@frontiernet.net

Deputy's Representative

III.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
(h) 223-7630, (w) 399-3332
cincstephen33@aol.com

Frank & Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 330, Rochester, NY 14618
Office (585) 264-1690; Fax (585) 264-1692; Email: rochcent@rochester.rr.com
Ms. Ann Kaczka, Learning Center Director
III.: G. Michael Morris, 33°, Chair, Board of Governors

Allegiance

The Bodies of the Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Rochester, State of New York, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts and whose officers are:

III.: John William McNaughton, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander

III.: Norman L. Christensen, 33°

Grand Minister of State

Active Members for New York

III.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°

III.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°

Active Emeriti Members for New York

III.: James F. Niehoff, 33°

III.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°

III.: Jim Scott Deyo, 33°

Grand Lieutenant Commander

III.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°

Deputy for the State of New York

Active Members for New York

III.: David P. Spencer, 33°

III.: Edward R. Trosin, 33°

Active Emeriti Members for New York

III.: Bruce Widger, 33°, Past Deputy

III.: Gary A. Henningson, 33°

find out what its limits are and work within the Craft to those limits. The Scottish Rite can help you find those limits and support your working within them. Lastly, by the time you read this, we will know if the New England Patriots are in the Super Bowl. Whether they make it or not, let's hope for a good game on February 3rd.

DeMolay Advisors

Rochester Chapter of the Order of DeMolay is in need of Advisors who can assist our members in their efforts. If you have an hour or two during the month that you can assist, please contact Gary Burke and let him know of your interest. These young men have a great opportunity to represent the future of our Fraternity.

Scottish Rite Membership

If you have a Lodge Brother who has not as yet joined the Scottish Rite, "Reach Out and Say Hello" about who we are and what we do...be sure to invite him to join the Consistory and share in the continuation of his Masonic education journey. Please feel free to contact our office for informational material and a Petition.

The Traveling Gavel

For those Craft Lodges in the Monroe District - If your Lodge secures the Traveling Gavel and takes it home to your Lodge, please advise the Valley Office. If you have an active Scottish Rite Membership Ambassador, the Valley will make a donation to the Brotherhood Fund in his honor.

Re-Member the Blue Lodge

If you are a member of the York or Scottish Rite and have been the first-line signer of a Petition for a new Craft Lodge Member, ask your Lodge Secretary to complete and send an application for this recognition. If you need more information, call the Valley of Rochester Office at 264-1160.

Ritual Books

If you would like a representative of the Valley of Rochester to attend your Craft Lodge and present a Craft Lodge Ritual Book to newly Raised Master Masons, please call the Valley of Rochester Office to provide the names of the recipients and to arrange for a presentation date.

Scottish Rite Passports

The first full degree cycle of presenting all 29 Degrees was completed last year. If your passport has been stamped and is "full," please confer with the Secretary and it will be forwarded to Lexington. You will receive a Certificate and Card from the Office of the Sovereign Grand Commander in recognition of your participation.

College...

Continued from Page 1

Remember When...

Nostalgia

Long before computers, answering machines and cell phones, there was a time that was part of all of us. Instead of drive-thrus, there were drive-ins. Coke wasn't "Classic" and it came from a fountain or it's green glass bottle. And the only survivor series on TV consisted of Gilligan and his crew.

Times have changed, but have we? Do you still remember the first record you owned? How about sitting around the radio instead of the television? EVERY night was a classic car cruise! Was it really that long ago?

Nostalgia takes you down memory lane with your '57 Chevy as we remember the times and people who changed our lives. You'll be taken back to that fateful day at Pearl Harbor and travel through the 40s, 50s and 60s until the first steps are taken on the lunar surface. Nationally touring stand-up comedian, Randy Riggle, will be your tour guide on a trip filled with songs and laughs in this journey through the times of your life.

Randy entertains his audiences with stories, gun slinging, dancing and pantomime. His observational humor about the Era features over 45 impersonations and a special tribute to Veterans. The entire revue is backed with a multi-media slide presentation. Join us for an evening of nostalgic memories of a by-gone era.

Check out the **Nostalgia** website at:

www.nostalgiashow.com.
Get ready to sit back and ...REMEMBER WHEN!

Support the
Supreme Council
Charities

Happy New Year from Iraq!

From Ted Sargent

Member of Scottish Rite Valley of Rochester

Dear Brothers,

We have received several packages from Brothers in the Scottish Rite and I will tell you up front, they are by FAR, the best packages we get. Hands down, no question. I have been sharing with my fellow Masons as any Brother would. I am flying down to Baghdad to visit Brothers Coville and Morales to drop off some "goods" to them.

I haven't done a good enough job in expressing our gratitude to you all, but I am hoping you will forgive me, as we really are engaged in many things here.

Our morale is good, and this is a critical time. It would appear that what we are doing as part of the "surge" is working. As we clear out the last of the bad areas, we are looking forward to going home, but there is a sense of wanting to get the job done.

