



Masonic Times

Monroe & Genesee/Wyoming Districts

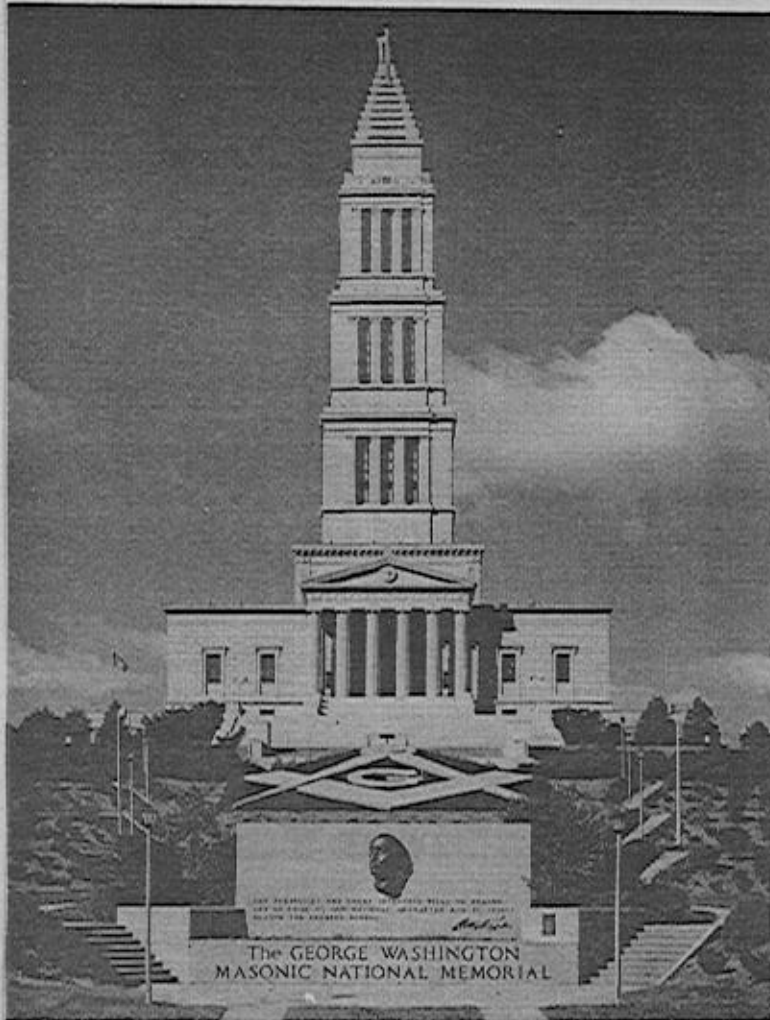
Volume 38 No. 10 USPS 0359-540

Rochester, New York

Circulation 4910

December 1999

Masonic Symbol Dedicated at George Washington Memorial



Photography by Arthur W. Pierson

The Masonic Symbol constructed on the front lawn of the George Washington National Memorial was dedicated on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of Brother Washington's death, June 26, 1999.

Germania Lodge Sole Monroe Qualifier for Potts Award



* W.: Ken Kassel, *W.: Joe Minas, *V.:W.: Dan Walker, *W.: Dave Foster, *Tom Soanes, *W.: Nelson Bertch, *W.: Henry Gunkel, *R.:W.: Don Krech, *W.: Paul Krueger, W.: Bob McBride, W.: John Foster, (*Officers attending GL Convention).

1846 Schoolhouse - Home of Warsaw Lodge No. 549 Since 1907



135 Years of Masonry

By Richard (Doc) Benn

In October, 1813, a petition was granted, recommended by West Star No. 205, the first Lodge West of the Genesee River, establishing Olive Branch No. 214 in Warsaw. They met in the upper portion of a house on Genesee Street in which a school was

housed on the ground floor.

In the 1820's the Lodge met in quarters on Buffalo Street at the present site of Tops Carpet Shop. Later a move was made to a house on the West corner of Perry Avenue. This Lodge failed as a result of the Morgan Affair, when

Continued on page 15

Remember our Service Personnel in Bosnia

By William Lindsay

The holiday season is a tough time to be away from home, away from family and friends. Let's all work together and make sure that the soldiers in this Rochester area unit know that we remember and appreciate the positive role they are playing in Bosnia. We can't bring them home for the holidays, but maybe we can use the US Mail to share the Holiday Spirit, and let them know we care.

Let each reader of the *Masonic Times* send one extra Christmas card this year, and 5000 messages of goodwill shall arrive in Bosnia. Let each Masonic group sit down around the table after the meeting for a half hour and write out 25-50 cards and send them. Remember, these are our neighbors, our sons and daughters.

Continued on page 15

Charlotte/Corinthian Annual Teddy Bear Dinner a Success



W.: Tom Grape - Master, Cliff Short - JW, Bill King - SW, W.: Andy Alvarez, W.: James De Lorenzo and Brother Bears. (more in C/C article on page 8)



They did it again!

Well, Valley/Simes Lodge No. 109 did it again! On November 2nd, seven members of Valley/Simes attended a meeting at Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge No. 1088 and took possession of the Traveling Gavel. They also took advantage of the offer made by the Valley of Rochester, AASR, in last month's issue of the *Masonic Times*. It stated that a check in the amount of \$25.00 would be given to the Brotherhood Fund in honor of Valley/Simes' Ambassador to the Scottish Rite.

Valley/Simes Lodge will be meeting again on December 14th. There will be a Turkey Breast Dinner before the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The Lodge has invited ladies, children and grandchildren for that evening and has Brother Paul Stillman, alias Nasty Ned, for entertainment. This will be an excellent evening to make your bid for the Traveling Gavel and have good fellowship. It is guaranteed to be an evening well spent.

How many of you will I see at 7:30 p.m. on December 14th at 875 Main Street East on the 3rd floor of the Masonic Temple? ☐

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

from The Service Bureau & Times Staffs

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Dated Material

Periodical postage PAID at Rochester, New York

Editor's Corner

By Don Brugger
473-4351 (O) 458-6125 (H)

Addresses

I received a complaint about the address that appears on a Lodge logo. It seems that the Secretary of the Lodge prefers to have Lodge mail come to his home rather than to the Lodge building. It has been our practice to include the Lodge address in the logo so that the Lodge could be found. If your Secretary, however, would like to receive the Lodge mail at his house, his address can be added under his name. We will, however, still carry the Lodge building address.

Fickle deadlines

After discussion with some Brothers about the variable deadline, I did a cursory analysis of the response of our authors (submitting of articles). As it turns out, from the data examined, there was no significant correlation between the number of late articles and whether the deadline was constant or variable.

I will attempt to show the results here of that analysis.

The months in which the deadline did not change (3 consecutive months) will be called case "A". The months the deadline was on a different date each month (4 consecutive months) will be called case "B".

For case "A" the portion of the total material received on time was 50%, for case "B" it was 44%. This, at first blush, may give a false impression. Looking at the percent not submitting articles for those same months - Case "A" was 21% and case "B" was 19%, almost the same number. Additionally, those less than 3 days late were - for case "A" 21% and "B" 23%, and for those more than 4 days late - "A" was 13% and "B" only 8%. Looking at this last comparison would seem to indicate that the variable deadline got more attention than the constant deadline. You be the judge.

Degree help

Most Lodges, from time to time, need help for speaking parts in the Degrees. I think it might be a good idea (not a new one by any means) to have a listing of those Brothers who are proficient in principle parts of the Ritual. Of course, these Brothers would have to be willing to stand ready to help out on short notice. If you are interested in being put on such a list, or if you think it's a lousy idea, let me know.

Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester Inc.

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Lawrence Canfield
Vice-President
F. Jay McCullough
Secretary
Barbara Goodrich
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Executive Director
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The Gift of Love

I wish each and every one of you a very happy holiday season. May the season refresh and invigorate you and fill the hearts of others with your joy.

It is especially important at this time of the year to remember the saying by Norman MacEvans, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

Have you made your 1999 contribution to your Masonic Service Bureau? If not, why not? If so, can you increase it? You should be receiving our appeal soon. Please respond generously. Don't forget the United Way in the Spring, our number is 1060. Please direct your United Way dollars to the Bureau. Our investments only cover part of our charitable work.

Faith, Hope and Charity. If you have Faith in your God, then you have Hope for the future, but Charity extends hope and love forever-it just keeps on growing. Give now! Share your love! Give generously!

To all "my" volunteers during 1999, I extend a grateful hand of praise. You make me look good! I will try to list them in the next issue.

MSB Community Service

By Harold Bollotin

Al Sigi Walkabout

This annual fundraising event was held on Halloween morning, October 31st, inside Marketplace Mall. It was the Center's major event of the year. The purpose was to raise approximately \$100,000 to help about 43,000 adults and children with disabilities, and the seven agencies comprising the Al Sigi Center. Every dollar raised goes directly to the Center.

Upon arrival at the Mall, the parking lot was jammed full. On entering the building, I was met by Daniel Myers, President of the Al Sigi Center, who gave me a warm, cordial greeting. The corridors of the entire Mall were filled from end to end.

The Walkabout attracted approximately 1,400 adults and children. Also present were many of those who have been helped by the Center. The event was a huge success. It was a festive and fulfilled atmosphere created by the huge crowd of walkers, musicians, entertainers, and many tables manned by Mall merchants and organizations providing samples, give-aways, and refreshments. Colorful balloons and decorations were displayed throughout the corridors.

Masonic involvement

On behalf of the Masonic Service Bureau, a total of eleven vol-

Hot Numbers

Grand Lodge:
1-800-3-MASON-4,
Grand Master:
Stewart C. McCloud
1-800-362-7664
Grand Marshal:
Vincent Libone
h 718-229-2841, w 718-423-2250
Deputy Grand Master:
Carl J. Smith
h 716-689-7522, w 716-855-7604
Grand Secretary
Gary A. Henningsen
1-800-362-7664
FX 212-633-2639
District Leader:
Ronald D. Mertens
h 716-482-0994,
DDGM Genesee/Wyoming
Raymond G. Barber
h 716-457-3079
DDGM Monroe:
M. Donald Darrohn
h 716-225-1782
Staff Officers
GSB:
Ruel R. Lovett
h 716-494-2546
GSTW:
Dennis M. Turton, Sr.
h 716-591-1179

Masonic News Network
37 Oliver St.
Lockport, New York
14094-4615
FAX 716-434-4946

Grand Lecturer:
Edward G. Gilbert
212-924-0764

District Umbrella Coordinators

Membership Development:
Bruce D. Chilton, Monroes,
716-342-0562
David J. Beardsley, Genesee/
Wyoming, 716-493-2426
Membership Retention:
Joseph Privitera, Monroes,
716-392-5583
Norman Steinbaugh, G/W,
716-591-2888
Public Involmt. and Awareness:
James De Lorenzo, Monroes,
716-458-8856
John A. Specht, G/W,
716-548-2694
Fellowship and Family Involmt:
Earl C. Steffen,
392-8224
Glenn L. Cramer G/W,
716-535-7507
Drug and Alcohol Abuse
Prevention:
Robert D. Mix, Vice Chr.,
W. Region, 716-798-0335
William Geitner,
716-535-7874
Brotherhood Fund Monroe
David W. Jones
h 647-9896, w 454-3290
Brotherhood Fund G/W:
Bernard Whaley,
716-457-9905
Masonic Home
1-800-322-8826, 1-315-798-4800
Acacia Village 1-800-593-3353

Reg. AGL
Alan Ramsay
716-458-2335

unteers participated, consisting of the following: three magicians; James "Prof. Rem" Remenicky, Bob Williams, and "Prof. Korne" (me), and one assistant volunteer, Sylvia. We were joined by seven ever faithful Shrine Clowns; John "Haji" Bryce, Ken "Ratsy" Ratliff, Harold "Trax" Feinberg, Gordon "Jingles" Bell, Rob "Bubba" Folts, James "Sleepy" Brown, and Oscar "Rosco" Wilson.

Your Legal Rights FYI

By Bro. Phillip Hurwitz, Esq.

Privacy

More and more of us are choosing to communicate through a computer or cell phone. No doubt we have become more efficient as a result. What may not be appreciated is the loss of privacy we have invited.

It's a popular belief that we have a right to privacy. Surprisingly, the US Constitution makes absolutely no express mention of this right. Our right to privacy exists because our Supreme Court says so. It has come to this conclusion by interpreting the 1st, 4th and 5th Amendments to the Constitution. The 1st Amendment embodies our right to be left alone (free speech and the free exercise of religion). The 4th Amendment embodies our right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure by our government. The 5th Amendment prohibits the government from compelling us to incriminate ourselves.

Over time, the Court has ruled on disputes concerning the right of government to intrude into our private matters. One test the court uses to determine whether a right of privacy exists, is to ask whether citizens have an expectation of privacy in an activity that the government is monitoring. It's a given that the police cannot

listen in on a land-line conversation, unless it has a search warrant signed by a judge, supported by probable cause to believe that there is evidence of a crime being committed.

Expectation of privacy

When you talk on a cell phone, there is no expectation of privacy. The conversation is being transmitted over the air. It can be intercepted by something as simple as a baby monitor. The courts have ruled that we don't have an expectation of privacy when we talk over a cell phone. Consequently, a cell phone conversation could be intercepted by the government and be used against you without first obtaining a search warrant.

In Finland (they make Nokia cell phones), experts predict that nearly 100% of the population will be talking over a cell phone by the end of 2000.

The day will approach when Americans will follow Finland's lead. More and more people will opt for wireless phone service for all their phone connections. The consequences to our personal liberty are startling.

Money Tip\$

By Dave Larson

Top Money Mistakes

In the November issue of *Ticker* magazine, there is a list of "top money mistakes" according to a survey of investment advisers and financial planners. Don't undermine your efforts to achieve your financial goals by making the following mistakes:

1. Failing to plan. One of the slogans used by financial planners is "nobody plans to fail, but most people fail to plan." You should develop a roadmap with specific goals and a systematic approach to achieve those goals. Playing the lottery is not a good financial plan.

Continued on page 4

Circulation Policy Monroe Masonic Library

Circulation Period

Books - 30 days
Video materials - 7 days
Overhead projector & screen, Video player/monitor - overnight
Charges & fines
Books - 25 cents per day
Video materials - 25 cents per day
Projector & screen - \$5.00 chg. + \$5.00 fine per day
Video player/monitor - \$10.00 chg. + \$10.00 fine per day

Returns

To the Library or Masonic Service Bureau during regular hours (9:00 a.m. to noon). After hours, books & videos in Service Bureau copy-drop slot.

Extra charges

Charges for damage will be assessed individually.

The Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester Inc. Loan Closet

The Masonic Service Bureau Loan Closet, supported by area Masons, makes available items for home care to the Community at no cost. The Closet is open 9:00 a.m. to noon, Monday thru Friday. Items must be picked up and returned.

Equip. Type	On loan
Bathtub equip.	89
Bed (Acces.)	2
Canes	92
Commodos	80
Crutches	208
Walkers	164
Wheelchairs	113
Miscellaneous	9
Total	757

Are You Moving?

Print your NEW address below (incl. seasonal chgs.)

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Phone _____

Masonic Times
875 Main Street East
Rochester, N. Y. 14605-2789

Clip and mail to:

FED049ZL

Service Bureau Scholarships and Charities Distributed at June Ceremony



(Not in order) - Michell Born, John Galbraith, Mark Schneider, Amanda McCullough, Megan Rafferty, Andrea Storie, Michelle Walker, Andrea McCullough, Michael Scholl and Letty Laskowski. Not present - Heather Greig and Margaret Dianetti.



(Not in order) - Salvation Army - Carol George, Fidelity Triangle - Wendy Burrows, School of the Holy Childhood - Molly Flaherty, Open Door Mission - Paul Graham-Raad, St. Peter's Kitchen - Barbara Kuhn, Lifespan - Ellery Reaves, Family Resource Center - Elizabeth Sieber-Ford, Cameron Ministries - Bob Peterson, Advent House - Ruth Leopold, JROTC Edison Tech - Sgt. Roleigh Newman, Camp Turk - David Clarke, Social Services - Linda Diamond, Isaiah House - Kathie Quinlan, A Meal & More - Marcia Turner, Journey Home - John Jogla, Salem Nutritional Center - Al Smith, Rochester Hillel Foundation - Michael Phillips, St. Joseph's House - Michael Child

Area Masons Participate in Al Sigi Walkabout



"Ratsy" with Harold "Trax" Feinberg, John "Haji" Bryce and "Jingles" and some of their helpers at the Al Sigi Walkabout.



John "Haji" Bryce, President of the Shrine Clowns, in action.



Much activity and merry making at the Marketplace Mall Al Sigi Walkabout.

**YOUR Good works
CAN LIVE AFTER YOU
REMEMBER THE
MASONIC
SERVICE BUREAU
in your will!**



Shrine Clowns, Bob "Bubba" Folts, Ken "Ratsy" Ratliff, Oscar "Rosco" Wilson, Jim "Sleepy" Brown and Gordon "Jingles" Bell, at the Walkabout. (Photos courtesy Harold Bolotin)

James "Prof. Rem" Remenicky, Bob Williams and Prof. Korne performed for the throngs at Marketple. (Photo by Sylvia Bolotin)



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Warsaw, New York 14569
(716) 786-8151

4 Money Tips

Continued from page 2

Discipline and time are your best allies in planning.

2. Neglecting to factor inflation into investment return expectations. Even at 3% per year, inflation cuts purchasing power in half over a 24-year period. In other words, saving \$1,000 a month for 24 years at a 9% rate of return will result in a nest egg of over \$1 million. But that's only equivalent to \$500,000 in today's dollars.

3. Being too risk-averse. Over the past seventy-three years, stocks have returned 11.2% on average each year, bonds about 5.5% and inflation has been 3.1%. It makes a great deal of sense to have some exposure to the higher potential returns in the stock market to keep ahead of the twin evils of inflation and taxes. Investing your entire portfolio in bonds and CDs is like paddling slowly up stream.

4. Trying to time the market. Market timing is a proven failed strategy. Success comes from time spent in the market, not timing the market. Stick to an appropriate asset allocation and expect to ride through the inevitable dips.

5. Carrying credit card debt. The number one rule of financial planning is to spend less than you earn. Credit card debt is expensive and jeopardizes your ability to achieve long-term goals. The best way to use credit cards is to pay them off every month. If you can't, cut them up and pay them off as fast as possible.

6. Not communicating regularly with a financial adviser. Have an annual physical with a qualified financial "doctor" who can make the proper diagnosis and treatment to keep you in excellent financial health. □



The Annual Gift Wrap Session will be held on Tuesday, December 14th in the Building 5 Auditorium from 1 to 4 p.m.

The Annual Gift Distribution will be Sunday, December 19th starting at 12:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. Following a brief welcoming ceremony, the various volunteer groups will proceed to their respective assigned wards. Gifts will be presented to each veteran patient, Carols will be sung, refreshments of eggnog and cookies will be served. Santa Claus hats will be worn and a



general atmosphere of holiday cheer will be dispensed.

Both of these annual events have always been festive, fun filled and rewarding experiences. Numerous veteran, social, fraternal, and governmental groups participate. Parking is conveniently located directly across the road from the Building 5 Auditorium.

Maps are available upon request by phoning me at 342-5865.

Participation

If anyone would like to join any of the above events, or needs additional information, call Tom Paglia at 227-2046.

VA Outpatient Clinic

The Clinic at Westfall Road is looking for volunteers to provide assistance in office and clerical work, to assist the DAV office and to act as greeters.

Veterans Day

On Thursday, November 11th, the Monroe County American Legion sponsored a Veterans Day Ceremony at the War Memorial at 11:00 a.m. All veterans were invited to participate. Following the Ceremony a luncheon was served at the Party House. □



FINGER LAKES CHAPTER
Richard Friedman, President
377-6175
George Springett, Secretary
247-3557

Are you starved for Masonic education? Would you benefit from hearing well thought out historical material regarding Freemasonry? How about some stimulating presentations that make Masons reflect on their Craft? How would you feel if you were actually given a part in the rights, light and benefits of Freemasonry?

Here is your chance. Saturday, January 29, 2000, will see the first annual "Seekers of Light" Masonic Education Day in Rochester. This day is an open event for Masons and non-Masons alike who want to learn more about the history and present situation of our Craft.

The Program will be given at the Downtown Masonic Temple, 875 Main Street East, Rochester. The Program will start with coffee "and" at 8:00 a.m. The speakers will begin presentations at 8:30 a.m. There will be lunch served following the morning presentations and a Town Meeting with a Masonic Panel will take place during the luncheon. The event will be over around 1:30 p.m.

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Rochester, New York, 14607

Who will you be treated to hear?

R. W.: Thomas W. Jackson, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Brother Jackson is a world famous Mason who edits the "Book Nook" feature for the Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction. Brother Jackson will present the keynote address and participate on the panel during the Town Meeting.

Professor Kathleen Kutowski, Professor of History at SUNY Brockport who will talk about the weaving of Masonry into the culture of this area in the 1800's. Her paper is entitled, "Building Community on the Genesee Frontier: Freemasonry and the Social Order".

R.: W.: George Peter, Grand Historian, Grand Lodge of New York who will speak on "Destructive Diversions Detailed". We are sure that your mind and heart will be stimulated.

