

Masonic Times

Monroe
Genesee-Wyoming
Livingston
Ontario/Seneca/Yates
& Wayne Districts

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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Together We Can Change the World

By Myron Thurston III, Assistant Director of Development and Communications

We often say that we want to leave the world a better place for our children and grandchildren. That is why so many of us give to charitable causes, invest our time and effort in our communities and work so hard our entire lives to leave something for the next generation. I have a three-year-old son and I hope that when he reaches my age the world will be a much healthier place. I dream that someday, if he needs a replacement organ, one can be made available; if he needs a special medication one can be found. I also foresee that one day we can better delineate through genetic analysis the factor that predispose to disease so that his doctors can intervene to prevent the disease from taking hold.

Together we can change the face of medicine. By investing your charitable dollars in research conducted by the Cardiac Research Institute at Masonic Medical Research Laboratory (MMRL) you can take part in leaving the world a better place. Your support of our life saving medical research not only benefits your own health but will benefit the lives and well-being of every generation to follow.

Scientists in our Organ and Tissue Bioengineering Program at the MMRL are working on research aimed at generating replacement organs. Imagine being able to go to your doctor, give a blood sample or skin sample, and come back 6-8 weeks later to have an organ that is a genetic match ready for transplantation into your body. We are several years away from achieving this goal, but its success hinges on the support of individuals such as you.

The Stem Cell Center and its Director, Michael X. Jesudoss, Ph.D., are currently using skin samples to create heart cells. These cells will be used for safety pharmacology to assess the safety of new drugs, for regenerative therapy to restore function to injured and failing hearts as well as to create human models of disease, which could then be used to develop patient specific treatments. Molecular geneticists at the MMRL are examining the genetic predisposition to disease by sequencing the DNA of individuals with heart disease. Charles Antzelevitch, Ph.D., Executive Director and Director of Research at the MMRL, believes that this type of genetic research will ultimately guide us to the root cause of disease, thus enabling scientists at our institute and elsewhere to develop innovative treatments and cures. The MMRL is one of the top

genetic screening centers in the world devoted to understanding the cause of irregular heartbeats. Doctors from all over the world send blood samples to us so that we can help them diagnose and treat their patients.

As we look back at our achievements of 2013 and chart our course for 2014 and beyond, it is clear that we have much to look forward to in the way of medical advances. However, reductions in Federal support are wreaking havoc on the biomedical research community and it is up to private and corporate donors to help carry the torch of medical discovery. If you are already directing your charitable dollars towards the MMRL, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. If you are considering it, please contact us so that we can show you what your support can accomplish. We are proud that 84 cents of every dollar goes directly into the research and that our institute has earned a four-star rating, the highest available, from Charity Navigator. Exciting discoveries are on the horizon and with your help, I am confident that we can bring them within reach. I look forward to a healthier future for my son as a result of the research conducted at the MMRL and hope that you can help us achieve a better tomorrow for your loved ones and for all of humanity. □

**All-Masonic
Children's Holiday Party**
at Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster

**Saturday, December 14th
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Open to children and grandchildren
(and their friends) of all Masonic Families
Bring a wrapped gift for each child.
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Activities will include ...
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SEASON'S GREETINGS

from the
Staff
of the

Masonic Times

Jan, Barb, Garry,
Mike, Herb, Mat,
Bev, & Skip

Dated Material

**Election of Officers, December 4th
Installation Ceremony, January 8th
more Damascus News on page 7**

*Webster Lodge No. 538
Sesquicentennial Celebrations
Thursday, March 6, 2014*

4:45 p.m. - Re-dedication Ceremony at Webster Masonic Hall

Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. ~ Program - 7:00 p.m.
Webster Golf Club, 440 Salt Road, Webster
Tickets - \$20 per person

**Speaker - Most Worshipful James E. Sullivan
Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York**

Invitations are going to all Lodge Secretaries
If you have not received your invitation, please contact:
Webster Lodge Senior Warden Allyn J. Borrino at ajborrino@gmail.com



671-9730

Editor's Corner

Here we are at the end of another calendar year. They really fly by!

It is a privilege for me to say, once again, thank you to all the supporters of the Masonic Service Bureau and the **Masonic Times**. We have had another decent year, even though the circulation has continued to fall.

We were pleased when Mat Gingold was able to navigate again, with the aid of his daughter, Nancy, and join us in the proofing of articles for the paper. Ditto, Bev VanHuben. While she is more confined than previously, I was able to get an envelope full of articles of an issue for her to peruse. A second attempt was unsuccessful, but I will continue to try. They play an important role in our efforts.

I can't forget Garry Cranker, Herb Spencer or Barb Goodrich, either. They spend many hours looking over the proofs, as well. And, Barb has filled in during Jan's absences (very frequent this year), much to the surprise of senior members who call for information or equipment.

Mike Bocklage continues to turn out the images we publish, which is a huge burden off my shoulders. He has been a welcome addition to the staff!

Jan bears the brunt of the volume of articles, formatting them to our needs and preparing the proofs to be corrected. It has been an extremely busy year for her, with the State Office in the Order of the Eastern Star that required many weekends of travel around New York. I'm sure she is looking forward to quieter times.

So, as we kick back a little to relax and enjoy life a bit, I say Merry Christmas to you and yours...and, thanks for reading. ☐



Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Bernard Lazerson, Monarch

lallarookhgrotto.com

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian

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



Bernard Lazerson
Monarch
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lazerbd12@aol.com

Reflections

As my year as Monarch draws to a close, there are bittersweet memories. Much was hoped for this year and only some was accomplished. However, I rejoice in knowing the incoming top Officers will do a bang-up job. I know them and I trust them - and you should, too.

There were a few complaints about the picnic. My memory is that adequate notice was sent out. A few feel this was not the case. However, as was said last month in my article, those who attended had a great time. The Fall outing was not popular among the Prophets on the Board and thus never came off - a pity. There was no dinner for the honorees receiving Years of Service Awards or Past Monarchs, because the Board felt we did not need another dinner night in our Trestleboard.

Sickness and Infirmary

The list, sadly, continues to

grow. Bill Fredenburg and Ken Hutchinson remain in nursing homes. Prophet Bill is in St. John's Home and would welcome visitors. Prophet Ken is in a nursing home in Sodus on Maple Avenue and, according to Prophet Chuck White, would also welcome visitors. He recently celebrated a birthday with Prophet Chuck in attendance.

Prophets Jim Pray, Jim Slocum and Mike Postilli are also in need of our prayers, good wishes and offers of assistance. My Prophets, I repeat, we need to extend a helping hand to our Prophet Brothers in need of a friend and assistance. Let us always look to the other and the other's needs.

October

October witnessed our Years of Service Awards given to Prophets James Toogood, PM, and Kel Kelsey, 10 years; Donald Brugger, 30 years; William Fredenburg was recognized for 60 years! They are very deserving Prophets.

Past Monarchs, the few in attendance, were recognized for their contributions and years of faithful service and much appreciated guidance and leadership.

Prophet Ron Morthorst, three-time Past Monarch, conducted the nominating process for Officers for the ensuing year. The three top Officers nominated are: Prophet Frank Habitzreuther - Monarch, Prophet

George Foehner - Chief Justice, and Prophet Richard Topel, PM - Master of Ceremonies. Elections will take place in December.



By Bev Murray -MCO

As always, we are very happy when we can spend time with our Canadian Friends. We miss seeing and spending time with our Friends from the Binghamton area. We hope to be able to set up a special date to visit with them this Spring.

A "Belated" Happy Birthday wish to all of those who celebrated their Birthday in November and on-time wishes for the December Birthdays.

I am wishing all of you a very special Christmas that is filled with hope, love and happiness. Now that takes us to the next bend in the road - Happy New Year! May it be filled with fun, laughter and a journey that makes life worth living.

Daughters, I hope you can join me on December 12th for our Christmas Dinner at 6:15 p.m., \$10. A meeting will follow.

God Bless each of you or as we say, "May the Peace of God Abide with Us." ☐

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In Memoriam

Levine, William

William Levine, 97, went to the loving arms of his wife on November 4th. He is survived by 2 children, 9 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. He was a member of Northfield Lodge. May he find peace with the Lord.

Ogden, Robert F.

On October 26th, Robert Ogden, 99, was embraced by those who walked before him in faith. Bob was a 66-year Mason, a member of Inspiration Lodge. He labored hard for those he loved, then left us to remember.

Smith, Ralph E.

On October 31st, Ralph Smith, 87, joined his wife, Flora, in the House not made by human hands. Two sons, 1 grandchild and 2 great-grandchildren will remember his life. Ralph was a US Navy Veteran of World War II and a member of ERAC Lodge. Your gentle spirit will live on in our hearts forever.

Widows to be Remembered

Baker, Cecile "CeCe", 82, widow of William Baker (Unity Lodge), passed away September 5th.

Edwards, Geraldine P., 88, widow of Eugene Edwards (Union Star Lodge), passed away November 10th.

Stein, Gladys P., 92, widow of Donald Stein (Fame Lodge), passed away November 3rd. ☐

Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

JANUARY

- 8 Seneca Lodge, 1°
- 14 Inspiration Lodge, 3°

FEBRUARY

- 22 Road to the East, Shrine Center

MARCH

- 6 Webster Lodge 150th Anniversary Celebration
- 8 Road to the East, Shrine Center
- 31 Monroe District Table Lodge, Shrine Center

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President

I close with the usual wish for good health and good fellowship. Thank you to all my fellow Prophets and Ladies. ☐

Attend Grotto Meetings

Monday December 2nd
Board of Governors Meeting
Grotto Office - 7 p.m.

Wednesday December 18th
General Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Election of Officers
Holiday Dinner with all the trimmings at 6:30 p.m.
Make dinner reservations with Dick Topel - 663-2547

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York Rite NEWS

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 225-6533
cholyone@rochester.rr.com
 17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

What's Happening

The Chapter presented "The Peculiar Stone" to Northfield Lodge on November 7th. We thank those Companions who took part and hope the Brothers of Northfield Lodge found some pleasure and inspiration from the presentation. It may not have been as well rehearsed as it should have been, but we did our best.

November saw only one meeting as our second meeting would have been on Thanksgiving Day, which would not work and our By-Laws prevent it from happening. However, at our November 14th meeting we discussed the Officers

to be nominated for the coming years, some of the plans for the Winter and Spring, and started to build Casts for the Degrees. The Chapter is getting ready to do Degree work; we cannot assume that other Chapters will carry the load.

As with November, we will only have one meeting in December on the 12th. This will be our Annual Meeting with the Election and Appointment of Officers. There will be some changes in the coming years as the Chapter is progressing with the building of a Leadership Line.

Musings

As has been mentioned in the past, the play "The Peculiar Stone" is a great introduction to the York Rite and serves as a lead-in to the Mark Master Mason Degree. The Mark Degree, for short, is an important Degree in the York Rite. It goes into the character of the workmen who helped to build Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem and the work and workers who needed to continue their functions after the death of the Master Builder as portrayed in the Third Degree of the Lodge.

The Degree also looks at what is good work and what is good pay for the good work. Part of the Degree gets into the idea of ancient methods of identifying a true workman and the manner of receiving wages. It also discusses how a workman's work was distinguished, i.e. the workman's mark. Some may think that the marking of a workman's work with a special mark is a legend, but it is not. I have seen stones marked with a stonemason's mark that were taken from the Cathedral in Prague. (See the attached pictures.) Now, who the particular workmen were is not known today, but would have been known when the stones were originally quarried, shaped and placed in the building.

The use of a mark showed several things. First, the work-



men wanted their work to be associated with their person. Second, they wanted others to know the quality of their work and be able to associate it with the correct workman. This was to show pride in individual workmanship and an indication of the quality of workmanship of individual workers. Today we should continue to take pride and ownership of our work, regardless of what it is. We, as York Rite Masons, should always take pride in what we do in the workplace and, when appropriate, take proper ownership of the work. As a Cathedral is built from pieces and parts made by many workers, so is everything we do today, taking pieces and parts from other workers to make the final item. This includes physical items as well as the paperwork or electronic files that make up the whole of the item.



Also shown in the Mark Master Mason Degree is the acceptance of the worker of the wages they agreed to receive for their work, regardless of how long or how hard they work. When we accept a job we should do the job to the best of our ability and be pleased with the wages we agreed to accept for the work performed. This does not mean that we should accept unfair wages nor accept work that we cannot or are unqualified to perform. If we are unhappy we should look for something that will meet our needs and requirements.

For our Companions, maybe you are seeing something in the Mark Master Mason Degree you did not see before. For Master Masons who may be thinking of becoming a York Rite Mason, hopefully this will give you a better idea of some of the teachings of our Degrees and encourage you to petition to join us.

We wish all an enjoyable Holiday Season, no matter how you decide to celebrate it. By the end of December we will be heading for Spring and Summer and their colors and smells. ☐

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery No. 12

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 223-1850
chancock@rochester.rr.com
 Recorder-259-3796
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cholyone@rochester.rr.com
 3rd Monday
 17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

Sir Knights, our Annual Cyrene-Monroe Christmas Toast will be held on Monday, December 16th. Festivities will commence at 7 p.m. at Northfield Lodge Hall, 17 Church Street, Pittsford. All Sir Knights, their spouses and families are encouraged to attend.

The Templar Year is well underway with the successful com-

pletion of the Pilgrimage on November 2nd at Palmyra. A total of 14 Sir Knights started their Journeys with the Orders of the Red Cross and Malta being conferred.

The Order of the Temple was conferred on November 9th as part of the New York Grand Commandery 200th Anniversary Celebration by the Grand Commandery Officers at DeMolay Commandery in Hornell. The Grand Commander's Banquet and Ball were held that evening to cap the memorable celebration.

Our first Monday meeting will focus on giving new Sir Knights the benefit of our Knight Templar "Boot Camp" Program, providing them with a solid foundation for understanding the military nature and uniform significance of this magnificent Order.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

As we enter this most joyous and festive season, let us reflect upon the following:

The Christmas Story in the Gospel of St. Matthew starts with the revelation to Joseph that it might be fulfilled, which was spoken of the Lord by the Prophet, saying, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

(Matthew 1:22-23)

Without Christmas, there would be no Life, Death, Resurrection or Ascension of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For me, the Christmas Story continues from Birth through Ascension. So, let us look at the last chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew. There Jesus speaks to His Disciples, "(18) ... All power is given

unto me in Heaven and in Earth.

"(19) ... Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

"(20) ... Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen"

(Matthew 28:18-20)

At Christmas, we celebrate God's gift to us - Himself and His love for us. He came among His people in human form to teach us how God wants us to conduct our lives and died on the Cross for the remission of sin. Instead of just leaving us with His perfect example, Jesus Christ, God assures us that He will always be with us, "even unto the end of the world."

