



Masonic Times

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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

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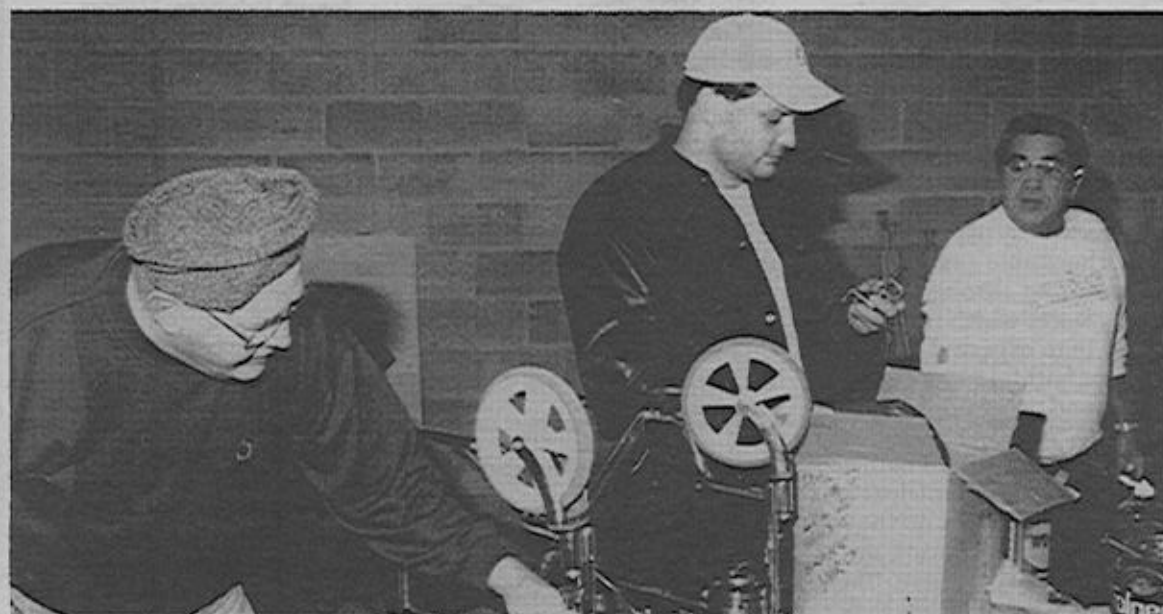
First, I thank the Brothers who attended our last meeting on November 15th, which was held at the Masonic Service Bureau. It was held there so we could work on the Loan Closet equipment, which was in desperate need of attention. We managed to get every last walker and cane cleaned and tightened up for its next use. Also, we managed to scavenge enough spare parts to make five complete wheelchairs out of the dozen or so incomplete units on hand. Not bad for a couple of hours of work.

As far as the meeting itself, we had a couple of surprise visitors. R.: W.: Cliff Short came to announce that the ElderWear program is now in full swing. As you might have known, this program has been so successful with W.: Lou Perna at the helm, that ERAC Lodge has stepped up to adopt the Program. It was reported that there are possible commercial sponsorships in the future to further boost the program's significance.

By Patrick Schwartz,

SPECIAL THANKS!

Loan Closet Equipment Refurbished by Monroe Masters and Wardens



Brothers Jim Toogood, Etolian (upper left), Dave Mura, Valley/Simes (upper right), Bernie Lazerson, Fairport/Flower City, and Dean Smith, Northfield (below), along with Glenn Hedges, Northfield, and Pat Schwartz, Etolian (above) clean and repair Masonic Service Bureau Loan Closet equipment under the supervision of Moe Schirano.

This year there is a great emphasis on getting new clothes instead of used, to increase service life, and also to reduce manpower time used for sorting. Pick up points and delivery details are being worked out as we speak. If there is anything that you can do to help, please let ERAC Lodge know so we can continue to grow this incredible service.

R.: W.: Derek VanHouton also attended our meeting to report on upcoming dates, locations and times for both the Masonic Development Course and Road to the East. Please



read his article for the details. The last surprise visitor was R.: W.: Rich Friedman, who informed us of the importance of the Grand Lodge sessions in May. Aside from Officer elections and the vote on the per capita increase, there is going to be possible constitution changes in the works. I do not know these well enough to explain them in this article, so I have asked R.: W.: Friedman to come to our January meeting which will be held at Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge on the 10th at 10:00 am. It would be very important for all senior Officers to attend, so we can be properly prepared for Grand Lodge in May, and for the near future.

At this time, there is no meeting planned for December. However, we do have a great desire to have a social evening with our wives. We will be calling all of the Masters and Wardens shortly to begin planning. This is just as important as the great work we are doing in the District, as Brotherly Love and Friendship is as big a part of what and who we are, as Benevolence. *

ElderWear 2003

By Lew Perna, Chairperson

ElderWear is a clothing drive aimed at providing staple clothing for the elderly in area nursing care facilities. Many of the residents of these facilities have limited financial means, and are likely on Medicaid. ElderWear is a community service project adopted by the Monroe District two years ago. This year the ElderWear Campaign will continue with ERAC Lodge assuming responsibility for this project. The ElderWear Campaign begins November 10th and ends January 31st, 2004. What the

Campaign needs for success is new staple clothing which includes sweat shirts, sweat pants, socks, underwear, pajamas and night clothing. Larger sizes are better. ElderWear needs the help of the Brethren.

You can do your part quite easily.

When you are at your local department store (i.e., Walmart, K-Mart), pick up one or more of these items.

Make yourself available to shop for these items. ElderWear has more than \$2,000 from past donations.

Secure other areas of donations. Identify a Corporate Sponsor who can help.