YOUR support has been critical, and without your goodwill, this would have been much more painful. Please share my gratitude and admiration for your support, and a 6000-mile Cabletow.

Theodore.Sargent@US.Army.Mil

ALT ADDRESS Tsargent1@Rochester.rr.com

BN Executive Officer

401st CA BN

24th, 25th, 27th & 29th Districts - RAM
8th Cryptic District - R&SM
Zones 11 & 12 - Knights Templar

York Rite NEWS

York Rite College
Judas Maccabeus

District Deputy Grand High Priest

24th
District
RAM



R.:E.: Ted Powley
(315) 483-2746
soduspowleys@msn.com

Companions, I hope you are enjoying the Winter of 2008 - whether you are in the North or the South. Newark Chapter is

dark until April, but the Companions who are still in Newark are visiting Palmyra and Wayne Chapters more often. It's great to see you out and about!

Our new District Officers have been chosen and will be trained in Seneca Falls February 16th by the Grand Chapter Officers. Our new District Officers are: District Deputy Grand High Priest, Lee Coller, Sr., of Wayne Chapter; AGL, R. Stuart Smith, Jr., of Palmyra Eagle No. 79. They will be Installed at Grand Chapter on March 8th in Albany. I thank V.:E.: Lloyd Vandeviver for his service as AGL the last two years.

Palmyra Council No. 26

Cryptic Masons
1st Thursdays, 8:00 p.m.
Thrice Illustrious Master
David R. Rising
(315) 331-7337
drrising3@msn.com
Secretary
David W. Taber
388-0629
dwtaber@frontiernet.net
161 East Main Street
Palmyra, New York 14522

Companions, at our last Assembly, held on January 3rd, we

elected two new members into our Council - Companions John Krest and Andrew Richardson.

Our next Assembly will be held on February 7th, in Shortsville Lodge, at 8 p.m. The Assembly will be preceded by a Dinner at the Leigh Valley Restaurant on Route 96 in Manchester at 6 p.m.

At our Assembly, we will be exemplifying the Royal Master Degree. If any Council would like to send Candidates for this Degree, please contact our Secretary, David Taber, at 388-0629. Hope to see you in Shortsville.

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery No. 12

Chartered 1993
3rd Monday

Commander
SK Joseph J.
Oelgoetz III
425-9969

Recorder
SK Lawrence W. Dunn
594-8035



17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

MY PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED! God has blessed me with a new job. In my heart of hearts, it is the type of job I only dreamed of. I told no one that I wished to work in International Marketing. However, our Lord knew; he has given me the opportunity to work for my former employer, Sentry Group (SentrySafe) in International Marketing and Global Sourcing. The negative side, from a Masonic standpoint, is that this position will require (at least) fifty-percent travel. In fact, on my fourth day of employment, I found myself on a plane to Tokyo. What this means is that I may miss some meetings, but will do my best to manage around the third Monday of the month. With that said, God is Great!

Upcoming Events

Our February Conclave will honor Brother George Washington with a video program, "George Washington Visits His Lodge."

Our most important observance as Knights Templar will be observed in March. Our Easter Toast is planned for March 17th. This event will be open to all - family, friends and other Masons.

March will be a very busy month for Knights Templars. For those that are interested, some of us are traveling to Washington, DC over the weekend of March 21st - 23rd for the Grand Encampment's Easter Observance at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, VA.

This is a special year in that our very own Very Eminent Sir Knight David Lathers is in the position of Deputy Grand Commander of Knights Templar for the State of New York. Additionally, our very own Sir Knight and Reverend Charles Roberts is the Grand Sword Bearer. Finally, Eminent Sir Knight James MacConnell is the current Grand Generalissimo (Jim

has been active around our Commandery and is a member of Doric Council No. 19 of Royal and Select Masons). It would be great to support our local Sir Knights who hold a Grand Commandery Office at this event in Washington. So, put the weekend of March 21st - 23rd on your calendar.

Inspection

It has been communicated to me that our Inspection will occur April 21st. The Inspecting Officer is Sir Knight Donald J. Berry, Grand Junior Warden. I ask that all Officers work on their Ritual - the words, delivery and floor work. My thought is to have a dinner at the Asylum prior to our Conclave, dinner to begin at 6:30 p.m., with the opening of our Conclave at 7:30 p.m., as usual.

As always, all the Conclaves of Cyrene-Monroe Commandery will occur at the Asylum (Northfield/Pittsford Masonic Temple) and will open at 7:30 p.m.

Medieval Templar Hierarchy
This talk is based upon the article written by Templar History.com.

The Grand Master

The Grand Master was the supreme authority of the Templar Order and answered to none save the Pope. Once elected to the Office, the Grand Master served for the remainder of his life. In several cases, that lifetime was cut short. Several Grand Masters were killed in battle, showing that the position was far more than an administrative one.

While each country had its own Master, the Grand Master was above each of them. In addition to overseeing military operations, the Grand Master was also responsible for the business dealings of the Order.

Seneschal

The Seneschal was the right hand man to the Grand Master and in modern terms would be similar to a vice president of a corporation. The Seneschal also acted as a consigliere or advisor to the Grand Master and looked after a great deal of the administrative duties.