Those who possess a power of Faith to receive Divine Truth,

also have the consolation and peace of mind that God is still with us. He remains with us to guide us and comfort us through the trials and tribulations of life. God's gift was one of pure love that gives us the Hope of remission of our sins through salvation. At Christmas we celebrate God's love of all His people. As you give your family and friends gifts at Christmas, in remembrance of God's gift, His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, remember God's example and also give of yourself and of your love.

May you have the gift of Faith, the Blessing of Hope, and the Peace of His love at Christmas and always. Merry Christmas to all. ☐

Genesee-Wyoming
 District Deputy Grand Master - Gary Busenlehner (585) 591-5754

Olive Branch Lodge No. 39, F. & A.M.
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I hope this article finds everyone healthy and looking forward to the upcoming Holidays. Olive Branch Lodge has been very busy over the past month. We had Brothers take the *Road to the East* two-day class and also the one-day *Masonic Development Course* in search of more Light in Masonry.

On October 19th, we had an Oktoberfest at the Lodge with authentic German Food, attended by over 30 Brothers and their wives. We had a Brother play the keyboard with some German music.

Surviving Spouse Dinner

On October 26th, we had our Annual Surviving Spouse Dinner with more than 20 Brothers, wives and Surviving Spouses in attendance.

The Chaplain's Chair was dedicated in memory of R.: W.: Paul Smith who was our Chaplain for more than a decade. A memorial plaque was placed on the front of the Chair to commemorate this event, along with a plate on the back of the Chair with the dates of R.: W.: Paul Smith's three Degrees. Paul's wife, Helen, was

present at the ceremony along with their two sons, who are also our Brothers, Mike and Gary Smith. The Lodge also presented Helen with a plaque to commemorate this event.

Community Center

We thank all the Brothers and Sisters who donated money in the name of loved ones for the new tables and chairs for the Masonic Community Center. We received enough donations to purchase 15, six-foot round tables that seat eight and 130 banquet chairs. A plaque is being ordered to record the names of the Brothers and Sisters in whose memory the donations were made. Again, thank you to everyone who helped make this project a reality.

Grand Lecturer's Convention

The Grand Lecturer's Convention was held at the Masonic Community Center, LeRoy, on November 7th. The Rainbow Girls helped with serving the dinner and cleaning up after. A heartfelt thank you to them for

all their help. A certificate will be presented to the Rainbow Girls at the start of the Convention.

Olive Branch Lodge will be celebrating its 200th Anniversary at our Regular Communication on December 4th, at 7:30 p.m. R.: W.: Jeff Williamson, Senior Grand Warden, of the Grand Lodge of New York will be the guest speaker. There will be refreshments after the meeting.

The Master and his Officer Line wish all our Brothers and Sisters a very Happy Holiday Season - a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! ☐

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Ontario/Seneca/Yates District

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

Chartered 1807
3rd Wednesday

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Secretary
W.: Thomas Smart
493 E. Bluff Dr.,
Penn Yan 14527-8926

October was a very busy month in the Ontario/Seneca/Yates District. Our Grand Lecturer's Convention took place at Milo Lodge Hall in Penn Yan on October 17th. Our Grand Lecturer, R.:W.: Robert Strang, presided over the Convention with close to 50 Brothers in attendance. John Hodge Lodge earned the Howard Potts Award and Geneva Lodge received their Potts Award earned at last year's Convention. It was an evening full of both instruction and good fellowship that was enjoyed by all.

Apron Presentations

Our District Apron Presentation took place October 26th at the Sons of Italy restaurant in Geneva. The guest speaker, M.:W.: Bruce Widger, Past Grand Master and Honorary Member of O/S/Y District Lodges, gave an inspirational address on Pride in Masonry. Prior to presenting the Dedicated Service Award Apron to W.: Charles Rouse, Jr., of Ark Lodge, he spoke about the establishment of the Dedicated Service Award and the qualities it recognizes.

The E. Platt Soper Award was presented to R.:W.: Fredrick Newton, of Pocahontas Lodge, in recognition of his many years of commitment and dedication to the District. It was certainly an honor and a privilege for me to make the presentation on behalf of the District. Thank you so much for all you do for the Craft, R.:W.: Newton.

R.:W.: James Tyrrell, of John Hodge Lodge, received his Grand Chaplain's Apron and spoke about how much the Craft means to him.

As Fall turns to Winter and the Holiday Season approaches, our schedules all get a little busier. The days all seem a little shorter, the "To Do" Lists all seem a little longer and we wonder how we will be able to do it all. Please remember to find the time to enjoy the peace and joy of the Season with those you love.

May the Great Architect of the Universe continue to bless you and your family this Holiday Season and always. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Upcoming Official Visits

December 2nd - John Hodge Lodge, Naples at 7:30 p.m.

December 5th - Seneca Lake Lodge, Dresden at 7:30 p.m.

December 12th - Dundee Lodge, Dundee at 7:00 p.m.

December 17th - Garoga-Sincerity Lodge, Phelps at 7:30 p.m.

Where has the time gone? The year is coming to a rapid end. Did you attend a Lodge meeting or a District function during 2013? Did you pay your Dues and contribute to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund? Have you honored your obligation as a Master Mason? I hope you can positively answer all of these questions.

October Happenings

In October, Ark Lodge presented the DeWitt Clinton Award to Mr. Charles Bauder and the Dedicated Service Award to W.: Charles A. Rouse, Jr.

We had the first reading to move our Charter from 208 Border City Road to Garoga-Sincerity Lodge Hall at 67 Ontario Street in Phelps. We have not set a date for the vote on this proposal, but we need as much input as possible from our Brothers. Please write, phone or email me with your thoughts or questions on the matter. We truly need and want your input.

This move is not a permanent solution to our housing situation, but a way to get out of Border City into an established Lodge Room allowing us time to find more suitable housing for the Lodge. Brother Charles Rouse, Jr. is the head of the Facilities Committee and has looked at several properties in Geneva; we have not been able to find a facility that meets our needs or that we can afford.

We also participated in the Grand Lecturer's Convention and the Official Apron Presentations in the O/S/Y District. At the Apron Presentation, the main speaker was Past Grand Master, M.:W.: Bruce Widger, who talked about having pride in the Fraternity. Are you proud to be a Mason? Do you promote the three principle Tenets of the Fraternity - friendship, charity and Brotherly love?

Grand Master, M.:W.: James E. Sullivan, talks about pride in the Fraternity in the Summer 2013 issue of the *Empire State Mason*. This theme reverberates with the essence of Freemasonry. We should be proud to be Masons and should take pride in acting as a Mason. Let people know you belong to the oldest Fraternity and that you take pride in your Lodge, District and the State. Just remember that, as Masons, we have joined a group of fellows with similar interests and values. We joined the Freemasons, not a location or a building. What makes us Masons is our dedication to the ideals and Tenets of the Craft.

November

In November, Ark Lodge conferred a 1st Degree for an Entered Apprentice.

Christmas Party

The Ark Lodge Christmas Party will be held on December 18th at St. Michael's Orthodox Church. We hope that many of our Brothers will bring their families to this annual event.

Please think about making a New Year's Resolution for 2014 to continue your service to Freemasonry. If you have not been active, make the commitment to become active in the Lodge. We are constantly seeking input from our Brothers. We are searching for the best resolution to our housing situation as we continue to look at every option open to us.

I close with a special thank you to all Brothers who have supported the Lodge in any way during 2013. I also thank all the women of Ark Lodge Brothers who allow us to participate in so many District activities. Without the support of the ladies, Freemasonry would surely suffer. The ladies are a huge part in the success of every Brother who calls himself a Freemason.

Finally, may you and your family enjoy the Holiday Season ... May you have good health and much happiness in the New Year, and may the Great Architect of the Universe shed his grace and mercy on you and your families. God Bless you all. □

Garoga-Sincerity Lodge No. 200

1st & 3rd
Tuesdays



Master
W.: Kenneth
Gibbs
47 Hoffman Ave.
Geneva, 14456

Secretary
R.:W.: Clayton Ruggles
315-548-3573
claymar4250@ftg.net
67 Ontario Street, Phelps 14532

We wish all Brothers and their families a Merry Christmas and a Safe Happy New Year and may we all have good health in the coming New Year.

In early December, we will be calling upon Brothers for help in the Ringing of the Bell for the Red Kettle Fund. Brother Ernie Day will be chairing this event. We will also be delivering Poinsettias in the coming weeks to our Surviving Spouses. If there are any Brothers who would like to help in either or both of these activities, please feel free to give the Master or Secretary a call. Remember, it is the Season of the year for giving and you are reminded about the Brotherhood Fund.

December 3rd, we will have a Pot Luck Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is invited; just bring a dish-to-pass; come and enjoy.

Game Nights - Cancelled

Game Nights are being cancelled due a lack of participation.

From the Secretary's Desk

Dues Notices are being sent. You will notice that the Dues have increased to \$64 because Grand Lodge Dues have increased to \$34. This is the second of five \$2 increases approved by Representatives to Grand Lodge. Brothers are en-

couraged to stay current with Dues payments as we want to avoid NPDs.

December Birthdays

We send December Birthday Greetings to Brothers John Bowles (1st), Gary Yancey (14th), Jerome Phillips (17th), James Sullivan (19th), Everett Grimsley (21st), Ronald Galens (22nd), William Lally, Jr. (25th) and Ernest Day (30th).

Masonic Anniversaries

The following Brothers were Raised in December:

1947	John Record
1952	Frederick Gifford
1960	Bernard Dell
1962	William Goodman
1975	William Tatro IV
1978	Charles Anderson
1990	John Sherman
1994	Perry Adams
1995	David Smith □

Wayne District

District Deputy Grand Master - Jay DeWispelaere (315) 483-0475

District Deputy Grand Master Wayne District

R.:W.:
Jay A.

DeWispelaere

(315)

483-0475

dewispelaerejay@yahoo.com



On October 21st, I was happy to join the Officers and Brothers of Newark Lodge and their Ladies. The occasion was to honor the Surviving Spouses of departed Brothers. I was advised that this event was the first of its kind in some time for the Lodge. The event was held at a local restaurant and was very well attended with good food and fellowship.

Of note was the program of the evening, a presentation by Brother Frank Russell about Brother John Phillip Sousa. A longtime Mason, Brother Sousa's Band often boasted a large number of Brethren among the musicians. Thank you to the Brothers of Newark Lodge for their gracious invitation and to Brother Russell for his enlightening talk on a famous Brother.

For any Lodge that might be interested in hosting a Surviving Spouses event, R.:W.: Bill Jones (wjones@rochester.rr.com) is the District Contact and will gladly discuss the program and how to obtain Pins and Certificates for the surviving spouses of our Brothers.

For December, the Wayne District Team and I will be out and about visiting several Lodges. Official Visits are scheduled as follows:

December 2nd - Newark Lodge

December 12th - Savannah Lodge,

December 16th - Pultneyville Lodge

Dinners will be held prior to each visit and reservations may be made through the Secretary of each Lodge.

December 9th - Wayne Dis-

trict Masters and Wardens Association, location to be determined. More information may be obtained through:

President, R.:W.: Bill Benedict (wcb59@hotmail.com) or

Secretary, R.:W.: Richard Brewer

(brewerjmc@verizon.net)

Please join us for Fellowship, Masonic Education and, always, a good meal.

Brothers, in keeping with the Grand Master's Message and the Spirit of the Season, let's show our Love for our Brothers. As we go through the time of year when we draw family close, remember those Brothers and Surviving Spouses who may now be alone, whose family is not close, who may be unable to travel independently. Call and ask a Brother if he would like a ride to Lodge, invite a Brother out for dinner. Or, gather a group together to visit those Brothers or surviving spouses who, due to the weather, health or other circumstances, are not able to travel on their own. The Love you show, the warmth you help to spread will bring even more joy to a Joyous Season.

All the Best of the Holiday Season from my family to yours. Travel safely and may peace be with you all. □

Grand Director of Ceremonies

Wayne



F. Edward "Ted" Powley

(315) 483-2745

soduspowleys@msn.com

Let me be one of the first to wish you and your families, a most Happy and Joyous Christmas and New Year! As we get older, health becomes a more important issue and with the beginning of Obamacare, it is currently on most everyone's mind. Let's hope some smart people

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585-482-0400

can work out the kinks as they appear.

As 2013 comes to a close, I hope that amid the high energy of the Holidays, you can find a few minutes to remember those Brothers who have laid down the Working Tools of life in 2013 and previous years. Sodus Lodge still has its Annual Meeting in December and a short memorial service reminds us of our Brothers. It is well to remember the little, as well as the great things they did for our Lodges. They are still part of our Masonic Family. We don't forget family, we celebrate their lives. Please remember your Lodge's Widows and Surviving Spouses.

Degree work is underway in Wayne District. I overheard one Master say to a Petition presenter, "who are the references, who are the Petitioner's friends? Would they make good Masons?" Aren't these great leads for new Masons? Give it a try. There's a new generation joining Masonry. Bright days are ahead for our Fraternity if we engage with these young men.

Enough from me, let me hear from you! I look forward to the remaining Official Visits and Masters and Wardens Meetings. God bless you, your family, our military personnel, and our Country! □



**ASSISTANT
GRAND
LECTURER**

WAYNE DISTRICT
V.: W.: Allen "Joe" Green
690-0326
adoniram32@yahoo.com

I know everyone who was able to make it to the Grand Lecturer's Convention enjoyed themselves. Once again, the Ladies of Richards Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, prepared a fabulous dinner. Also, our Guest of Honor, Grand Lecturer R.: W.: Bob Strang, presented an exceptional program of floor work coupled with enriching knowledge of Masonic Historical Text and Ritual. I believe every Brother had a good time.

Over the ensuing year, R.: W.: Bob, in conjunction

with the Custodians of the Work, will be trying to "rebuild the waste places of old, raise the foundations of many generations, repairing the breach between the Ancients and the Moderns, and restoring paths to walk in." If any of you missed the Convention, I encourage you to obtain the Ritual Renaissance Program booklet which you can obtain through the Grand Lecturer, one of the Custodians of the Work or an AGL.

Many of the Lodges of our District have started conferring Degrees. The Grand Lecturer continues to remind us the Lodge is a place representing King Solomon's Temple which was the House of the Most High. Levity has its time and place, but we remember the Candidate for Initiation is prepared in a "Chamber of Reflection" and in a "garment of humility" which strips all of us to one level ... "the high, the low, the rich, the poor who created by one Almighty Parent and inhabiting the same planet, should aid support and protect one another."