Make yourself available to sort clothing, which is being kept at ERAC Lodge.

Make yourself available for delivery.

Please do not donate any used clothing. It is harder to work with.

Please help. I have been involved with this project for the past two years and guarantee success. Although this worthy program is being sponsored by ERAC, all Masons are welcome to help. Any Lodge wishing to become part of this program can contact me directly at 334-8265. *

Tom Ferraro, FOODLINK Honored



Mrs. Rosa Wims, recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in 1992, extolls the virtues of Tom Ferraro (right), 2003 recipient and long-time colleague in food distribution programs to the needy, as Angelo DiCataldo, Chairman of the Board of the Masonic Service Bureau, holds his plaque.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Mr. Thomas Ferraro at the 61st Annual Interfaith Service and Brunch. Mrs. Rosa Wims, past recipient of the Award, was asked to do the honors. She and Tom are long-time associates in programs dedicated to the care and feeding of needy people.

Angelo DiCataldo, Chairman, assisted with the festivities and presented a check to FOODLINK on behalf of the Masonic Service Bureau and the guests in attendance at the Brunch.

More than 125 guests listened as Tom, who was also the featured speaker, told of his expe-

riences and endeavors from the start of his efforts, which began with Action for a Better Community, twenty-five years ago.

R.: W.: James E. Sullivan, Junior Grand Warden, was present along with his wife, Gail. He extended greetings to those assembled from the Grand Master and congratulated Mr. Ferraro on his selection.

The Flag was presented and posted by representatives of the James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post Color Guard, under the direction of Ken Hutchinson.

The invocation and benediction were given by Father Otto Vogt, who also delivered the

Homily at the Interfaith Service.

R.: W.: F. Jay McCullough, past president, served as Master of Ceremonies. Ramona Dimino co-ordinated ticket sales, R.: W.: Mathew Gingold arranged for past recipients and special guests, W.: William Hook and W.: Donald Rose handled the reception table. Linda Zahn, vice-chairman, was General Chairperson. *

SUPPORT OUR CHARITIES

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Editor's Corner

With this issue, my staff and I completed the first year of our endeavors. I find it difficult to believe it has gone by this rapidly. It definitely has not been without some challenges, but what position doesn't have some challenges?

If you have followed this column, you are aware of the technical glitches involving the upgrade of computer hardware and software. We haven't completely licked this situation, but we keep making progress, looking on each incident as a new challenge, and doing our best to overcome all obstacles.

Change
I wrote, a while back, about change. We have another. Organizations engage in many different types of fundraising events. For decades...long before I even thought of applying for this position...one of the items which we were forbidden to mention in this publication (and other similar ones), due to the regulations of the United States Postal Service, was games of chance. Door prizes were in a gray area and, if worded carefully, could be mentioned in articles. Bingo games, raffles, and the like, were verboten!

I was recently informed that we could now mention raffles, so long as we did not distribute a ticket or tickets with the issues, which would be virtually impossible for us to do. This change has been confirmed by the State Chairman of the Publications Committee, so I felt safe including the one submitted for this issue of the *Masonic Times*. All of our Bodies need financial support for their charitable causes. If this is the way they choose to achieve that goal, I am happy to be able to give them our support.

Thanks for reading.

Use our new email address:
bmasonic@rochester.rr.com

Are You Moving?
Print your NEW address below (including seasonal changes)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____
Clip and mail to:
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Webster, NY 14580-1736

Masonic Service Bureau
of Rochester Inc.

Chairman-CEO
Angelo DiCataldo
Vice-Chairman
Linda Zahn
Secretary
Barbara Goodrich
Treasurer
Robert C. Pettit

You have received, or will receive shortly, the annual solicitation letter from the Masonic Service Bureau along with a reply envelope in which to return your contribution. We sincerely hope you will consider our operations worthy of your support.

All charitable organizations are suffering through difficult times...times which have lasted longer than expected or hoped. Without faithful supporters, activities and programs have to be curtailed. You can read the daily newspaper to learn of cutbacks in funding from municipal and state governments, and the sad results these are having in the reduction of services to those most in need.

While our appeal is slightly later than normal, it is as urgent as ever! The continuing financial support from all our Sisters and Brothers will help your Masonic Service Bureau to be there when the need occurs.



R. W. Cy White
Western Regional Chairman
1201 Johnson Road
Palmyra 14522-9761



In a package I received from the Chairman of the Beacon Project, R. W. Marwin Meller, there was this statement I think is worth repeating.

Reasons for Involving the Lodge with the Community School

We can't imagine a more important way for the membership of a Masonic Lodge to achieve relevance than to become involved with a school in the community. Strategically, supporting children's education is one of the "right things" the leadership can do to move the Lodge closer to the members, closer to the members' families and closer to the community. There are many important positives that can come from this type of public involvement in education. Here are a few reasons:

1. The school is perfectly organized to accept the volunteer partnerships the Lodge can offer and has the staff to assist.

2. Schools in our area are seeking these kinds of partnerships to supplement the support they are receiving through the local and State departments of education.

3. Parents will recognize the contributions of Masons who are involved in their schools and this may form a basis for their inquiry and for their membership.