W.: Bill Edwards, (Past Master of Webster Lodge No. 538) and Karl Kavelac (retired Rare Books Librarian at U of R) will present on using the Internet for Masonic research.

W.: Bill Lindsay, member of the Grand Lodge Education and Leadership Committee will present on the "Ancient Landmarks".

We would love to see a fine turnout for this event. You will not see such a collection of talent assembled in this area for a long time. The total cost, including lunch will be \$10.00 per person.

During your Degrees, you were encouraged to seek the light needed to transform from the rough ashlar to the perfect ashlar moving along the journey of life. Please affirm that promise by taking off the hoodwink and receiving "Light in Masonry".

For reservations, call me or e-mail Rich Friedman at the number listed above. Look forward to seeing you!

The Philaethes Society is an international Masonic Research Society with Chapters throughout the world and on the Internet. The Society publishes a magazine on a bi-monthly basis that is full of "Masonic Light", ranging from historical articles to articles that ponder the direction and philosophy of the Craft.

For more information on membership, contact: W.: William Lindsay, 95 Benjamin Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616. Telephone is (716) 621-3573 or blindsay@servtech.com. □

By William Lindsay
The following sideliners conversation was overheard in a Lodge near you. Were you the one who was talking?

Kid: Brother OT, you going to the Seekers of Light Program on January 29th?

Old Timer: That's a Saturday, isn't it?

Kid: Yeah, it is, all morning with a lunch after. It really sounds great.

OT: Don't get too excited, they'll probably cancel it because nobody will attend.

Kid: That's not what I heard. Somebody said they already had reservations from John Maxon and a bunch from Allegheny County, and Phil Cox was bringing some guys up from Livingston and Steuben.

OT: How about Ken Kohlhagen and Doc Benn and some of those other guys down Attica way?

Kid: Yeah, those were names I heard, too.

OT: How about Monroe Masons, any of them going?

Kid: I'm sure they will. We are supposed to be "in search of Light", aren't we?

OT: Well, that's true, but it is a Saturday and it is Super Bowl weekend.

Kid: It's Super Bowl weekend for Thomas Jackson and Kathleen Kutowski, and Karl Kabelac and George Peter, too.

OT: What Lodges are they from? Say, isn't that a lady's name?

Kid: They're the presenters! The Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania, a Professor of History specializing in Western New York, a University of Rochester Research Librarian, and the Grand Historian of New York.

OT: Pretty impressive list for little old Rochester.

Kid: So, are you going to go? We ought to have a good turnout from our Lodge.

OT: Who put you in charge of selling tickets?

Kid: I'm not selling tickets; I just think that our Lodge should be supporting Masonic education. Everything you hear and read says that education is the key to survival for any group. We get that at work constantly.

OT: So, you think I need some education, is that it?

Kid: Not just you, we all do. My grandmother used to say, "the day you stop learning, you're dead!"

OT: Yeah, I've heard that probably some truth to it.

Kid: So, do you want me to sign you up?

OT: Why is it such a big deal that I go? I've been a Mason longer than you've been alive. Why don't you go sign up some of these younger guys?

Kid: It is important to me that you go. Don't you remember when you were young in Masonry how important it was that you could spend time with some of the older Brothers?

OT: You shoulda met old Judge Smith-he really put us through our paces.

Kid: I'm going to call Rich Friedman and make a reservation for myself. Shall I make one for you?

OT: Let me talk to Barbara and see what she's got planned.

Kid: That's great, I'm glad you're going with me.

OT: Slow down, slow down. I said I'd think about it. By the way, how do you say this "phila, philae...?"

Kid: Phil-la-lay-theez.

OT: Phil-la-lay-theez. I hope I can remember that when I get home. Barbara likes to know these things.

Kid: Just call me and I can remind you.

OT: If she needs the car, can I get a ride with you?

Kid: Kid taxi, door-to-door.

OT: I used to know a guy named Pettit, and another one named Thibault. It'd be nice to see them again.

Kid: If their Lodges think education is important, you'll probably see 'em.

OT: I better put a deck in my pocket for afterwards, just in case! □

Latin, "firmus," meaning a fixed annual rental, tax or revenue payable by a person, town or overlord. A farmer was a person who collected such payments. Even up to Revolutionary times, the *fermes g'en'eral* or general farmers grew wealthy by pocketing the difference between what they collected from those using the property and the fee they paid to the Royal Treasury. In England, however, the term "farm" commonly designated the fixed annual rental paid by the tenant for land leased for agricultural purposes.

After the Sixteenth Century the meaning seems to have changed to the modern sense that farm designates a tract of land devoted to agricultural purposes. Most farms, in England to this day, still are held under lease, but in the United States, the farm may be operated by the person who owns it. Check your dictionary, you may be surprised at the 1st or preferred meaning.

February

Oldest among the annual Roman Festivals is Lupercalia. It was celebrated on what is now February 15th in honor of "Lupercus," an ancient god of fertility, the god of shepherds. In the ceremony, dogs and goats were sacrificed and strips of their skin were carried through the streets by runners who would strike everyone they met with them. This was an encounter sought especially by the women, because it was a safeguard against barrenness. These strips of skin were called "februa", the purifiers, derived from the Latin "februo," to purify. This day was called *dies februatius*, the day of purification. From this most important festival the name *februarius*, month of purification, was given to that month. Hence the name February. □

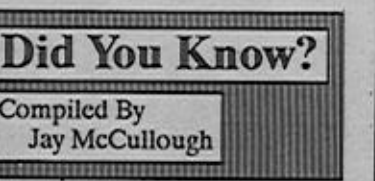


Area Lodge and Lodge Building Histories Wanted!

A couple of years ago Jay McCullough, then Editor of the *Masonic Times*, ran a series featuring Lodge and Lodge building histories. At that time we had in our files the histories of only a few of the older Lodge buildings and Lodges. The series ran out of steam because we did not receive any more histories.

I would like to restart this feature, but I need your help. If you think that you would like to see the history of your Lodge appear in the *Times* or if your Lodge building has an interesting or long history, we would like to hear from you. We would also like to hear from you if you have some unique Masonic furniture or memorabilia. Remember photographs are always a great asset when telling a story.

This is an opportunity for you Lodge Historians to show your metal. Send in your histories and we will guarantee that if found worthy, they will be printed. □



Curious "F" words
Farm
According to the history of this word, it is derived from the french, "ferme," and from the

District Deputy Grand Master

Monroe District



R.:W.: Donald Darrohn
225-1782

Happy Holidays

December is the month that ushers in those special times. We typically join together in family groups to celebrate events that carry on those joyous traditions. May your holiday be one of love and good cheer.

Reminder

The holidays also can be a stressful time for many of our Brothers and Sisters. Why not extend your family and include someone who may be spending these special days alone?

Reflection

Let us all give thanks to our forefathers who had the wisdom to adopt Freemasonry and inculcate so many of its tenets into our Country's Constitution.

Trestleboards

Planning, that key component, should be in the final stages for next year's trestleboard. In most cases this task falls to the current Senior Warden. I encourage any Lodge Brother who has a suggestion or comment about next year's program to contact your Senior Warden and offer those ideas for consideration.

Grand Lodge Fund

The Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards Night provided our Grand Master, M.:W.: Stewart C. McCloud, the opportunity to explain his passion for this new Grand Lodge Fund. He described several circumstances where Brothers or widows of Brethren had sought aide and assistance. He spoke about the Brother who gave up and took his own life, just so his widow would have his insurance money and could then get the medical attention their child needed.

The purpose of the Grand Lodge Fund will be to assist distressed Lodges and Brethren. One might ask, why not use money from the Brotherhood Fund or the Masonic Hall and Asylum assets? Those funds may not be used for any other purpose than what they were initially established for, as stipulated by State Law and the Internal Revenue Service.

One might ask, why this fund, why now? Years ago, our Lodges were able to take care of their members and their buildings, but as is well known, the continuing decline in membership over the past 25 years has sharply reduced the ability of some Lodges to aid their own. In some cases Lodges have lost their buildings, some sold off, some demolished-gone forever from their community.

Many Lodges continue to struggle to retain and maintain their buildings, but the need for a new roof or a new boiler may be beyond the financial capacity of the membership. Perhaps an eld-

erly Brother, with limited resources needs a new refrigerator, or special dental work--or an out-of-work Brother with a child in need of expensive medical treatment--turn to their Lodge for assistance and are turned down because there are too few members and insufficient resources--assistance just beyond the length of their cabletow.

Where do they turn for help? To the Grand Lodge Committee on Benevolence. This Committee reviews applications for aid, and when approved, authorizes the release of moneys from the Grand Lodge Fund for allocation to those in need. Locally, we have the benefit of our Masonic Service Bureau, where requests for aid may be made or referred.

The Grand Lodge Fund presently receives the proceeds from the sale of the Masonic Calendars and the greeting cards. The Grand Master's challenge to the membership is to provide additional money to build a permanent Grand Lodge Fund. Wisely and safely invested, it can earn interest and dividends which will enable Grand Lodge to provide assistance to preserve and protect our Brethren, our Lodges and our future.

"Whither are we Traveling?"

This series has appeared in each of the *Masonic Times* issues this year. Originally published in the "Indiana State Mason" in 1962 by Dwight Smith, Past Grand Master of Indiana. My purpose in requesting these articles be brought to light was to cause our Brethren to consider the message presented some 37 years ago. Does this apply today? Is there agreement or disagreement? What do you think? I wonder if I'll get any responses.

Seekers of Truth

The Philalethes Society of the Finger Lakes is sponsoring this program on January 29, 2000, at the Downtown Temple. There will be a number of exceptional speakers discussing various Masonic topics. The price will be ten dollars and this includes lunch. Plan now to attend. Put the date on your calendar. Give Rich a call at 271-2775.

Grand Lodge Staff Officer

Monroe District



R.:W.: Ruel R. Lovett
Grand Sword Bearer
494-2546

I'm back!

It's good to be back to work. Like most people, I don't like lying on my back. The worst is over, and I am well into recovery. My thanks to all who sent cards and to those who gave flowers. A special thanks to those who visited me, and to Karl Reich who gave me a fruit basket. Thanks to Hesperus Lodge for the fruit basket, and to Marty Krause who delivered it. To Jim MacConnell, Jim Powell, Brian Keery, Russ Holmes, and Tom, Chris and Mary Sardou, thank you. The visits helped much. A special thanks

to all who added me to their prayers. The results are obvious! I'm back!

Sound familiar?

Being out of work and retired can be boring. So my cousin, Vinnie, got me a job as a driver of a semi. He only charged me \$1000. What a deal! Now I can see America firsthand. I'm finally in the drivers' seat.

Everything was going well until I hit a turn in the road with a thin coating of ice. The truck began to skid. The trailer began to come forward and the cab dropped back. I was about to jack-knife! I instantly remembered the instructor telling me to steer into the skid to gain control of the vehicle. Then steer back. Repeat until the vehicle is under control and in line with the highway.

This was very difficult. That meant that I had to steer into danger, right into the pole that was swiftly coming toward me. After a fraction of a second, which seemed more like a minute, I steered into the skid and regained control of the vehicle. I had to have conviction in what I was doing. I had to trust the training that I had received.

Does this sound familiar? If you spend enough time reading the Ritual and then spend a proper amount of time practicing, then you will do a resounding job. Nothing comes easy with no work. If you want to be the kind of ritualist that your Lodgewants, you will have to spend the effort. When you do it right, your Brothers will appreciate it. They NEVER appreciate poor work.

Practicing Ritual is more easily done and with best results when groups work together. If this doesn't happen, practice alone as well as you can. Don't give up. Give your Brothers your best.

Don't forget, if you are a line officer, you also need to be armed with all of the non-ritual knowledge possible so that you can help to manage the affairs of the Lodge properly. That's where the Leadership Development and the Road to the East Courses come in. They won't give you all of the answers, but you will be much better prepared. This is your best aid in keeping members; good Lodge management and top-notch Ritual.

I'll see you in Lodge.

Membership Retention

R.:W.: Joseph Privitera
Monroe District

Widows

It used to be, before 1986, a Brother passed away, the Masonic Service was given, and life went on. Life went on that is, except for the Brother's widow. For various reasons she was quickly forgotten by her husband's Lodge. All that was supposed to change when the Widows Program was created in 1986 and got off to a great start in the Monroe District in 1987 with our first Widows Luncheon.

As the years went by, the attendance by the ladies increased. However, in the last few years, for some reason, the attendance has gone down. Maybe it was the time of year. So, the date was changed from February to April. Still the attendance declined. The next Widows Luncheon is scheduled for March 18, 2000. Our District Deputy, R.:W.: Don Darrohn, has set a goal for every Lodge to increase its attendance from last year. One way we can accomplish

this is not only send a letter and wait for a reply. What we should be doing is following up every letter with a phone call. If the widow lives out of the area, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the letter.

We have many responsibilities in Masonry. However, a primary duty is to our Masonic Widows. If you need assistance with this program, call. The phone number is in the 'Hot Numbers' section on page 2 of this publication.

Bureau of Masonic Education

Monroe County

President:
V.:W.: John Zabel

Protocol and other matters

The Lodge meeting had just ended. Everyone was heading for the dining room for refreshments and to see how the Monday night football game was going. To everyone's surprise, the game had not yet started. The meeting had ended well before nine and the Brethren had been treated to a short talk on Masonic history. Clarence, the Junior Deacon, appeared to be preoccupied with something as he walked up to George.

"George, I've a question for you. The District Deputy will be at our next meeting but it's not his Official Visit. I heard that he will be in the East at the Opening of the meeting when the Master opens the Lodge. When David and I obtain the password from the Brethren, do we get the password from the District Deputy or not?"

George replied, "I really don't know the answer to that one. I've never been in a Lodge meeting where the District Deputy was not escorted in after Lodge was opened. I think I know where we might find the answer. Let's look in the Ritual book."

"I have one in my coat pocket, I'll go get it," said Clarence. "Here's the book, now where would we look?"

"Let's start by going through the Opening Ritual," replied George. "Ah, here it is, a Grand Lodge Officer in the East does not give the password to the Deacons."

"I guess I should have thought to look in the Ritual myself," said Clarence.

"For matters of Ritual, the book is the first place to look. Now, if your question had been about something other than Ritual, you would look in the Book of Constitutions for the answer. In either case if you can't find the answer you can always ask the Master. If he doesn't know then, for ritual matters, call the AGL, for Masonic Law or other matters, call the District Deputy. If they don't have the answer, they should know where to get it", answered George.

"George, you know everything", exclaimed Clarence.

"No I don't, but I have spent some time researching questions on Masonry and have found answers in various places. I've learned that the first place to look for most answers is either the Ritual or the Constitutions. After that I look in the Handbook of Masonic Law. If I still can't find the answer, I ask Brothers who I think might know the answer. I've found that it is better to try to find the answer instead of stumbling around and possibly doing something wrong."

"I'll keep that in mind", replied Clarence. "Let's get some of that pie before it's all gone."

"Sounds good to me, let's go", said George.

What's happening

The Bureau of Masonic Education held the Leadership Development Course on Saturday, November 13th at the Downtown Temple. The seminar was attended by a group of Brothers interested in learning more about the Craft and how to better administer a Lodge. The Bureau thanks all those who helped in the planning and execution of the Course.

The Bureau would like to remind all Brethren that the Finger Lakes Chapter of the Philalethes Society is sponsoring a day of Masonic education on Saturday, January 29th in the Downtown Masonic Temple. The speakers for this event are some of the best Masonic speakers in New York State and the Country. Every Brother is encouraged to attend this special event.

Your Bureau of Masonic Education exists to serve the Lodges and Brethren of the Monroe District. If you have any suggestions for programs or other events that the Bureau should consider undertaking, please contact one of the officers. See your Masonic Directory for addresses and phone numbers.

Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.



President
W.: Phillip R. Hurwitz 581-1831
Secretary
Louis Perna 334-8265

Greetings, Brothers

We will meet at Flower City Lodge (Downtown Temple) on December 11th at 9:30 a.m. Our meeting will be short. At 10:00 a.m., we will help the Service Bureau by cleaning medical equipment. Dress appropriately; bring rubber gloves, a sponge and a quart sized bottle of ammonia. I expect we will finish at 12 noon.

Confusion

I apologize for any confusion I caused re: WXXI. After submitting November's article for publi-

Continued on page 6

FIREPLACE FASHIONS

266-8967

1936 Hudson Ave. (Irondequoit)
1/2 mile north of 104 Xway
Rochester, N.Y. 14617

"EVERYTHING FOR THE FIREPLACE"

Masters & Wardens

Continued from page 5

cation, I received a call from WXXI. Due to a programming directive, they were unable to have a live membership drive that evening. An alternate night is a possibility. I'll report back to the Craft on this one.

Looking ahead

Our Annual Spring Party will be hosted at the Mapledale Party House on May 13, 2000. W.: Dave Foster, W.: Moe Shirano and W.: Lou Campaniello will be coordinating this event. The sense of the Craft is to add more structure to this year's dinner, having a brief program addresses this concern. I can use your help with some suggestions. One that comes to mind is to do something visual; maybe a brief presentation of the Masonic Home. How about some entertainment, as a choral group, quartet, or magic act? Your input at our meetings is needed on this.

Our plans for the Have-a-Heart Program are coming together. We are finalizing them for our meeting this month. I expect we will have coordinators at each of the malls. Our equipment requirements will be determined. We will know how and when to secure this equipment, when it will be erected for display and disassembled for return. Most importantly, each Lodge will have committed to a location and date to solicit contributions.


A program entitled "The Seekers of Truth" will be presented at the Downtown Temple on January 29, 2000 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. This is an educational program designed to provide further light. R.: W.: Rich Friedman and W.: Bill Lindsay are involved in putting this program together. It promises to be enjoyable.

Masters and Wardens (Deacons, too) works when you and your officers come to our meetings.

See you all at our next meeting. Take care. □

Seneca Lodge
No. 797

Second Tuesday
6:00 P.M.



W.: Robert Franzen
594-4029
Robert C. Green, Jr., Secretary
223-5953
30 Orchard St.,
Webster, N.Y. 14580

Thanks

My thanks to all of you who turned out for the District Deputy Grand Master's Visit. The District Deputy's job is not an easy one. Many hours are spent away from home ensuring that our Lodges have the help that they need, that we are working as a cohesive group, and our concerns are heard in NYC. R.: W.: Don Darrohn has joined us often and we appreciate his efforts to be present at important events.

The Grand Master's Message speaks to a problem that is a concern for many Lodges, including our own. The full text of his message was printed in the "Empire State Mason". Change, as we know, is an ongoing process. I am confident our Lodge will make the right decisions for the future as we progress through time.

Holidays

Though the holidays are a joyous time in general, for many they can be sad and lonely. If we can assist, we should, and it is good that we are able to. However, there are many things one can give at this time of year that are more important than money. Maybe this will be the year you swallow your pride or stubbornness. Call that sibling you haven't spoken to for years over some spiff you can't remember. Maybe this year you will spend some quiet time with your parents and thank them for what they have given you. There are many who are less fortunate, but are trying. Let them know they are important and encourage them not to give up. Make this holiday season special. Go out of your way to show someone you care.

December schedule

Breakfast with Santa will be December 18th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Please let the Junior Warden know if you will be joining us for breakfast. Santa Claus, as we know him, will be passing on the reigns after this year. Derek and Judy have given our children and grandchildren many years of smiles and we thank them for their caring.

On Sunday, the 19th, we will be making some visits to those Brethren who aren't as mobile as they used to be. We will meet at a place to be chosen and then make some visits. We will discuss this further at the December meeting.

Summer meetings


Now that we are progressing into Winter, I propose the following for consideration. As many of our Brethren find it difficult to navigate in the dark, cold, and sometimes snowy Winter weather, why not meet in July and August? I doubt that we should lose as many for vacation as we would gain from snowbirds and older Brothers feeling safer driving in the light. We would not meet in January and February or January and March. Let me know your thoughts on this.

Wishes

A safe and joyous holiday season to all those Brothers and families that celebrate at this time or year, but remember, not everyone does. Please be respectful of those who have other traditions. Our world, as our Lodges, is diverse and we need to be ever mindful of that fact. □

FAME
Lodge No. 945

CHARTERED 1917
4275 Culver Rd.
ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14622



W.: Michael Bell, Master
244-2895
2nd & 4th
Tuesdays
7:30 P.M.

Leon VanHuben, Secretary
647-1391

The Work of Christmas

When the song of angels is stilled
When the star in the sky is gone
When the Kings and Princes are home
When the Shepherds are back with their flock
The work of Christmas begins.
To find the lost
To heal the broken
To feed the hungry
To release the prisoner
To rebuild the nations


To bring peace among brothers
To make music in the heart.

The Winter solstice is nearly upon us. Soon we start to climb from the depth and darkness of Winter toward the marvelous lightness of Spring. Our snowbird members and friends miss out on this turning of the seasons. As there cannot be sweetness without its opposite-bitterness, the verdant glory of Spring is muted without the bare witness of Winter for contrast. Doris and I once lived in Arizona where there was no Spring or Autumn—where Winter simply ran into Summer. Truly, it could be dour and monotonous.

Brethren, again I fear the Master has given rein to his philosophical side. The Coupons for Servicemen Program is doing very well. Check Doris' Eastern Star column regarding progress in that area.