This garment of humility, used by today's Freemason for Initiation and Passing, was also used in Ancient Days at the gathering of "the Many" where all wore the garment from the Candidate humbly requesting to be counted among the Many, to the Master humbly asking the blessing of Almighty God. That was the purpose of the garment, a constant reminder to all they were equal before God and to engage in humility. The Master always covered his head, it was a physical way to say to Deity without using words that the Master acknowledges his failure to keep the Holy Law and it was a physical way of saying he was covering his sins and humbly requesting God not to look upon them or the sins of the Brothers gathered when he made his petition to the Lord. Their Holy Law stated, "... when thou taketh a vow to the Lord, if thou cut not the ends of thy hair, it shall serve the Lord as a covering, the length of thy hair shall cover thee ...," wherefore many of the Masters never cut their hair. To this end, Masters, you would do your Lodge

justice if you wore the "Master's Hat." Wear it with pride of having gained such wisdom of knowledge. In Ancient Times, all Masters wore a covering, both sitting and Past Masters.

Also, Master, (Chaplains and Wardens if there are two or more Candidates) LEFT HAND, not right hand, is on the head of the Candidate during prayer because it alludes to a Mason's right hand is always upon the Holy Law. Same for Ancient Sign of Master Mason, the Mason's left hand for sign, because his right hand belongs to the Holy Law, same for sign of Fellowcraft, left for sign, right hand is upon the Holy Law.

In the Hiram Legend, the Holy Law was in a tent in Zion; therefore, Brothers, do not use Sign of Fidelity during prayer at Hiram Abiff's graveside. After the Temple was destroyed the "Sons of Light" concealed the Holy Law within themselves and used a Sign to remind each other the Lord and his Kingdom was now within, "Where thy Heavenly Father doeth live, and His Holy Law doeth dwell." I do not know whether Ancient Freemasons adapted this sign as an allegory to the Sons of Light using it; however, I make reference to Sons of Light because Masons pride themselves as having an affinity to the Sons of Light.

The Holy Law is not that which is written, it is that unseen power that "... created the blind, so he cannot see, the deaf who cannot hear, the halt and maimed so he cannot walk, who hath done these things? Was it not the living God? And He who is able to do these things hath the power to restore them ...? The unseen law, provides a man should keep justice, wait upon Deity and if injustice overtake thee, "... the moral arm of the universe with eventually bend toward justice ..."

The following is extracted from "The Ancient Records of Lodges Beyond Sea, and of those of England, Scotland and Ireland, for the use of the Lodges in London," to be read at the making of NEW BRETHREN, or when the MASTER shall order it:

"A Mason is obliged by his Tenure, to obey the moral Law;

and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid Atheist, nor an irreligious Libertine. But though in Ancient Times, Masons were charged in every Country to be of the Religion of that Country or Nation, whatever it was, yet 'tis now though more expedient only to oblige them to that Religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be good Men and true, or men of Honour and Honesty, by whatever Denominations or Persuasions they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the centre of Union, and the means on conciliating true Friendship among Persons that must else have remained at a perpetual distance."

At some point later in the Masonic Year, I will be presenting two benefit dinners - one for Brotherhood Fund and the other for the Masonic Home, which I was unable to include last year. If time permits and God wills, I will also include the Pines of Peace Hospice Home. I will be using a look at King Solomon's Temple as a program for one benefit which covers a multitude of answers to Masonic Ritual, and the Master's message to "the Sons of Light," which he gave to them when they fled Israel, mourning the murder of their children, wives and Brothers, the destruction of their community, and the burning of their houses and fields at the final destruction of the Temple and after distancing themselves from "the Sons of Darkness."

I will be available to any Lodge of any District for either of these two on the condition any proceeds you might Raise go to either of the first two aforementioned Grand Master's desires.

Wayne District Masters & Wardens

Brothers, a reminder Wayne District Masters and Wardens meetings were switched to the 2nd Mondays of the month. The next meeting will be December 9th; dinner at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 7:30 p.m. Contact R.: W.: Richard Brewer, phone (315) 986-5673, or email brewerjmc@verizon.net. □

**Drumlin Square
Lodge No. 1180**
1st & 3rd Wednesdays



Master
W.: John P. Krest
kremac7@gmail.com

Secretary
R.: W.: William C. Jones
315-986-9150
wjones@rochester.rr.com

 Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street 14522

The Official Visit on November 6th began with a very nice dinner and fellowship with our District Deputy and Staff Officer followed by a satisfactory Inspection. Our Lodge is in Compliance.

The night also included a new Petition for Initiation into the Craft. We plan to schedule the Work of the 1st Degree on December 4th. There will be a dinner at Yellow Mills Restaurant at 6:30 p.m., followed by our Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

This will be an opportunity for our newest Entered Apprentice to observe the Degree Work he experienced in October and both men will become Fellowcraft in January.

I hope all of you took a moment on Veteran's Day to remember all those men and women who have served and are serving their Country. We enjoy our freedom today because of THEM! Freedom to Assemble ... Freedom of Speech ... Freedom of Religion. We too often take for granted what others have sacrificed for and many other Countries wished they had.

Mark your Calendar

December 18th - Our Christmas Celebration and Annual Gift Auction. The Auction supports our Bereaved Brethren and Ladies Dinner in June. Bring a gift, marked for a "Man" or "Lady," in the \$10 range and, above all, make sure you bring your Lady. This is a Dish-to-Pass Event and truly an event you don't want to miss.

In closing, I hope you enjoyed Thanksgiving and your preparations for Christmas and the New Year are well underway. Be thankful for the many blessings of 2013 and look forward to a fruitful 2014. □

Monroe District

District Deputy Grand Master - Phillip Hurwitz 720-9653

District Deputy Grand Master Monroe District

R.: W.:
**Phillip
Hurwitz**
720-9653
phurwitz@frontiernet.net



Mentoring the new Brother is one of the more effective ways of retaining a newly made Master Mason.

Mentoring can be viewed as an investment; the dividends accrue when the Brother keeps his interest in coming back to Lodge when he can. Who knows? His participation in Masonry may

change ... or even save his life from one of idle and unfocused existence.

A Mentor can be a Brother who helps you understand the three Degrees; or a Brother whose example serves as a rule and guide for you. For me, R.: W.: Bill Lindsay has been such a role model. His way of suggestion - offering words of counsel without having it come across as such (in other words, you think it's your own idea) - is a gift that Kings and Queens cannot effectively reign without.

In the October, 2013, Edition of the *Short Talk Bulletin*, titled "Masonic Mentoring at its Best," offers an example of how Masonry, and the principles it teaches, can have a profound ef-

fect on an individual.

Brother Kevin Pentalow tells us that his teenage years were shaping up to be a miserable one. He was at war with the universe. His folks had divorced, leaving his mom struggling to keep a roof over their heads. To help make ends meet, he had to work as a farm laborer. He was afflicted with Dyslexia, thus making school a burden. He was failing his classes. His fighting with classmates got him kicked out of more than one school. Brother Kevin was finding himself in a dark place.

As a last-ditch effort, he was placed in a music class because, as Brother Kevin put it, it was one of the few classes he had not been kicked out of. The music teacher, Mr. Howard, could sense Brother Kevin's turmoil, but rather than ignore him in the hopes he could get through the period without any incident,

he instead chose to engage him - to challenge him. Before long, Brother Kevin found his passion in music. He not only graduated high school, but went on to graduate Magna Cum Laude from SUNY-Potsdam with Degrees in Graphic Design and Psychology.

So what's this have to do with Masonry? Well, it turns out that Brother Kevin would join the Craft - North Star Lodge No. 107 - and continue on through the Syracuse Consistory as a 32° Mason.

As for Mr. Howard? Right after receiving his 32° in Syracuse, Brother Kevin was seated at a table, breaking bread with other Brothers, when all of a sudden he heard his name spoken, looked up and saw his Mentor, Mr. Howard.

It turns out that Mr. Howard was also a Brother. He shared how Ritual helped him as a teacher in both teaching music

and interacting with his students. The unspoken message here is how the lessons of Freemasonry helped turn around the life of a troubled youth.

In closing his Bulletin article, Brother Kevin had this to say, "You do not have to look any farther than your Lodge to find a blueprint for greater achievement. An inspirational person will be there."

I wish to you and your family a joyful Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. □

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Grand Directors of Ceremonies



R. W. Michael Hueston
509-0606

mph0523@frontiernet.net



R. W. Robert Buchanan
329-2432

rob.buchanan479@gmail.com

By R. W.: Rob Buchanan

Happy Holidays to All!! R. W.: Mike Hueston and I wish you and your families all the best this Holiday Season! Try to remember to slow things down this year and enjoy the Holiday Season with the ones we love!

Important Military Dates in December

Remember Pearl Harbor

We're getting to a point where the people alive today do not remember Pearl Harbor 1941. Those who were there are few and far between, and those who do remember were quite young.

According to what History tells us, the Japanese attacked the Navy Base at Pearl and all eight U.S. Navy Battleships were damaged, with four being sunk. They also sank or damaged three Cruisers, three Destroyers, an Anti-aircraft Training Ship, and one Mine-laying Ship. 188 U.S. aircraft were destroyed; 2,402 Americans were killed and 1,282 wounded.

Our Brother and President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, proclaimed December 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy." The following day (December 8th), the United States Declared War on Japan and off we went into World War II.

December 13th

Birth of the National Guard (Militia)

On December 13, 1636, the Massachusetts Bay Colony divided its citizen-soldiers, or militia, into the North, South and East Regiments.

The Massachusetts Bay Colony was seven years old in 1636; they confronted a wilderness of dense forests, wild animals and suspicious Indians. The Colonists needed a military force for protection, but they had no money to hire a mercenary army, which was common practice in Europe at the time. So, they turned to the English tradition of the Militia – citizen-soldiers who gathered for military training and who could fight when needed.

In Massachusetts, all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60, were required to join the Militia and have their own equipment. By 1636, the Militia of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was large enough to be divided into three separate Regiments.

Upcoming Events

Road to the East (RTTE)

February 22nd and March 8th - at the Shrine Center, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. both days Please make your reservations for the Road to the East with:

R. W.: Rob Buchanan
email: rob.buchanan479@gmail.com

or

R. W.: Mike Hueston
email: mph0523@frontiernet.net

Thanks to all the Brothers who attended this year's Masonic Development Course. Your time, input and dedication to the Craft is greatly appreciated.

Please remember to "Continue to Mentor Beyond the 3rd Degree!!"

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and God Bless. ☐

Wakan-Hubbard

Lodge No. 154

2nd & 4th Mondays

7:30 p.m.

Master

W.: Angelo

DiCataldo

738-9709

kdicataldo@frontiernet.net

Secretary

R. W.: John Zabel

223-3228

secretary@wakanhubbard.org

1822-A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

By R. W.: John Zabel

October saw the successful conferral of the 1st Degree on two Candidates. The Lodge did an excellent job in conferring the Degree. Second, we qualified for a Howard Potts Award for having our Officers present at the Grand Lecturer's Convention. This was a real achievement as W.: Angelo DiCataldo was Master when we qualified for our first award and for our newest award. We have qualified for many awards in the intervening years.

The District Deputy made his Official Visit to Wakan-Hubbard and was the presenter of a 60-Year Service Award to W.: James Nielsen. W.: Nielsen's wife, Marilyn, was also present for the Award and pinned his 60-Year Pin on his lapel. He then spoke of his years in Masonry and his time as Master of



W.: James Nielsen addressing the Lodge.

Penfield Union Lodge No. 154 in 1962. W.: Nielsen was Master when Penfield Union had a substantial membership and the Lodge Room was full at each meeting. This is a goal we work much to achieve again.

Our Master's son, Brother Joe, who lives in Tennessee, achieved a real goal that many never reach. He bowled a 300 recently. When he is in town he does come to Lodge and has stated that he appreciated receiving the **Masonic Times** to keep him up-to-date of the comings and goings here. W.: Angelo is the grandfather of three grandchildren, some here and some in Tennessee.

Our Brother Thaminda Ramanayak has moved to California with his wife. We wish them the best and have worked with our Grand Lodge to help him find a new Lodge near his new home. We do not have an address yet, but can always reach him by email. We will miss Brother Ramanayak at our meetings, but wish him the best in his new endeavors.

November saw the Lodge

Finance **Dave Upham**

Masonic Learning

Paul Beilewicz

Membership **Zach Taylor**

Refreshment **Bruce Katz**

The contact information for these Lodge Officers is listed in the Trestleboard booklet.

Community Service Action Team has been generally focused on the monthly dinners at Ronald McDonald House (RMH). W.: Rich Greenaway and W.: Sean McKenna have been spearheading this effort for several years, along with the significant contribution of many Brothers. In addition to the monthly RMH dinners, for the last several years the Community Service team has held a Christmas Eve dinner at RMH. Brothers whose Cabletows limit their on-site participation have been able to contribute to the monthly dinners through the kitty jar at the Lodge dinners, as well as being the beneficiary of the "voting" for the October Chili Cook-Off.

Other December activities for our Lodge include the Annual Bell Ringing for Salvation Army, as well as visits to Brothers.

As a related note, it is with mixed feelings that we say "farewell" to W.: Sean McK-



V. W.: Hugh Woodside (right) presents W.: James Nielsen with his 60-year Certificate, witnessed by R. W.: Phillip Hurwitz, DDGM, and W.: Angelo DiCataldo, Master. Below, wife, Marilyn, affixes his 60-year Pin to his lapel.



conferring the 2nd Degree. Our Entered Apprentices have worked hard to make suitable proficiency prior to the Degree conferral.

We are seeing the end of Fall, the start of Winter. This will bring us to our Annual Financial Meeting on December 9th. The Brothers should have received a Summons to this meeting by the time this article is read. We will be discussing our financial plans for the coming year, fee changes and what will happen as far as Dues are concerned. We hope that all who can make the meeting will be there.

As is our custom, there will not be a meeting on December 23rd as this is too close to the Holidays and our Brothers will be busy getting ready for family and other activities.

One successful activity is the dinners that are provided for

enna with sadness as we lose him from our Lodge but joy for him and his family as they begin a new life chapter in the Boston Area.

Our November meetings were an open Veterans' Recognition on November 11th, and a program on Masonic Light, by Brother Kristian Reninger.

The December 9th meeting will be a 1st Degree, with Brother Bruce Katz in the East. It appears that additional 1st Degree dates will be needed for this year's large class of new Brothers. For information on these, please see the "Face-

each meeting. However, the Junior Warden, Dave Wilkinson, needs to know who is coming so there is sufficient food available. So far the dinners have been excellent and the Brethren present have really enjoyed them.