4. The press is much more likely to recognize your

- Grand Lodge**
1-800-3-MASON-4, (362-7664)
- Grand Lodge Officers**
Grand Master
Carl J. Fitje
(o)212-337-6643, (f)212-633-2639
nysgrandmaster@aol.com
Grand Marshal
Edward Giesler
Deputy Grand Master
Edward R. Trosin, Jr.
(h)716-693-6812, (f)716-693-6961
Grand Secretary
Gary A. Henningsen
800-362-7664, (f)212-633-2639
- DDGMs**
Robert Fisher, Livingston
(h)226-2210
Francis E. (Ted) Powley, Jr.
(h)315-483-2745 - Wayne
Clayton R. Ruggles, OSY
(h)315-548-3573
Robert W. Strang, Jr, G/W
(h)591-2888
John E. Zabel, Monroe
(h)223-3228
jzabel@iecc.org
- Staff Officers**
Norman P. Austin, GSB
(h)494-2223
William Colin, GSB
(h)315-789-9534
Clarence E. Hill, GDC
(h)538-6581
James W. Frind, GS
(h)315-946-9630
Derek VanHouten, GSB
(h)247-2920
hooter95@rochester.rr.com
- Masonic Education**
Grand Lecturer
Edward G. Gilbert
(h)212-924-0764
Regional AGL
Alan Ramsay
(h)458-2335
AGLs
John Dyer, Monroe
(h)503-4270
john.dyer@kodak.com
Brad Lewis, Monroe
(h)265-2526
Mark Dibelka, Livingston
(h)230-0355
mdibelka@rochester.rr.com
David R. Rising, Wayne
(h)315-331-7337
drising3@msn.com
George R. Springett, G/W
(h)247-3557
grand_poohbaa@msn.com

Lodge's contributions in the community if the Lodge is supporting education and the local schools.

5. The type of help schools need and the partnerships they are seeking are well within the capabilities of the membership of a Masonic Lodge.

6. Making a difference with children - especially in the formative years - is in keeping with the traditions of Masons and their spirit of charity and giving.

7. There are many wonderful educators who are important to their community, who will make great new friends, and will broaden every member's social and fraternal reach.

8. Students who benefit from the Lodge's involvement will be a powerful "voice" in helping the Lodge achieve relevance, recognition and support.

By embracing the Beacon Project (the Grand Master's signature program), we are doing exactly what our newest members want of an organization they join. Masons can point with pride to their hands-on gift to the children and the schools and say, "we are involved...we are a relevant organization."

Hot Numbers

- Committees**
New Member
Bruce D. Chilton, State Chr.
(h)342-0562
Mark Dibelka-Area 15 Chr.
(h)230-0355
mdibelka@rochester.rr.com
David J. Beardsley, G/W
(h)493-2426
Emil Schirano, Monroe
(h)265-3932
- Membership Development**
Joseph Privitera, Monroe,
(h)392-5583
Norman Steinbaugh, G/W,
(h)591-2888
- Public Involvement & Awareness**
R.J. Muto, Monroe
(h)249-0699
John A. Specht, G/W,
(h)548-2694
- Fellowship & Family Involvement**
Glenn L. Cramer, G/W,
(h)535-7507
Raymond Glegg, Monroe
(h)223-3433
- The Beacon Project**
Cy White, West Region Chr.
(h)315-597-9546;
ukcy@juno.com
- Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention**
Robert D. Mix, Vice Chr.,
W. Region, (h)798-0335
Gabe Milonni, Monroe
(h)467-9535
Merle L. Robinson, G/W
343-5159
- Brotherhood Fund**
Allen Fowler, Monroe
(h)377-0479
Dennis Parmerter, G/W
(h)786-3544
Child ID/DARE
Andy Alvarez
(h)426-1946
John Dyer
(h)503-4270
Pat Schwartz
(h)395-0874
- Lodges and Buildings**
Joe Privitera
(h)392-5583
Phillip Hurwitz
(h)720-6019
Ronald McDonald House
Michael C. McBride
(h)663-4636(o)722-2778
- Veteran's Recognition**
Thomas Paglia
(h)227-2046

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Staff
Editor Charles Waterstreet
Editor Emeritus Donald J. Brugger
Associate Editor David King
Office Manager Barbara Goodrich
Production Norman P. Austin
Assistants Mathew L. Gingold

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- Widows Program**
Alfred Pulcino III
(h)225-8471
- Masonic News Network**
37 Oliver Street
Lockport, NY 14094-4615
(f)716-434-4946
RonNBower@aol.com
- Masonic Home**
1-800-322-8826, 1-315-798-4800
- Acacia Village**
1-800-593-3353
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James P. Allan 457-3079
jpallan57@hotmail.com
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3300 Monroe Avenue 264-1690
(f)264-1692

Road to the East
Eunice Lodge
Galedonia, NY
(southeast corner of Traffic Circle)

February 21st and
March 20th, 2004
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Fee for Goarse and lunch - \$20

Reservation Deadline
January 23, 2004

Contacts
R.: W.: Derek VanHouten - 247-2920
R.: W.: Norm Austin - 494-2223
R.: W.: Gene Hill - 538-6581
R.: W.: Jim Frind - (315) 946-9630

Monroe District HiLights, OES

DDGM DGL
Rt. Wthy. Rt. Wthy.
Sula Baxter William Baxter
225-5284 225-5284

By Rt. Wthy. Debbie Leipold
Hi! It's me, Debbie. Thought you got rid of me...sorry, not yet!

The members of Monroe District will do whatever we can in order that Rt. Wthy. Sula and Rt. Wthy. Bill can focus their energy on Rt. Wthy. Bill. We hope all is going well and he will be reading this from home.

Rt. Wthy. Sula was installed October 23rd at the Grand's Association meeting. Rt. Wthy. Bill will be installed at a later date.

Everyone is looking forward to the plans and new ideas Rt. Wthy. Sula and Rt. Wthy. Bill have for 2004. I know firsthand the wonderful support they will receive.