Drive carefully and don't shovel wet and heavy snow.
Have safe and happy yuletides. □

FAIRPORT
Lodge No. 476



W.: Tom Richenderfer,
Master
377-7782

2nd & 4th
Mondays
7:30 P.M.

W.: George R. Bracht, Secretary
(h) 383-1947

37 South Main St.
Fairport, N.Y. 14450

The program of the evening for the October 25th meeting was to discuss the future of Fairport Lodge. I want to share with you the results of that program. This discussion was in two parts. The first part was "What do you want this Lodge to be?", and the second part was, "What activities or projects can the Lodge take on to become the type of Lodge you want it to be?"

"What do you want this Lodge to be?"

The three suggestions I made to start the conversation were:

1. A group that does community based projects to improve the community.
2. A group that raises money and donates it to community based charities.
3. A group that just gets together to socialize.

The consensus was that the Lodge should be all three of these things. We should do projects to help improve the community where we can, donate money to charities where a project is not feasible, and have fun in the organizing while executing these activities. It was also pointed out that doing community based projects would help us get more recognition in the community and make people more willing to attend our fundraisers. With that support we could raise more funds and be able to donate more money to community charities. These activities would get us more positive exposure to the public as a worthwhile and fun organization to join.

"What activities or projects can the Lodge take on to become the type of Lodge you want it to be?"

We brainstormed a number of projects and events that could be held to accomplish the goals previously established.

1. Have periodic dinners at Lodge meetings that include the

ladies/families and have programs for the guests.

2. Involve local high school students in our projects to help get more manpower at events and help them achieve their school community service requirements.

3. Create a "history of Masonry" Program that could be presented both in Lodge and to the public. It was further suggested that we could do a history of Fairport Lodge based upon the documents in the old office while cleaning out that office during the Lodge Cleanup and Reorganization process.

4. Hold a "Good Neighbor Day" where we select some people to help with donations or manual labor or whatever is needed.

5. Get involved with the Boy Scout Troops in the area and introduce them to Masonry while helping their Troop achieve some goal.

6. Create work teams to do tasks for elderly people like mowing lawns, cleaning rain gutters, etc. It was further suggested that we could offer this service to our widows to start out.

7. Participate more fully in the Have-a-Heart, Buy-a-Heart Campaign in February.

8. Organize the members of the Lodge who donate blood to the Red Cross; get them to identify their donations with the Lodge, and get some recognition from the Red Cross for milestones (100 pints, 500 pints, etc.).

9. Hold a "Festival of Lights" like the Lodge in my hometown does. This is an event where the Lodge gets Christmas trees donated, invites charities to decorate the trees (hopefully with hand-crafted decorations), and then invite the public to the Lodge to see the decorated trees and "vote" with money donations for the best decorated tree. The charities would keep all the money "voted" for their tree. The Lodge can run a snack bar to raise money, also.

After some discussion, the following action items were volunteered:

1. Brian Bills, Mike Morris, Dave Taber and Tom Goodrich volunteered to form a committee to put together the elder help project. They will meet to define what they want to do and how to implement it. They will report to the Lodge in a month or so with their progress.

2. Dave Taber volunteered to be the Lodge Chairman for the Have-a-Heart Campaign. Tom Richenderfer will contact the District Chairman with this information and notify Dave of any feedback.

3. Dwight Turner and I volunteered to form a committee to do the Lodge History project. It was suggested that they contact several older members of the Lodge to help with this and that the older members may also have pictures or memorabilia from past Lodge events.

We stopped at this point. First, because we had spent about an hour on it and people were getting burned out. Second, we had identified three projects and that seemed like enough to try to tackle at the start.

I hope that all the Brothers who read this column will consider helping out with one or more of these three projects. If you have any suggestion or questions, call me at 377-7782 or e-mail me at tomrich@worldnet.att.net. I thank the Brothers who came to the meeting and took part in this exercise and en-

courage everyone to get involved with the events at Lodge.

Great opportunity-Part 3

At our November 8th meeting, W.: Dwight Turner presented a fascinating program about his tour of duty in the South Pacific during World War II. He put together a slide show with pictures of the airplanes that he flew, maps of the area, and many stories of the missions he flew. This was a great program that was enjoyed by the members who attended. W.: Dwight received a "Brother Who Makes A Difference" Certificate in appreciation of his efforts.

Upcoming events

For December, we have only one meeting on the 13th. The program for that meeting is being put together by W.: Tom Goodrich. Please try to find some time to come to Lodge to see the fine programs our Brothers are presenting. □

GERMANIA
Lodge No. 722
4275 Culver Rd.
Rochester, N.Y.
14622



W.: Nelson Bertch,
Master
671-4792

3rd Tues.
Sept. - Apr.
&
1st Tues.
May, Jun., Oct.
7:30 P.M.

Secretary
W.: John H. Foster 467-1677

By SW David N. Foster

A special evening

Our meeting for December will be on the 21st and feature our Holiday Party. Prior to Lodge, starting at 6:30 p.m., we will have a time of socializing with snacks, etc., until the meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. We will have a short business meeting to read the Annual Reports. After the meeting, we will have a catered dinner starting at approximately 8:00 p.m. This is a nice night and you and your lady should plan to attend. The cost is only \$5.00 per person and reservations should be called in to me at 244-0194 by December 15th.

Howard Potts Award

If you haven't already heard, your Lodge was the only Lodge in the Monroe District to win the Howard Potts Award at this year's Grand Lecturer's Convention. Your officers are proud, and hope you are also, that Germania Lodge will be recognized one more time at the 2000 Grand Lodge Communication.

Brotherhood Fund

As Brotherhood Fund Chairman, I am hoping that everyone will make a contribution this year, even if it is only \$1.00. Let's shoot for 100% participation. The Lodge thanks Brother Joe Minas for his contribution. Let's make this Drive a huge success and go into our merger with style! Let's all help support the Brotherhood Fund and make the list of contributors grow!

We are near

I hope this finds you all healthy and enjoying yourselves. If you, or if you hear of one of our Brothers, are under the weather or otherwise need our help or charity, please make sure to call one of the officers.

Last, but not least, Happy Birthday to all our Brothers with December birthdays. See you in Lodge. □

Craftsman/ Robertson Lodge No. 969

W.: Charles Strickland, Master
(h) 872-1397
(b) 235-2920



1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
7:30 P.M.

W.: Thomas W. Kendig
Secretary 265-2624
875 Main Street East
Rochester, N.Y. 14605

By Robert Ogden

From the Master

November 16th was a busy evening as we conferred the 2nd Degree on 4 Brothers plus one from Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge No. 1088.

Special Olympics

Thirteen representatives from Craftsman/Robertson Lodge participated in the Bowling Program at Olympic Bowl on October 23rd. We sure appreciate your efforts, Brother Ken Schumacher, in arranging for this event. Thank you.

Condolences

It is with sadness to inform you of the deaths of Brothers Earl Buckley and Alfred Bowers. Memorial Services were held for both Brothers and we extend our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

Brotherhood Fund

The Masonic Brotherhood Fund got off to a good start on October 7th with 37 donors totalling \$1200.00, representing approximately 21% of our membership. Thanks, Brothers. You will be advised monthly of further results.

Greetings, Brother Blew

We welcome into Lodge Gilbert L. Blew, and affiliate from a Lodge in New Jersey. It's nice to have you with us, Brother Gil and a cheery "hello" to your wife, Marilyn.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery

W.: Chuck Chatfield and his wife, Louise, recently visited their daughter in North Carolina and on their way home had a bad auto accident in South Carolina, and were admitted to the hospital. Brother Chuck was okay, but Louise was held over for four days. They returned home in a rented car and are trying to get their lives back together. Good luck to you both.

Foodlink

W.: Volney Frankel reports more than 30 Brothers, wives and family members met at Foodlink on October 26th to collect, sort and distribute food and related products to over 550 food cupboards. It was old clothes time and really fun; several people expressed the desire to repeat the job.

Dinner with Warren Doerrer

Brother Warren has again graciously condescended to arrange a Christmas Music Program with Jane Knoeck at the hammered dulcimer and Annie Simpson at the guitar. They have performed at many festivals, made a record album and worked with Mitzi Collins in several music presentations. The dinner is on December 7th, with ladies invited. Your efforts are much appreciated, Warren. Thanks.

Birthdays

To the Brothers with birthdays in December, greetings: Harry Aldridge, John Auer, Paul

Case, Tom Colombo, Jack Grover, Dick Gundry, Dick Hart, Carlos Mederas, John Merrick, Earl Pearce, John Smith, and George Wyatt.

Reminder

December 7th is a dinner meeting, ladies invited.
December 12th-Children's Christmas Party at the Mosque.
December 14th is Fellowcraft meeting.
December 21st we will confer the 3rd Degree. □

Children's Christmas Party
Sunday, December 12, 1999
Damascus Temple Mosque
979 Bay Road, Webster
1:00 p.m.
Great entertainment!
Refreshments will be provided.
Bring a wrapped \$1.00 gift for your child with their name on it for Santa to present.

Wakan/Hubbard Lodge No. 154



W.: Raymond DiJames, Master
227-0494

2nd & 4th
Mondays
7:30 P.M.

W.: Theodore J. Snyder, Secretary
467-0165
1822 Penfield Rd.
Penfield, N.Y. 14526

Degrees

We had a great 2nd Degree in October with W.: Don Bell in the East. My compliments to W.: Don and the Officers who took part.

Well Brethren, it's hard to believe, but the end of the year is fast approaching. The month of November saw us raise a new Brother to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. I welcome Brother Clive Morgan Rees to the Fraternity. May he have many, many years of enjoyment.

Successful evening

Our Table Lodge meeting seemed to have gone over quite well, based on the comments received. It was a fun evening. The dinner was excellent; the wine was good. A big thank you to the members of Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge, who put the dinner on, served the wine and assisted in making the evening a successful one.

Sickness

Senior Warden, Gordon Ball, is home recuperating from eye surgery, and hopefully, will be back with us real soon.

Future events

December 13th is the Summoned Annual Meeting.

The Children's Christmas Party will be December 18th.

Brethren, please honor us with your attendance for the Annual Meeting when all budgets are introduced. Your questions, comments, and concerns are most welcome at this time. Remember, this is your Lodge, and you do have a say in what goes on, and how monies are being distributed.

Brother Michael DiCataldo and Senior Warden, Gordon Ball, are in charge of the Children's Christmas Party this year. Please bring a gift that Santa can present to each child attending with you. There will also be refreshments served.

I wish you and your families all of the joys of the holiday season. □

NORTHFIELD

Lodge No. 426
Instituted March 1857



1st & 3rd
Thursdays
7:30 P.M.

W.: James P. Weick
Master
924-1666

W.: Donald C. Smith
Secretary 248-5170
17 Church Street
Pittsford, N.Y.
14534

What a Fall we've had of endless weekends of sunshine and color. I hope everyone has had the opportunity to be out and about to enjoy this splendor. By the time you read this, the lawn mowers will have been tucked in for their Winter's sleep, leaves raked for the final time and snow shovels ready for action (very little, I hope). But, before you think about hibernating, check out the Lodge functions coming up.

Don't miss these...

The December 2nd meeting will feature an informative evening about Brother George Washington to commemorate the 200th anniversary of his death. The night will include an analysis of the letter that the Lodge owns that he wrote back in 1782. Copies of the letter will be distributed to those attending the meeting. Plan to attend the Chicken Dinner preceding the meeting that Linda Zahn will be preparing. The Calling Committee will contact you for your important, required reservation.

December 12th will be the Lodge's holiday event at Genesee Country Museum. The Northfield News will be out with full details for this wonderful event. For now, save this Sunday date! As we go into the next century let's see how the holidays were celebrated in the last one. Family and friends are invited.

December 16th will be our final meeting for the year, decade, century and millennium. Wow! No suits and ties or tuxes for this meeting. Everyone is invited to wear their favorite flannel shirt for one of the most comfortable meetings of the year. Straw hats - optional.

Miscellaneous happenings

A tip of the top hat is extended to Brother Ed Brereton who replaced the windowpanes that got too clean during last September's Fall cleaning.

Congratulations are in order for Brother Andy Place who was recognized at the Scottish Rite Awards Night on October 21st. He was Northfield's Symbolic Lodge Award recipient. Over a dozen members of our Lodge attended the presentation downtown where they also enjoyed the Address by the Grand Master and a great reception.

Northfield also filled a table at the Interfaith Service and Breakfast on October 17th. Everyone had a memorable morning interacting in the serious moments while enjoying the laughter that such an event has to offer. Seeing Don Alhart receive the Distinguished Community Service Award will certainly be the lasting memory for the attendees.

Keep your eyes open for the next issue of the Northfield News. There will be time sensitive information enclosed that you will need to know about. It will also

include your dues notice. We are balancing the year end books and hope to maintain last year's dues rate. We'll know in the next few days. Please help out by remitting promptly. Taxes come due in January on our building.

Before parting

There are only four meetings left to bring in petitions for the Spring class. With no candidates for the Fall class, everything rides on this class for our growth. Make certain all those surrounding you every day have the knowledge that the Fraternity can be available to them. Let's not keep this to ourselves. Just think, if others had before us, we would have never met.

May all your family gatherings be warm and memorable in this and all holiday seasons. □

O-At-Ka Lodge No. 759

W.: Kevin C. Fisher, Master
359-2289



2nd & 4th
Wed.
7:30 P.M.

R.:W.: Lawrence W. Dunn
Secretary 594-8033
5 Browns Ave.
Scottsville, N.Y. 14546

By W.: Donald Tubman

Wanted: 80 good men!

Eight men are what it will take to have an outstanding Degree and not just a great Degree. This is the last Degree in this century at Oatka Lodge. Think of the possibilities. Ask yourself if you can remember having all of the members in Lodge at one time? If you are free and able, come and help us put on what could be the most exciting Degree at Oatka ever in this century! Eighty is the number of us left at Oatka Lodge excluding the out of staters. What a truly wonderful concept. The Degree is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on December 8th, with Brother Peter Fallone in the East. He loves large Lodge attendance. Our three Brothers will appreciate your efforts and you owe the experience to yourself.

While looking at our future, W.: Kevin Fisher and all of his officers wish you a safe and happy holiday season. The Lodge will be dark on December 22nd, so the Brothers can prepare for the holiday. Our first meeting of the new millennium will be January 12th, with R.:W.: Lawrence Dunn in the East. He has a presentation planned on the making of the flintlock rifle. This was interesting when he presented the program several years ago.

On January 26th the 3rd Degree will be conferred on our new Brothers with W.: Laurence Blazey in the East. The 3rd would be a great opportunity for the eighty members of Oatka to gather again. We are planning a dinner; details will follow.

Official Visit a success

The Official Visit of R.:W.: Donald Darrohn, DDGM, on October 13th was wonderful. Don presented Peter Fallone with a Certificate for his participation in Lodge Officer training, and delivered the Grand Master's Message in a gentle, but persuasive, manner.

He stressed that we must strive to bring men of quality into the Craft and more importantly, that we all work together to maintain high quality in the Craft by maintaining high standards and programs of substance. Later we took R.:W.: Don to our Fellowcraft Room for sandwiches and enjoyed several great desserts prepared by Mrs. Jerry Fimbel, of the Oatka Eastern Star.

On October 27th Brother Charles Crevison conferred the

Continued on page 8

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Continued from page 7

1st Degree on three candidates. Chuck did a superior job in the East and should have no trouble as he advances in his Masonic career. We dined on pizza and wings following the Degree. (Good time to interject that we believe the BATS have gone to the gypsum caves along the Oatka Creek from the Lodge for the Winter).

Back in the East (again?)

On November 10th Grant Romer was scheduled to speak on Freemasonry to the Lodge, Star and Wheatland Historical Society. More will follow in the next Masonic Times.

DeWitt Clinton Award

The DeWitt Clinton Award is being presented to a worthy recipient in Gates. Details to follow.

Benchmark plans not finalized

W.. Kevin Fisher has been busy trying to schedule meetings to plan for Oatka's future, as well as the Star's. Kevin has discussed several different plans with members of the Benchmark Task Force. He wants to meet with the Star as they struggle with their future. Kevin will be preparing a report on our future plans to be presented at our December Lodge meeting.

Symbolic Lodge Award

I was both pleased and humbled to be this year's Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Award recipient on October 21st. I enjoyed being honored in this way. I know that there were certainly more deserving members.



Please note my pleasing mug with M..W.. Stewart C. McCloud, our Grand Master, following my receiving the Award.

Think about being present for the 2nd Degree. We are because you were...we will be because you are there. Please make a point of attending Lodge and bring a friend.

Churchville Lodge No. 667
20 South Main St.
Churchville, N.Y. 14428
W.. George Pflieger, Master
426-0603
2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.
W.. George R. Burke, Secretary 293-1629

Welcome, Brothers

It looks like another exciting year. We are just into it by a couple of months and already we have been busy.

Official Visit

Our first meeting was our Official Visit by R..W.. Donald

Darrohn, DDGM and R..W.. Ruel Lovett, GSB. They gave us a wonderful message and tips on getting more members. We enjoyed a great meal prepared by our Treasurer, Daryl Bentley.

Sickness and distress

We are saddened by the death of E. Harvey Rose.

A special get well wish is extended to R..W.. Ruel Lovett on his recent surgery. We are all praying for you, Buzz.

Degree

We have 4 candidates for the 1st Degree with SW, John Hennessy, in the East and V..W.. Robert Strang doing the Historical Lecture. A Turkey Dinner will be prepared for the occasion.

The 2nd Degree with JW, Lawrence Bright in the East, has been changed to January 12, 2000.

Holiday greetings

With Christmas getting closer we extend a special holiday greeting to our snowbirds and to all our membership as we go into the next millennium.

We will be having Chili and Bread on December 8th, which is our Annual Meeting. This will be our last meeting before Christmas, so we hope to see everyone at Lodge.

Valley/Simes Lodge No. 109
W.. Richard J.E. Ferris, Master
(h) 426-4330 (w) 889-5046
2nd Tuesday 7:30 P.M.
R..W.. Herbert Spencer, Sec. 271-8577
875 Main Street East Rochester, N.Y. 14605-2789

Greetings from the East

This letter is to let you know what is going on in your Lodge.

We currently have two new Brothers. My thanks go out to the members of the Lodge that helped raise them when work prevented me from being there on time. As of this letter, we will be conferring the 2nd Degree at Flower City Lodge on the 29th of November, only one of our candidates will be there, so please stay in touch so that we show a good turnout for the other Brother's Degree.

To the Brothers and their ladies who enjoyed the program that was put on by Bruce Fernandez, Bruce has informed me that he has contracted to redo the Roseland Carousel that is currently in Syracuse. This project will involve the restoration of 42 horses and is expected to take Bruce 2 years. If anyone is interested in any information of this project, please contact me and I will pass the phone number on to you.

My Brothers would still like to see more of you at Lodge. If transportation is a problem, we can help.

Dues

As of this letter, dues notices have been sent. If there is a problem, call me. I have several numbers that I can be reached at.

History

If any of the Brothers can help with our Lodge History and would be willing to speak, call me. I am sure many of us need to

be enlightened about this history of the several Lodges that now are called Valley/Simes.

Help needed

I need ideas. We will soon be conferring a 3rd Degree and I am asking the Brothers of this Lodge to step forward and help raise these two new Brothers.

Anyone wishing to order Poinsettias or wishing to help deliver them to our widows during the coming holiday season, please contact Mat Gingold.

Thanks

My thanks to the following Brothers for returning the Traveling Gavel to our Lodge: Mat Gingold, Richard Snyder, Mike McBride, Vern Saunders, Howard Belt, George Bundoc, and Gary Burke. These Brothers are helping to keep our Lodge viable.

Camp DeMolay

On May 6th we will be spending a day at Camp DeMolay, helping to open and cleanup the Camp. This, I hope, is to be a start of various projects our Lodge will be involved with to get our name in the public eye. We also hope to use some of our resources to put a new sign up at the Camp. Any Brother with any ideas, please contact me or any of our officers.

Reminder

Unless notified, the ladies are invited to all our meetings. I am hoping for a good turnout at our December meeting. The only way we can stay alive is to bring new blood to Lodge.

Sickness

I received a phone call about one of our Brothers, August "Tony" D'Aurizio. He is doing well from a triple by-pass, but is having a problem with his diabetes. Remember him in your prayers.

Reminder

The Fellowcraft holiday party at Stahl's home is December 21st.

Final note

To the Brothers who will be at Lodge-see you there. To everyone else, wish you could be there.

Happy holidays from the Ferris household and the Brothers of Valley/Simes Lodge.

WEBSTER Lodge No. 538
30 Orchard St.
Webster, N.Y. 14580
W.. Bernard Russell, Master
872-1353
1st & 3rd Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
W.. Paul Sobtziak, Sec. 671-8980

My thanks to Brother Brad Lewis for setting up a successful Brother Bring-a-Friend Night during our first meeting in November. The evening started off with a great dinner, thanks to Joy Woodley and John Merz, and moved on to the Bring-a-Friend Program. The three speakers: William Edwards, Bruce Chilton and John Merz orated eloquently on the topics of Masonic History, Community Service and the Initiation Process, respectively. Due to these efforts, Webster Lodge will be starting Degree work January 20, 2000, with John Merz seated in the East.

Changes

This changes the trestleboard. The first meeting in December will be a regular business meeting and the second one will be a program lecture with a guest speaker. The Holiday Visitation and Breakfast is still planned for December 24th. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. The delivery of poinsettias to our shut-in Brothers will follow breakfast.