Our Master has nominated W.: Wayne McCrossen to receive the Valley of Rochester, AASR Symbolic Lodge Award. This will be presented on Saturday, December 7th, at the Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster. The event will start with Social Time at 4 p.m. and Awards will be presented at 5 p.m.; pizza will be served afterwards. We encourage all our Brothers to attend and help honor W.: Wayne in receiving this Award. The guest speaker will be M.: W.: James Sullivan, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York. This will be a very enjoyable time for all. ☐

book" Group and check your Googlegroup email.

If it has been a while since you have been in Lodge, here's an invitation to come back. Social time starts at 6 p.m. on Lodge nights, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting gavel at 7:30 p.m. Please contact our Junior Warden via the website, email or phone (729-6657) for reservations or information. As a reminder, dress code for regular meetings is suit or jacket and tie. This helps set the tone for our meetings as apart from the everyday.

See you In Lodge. ☐

orable success. We are trying to sponsor more events and programs that unite and involve our families and community, giving us the chance to grow and get to know one another better.

It is in this spirit that our only meeting in December is scheduled on December 11th at 6:30 p.m. and will be a Potluck Supper. It will be an Open Meeting for our family and friends and include the Community Gospel Church. Don Tubman will be giving a talk on the Tenets of Freemasonry and the history of Oatka Lodge. We also look forward to

• Lodge News continues on Page 11 •

ERAC
Lodge No. 163
website: www.eraclodge163.org
2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Charles D. Crawford
314-0305
cdcrawford21@gmail.com
Secretary
W.: David G. Upham
(315) 524-2610
dgupham@gmail.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

Do you receive correspondence through the ERAC Googlegroup? If not, your email may not be up-to-date, or you did not complete the registration process for the Googlegroup (including the confirming email). We are also on Facebook. Occasional mailings are another communication method. If you have not received the Trestleboard, please contact Brother Secretary to assure that your mailing address is up-to-date.

As part of the October mailing, a list of Action Teams was included, with names and contact information for the Chairmen and initial Team Members. The Action Teams and the respective Chairs are:

Community Service

Fidelity **Rich Greenaway**
Carl Scarpula

O-At-Ka

Lodge No. 759

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



Master

W.: Terrance

O. Wright

739-4278

wright8way@hotmail.com

Secretary

R. W.: Gordon

E. Bell

889-2531

gbell14546@aol.com

5 Browns Ave, Scottsville 14546

Good Holiday Season, Brothers! At this reading we will have had our Family Brunch at Mario's via Abruzzi, which I assume will have been a tasty and mem-



Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

December 2013

Shrine and Divan Meetings

Dinner Reservations Required

Call: (585) 671-7701 or (585) 671-3565 by Monday NOON

Shrine Office Hours

Monday — Friday

9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Website: www.damascusshrinemasons.org



JAMES MILLER
POTENTATE

Lady Mary Lou and I must start off by reporting on the Potentate's Ball held October 25th! It far exceeded our expectations! The East Avenue Inn bent over backwards to make sure we had everything we needed in our Hospitality Room - it was open three different time slots - AND with no fee, it provided a great place to gather ... and gather we did!

We were joined by the President of NYOSA and his wife, six Potentates and their spouses, two other Shrine Clubs represented by two Divans and their spouses for their Potentates, and last but not least, Ismahlia's Imperial Marshal and his spouse! The Hospitality Room would not have existed without the hours spent setting up, serving, re-opening, and transporting supplies to and from Damascus Shrine Center on Bay Road by **ever faithful, ever willing, John Hellaby and Matt Muller**. You are both very special.

We were all shuttled to The Inn on Broadway where festivities continued in a splendid atmosphere and where dining and music awaited. The Procession was wonderful, with the terrific Bagpiper from Kularuh Shrine. The Master of Ceremonies, Ill. Sir Lance Ward (new President of NYOSA), did an outstanding job. **Without him, the evening wouldn't have been the success it was!** Thanks to

Director Lee Coller for leading us in the Opening and Closing Prayers.

The Queen of Zama Chapter, Robin Locke, Daughters of the Nile, was in attendance; processing in with us. Our family arrived from Texas, Albany and Scottsville heightening the specialness of the evening. In addition, there were a host of Damascus Members. **Thanks must also be given to Captain of the Guard, Charles Feller, for creating truly beautiful invitations and programs and for always being available to help in any way.**

I must give a nod here to Recorder, Ill. Derek Van Houten, for keeping things in good order always. Karin Staples, Damascus Administrative Secretary, did amazing spreadsheets to keep track of reservations and special needs! Sue Coller and Karin kept things smooth at the Registration Table at The Inn on Broadway. **So many thanks to so many terrific friends!!** It was a weekend we'll never forget.

On a Somber Note

Lady Mary Lou and I traveled to Binghamton to attend the funeral of Ill. Bud Skinner, Kularuh Shrine 2013 Potentate, who died suddenly at his home November 8th. He was a giving and fun character who will be sorely missed.

Backing up on the Calendar

The Annual Sportsman Raffle in October was successful again with a healthy \$5,600 net profit. Thanks to all who placed posters and/or worked at the event.

The Knickerbocker Ceremonial was held on November 6th. Fifteen new Nobles were received! Special thanks to W.: Ed Hopkins (Avon Springs Lodge) for his expertise and participation. Yours in the Faith, good friend.

Important Dates

December 2nd - Divan Meeting

December 4th - Election of Officers

This is the last 2013 Potentate message and it needs to be stated here that great gratitude and thanks is given to Skip Waterstreet and Jan Porter for all their patience with our submittals to the **Masonic Times**. Skip, the Honor you and your publication have just received is so well deserved! This is a tremendous publication which monthly presents a tremendous challenge to you and your staff. The thoughts put into content, photos, ads and arrangement is awesome - hours and hours! Hats off to all!

All the Best for Safe Healthy Holidays and the New Year. □

From the Quill ...



By Derek VanHouten, Recorder

On November 6th, at the monthly Shrine Meeting, we welcomed in 15 new Sons of the Desert (members) for Damascus Shrine. The Knickerbocker Degree was conferred, under the direction of Gary Burke, John Gallant and their team of Actors who did a fine job, as usual. It was followed by the Ceremonial and later with the Hot Sands. Fun was had by all and it was a great evening for all who attended.

The 2014 Dues are being prepared as we write this article and should be in your hands shortly. It's a big job to get these out and the Office admits that the word (shortly) might be a little longer in some cases.

Recently, when we arrived at the Shrine, we noticed a quantity of water on the floor by the Ice Machine, so we mopped it up and figured it was either the machine or the drain. According to

John Hellaby, someone had taken the hose from the drain and let it run on the floor. PLEASE, if you see the hose in the drain, it's there for a reason and PLEASE leave it there.

The facility has been heavily used over this current year, we have had car shows, amateur radio meets, weddings, anniversary parties, a very successful "Wellness" show, Euchré Tournaments and probably other events that some of our members have been involved with, either working or sponsoring.

The RARES Program is a Member Benefit Program that offers discounts to a wide variety of local and national brands such as Alamo Car Rentals, Dunn Tires, Geva Theater, Darien Lake to name a few; just show the card for a discount. We have decided to continue the offer and the 2014 Cards will be arriving next year for your use.

My thanks to Karin Staples for all her hard work in keeping everything flowing in and out of the Office. In some cases, it's very labor intensive in getting the varied office functions controlled and handled in a meaningful manner. She handles all of this with a pleasant attitude and welcome for everyone who walks into our Office. □

2013 Damascus News Boosters

"Boss" & Mrs. "Boss"
Gil Gellasch
Larry & Marge Hood
Lutgarda L. Houston
Douglas & Ruth Hunt
Robert & Adele Hunt
Jim & Lois Pray

Dale & Jean Shatzer
Dean & JoAnn Smith
Ronald & Mary Sterling
James Toogood
John & Sandra Wihlen
Cy & Olga White

DAMASCUS TRESTLEBOARD DECEMBER



2nd Divan Meeting
2nd Lunch Club at Fairport Village Inn
4th Tiled Shriners Annual Meeting - Election of Officers
14th All-Masonic Children's Christmas Party (AASR Hosting)
28th Euchré Tournament Holiday Party

JANUARY

8th Open Shriners Meeting - Installation of Officers



God Bless Our Troops



Happy New Year!

Damascus Shriners Open Meeting - Installation of Officers

Wednesday, January 8th

Oasis Open - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. ... \$5 per person ~ Catered by Maximilians

Installation - 7:30 p.m.

Menu: Chicken French, Roast Beef au jus, Penne Pasta, Smashed Potatoes

Attire will be Business casual with FEZ

Reservations due by Noon, January 6th



AUBURN SHRINE CLUB

By David Bowman

\$1,000!!!!!! That's right this year we will reach the \$1,000 mark in aluminum can tabs collected for our Hospital. A big Thank You to all of you and to all your connections for our tabs. Here is an idea ... why don't you let me know who has been part of your web of support for tabs and we will list them for the great work they have done.

If we had one more person at our October meeting, he would have had to eat standing up! Our program was George Chipman who specializes in medical insurances. He brought us up-to-date on the changes in Medicare, Medicaid and, what is commonly called, "Obamacare." I was furiously taking notes and looked to my right and my wife was writing all over her placemat. All of us benefited from the talk and a big Thank You to Larry Pritchard for setting this up for us.

Christmas Party at Club 86

The December event is the joint Christmas Party with the Geneva Club at Club 86 in Geneva. We have attended every

year since I became a Shriner and look forward to it every year. Club 86 is a return to the grand days of big bands, dance floors, velvet seating and elegant dining.

Our Shrine Club helps out by supplying gift baskets. We also understand that rooms can be had at the Ramada for only \$65. Folks, that is unheard of. I have friends who try to stay there at "state" rates and can't get in. AND transportation is supplied to and from the party. If you want a night to remember, this is it. Look at your mail and email for complete details.

2014 is just around the corner. Do you have an idea for a program you would like us to have? Contact John Erhlich, Chuck Minster or me. Planning will start soon and your input would help more than you can imagine.

Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army is on Saturday, December 7th. Hope you signed up. Being in the cold can make you very, very warm.

Have a great Holiday. ☐

PERRY SHRINE CLUB

Submitted by Mary Louise Hollwedel

On October 24th the Perry Shrine Club met and had a very good turnout.

Gerald Hussong announced that he was resigning as the leader of the Mini-Car Group after 18 years. An election was held and Jim VanSickle was voted into the position. Congratulations, Jim. Also, the Mini-Car Truck is being outfitted with new sides. Later it will be lettered to let all know that the contents are the Perry Shrine Club Mini-Cars.

The speaker for the night was Potentate, III. Jim Miller. He provided a visual program of his trip to Honduras this Summer. Jim certainly has a love of adventure and a great way of presenting it.

Mark Your Calendar Christmas Party

December 18th - Our Christmas Party this year is at the National Hotel. A motion was made to give a gift of \$500 from our treasury, to the Shriners Hospital for Children® - Erie. All members agreed. Also, it was suggested that the wrapped gifts we bring to the Christmas Party for the raffle, should have a minimum value of \$5.

I hope to see everyone at the National Hotel. We socialize at 6 p.m., eat at 6:45 p.m. and order off the menu. We always have a great time welcoming the Holiday Season. ☐

SHRINEABILIA

By Derek VanHouten

Can you believe that another year has almost slipped away into the history books? Weather-wise, we have had a great year and now the snows of the approaching Winter are almost upon us.

There are two really interesting stories of historical nature I want to share with you. If you like, we can mentally wrap them up as gifts, but I will let you (the reader) decide how to view them.

A real historical find was recently unearthed in Downtown Rochester that no one could have visualized. While they were digging the foundation of the new Bus Terminal at the Corner of Clinton Avenue and Mortimer Street, they unearthed several 250-500 pound stones that adorned the old Masonic Temple that was on the site in 1925. There were also stones with the engraving of Valley 109, Yonondio 163 and Genesee Falls 507, along with stones showing the Working Tools, the Double Eagle of the Scottish Rite, York Rite symbols and others.

Now the question arises ... what do we do with them? How do we move them and to where? How can we display them? Should they be in a museum or on display somewhere? How do we preserve them so no one can damage them? There are probably many other questions.

A small collection of tickets from the Rochester City Trolley and Bus Lines that Noble Matt Muller obtained from a local collector provide a glimpse into Rochester life, from 1936 thru 1941. Different tickets advertise the Grotto Rodeo, the Shrine Circus, a Dance and a Card Party. The Pass cost \$1.25 and was good for a week of trolley rides or bus transportation.

The Rodeo was held at Edgerton Park and the Circus was at the New York State Armory on Main Street. In 1937, at the Shrine Circus, they offered Grand Door Prizes of three, 1937 Chevrolets. Not to be outdone, on March 5, 1938, they had Door Prizes of two 1938 Oldsmobiles.

It's been exciting to report on these historical events. If any of YOU have something to share with the Nobility, I will happily write a short story about it for the benefit of all. ☐

Dedicated to
the Memory
of Noble
Ralph E. Smith
October 31, 2013



Directors Staff
Holiday Meeting
Wednesday
December
18th

Yellow Mills Diner
2534 Route 31, Palmyra

Order off the Menu
Social Time - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner - 6:00 p.m.

Ladies and Guests Invited
Casual Attire

Call Vance Collom (585) 217-9817
vcollom1@rochester.rr.com
with any questions or
to make reservations

Official Publication of Damascus Shrine A.A.O.N.M.S.

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HIGH PRIEST & PROPHET

Kevin W. Gerhard
ORIENTAL GUIDE

David E. Larson
TREASURER

Derek E. VanHouten
RECORDER

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REPRESENTATIVE EMERITUS

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REPRESENTATIVE ELECTED

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DONOR RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Peter G. Bowers
TRANSPORTATION CHAIRMAN

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FIRST LADY'S MESSAGE

Holiday Shopping is Underway ...

Yes, it's that time of year again and the lists are in the making. Let me share an idea to help ...

While you're making that list, don't waste money on wrapping paper ... consider wrapping gifts in the "Eco-bag" re-useable shopping bags. Sales of these bags benefit of the Kids at Shriners Hospitals for Children®. It is a way for you to do a charitable deed and satisfy a gift need - it can be the gift itself!

As we all continue to be conscious of the waste that's generated by everyone, we are encouraged to consider re-useable bags for shopping. Bags are \$10 each. Purchase from Mary Lou or the Shrine Office. ☐

Engraved Wall Caps

Ever notice the engraved names
on the Wall coming into the
Damascus Shrine Center?

You can have a name engraved on a Wall Cap to remember or honor someone of your choosing.

Orders, with payment, can be placed in the Shrine Office.

The cap can contain up to 4 lines, and up to 15 letters per line. Cost is \$140 per Cap.