Along with the Grand Master, the Seneschal ruled over eight Templar provincial Masters. These provinces were chiefly Aragon, Apulia, England, France, Hungary, Poitiers, Portugal, and Scotland.

Marshal

The Marshal of the Order was the Templar in charge of war and anything that was related to it. In this sense, the Marshal could be viewed as the second most important member of the Order after the Grand Master.

His personal retinue was comprised of two squires, one turcoman, one turcopole and one sergeant. He also had four horses at his command.

Under Marshal

The Under Marshal was in charge of the footmen and the equipment.

Standard Bearer

The Standard Bearer was in charge of the squires and, despite the title of his office, never seemed to actually carry the Order's standard himself.

Draper

The Draper was in charge of the Templar garments and linens and while this may seem like

a menial task, the Templar Rule of Order states that after the Master and Marshal, the Draper was superior to all Brethren.

The Templar Rule of Order said of the Draper's responsibilities regarding the robe of the order, "and the Draper or the one who is in his place should studiously reflect and take care to have the reward of God in all the above-mentioned things, so that the eyes of the envious and evil-tongued cannot observe that the robes are too long or too short; but he should distribute them so that they fit those who must wear them, according to the size of each one."

The Draper had in his personal retinue two squires, a number of tailors, and one brother in charge of the pack animals who would carry supplies. In addition, the Draper, like the Marshal, had four horses at his disposal.

Commanders of the Lands: Jerusalem, Antioch and Tripoli

These Templar Officers operated much like a Baillie and operated under the Masters. Commanders were responsible for all Templar houses, castles, and farms in their jurisdiction.

The personal retinue of the Commanders consisted of two squires, two-foot soldiers, one sergeant, one deacon, and one Saracen scribe. Like others, the Commander had four horses at his command as well as one palfrey (riding horse).

Commanders of Knights, Houses and Farms (Castles)

These Templars fell under the Commanders of Lands and were responsible for the day-to-day operations of the various estates under their care. Generally speaking, they were knights, but if no knight resided in the region, the position could go to a sergeant.

If the Commander was a knight he was permitted four horses, but if a sergeant he was allowed only two.

Provincial Masters

Provincial Masters, who governed the western districts, were similar to the Commanders of Lands, but seem to have largely been responsible for managing revenue and recruiting new men to the Order.

Knights and Sergeants

The bulk of the Templar's military might was comprised of knights and sergeants. Although both classes of Templars were as likely to die in battle, the knight had a higher ranking within the Order.

Knights had to be men of noble birth and wore the white mantle that is the most familiar garment of the Order. Each knight was permitted one squire and three horses. Sergeants did not have to be of noble birth and to show their lower rank, sergeants wore a black or brown mantle. They were given one horse and had no squires under their command.

May our Sovereign King and Lord bless you and yours! ✠

York Rite News
continued
on Page 18

Palmyra/Eagle Chapter No. 79

1st Monday, 7:30 p.m.



High Priest
David R.
Rising
(315) 331-7337
drrising3@msn.com
Secretary
David W.
Taber
388-0629
dwtaber@frontiernet.net
161 East Main Street, Palmyra 14522

At our last meeting we held our Installation of Officers,

which included our two newest Companions, John Krest and Andrew Richardson. They were installed as 2nd and 1st Masters of the Veil, respectively.

On February 13th we will be traveling to Wayne Lodge in Ontario and presenting the "Fervency and Zeal" Program. I have yet to hear from the Master of Pultneyville Lodge to schedule a date to present the program for his Lodge.

Our next Communication will be held on February 4th and there will be no Communication in March, due to Grand Chapter. Hope to see you in February. ✠



Companion Andy Richardson signing Palmyra Eagle Chapter By-laws.



Companion John Krest signing Palmyra Eagle Chapter By-laws.



Order of the Eastern Star

Monroe District OES HiLights



DDGM
Rt. Wthy.

Diane Dobbertin
(315) 986-4742

ddobbertin@rochester.rr.com



DGL
Rt. Wthy.

Tom Richenderfer
738-0249

tomrich@rochester.rr.com

By Diane Dobbertin, DDGM

It's been busy in Monroe District with Election and Installation of the new Officers for our nine Eastern Star Chapters.

The first Line Officer's Meeting was postponed due to the death of Rt. Wthy. Pearl E. Smith's Memorial Services. Rt. Wthy. Pearl was honored by three separate services, which took place at Crawford Funeral Home. Very moving memorial services were provided by OES Lilac Star Chapter, Lalla Rookh Caldron and a very personal and loving one given by the Pastor of Pearl's church. Rt. Wthy. Pearl was 100 years young and a delight to know. She will be missed throughout the District.

Mark Your Calendar

February 2nd - School of Instruction. The meeting will be held at the Fairport-Flower City Lodge at 9 a.m. Your DGL is urging all Officers to attend. He will focus on the Initiation Ceremony. Coffee and donuts will be provided during a break. Please make every effort to attend and Thank You.