Super dinner!

The Spaghetti Dinner on November 5th was a great success. The Lodge was packed and the dinner was delicious! My hat is off to Brother Doug Koenig and the Brothers and Sisters who helped serve a super dinner to an overflow crowd. If the demand for these dinners keeps up we will need more help from any Brothers who can spare some time to help in the kitchen or serve in the dining room. Please contact Doug Koenig if you can to help.

The next Spaghetti Dinner is December 3rd. Bring your friends and an appetite.

Make a contribution

The Brotherhood Fund has started again and I am hoping that everyone will make a contribution. Choose your favorite charity and send your donation as soon as possible.

The Officers and I are here because of you. Please make it a point to attend the meetings. If there is any Brother who needs help getting to Lodge, please let me know by calling and I will help make the arrangements at 872-1353. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

East Rochester's Ancient Craft Lodge No. 943
W.. Sean P. King, Master 224-8067
2nd & 4th Mondays 7:30 P.M.
www.frontiernet.net/~dmz
R.. W.. Richard C. Friedman
Sec. (h) 377-6175 (w) 271-2775
152 Commercial St. West East Rochester, N.Y. 14445

The Holidays are upon us and my best wishes go to you and yours. November began with Table Lodge on the 8th and Brother Zegas and crew really rose to the occasion. The steaks were just right, the chicken was juicy, and the company was outstanding. My thanks to R..W.. Rich Friedman for stepping in at a moment's notice.

Salvation Army

On December 4th we will be 'ringing bells' for the Salvation Army. If any of you are interested, please contact Rich Friedman or me for further information.

DeWitt Clinton Award

On the 18th of December we will be presenting the DeWitt Clinton Award to the East Rochester Fire Department. These men and women put their lives on the line on a regular basis for everyone. Let's show them the support they deserve.

Thanks for the support

I thank all the Brothers from the bottom of my heart for their support to the family of W.. Richard Keehn. He was a very active member of our Lodge and Masonry on the whole. He always had a kind word of encouragement for you and quietly went about his business in the Lodge.

He was a humble person. Richard enriched my life, as well as many others. I will miss his calming presence in the Lodge room. The support shown to his family was testimony to the type of man W.. Richard Keehn was. Again, thank you.

Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge No. 1088
W.. G. Thomas Grape, Master (h) 621-5282
1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:30 P.M.
C. William Flemming, Secretary 723-0083
4550 Lake Avenue Rochester, New York 14612

Brothers

Our Teddy Bear Dinner was a huge success with 87 bears donated and over 63 diners, including our Rochester Police Department guests. Officers Ron Chabot and Eric Smith each spoke on crime prevention by denying opportunity to would be perpetrators by guarding purses, using our auto trunks, and parking in lighted areas during the upcoming holidays. A special thank you to our Sisters in Charlotte and Germania Chapters, OES, for their extra animal contributions and their participation in this event. Also a special thank you to Pat Privitera for the extra big bears that resulted in a donation to the Shelter for Battered Women. Thanks also to Bill King, Andy Alvarez, Jim De Lorenzo, and Cliff Short for preparing and serving a great meal.



Officers Ron Chabot and Eric Smith received "Teddy Bears" used to comfort children involved in traumatic situations.

Honors

The Grand Lecturer's Convention saw CCL bringing home the Banners for Attendance there and at the School of Ritual. Thanks to all the members who turned out throughout the year to make those Awards possible. The fellowship that comes from excellence in Ritual is a hallmark of our Lodge.

Junior Warden, Bill King, was honored at the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards Night, where the Grand Master, M..W.. Stewart C. McCloud, was the guest speaker. His message on Brotherhood was inspiring and those who missed it missed a truly meaningful occasion.

R..W.. Don Darrohn delivered the Grand Master's Message at his Official Visit on November 16th.

Traveling Gavel

We did go to Valley/Simes Lodge No. 109 and brought home the Traveling Gavel, but Valley/

Simes prized it so much they came and got it back on November 2nd. Churchville also entered the fray, but their efforts came up short. It was delightful to see the extra faces in our Lodge room and the smiles this Trophy elicits. I hope my Brothers in CCL keep their traveling kits packed to get it again from the current or future holders.

Share the spirit!

Our Lodge Christmas Party will be Sunday, December 5th, from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., with snacks and punch for the attendees, and Shrine Clowns with balloons and Santa with gifts for the children. We hope the weather will allow our membership to come out and share the spirit of the holidays with their Brothers and their families.

Communications

Our Budget was presented and approved on November 2nd. You will be receiving a copy with your dues notice in the mail shortly. A copy of our trestleboard will also

be included. I have tried to communicate through this paper and through the Telephone Committee, which is composed of all Officers and Trustees to phone the 186 Rochester area members, but have recently become aware that some of you feel uncommunicated with because you have not received your phone calls. We still meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. I try and have copies of the updated trestleboard on the sign-in podium for every meeting. The best way for local Brothers to know what is happening in Lodge is to attend!

3rd Degree

We will be opening early (6:00 p.m.) with dinner at 6:30 p.m. for our 3rd Degree on December 7th. The Charlotte Past Masters Degree Team will confer this Degree with Dave Jones (Hiram, King of Tyre) in the East for part one and Joe Privitera (Solomon, King of Jerusalem) in the East for part two. Come on out and make the walls stronger! □

Dues are due

A reminder from the East to the 18 members who have not yet paid 1999 dues and the 7 members in arrears for 1998 to please make your remittance promptly to the Secretary.

Remember them

Please remember Brothers Harvey Brink, Ron LaDue and W.: Len Perlmutter in your devotions. They are on the mend, but need our prayers.

Looking ahead

On November 29th the Interlodge Euchre Tournament will be at Etolian Lodge.

The December 13th communication will include a program about the "Purple of the Craft". Save December 20th for the Annual Christmas Party with Etolian Chapter.

On January 20th we will be hosting a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, serving dinner, the program and dessert. Please forward the names of potential Masons to me as soon as possible so that I may personally invite them.

Attendance has been light at our meetings. Please make every attempt to come out and bring along another Brother. □

at 533-9289 if you would be able to help organize this event or be able to participate and join us for the evening. Of course, this activity would also include the ladies. The response that we get will determine whether this party will take place.

Dues

It is time to submit your dues for the year 2000. Reminders will soon be sent out to all of our members. Some have not yet sent in their dues for 1999. Be sure you are up to date.

Education

Wardens and Deacons should be considering taking the Road to the East Program. This is in 3 sessions, beginning Saturday, December 4th at the Downtown Temple. R.: W.: Ruel Lovett can give you further information on this program. Give him a call at 494-2546.

Dinner meeting

Mark your calendars now for the regular meeting on December 13th at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be preceded by a dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please give me a call at 533-1188 if you are able to come, so we can plan on how many to expect. If I am not at home, just leave a message on my voice mail. □

Due to some unforeseen holiday conflicts, our 3rd Degree will have to be put off until February 1st. In the meantime, we will be trying to fit the 1st and 2nd Degrees into our schedule. I've been informed of a new petition, so let's try to back pedal and brush up on our 1st Degree work again.

Past Masters Night

There was a very good turnout for our Annual Past Masters Night on November 2nd. We had a few old/new faces come out for the evening and maybe we can spark some interest and keep these Brothers coming back for years to come.

Sickness and distress

Brother Denny Wright has recently had bypass surgery on his kidney. He is resting comfortably at home after a successful operation.

Birthdays

The following Brothers are celebrating birthdays in December: Ross Wayne, Howard Garbutt, Tom Hauss, Jerry Jones, Basil VanCamp, Leland Hendershot, Dave Upham, and Scott Keir. Happy birthday, Brothers.

Spaghetti Dinners

Our Spaghetti Dinners continue to be a huge success, but we could still use more help. If your cabletow permits, please lend a hand or even enjoy a plate of Spaghetti. Our next dinner will be on December 15th. □

ETOLIAN

Lodge No. 479

133 South Union St.
Spencerport, N.Y. 14559



W.: Michael Schwartz
Master
352-4016

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

R.: W.: F. Jay McCullough
Secretary
352-1061

Postponement

Our newly initiated Brother has already felt the tug of his cabletow and has opted to receive the 2nd Degree in the Spring Class.

On October 25th, instead of conferring the 2nd Degree, the Brothers of Etolian Lodge exemplified the Degree in a School of Ritual setting with SW John Dyer in the East. Kudos to all who studied, practiced, performed, critiqued and learned, and especially to R.: W.: Gene Brendel who served as both exemplar and teacher.

Theater night

Etolian's second Annual Night at the Theater was held on October 27th at the Spencerport School Auditorium. Several Brothers and their ladies enjoyed the production of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown". After an exceptional performance, the

cast, crew and guests were treated to cake and cider as a courtesy of Etolian Lodge. I am proud that Etolian Lodge recognizes and rewards the youth of the Spencerport Schools who have chosen to spend their "spare" time learning and working together over many months to put on such a fine performance.

Official Visit

Our November 8th Official Visit meeting, was the first night this year where all four of Etolian Lodge's Grand Officers were present. After R.: W.: James Powell, Grand Representative to Quebec, and R.: W.: Ed Gillott, Grand Representative to Honduras, assumed their Chairs in the East. I had the honor of welcoming home DDGM, R.: W.: Don Darrohn, and Grand Sword Bearer, R.: W.: Ruel Lovett.

R.: W.: Don delivered the Grand Master's Message about the importance and necessity of being a "quality" Mason in everything we do. R.: W.: Ruel, obviously on the mend from his surgery, delivered an impassioned, inspiring message about the importance of being Masons, Etolian members, and the need for us to take pride in all that we do.

R.: W.: Joe Privitera from Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge spoke of our need to live up to our obligation to help and include our widows in Lodge functions.



Union Star

Lodge No. 320

3 N. Main St.
Honeoye Falls, NY

W.: John H. Williams
Master
533-1188

2nd Mon.
7:30 P.M.



W.: Joseph Cottleter, Sec.
(h) 624-1365 (w) 624-1881
64 Ontario St., Honeoye Falls,
14472-1132

Congratulations, Gary

The recipient of the Scottish Rite Symbolic Award, presented at the Downtown Temple, was Brother Gary Sanford. The Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, M.: W.: Stewart C. McCloud, presented the Awards. Brother Gary was out of town that particular evening, so the Award was received by his father, R.: W.: Robert Sanford, who presented the Award to Gary at our November meeting.

Fellowcraft Club

Our Fellowcraft Club, under the guidance of Brother Gary Sanford, will be meeting on December 20th at 7:00 p.m. The meeting is usually held on the 4th Monday of the month, but it has been changed so that it would not conflict with the holidays. Give Brother Gary a call at 425-4240 and let him know that you are interested in coming to the Fellowcraft Club meetings and that you might be able to help with some of our projects for improving the Lodge.

Please donate

The Brotherhood Fund Committee is well under way. The Chairman, Brother Jim Nersinger, will soon be contacting all of our members. We hope to increase the number of participants and that most of you will return your envelopes with a generous donation to the Brotherhood Fund.

Party time?

It has been suggested that we have a New Year's Eve Party to welcome in the year 2000. Give Brother Jerry Wiedemann a call

CLIO

LODGE No. 779



W.: Jeffery B. Ross,
Master
392-6436

1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
7:30 P.M.

Charles A. Tucker, DSA
Secretary 392-2006
297 East Ave.

Hilton, N.Y. 14468

http://www.frontiernet.net/
-dupham

Degree

Our 2nd Degree was held on November 16th and our Senior Warden, Gordie Smith, did an outstanding job in the East. We had some different faces playing new roles, and we also had the Master of Etolian Lodge, W.: Michael Schwartz, participating. Thanks to all who came to lend a hand to confer another excellent Degree.

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Towpath

Lodge
No. 163



W. Phillip R.
Hurwitz
Master
581-1831



1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
7:30 P.M.

R. W. Terry Wilton, Secretary
(h) 346-4380 (w) 458-1880
152 Commercial St. West
E. Rochester, NY 14445

Greetings, Brothers

Our October 19th meeting was very productive. While merger remains a strong possibility, the sense of the Craft was to make an effort to keep Towpath Lodge going. The recent initiation of 3 new Brothers gives all of us a stake not only in their success, but in the success of our Lodge, too.

It was agreed that our Lodge as a whole will invest the time necessary to shepherd these newly initiated Brothers. Our JW, W. Dan Emerson, will meet with the candidates on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday nights at the Lodge at 7:30 p.m. These shepherding sessions will continue until these new Brothers are raised. Each session should last from 45 minutes to an hour. I urge all Brothers who can make the time available, to come to Lodge on these nights. We all have a stake in helping these new Brothers become proficient in the Ritual.

Note

Towpath will not be meeting at our own Lodge on December 7th. We will be traveling to Craftsman/Robertson Lodge No. 969 at the Downtown Temple. A dinner, cooked by Hildegard DiJames and Joy Woodley, will be served at 6:30 p.m. in the 3rd floor dining room. The cost is \$7.00 per person. Phone in your reservations to W. Bill Hook at 671-6452 no later than November 30th. W. Charles Strickland, Master of Craftsman/Robertson, advises me that there will be a brief business meeting at 7:30 p.m., with musical entertainment to follow. Our spouses/partners are invited to attend.

December meetings

We will have an Officers Meeting on December 14th at 7:30 p.m. The agenda is to finalize our budget for presentation to the entire Lodge, and to work on the line.

Our Annual Communication will occur on December 21st. A dinner will precede the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Please call in your reservations to W. Dan Emerson at 334-7730. Our Annual Communications serves to bring the Craft up to date on our finances. This will be our last meeting evening. If you need a ride, call me at 581-1831.

Toys for Tots

Towpath Lodge is participating in the Toys for Tots Program. I'm asking all Brothers of our Lodge to donate a new boxed toy for the upcoming holiday season. Our Steward, Brother Harold Murphy, is in charge. His telephone number is 889-2689. He needs your donations by December 12th. Toys will be given to Hillside Children's Home for distribution.

Towpath will not meet at Lodge on January 4, 2000. In-

stead we will be meeting at the Monroe Country Club for our Appreciation Night. We will meet at 6:30 p.m. for dinner, each of us to order from the menu.

See you all in Lodge. Take care. □

Flower City Lodge No. 910



W. Jerry
Spero,
Master
334-7616

2nd
Thursday
7:30 P.M.

R. W. Phillip Averbach,
Secretary 458-1817
875 Main St. E.
Rochester, N.Y. 14605

Hard questions

This is the time of year when I devote part of my article to the idea that a Lodge is made up of people and is only as strong and vital as the members make it. One thing is certain, if we don't bring in friends to become members, it will not matter what we try to do as a Lodge. During the months of December and January we will be holding Brother Bring-a-Friend events. If we don't get enough new candidates I will be asking some very hard question of the members.

We had an evening out on Thursday, November 4th, at the Olive Garden and had over twenty people seated at one table. It would be great if we had that many of our members show up at a meeting.

Dates to remember

Monday evening, November 29th, is the date for the 2nd Degree in Ionic Hall. We originally planned to have a "box lunch" and this has been changed to a Swiss Steak or Chicken Dinner at 6:30 p.m., with the Degree starting at 7:30 p.m. May I remind you to contact R. W. Phillip Averbach or myself for reservations. Valley/Simes Lodge No. 109 has requested that we share the evening with their candidate and in return they will fill the additional spots we had unfilled. W. Doug Higgins is working with Valley/Simes Lodge.

The following evening, Tuesday, November 30th, is the next School of Ritual to be held at 7:30 p.m. at Webster Masonic Temple. The program of the evening will be the first section of the 1st Degree.

Bring-a-Friend dates

Dates to bring friends-December 12th, the Latka Party, will also be a Brother Bring-a-Friend event. The Latka (potato pancake) Party is an annual event and has always been a fun party to be at. Anyone of any age is welcome to come and join the members of Flower City Lodge. The Latka Hop starts at 4:00 p.m. with the food being served around 5:30 p.m., there will be a 20 minute presentation on Masonry before dinner. Come and join us. Contact Phil Averbach at 458-1817 or me at 334-7616 for reservations.

There will also be another Brother Bring-a-Friend Night on Friday, January 21st.

Flower City has agreed to present the first half of the 2nd Degree at the School of Ritual on January 19, 2000. □

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District Deputy Grand Master

Genesee/Wyoming
District



R. W. Raymond G.
Barber

H (716) 457-3079

Good show!

Congratulations to Hesperus Lodge on winning the Potts Award. There were 50 Masons at the Convention, and I thank you for attending. If you didn't make it, you lost out on a very good night.

West Star Lodge

I thought that I would give you a little history this month. If you like this type of thing, let me know and we will do more of it in the future.

West Star Lodge No. 205, F & AM, of the Town of Sheldon, was the first Lodge instituted West of the Genesee River. It began with a petition to Grand Lodge under the date of March 10, 1809. The Brethren had requested permission to constitute a Lodge in Sheldon. The meeting place is not definitely known, but evidence points to Sheldon Center, Genesee County, at that time. The first Master was to be William Vary; Senior Warden, John Ralph and Junior Warden, Philo Welton.

The request was duly approved by Genesee Lodge of Hartford (now Avon) and granted by Grand Master, M. W. DeWitt Clinton. The Lodge, however, would be short lived. A fire in 1818 destroyed the Lodge room and all tools, jewels, etc. With this fire and the excitement of the Morgan affair, their fate was sealed. Failing to meet their obligations, West Star lost its Charter in June of 1833.

Twenty-four years later the present West Star at Varysburg, the descendent, came into being. (From the files of the Wyoming County Historian's Office).

God bless you. □

Grand Steward Genesee/Wyoming



R. W. Dennis M.
Turton, Sr.
591-1179

Traveling man

By now all of the District Deputy Official Visits are over for this year. We both had a lot of fun

and enjoyed visiting with all the Brothers of the different Lodges in the District. On the whole, we found the District to be in good shape. While there is always room for improvement, we were happy with what we saw. Congratulations to everyone and thank you all for your fine efforts.

Convention

The Grand Lecturer's Convention held at Constellation Lodge was a huge success. Although there was only one Lodge (Hesperus) that qualified for the Potts Award, I think everyone had a good experience. The program was enlightening and delivered very well. I heard nothing but great reviews and comments about how much everyone liked our new Grand Lecturer and the way he handled the Convention. Congratulations to V. W. Robert Strang for a job well done!

Road to the East

By now, the Road to the East Program is into the second session. If anyone wants to get into the program it is not too late. The last session can be a make-up for the one you missed. The dates are December 10th, January 21st, and February 11th at Attica Lodge, 7:00 p.m. sharp.

Support

Please don't forget to support the other Lodges and the District by attending their various functions. Remember, it is up to us to keep Freemasonry alive in our District.

Holiday greetings

On behalf of my lady, Cathie, and myself, I wish each and every one of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year. We hope that you all have good luck in the new millennium. □

Eagle Valley Lodge No. 1161



W. William
Olsowsky
Master
567-8384
2nd & 4th
Thursdays
8:00 p.m.

R. W. Sheldon Moden
Secretary 322-7343
Liberty St.
Bliss, NY 14024

By W. Ed Law, Senior Warden

Official Visit

On October 28th, our District Deputy Grand Master, R. W. Raymond G. Barber, made his Official Visit to Eagle Valley Lodge. We were pleased to make welcome him and those who traveled with him.

Successful event

Saturday, October 30th, was the date of Eagle Valley Lodge's Annual Auction. It began as scheduled at 7:00 p.m. and was well attended. Special thanks to all who contributed to the success of the event.

Important day

November 7th was NYS Masonic Visitation Day at the Batavia Veteran's Hospital. Very special thanks to R. W. Sheldon J. Moden and all others who participated in the activities of that very important day.

Communicate

I have made it known that I may be contacted by telephone at 322-7221 by any Eagle Valley Brother or his family members for the purpose of receiving news material for publication in this column, or perhaps for a brief

visit. If I am not there, leave a message on my answering machine. Brothers, you are once again encouraged to "get in touch"!

Exciting month!

In the month of October I traveled to the Middle East where I visited numerous sites-many of particular significance to our Craft. Included were the Temple Mount and Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem, Egyptian pyramids, sphinx, Greek Parthenon and Acropolis, Venice, Rome and Pompeii. To tell more would take too much of my column space and your reading time.

Happy holidays! □

Batavia Lodge No. 475 F. & A.M.

200 E. Main Street,
Batavia, NY 14020



2nd & 4th
Tuesdays

W. J. Michael
Willwerth
Master
344-8443

mikewill@eznet.net

R. W. Robert F. Dagen
Sec. (716) 548-7148
rdagen@eznet.net

We trust that each of you had a beautiful Thanksgiving Day, a time for gathering together to share in the bounty of our daily living, a time most commonly known for the gathering of family and friends. Most importantly, it is for giving thanks to our Maker for providing sufficiently for all our needs.

Degrees

We welcome with great enthusiasm our most recently initiated Brother. Our 2nd Degree was conferred on November 23rd, and the conferral of the Master Mason Degree is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14th. We will be conferring the first section of the 3rd Degree at 6:00 p.m., with a 'call from labor to refreshment' at its completion for the purpose of a light dinner, after which we will be conferring the second section and completing the required work in culminating the raising of our Brother. We would like to encourage all of you to come and make this one of the most indelible events in the life of this Brother. If you are planning to attend the dinner, please inform the Secretary of your intentions so that appropriate plans can be made. Visitors, of course, are invited and expected.