It's a nice gesture for gift-giving, honorariums, memoriams, etc. Holidays are coming ... what to give to that person who has everything?

Act soon ... number of Caps available are limited! ☐

Announcing ...

4th Annual Hillbilly Degree
at Sea 2014 Family Cruise

It's a 5-day Eastern Caribbean
Cruise to Nassau and Freeport,
Bahamas

to Benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children®
Sailing from Charleston, SC on

January 20th
Call (865) 414-7233 for
Booking & Details

For Your Convenience ...
A New ATM Machine
has been Permanently Installed
at Damascus Shrine Center
Located in South Lobby
Fee - \$2.50 per transaction of which
\$.50 goes to the Shrine



What's New in Erie...

"Fezzy" Becomes National Shriners Hospitals Ambassador

Shriners Hospitals for Children® has introduced "Fezzy," its first Love to the Rescue® Ambassador. "Fezzy," a four-foot Teddy Bear, who proudly wears the iconic Shriner Red Fez, has a mission to raise awareness and support for the innovative care available at Shriners Hospitals for Children®.

To help "Fezzy" raise money to support Shriners Hospitals for Children®, Vermont Teddy Bear is offering a 4-foot version of "Fezzy" for \$99.99 with 20-percent of the proceeds to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children®. To purchase your own "Fezzy," visit:

www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org/fezzy.

The largest hand crafter of Teddy Bears in North America, Vermont Teddy Bear Company, lovingly designs, stuffs and stitches every Bear in Vermont. For a one-of-a-kind gift that's just as unique as the recipient, every Vermont Teddy Bear can be customized to fit a special life event, occasion or holiday. Orders can be placed by phone at 1-800-829-BEAR, where a friendly Bear Counselor® will assist with Bear selection and personalization.

Dr. Karl Frankovitch Honored by PA Medical Society

The Pennsylvania Medical Society has honored Karl Frankovitch, M.D., with an award for his 50 years in medicine. The award was presented to Dr. Frankovitch at the annual business meeting and dinner of the Erie County Medical Society held November 13th at the Ambassador Conference Center in Erie.

Dr. Frankovitch, Orthopedic Surgeon and Emeritus Chief of Staff at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie Facility, has dedicated his professional career to helping children. He has been affiliated with Shriners-Erie since the 1970s. In her letter to Dr. Frankovitch, Janet Thompson, Executive Director of the Erie County Medical Society, said, "It is wonderful to

have physicians who believe in the causes and actions of the Pennsylvania and Erie County Medical Societies. It is physicians like you who are the Society's past, present and future."

Aladdin Shriners Make Large Donation to Erie Facility

At the October 16th Board of Governors' Meeting at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie Ambulatory Surgery Center and Outpatient Specialty Care Center, the Aladdin Shriners of Columbus, OH, presented the Erie Facility with two donation checks totaling \$193,132.17.

The presentation was made by illustrious Sir William R. Amspaugh, Jr., Aladdin Potentate, and Aladdin Noble Harold Nairn. The funds were from the Aladdin Shriners' Annual Tabloid sales as well as a contribution from the Aladdin Shrine Association for Children.

This contribution is the largest donation ever made at an Erie Board of Governors meeting. Everyone at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie thanks the Aladdin Shriners for their generosity.

Local Auto Dealer Provides New Vehicle to Shriners Hospitals - Erie

Rick Weaver, Buick/GMC in Erie, has generously donated the use of a new 2013 GMC Terrain AWD SUV to Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie for a period of three years. This is a leased vehicle and Rick Weaver Buick/GMC will be paying the monthly leasing fee for the duration of the leasing period.

For those who have participated in the Annual Shriners Erie Charity Golf Outing, you may recall that Rick Weaver Buick/GMC is the dealership that has donated the hole-in-one prize vehicle for the past few years. The new vehicle was scheduled to be presented to the Erie Facility at the Board of Governors meeting on November 20th. We are extremely grateful to the Rick Weaver Dealership and to Adam Weaver, in particular, for their generosity.

For additional information, contact: Bob Howden (814) 875-8782. □



Attention, Snowbirds! Are You Going South This Winter?



Mark Your Calendar ...

Western New York Shrine "Reunion"

in Punta Gorda, FL

Tuesday, February 11th

11 a.m. 'til ... Lunch at 12:30 p.m.

at Punta Gorda Elks Club
on the beautiful Peace River

25538 Shore Drive

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Ph: (941) 637-2606

Specific Details Coming in Future Issue ...



December Birthdays



David Benda	James Harding	Kenneth Pollard
Clarence Bogardus	Harold Herman	Bradley Rathbun
Mark Broyles	James Holman	Charles Rouse
Geoffrey Buell	Robert Kennedy	F. Murray Russell
Dennis Carroll	Paul Kolacki	Robert Selbert
Philip Cox	Daniel Lewis	George Simon
Robert Cox	Henry Libera	Timothy Slater
Allan Cragg	Richard Lippincott	Dean Smith
Raymond Crandall	Devon Littlefield	Frederick Stahl
M. Donald Darrohn III	David Locke	David Taber
Harold Davis	Frederick Ludwig	David Upham
Embola Ekille	Robert Mattick	Michael VanderKamp
Daniel Emerson	Alvin Metcalf	Robert Verbridge
Delbert Fix	G. Michael Morris	Lance Ward
Thomas Goodrich	James Nielsen	Joseph Watson
Earl Gorton	Donald Osborne	Russel Williams
Richard Green	Fernando Palmeroni, Jr.	William Williamson
Roy Hamilton	Earl Pearce	J. Peter Yendell
	George Pierce	



Damascus Shriners 2013 Christmas Party

Sponsored by Geneva and Auburn Shrine Clubs

Saturday, December 21st

All Welcome

For All Shriners, Masons, Their Ladies and Their Guests
Club 86 Party House - 86 Avenue E, Geneva

6 p.m. - Hors D'Oeuvres - Personality Adjustment
7 p.m. - Dinner Served

Entree Choices:

Prime Rib, Baked 1/2 Chicken or Broiled White Fish
All dinners include soup, salad and dessert; Coffee and Service

Price \$90 per Couple

Please Specify Dinner Choice & the number in your party.

8 p.m.-11 p.m. - Music and Dancing with the great

The Big Swingin' Band

Dress Code: Tuxedos or Business Suits and Fez for Gentlemen;
Cocktail Dresses for the Ladies

Reservations by Tuesday, December 18th

Call 800-448-0741 with your Reservation and Advance Payment

Send Checks and Dinner Choices to:

Geneva Shrine Club; 3394 Sutton Rd; Geneva, NY 14456

Damascus Legion of Honor Meeting Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 11th

Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster

Social Hour - 5:30 p.m.
(Hors d'oeuvres ... Cash Bar)
Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Shrimp Cocktail * Salad * Roast Beef * Potato Vegetable * Rolls & Butter * Coffee * Dessert
\$15 per person

Members and Ladies invited; attire for men is suits

There will be a DVD Seasonal presentation of the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes®

RSVP no later than Friday, December 7th
at (585) 436-8216 or email: cylegalrx@hotmail.com



Accommodations Available with Special Prices for Shriners

Ramada Inn Lakefront,

41 Lake Front Dr; Geneva, NY 14456 (315) 789-0400

\$65 per night with transportation provided to and from the party.

Reservations needed by December 1st



Damascus Shriners Euchré Tournaments Last Saturday of the Month ...

December 28th ... *Holiday Party*

All Tournaments and Parties are
Open to the Public



Food available for purchase: 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Registration: 6 p.m.-7 p.m.

Tournament Starts: 7 p.m.

\$5 per player ~ 25¢ Euchré ~ 50/50 Raffle

For more details:

Mike Hueston: mph0523@frontiernet.net

Oscar Wilson: roscosc@earthlink.net

(585) 671-7701 Damascus Shriner Center

Annual Sportsman's Raffle ... A Huge Success!!



The 8th Annual Sportsman's Raffle was held October 12th and was a huge success! It was a full house of members, friends and neighbors, enjoying great food, conversation and hoping to be a winner of the raffles. This year, 20 guns were available; this event has become very popular and grows each year. □

DAMASCUS LEGION OF HONOR

By Franklin Russell, Commander

The Damascus Shrine Legion of Honor, which meets at the Damascus Temple on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, remembered Nelson G. Wolford, Albert C. Maller and Lewis W. Hares, deceased Veterans, in our Annual Necrology Service on November 13th. As this was only a few days from the birthday of the U.S. Marine Corps and Veterans Day, we were entertained with a viewing of The Evening Parade at the Marine Barracks, Washington, DC. Also noteworthy, is the Initiation of George Pierce on October 9th and Fred Palmeroni on November 13th into the Legion.

At the meeting on November 13th, Adjutant Cyrus Kloner, PP, PC, reported on the recent Shriners Wreath-Laying Ceremony at Arlington Cemetery that he and Fred Ludwig, PC, attended. Joseph DiTucci, Chief Rabban, representing the Potentate, updated the members on Temple events.

Who Are We? ... Consider Joining Us

Legion of Honor members are Shriners who have served or are still serving in the Armed Forces of the countries where Shrine Temples are located. This includes service in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marines, or in their Reserve components. Members of the Legion

of Honor are currently active, honorably discharged or retired, volunteer or draftee, officer or enlisted. Our stated objectives include fostering a Spirit of Patriotism, Love of Country and Flag and to perpetuate the memory of our Comrades-in-Arms who made the Supreme sacrifice by giving their lives for their country while members of the Armed Forces.

Historically, in 1802 Napoleon founded the honorary French Society "Legion of Honor" to recognize distinguished military and civil service. During World War I, Shriners from Maine were impressed by their many pleasant experiences with Legion of Honor members in France and upon their return to the Country in January 1919, they chartered Portland Legion of Honor at Kora Temple in Lewiston, Maine, as the "First and Oldest Legion of Honor Unit in Shrinedom."

Coming up for the Damascus Legion of Honor is our Holiday Party with our Ladies on December 11th. The Holiday Spirit will be supported by a DVD showing the Radio City Christmas Spectacular® starring The Rockettes®. Our January meeting will take place on the 3rd Wednesday, January 15th, due to the Shrine meeting being held on January 8th. □



A packed house, great food and perfect weather made for a memorable event!



New Chairs in the Shrine Center Dining Room!

Thank You Volunteers!!!

Submitted by Karin Staples

The next time you visit an event at the Shrine Center, please notice the 150 new, fabulous, banquet chairs that arrived well wrapped. Our awesome volunteers who spent around 3 hours unpacking and unwrapping them include Kevin Gerhard, Maverick "DeMolay" Gerhard, John Hellaby, Matt Muller, Wayne McCrossen, Jim Ryan, Karin Staples, Derek VanHouten, Kelly Weber and Oscar Wilson. □



**James A. Hard/
Wayne Charter
Post No. 12**

**Commander
Gordon W. Palmer**

265-3161
gwarren14580@yahoo.com

**Adjutant
Dennis Gellasch**
265-3993
dgellasch@rochester.rr.com

Pearl Harbor Day Ceremonies

December Veterans activities will begin with the Pearl Harbor Day of Remembrance and Wreath Ceremony at Charlotte Pier on Saturday, December 7th at 7:30 a.m., followed by breakfast at the Dorsey Road VFW Post. Later in the day, Post No. 12 will present Colors

at the Valley of Rochester, Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards Ceremony at the Shrine Center on Bay Road, Webster.

December Meetings to Note

Post No. 12 will not have a regular business meeting in December due to the Christmas Holidays, but will have its regular monthly Birthday Party at the Canandaigua Veterans Hospital on Wednesday, December 18th.

Veterans Promenade Project

The latest word from Grand Post involves plans for a Veterans Memorial Promenade Project to be located at the Main Entrance to the Masonic Care Community Campus in Utica. This project will use paving bricks extensively and provide benches where those visiting the Grounds may sit and reflect.

Financing of the project will include donations and the sale of small and large memorial bricks, priced at \$75 (small) and \$250 (large), which may be engraved with your special dedication. □



**Shriners Hospitals
for Children®**
Love to the rescue.™

Rochester Forest No. 133



Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America

4th Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
1822-A Penfield Rd, Penfield 14526

F. Edward "Ted" Powley
(315) 483-6944 [days]
soduspowleys@msn.com

Donald C. Bell, Scribe
334-7768
don_bell@hotmail.com

Another year of Tall Cedar fun and frolic is coming to an end and I thank you for an enjoyable and fulfilling year as your Grand Tall. I know you will support our new leaders in 2014 and embrace their new ideas for our Forest.

As I write this article, planning for our Holiday Dinner is still underway. Last year we had a very good turnout for a dinner after New Year's with Palmyra Council No. 26 of Cryptic Masons. I'm hoping to repeat that at a new restaurant for variety. Watch for details shortly.

Lady Marilyn and I wish you all very Happy Holidays with family and friends! God bless. Happiness, good health and peace on earth to All. □

Oatka Lodge

Continued from Page 6

Pastor Mullins describing the charitable works of his ministry and the mission they support.

It is nearing the end of the year and through Gorden Bell's tireless effort, we are at last completing and updating our records to be accurate and current. This administration has tried to find and contact every single member of this Lodge and give them a chance to make their choice on where they stand in Masonry. If we did not contact every member, it was not for lack of trying. Your own interest and involvement is no less important than any Officer sitting in an Elected Chair.

We have three new Candidates to Raise with more on the way. Please make every effort to attend and give these men a chance to see real Masonry at work. □

Fairport-Flower City Lodge No. 476
 2nd & 4th Mondays
 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Andrew Woeppel
 (716) 435-7978
 woeppel@gmail.com
 Secretary - 271-7446
 W.: Bernard D. Lazerson
 lazerbd12@aol.com
 Fairport Masonic Hall
 87 South Main Street

So far the Fall has been interesting. We opened with a Table Lodge, passed a Dual Budget (one for the building and one for the Lodge) and travelled to an oasis on Liftbridge Lane.

The 1st Degree was duly conferred on two Candidates by able participants. A big thank you to all for a great job. The Degree was witnessed by R.: W.: Philip R. Hurwitz, District Deputy Grand Master, and his Staff Officers at their Official Visit.

The 2nd Degree will be conferred on four Brothers on December 9th. Brother Paul McLaughlin, Junior Warden, will be in the East.

The Lodge will host our Annual Latke Party. This is open to family members. W.: Bernie Lazerson will be the chef.

Sickness and Distress

W.: Tom Goodrich is continuing with his chemo treatments. Some days are better than others. His birthday is December 8th. Send a card to 239 David Avenue, Rochester 14620 or call him at 442-8725. We wish him better days ahead.