Everyone has worked so hard in 2003, it is time to concentrate on well earned holiday and family time. Put on your fuzzy slippers, eat some cookies, go shopping, decorate everything that doesn't move and above all...have a cool yule and a frantic first!!

Webster Chapter No. 171

Order of the Eastern Star
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Matron
Rt. Wthy. Marjorie Fenton,
217-8904
Secretary
Wthy. Faythe Mattern
594-4449
30 Orchard Street
Webster 14580

It sure has been a busy time for the members of Webster Chapter since my last article in the *Masonic Times*.

We had a very meaningful Draping of the Altar ceremony on November 3rd. We honored the memory of our Sisters and Brothers who have passed away since our last Ceremony.

We enjoyed putting on a dinner for the Past Grands - many thanks to all who helped, including our Brother Webster Lodge Masons. This event provided us with much needed funds to support our charities.

We had a most entertaining time with the Webster Lodge Masons (good food, too) and with their special guest, President Theodore Roosevelt. Hope they do something like this again, so that more of our Sisters and Brothers can enjoy the fellowship. Maybe we should try something like this and invite the Masons and their ladies. Hummmmm!

We put on our November Spaghetti Dinner - many thanks to all who helped. Again, this provided funds to support our Chapter and OES charities.

At the request of our Sister, Karen Fisher, we assisted with the reception honoring her brother, a fireman with the Rochester Fire Department, who passed away on October 24th. We were all pleased that we could help and really enjoyed the fellowship that working together provided.

On November 10th we were at work with the Fall Luncheon

and Card Party - cooking and serving Chicken and Biscuits to approximately 60 ladies and gentlemen who look forward to this semi-annual event. Many thanks to all who helped. Special thanks to those who provided the Jell-O, muffins, biscuits, door and table prizes.

What's next?

Please make sure you attend the December 2nd meeting. We will have a Pot Luck Supper, followed by our annual meeting with reports on the activities of the Chapter during the past year and the election of Officers for 2004.

Sickness and Distress

Please remember our Brother Bob Zahn, who is now being treated as an out-patient. Also, remember our Brother Carl Peck as he continues his treatment.

Thought for the day

Many things can be done in a day - if you don't make that day tomorrow.

NOLATKA Chapter No. 320

Order of the Eastern Star
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.
Matron Wthy. Diane Maltese
345-1029
Patron Wthy. William Baxter
225-5284
Sec. Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings
594-4692
22 South Main Street,
Churchville, 14428

News Notes

We are pleased to announce that on October 14th, at the Organization of Triangles, Inc. Convention, Wthy. Antoinette Jeerings' daughter, Jennifer, was installed as Junior Advisor, Monroe District, Order of Triangles. Congratulations, Jennifer, and compliments to Toni for raising a daughter who is achieving District honors.

Bibles

As a follow-up to our mentioning that Nolotka Chapter has bought a new Bible, Rt. Wthy. Susan Huff, at the October 21st meeting, announced that the Oatka and Nola Bibles have been updated with the names of their Matrons and Patrons. Nolotka's new Bible records, beginning with the merger in September of 2000, will be updated in January, at Installation Night, with all the recent Matrons and Patrons affixing their signatures at that time.

Impressive group

We had twenty reservations from Nolotka Chapter for the Monroe District Dinner on October 30th. We were an impressive group when we stood for Rt. Wthy. Sula Baxter, as one of her two supporting Chapters.

February

Since the Secret Pals didn't begin until February of 2003, this program will continue through the holidays and January (for those with January birthdays). In February, the Secret Pals will be revealed. Some Secret Pals have been most thoughtful through the year, and the recipients are very appreciative.

Madrigal Dinners

Every two years, the Community Christian Church, 2647 Chili Avenue, puts on their Christmas musical, and they ask Nolotka Chapter to prepare the dinner (usually roast beef, mashed potatoes and all of the fixings) and dish it up for family-style service.

Then, we wash the dishes and clean the kitchen. This is one of our biggest fundraisers. It's a lot of hard work, but it's only every two years, so we gather volunteers and have some fun while we work.

This year, the musical is presented: Friday through Sunday, December 5th, 6th, and 7th; and Friday and Saturday, December 12th and 13th. During the actual performance, we have to be quiet, for the kitchen adjoins the hall. Have you ever washed and dried dishes and put them away...silently? Quite a task! Volunteers are welcome.

Finally, as the holidays arrive and you receive annual greeting cards, please save the used postage stamps for Chapter. Also, don't forget to save Boxtops for Education, your Tops register tapes, and fronts only of Campbells Soup labels. (I toss all of these into a small basket until I accumulate enough to bring to a meeting.)

Meetings

Rt. Wthy. Diane Maltese delivered her report on Grand Sessions at our November 4th meeting. She wrote an interesting, informative, and amusing narrative. A copy is filed with our Secretary.

Outstanding work

At our November 18th meeting, our Chaplain, Sister Jane LePree, was honored by our Worthy Matron, Diane, for the outstanding work she has done in her term of office.

Nominations were made for next year's Officers, who will be elected at our December 2nd meeting.

The Draping of the Altar paid tribute to Sisters Patricia Cork and Eleanora Dick, who passed away during the last year.

Finally, we had a modest Thanksgiving celebration, and one lucky member took a turkey home for the holiday.

All members with dues paid for 2003 have been summoned to the Annual Meeting to be held on December 2nd. Annual Reports will be given by our Secretary, Treasurer, Finance Chairman, Historian, Sunshine Chairman, and Trustees. Also, we will have the Election of 2004 Officers.