The Brethren of Batavia Lodge thank those of neighboring Lodges who attended the Entered Apprentice Degree and assisted in the conferral.

Molly

Plans are well underway to capture "Molly" (the traveling gavel). We have found out the exact location at present and will make our presence known at the appropriate time and bring 'her' home to our Lodge. For those of you who may not be familiar with this program, it takes five or more Brethren of a Lodge to attend the Lodge of residence of 'Molly' in order to remove her from her present location. Obviously, this program is designed in an effort to share in visiting neighboring Lodges-we encourage your individual efforts in this endeavor.

At the present time, we have no knowledge of anyone in particular to mention or remember who may be under the weather or have some other form of distress.

Once again, we ask that if you know of someone we should mention, please inform the Secretary so that we may pass along this information.

Think of others

We do encourage all of the Brethren to look in on or visit those of our Brethren who may not be able to get out as they were accustomed to doing in the past, especially with the advent of the upcoming holidays. This can be accomplished by a personal visit, greeting card or just picking up the phone and making that call. For information of those individuals who may fit this particular category, just contact the Secretary and he will assist in the necessary information.

Veterans

On Sunday, November 7th, the Brethren of Genesec/Wyoming District distributed gift bags of toilet articles to all the residents of the Batavia VA Medical Center and the New York State VA Nursing Home. While doing so, we had the opportunity to visit with someone special-not to single out just one resident as all are of equal importance-but there was Brother Richard Borowiak of Transportation Lodge No. 842, a resident of the NYS VA Home. He resides in the Oneida Cottage, room number 24. Brother Borowiak was very appreciative of the visit and I would recommend that if you have the opportunity to visit him, he will greet you with appreciation and enthusiasm. All he looks for is a friendly or Brotherly grip and a word of encouragement, nothing more. Overall, the opportunity to meet and greet all the veterans gives one the feeling of humility and pride.

Finally Brethren, we wish each and everyone of you and your families the very best of greetings for the holiday season. Remember the true meaning of the season!

May God bless and keep us all.

West Star Lodge No. 413 F. & A.M.



W.: Dennis G. Parmortor, Master 786-3544
1st & 3rd Mondays

R.: W.: Kenneth E. Kohlhaugen, Secretary 591-9598
2473 Route 20A
Varysburg, N.Y. 14167

As I take pen in hand, I notice I'm short of ink so I'll write quickly.

Thank you

Thanks to the Brothers who attended the Grand Lecturer's Convention in Perry.

Come on out

Our Widows Night will be held on December 6th. I hope to see the lines full, so come out and honor these ladies with us.

Party time

The Children's Christmas Party will be held on December 12th at 2:00 p.m.

Happy Holidays to all from everyone at West Star No. 413.

Attica Lodge No. 462 F. & A.M.



R.: W.: Jerald A. Brade, Master 344-1808
1st and 3rd Wednesday (Jan-Feb-Mar 3rd Wed Only)

W.: Norman Steinbaugh, Secretary 591-2073
39 Main Street
Attica, N. Y. 14011

Congratulations

Brother Bruce Anderson was honored by the Valley of Rochester Scottish Rite Masons at its Symbolic Lodge Awards Night, held on October 21st in Cathedral Hall, Downtown Rochester Masonic Temple. The night was in celebration of Blue Lodge Masonry and the Brethren who support it. Brother Bruce was escorted by R.: W.: Dennis Turton, Sr. Brother Bruce's family, including his father and mother from Florida, were present for the Ceremony. It was indeed a pleasure to see a very deserving Attica Brother honored.

Breakfast report

Our FIRST SUNDAY of EVERY MONTH PANCAKE BREAKFASTS are being well attended. The only thing lacking is a few more workers. The pancakes are excellent, but the regular crew is getting a little burned out. So, if you can spare an hour or two between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month, your help would be greatly appreciated.

New equipment

We have been talking about needing a microwave for the kitchen for quite a long time. But of course, being the great procrastinators, all we did is talk about it. Well, lo and behold, Brother Paul McCullough figured out how to acquire a brand new microwave oven. Now we are talking about our new microwave! Thank you, Paul!


We also have talked about another food warmer for pancake breakfasts. Ann Steinbaugh got tired of listening to all the talk

and we now have a new warmer, thanks to her pop can fund. Thanks, Ann! Oh, well, guess we will just have to talk about what to talk about next.

Happy Holidays

The Officers of Attica Lodge and I wish all members and their families a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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



R.: W.: Robert Nicoll, Master 768-7922
1st & 3rd Wed.

W.: Robert Forbes, Secretary 768-2657
8 West Main Street
LeRoy, N. Y. 14482

Brethren


This is the time of year to reflect how thankful I am. On July 25th I turned 72. I am in good health, a little arthritis, have a good sense of humor and there is always a good project ahead.

For Thanksgiving we had our Annual Dinner at the LeRoy Masonic Hall. This was the 12th year of providing dinners to those who are alone. It was a long day, lots of work, many volunteers and that great satisfaction of helping so many people.

I'm thankful for all of those special Masons I have met and become associated with. Paul Smith, Clayton Dimick, Bob Forbes; we are the basic four. In past years, Sid Howard, Ray Kennedy and Willis Baldwin, my instructors. Rev. Eligius Rainer, Larry Pierce and George Hartrick and all those Brothers who have gone on to the Grand East. Especially I'm thankful for all those Masons and Stars I have been privileged to know and work with.

The Christmas Holiday Season is upon us. Christmas is so commercialized that it is difficult to remember this is the birthday of Christ. I humbly wish all a special Christmas season, and a very Happy New Year, 2000.

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



W.: Thomas Scott, Master 493-2123
1st and 3rd Tuesdays (Jan/feb/Mar: 1st Tues only)

W.: Richard L. Smith, Secretary 493-5408
134 South Main St.
Castile, N.Y. 14427

Sickness and distress

It saddens me to announce the passing of Brother Glen "Red" Wallace on November 10th at his home. He was raised a Master Mason on June 16, 1964. One of the assets that Glen gave to our Lodge was raising his son, Bill "Beaver" Wallace, and I know Bill had influence on other Brothers becoming Masons in Oakland Lodge. Though Glen didn't get out much to meetings, he will be sorely missed in the community. My condolences to his family.

Just a reminder

For those who don't remember, we changed the time and Lodge now opens at 7:30 p.m.

Highway clean-up

I personally thank the Brothers who came out to help clean up our adopted highway. I drive through there twice a day and it does make a difference.

Brotherhood Fund

For those who wish to donate to the Brotherhood Fund, send your contribution to David Beardsley, 8 Prospect St., Castile, NY 14427.

Thank you

Thank you, my Brothers, for your overwhelming concern and compassion on the passing of my brother, Steve. Speaking for my family, words would never be enough. Times like this make me so very proud to be a member of Oakland Lodge No. 379.


Things will get better

I know the last few communications haven't been the best to read about, but I do believe with your support and input, things can only get better. I am looking forward to next month's communications. Thank you and God Bless.

Rochester Forest No. 133 Tall Cedars of Lebanon

4th Wednesday - 7:30 p.m.
1822 Penfield Road
Penfield, New York 14526

Thomas Hueston
Grand Tall Cedar
thueston@AOL.com



Donald C. Bell, Scribe

The Holidays are upon us once again. A time for coming together, spending time with our loved ones and friends. Gail and I wish you the best Holiday Season.

Sickness and distress

Brother Gordon Ball is home after surgery. We hope to see him out and about soon. We heard from Brother Lou Weekes from Arizona. He has had some more surgery, but is doing well.

Dues

Please take a minute to look at your dues card. If it doesn't say 1999, you are in arrears. If you owe two years, you will be dropped from the membership rolls. We do not want to lose you as a member!

Welcome back

It was good to see Brother Gene Brown at our last meeting. He has been missed and was glad to see everyone. Gene hopes to get out to our meetings and functions more often.

Cruising

Brother Angelo and Karen DiCataldo are off on a mid-November cruise, but plan to be back for our Holiday Party. Details for this December 17th event are still being finalized.

Last meeting

The last meeting of the year will be on December 22nd. I look forward to seeing you all there, as well as at the Party.



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Mount Vernon Lodge No. 263



W.: James Allan, Master 457-3079
2nd & 4th Mondays

W.: Rodney Dilker, Sec. 655-3107
Main Street
Java Village, NY

Hello, Brothers

November was a busy time at Mt. Vernon. We started out the month's activities with a guest speaker from the Masonic Home in Utica, NY. Many thanks to W.: Dan Clark, Director of Public Relations.

On November 14th we had our Pancake Breakfast. These will be held on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

On November 20th we held a Child ID Program at the Catholic Church in Strykersville. Thank you, Len Mason, for all your support and advice!

Finally, on November 22nd, we had our Official Visit by R.: W.: Ray Barber, DDGM. A Buffet Dinner was served before our regular Lodge meeting began.

I wish you and yours a joyous holiday season.

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Scottish Rite NEWS

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

Ronald D. Mertens Commander-in-Chief



The past month has seen a successful event for our Valley and an opportunity for some personal joy for myself as Commander-in-Chief. On October 21st it was the privilege of our Valley to host the 14th Annual Symbolic Lodge Awards Program and recognize 43 Brethren for their hard work, support and dedication to their respective Lodges. The presence of Ill. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, Active Member of Supreme Council and Deputy for New York, and our Grand Master, M. W. Stewart C. McCloud, 33°, highlighted the evening. Over 300 people were in attendance for this event, and special thanks are in order for Rev. Paul R. Gleason, Jr. for being the chairman and coordinator of this program.

On October 28th, Brother Vernon L. Goodrich, Valley Secretary, and I were privileged to present a 75 Year Certificate to Brother Roy M. Andriesen. Brother Roy recently celebrated his 102nd birthday and was pleased to tell us about the family gathering to celebrate that occasion. He also showed us several of his other certificates including his 1924 Class Membership Certificate that had a picture of each member of the Class.

On November 1st, it was my pleasure to present a 75 Year Certificate to Brother William (Bill) Lennox. Brother Bill told me that he had his 1924 Class Membership Certificate at home. These Brothers were in the same Class and it was a real thrill to present the 75 Year Certificates to these outstanding Masons and members of our Valley.

Our Fall Reunion has been completed and we now have some new members. The Reunion Banquet for this Class and to honor the Class Sponsor, Brother Frank Jansson, 32° MSA, will be held on January 8th at the Thruway Marriott. We hope you will save the date and join with us for this celebration.

We also hope you are planning to attend our Holiday Dinner and Program on Thursday, December 16th. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a Roast Beef Dinner prepared by Hilde DiJames and Joy Woodley. After dinner the Pittsford-Mendon Show Choir and Jazz Singers from Pittsford-Mendon High School will entertain us. This promises to be an evening of excellent entertainment and we hope you will be with us.

In closing, Barbara and I extend our prayers and best wishes for a very blessed and joyous Holiday Season. □

Recipients of the 14th Annual Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards, October 21, 1999

Arcade No. 419, David E. Hossenlopp; Attica No. 462, Bruce D. Anderson; Avon Springs No. 570, Lawrence Stevens; Charlotte/Corinthian No. 1088, William King; Churchville No. 667, Lawrence Bright; Clio No. 779, J. David Goodrich; Clyde No. 341, William C. Lotz,

Jr.; Craftsman/Robertson No. 969, William Hook; Eagle No. 619, Robert T. Uderitz; ERAC No. 943, Michael T. Johnson; Etolian No. 479, Leonard F. Perlmutter; Eunice No. 830, Allen Roggen; Fairport No. 476, G. Michael Morris; Fame No. 945, Michael J. Bell; Fayette No. 539, Dale E. Theetge; Flower City No. 910, Herbert R. Hirsch; Garoga No. 300, Walter J. Cummings; Geneva No. 965, Edwin D. Carris; Germania No. 722, Andrew McBride; Hesperus No. 837, John A. Specht; Livonia No. 778, Richard Wood; Marion No. 926, Gerald F. Chapman; Milnor No. 139, Nickolas J. Cretekos; Milo No. 108, James E. Castner; Mt. Morris No. 122, Lowell T. Dennison; Newark No. 83, Harry Lewis; Northfield No. 426, Andrew Place; Nunda Station No. 682, Tracy M. Lawson; Oatka No. 759, Donald A. Tubman; Phoenix No. 115, Gerald C. Putney; Seneca No. 113, Duane E. Chrysler; Seneca No. 797, Delbert Fix; Sodus No. 392, Michael T. McGarry; Towpath No. 163, Josue C. Bogmis II; Triluminar No. 543, Dennis Quackenbush; Union No. 45, John A. Gallant; Union Star No. 320, Gary R. Sanford; Valley/Simes No. 109, Howard J. Belt; Wakan/Hubbard No. 154, Donald C. Bell; Walworth No. 254, Richard Schlegel; Warsaw No. 549, Ted J. LaWall; Wayne No. 416, Richard H. Cone; and Webster No. 538, Walter Cone. □

Council of Princes of Jerusalem

By Eldon N. White, Sovereign Prince

In keeping with the precepts of our Masonic heritage, Scottish Rite Masons have long been known for their service to mankind.

In continuance of this precept, the Officers of the Rochester Council of Princes of Jerusalem are happy to announce that we will cook and serve a meal for the guests of the Ronald McDonald House.

The time and date will be announced. □

December Dinner and Program

The Pittsford Mendon Show Choir and Jazz Singers, under the direction of David M. Brown, will be in Cathedral Hall for our December 16th Program.

The Show Choir was National Champion in the Orlando Music Festival and the Jazz Singers placed second in the nation that year.

The Jazz Singers perform jazz standards like "Misty", "How High the Moon" and charts by the Manhattan Transfer and New York Voices.

The Show Choir performs a 15-30 minute annual show that, this year includes numbers from "A Chorus Line", "Les Miserable" and "Crazy for You". The group is choreographed by Linda Conley-McCall and costumed by Jeanne Lamb. These groups are of high demand throughout the year and enjoy performing for many organizations, clubs and gatherings. □

Hospitaler's Report

By Thomas Paglia, 32° MSA
Ruel Lovett - Up and about again after prostate surgery.
James Powell - Had surgery on his hand.
William Beil - Developed complications following eye surgery.
August D'Aurizio - Had a heart attack.
William Boyd - Had an angiogram and angioplasty following a heart attack.
Please remember these Brothers with cards and phone calls. □



Ill. Ronald Mertens, 33° - Commander in Chief, welcoming prospective candidates and sponsors at the Bring-A-Brother Night.



Charles Hancock, Co-Chairman, commenting on the History of the Scottish Rite.



Charles Strickland, Co-Chairman, spoke on membership.



Vernon Goodrich, Valley Secretary, and Ill. Ronald Mertens, 33° - Commander-in-Chief, presenting 75 Year Award and Certificate to Brother Roy M. Andriesen at his home.



Ill. Bruce Widger, 33°, Active and Past Deputy for the State of New York, Ill. Ronald Mertens, 33°, C-in-C, and Ill. Rodney Rittenhouse, 33°, Deputy's Representative, presenting Brother Wallace Wagner (left of center) with his 50 Year Service Certificate.



Ill. Ronald Mertens, 33°, C-in-C, presenting 75 Year Certificate to Brother Bill Lennox.

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come into our lives
and quickly go.

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and leave footprints
on our hearts
and
we are never
ever the same.

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David P. Crawford

Masonic Series No. V

This is the fifth in a series of articles from "Whither Are We Traveling?", originally printed in 1962, written by Brother Dwight R. Smith, Past Grand Master and Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana.

Subdivided we stand

Question 5: What can we expect when we have permitted Freemasonry to become subdivided into a score of organizations?

Back in my newspaper days I used to get a great deal of unwholesome amusement out of the power struggle between four church congregations in a town of less than four hundred inhabitants. All four churches were of the same denominational family and bore the same name. Each claimed to be the Real Thing. The membership of each was convinced that all others were heretics, and, as such, were condemned to eternal damnation.

What must a newly raised Master Mason who takes his Freemasonry seriously think of our subdivisions? Are they just as baffling to him as the four churches of the same name in a town of 400 were to me? Sometimes I wonder.

What must he think when he discovers that no less than 70 organizations have attached themselves to our ancient brotherhood and that the end is not in sight? What is the reaction of the man who came into Freemasonry of his own free will and accord when he finds that a subdivision can solicit him almost as soon as he leaves the altar in the Entered Apprentice Degree? And how does he feel when his beloved Lodge is referred to as the "Blue Lodge" with a rather patronizing air, and when the so-called "Blue Lodge Mason" is looked upon as something inferior, as if his neck and ears were not quite clean?

If we are interested in exploring possible causes for a decline in membership and for a slackening of interest and attendance, we had better look to our subdivisions. Of course, he who introduces the subject invites bitter criticism, but I stand firm on my conviction that in the United States we are spreading ourselves so thin that the basic unit—the Ancient Craft Lodge—is the loser. We may not end up by killing the goose that laid the golden egg, but certainly we are bleeding her white.

Yes, I am a member of many of the subdivisions. All of them have contributed much to my understanding and appreciation of Freemasonry, and I do not believe any of them can question my loyalty. *"It is not that I love Caesar less, but that I love Rome more."*

I am not the only one who is concerned, not by a great deal. Authorities by the dozen might be quoted. As long ago as 1924 the eminent English Masonic student, Sir Alfred Robins, was writing that "this sponge-like growth is spreading in American Masonry, and is threatening certain of the best interests of the Craft". One of the most forthright and statesmanlike pronouncements comes from Brother Noah J. Frey, 33°, Scottish Rite Deputy for Wisconsin, in an address before the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin in 1961. "Sometimes", he said, "I wish that Masonry were not as divisive as it is, because we are all Blue Lodge members, and I fear that we lose sight of that fact and divide ourselves into smaller groups and thereby increase our inefficiency."

Certainly Dr. Thomas S. Roy, Past Grand Master of Massachusetts, can not be accused of hostility to any Masonic Body, yet in an eloquent address before the Conference of Grand Secretaries in North America in February, 1962, he was forced to declare: "If we permit the proliferation of Masonry into rites, and the '57 varieties' of Bodies whose membership is dependent upon ours, let us face the fact that the attendance that goes to them belongs to us. There is a sense in which it can be said that their success is our failure. I am not passing judgement on them. I am a good member of some of them, and have done my share of work in them. But they all must face the fact that they must pour some of their strength back into the Symbolic Lodge. For any weakness we develop must sooner or later communicate itself to them."

It is not basic loyalty that is at stake; it is not unity of purpose that we lack. Nor can we gloss over our shortcomings with talk about money, and benevolences, and good works. *These are not the issues.* We have never faced up to the real issues, which are:

1. The weakening of the basic unit of Freemasonry by too great an emphasis on our subdivisions, and,
2. The unsound promise that the child is more important than the parent.

Let's stand before the mirror and take an honest look at ourselves.

1. Masonic Bodies and appendant organizations are actually competing for the time, the attendance, the interest, the substance, the devotion of Master Masons. I am sick and tired of all the talk about TV, and the automobile, and bowling leagues as competing influences. It is time we look in our own house to see where the competition comes from.

Like the four churches of the same name, each Masonic organization poses as the Real Thing. Each claims to have That Which Was Lost. Each is the true wrinkle if we want to appear before the world as a Big Mason—one with a collection of degrees, exclusive and affluent.

2. Our subdivisions have encouraged the mental attitude that when a Master Mason gains membership in another Body, he then and there has outgrown the Ancient Craft Lodge.

Several months after I became a Mason I was solicited by a worker in one of the recognized Bodies. But I had mental reservations. "Why is it," I asked him, "that Masons who belong to the other Bodies place such a stress on those affiliations and seem to care so little about their Lodge?" Just what answer he gave me I do not remember. Really, it doesn't matter too much, for the question never has been answered to my satisfaction. I held out for about three years before I presented my petition.

Years later, when I received the Degrees in another Masonic Body, I overheard a past presiding officer say, "Now here, in this Body, you will find the cream of Masonry." From that day to this, I have resented such artificial class distinction.

The newspaper obituary in my files which states that the deceased "was a member of 17 organizations, 10 of them Masonic groups," and then proceeds to list everything that could be bought with money, is a case in point. To

be a Master Mason was not enough; actually, that was of little or no importance.

What about the Vanishing Emblem? What is wrong with the square and compass? Even Grand Masters have discarded it. Is it no longer a badge of honor? Must something else replace it to set the wearer apart and place him in the aristocracy?

A young man of my acquaintance was interested in petitioning for the Degrees. He was interested, that is, until a Master Mason gave him the old Superiority Sales Talk, something like this: "Sure, I'm a member of Brotherly Love Lodge, but only because I have to be. The Blue Lodge, it doesn't mean a thing to me. What I'm after is what gives me the prestige, and helps me in my business!"

We wonder why attendance is poor, why interest is lax, and why the membership curve goes downward!

3. Then there are those subdivisions which foster the attitude that, within their place of refuge, the standards of Ancient Craft Freemasonry do not apply. Therein lies a situation that is more than alarming; it is downright vicious. Scarcely a Jurisdiction in the United States is free of headaches brought on by some group restricting its membership to Masons, but considering itself exempt from Masonic standards. A few Jurisdictions have met the issue head on, to the good of all Freemasonry. Others have looked in the other direction, and thereby have damaged the entire Fraternity.