December Birthdays

There are some other Brothers adding candles to their birthday cake this month - Warren Reigelsperger (4th), Robert Robbins (5th), Harold Goodwin (6th), Alan Libglid (7th), Ellis Hormats (10th), Garry Moore, Michael Morris, Murray Russell and Dave Taber (12th), Jay Stubbings (18th), Morton Stein (19th), Harold Davis and Stanley Steinberg (20th), Irwin Rosenbloom (22nd), Scott Clemons, David MacIntyre and Peter Moore (23rd), William Gerber (24th), Martin Lukacher (29th) and Bernard Weltman (30th). We wish each of these Brothers a happy, healthy and prosperous year ahead.

December is a family holy day month. We wish for each of you the meaningful spiritual uplift that Christmas can bring to all. □

Seneca Lodge No. 797
 2nd Tuesdays
 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Jack R. Breitung
 581-1415
 jbreitung@rochester.rr.com
 Secretary
 W.: Raymond Glegg
 750-0865
 rglegg@rochester.rr.com
 30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580

love to see Seneca lead the state in percentage of Brothers donating again this year. Thank you for your generosity, Brotherly love and goodwill!

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 7th - Annual Breakfast with Santa at 9 a.m. There will be a 1st Degree rehearsal following the breakfast.

Tuesday, December 10th - Seneca Lodge Christmas Party at 6 p.m.

Please make reservations for each event with Brother Quartley so we can have an accurate headcount ... plus, we need to know how much of George Washington's Eggnog to make!

January 4th - Rehearsal for 1st Degree at 9 a.m.

January 8th - 1st Degree Conferral

I strongly encourage my Seneca Brothers to make all rehearsals, especially our newer Brothers. I look forward to seeing some younger members performing Questions and Answers instead of "old has beens!"

Congratulations

I also take this opportunity to congratulate Brother Chris Bretz on being awarded the 2013 Symbolic Lodge Award! Chris's dedication and hard work on our new bar, all of it while digging into his personal time, is the epitome of service to his Lodge. Thanks, also, to Mike Blazey who contributed mightily to the bar effort. The work of these two fine young Masons will be a proud monument to their efforts and our fair Lodge for years to come. Well done Brothers!

December Birthdays

I take this opportunity to recognize Brothers born in December: Ken Crandall (1st), Pierre

If you are local, this is about the time we begin to hunker down as the snow flies. If you are somewhere warm, God bless you. I hope to visit a few Seneca members who live in the area when I visit my parents in Florida next month.

So, without delay, Merry Christmas to all! I hope all Brothers have a very Happy and Healthy Holiday. I also hope all are able to spend the Holidays in the loving arms of family.

As I have grown older, and maybe wiser, I have come to realize family is the most important thing there is. This does not just include your personal family, but also your Fraternal family - especially those most in need.

At this festive time of year, try to find some time to do something for those less fortunate than ourselves. One of the most important responsibilities of being a Mason is charity and goodwill toward others.

Brotherhood Fund

Please do not forget the Masonic Brotherhood Fund. Envelopes were mailed out in last month's Trestleboard. Any amount is a wonderful gift to the Fraternity that has done so much for us and many others. As a personal desire, I would



Seneca Lodge Brothers with R.: W.: Robert Strang, Grand Lecturer, at his Monroe District Convention in October.



St. Andrews Lodge Brothers posed with Brothers of Seneca Lodge following their visit to Webster.

Suarez (3rd), Del Fix (10th), Tom Stewart (15th), Ray Crandall (20th), Chris Bretz (24th) and Chris Mahood (25th).

Thank you to all our December born Brothers for your service to our Lodge no matter how long ago it may have been. Whether you live near or far, Seneca Lodge wishes you a heartfelt and most Happy Birthday!

If you are ever interested in visiting our Lodge and enjoying one of the finest meals in the District, please contact Junior Warden, Jeff Quartley, at 202-1524 or piperq@rochester.rr.com. Remember, a reservation made is a reservation paid! And reservations are a must!!! □



Brothers in kilts for the St. Andrews visit to Seneca Lodge were (front): Ray Glegg and Bob Kimmell; (back) Jeff Quartley, Wayne Fenton and Gordon Hubbell.

Inspiration Lodge No. 109
 website: www.inspiration109.org
 2nd & 4th Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Scott Rice
 269-2495
 srice180@gmail.com
 Secretary
 R.: W.:
 Derek VanHouten
 247-2920
 derekhouten1@mac.com
 979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

By R.: W.: Skip Waterstreet

There will be no Tiled meeting this month. Since the fourth Tuesday is Christmas Eve, the Master has canceled the meeting scheduled for that evening.

Annual Holiday Party

On December 10th, in place of our regular meeting, we will hold our Annual Holiday Party. This is always a fun event, with your wife or significant other invited to attend. Check your email messages for additional details. I'm sure our Junior Warden, Todd Colburn, will need to know if you are bringing a guest even if you are on his "permanent" reservation list, so please call to confirm the number of people attending.

The January 14th meeting will be the 3rd Degree. Brother Ryan Ramplin, our Senior Deacon, has been taking the names of participants and scheduling the rehearsals. He will do so for this one, too, so please let him know if you are able to help in any way. Plan on a rehearsal or two being added to the calendar. and watch for more information.

If you are not in the Inspiration Google Group and have email capabilities, contact our Senior Warden, Brother Brian Bell. If you don't have capabilities, contact Brother Scott Mason to be added to the Telephone Tree.

The January 28th meeting night is scheduled to be a Regular Communication.

December Birthdays

Here is the list of Brothers who will do double celebrating

in December. Extend Birthday Greetings to them, along with Holiday wishes! Eugene Smith, Jr. (4th), Richard Lippincott (8th), Adym Flowerday (9th), James Moore (10th), David Mura and Philip Sturm (14th), Frederick Stahl (24th), John Auer (30th), Michael Robinson and Joseph Gingold (31st).

Sickness and Distress

It was reported in Lodge that Brother Eric Hinkston, who had surgery, has received the results of the tests with favorable results. We wish him a speedy and full recovery. He would be happy to have visitors or telephone calls (748-6000).

Summoned Home

Sadly, two deaths were reported, as well. Brother Robert Ogden, a 67-year Mason and who would have turned 100 on January 26th, passed away on October 19th.

On October 10th, the Great Architect called home Brother Norman Gross. He was a 48-year Mason and had turned 90 years old in July. The sympathies of the Brothers were extended to the families of both of these Brothers.

Many Brothers came to the aid of the McDonald Family and were saddened to learn of Clinton's demise from the aggressive cancer that attacked his body. What many may not have known, and was brought out in Lodge, is that his wife, Darla, worked with W.: Joe DiTucci. When he learned of her dilemma, he sought the help of his Brothers for aid and assistance. Several leaped to the forefront. That aid is still needed and funds were approved for Christmas presents for her toddler son and whatever other assistance Darla needs. By the way, while Clinton was not a Mason, his father was.

Brotherhood Fund

You should know by now that the Annual Brotherhood Fund Campaign is underway. R.: W.: Mike Hueston, Lodge

Continued on Page 12

Learn more about your

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MCCNY.COM

Inspiration Lodge
Continued from Page 11

(and District) Chairman, would be happy to receive your contribution. The amount isn't as significant as the fact that you participated and helped support your fellow Masons (and others) in their hour of need.

Don't Forget!

December 10th - Holiday Party. Reservations required for EVERYONE.

December 24th - No meeting
January 14th - 3rd Degree
January 28th - Regular Communication

Contact Information

The contact information for the Master, Scott Rice, and Secretary, Derek VanHouten, are in the logo at the beginning of this article. Other contacts include:

Brian Bell - Phone: 313-7181
golgotha30@gmail.com
Todd Colburn-Phone: 739-7761
colburntodd1@gmail.com
Ryan Ramplin-Phone: 466-4407
Cell phone: (610) 724-7336
ryan.ramplin@gmail.com
Scott Mason - Phone: 478-5699
smmason2012@yahoo.com

From all the Officers, and me, Happy Holidays to all Brothers and their families. Enjoy! □

FAME
Lodge No. 722
2nd & 4th Thursdays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: **Jason Gartland**
544-9545
jcgart182@gmail.com
Secretary
V.: W.: **Daniel Walker**
429-6572
optidian@frontiernet.net
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580




I hope you and your families enjoyed the Thanksgiving Holiday and were able to share it with your loved ones.

The Holiday Season is upon us and with it brings the gift of family and friends. During this time, please remember our Widows. Keep in mind we are part of their family and I know they would love to hear from the Brothers of Fame Lodge.

December 12th is our next and only meeting for December. This is our Annual Christmas Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m. Please invite your family to come and enjoy the festivities with Fame Lodge.

On behalf of the Officers of Fame Lodge, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I cannot wait to see you in 2014. □

CLIO
LODGE No. 779
www.cliolodge.org
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: **Peter J. Matthews, Jr.**
392-0799
clio.pete@gmail.com
Secretary
W.: **Michael Postilli**
392-1908
mpostilli@gmail.com
287 East Avenue, Hilton 14468



Happy Holidays Brothers and Friends! Speaking of which, Clio will be having a Lodge Holiday Gathering on Tuesday, December 17th, starting at 6 p.m. Nothing fancy ... just bring your family, friends and a dish-to-pass. No visits from Santa or anything, just a casual get-together for some family and fellowship time. There'll be a Holiday movie playing on the TV and games for the kids. We'll coordinate via email on who's bringing what, much the same as we do for our Summer Picnic.

Aside from our little Holiday Bash, we have a Regular Communication on December 3rd and a Spaghetti Dinner on December 11th. This is kind of a low-key month compared to the insanity of Chicken Bar-B-Que and Apple Fests; I'm sure my Brothers are grateful for that. I'll let the Holidays drive them crazy this month instead of the Lodge.

1st Degree

On November 5th, Clio welcomed eight new Brothers into the Lodge. The Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred by Past Master Mike Postilli, doing his excellent job. The show stealers, however, were Past Master Patrick Purcell who spent his Summer vacation learning the Historical Lecture, which he

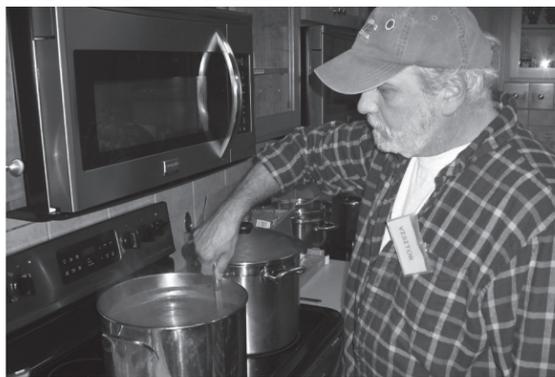
delivered quite impressively, and two of our newly Raised Brothers, Brett DeHollander and Jeremy Mensing, who did an outstanding presentation of the First Lecture of the Second Section of the Degree. I, myself, did a fine job of sitting on the sidelines watching those guys do all the work! Overall, it was an excellent Degree and I thank all the Brothers who took part and those who attended. I think we made a great impression on our newest Brothers.

Ronald McDonald House

On October 26th, a small group of Clio volunteers - Bill Hunn, Gary Richardson, Larry Vaccarelli and myself - went to the Ronald McDonald House and prepared a Spaghetti Dinner



The Clio Crew at the Ronald McDonald House: Brothers Larry Vaccarelli, Pete Matthews, Gary Richardson and Bill Hunn.



Brother Larry Vaccarelli starts the sauce at RMH.



Brothers Gary Richardson and Bill Hunn add the meatballs.

for the 40 guests staying there. We cooked up our sauce, boiled up the pasta and sliced up the bread, then set it up buffet-style in crock pots for the residents and hit the road just before the dinner crowd showed up. A few early birds gave us the big thumbs-up on what they'd eaten and the Ronald McDonald House workers seemed very pleased with our effort and setup and were glad to hear that we'd be back.

Granted, Clio doesn't have a lot of money for charitable donations, so it's nice that we were able to help in a way that cost us little more than time. A few hours from a few Brothers and we were able to help out a fantastic organization and feed 40 people dealing with sick family members and so much more on their minds than what's for dinner. I know a lot of our Brothers were disappointed that we only needed four men for the job, but you'll have your chances, Brothers, as we will go back.

December Birthdays

A lot of birthdays to celebrate this month! Clio wishes happy birthdays to Raymond Burke, Daniel Cambisi, Oliver Crist, Donny T. Drennon Gala, Howard Garbutt, Roger Howe, Scott Keir, Blake Keller, Alvin Metcalf, Bob Selbert, George Simon, Dave Upham and Basil Van Camp. Enjoy your days!

Again, I wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season. Until next month, spread that Holiday Cheer and Masonic Light!

Upcoming Events

December 3rd - Regular Communication

December 11th - Spaghetti Dinner

Spaghetti Dinner
Clio Lodge Hall
287 East Avenue, Hilton
December 11th
Adults - \$7 Child \$4
Serving 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Dinner includes:
All-you-can-eat
Spaghetti & Meatballs;
Salad, Bread & Butter; Dessert
Coffee, Tea & Milk
December 15th - Officer Meeting at Lodge, 7 p.m.
December 17th - Clio Holiday Gathering 6 p.m. □

WEBSTER
Lodge No. 538
1st & 3rd Thursdays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: **Joe A. Lewis**
563-1239
joelewis4@gmail.com
Secretary
James F. Clancy
265-9333
jclancy2@rochester.rr.com
30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580




By R.: W.: *Dave Allen*

Well, we lost the Grand Lecturer's Attendance Banner and the Howard Potts Award which is presented at Grand Lodge every May, but we still have the School of Ritual Banner. Judging from past performance, Inspiration Lodge is the only one we have to look out for.

For those of you who haven't participated in the various Inter-Lodge activities, come join us. It's very competitive and we get a true sense of Brotherhood doing it. I've been out of the "loop" for the past couple of weeks. I pulled a ligament, right foot, so most of what I've written is because some of you were good enough to keep me updated. It's the first meeting I've missed since January 2009.

Brother Nick's monthly Spaghetti Dinner served 196 and netted \$1,000 for the Webster Museum. The recipient of the December 6th dinner will be the Webster Community Chest. Let's all participate who are able, dinner is free to those of you who do; besides it's FUN!! You get to meet some of Webster's Finest and Oldest and if you become a "Regular," you catch "what for" if you miss a meal.

The Fellowcraft Club and some who aren't members have touched up some of the worst bare spots on the outside of the building so we should be O.K. until Spring. Then it will take a considerable effort on our part, or having to job it out, to finish. Since the Lodge is the only building on that stretch of highway, we should take pride in what we have. So, if you have any suggestions, please let Brother Jim Clancy or the Trustees know. We can't afford to let this one go, Brothers.