Official Visits

March 1st - Rochester Chapter; 7:30 p.m.

March 25th - Leah Chapter; 7:30 p.m.

April 1 (no joke) - Nolatka Chapter; 7:30 p.m.

April 2nd - Lilac Star Social Visit; will feature a representative from R.A.I.H.N. who will tell us about our Monroe District Special Project for 2008.

April 8th - Mary Jane Holmes; 7:30 p.m.

April 9th - Corinthian-Fellowship; 7:30 p.m.

April 15th - Starlight Chapter; 7:30 p.m.

May 6th - Fairport Chapter; 8 p.m.

May 19th - Etolian Chapter; 8 p.m.

May 31st - Monroe District Grand Matron's Visit. This year we will begin with entertainment at 12:30 p.m., sit-down Luncheon at 1 p.m. and the Official meeting will begin at 1:45 p.m. Many more details of this event will be printed in future articles.

June 21st - District Fun Nite at United Church of Pittsford, beginning at 5:30 p.m. You bring the "snax" and Rt. Wthy. Tom and I will provide the beverage. Come and have some FUN.

August 16th - Annual District Picnic will be at Fellows Road Lodge in Fairport. Bring the kids and a dish-to-pass.

October 26th-29th - Grand Sessions in Saratoga Springs.

November 13th - Monroe District Banquet at Burgundy Basin Inn.

December 6th - District Christmas Party at Webster Lodge. Again, bring a dish-to-pass, from snacks to dessert and every thing in-between!!!

R.A.I.H.N. Project

Our Monroe District Project continues to be supplying cleaning items and paper goods for R.A.I.H.N. If each Chapter will collect the items and give them to a Line Officer to bring to the Line Officer's meeting each month, we could fill several "buckets" and get them to the Headquarters on Meigs Street where they will be given to the families as they leave to start a new life in a new place. Thank you all in advance.

Until next time ... *Be Wise in all you say and do. Remember to sing in the shower and say "Please and Thank You" a lot!* *

At our February Conclave, we will continue to prepare for our Annual Inspection in April. I thank all the Sir Knights who have volunteered to learn new parts. It's always great to have new Sir Knights involved like SK John Krest and SK Andy Richardson this year.

Eye Foundation

Please remember the Eye Foundation. Besides monetary donations, we collect aluminum of all sorts for redemption. SK L. Ronald Edwards is our leader in this effort. Please give Ron your collection of aluminum. Many Sir Knights collect the tabs from aluminum cans as part of their donation.

Join us for breakfast on February 16th at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant at 7:30 a.m. prior to our meeting at 9 a.m.

Please keep all those with health problems in our thoughts and prayers. *

Support the Knights Templar Eye Foundation

NOLATKA Chapter No. 320

Order of the Eastern Star

1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Matron

Wthy. Cynthia Nielsen

889-4207

Patron

Wthy. Robert Crystal

473-0279

Secretary

Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings

594-4692

Community Christian Church

2647 Chill Avenue, 14624

As I raise my goblet in a toast to you, my family of the Eastern Star, I am reminded of the infamous words of Norman Vincent Peale. "When you whole heartedly adopt a 'with all-your-heart attitude and go all out with the positive principle,' you can do incredible things!"

Sickness and Distress

We wish speedy recoveries to Jean Stewart who is recovering

Corinthian/Fellowship Chapter No. 322

Order of the Eastern Star

2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Wthy. Merylyn Israel, Matron

Wthy. Robert Israel, Patron

461-3254

Rt. Wthy. Beverly VanHuben

Secretary - 647-1391

805 Blossom Road

Rochester 14610

On December 12th, Merylyn and Robert Israel were installed as Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron at an Open Installation. Special guests included Rt. Wthy. Faythe Mattern, Grand Chaplain, who was Receiving Matron; Rt. Wthy. Diane Dobbertin, District Deputy Grand Matron; and Rt. Wthy. Tom Richenderfer, District Grand Lecturer. Very important to us were the many guests from my Scouting endeavors, Church and Neighborhood communities who were able to join us, making it very special.

Rt. Wthy. Faythe was District Deputy Grand Matron in 1994 when I was Matron and is affectionately called "Mom." Worthy Merylyn is Matron for the third time and Robert is a first-time Patron.

Merylyn's symbol is Praying Hands and a Sea Shell; her colors are blue, green and orange; her motto is, "Love One Another;" and her word is "Faith."

The other Line Officers installed are Laraine Randolph, Associate Matron; Arlene Lewis, Conductress; and Patricia Pearson, Associate Conductress.

At Grand Sessions of Estella Chapter, Prince Hall Affiliated, held in Rochester, which I was privileged to attend, the Grand Matron alluded to the fact that our Eastern Star Chapters should be "like a glimpse of Heaven." I truly felt this was what was tried to be portrayed in the little presentation of friends and colleagues. I am so grateful to all my doctors and friends for prayers and support this evening represented.

at home from a terrible broken bone; Pat Dalykas, recuperating in the comfort of her own home after having some surgery; and Judy Lenzi who is mending a broken ankle. Also, Judy Harrison, the granddaughter/niece of Wilda and Kim Robinson, recently fell and broke her leg.