One of these days Masonic leadership had better come to grips with the issue. The winking attitude which says, in effect, "It's none of our business as long as you are not wearing an apron," is unthinkingly dealing a body blow to our beloved Craft. A serious minded young friend of mine expressed interest in Masonry until a Past Master gave him a lurid description of the antics and the carousals he enjoyed in his favorite appendant organization. That ended his interest. Mark it down. *The public makes no distinction between the Master Mason who*

wears an apron and the Master Mason who wears some other kind of garb.

4. When the leadership of Ancient Craft Masonry neglects the parent body to smile upon everything which claims a relationship to Freemasonry, however remote, that leadership is not contributing to a solution of our problem; it is only aggravating it. In a single year, not so long ago, two American Grand Masters actually visited more appendant Bodies that Symbolic Lodges in their respective terms of office.

From one end of America to the other, Grand Masters are going up and down their jurisdictions like itinerant peddlers, promoting everything under the sun except plain, unadulterated Symbolic Freemasonry. They go to Washington to attend what used to be the Grand Masters' Conference, and find that it has become "Masonic Week" with the side-shows taking over. Truly, the tail

has begun to wag the dog. And we wonder what is wrong!

Subdivided we stand, and subdivided, I fear, we shall fall.

One does not have to be more than forty to remember when the superpatriots raged over the hyphenated America, declaring it was time to drop Old World loyalties and become an American without a hyphen.

Well, I am not advocating that hyphenated Masons eliminate anything that contributes to their understanding and appreciation of Freemasonry. But I am preaching a gospel of fundamentals. I am calling on our Symbolic Lodges to do a better job of upgrading themselves. I am challenging the other Masonic organizations and appendant groups to put a stop to the down-grading of the Symbolic Lodge; to acknowledge by actions, rather than words, that the Lodge is the fountainhead of all Freemasonry; to put first things first; to look unto the rock whence they are hewn. □

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Zone 11 - Knights Templar

York Rite NEWS

York Rite College
Judas Maccabeus

District Deputy Grand High Priest

Royal Arch Masons
29th Capitular District



R. E. Stephen Licht

Dear Companions

The last days of this century are dwindling down to a precious few...use them wisely!

On November 7th, our District convened at Attica Masonic Temple, following breakfast, and the goals were met. Five of the six Chapters were represented. Notification was made by letter, telephone and e-mail to the Chapters and R. E. Companions that this was the time to make recommendations for the appointments of the DDGHP and the AGL, as well as to review District plans and progress. I thank the Companions who have supported me and V. E. Richard Anderson, our AGL, throughout the past year and anticipate the same support and cooperation during the ensuing year.

District schedule

For the year 2000, several Chapters will have Companions ascending to the Order of the High Priesthood for the first time: Arcade No. 322, LeRoy No. 183, and Western Star No. 35. The Anointing Ceremony will be in Rochester on Saturday, February 12th.

On December 13th, Arcade Chapter No. 322 will confer the Most Excellent Master Degree at their regular convocation; 8:00 p.m. at Harding Temple, Pike.

On December 4th, our AGL, V. E. Richard Anderson, will visit Wyoming Chapter to review the instructional video and discuss Ritual.

The decision was made to conduct a Joint Installation for the Chapters of the 29th District wishing to participate. Wyoming Chapter No. 181 in Warsaw has offered to host the event at the Warsaw Masonic Temple at their convocation on Tuesday, January 11th. The opening time will be 7:30 p.m. and our ladies are invited to be present.

On February 17th, Western Star Chapter No. 35 will confer the Holy Royal Arch at Attica Masonic Temple, opening at 7:30 p.m.

Annual Convocation of Grand Chapter in Albany - March 3-4

I have the reservation forms for the Holiday Turf Inn and will be glad to assist you or you may make reservations directly using the coupon in the Fall issue of the *Royal Arch Mason Magazine* in the NY supplement (pink page). Luncheon tickets are \$13 for men

- or - ladies and tickets for the Friday Night Banquet are \$25.00. I am required to have the receipts of ticket sales to the Grand Secretary by January 25th. Please remember that this will be the LAST session of your Grand Chapter in this century, and will be presided over by M. E. Arnold Palmer of Livonia.

More Companions participating

I am gratified to see some newer faces participating in the Capitular Degrees. As our seasoned and stalwart Companions have brought to my attention, "some of you younger guys had better start learning these parts". It is becoming increasingly important that a few brave Companions step forth and take major roles in our Degrees. I will not deceive you and say the Ritual is simple to learn, but anything we value and enjoy requires effort on our part. Select a part and announce to the Companion that did that part last time in a Degree that you want to try that role. His response will pleasantly surprise you, and you have found a ready and willing teacher.

Companions, I am directing each Royal Arch Mason reading this article at his earliest opportunity preceding the close of this year, to read and examine the several charges, found in the small, red Authorized Chapter Guide, which are a part of each Capitular Degree. The time required is minimal. What action you then take is entirely your choice!

Happy holidays! ☐

The Companions who were our officers this year did a grand job and were very faithful to the responsibilities of their office. The King and Scribe were my true right and left hands, and I could not expect anything more from them than what they gave to the Chapter. They will make superb High Priests. I'll try to repay them for their support during their year.

We exalted three new members this year, entertained our Brothers from across the Lake, and had our own M. E. Arnold E. Palmer become the Grand High Priest, State of New York, Royal Arch Masons. It was indeed a great year.

Veterans Day Program

The November 11th meeting was a fulfilling one, with 25 Companions present. Our Companions, Ed Walker and John Walker, are recovering from their health problems and were present. It's great seeing you both up and around.

Gil Gellasch and Tom Paglia presented a Program honoring our veterans for Veterans Day. The meeting was preceded by a dinner by Hilde and Joy.

Annual Meeting

Our next meeting will be the Election of Officers for the year 2000, and the Annual Meeting. It is my hope to see you at the last Convocation of this year, but if you cannot make the meeting, may our God above watch over you and yours until we meet again. ☐

Hiram Chapter

No. 62
2nd & 4th
Thursdays
E. Lawrence Dunn, High Priest
594-8033
Richard J. Oliver, Secretary
594-2380
875 Main Street East
Rochester, N.Y. 14805

Companions

The end of my term as your High Priest is speeding down the calendar. The December 9th convocation will be my last meeting sitting in the East. I want to say how much I appreciate your allowing me to be your High Priest this year. For me it was a great experience, one that I'll not forget.



R. E. Vern Goodrich, Grand Treasurer, and R. E. Larry Dunn, High Priest of Hiram Chapter at the Hiram Summer Picnic with Tyler Gellasch, one of two Chapter Scholarship recipients for 1999.

Nundawaga Council No. 92

4th Monday
West Main Street
LeRoy, NY 14482
Ill. Daniel N. Evans
Master
492-2807
Ill. Vernon Rupert
Recorder
343-8429

Companions

The new millennium is fast approaching. We at Nundawaga Council are making plans for the future. It has been said many times that without a set of good plans you are like a ship without a rudder.

Degrees

A Select Master Degree was conferred on two Companions on October 25th. One candidate was

from Hamburg Council No 91, East Aurora and the other from Nundawaga Council No. 92. We will be offering the Royal Master Degree in the Spring.

Official Visits

In September, Nundawaga Council was visited by Rt. Ill. E. William Whittaker, Principal Conductor of the Work. He gave us some insight into coming changes in Grand Council.

In October we were visited by Rt. Ill. William Zufall, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Council. He observed our Select Master Degree. Upon completion, he made several comments about how to improve the presentation of the work.

Next millennium

Looking ahead, our first meeting in the new millennium will be held at 8:00 p.m., January 24th at LeRoy. We are planning on making some changes in our By-Laws. This will be an informational meeting, with a discussion of the changes.

Official Visit

The Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of New York, M. Ill. Douglas J. Swan, will make his Official Visit to Nundawaga Council on the 24th of January. More information on this will be forthcoming in the next article.

Do not forget LeRoy Chapter meets just prior to the Council meeting. This also will be their 1st meeting of the new millennium, so why not make a special night of it and go to Chapter and Council?

Seasons greetings

Here's hoping that each and everyone of you will have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. ☐

Doric Council No. 19 Cryptic Masons

(Chartered in 1861)
3rd
Wednesdays
William R. Lindsay, Ill. Master
621-3573
L. Edward Walker, Recorder
647-2382
875 Main St. East
Rochester, N.Y. 14805

By the time this issue of the *Times* reaches the mailbox, all of us will be eagerly anticipating, or have just eaten, our Thanksgiving dinners. Memories of our joint York Rite night will have begun to fade and the superb presentation by Paul Stillman as Teddy Roosevelt will hopefully be a most pleasant memory. I am confident that offering sincere thanks to my fellow officers, Don Brugger and Vern Goodrich, for their support in planning and managing this event, and the organist, John Walker, will be well deserved. They teach me one more time that most important leadership lesson, that success is built on a team effort. "I am not successful, but we are."

This is not an exclusively Masonic principle; it has application

in every aspect of our life, family, work, church; whenever we are part of any group. Masonry can take pride in the fact that it is a principle that is as old as the Fraternity itself. Better than most "systems" that espouse leadership principles, Masonry clearly defines all roles in the leadership dynamic. Follower-ship and support are spelled out very clearly - "let no contention ever exist except for who can best serve." My observation over the years is that the best leaders are those who can seamlessly move among the various roles that circumstance may demand.

One night in my Lodge when I was a young officer, I really don't remember the occasion, we had a dining room full of members and guests, and as people were busy eating and socializing, we were quite short of serving help, and running the risk of being less-than-gracious hosts. I was at one end of the room thinking about how to get more Brothers' assistance, as I was trying to pick up used dishes and distribute dessert. I turned around and here is a Brother walking around with the coffee pot refilling cups and chatting with guests. This particular Brother happened to have earned more Masonic honors and held higher office than anyone else in the Monroes in my lifetime. Didn't phase him to be a coffee server.

That little vignette probably taught me more about leadership and followership than all the seminars and courses I have taken before or since.

It takes a healthy ego to cheerfully and effectively perform a minor role, and the health is in understanding that we are not diminished by the roles we fulfill, but rather, in understanding what Donne meant when he wrote, "each is a part of the whole, a piece of the Main". As we reflect on our Masonic lives may we with joy proclaim those famous words, "oh, the countries I have visited, the places I have been."

Reservations needed

On December 15th our meeting will be preceded by a Holiday Turkey Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please make you reservations with Ed Walker by December 10th. ☐

Zone 11 News

SK Ronald Bertie, PGC
Zone Advisor
SK Howard C. Colegrove,
Zone Commander

Regional Seminar

As you read this, the Regional Seminar for Zone 11, held in Attica, NY, is over. What a wonderful and glorious day-both weather wise and Fraternally. Both Commanderies from Zone 11 were present and what a large amount of knowledge was passed on to those attending.

Order of the Red Cross

As you already know, the Order of the Red Cross was held Monday, November 15th at 7:30 p.m. at the Downtown Rochester Masonic Temple.


Please note

The Order of Malta will be on Monday, December 6th at 7:30 p.m., also at the Downtown Rochester Masonic Temple, home of Cyrene/Monroe Commandery No. 12. Put a note on your calendar and be on the sidelines when the Work of the Order is being completed.

At the regular conclave of Sagoyewatha Commandery No. 17, KT, on November 20th, we enjoyed a sunrise breakfast at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant. The planning and preparation for the Christmas observance on December 18th was done at this meeting. Cyrene/Monroe Commandery will hold their Christmas Toast on Monday, December 20th.

Here's wishing you and your family very happy holidays. □

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery
No. 12
 Chartered 1993
 1st & 3rd Mondays
 SK Douglas S. Poole
 Commander 584-3601
 SK Lawrence W. Dunn
 Recorder 594-8033



The holiday season is now upon us with lots of last minute things to do. Please make sure that your Masonic commitments are on that list! Now is the time of year when we need you to attend, especially in Commandery as we approach the birth date of the cause behind our Order, Jesus of Nazareth.

Join us

Mark your calendars for our Christmas Toast on Monday, December 20th at 7:30 p.m. We will have refreshments afterwards in the 3rd floor dining room. This event is open to everyone. Why not come and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, and also find out what Commandery is really about?

Faith

Now is the season we can be thankful for the bounty the Lord has offered us. I remember back to last year, when my health was acting up again. As I was laying in my hospital bed, having a visit with my minister, he was asking me how I could keep a positive attitude with all that was wrong with my health. I just smiled and said, "I have a lot to be thankful for". Faith is a wonderful thing.

Maybe we should apply this attitude to Masonry. Look at all the positives, and down play the negatives. Just have a little faith! □

Geo. Washington Mem.

Continued from page 1
 by The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. It features many personal items, including his bodyguard flag and the field trunk used by him throughout the Revolutionary War.

The Replica Lodge Room of Alexandria/Washington Lodge No. 22 contains personal effects and portraits of George Washington and several of his intimate friends.

The Assembly Hall is supported by eight massive granite Doric columns; these columns flank the enormous 17th Century Persian rug, measuring 30 ft. by 50 ft. The carpet took twelve artisans 27 years to complete.

The Washington Family Crest is displayed over the stage of the Auditorium. Its striking veined marble columns and quiet dignity provide a fitting setting for Masonic and cultural events.

In The Shrine Hospital Room is a beautiful statuary and mural, depicting millions of children helped by the Ancient Order, Nobles of The Mystic Shrine for North America through the Shrine Hospitals for Children.

The 9th level of the Memorial houses a scale model of the throne and the interior of King Solomon's Temple. This room is sponsored by The Tall Cedars of Lebanon.

The Memorial Library contains over 25,000 volumes of Masonic and related works. The Library is open to the public on weekends and also by appointment.

The Alexandria-Washington Lodge Room houses Lodge No. 22 where George Washington was Charter Master of the Lodge, while he served as President of the United States.

The beautiful Knights Templar Chapel provides a fitting setting for prayer and reflection. This room is sponsored and maintained by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States.

Memberships in the Memorial

Donors of \$1000.00 or more are honored by having their

Sustaining Honorary Members names placed on the Memorial's 21st Century Plaque and also receive a hand-embossed Life Member Certificate and bronze lapel pin. Honorary Life Members receive a hand-embossed certificate and a bronze lapel pin for a \$250.00 tax deductible gift. Tax deductible donations should be sent to: The George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, Virginia, 22301. □

Warsaw Lodge

Continued from page 1

local clergy preached strongly against the Order.

In January of 1864, a petition was again formulated to establish a new Lodge in Warsaw. A Charter was issued to Warsaw No. 549 on June 21st, 1864. On July 27th they occupied a building on the Northwest corner of Main and Buffalo Streets. This facility was destroyed by fire in February of 1867. For several years the Lodge occupied rooms above the Warsaw Hardware on Main Street, the present location of the Memories Restaurant.

In 1907 the present historic building was purchased for \$2,500.00 and dedicated in July of 1908.

The building purchased in 1907 was built in 1846 as a school house consolidating several district schools in the area. It was abandoned by the school district in 1873 in favor of a new school and sold for \$3000.00 to a local businessman. In 1883 it was purchased for \$2500.00 by two locals who established a canning plant. This endeavor failed and the building was rented to a man to be used as a general store.

In May of 1907 the owner sold to Warsaw Lodge No. 549 as stated above and remodeled at a cost of \$5000.00 in 1928.

This remodeling included an addition for bowling alleys, a new heating plant, kitchen improvements, and establishment of the Lodge room.

In 1939 the 75th Anniversary was celebrated, with Grand Master, M.:W.: Dana Hellings, officiating.

Twenty-five years later Grand Master, M.:W.: Clarence Henry, congratulated 228 members at a Centennial Program on September 26, 1964.

On September 16, 1989, the 125th Anniversary of Masonic history in Warsaw was celebrated.

At present we have enjoyed 135 years of Masonry in Warsaw under the banner of Warsaw No. 549. Although we are not privileged to count 228 members as in 1964, we are carrying on the tradition of Masonry and hope to continue into the future. □

Soldiers in Bosnia

Continued from page 1

Details

A 33 cent stamp will work for regular cards.

The address: 105 MP Company, Operation Joint Forge, Camp McGovern, APO AE 09789.


Soldier's names are: SPC Michael Hoffman, SPC Geoffrey Hamilton, SPC Allen Kornowicz, SGT Victorino Montalvo, SSG Keith Krempa, PFC Gerald Navy, and SPC Roger Neff.

The following soldiers address is: 105 MP Company, Operation Joint Forge, Camp Eagle, APO AE 09789.

SSG Felicitao Hueca, LT James Blake, SPC Philip Kane, SGT Mark Adamo, SPC Marc Lamoreaux, PFC Annmarie Bielefeld, SSG Paul Martin, SPC Charles Coates, SPC Joseph Morath, SPC Princess Morris, SPC Michael Tweedy, SPC Saliym Muhammad, SPC John Vanlangingham, SSG Kenneth Murawski, SPC Wayne Wagner, SPC John Pajak, SPC Joseph Wendel, SPC Richard Wisniewski, and SPC William Zeughardt.

My contact told me about some letters that school children had written to the soldiers, and how many of them got tacked up on bulletin boards around the camp. Our cards and personal messages will be appreciated. □

Batavia Commandery
No. 34
Knights Templar
 Meets
 2nd & 4th
 Thursdays
 Attica
 James MacConnell
 Commander 494-1815
 SK Allen L. Capwell
 Recorder 786-3897
 39 Main Street
 Attica, N.Y.



Sir Knights

Cannibal Night was a good time had by all. No utensils, fingers were popular, but I must admit I never have seen peas eaten in so many different ways before (great ingenuity)! The Steinbaugh's, Rupert's and MacConnell's all took occasions to change the attire for the evening. SK Denton gave a short talk on where surnames came from and enlightened us as to where each Sir Knight got their last name. SK Austin challenged us with Knighthood deeds, but SK Holmes thought it was better to go into battle with a short sword versus a long sword, because it was lighter, easier and quicker to wield. He could also get it into smaller places should necessity require it. The next time you see Lady Ann Rupert, ask how she managed to get SK Vern in those tights!

Christmas Toast

December 9th will be our Christmas Toast. We will have Shaved Ham sandwiches, chips and hor d'oeuvres from 7:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. The Toast will begin promptly at 8:00 p.m. Toasts will be given by the Sir Knights and culminating with singing Happy Birthday to Jesus and sharing in cake and ice cream. The charity of the evening will be New York State School of the Blind in Batavia.

January 13, 2000, will be our "Bridge to the New Millennium" Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and a meeting to follow.

January 27th will be a regular conclave and practice for Annual Inspection.

February 10th is the St. Valentine's Day Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Each lady will receive a flower! Door prizes, games and fun. □

Masonic Education Day
"Truth Seekers Forum"

Hosted by the Finger Lakes Chapter, Philalethes Society

Featuring

- Thomas W. Jackson, Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania
- George Peter, Grand Historian, Grand Lodge of New York
- Dr. Kathlene Kutolowski, Professor of History, SUNY Brockport
- Bill Edwards & Karl Kabelac, Librarian U. of R. retired



Thomas W. Jackson



George Peter

Saturday, January 29, 2000
 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Downtown Masonic Temple
 875 Main Street East
 Rochester, NY

Topics

- A Vision for Freemasonry "Destructive Divisions Detailed"
- The Ancient Landmarks
- Masonic Research on the Internet
- Building Community on the Genesee Frontier "Freemasonry and the Social Order"

Town Meeting during Lunch with the Panel!!!

Cost for the day, including Refreshments & Lunch - \$10.00
 Reservations to: Rich Friedman at 716-377-6175/716-2775/716-271-8916 or FAX at Richddgm@aol.com



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Lalla Rookh GROTTO

News

Patrol
Legion
Caldron



Ron Morthorst, Monarch

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



Ronald Morthorst

Monarch's Message

Winter is in the air, the holiday season is here and I hope you had a good Thanksgiving. I hope your Christmas and new year are full of joy and happiness.

This year is almost to a close, and as your Monarch, I wish to thank all my Officers and Prophets for their help and participation in meetings and events we had this year.

Special thanks

Our Monarch's Ball was a huge success; good food, entertainment and excellent refreshments. A fine program planned by our Chief Justice, Leon and Bev VanHuben.

My Officers presented me with a gift that I appreciate very much. Yes, I'll chase the ball this Summer! A special thank you to my Officers.

Teddy Roosevelt

It was an honor to be the guests of Doric Council for a special

entertainment program featuring Paul Stillman portraying Teddy Roosevelt. Thanks to Doric Council for the invitation.

Sickness and distress

Prophet Bob Baram is at home. Stop in and say "hello". We wish him a speedy recovery.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Alfred Bowers on his passing. Prophet Al was initiated May 25, 1946 and passed away on October 30, 1999.

Enchanted Lanterns

Yes, they are available. Same donation as always, \$50.00. Send your request to our Enchanted Lantern Ambassador, PM Dick Topel, 949 Bennington Dr., Rochester, NY 14616.

Santa's Helpers

We are involved in Santa's Helpers at Hillside Children's Center. This is our 2nd year. This is open to Prophets and their ladies who wish to help. Call me for more information at 334-4196.

Legion of Honor

By Leon VanHuben, Comm.