Christmas Party

December 16th is the date for our Christmas Party at the Oatka Steak and Seafood, 17 Main Street in Scottsville. Spouses or significant others are also invited. Gathering will be at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Bring a monetary donation which will be given to a charity of our Rt. Wthy. Matron's choice. This year, the money will be contributed to the Heritage Christian Home, Inc. Also, bring your pillowcase and toiletries for Project Clean Start. These personal supplies will be forwarded to Alternatives for Battered Women.

Sunshine

Rt. Wthy. William Baxter, after spending nearly a month in the hospital, came home on November 10th. Bill's a great storyteller, so I have no doubt that we'll be entertained with numbers of amusing incidents. Both he and Sula have very positive attitudes, and with all of our prayers, Bill will come through this with flying colors.

Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in December will be Rt. Wthy. Sula Baxter, Sister Barbara Heeg,

Rt. Wthy. Carol Lang, Wthy. Mary Jane Parry, and Sister Kathleen Skelton.

Committee

The Chair of the Refreshment Committee for December 5th is Sister Barbara Heeg. Her Committee includes Sisters Jerri Fimbel and Jeanne Spaulding.

The Refreshment Committee is also responsible for cleaning the Chapter rooms.

Tri-Star Chapter

No. 209 O.E.S.

1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.
Matron
Rt. Wthy. Eleanor VanDelinder
(315) 597-9558
Patron
Rt. Wthy. Robert Giles
(315) 597-5061
Secretary
Rt. Wthy. Helga Haak
(315) 597-4105
Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street

Here it is, December already. The year sure went by quickly. We did a lot of work, but had a lot of fun, too.

I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving. Family gatherings are very special.

At our December 2nd meeting, we will be bringing items for our local food pantry. We will also have the year-end reports and Election of Officers for next year. I thank our members for all their support through the year. I couldn't have done it without you.

I wish the new Officers the best. Our new Matron will be Wthy. Donna Hiler, and her Patron will be Brother Ed Lonnevill; I'm sure they will do a great job.

I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Rochester Chapter No. 314

Order of the Eastern Star
First Saturday, 8:00 p.m.
Matron
Wthy. Evelyn Heller
621-5737
Patron
Wthy. George Bundoc
621-3319
Secretary
Rt. Wthy. Barbara Mertens
482-0994
152 West Commercial Street
East Rochester 14445

Thank you to all

I would like to begin this final column by thanking all the members of Rochester Chapter for electing me Matron this past year. It has been wonderful, and I would like to thank everyone for the help I received. I won't name names because I might forget someone. Just know that if you assisted in any way, you have my heartfelt thanks.

Sickness and Distress

Wthy. Bob and Wthy. Linda Zahn need your prayers. Wthy. Bob is making preparations for a bone marrow transplant. Sister Gail Caraballo is fighting the good fight and is cheerful as always. Sister Helen Hayes is recovering well. Please remember these Sisters and Brothers with cards and prayers.

New Year ahead

Please give Wthy. Sue Duff your support next year when she is Matron. I know if you do so, she will have a wonderful year. Installation will be the first Saturday in January.

Live Long and Prosper.

Canandaigua/ Fenogowone

Chap. No. 326 O.E.S.
2nd & 4th Weds.

Mat: Wthy. Leslie Smith
554-6715

Sec: Wthy. Shirley Wells
394-2778

Shortsville Temple

The Holiday Season is upon us. It is time to think of what we want for Christmas and the New Year. I hope that we all have great health and prosperity. I also want to have angels watch over our men and women overseas, and have our V.A. Hospital in Canandaigua stay open so our veterans have a place to go, to receive the care that they need.

December

I hope to see many of our members at our annual Christmas meeting on December 10th. Don't forget, we meet at 7:30 p.m., so come and join us. We will have Election of Officers and our annual reports. Let's hope that the weather will hold out for us. I know that we will be seeing some of that snow coming down before long.

Please keep sending in the information I requested from you as it is very important.

For those of you who are not aware, our Associate Grand Patron, Ronald Charron, is a member of our District (his second District) and Livingston District (his first District). Rt. Wthy. Ron and Rt. Wthy. Kay joined Gah-a-yanduk a couple of years ago. So let's get out and show our support for him. He is a great person and will do a great job.

Have a great Christmas and a wonderful New Year.



James A. Hard/
Wayne Charter
Post No. 12

Commander
Kenneth V. Hutchinson
(315) 589-9021
Adjutant
Vance R. Collom, Jr.
217-9817

My thanks to all our members and their ladies who attended the Veterans Day Program at the War Memorial. We presented our wreath, along with other veterans groups, in a very stirring ceremony.

December 7th

The Calling Tree will be activated to remind you of the Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Service. It will be held at the Coast Guard Station in Charlotte. Assembly is at 7:00 a.m., for the 7:30 a.m. Service. We will need your reservation for the breakfast that follows at the American Legion Post, 344 Dorsey Road.

December 20th

The traditional Post Christmas Party, with our ladies, will be back at Fame Lodge. Social hour is at 5:30 p.m., Roast Beef Dinner at 6:30. Bring a \$5.00 gift to be auctioned off, one per couple. This is our only fundraising project.

Edna and I wish you and your family all the best for a joyous holiday and a great New Year.

**Grand Director
of Ceremonies
Livingston District**



R.W.
C. Eugene
Hill
538-6581

As I write this, the wind is blowing and the snow is falling. This should really stir the snowbirds for their exodus to the South.

I have just had cataract surgery on my right eye this week and I'm scheduled to have my left eye done on December 5th. Just another experience in life. Again, I can report that Union Lodge No. 45 is busy doing Degree work. I would like to report on other Lodges doing Degree work, but I do not have that information.

Award presentation

Geneseo Lodge No. 214 presented the DeWitt Clinton Award to Sheriff John York. This Award is presented by the Masons to one who has performed outstanding service in the community.