Our sympathies go to the family of our Member and friend, Florence Thayer.

Felicia Clark, Robert Crystal, Kathleen Skelton and those whom I forgot to mention remain in our thoughts and prayers. We are hopeful that your current situations will improve very soon!

Meetings At-a-Glance

February 5th - Regular Meeting; 7:30 p.m.; Valentine's Day Celebration.

February 19th - Ample Forum Meeting; 7:30pm

March 4th - Regular Meeting; 7:30 p.m.; Draping of the Altar

After Bob and I were installed, there was a special presentation, which I will try to describe. Sister Barbara Jean Smith, Past Most Ancient Matron of Heroines of Jericho Court, United National Mason and Order of Eastern Stars, Inc., Wilmington, NC, presented a crown to Sister Merylyn. This was followed with the presentation of a White Rose and basket of things representing children from around the world by Taylor Marie Knight and Noel Roy Hall "TJ," Nadia Michelle Knight and Chelsea Ariel Knight who were Guardians of the Crown, White Rose and basket.

Also presented was a bouquet by Australia Renata Keyome Crockton; a ring by Jose DaCosta, Dr. Theodoro R. Mariano, Dr. John Ejaife, Kenyatta DaCosta, Michael Samuel and David Arnold Israel. A compass was presented by Alex and his Dad, Jon Turner, of Tay House Boy Scout Troop. Presentation of books by LaRoyce D. Davis; brother and cousin to some of the Girls of Jamel Alexander Community Girl Scout Group.

After all presentations, the crown was given to Chelsea to give to Brother Bob as she was presented with a necklace to give to her Grandmother, Sister Barbara. Sister Barbara was presented with a Pin with three Emerald stones, symbolizing a Shamrock which is said to be a promise, there are good things on the way.

The Crown was then returned to the table with the other things and Wthy. Betty Reisinger played *I Would be True* on the piano, followed by *How Great Thou Art*, by Robert Dalton on the bagpipes. The ring was taken at an appropriate time, given to Brother Bob and placed securely on my finger.

The remaining Officers were installed and Jose and Kenyatta DaCosta recited the words to two verses of *Prayer is the Key to Heaven*. The main verse is:

*Prayer is the key to Heaven,
But faith unlocks the door;
Words are so easily spoken,
A prayer without faith,*

March 18th - Tentative Official Visit Rehearsal

I had the extreme pleasure to attend the final showing of the Madrigal Dinner. After twenty years of our Chapter's preparation of the dinner portion, the outstanding performances and acting will be sorely missed! My hats off to all the participants whether they were in the kitchen or on the stage! Congratulations!

Please have a Happy Valentine's Day and a very blessed day, too! In closing, here is something a bit interesting and fun!

You think you know everything, HUM?? Well, did you know? ... A cat has 32 muscles in each ear. A dragonfly has a lifespan of 24 hours. A goldfish has a memory span of 3 seconds. A snail can sleep for 3 years. An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain! Peanuts are one of the ingredients in dynamite. Last, but not least, rubber bands will last longer after being frozen! *

*Is like a boat without an oar.
Have faith when you speak to the Master,*

*That's all He asks you for,
Yes, prayer is the key to Heaven,*

But faith unlocks the door.

Eastern Star is the sister organization to the Masonic Fraternity. It is because Masons recognize all religions, nationalities and creeds that I could say "I do" to the questions asked during Installation. Belief in the existence of a Supreme Being is absolutely necessary to membership in the Order. The Order of the Eastern Star is founded upon the recognition of the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man and the Sisterhood of Woman.

I joined Eastern Star in 1982. My youngest son was six years old that year and, according to *Women's Magazine*, this was the year I should have re-entered the work force. When I joined Corinthian Chapter, I was trying to understand something my father believed in. Also interesting, my husband's grandfather was a Mason.

I read each Chapter of Corinthians many times looking for answers and I always came back to Corinthians 3:10, "According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder, I laid a foundation and another is building upon it. But let each man be careful how he builds upon it."

My underlying theme again is, must there be an arc of poverty around Rochester, or any city? I close with a quote from St. Gregory, "Faith has no merit where reason supplies the proof."

Thank you all for being with me this special night! *

**Support!!!
the
Masonic
Brotherhood
Fund**

Sagoyewatha

Commandery No. 17, K.T.
3rd Saturday, 9 a.m.



Commander
SK F. Edward
(Ted) Powley
(315) 483-2745
soduspowleys
@msn.com

Recorder
SK David Taber
(585) 388-0629
dwtaber@frontiernet.net

67 Ontario Street, Phelps NY

Sir Knights, Attention! As we enter the middle of Winter, we are preparing for Springtime events. Some of us are preparing for the journey to Washington for the Easter Sunrise Service. It's not too late to join us. See the Knights Templar magazine for details. We will be at a new hotel this year in Alexandria, VA, as the Hotel Washington has been sold and is being renovated into office space. I will miss being only a block from the White House.



Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Ronald J. Morthorst
Monarch

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian



M.O.V.P.E.R.

Ronald J. Morthorst
Monarch
334-4196

Grand Historian

Home phone
(315) 589-9021
Grotto office
671-6320
Kenneth Hutchinson, PM
hutchkv@yahoo.com

Attend Grotto Meetings

Monday, February 4th
Board of Governors Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 12th
Staff Have-a-Heart Booth Noon 'til 9 p.m.
The Mall at Greece Ridge
Call 663-2547 to Volunteer Do it Today!

Monday, February 18th
Legion of Honor Dinner at 6 p.m.
Nutcracker Restaurant

Wednesday, February 20th
Grotto Meeting Shrine Center
Free Dinner at 6 p.m. with your 2008 Dues Card and Reservation
Call Jim Toogood, 584-2189

CLIP AND SAVE!
Information Hot Line
334-4196

Caldron News

By Marcia Morrison, MCO

We've Been Busy...
On October 27th, Lalla Rookh Caldron had Installation of Officers. Everything went very well and our thanks go out to our Canadian Daughters who took part. Daughter Marion Rippon of Canada was presented Honorary Membership to Lalla Rookh Caldron. Needless to say, she was surprised and very happy. We had voted to give Marion an Honorary Membership at our October meeting.

If you are wondering about the other two Canadians - Marjorie Harding joined Lalla Rookh and PSMCO Quenda Stern was given Honorary Membership when she was SMCO. We also thank the visitors who attended.

On November 4th, we celebrated with a Reception for two Supreme Officers from our Caldron - Daughter Beverly Murray, Supreme Rodeval, and Daughter Betty Madison, Supreme Arrah. A special thank you to all our visitors, including Monarch, Ken Milner, and his Lady, Elaine, for attending the Reception. Betty and Bev send their thanks to the Daughters for having the Reception for them and thanks to all the Daughters who made sandwiches and cookies, setting up and putting the Dining Room back in order.

Heartbreaking News

As we start a new year, it is with great sadness to report the passing of PMCO, Daughter Pearl E. Smith, on January 1st. As you all know, she will be very sadly missed.

I don't know why, but I have never seen a Caldron Funeral Service conducted. After a beautiful service was done for Pearl, the decision was made to remedy that. Please be advised that if any Daughter wishes a Caldron Funeral Service (at the time of their death), she should include that wish with a family member and instruct them to let the MCO know.

Belated Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday to the Daughters who celebrated birthdays in the last few months - Linda Austin, Audrey Curtis, Rose Hartwig, Hildegard DiJames, Harriet Riggs and Sue Wilson. I hope you had a great day of celebration and know that we all wish you the very best!

February birthday wishes go to Jan Porter and Betty Rainey (1st), Jean Wood (3rd), Doris Bell (8th) and Thelma (Seuffert) Proper (26th).

February Birthdays

February 9th is our Birthday Banquet. It will be held at Rick's Prime Rib House on Buffalo Road at 4 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Call Betty Rainey at 426-3862 for reservations.

Upcoming Events

Happy Valentine's Day to one and all! I hope to see YOU at our next Caldron meeting on February 14th at 7:30 p.m.

Rochester Forest No. 133
Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America
4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Penfield, NY 14526
George Springett, GTC
247-3557
Donald C. Bell, Scribe
334-7768

Your new Officers for the year 2008 are Grand Tall Cedar, George Springett; Senior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Cy White; Junior Deputy Grand Tall Cedar, Ted Powley; Scribe, Donald Bell and Treasurer, John Zabel.

Membership

The word from Hiram, King of Tyre, is we need more Woodsmen to complete our tasks. This year we are in hopes that by turning in several Applications of future Woodsmen, we will bring greater fun and frolic to our Forest. As an incentive, the Woodsman who submits the most number of applications will receive his 2009 Membership Card at no cost. I, as Grand Tall Cedar, look forward to seeing many new faces at the Stump.

Speaking about membership in the Forest, can you say that your Dues are paid?



The New Year has many things in store for Lalla Rookh Grotto. We have a great line of Officers to represent you.

The February Grotto meeting is a FREE dinner with your 2008 Dues Card and Reservation. Call Master of Ceremonies, Jim Toogood, at 594-2189, before February 10th so he can tell the caterer how many to plan for. Dinner will be at 6 p.m. Dessert will follow the meeting. At all functions, unless so noted, 6 p.m. will be the time for dinner. Please read the Scroll for the month's program.

The agenda for February's meeting will be the proposed "Lalla Rookh Schedule for 2008." Your input and suggestions will be more than welcomed.

Some of the Brother Prophets and I attended funeral services for Muriel Murrer, wife of Frank Murrer, as well as sister Pearl Smith from Lalla Rookh Caldron. Pearl was looking forward to celebrating her 101st birthday. May these ladies rest in peace. Our sympathy goes out to both of these families.