As my year draws to an end, election of officers will be held on December 20th at the Dutch Mill, 2901 Dewey Avenue at Stone Road. All honorably discharged servicemen are welcome, as well as all Past Monarchs. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. with reservations to Prophet Al Pulcino at 225-8471.

Remember, a reservation made is a reservation paid. If you don't show, you will be billed for the amount of your dinner that you ordered.

Membership

By Bill Fredenburg

Prophets, the millennium is almost here. Each of us needs to be actively recruiting candidates for our upcoming Class of 2000. Please put forth every effort to make the Class of 2000 a major success. Membership is the most important responsibility of every Prophet. Let's do our part. Keep a petition handy to give to a Brother Mason.

Together we can succeed. □

Chief Justice

The Monarch's Ball, in honor of Ronald Morthorst and his lady, Marilyn, on November 6th at the Radisson Inn Airport was well attended.

Election of Officers will be on December 15th with a free Turkey Dinner preceding the meeting. Your 1999 dues card is your admission. Reservations are to be made with PM Dick Topel at 663-2547 by December 9th.

That's all for now. □

Master of Ceremonies

By Kenneth Hutchinson

The regular meeting of the Grotto will be held on Wednesday, December 15th. There will be a Turkey Dinner preceding, hosted by the Caldron, at 6:30 p.m. Reservations to be made with Dick Topel at 663-2547 before December 8th.

Caldron News

Installation is behind us and we are starting a new year. My thanks to all who contributed to make it a lovely evening.

The Monarch's Ball was November 6th. A good time was had by all.

The next Caldron meeting is December 9th. The Executive Council meeting is yet to be announced.

At this writing there is no sickness. It's great to have Jean Wood back in the fold.

Happy holidays to all. □



Prophet Al Pulcino receiving Enchanted Lantern Certificate from Dick Topel.



Enchanted Lantern Chairman, Dick Topel, presenting certificate to Prophet Dick Bull.

Dates to Remember

- Mon., Dec. 6th - Board of Governors 7:00 p.m. Grotto Office
- Thurs., Dec. 9th - Caldron regular meeting
- Wed., Dec. 15th - Grotto meeting Election of Officers 7:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m. with reservation
- Mon., Dec. 20th - Legion of Honor Elections - Dutch Mill Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Attend Grotto Meetings
Enjoy the Fellowship

Poetry Niche

Contributions welcome

Home, Sweet Home!

(We have heard this poem meerly hinted at in the Ritual of the 2nd Degree. Here is the poem from which the song was inspired.)

'Mid pleasures and palaces
though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no
place like home;
A charm from the sky seems to
hallow us there,
Which, seek through the world, is
ne'er met with elsewhere.
Home, Home, sweet, sweet
Home!

There's no place like Home!
there's no place like Home!

An exile from home, splendor
dazzles in vain;
O, give me my lowly thatched cot-
tage again!
The bird singing gayly, that came
at my call-

Give me them, - and the peace of
mind, dearer than all!
Home, Home, sweet, sweet
Home!

There's no place like Home!
there's no place like Home!

How sweet 'tis to sit neath a fond
father's smile,
And the cares of a mother to
soothe and beguile!
Let others delight 'mid new plea-
sures to roam,

But give me, oh, give me, the plea-
sures of Home!

Home, Home, sweet, sweet
Home!

There's no place like Home!
there's no place like Home!

To thee I'll return, overburdened
with care;

The heart's dearest solace will
smile on me there;

No more from that cottage again
will I roam.

Home, Home, sweet, sweet
Home!

There's no place like Home!
there's no place like Home!

John Howard Payne

What's happening at the School of Ritual?

By R. W. Joe Privitera

Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge had 12 Brothers attend the Grand Lecturer's Convention on October 15th. Most of those present were officers and even with the new point system we were fortunate enough to carry away the Convention Banner for attendance. After a two year separation, the School of Ritual and Convention Attendance Banners are back together again. This and the Traveling Gavel (temporarily) are all residing in the East (on Lake Avenue) make for a great sight to see. (At this writing the Gavel is back at Valley/Simes.)

At the Convention, Charlotte/Corinthian was led by Master, W.: Tom Grape. Other Lodge

Brothers attending were Harold Bollotin, Jim De Lorenzo, Dick Felgner, Frank Jansson, Dave Jones, Bill King, Ken Ratliff, Cliff Short, Chuck Simpson, 50 year plus member and Marshal, Nick Vlahos, and me.

Next School

The next School of Ritual will be on November 30th at Webster Lodge, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Charlotte/Corinthian will be assisting in exemplifying the 1st Degree. If you need a ride call your Master. Hope to see you there. □



Lalla Rookh Grotto

Invites you to attend
The Public installation of

Leon J. Van Huben

Monarch Elect
& His Staff of Officers

Saturday, January 22, 2000 at 7:00 p.m.

Cathedral Hall (4th floor)
Downtown Temple
875 Main Street East
Rochester, New York

Cocktails - 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. (3rd floor Dining Room)
Dinner - 6:00 p.m. - \$15.00 per person
Roast Beef
Stuffed Boneless Chicken Breast
Egg Plant Parmesan

Entertainment after installation (3rd floor Dining Room)

Reservations & Payment to:
Kenneth Hutchinson
6372 Stillmeadow Way
Williamson, NY 14589-9005
(315) 461-2091

Overnight accommodations to:
Struthallan
550 East Avenue
(716) 461-5010 (Ask for Grotto rate)

979 Bay Road
Webster, NY
14580-1736



Damascus Temple No. 2 Shrine News

Potentate - George Simon



Tel. (716) 671-7701
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FROM THE POTENTATE



GEORGE SIMON
392-4276
Shrine Office
671-7701

The Holiday Season is fast approaching and our families will be gathering to join together to renew happy memories. My Lady, Lula, and I wish much joy and good health to all of you and your families.

Cold Sands

As 1999 winds down, we must carry on with our work to keep Damascus strong, to be able to support the children we care about. In doing this, we must strive for our number one goal of bringing in new members. I know that I am repeating myself many times over, but there is an old saying "The squeaky wheel gets the grease" and we do need the grease. On December 1st we will be having our Cold Sands. I urge

you to do your best to sign up candidates for the Bill Lennox Class.

Calendars

Many of you have taken calendars to sell, this is great and I thank you. We do not know how the sales are progressing because the moneys and the stubs are not being returned to the office. If you have sold calendars, please return the money and the stubs to the office as soon as they are sold. Do not wait until the last minute. If you have any unsold calendars, and feel that you might not be able to sell any more than you already have sold, please don't be embarrassed and return them to the office so that others who need more will be able to get them at the office.

Party time

The year 2000 is fast approaching and to celebrate we are having a New Year's Eve Party to ring in the new millennium. Come and join us. Call the office for reservations. All the details are in the "Damascus News".

Boston 2000

To all the Nobles and their Ladies who have sent in their deposits for Boston 2000 Imperial, Lady Lula and I are very pleased with the super showing of support and Temple spirit. We have reservations for 68 rooms and 3 buses. All rooms are currently sold, as well as bus space. However, if you still wished that you had made a reservation, we will be happy to put your name

on a waiting list in the event of a cancellation.

Circus is coming

Ill. Erwin Newell and the Circus Committee report all is on target. Noble Ad Salesman, Ill. Erwin, asks if you will please get your sold ads into the office by December 15th. It is a very difficult task to put together a quality Ad Book. By now you should have received your letter to become a Circus Daddy or Mommy. We need your support in this program. For the new Nobles and their Ladies that may not know what a Circus Daddy or Mommy is, I will try to explain what it is all about.

At our Circus, we entertain approximately 20,000 children at no cost to them. This is our way of saying thank you to the community. The Thursday and Friday matinee performances are solely for the children and our schools. The tickets that you donate are used for this program.

Election time

On January 5th we will be electing new officers and representatives. Fellow Nobles, think about who you want to be your leaders in Damascus and at the Imperial Session in Boston.

Rhyme time

Do something today to bring gladness
To someone whose pleasures are few,
Do something to drive off sadness

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE MOSQUE

DECEMBER 31, 1999

6:30 - 7:45 p.m.
Complimentary Cocktail Party
Hors d'oeuvres

8:00 p.m.
Buffet Dinner
Prime Rib of Beef and Chicken

Dancing
Hats & Noisemakers
11:30 p.m. - Sweet Table

\$75.00 per couple. Reservations a must!
Make up your own table of 8!



Old 99

ADNY1001

Or cause someone's dream to come true.

Find time for a neighborly greeting
And time to delight an old friend;
Remember,....the years are fleeting
And life's latest day will soon end!

Do something today that tomorrow
Will prove to be really worth while;
Help someone to conquer sorrow
And greet the new dawn with a smile.

For only through kindness and giving
Of service and friendship and cheer,
We learn the pure joy of living
And find heaven's happiness here.

Lula and I, along with the Divan and their Ladies, wish you a very Happy Holiday Season. ☐

Shrine Club and the Auburn Shrine Club. Don't forget the New Year's Eve Party at the Mosque.

What happened to the first line signers? Damascus created 65 new Nobles in the Spring Class; we were lucky if fifteen have shown up at the past 3 meetings. It was my understanding that the first line signers were supposed to take new Nobles by the hand and get them involved. Remember, if a Noble does not get involved and stays on the outside looking in, within a short period of time he will be asking for a demit.

My life shall touch a dozen lives before this day is done,

Leave countless marks for good or ill, ere sets the evening sun,

So this the wish I always wish, the prayer I ever pray,

Let my life help other lives, it touches by the way. ☐

More on page 18



Game to be televised Jan. 15 at 1 p.m. PST on ESPN There's more to the East-West Shrine Bowl than meets the eye — It's the Shriners Kids

The annual East-West Shrine Bowl is more than just a game. America's oldest and most prestigious college all-star football classic not only showcases the finest graduating players seeking professional gridiron careers, but also serves as a fund-raising event for Shriners Hospitals for Children.

This "granddaddy" of all post-season college all-star games, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary in the year 2000, will be held at 1 p.m. PST on Saturday, January 15, at Stanford Stadium in Palo Alto, Calif. Over the past 74 years, more than \$14 million has been raised for Shriners Hospitals.

Selected as head coaches are Steve Spurrier of the University of Florida and Bruce Snyder of Arizona State University. Spurrier will direct the East squad and Snyder, the West squad.

To help celebrate the 75th anniversary, Shrine Bowl officials have invited a number of alumni who went on to distinguish themselves in professional football and in other career fields. The invitees include former President Gerald Ford, John Elway, Roger Staubach, Walter Payton, Gale Sayers, "Mean" Joe Greene and others. The alumni will be honored at a ceremony on game day.

Of course, the highlight of the week for the participants is a visit to the Shriners Hospital in Sacramento on Monday, January 10, to meet with the children, sign autographs for them — and just put smiles on the faces of the patients there. At the same time, the 78 players from the United States and Canada will reap the benefits of finding out what Shriners Hospitals are all about and will carry this experience with them throughout the rest of their lives.

The publicity that the East-West Shrine Bowl generates — over and above the financial support — for the 22 Shriners Hospitals in the United States, Canada and Mexico goes a long way in promoting the quality medical care offered by these hospitals. The classic will be seen by millions of viewers again this year as it will be telecast nationally on ESPN.

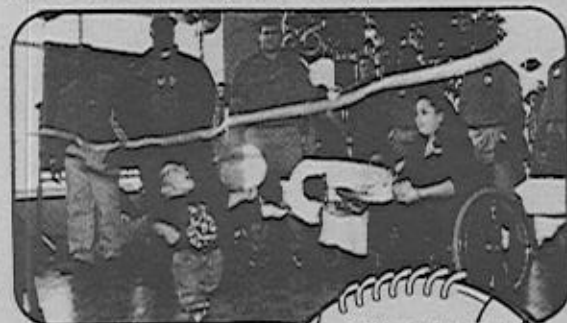
Game Director Jeff Foster said, "This 75th anniversary game will be an exciting event for everyone. As for our many thousands of Shriners, they continue to provide vital support to our game by purchasing game tickets through the Hall of Fame Program and by attending these annual games in person."

"However, of equal importance is the need for every Shriener to watch the game's live telecast on ESPN. I'm sure you will enjoy the excitement of the game, the color of the pageantry, and will take great pride in seeing the Shriners Hospitals' message broadcast loud and clear to the world," said Foster. "By having your TV tuned in to ESPN, you'll help to increase our television ratings which will help to ensure future coverage of the game and increase our potential to obtain valuable sponsors and advertisers. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to tune in also."

For additional information on the East-West Shrine Bowl, visit the game's Web site at www.shrinebowl.com.



During the previous Shrine Bowl, Kansas State's Michael Bishop eludes a tackler and runs for a first down. The West team's QB was drafted by the New England Patriots.



Robbie, a patient at the Northern California Shriners Hospital, gets in on the action during the Bowl players' visit to the hospital prior to the 74th annual classic.

For the players, coaches, officials, volunteers, Shriners and general public, there is a week-long schedule of activities leading up to the game. Some of the activities include a "Meet the Players" family day, an East-West/Buick invitational golf tournament, an NFL workout day for the players to display their skills before NFL scouts, a Shrine Bowl luncheon for players and the public, and an awards dinner for the players, which is also open to the public.



President Joe Minas

Nobles, even though we had some snow and high winds in some areas the weather is still ideal. Let's hope that the weather stays like this for the holiday season.

At present we have Craftsman/Robertson Lodge No. 969 on December 21st for the 3rd Degree. We also have Mount Morris Lodge No. 122 on February 17th.

Any Lodge in Damascus territory that wants us to portray the 3rd Degree, please let us know. Any Past Master who belongs to the Shrine who wants to join us, please let us know. Call me, the Director, at (716) 671-1917 or the Assistant Director, Bill Kuehne, at (716) 671-8774.

Nobles, the holiday season is upon us. Remember the sick and the ones who are disabled. The children also need your help. Some of the holiday parties that I know are coming up are the Wayne County Shrine Club on December 9th at the Farmer's Restaurant, Rte. 31, Macedon, and the Geneva and Director Staff at Hobart Smith in Geneva. This one also includes Penn Yan



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Brother Daniel L. Clark
Public Relations Coordinator
315-798-4800

Friendship, family and community—that's what it's all about at the Masonic Home's Winter Fest...join us!

Sunday, December 5th...join us from 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. for our Second Annual Winter Fest to be held on the Campus of the Masonic Home, 2150 Bleecker Street, Utica. There will be so much going on for all ages and tastes that you will have a hard time deciding what you want to do first.

Campus sleigh rides, brass music and hundreds of flickering lights will make the Masonic Home's Winter Fest an event to remember. During this hectic time of the year, this premier holiday event will provide a way to revisit holiday traditions and will help remind us of the basics—friendship, family and community.

A wonderland journey through the fields on our Campus Tour Wagon will be provided for the whole family so they can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus in Santa's workshop. A photogra-



Zama Temple
Daughters of the Nile

By Jean R. Friedrich, PQ

It was a pleasure to have Supreme Queen Ginger Franklin with us for her Official Visit on October 10th. She is an especially warm and unassuming leader of our Nile organization.

There were 90 ladies at the Ceremonial, some visiting from other States and Canada. What a joy to see our meeting room filled! Our Officers performed admirably—we are so proud of them.

We welcome Jane Kahn of Clifton Springs as our newest member. Be sure to greet her and make her feel at home in our Temple.

Thanks to all the ladies who worked so hard and so long to make our Next-to-New Sale a success. We were fortunate to have PQ, Eleanor Canfield, to lend us her expertise in running the sale. Everyone was most generous in contributing sale items and precious hours.

Holiday Tea

Our Annual Holiday Tea for our members and their escorts was held on November 21st at Fairport Lodge. The Officers had an array of delicious holiday treats. It was a great way to start our round of holiday parties.

December

At our festive December 11th Stated Session, we will collect toys, books and clothing (all unwrapped) for the children at the Shriners Hospital in Erie, Pa. Be sure to come and celebrate the Christmas spirit by helping these children in any way you can.

Our best wishes to all of you for a happy and healthy holiday season.

pher will be available for free photos with Santa. Also in our Fitness Center for the children there will be a carnival of free games and rides.

During this Winter Fest, the campus will take on a magical appearance, decorated in greenery and lit by hundreds of white lights. A Winter wonderland of illuminated, Disney-themed displays will create a fantasy of color and design throughout our Rose Garden. The highlight of the day's activities will be at 5:30 p.m. when all lights on the Campus will be lit and carolers will be outside singing around a magnificent Christmas Tree.

Free musical entertainment will be provided on our entire Campus. An entertainment schedule will be available as you enter the Campus. Food will also be available for a nominal cost.

Added to the event this year for Mom will be an Arts and Craft Fair.

Strolling street carolers, free wagon rides, the aroma of peanuts roasting and people dressed up in old fashioned holiday costumes will make this a festive occasion.

The only price of admission is a non-perishable food item from each family for the Utica Community Food Bank to be given to the needy during the holiday season.

So, please put this event on your calendar. If you would like further information regarding the Winter Fest, please contact Angie Caiola, Director of Community Relations, at 315-798-4717.

Masonic Breakfast and Tour a success

Masonic Home and Acacia Village hosted a breakfast and tour on Saturday, October 23rd.

The idea originated from the many calls to Acacia Village from Masons requesting information. There were also many who were unaware of the other services available on Campus or those who had simply not been here in years.

These question sparked the idea to host a breakfast and informational tour of the entire Campus. Invitations were sent to Masons and their ladies within a 50 mile radius of Utica. Despite the rainy weather, we had a good response with over 120 Brethren and their ladies or widows attending.

The day began at 9:00 a.m. with a hot cup of coffee and a delicious breakfast buffet. After breakfast, the groups toured Acacia Village and discovered the easy elegant lifestyle that comes with retirement living. They then boarded the Masonic Home bus and visited other components on the Campus, including the Chapel, Livingston Library and Museum, the new rehabilitation center and Wiley Hall—the residential adult care facility.

From the response, it was a very successful and informative day that we hope to continue as an annual event. If there are any questions, contact Cindy at 315-798-4704 or 800-593-3353.

Omnibuses?

Etymology is the fascinating study of the origin of words. I am sometimes amazed at the odd connections that are made by so-called experts in that field. Sometimes these are quite logical and sometimes not so logical. I came across an example of this while browsing through a book, "Thereby Hangs the Tale," writ-

ten by Charles Earle Funk, Litt.D. (I assume that appellation means Literary Doctor).

The word in question was "bus". In the Spring of 1662, as the story goes, a new conveyance appeared on the streets of Paris, France. It was a large horse-drawn coach (carosses, in French), with places for eight passengers. These conveyances were authorized by King Louis XIV to run on a fixed schedule to extreme parts of the city, whether filled or empty. Their purpose was to supply a low cost means of transportation for persons of modest means, quite a revolutionary idea, at the time.

Though primarily designed for the convenience of the infirmed and needy, they soon became a fadish transporter of the wealthy, who could afford their own private coaches. It was not long before these were used exclusively by the rich to the exclusion of those for whom they were originally intended.

Soon, fashion being fickle, this means of transportation fell from the favor of the rich and before long travel by this means took on the stigma of being fit only for social outcasts. The project soon failed and was discontinued.

A Century and a half after this initial failure (1827) the project was reborn with the appearance on Paris streets of conveyances for the same purpose with space for 15 to 18 passengers. The inscription on the sides of these larger conveyances was "Entreprise General des Omnibus." The enterprise became immediately successful.

The word "omnibus," from the Latin meaning "for all," assured its popularity, for anyone with

the price of a fare could ride. Two years later, when a comparable system was initiated in London, its promoter, George Shillibeer, wisely adopted the name ("omnibus") for his twenty-two passenger coaches which were drawn by three horses (troika). It wasn't long before the term was shortened by its users to simply "bus". (source: "Thereby Hangs A Tale, Stories of Curious Word Origins" by Charles Funk, Harper & Row, Perennial Edition, 1993.)



That Those in
Darkness
May See
Give
the Gift of Sight

HiLights
Order of the
Eastern Star
GENESEE-WYOMING
DISTRICT
Rt. Wthy. L. JANET LEE
DDGM
Rt. Wthy. TIMOTHY L. BUCKNAM
DGL

Pre-paid legal provides protection to Shriners and their families

The pre-paid legal program provides a variety of legal services to subscribers for one low monthly fee. Services include unlimited toll-free consultations with attorneys, letters and phone calls on behalf of the subscriber, document and contract review, audit assistance, will preparation and estate planning, divorce, adoption, family law, small claims, credit problems, and other legal matters.

Shrine offers additional benefits to members

All services are either fully covered or provided at a 25 percent discount, for a monthly fee of just \$7.95. To sign up for this program, Shriners can call 1-800-796-1118 toll-free.

Eye care protects your most treasured asset — your eyes

Another valuable benefit now available to Shriners and their families is the Shriner Vision program, sponsored by Fran Tarkenton and Eye Care International. Members will save money on glasses and contacts, as well as cataract, Lasik and RK surgeries, and more. As a special offer, in addition to your spouse and children, your grandchildren are also covered, at a cost of only \$28 per year.

As part of its continuing efforts to offer benefits to Shrine members, the Shrine is now making available two additional valuable programs: A pre-paid legal program and an eye care program.

In addition to some of the savings listed below, for each membership purchased, Fran Tarkenton and ECI will donate \$5 to the Shrine. These funds will be available for membership programs and fraternal expenses, and will help to forestall any per capita dues increase.