Sheriff York has been very active in Livingston District's Child ID Program. The Sheriff and Masons have been partnered in this program which has been spearheaded by R.W. Gene Flint and Brother Ray Ellis. Ray is also a Major in the Sheriff's Department.

Livingston District has now videotaped over 18,000 children for the Child ID Program.

Open House

Eunice Lodge had an open house on October 30th, and it was a grand success, thanks to W. Mel Hussey and some of the OES ladies. Twenty people were present for the evening's activities, which included talks given by Brother Brian Pease, R.W. Alan Roggen, R.W. Gerald Pease and R.W. Bob Strang, DDGM, Genesee/Wyoming District. There is a possibility of one new Brother each for Livonia and Eunice Lodges. Good refreshments were enjoyed by all. This was a combined effort of the Masons and the OES. I highly commend this type of open house, because this is what it is all about.

Training project

The RTTE Program is alive and well. The Program will be given on February 21st and March 20th, 2004; cost will be \$20 for this excellent training program. This and the MDC are training projects for the future Officers of our Fraternity and, in fact, are prerequisites.

Never forget that 86% of the people in the United States believe in GOD!

God Bless us.

**District Deputy
Grand Master
Ontario/Seneca/Yates
District**



R.W. Clayton R. Ruggles
315-548-3573

All of my Official Visits, but one, are completed. I had to reschedule Milnor Lodge to after the beginning of the new year. I am pleased with the work being done in many of our Lodges, of which Officers and Brothers can be proud.

Petitions

Degree work in the District continues. On December 1st, Canandaigua Lodge will have a 2nd Degree. December 2nd, Garoga/Sincerity will also have a 2nd Degree. Milnor Lodge will confer the 3rd Degree on December 11th. Other Lodges will be starting Degree work soon, as petitions have been read during some of my visits.

Remember that one of the Grand Master's goals continues to be to build our membership. The Lodges mentioned, and those planning future work, are to be commended.

Informative Course

The Masonic Development Course, in the OSY District, has begun. The second session will be held on December 22nd. This Course is open to all Brothers. It is especially informative for newer Brothers and could certainly be a refresher for all. The Road to the East Course is being scheduled for this Spring; more information to be forthcoming. These Courses are designed to develop Masonic knowledge, as well as, leadership skills. I encourage any who have not participated in the past to give serious consideration to becoming involved.

Future plans

At the November meeting of the OSY Association, it was decided to stay with our Saturday morning meetings. Plans are being developed for the District's Second Annual Surviving Spouses Luncheon. The first was a fine success, and we hope to increase participation. Lodges are reminded that this event is not intended to replace any like activities that Lodges currently have.

Lodges are being invited to have representation on the OSY Charities Golf Tournament Committee. This event is the primary source of income for the OSY Charities activities. Anyone interested in being on the committee is invited to its first meeting, which will follow the next OSY Associa-

tion meeting on January 10th, 8:00 a.m., at Garoga/Sincerity Lodge in Phelps.

Condolences

The District notes, with sorrow, the passing of two past District Officers. R.W. Edward Burr died on October 8th and had a Masonic Service on November 15th. R.W. Fred Josselyn died on November 1st and had a Masonic Service on November 22nd. Our condolences to the families of both of these departed Brothers.

December dates

1st - Canandaigua, 2nd Degree
2nd - Garoga/Sincerity, 2nd Degree

3rd - Milo - Staff Officer Visit
5th - OSY Charities at Canandaigua Lodge. Contact George Stanton at 394-6829 for reservations. Canned goods will be collected for a needy organization.

11th - Milnor, 3rd Degree
17th - Rushville, Staff Officer Visit

My wife, Mary, and I wish all a most pleasant holiday season and a happy New Year.

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

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

Masonic Ignorance!

Ignorance could be defined as a lack of knowledge, Masonic knowledge in particular. When a person enters Freemasonry he has to fill out a petition in which he has made a number of solemn promises, before he applies his signature. Also, during the process of being made a Master Mason, he more than once pledges himself to be and to do certain things.

These obligations help teach a man in what is meant that he is now a Master Mason. Henceforth, once he is a Master Mason, he is under a moral and ethical obligation to possess himself of whatever Masonic knowledge those pledges require of him.

Membership in the Masonic Fraternity itself requires of a good man that he have other types of knowledge, not known to him. Also, that he should attend his Lodge regularly, visit a sick Brother, respond to his Lodge Master's call of relief and assist when called upon.

It is no unjust or harsh verdict upon him to call him Masonically uneducated if he does not have knowledge for such things, because he is under obligation to have it. If he doesn't have or possess this simple Masonic knowledge, he ought never to petition for membership in this honorable Fraternity.

A Masonic Lodge is an organization of many Brothers (93 in Ark Lodge) and has many responsibilities. It must meet in a building (Temple) or room of its own choosing. It must hold communications (Ark is the 3rd Wednesday of the month) no less than once a month, and have a team of Officers assisting the Worshipful Master in his many duties.

Unless all these things are undertaken to the best of everyone's ability, Freemasonry cannot continue on a high level.

For Freemasonry to carry on its charitable and idealistic activities, each Brother of Ark Lodge needs this type of Masonic knowledge. At this point, Masonic education must enter. We in Ark Lodge No. 33 (remember this low number, 196 years in Geneva) are very privileged to have one of the largest Masonic libraries in Upstate New York - 850 books.

The purpose of Masonic education is not to make our Brothers great Masonic scholars but, rather that our members have some knowledge of what our Craft and Fraternity teach and practice, its laws, customs, and procedures, which are all necessary if our Fraternity is to maintain its high level of moral and ethical work. This we are all (Brothers) dedicated to do by means of Masonic education.