"Have-a-Heart" Campaign, to raise money for the Ronald McDonald Houses, is here again and Lalla Rookh Grotto will be at The Mall at Greece Ridge on Tuesday, February 12th from Noon to 9 p.m. in three-hour shifts. Call Dick Topel (663-2547) or myself (334-4196) to help out. Sports jacket, slacks and your Fez are all you need to volunteer for this worthy cause. Call today and let us know when you can come and work.

We now have new Petitions from Supreme Council. Need one for a prospective Candidate? Call our Secretary at 315-589-9021.

Hope you can make the FREE dinner this month.

It was good to see so many photos in the January Issue of the *Masonic Times*. I have permission of the Chairman of the Children's Christmas Party to review his final report.

"We planned for 87 children and purchased extra toys, in case they would be needed; they were. We hosted 104. Three Grotto clowns, plus Santa participated, along with the assistance from the Grotto Legion, Greeters, Patrol, Revels and the Band.

The event was at the Happiness House in Geneva. We also stopped at Thompson Hospital in Canandaigua on our way back, visiting the Children's Ward, Maternity and the nursing home."

The report ended with a big thank you to all for their continuing support for this year's program from the Doctor of Smiles, the Chairman, who is also "Soo Big" the Clown, better known as PM Ron Charron. Oh, I forgot to mention the report was dated December 16, 1981.

Of course, in numbers, it could have been our last one conducted by the Grotto, Shrine and Scottish Rite. All children are welcome, accompanied by their parents. Now is the time to start planning an even bigger one for December 2008 and this year's Chairman, Greg Ludwig, is doing just that. We must concentrate on advertising and promoting the event ahead of time by all three groups.



802ORG-123-3-ESGA

By Ken Hutchinson, PP, Vice-President

Our newest Officer is Marshal, John Scott, PM, of Kaa Rheu Vahn Grotto, Albany. His Grotto is the Host Grotto of our Spring Meeting in Albany on April 25th and 26th. It has been many years since the ESGA has been to Albany.

John has told me the Grottoes in the East are alive and well. Kaa Rheu Vahn Grotto and all the surrounding Grottoes are looking forward to hosting this great event. Lalla Rookh Grotto has supported the ESGA for many years, and today hold many of the Officer positions.

It has been my opinion that we should attend the ESGA Spring Meeting, not only for the enjoyment of being present, but to derive some benefit by having attended this Spring Meeting. You will take home worthwhile ideas which may be used to good advantage.

are collected, packaged and sent to our Troops. Please bring in your soft cover books and Gil and his Committee will make sure they get to our deployed Troops.

Birthday Celebrations

Another program is the ongoing "Birthday Party Celebration" at the Veterans Hospital in Canandaigua. This is a joint effort with the Damascus Shrine's Legion of Honor and our Post.

To be a part of this worthwhile effort, contact Tom Paglia, Chairman of the Masonic Veterans Service Committee, (227-2046); Moe Schirano, PC, (265-3932); Fred Cornell, PC, (352-6477); Vance Collom, Adjutant; or me. Our phone numbers are listed in the heading of this article. This initiative is well received by our Veterans and is heartwarming for us, the volunteers. Please join us; you'll be glad you did.

The next meeting of our Post will be February 28th at 7:30 p.m., preceded by a Dinner (menu to be announced) at 6 p.m. A dinner reservation can be made through me or Vance.

As always, I hope to see you, and I do mean you, around the Holy Altar of our Order.

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Operation Paperback

I am very encouraged by the support for our Masonic War Veterans Post's outreach programs. Our first, and oldest program, is the "Operation Paperback," spearheaded by Gil Gelasch, PC, and Chairman. This is where paperback books



Preparing for the January birthday party for Veterans at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center were (from left): Dennis "Gil" Gelasch, John Ponschock, Jr., Emil "Moe" Schirano, Cy White, Robin Johnson - Volunteer/Community Relations Manager, Vance Collom, Jr., Patti Ciancaglini - Volunteer Program Specialist, Tom Paglia, and Fred Cornell, Sr. You may participate in this worthwhile event, which occurs monthly, by contacting any of the gentlemen listed in the accompanying article. You do not have to be a Mason or a member of the Masonic War Veterans to offer your services and your assistance with this and other programs for Veterans would be welcome.

In Memoriam

Cannon, Marjorie C.

Marjorie Cannon, 79, departed from a life of great accomplishments on December 8th. She was a member of Corinthian-Fellowship Chapter, OES, and was recently honored for knitting more than 1000 afghans, which were distributed to VA facilities. Many returning wounded soldiers being treated at Walter Reed Army Hospital received her warmth and giving heart through a gift of an afghan. Her sons, foster children, sister, foster sisters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren are left with a garden of memories, sprayed with a million tears.

Foster, J. Andrew

December 12th was the day the Lord called J. Andrew Foster, home to the Celestial Lodge in Heaven. John was a member of Ark Lodge and leaves his Masonic Brothers to remember his love of the Craft. May he find peace with the Great Architect of the Universe.