Sickness and Distress

As of this writing, Brother Walt Cone is in Home Hospice with Prostate Cancer. Just talked to Brother Nick Haldoupis who said Brother Cone is doing better than expected. Hopefully,

when you read this, his situation will have improved. He has been one of the most faithful "Old-timers" we have, hardly missing a meeting or dinner.

W.: Ken Hutchinson is about the same at Blossom View Nursing Home, Maple Avenue, Sodus. Please visit him if you are able.

Haven't heard anything new about Brother Fred Cornell, have you? Anyone else please let me know!

We lost Brother Ken Lehr on July 25th. I think he joined the same time I did, 50-plus years ago.

I would like to suggest that all of you make it a point to attend the last 3rd Degree of this Masonic Year and W.: Joe's final presentation. To say the least, he is one of the best we've had.

Annual Poinsettia Delivery

Our Annual Poinsettia Delivery to our "Shut-In" Brothers is the day before Christmas. W.: Mark Fenton will be serving breakfast before we depart upon this Special Task. Judging by W.: Vern Collier's dancing abilities, we might just have to ask him to be a "Participant" rather than a "Recipient." Most of us saw the article and picture in the D&C. Your call?

Sesquicentennial Update

By the time you read this, we should have completed the final program for our Sesquicentennial. When this is "Gospel" you all will have a copy of the entire program, menu, cost and location. We will also have sent invitations to those special guests such as our Canadian Brothers. There will be a "Re-dedication Ceremony" prior to the event at the Lodge with M.: W.: James Sullivan, Grand Master, participating. The time has to be determined, but probably several hours before supper. This is something that very few of us are ever able to participate in - especially in our "Home" Lodge.

I was fortunate enough to be Junior Deacon at our 100th. This is truly a wonderful experience. Hope the weather cooperates.

Guess that about does it for this year. It's been great trying to keep everyone up-to-date and informed.

May Christmas and the Holidays find you and yours Happy and Healthy. Be kind to your neighbors and remember, all it takes is one little act of kindness to "cement" a lasting friendship. For our Worshipful Master and all the Officers of Webster Lodge, be well! □

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NORTHFIELD
 Lodge No. 426
www.northfieldlodge.org
 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

Master
W. Stephan Michener
 586-6426
smichene@rochester.rr.com

W. John A. Dudley, Secretary
 586-6426
jdudley1@rochester.rr.com
 17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534



Enjoying the wine and cheese party were, from left: Debbie Stavalone (Ken's mom), Wendy Littlefield, Regina Michener, Sarah Morrisette, Ken Stavalone and Jessica Stavalone.

Scrooge, found out as he went from the torture of that dark night to the light of Christmas morning ... It is by giving that we receive. Brothers, at this Season of Light, please consider renewing your involvement and participation not only with Northfield Lodge, but with Freemasonry in general!

December

I thank Brother Pedro Ugalde who has donated a gift of Night-hawks tickets to the Lodge for the Lacrosse Game on Saturday, December 7th. Please contact John Dudley or myself if you would like to attend the game.

Pittsford Candlelight Night

Tuesday, December 3rd is Candlelight Night in Pittsford. Again, Northfield Lodge will have an Open House. Please consider dropping by if you're in the Village that night.

On December 5th, we will hold our Entered Apprentice Degree. Joy Woodley will be preparing us another of her wonderful meals as we come together to celebrate the Initiation of some new Brothers. I hope that as many Brothers as possible will come to Lodge to share this special event which is a celebration of the beginning of a journey.

Family Christmas Party

On December 14th, we will be having a Christmas Party at the Lodge. This event is open to families. What's Christmas without some children scurrying about? Details about this event will be following with a phone message.

Our Lodge meeting on December 19th, promises to be a very special night of Masonic gift-giving. Not only will Brothers who are participating in the necktie exchange present a Brother with a nice new tie, but all Brothers will be invited to share a few thoughts they have on "What Masonry Means to Me." Not every Brother who attends has to participate, but if you'd like to offer some of your thoughts, I would ask that you plan ahead by preparing a few written notes and try to limit

yourself to five minutes or less. Also, please keep in mind that we may have Entered Apprentices among us. I, for one, am looking forward to hearing what each of you has to say about the meaning of our beloved Freemasonry and its impact on your life. Your participation will be a gift for all Brothers who hear your words.

Last Month

In November we were treated to "Peculiar Stone" which was presented by members of Hiram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, who also meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Northfield. I hope that all Brothers are aware that many of the Degrees of the York Rite answer some of those nagging questions you might have regarding the Degrees of the Symbolic Lodge.

I am pleased to report that during our discussion about Dues in October, we decided to keep our Dues at their present amount. There is no increase this year!

Also, I am pleased to report that due to a strict adherence to the previous budget, we have been able to have a small financial surplus this year. This would not have been possible without the generosity of our Secretary, John Dudley, and our Treasurer, Jason Morrisette, who performed their duties gratis for the Lodge this year.

Many Brothers contributed with money, materials and labor to the upkeep and maintenance of our beautiful building. As a way of recognizing these efforts I strongly ask all Brothers to PLEASE remit your Dues as soon as possible! This would be greatly appreciated and will help insure our financial security.

December Birthdays

To my knowledge we have no Brothers celebrating birthdays in December. If I am mistaken, I apologize.

One More Thing

Congratulations are in order to Brother Jason Morrisette on his marriage to Sarah Provazza on November 2, 2013. Several Brothers attended the wedding in Rhode Island which was beautifully done. May the two of you share a happy life together filled with peace, prosperity, comfort and joy.



R. W. Marty Reitz at the keyboard plays one last song before heading to Florida for the Winter. Stay safe and we'll see you in the Spring, Marty!



Companions from Hiram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, who performed the "Peculiar Stone" dramatization at Northfield Lodge, (from left): Steve Michener, K. Rick Howe, John Dudley, Charlie Hancock, John Zable and Jonathan Buck.

Union Star
 Lodge No. 320
 Website: www.unionstarmasons.org
 2nd Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

Master
W. Kenneth J. Tomaszewski
 624-9226
ken@kjtgroup.com

Secretary - 425-4240
 R. W. Gary R. Sanford
 27 Freshfield Rise, Fairport 14450
ggsanford@aol.com

3 North Main Street
 Honeoye Falls 14472-1013

Strong foundations precede stronger structures. Harmony helps to create our Work's foundations. Over the past month, Harmony, Brotherhood and Commitment to our Labors was evident as much as it was rewarding. As we strive towards more light through harmony in our work, there are many people to thank and recognize.

Our regular meeting for October was also the Official Visit by the District Deputy and Grand Lodge Staff Officers. We shared a fantastic dinner and, for me, it was nice to have the gavel in someone else's hand for a short time!

In addition to the business and communication of the Official Visit, we enjoyed a presentation by R. W. George Foehner, our Chaplain at Union Star and *Have-a-Heart* Campaign Chairman for several years. George has been stalwart in his drive to make the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign a success and his efforts, coupled with many Brothers supporting the Ronald McDonald House Charity, has really made a difference. George shared that the Masons of Monroe and neighboring Districts (now referred to as Freemasons of the Genesee Region) were the single largest fundraising group in this area over the past year. That is a major accomplishment and one that was recognized by the Charity. Through the dedication of George and Brothers across this and other Districts, we showed how working together, in harmony, makes a difference for others and ourselves.

Grand Lecturer's Convention

This year's Grand Lecturer's Convention was excellent and I was very thankful to see such a turnout across the District and from Union Star. Thanks again to our Officers and others in attendance. It provided a good bit of energy and with a continued focus on the 1st Degree, as in the Standard Order of Work, we are better prepared and will be more harmonious in our labors.

Our Fellowcraft Meeting last

month was a Table Lodge with 25 Brothers in attendance from five different Lodges. After a fantastic seven-course meal, we came away slightly stuffed but renewed in our charge. Brothers Ken Hecker and W. Terry Hatch, DSA, were most helpful in serving the meal and Brother Andrew Cotraccia donated the powder for our cannons. The biggest hit of the evening might have been the Sausage Tortellini Soup, with recipes forthcoming. It is good to see everyone coming together and raising our voices in unison and harmony to such great toasts.

Dedication to the Craft is measured in many ways and time is one of those measures. W. James "Jim" Nersinger has crossed a meaningful mark, as we presented a 50-Year Apron from Grand Lodge to him on October 29th.



Sporting his 50-Year Apron, W. James "Jim" Nersinger (center) is flanked by his son, Will (left), and his brother, Tom. Both are members of the Craft. (Photo courtesy of John Dudley)

Making this more special was the turnout for this presentation, which occurred at his home that evening. Brothers, including his family members from our Lodge, gathered to hear his words and reflection on his time as a Mason. Having lived in Japan for almost two decades, he described some of that experience, as did Brother Richard Horton who also lived there, and who Jim related was the person who later introduced him to the Grand Lodge of New York State. Thanks to Jim for his dedication and to Brothers who travelled to present our thanks to him.

December Birthdays

Here is wishing a most happy birthday to our December birthdays - Jason Mullins, Robert Eisenberg, Jack Nau, Eugene Gordon, Scott May, Mark Hutton, Clifford Mosholder, Richard Ash and last, but certainly not least, the last birthday of the year, on December 31st is Richard Horton!

Once again, we extend invitations to our Brethren across the District to attend Union Star for any of our meetings.



Brothers in attendance on November 7th were (left to right): Don Fox, Ken Stavalone, George Foehner, Marty Reitz, Gary Sanford, Frank Habitzreuther, Lance Daul, Rick Howe, Roy Moses, Steve Michener, Devon Littlefield, John Zable, Ed Rummler, Charlie Hancock, Jonathan Buck, Stefano Bastianelli, John Ward.

Scottish Rite NEWS

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



**Ill.: Kenneth "Rick" Howe, 33°
Commander-in-Chief**

The move is completed ... We are now in our new Office Complex at 811 Ayrault Road, Suite 3; Fairport. A special thanks to all who helped with the move. Our Office Staff worked above and beyond to get this accomplished. Thank you, Jack and Cherie, and special thanks to Ill.: Rod Rittenhouse, 33° and Ill.: Charlie Hancock, 33°, for their efforts in finding the property. Thank you one and all.

For all who missed our October 17th Lite from the Rite, I must say you missed a great program. Ill.: John Zabel, 33°, presented an interesting program on Ritual Regalia from several of our Scottish Rite Degrees and the new 6th Degree video was witnessed for the first time. All present had an enjoyable evening.

Veterans Night

On October 19th, the Valley of Rochester and Damascus Shriners held a combined Veterans Recognition Night, which was attended by over 90 people. We enjoyed a delicious Steak Dinner prepared by the Brothers of Fairport-Flower City Lodge. After dinner, we all moved to the Lodge Room for the evening's program. Special thanks to one of our new members, Warren Jordans, 32°, our 1st Lt. Commander, Jim McConnell, 32°, and Ill.: and Rev. Charles Roberts, 33°, for their stirring presentations.

Add a Stamp to your Passport

December 6th - The Valley of Buffalo will be presenting the 6°.

Coming Events

December 7th - Symbolic Lodge Awards. We are looking forward to a great turnout and program. Our Grand Master, M.: W.: James E. Sullivan, will be our guest speaker.

December 14th - All-Masonic Children's Holiday Party at Shrine Center

Lite from the Rite

January 16th - A presentation by Ill.: Bruce Renner, 33°, on the History of the Council of Deliberation of New York State. A history of Supreme Council, as written by Ill.: Charlie Hancock, 33°, and presented by the 33° Club under the direction of Ill.: Joe Bourcy, 33°, will also be presented.

February 20th - We are working on a special presentation for our Lite from the Rite in February. Stay tuned for details.

Both programs will be opened to our Blue Lodge Brothers. I encourage all Sublime Princes to invite your Brothers to come and enjoy the fellowship and education these events will offer.

Ladies Night

February 15th - Our 1st Lt. Commander's Lady, Marsha McConnell, is putting together a special program for our Ladies in February. Stay tuned for details.

Road Trip Dates Set

Reunion dates are set for the Valley of Nashville, Tennessee. We must now see if there is enough interest to proceed. We have two choices:

April 4th and 5th - Lodge and Chapter Degrees

April 11th and 12th - Kadosh and Consistory Degrees.

A basic package of \$500 per person has been quoted and that will afford us four days and three nights for a bus with hotel and tour package. Gordon Hubble, 32° DSA, has agreed to Chair this event. Consensus will determine which weekend we will choose.

College of Freemasonry in 2015

The date is set and place is reserved for our next "College of Freemasonry." Sublime Prince Bill Edwards, 32°, is ramping up for the program to be held March 28th, 2015. There will be more to come on this in future articles. This is a signature event for the Valley of Rochester and is talked about throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction as well as in the Southern Jurisdiction. Let's get the word out, so our Brothers can make their plans in plenty of time.

Musings

A little bit o' light from the Commander in Chief ... November is a special month for Country Music in that, Musicians and Singers stop touring and return to Nashville for the CMA Awards. In deference to that, I have decided to write about a couple of famous Country Singer/Songwriters who are also Brothers of the Craft. There is a long and impressive list from which to choose - from Ill.: Roy Acuff, 33°, to Brother Brad Paisley. I had originally considered writing about Ill.: Eddie Arnold, 33°; however, his Masonic Biography was sparse. I only know that he was made a Knight of the Court of Honor in 1983 and he received his 33° in 1997, as a member of the Valley of Nashville, Tennessee.

While doing my research, however, I did find a considerable amount of information on two other well-known Singer/Songwriters - namely, Mel Tillis and Brad Paisley.

Mel Tillis

Mel Tillis was quoted in an article in 2002 as follows, "It seems like just yesterday I left Florida head'n for Nashville, Tennessee, in my '49 Mercury with a busted windshield, a pregnant wife and \$29 in my pocket. 2002 marks my 46th year in the music business. If I lost it all tomorrow, I guess I could only say it cost me \$29 and it's been a heck of a ride." That was, of course, eleven years ago and Mel still had many accomplishments ahead of him.

Country music legend Mel Tillis began performing while serving in the U.S. Air Force. He was stationed in Okinawa. I recall a song, "I Want to go Stateside" that was on the radio when I was kid, and I suspect that song came from that experience. It was in 1956 that Mel's musical career was launched, when Webb Pierce recorded "I'm Tired." In 1976, Mel was inducted into the Songwriter's International Hall of Fame, and was also named Country Music Association's (CMA) Entertainer of the Year.

Mel is famous for a speech impediment that caused him to stutter; an affliction that he turned into an asset by using it as comic source material which led to him becoming an award-winning comedian. Mel's versatility won him acclaim as an actor as well.