**Charge at closing of
Masonic Lodge**

Brethren, you are now about to leave this sacred retreat of Masonic friendship and virtue, to mix again with the world. Amidst its concerns and temptations, forget not the duties you have heard so frequently inculcated and so forcibly recommended in this Lodge. Be diligent, prudent, temperate and discreet. Remember that you have promised to befriend and relieve every Brother who shall need your assistance. You have promised in the most friendly manner to aid him in a Masonic reformation. Every human being has a claim to do good unto all.

Finally, Brethren, be ye all of one mind, live in peace, and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with you and bless you.

(Taken from the *Freemasons Companion*, 1883.)

**Masons meet, act
and part**

Pray for: Brothers Robert Inscho, Bill Kashouty, Joe Michaels, Harry George, Dr. John Stelter, Max Kaufmann, George VanSickle, John Warder, James Baroody, Arnie Schofield, and all others who need our prayers, aid and sympathy.

Ark Lodge Red Cross Blood Drive was November 18th at the Presbyterian Church.

Master needs help

Who will come forward?

1. Brother Bring-a-Friend Night.

2. Dinner for widows and wives of Ark Lodge.

3. Past Masters Night and Dinner, Geneva Lodge No. 965, included.

4. Shrine Brothers and wives of Ark Lodge and a dinner!

The Grand Lecturer's Convention at Pocahontas Lodge in Seneca Falls, was November 14th. We focused on opening, closing and balloting.

The OSY Association meeting, with breakfast, was November 8th at Pocahontas Lodge.

Ark Lodge had a night for the Past Masters on November 19th.

**What is the Traveling
Gavel?**

This gavel is a three-foot wooden mallet-type symbol of authority. It was made in 1973 by Ark Lodge Brothers Charles

A. Rouse, Sr., and Ervin R. Fuller, and had the support of the OSY DDGM, Brother Wilfred Kennedy, and the Masters and Wardens Association. The sole intent of the Traveling Gavel is to stimulate visitation by the OSY Lodges and to encourage lively journeys between Lodges across three county lines. Any Lodge can temporarily possess the Gavel by having at least seven Brothers visit a Lodge holding the Traveling Gavel at their stated communication.

The Gavel was at Geneva Lodge until Brothers Tony Khoury, Master, Charles Rouse, Jr., Tom Bryan, Henry Funk, Howard Colegrove, Tom Abraham, Peter Einset and Tom Smart, from Ark Lodge retrieved it. We are awaiting another Lodge to come to take it away from us.

The Traveling Trowel was given to us by Geneva Lodge, and Ark Lodge quickly gave it to Pocahontas Lodge where six Brothers, Tony Khoury, Master, Tom Abraham, Tom Smart, Peter Einset, Terry Trenchard, Tom Bryan, and Howard Colegrove, were present.

Help needed

Brothers will be called to do bell ringing for the Salvation Army as well as to deliver the many food packages to the Senior Citizens at their apartments located at Elmcrest, Seneca and Court Yard Homes.

Brotherhood Fund

Please give your Brotherhood donation to Brother Robert Mattlick, 223 High Street, Geneva, 14456, or Brother Secretary, Lance Ward at 3396 Sutton Road, Geneva, 14456, as soon as you can. We did very poorly last year. Be sure to designate where you want your donation to go, such as the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory in Utica, the best in the world! Ark Lodge says thank you to all who give!

**Garoga-Sincerity
Lodge No. 200**

1st & 3rd
Tuesdays



Master
W. John Walti
315-548-9670

Secretary
R.W. Clayton Ruggles
315-548-3573

67 Ontario Street, Phelps 14532

It seems that we just get through with one month and we're into another. Where does the time go? November and December are very busy months in the Lodge. On Tuesday, November 4th, W. George Landstrom conferred a 1st Degree. He did an excellent job, as did all who participated. I'm sure we made a lasting impression upon our newest Brother. I know how hard it is to learn these Ritual parts, and many of you have ventured into new areas of the Ritual. It is nice to see some of the younger Brothers stepping up and doing a fine job, as well.

The 2nd Degree will be conferred on December 2nd. An Awards Night is also scheduled for that evening. We have two Brothers receiving the 2nd Degree and I'm sure that will be a very rewarding night.

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We have also scheduled a 3rd Degree for our February 3rd communication. We will start promptly at 5:30 p.m. and break for supper at 6:30 p.m., after which we will continue with our business meeting and the last part of the Degree. Watch for more information on this important date as it gets closer. We all know how fast things can change.

I know a lot of you have not been to a Lodge meeting in a while, or participated in a Degree, so why not plan to attend? It is very important to have a good turnout and support our new Brothers.

Official Visit

November 18th was the Official Visit by our DDGM, R.:W.: Clayton Ruggles. This is one of our most important meetings, and it was nice to see a fine turnout. A dinner was enjoyed with the help of our local Eastern Star Chapter. A special thanks to Wthy. Matron, Marcia Scherbyn, and the rest of the Sisters, who did an excellent job.

Don't forget our annual Budget Meeting, to be held on December 16th. This is a chance for all to see where the Lodge stands on finances and we welcome your input on this important matter.

Dues

By the time you receive this issue of the *Masonic Times*, dues notices will have been mailed out and you should have received yours. Also, please do not forget our Brotherhood Fund. Pledge forms will be in the mail very soon, and we all know how important this Fund is.

OK, enough about that. Our fun nights at the Lodge will be starting very shortly. Everyone is welcome; just bring a snack to pass. More details will follow. I hope everyone had a very nice Thanksgiving and please remember our Brothers in sickness and distress and our servicemen and women in and around the world.