Examples of Member Savings	Retail	You pay	You save
Annual eye exam	\$ 45.00	FREE	FREE
Cataract Surgery	\$2500.00	\$ 800.00	\$1700.00
RADIAL KERATOTOMY(RK) Surgery	\$2000.00	\$1600.00	\$ 400.00
LASIK Surgery (DOCTORS FEE)	\$5000.00	\$4000.00	\$1000.00
Single Vision POLO CLASSIC 6 FRAMES	\$ 257.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 122.00
Disposable contact lenses (per box)	\$ 24.75	\$ 18.95	\$ 5.80
Revo Advanced Oval sunglasses	\$ 275.00	\$ 149.00	\$ 126.00
Serengeti Navigators model DRS 403	\$ 150.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 65.00

Give the gift of vision to your family today!

Call 1-800-354-8336 to enroll today. Be sure to announce your Shrine affiliation to ensure the donation and allow for your grandchildren to be covered by your membership.

Grand Chapter

Many members of the Genesec/Wyoming District have recently returned home after attending the 130th Grand Chapter Session, held in Lake Placid at the Convention Center. Representatives from Batavia Chapter No. 267, Centennial Chapter No. 299, Hesperus Chapter No. 823, Olive Branch Chapter No. 509, Perry Chapter No. 497, Stebbins Chapter No. 503, Thorpe Chapter No. 462 and Vernon Chapter No. 611 were in attendance. There were about 25 members from the District who made the trek to Lake Placid. (Yes, we did have snow, but not too much). A good time was had by all.

It was a time for the leadership of our District to be passed from Rt. Wthy. Nancy R. Specht, Hesperus Chapter No. 823 to Rt. Wthy. L. Janet Lee, Batavia Chapter No. 267 and from Rt. Wthy. John A. Specht, Hesperus Chapter No. 823 to Rt. Wthy. Timothy L. Bucknam, Perry Chapter No. 497.

The District thanks Rt. Wthy. Nancy and Rt. Wthy. John for their wonderful leadership and for all the time they gave to our District's projects and events.

Rt. Wthy. Annette Simmons, Vernon Chapter No. 611, will continue as the Grand Representative of Mississippi near the Grand Chapter of New York for a few more months.

A Reception for the newly installed District leaders was held at the Perry Masonic Temple on November 12th. Many members and friends from the Genesec/Wyoming District and other Districts attended the lovely evening

honoring Rt. Wthy. L. Janet Lee and Rt. Wthy. Timothy L. Bucknam.

As we prepare for the holidays, let us remember that: Each new day is a gift from God And how you live it, is your gift to Him.

Happy holidays to you and your families. May they bring joy, happiness and good health. □

Order of the Eastern Star HiLights

MONROE DISTRICT
STATE OF NEW YORK

DDGM
Rt. Wthy.
Doris
Bell



DGL
Rt. Wthy.
Michael
Bell



November did not showcase its normal cold weather. Leaves fall slowly from the trees as if reluctant to signal the onset of Winter weather to begin. We are well into the new Eastern Star year.

The District Banquet, held at the Party House on November 5th, was a most enjoyable evening, one sharing good food, friendship and laughter. The highlight of the evening was the presenting of Distinguished Service Awards. This year's recipients were: Sister Mary Lou Ally, Fairport Chapter No. 444; Sister Gail Caraballo, Rochester Chapter No. 314; Sister Ursula Fatke, Corinthian/Fellowship Chapter No. 322; Sister Kay Kuehne, Webster Chapter No. 171; Sister Dorothy Marks, Mary Jane Holmes Chapter No. 440; and Marillyn Wise, Charlotte Chapter No. 507.

The 1999 Grand Officers were congratulated for a year filled with outstanding efforts by the Matrons and all the line officers. Rt. Wthy. Jim Coleman presented a \$847.00 donation to the Mary Cariola Children's Center as proceeds of the Walk-a-Thon last Spring. Rt. Wthy. Barbara's favorite charity, Hospice Cares, benefited from the generosity of Monroe District; that organization received a check in the amount of \$1,815.00. Well done, everyone!

The Matrons of 1999 hosted the West Study Club and the 1999, and 2000 officers at the East-West Luncheon at Cartwright's on November 6th. M. Wthy. Wanda V. Williams honored us by her presence. During after lunch remarks, I took the opportunity to outline more of our plans for the new year. We reiterated the coupon project outlined by Rt. Wthy. Michael in the last issue of the *Masonic Times*.

Below is the text of a letter by Bill Nickerson of the Personal Service Center at Camp Courtney, Okinawa, which was received following a shipment of coupons: "Thank you for all the people who are supporting this very worthwhile program. Distribution of coupons is done by individual contact, walk-in customers at the Personal Service Center (formerly known as the Com-

munity Service Center) and for commissary shoppers there is a pickup box at the entrance to the store.

We have many patrons who use the coupons you provide, accompanied and unaccompanied personnel, both married and single. We want to thank you again for contributing to the quality of life for all the folks that are stationed in Okinawa who utilize the coupon program.

Coupons are valid six months past their printed expiration date, here in Okinawa.

Thank you for making life easier over here for some of our patrons. May God bless you for your generosity and concern for others. I assure you the coupons are greatly appreciated by our customers."

I issue a call to all OES members: Brag about our accomplishments and plans for the future. If you have a Chapter event, put a notice in your local paper. I have a format outline for press releases. If you will contact me I will be happy to send you a copy.

The Holiday Season is fast approaching. May all be embraced in the warmth of family and friends this season.

From the District Grand Lecturer

By the time this column goes to press, you will all have learned much about Rt. Wthy. Doris and myself, as well as our hopes and plans for the coming year. For example, Doris' pride in her Scottish heritage is manifested by her choice of her clan tartan (Stirling and Bannockburn) as her color. In addition, we have chosen "Will Ye Go Lassie, Go?" as the tune to be played when we approach the East. It is a beautiful song, and quite easy to sing. We hope to use it to close all non-Chapter meeting occasions.

My Prayer

Lord, keep me from the habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion. Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details - give me wings to get to the point. Release me from the craving to straighten out everybody's affairs.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a saint - some of them are hard to live with, but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody; helpful, but not bossy. With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all - but thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends in the end. □

NOLA Chapter No. 368

Order of the Eastern Star

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
8:00 p.m.

Wthy. Kim Morici
Matron
Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings
Secretary

20 South Main Street
Churchville, N. Y. 14428

By Wthy. Avis Theis

Dear members

Nola Chapter thanks Wthy. Kim and Wthy. Brother Santo Morici for all their efforts for the nice year we all enjoyed. A thank you to all members for their support and continued membership.

Concerns

We send our best wishes and prayers to Wthy. Bernie Riley. We also wish Wthy. Bernice and Brother Charles Riley a very happy 50th Wedding Anniversary in December.

Grand Chapter

Our best wishes to Rt. Wthy. Everett Vail on his election as Associate Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter, OES. We are very proud of him and his parents, who were Past Grands from Nola.

Meetings

Our Annual Meeting with Election of Officers and Reports will be December 7th. The Committee is Sister Toni and Brother Alan Jeerings and Brother Craig Mollon.

January 4th will be Installation, with rehearsal scheduled for January 1st at 1:00 p.m. Wear colored formals.

Remember your dues.

Come to a party

A Christmas Party in honor of Wthy. Kim and Wthy. Santo will be held December 14th at Rohrbach's, Buffalo Road. Call Sister Florence Smith for reservations by December 7th at 293-3250. There will be three dinner choices starting at \$12.95 to \$15.25.

December birthdays

Our best to Sisters Kathleen Skelton, Pat Cork, Jessie Zorn, Barb Heeg and Wthy. Mary Jane Parry.

Christmas brings out the child in all of us,

May you know its wonders and share its love.

May the peace of His presence bless you in 2000. □

Rochester Chapter No. 314

Order of the Eastern Star

Matron

Wthy. Linda Zahn 381-4241

Secretary

Rt. Wthy. BARBARA MERTENS
482-0994

First Saturday 7:30 P.M.

875 East Main Street
Rochester, N. Y. 14605

Looking back

The past few weeks have been very busy-attending Grand Chapter in Lake Placid, the District Banquet and our own meeting. The District Banquet was a time of celebrating the success of the Past Grand Officers and being introduced to the new ones. Awards for various projects were also presented and I am proud and pleased to tell you that we received 1st place for attendance and 2nd place for money collected for Rt. Wthy. Barbara's Hospice Project. Sister Gail Caraballo was one of the recipients of the Dedicated Service Award. Gail was able to attend and it was wonderful to see her out.

At our November meeting honorary membership was conferred upon Rt. Wthy. James Coleman and a delegation from Corinthian/Fellowship Chapter was present for this. They then conferred honorary membership upon Rt. Wthy. Barbara.

Looking ahead

The Annual Meeting will be December 4th and will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. All annual reports are due at this time.

Please be prepared. Our Holiday Party, Chaired by Rt. Wthy. Sue Huff, is on the schedule for right after the meeting.

Support appreciated

Thanks to all who helped to make this year an enjoyable one. You were always there when needed and the Worthy Patron and I are most appreciative. We wish the very best to all the Officers for the year 2000. You will have our full support.

Rehearsal for Installation will be January 9th at 2:00 p.m. and Installation will be January 15th at 8:00 p.m. More details will be in next month's article.

Thought for the month

Love, that is God. Hearts that open to the Love that is God feel loved in loving and served in serving. Edward A. Gloeggler □

DeMolay International



10200 N Executive Hills Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64153-8333

Proud Tradition

Did you so promise and vow? Were you a member of the Order of DeMolay? Whether you were a member of DeMolay or not, chances are you have not only heard of DeMolay but have known someone who was in DeMolay. In your association with DeMolay, you have undoubtedly heard DeMolays and Senior DeMolays speak of their Chevalier Traditional Observance.

The Degree of Chevalier is conferred upon an active member, or Senior DeMolay, who has performed unusual and meritorious service in behalf of DeMolay. Founder Frank S. Land realized a need to honor and recognize DeMolays who were reaching success within the organization. With this need in mind, the Degree of Chevalier was established and the first group of Chevaliers were conferred on the evening of June 2, 1937. Dad Land concluded the evening's ceremony by saying, "To each of you who has been honored by the Order of DeMolay by receiving the Degree of Chevalier, I say, 'Arise Chevalier' and advance ever forward from this hour."

Annually, on November 8th, Chevaliers gather in observance and remember with pride their past, be thankful for their present, and anticipate their future days in DeMolay.

Chevaliers, as well as all DeMolays, hold true the words spoken by Dad Land to the first Chevaliers, "advance ever forward."

It is confirmed daily as they become respected leaders of their communities, outstanding leaders in business, devoted leaders in Masonry, and responsible citizens. The Chevalier Traditional Observance...a proud tradition of DeMolay!

When a DeMolay is designated to receive the Degree of Chevalier he is conferred with the highest Award for distinguished DeMolay service that DeMolay International confers. There is no other distinction that equals it within DeMolay International. It is ther very summit of DeMolay distinction for labor in the Order of DeMolay.

Each year on November 8th a Chevalier is to hold communion with a fellow Chevalier or a Court of Chevaliers wherever he might be. If this is not possible, then the Chevalier is to dine with an active DeMolay or a young man who has not yet attained the age of twenty-one.

Chevaliers may band themselves together as a Court of Chevaliers. Where Courts hold a "Service of Remembrance" on November 8th, it is a service to commemorate youth, in fact, their own youth in the Order of DeMolay and a remembrance dedicated to the Order and the martyrdom of Jacques DeMolay.

For more information, please contact: DeMolay International, 10200 N Executive Hills Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64153; 1-800-DEMOLAY or log onto our web site, www.demolay.org. □

Brother Masons
Support the
Youth Programs
Help Build the
Leaders of Tomorrow

In Memoriam October

Richards, Albert P.

Albert went to be with the Lord on October 13th. He was a member of Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge No. 1088 and leaves his wife, Arline, 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

Huff, Furman M.

Furman was a member of Rochester Consistory and Damascus Temple Shrine when he passed away October 15th at the age of 91. He is survived by his wife, Thelma, children, 3 grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Keehn, Richard H.

Richard was called Home on October 18th. He was a member of East Rochester's Ancient Craft Lodge No. 943 and is survived by his wife, Lillian, 2 sons and 4 grandchildren.

Buckley, Earl I.

Craftsman/Robertson Lodge No. 969 lost a member with the passing of Earl on October 24th. He is survived by his wife, Jean, 3 children and 7 grandchildren.

Rose, E. Harvey

Harvey entered Eternal Rest on October 24th at the age of 91. He was a member of Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge No. 1088, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Temple Shrine. He leaves his wife, Dorothy, 1 daughter and 2 grandsons.

Bowers, Alfred J., Jr.

A dual member of Craftsman/Robertson Lodge No. 969 and Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge No. 1088, Rochester Consistory and Lalla Rookh Grotto, Alfred died October 30th. He leaves many family members and friends.

November

Wallace, Glenn "Red"

The Great Architect of the Universe claimed Glenn on November 10th at the age of 80. He was a member of Oakland Lodge No. 379 and is leaves his wife, Jane, 3 children and 8 grandchildren. □

Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

To make additions, call the Service Bureau at 473-4351

2000

- Jan. 8 "Road to the East", 8 a.m., DDT
- Jan. 14 District Euchre Tournament - Wakan Hubbard
- Jan. 29 Masonic Education Forum, "Truth Seekers"
Downtown Temple, Philaethes
- Feb. 5 "Road to the East", 8 a.m., DDT
- Mar. 18 Widows Luncheon, Logan's Party House
- May 13 District Spring Party, Mapledale Party House

Lodge Rentals Available

- Etolian Lodge, Union St., Spencerport - Cap. 250**
Tom Michielsen - 352-483, 1st Floor Commercial Space also available.
- Fairport Lodge, 87 North Main St., Fairport**
Tom Richenderfer 377-7782, Greg Ludwig-388-1241, David Taber-388-0629
- Fame Lodge, 4275 Culver Rd., Rochester**
John Rehback 338-7918
- Northfield Lodge, 17 Church St., Pittsford - Cap. 80**
Dan Walker - 429-6572, Bill Spillane - 436-0264, John Dudley - 586-6426
- Webster Lodge, 30 Orchard St., Webster - Cap. 200**
Frederick Cornell, Sr. 671-3102

The Masonic Times will list your Lodge in this space if you desire to offer your facility for rent. Call: 9 - Noon 473-4351.



- Dec. 3 - Spaghetti Dinner, Webster Ldg, 5-7 p.m. See Calendar.
- Dec. 5 - Pancake Breakfast, Attica, 8: a.m. to Noon.

Dec. 12 - Pancake Breakfast, Mt. Vernon Lodge, Java Village. \$5 per person-all you can eat, 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., 2nd Sun. every month.

Dec. 15 - Spaghetti Dinner, Clio Lodge. See Calendar.

Dec. 19 - Country Breakfast, Warsaw Lodge, 7:00 a.m. to Noon

Auditorium CENTER
875 E. Main St. Rochester, NY
(716)271-3250, FAX(716)423-9530

Wed. - Sun., Dec. 1-5
Blues Clues
Wed. - Fri. 8:00 p.m.
Sat. - 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.
Sun. - 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Tues. - Wed., Dec. 7-12
Titanic
Tue. - Fri. 8:00 p.m.
Sat. - 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.
Sun. - 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 17
Jim Brickman
8:00 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 18
RTOS
8:00 p.m.

Visit a Masonic War Veteran

Escape Opportunity!

If you have a few hours a week that you would like to spend in a relaxed quiet atmosphere away from the distractions of domestic chores and repair jobs, if you always wanted to do some serious reading and research on Masonry or if you have always wanted to have those ready answers for the neophyte in your Lodge, then, the Monroe Masonic Library is for you. Why not spend a few hours every month, day or evening, helping both your Brothers and yourself.
Call 473-4351.

No Copy Received at Press time, or Copy Late!

"x" = No. of months missed.
"d" = No. days late.

- Arcade
- Constellation
- Hesperus
- Triluminar
- Warsaw
- Monroe 4x
- Clio 11/13
- ERAC 11/12
- Flower City 11/11
- Oakland 11/16
- Wakan/Hubbard 11/12

If you see your Lodge name here, call your Master; whatever you like!
The Deadline for the January issue is:
Dec. 10, 1999

Classifieds

Music Lessons-Beginners welcome. Piano, keyboard, organ and accordion. Call Martin Ippolito at 266-6337.

Wanted: Toy Trains, (O and O27), and accessories, any condition. Will offer fair price based on Greenberg Book value and condition. Call Don Brugger at 473-4351 (O) or 458-6125 (H).



Old Computers Needed

By George Bracht
Asbury First United Methodist Church is setting up a Computer Learning Center to teach Computer Literacy to the poor and unemployed. Computers with older technology and related parts are needed to make up working computers. The hard drives are reconfigured and reloaded with our software, most of them with Windows 3.1.

If you have any of the following, working or parts only, after you have upgraded, we would welcome the donation. You will get a receipt for tax purposes.

Wanted

- VGA Monitors
 - Mouse(s)
 - Keyboards
 - Inkjet/Laser printers
 - Surge strips
 - Spare hard drives
 - Spare floppy drives
 - CD-ROM drives
 - Modems (9600 and up)
 - Mouse pads
 - Computer desks
- Please contact
George Bracht at 383-1947;
e-mail:
makewaves@juno.com.

December Flower - Narcissus
December Gem - Turquoise

Calendar December 1999

Masonic Times January Deadline

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																															
<p>1999 NOVEMBER 1999</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukkah & A Happy New Year</p> <p>From the Times Staff Barbara Vern Don Jean Janet</p>	<p>1 Attica Olive Branch - LeRoy</p>	<p>2 Constellation - Perry Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster</p>	<p>3 Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 p.m. 30 Orchard Street Webster Adults - \$6, Child - \$3</p> <p>Chanukkah starts at sundown</p>	<p>4 "Road to the East" 8 a.m. - noon</p> <p>OES - Rochester Chapter</p> <p>Happy Chanukkah</p>	<p>5 Pancake Breakfast Attica Lodge 8:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>	<p>6 West Star - Varysburg KT - Cyrene/Monroe</p> <p>OES - Etolian, Irondequoit, Germania, LeRoy</p> <p>Shrine Lunch Club</p>	<p>7 Charlotte/Corinthian - 3* Clio - Hilton Craftsman/Robertson Germania Oakland - Castile Towpath - (C/R) Warsaw</p> <p>OES - Fairport, Monroe, Nola, Perry, Webster</p>	<p>8 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville - 2* Triluminar - Pike</p> <p>Service Bureau Luncheon</p> <p>OES - Batavia, Henrietta, Corinthian/Fellowship</p>	<p>9 Eagle Valley - Biles Flower City</p> <p>RAM - Hiram</p> <p>KT - Batavia Commandery</p> <p>Lalla Rookh Caldron</p>	<p>10 Daughters of the Nile</p> <p>Masters and Wardens Downtown Masonic Temple</p> <p>DeMolay - Downtown Temple - 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Chanukkah ends at sundown</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Pancake Breakfast - Mt. Vernon Lodge, Java Village 7 a.m. - 10 a.m.</p> <p>Latka Hop Downtown Masonic Temple - 4:00 p.m.</p>	<p>13 ERAC - E. Rochester Etolian - Spencerport Fairport Mt. Vernon Union Star - Honeoye Falls Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield</p> <p>OES - Charlotte, Mary Jane Holmes</p> <p>Shrine Lunch Club</p>	<p>14 Batavia - 3* Craftsman/Robertson - F Fame - Irondequoit Monroe - Brockport Seneca - Webster Valley/Simes</p> <p>RAM - 3X3, Dansville, Wyoming</p> <p>OES - Leah</p>	<p>15 Attica Olive Branch - LeRoy</p> <p>Clio - Spaghetti Dinner 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. East Ave., Hilton</p> <p>Tall Cedars of Lebanon</p> <p>Grotto</p> <p>RSM - Doric Council</p>	<p>16 Constellation - Perry Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster</p> <p>Scottish Rite Dinner and Program</p> <p>RAM - Western Star</p> <p>OES - Lea Court, Oatka</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Pancake Breakfast Warsaw Lodge 7 a.m. to Noon</p> <p>Kwanzaa</p>	<p>20 West Star - Varysburg KT - Cyrene/Monroe Christmas Toast</p> <p>OES - Etolian, Irondequoit, Germania, LeRoy</p> <p>Shrine Lunch Club</p>	<p>21 Charlotte/Corinthian - 3* Craftsman/Robertson Clio - Hilton Germania Oakland - Castile Towpath - E. Rochester Warsaw</p> <p>OES - Fairport, Nola, Perry, Webster</p>	<p>22 Churchville</p> <p>1st Day of Winter</p> <p>OES - Batavia, Corinthian/Fellowship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Christmas tree illustration.</p>	<p>25 "Merry Christmas"</p>	<p>26 ERAC - E. Rochester Etolian - Spencerport Mt. Vernon Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield</p> <p>RSM - Nundawaga</p> <p>OES - Charlotte</p> <p>Shrine Lunch Club</p>	<p>27 Arcade Batavia Fame - Irondequoit Monroe - Brockport</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Happy New Year Welcome the new Millennium now or next year? Your Choice!</p>	<p>2000 JANUARY 2000</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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