His greatest accolades, however, were for his songwriting. On September 21, 1999, Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI) named Mel Tillis the Songwriter of the Decade for two decades. Mel also won numerous other awards as entertainer, vocalist and songwriter.

In June, 2007, Mel became a member of the Grand Ole Opry and in October, 2007 was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Mel has written over 1000 songs with approximately 600 having been recorded by major artists, the likes of Kenny Rogers who recorded "Ruby Don't Take Your Love To Town" and Bobby Bare who recorded "Detroit City." Other artists who have recorded Mel's songs include Ray Price, Brenda Lee, George Strait and Ricky Skaggs. Mel has recorded over 60 albums, including a gospel album, "Beyond the Sunset." His song "Coca-Cola Cowboy" was featured in the movie, "Every Which Way But Loose," starring Clint Eastwood.

Mel has appeared in numerous movies including "Every Which Way But Loose" and "Smoky and the Bandit" to name a couple. He also appeared on many TV shows such as "60 Minutes," "Late Show with David Letterman," "700 Club" and "Hee Haw."

Mel enjoys many hobbies, one of which is painting, which he turned into a charitable event - 1,000 Limited Edition, signed and numbered, prints entitled "Masonic America" are being sold with all profits going to The Scottish Rite Foundation that benefits speech and hearing

Continued on Page 15

2013 Brother Franklin Awards

By Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°, Deputy for New York

New York State Valleys have once again received recognition at the Annual Meeting for providing a service to our members via their outstanding publications. The Category 1 Valleys, under 800 members, were narrowed down to three finalists and two of those were New York Valleys. The Valley of Rochester was declared the winner and the Valley of Schenectady received Honorable Mention.

I extend my personal congratulations to the Officers and members of those Valleys for this accomplishment and encourage all other Valleys to submit their publications in the future, if they are not already doing so. I am looking forward to more awards in the future. ☐

Valley of Rochester Winter Days - 2013

December 5th - Rite on the Road/Brother Bring-a-Brother Night at Constellation Lodge Meeting
Program "The Peacemakers" - 8:00 p.m.

December 7th - Symbolic Lodge Awards, Shrine Center
Social - 4 p.m. (Cash Bar/Hors d'oeuvres) ~ Program - 5 p.m.
Pizza & Wings following

December 14th - All-Masonic Children's Holiday Party, Shrine Center
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Children and Grandchildren of all Masonic Families and their friends are invited.

January 16th - Valley Meeting at Shrine Center
Light from the Rite/Brother Bring-a-Brother Night
Historical Perspectives

Ill.: Bruce Renner, 33° - "History of the COD"
Valley of Rochester 33° Club - "200 Years of Scottish Rite"
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (***) ~ Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

February 13th - Staff Have-a-Heart Booth
at Marketplace Mall
3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

February 20th - Valley Meeting at Shrine Center
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (***) ~ Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

**** Make your reservations On Time! Don't be Late!**
At least 5 DAYS prior to any activity (585) 264-1160
or Email: secretary@valleyofrochester.org

Why not sign up on our Permanent Meeting Meal Reservation List?

AASR Valley of Rochester 2013-2014 Officers

Rochester Lodge of Perfection
Thrice Potent Master Michael Nohle, 32°

**Rochester Chapter of
Knights of Rose Croix**
Most Wise Master Adam Junod, 32°

**Rochester Council of the
Princes of Jerusalem**
Sovereign Prince Derek E. VanHouten, 32° MSA

Rochester Consistory
Commander-in-Chief Kenneth R. Howe, 33°
1st Lt. Commander James MacConnell, 32°
2nd Lt. Commander John Lemke, 32°

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:

Ill.: John William McNaughton, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°
Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill.: Robert F. Ogg, Jr., 33°
Grand Minister of State

Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°
Deputy for New York State

Active Members for New York

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Past Deputy/New York

Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°

Ill.: P. Michael Nielsen, 33°

Ill.: G. Michael Morris, 33°

Active Emeritus Members for New York

Ill.: James F. Niehoff, 33°

Ill.: Bruce Widger, 33°, Past Deputy/New York

Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°

Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°

Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°

Ill.: Edward R. Trosin, 33°

Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, Past Deputy/New York

Deputy's Representative - Ill.: Charles O. Hancock, 33°

Secretary

Ill.: Jack VanElzakker, 33°

Treasurer

Ill.: Robert L. Anderson II, 33°

General Committee Members-at-Large

Ill.: Glenn A. Stahl, 33° (2014)

Bernard D. Lazerson, 32° DSA (2015)

Gary L. Burke, 32° MSA (2016)

Ill.: Charles R. Frear, 33° (Emeritus)

811 Ayrault Road, Suite 3, Fairport, NY 14450-8965

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Email: secretary@valleyofrochester.org

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Websites:

Valley of Rochester, AASR
www.valleyofrochester.org

New York State Council of Deliberation
www.nyscottishritemasons.org

Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
www.scottishritenmj.org

Children's Dyslexia Center - In Honor of Frank & Bette Paul
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 330, Rochester, NY 14618

Office (585) 264-1690; Fax (585) 264-1692; Email: rochcent@rochester.rr.com

Ann Kaczka, Learning Center Director
John W. Paul, Chair, Board of Governors

Commander-in-Chief

Continued from Page 16

clinics all over this great Nation.

Mel was 1998 spokesman and honorary chairman for the Stuttering Foundation of America. Mel was Raised a Master Mason in Branson Lodge No. 587, Branson, Missouri, on December 14, 1992; received his 33° at "The House of the Temple" in Washington, DC, in 1998. On October 11th, 1999, Mel was honored with the Grand Cross. (Source: Gleaned from an article on the Internet from Daylight Lodge No. 760)

Brad Paisley

(Excerpts from an article by Blake Bowden, published 9/30/2013) Brother Paisley, born on October 28th, 1972, in Glen Dale, West Virginia, came from a Masonic family. His father, Doug, was a member of Marshall Union Lodge No. 8 in West Virginia. Brad's father and Joe Blair, a family friend, inspired Brad to become a Mason. As he grew older he came to understand what was going on in those meetings that his father went to every once in a while, and wanted to know all about it. His father had no idea that Brad was interested until he had petitioned.

Brad is a member of Hiram Lodge No. 7 in Franklin, Tennessee. I have visited that Lodge on my trips there. The Lodge is one of the oldest in Tennessee, dating to about 1812. The Lodge Building was erected in 1823 and is acclaimed as the first three-story building built West of the Alleghenies. The Lodge has had communication in that same building from then until the present time. The building also served as a hospital during the Battle of Franklin, near the end of the Civil War.

Brad and his father have been longtime friends with Worshipful Bill McCort,

Belmont County Sheriff and Past Master of Kirkwood Lodge No. 446. Brother McCort got to know Brad and his Dad at the WWVA Jamboree in the Hills concerts. Brother McCort states that "he was always impressed with Brad's strength of Character and that he always put on a quality family show. He represents himself and the fraternity well." (article)

Brad has played guitar and sang since he was eight years old. His career started in earnest after graduating from Belmont College in Nashville, Tennessee, when he signed a contract with EMI Music Publishing. His debut album, "Who Needs Pictures," was released by Arista Records in 1999. "The Opry has always been overrun by Masons - especially when Mr. Roy Acuff was still around," exclaimed Brad. "I have several friends in my industry who are Masons - Jimmy Dickens, Charlie Walker and Mel Tillis." Many of these star performers also take time to visit the Lodge whenever possible. Though extremely busy, Brad finds time to visit Lodges around the country as well as to help the Masonic Fraternity.

Brad is currently part of a public service announcement campaign run by DeMolay International. His messages are geared at explaining the important role of adults in the lives of DeMolays and their Chapters. Brad has also participated in a benefit concert for the Shriners Hospitals for Children®. At the end of the short interview, Brad was asked what he thought Masonry could offer today's world. He responded, "The main thing Masonry can do is to continue to teach tolerance, especially in a day and age when we have people killing each other over religion." Source: The Grand Lodge of Ohio (Beacon Publication Volume 10, Issue 4). □

Thank You!

Personnel of the Children's Dyslexia Center in honor of Frank and Bette Paul, thank the Valley of Rochester's Consistory Office and Jack VanElzakker for their generosity, time and resources to get their current fundraiser underway. We could not have prepared adequately for it without their assistance. Choose. Give. Matter.

Save the Date . . . December 11th

On December 11th, remember to ROC the Day® for the Children's Dyslexia Center! ROC the Day® is a 24-hour online fundraising event that gives you an opportunity to support non-profit organizations that are important to you.

Go to www.RocTheDay.org on December 11th to participate.

Order from Chaos!

By John S. Lemke

2nd Lieutenant Commander, AASR

Disorder seems to grow. We may have an innate tendency to optimism, but it is not hard to see a continuing dissent down a crumbling stairway to the unfamiliar. Many of us, almost regardless of our age, are experiencing a discomfort with what we see and experience. Many of the systems for ordering society seem to be failing. It may be that America has weathered times such as these before, but it has been a while.

Our Scottish Rite is the Masonic Fraternity particularly invested in a system, through our Degrees, of bringing order to the reach of our members. Through the Degrees, we learn we can help to

bring order to society. In times of increasing disorder, our system of Degrees can be an important means of influencing the future for our American society. Individually and collectively, we can all be part of building a better America. We can gain confidence in the brighter future that can be ours as we work with our Brothers to be a positive influence in bringing new order that will emerge through all of our efforts. Working together is a comfort to all of us and our families in stressful times.

I look forward to the New Year and the chance to work with all of you as we endeavor to grow, discover further Light and leave our positive mark for our posterity. □

Reminder! - Our new office address is:

Valley of Rochester AASR
811 Ayrault Road, Suite 3
Fairport, NY 14450-8965



Order of the Eastern Star

Monroe District OES HiLights



DDGM

R.W. Beverly Thompson

392-7546

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DGL

R.W. Tom Richenderfer

377-7782

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By R.W. Beverly Thompson

It was exciting to be a part of the Installation of 2014 Officers at Grand Sessions. I am looking forward to a busy year promoting Eastern Star. I bring you greetings from Most Worthy Sylvia Moravia, Grand Matron. Her special project is promoting the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory housed on the Campus of the Masonic Care Community in Utica. Their motto is "Every heartbeat counts" and the Grand Matron is struck by their work related to women's heart health. Her special project pin says just that, and you can get one from me for a \$5 contribution.

Congratulations, R.W. Tom Richenderfer for his installation as President of the Grands Association of Monroe District, as well as being the new DGL.

The Monroe District Banquet on November 1st was very well attended, and

the buffet was great. It was a very fitting way to honor the District's Grand Officers of 2013. It was followed by the Reception for the 2014 District Grand Officers. I was very pleased with so many family, friends and members in attendance. The Officers of the evening did a tremendous job.

The Grand Representatives have another year in their Office. They are R.W. Christina Hampton (Arizona), R.W. Hilde DiJames (Ohio), R.W. Elaine Riess (Pennsylvania), R.W. Alice Hassett (South Carolina), and R.W. June Gudge-Nash (Texas).

The East-West Luncheon was held at Unity Lodge Hall on November 2nd. This is where the present Matrons honor the Matrons-elect. I enjoyed the food and fellowship very much. I distributed brochures for the Grand Matron's special project and the 50/50 raffle tickets for our 2014 Dream Factory Project. The Dream Factory grants wishes of children with a life-threatening illness AND for those children with chronic medical challenges.

I hope you had a great time with your family and friends at Thanksgiving.

Sunday, December 1st, is the District Christmas Party. It will be held at Unity Lodge Hall at 2 p.m. Please bring a dish-to-pass and individual snack treats for the Ronald McDonald House Wish List.

Those who have ordered a Wreath or Poinsettia to benefit the District Project will be able to pick them up then, or afterward at an arranged time.

I have chosen the Wreath as my symbol. It has much history and symbolism associated with it. This circular object is a universal symbol of unity, wholeness and infinity. The symbolism of wreaths has been used at funerals. Flowers represent life and resurrection and the circular evergreens represent everlasting life.

The harvest wreath uses wheat or other harvested plants woven together.

The grapevine wreath and the fragrant eucalyptus wreath are modifications of it. Laurel wreaths became associated with victory, achievement and status.

The Advent Wreath at Christmas is made of evergreens to represent everlasting life brought through Jesus, and the circular shape represents God with no beginning and no end.

It so happens that the Grand Matron's symbol has two gold rings intertwined representing the unending circle of friendship we share as members of the Order. To me, the wreath's continuous circle represents how the Officers of the Eastern Star continue to change each year, but the strong values, the patriotism, the friendship and the desire to help those in need continues ON AND ON.

In closing, I would like to leave you with this thought:

Loyal devotion and dedication, too;
 Willingness to do the job before someone asks you to;
 Honesty, integrity, cheerfulness as well, Patience and persistence,
 a desire to excel,
 Calm determination, service with a smile,
 These are all the touches that Make Eastern Star worthwhile.

Notes from the DGL

By R.W. Tom Richenderfer

I hope this article finds everyone had a safe and joyous Thanksgiving with their loved ones. If everything works according to plan (I am writing this right after the District Banquet and Grand Officer Reception), my wife and I will be in Jolly Old England as you read this celebrating our 30th Wedding Anniversary.

Speaking of the District Banquet and Reception, it was a wonderful evening

and I thank everyone involved for helping to make it so much fun.

R.W. Kathy Alvito presented a check for \$1,320.25 to Dr. Susan Hetherington of Project Search for her special project of 2013. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to this project.

Three "All-Star Awards" were presented to honor outstanding continuous service to members in the District. R.W. Beverly Thompson, Sharon McComber and W. Mary Blied were the recipients of these Awards.

School of Instruction

The plans for the School of Instruction are coming together nicely. R.W. Beverly and I have agreed to hold the School of Instruction on February 1st, at 9:30 a.m. at Unity Lodge Hall, Spencerport. The Line Officers Meeting will follow. I will cover the Ritual changes that were approved at Grand Sessions as well as the Ritual points from the Grand Matron's and Grand Patron's Briefing Packet and answer your questions. Please plan to attend this session.

The Grand Patron's Special Project this year is called "Plenty for All" and involves the Chapters and District - each developing a project or event for the benefit of the local and regional food banks in our area. The Grand Patron wants these projects and events done in a way to maximize public knowledge of the projects and events as well as gathering visibility for the Chapters and Order.

As part of this project, I am selling Horn of Plenty Pins for \$5 each with the funds going to the Grand Patron's Special Project Fund.

I will be reporting to the Grand Patron on the events held in the District along with an estimate of the value of the items donated, money donated or the number of volunteer hours worked.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Merry Winter Solstice Season along with a Joyous New Year. □