Nesbitt, Harris C.

Harris Nesbitt, 85, departed his earthly labors on December 22nd. His wife of 61 years, Edith, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren survive him. Harris was a World War II Veteran, a member and Past Master of Union Star Lodge and member of the Damascus Shrine. Memories are like threads of gold, they never tarnish or grow old.

Orbaker, Clifford L.

On December 31st, Clifford Orbaker, 88, passed away leaving his wife, Suzanne, daughters and grandchildren to miss him. Clifford was a member of Pultneyville Lodge, Damascus Shrine and Royal Order of Jesters.

Burdell, Daniel C.

On January 9th, Daniel Burdell, 82, entered Eternal Rest with our Lord. He was a member of the Damascus Shrine, Hornellsville Lodge, Ivanhoe Chapter-OES, Hornell American Legion and Hornell Elks Lodge. Daniel was a World War II Army Veteran. His wife, Jean, 2 sons, 3 daughters, 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren will remember him with fond memories. Thoughts today are memories forever.

Lynch, James L.

ERAC Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shrine Brothers, mourn the passing of James Lynch, 75, on January 5th. His wife, Phyllis, 8 children and 16 grandchildren, survive him. He labored hard for those he loved, then left us to remember.

Moll, John A.

On January 10th, the loving arms of the Lord embraced John Moll, leaving his wife, Alfa, two daughters, one son, 12 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren to remember him. John was a member of Fairport-Flower City Lodge and Damascus Shrine. May he find Peace with the Lord.

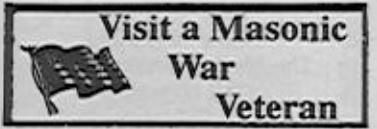
Widows to be Remembered

Mason, Linda M., widow of Hugh Mason (Webster), passed away January 21st.

Turner, Marjorie C., widow of Robert W. Christ, Jr. (Seneca), passed away January 11th.

Ulrich, Ruth Wilcox, (90), widow of Harvey E. Ulrich, Jr., (Fairport-Flower City), passed away January 4th.

Wecker, Maxine, (86), widow of Samuel J. Wecker (Webster), passed away December 30th.



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Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

March

- 1 Joint Road to the East at Eunice Lodge, Caledonia (Session 3)
- 6-7 RAM Grand Chapter; Albany
- 25 Unity Lodge Sponsors Blood Drive at Community Center, Ogden
- 31 School of Ritual at Clio Lodge, Hilton

April

- 3 Fairport-Flower City Lodge Sponsors Blood Drive at Fairport Masonic Hall
- 4-5 Scottish Rite College of Freemasonry
- 26 Widows Luncheon

May

- 3 Ox Roast; Clio Lodge, Hilton
- 5 & 6 Grand Lodge

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CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 2008

○ Deadline for the Masonic Times

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

					1	2
	3 Canandaigua - Shortsville RAM - Palmyra/Eagle KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford Shrine Lunch Club - Fairport Village Inn	4 Clio - Hilton Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Nunda Station Oakland - Castile OES - Fairport, Nolatka, Starlight	5 Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy Damascus Shrine OES - Lilac Star Ash Wednesday	6 Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster RSM - Palmyra Council Chinese New Year Begins	7	8 Scottish Rite, 18* and 21*
10 Clio Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Weds 13th & 27th 287 East Avenue, Hilton	11 ERAC, Shrine Center Fairport/Flower City Union Star - Honeoye Falls Unity - Spencerport Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RAM - Excelsior - Shortsville Shrine Lunch Club - Fairport Village Inn	12 Eagle - Honeoye Seneca - Webster Valley-Simes, Shrine Center RAM - Dansville OES - Leah - Hilton, Mary Jane Holmes - Brockport Lincoln's Birthday	13 Oatka - Scottsville Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	14 Fame, Shrine Center Milnor - Canandaigua Union - Lima Webster Fellowcraft RAM - Hiram Lalla Rookh Caldron St. Valentine's Day	15	16 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Grand Lodge IDC, Shrine Center Shrine Rod & Gun Club
17 Canandaigua - Shortsville KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto Legion of Honor Shrine Lunch Club - Fairport Village Inn President's Day	18 Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson, Shrine Center Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Nunda Station Oakland - Castile OES - Nolatka, Starlight	19 Ark - Geneva Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy RSM - Doric Council (I), Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto OES - Lilac Star	20 Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster RAM - Western Star Scottish Rite, BBB	21	22	23 Chili Cook-off and Euchre Tournament, Shrine Center
24 Eagle Lodge Eagle Chapter Spaghetti Dinner Thursday, June 21st 4994 County Rd 36 Honeoye	25 ERAC, Shrine Center Fairport/Flower City Union Star - Honeoye Falls Unity - Spencerport Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield Shrine Lunch Club - Fairport Village Inn	26 Eagle - Honeoye RAM - Dansville, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton	27 Oatka - Scottsville Tall Cedars of Lebanon OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	28 Fame, Shrine Center Milnor - Canandaigua Union - Lima RAM - Hiram James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post	29	