December

Happy birthday to Brothers John Bowles, 1st; Charles Norton, 2nd; Richard Houle and James Piper, 13th; Gary Yancey, 14th; Everett Grimsley, 21st; Ronald Galens, 22nd; and Ernest Day, 30th.

Congratulations to these Brothers raised in December: Gordon Campbell 12-03-02
Kevin Fisher 12-17-06
Charles Norton 12-05-95
David Smith 12-05-95
James Carney 12-07-93
Perry Adams 12-06-94
David Mowers 12-04-90
John Sherman 12-04-90
Craig Andrews 12-01-86
Charles Anderson 12-05-78

Ronald Rudio 12-05-78
William Tatro IV 12-02-75
John Carney 12-02-69
Robert Patrick 12-02-69
William Dean 12-14-62
William Goodman 12-14-62
Robert Lannon 12-01-61
Bernard Dell 12-02-60
Everett Grimsley 12-02-60
Howard Burgess 12-07-56
Frederick Gifford 12-05-52
John Record 12-05-47

Canandaigua Lodge No. 294
1st & 3rd Mondays
Master
W.: Richard A. Stanton
394-1438
Secretary
R.:W.: George N. Stanton, Jr.
394-6829
Shortsville 14548

Special thanks go out to all who helped with the 1st Degree and made it so successful. Everyone enjoyed listening to our Brothers tell about their experiences with other Lodges around the world.

We made \$97 from our Chicken Bar-B-Que to help raise money for the Shortsville Fire Department's new building. We voted to add enough from the Mark Morgan Fund to bring this donation to \$500.


December

1st - we will be conferring a 2nd Degree on our two newly initiated Brothers.

15th - we will be having dinner with our wives at Schooner's Restaurant in Canandaigua, starting with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m.

On December 20th we will be having our 3rd annual Breakfast with Santa. Breakfast will be served at the Lodge from 8 to 10 a.m. I hope to see you all there with your kids or grandkids.

I am looking forward to meeting and greeting you at any or all of the above.

District Deputy Grand Master Wayne District

R.:W.: Francis E. Powley, Jr.
(315) 483-2745

Official Visits end

Our Official visits for December will be Sodus Lodge No. 392 on the 2nd and Savannah Lodge No. 746 on December 15th. R.:W.: Jim Frind and I have enjoyed our Visits throughout Wayne District this Fall. We hope that our talks have been informational and positive.

MDC continues

The Masonic Development Course will conclude this program the third Monday of the December at the Shrine Center 979 Bay Rd., Webster, from 7:30 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Contact R.:W.: Derek VanHouten at 247-2920 if you have any questions. R.:W.: Frind plans to offer the MDC Course in Wayne District in January.

Beacon Project

Light bulbs are going on this Fall, as we speak about the

Grand Master's Beacon Project. Lodges are realizing that they do volunteer for our schools, and reports are finally beginning to be filled out and sent to area coordinator, R.:W.: George Peters. Brothers, remember that even the time that our family members contribute to these projects count. Sit down and report your good work to your Master. Contact R.:W.: Cy White if you have any questions at 315-597-9546 or email at ukcy@juno.com.

District Christmas Party
R.:W.: Edward Marriott started the annual Wayne District Christmas Party several years ago. I am happy to report that the tradition will continue this year. This year we will celebrate at Cinelli's Restaurant in Sodus on Friday, December 19th. Check our website for the menu selections. Reservations are a must to Brother Marshall Francis by Saturday, December 13th.

AGL and Degree Work
V.:W.: David Rising is out and about watching Degree work and you are certainly welcome to view the work as well. The more the better! Contact the AGL at 315-331-7337 or visit our website for the Degree schedule.

Totton Essay Deadline
Those Masons who have a high school senior in the "family" should get the information sheet from your Lodge secretary. The essay topic this year is "What is a Leader?" First prize is \$1500. The deadline for submissions is January 10, 2004.

Trip To Masonic Home
R.:W.: Norman Bentley announced on November 5th that he is anxious to have Wayne District Masons take the free trip to our Masonic Home in Utica in 2004. There have been several building projects done in 2003. We should all enjoy the day together. Let Norm know when a good date would be, so he can start making arrangements.

Masters and Wardens Meeting

At the time of this writing, the location of the December 11th meeting has not been announced by President, W.: David Riddervold. Contact your Lodge secretary. Dinner will be at 6:45 p.m., and the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Closing Thoughts

I have already received the travel plans to Grand Lodge in May from the travel agent. Each Lodge needs to be represented at that meeting. It's time to be asking who in your Lodge is interested in going if your Master cannot. How much will the Lodge support the costs of your representative? Is a fundraiser needed to assist in the costs of this trip? Is your representative interested in a shorter trip leaving Sunday afternoon and returning Tuesday afternoon? It can be a less expensive trip.

Some regulars have made going to Grand Lodge a yearly vacation. It doesn't have to be that way. Let Jim and me hear your desires and we will work to make them available. Jim likes the short version, I like the longer one.

During the holiday season, let's remember our older members and our widows. Even a card can brighten someone's day. Don't forget our District Christmas Dinner.

Happy holidays and a happy New Year to our Masonic family!!

Assistant Grand Lecturer Wayne District

V.:W.: David R. Rising
(315) 331-7337
Email: drising3@msn.com

With this column the 2003 Grand Lecturer's Convention will be history. The Convention was held in Drumlin Square Lodge, Palmyra. It began with an afternoon Question and Answer session led by R.:W.: Edward G. Gilbert, Grand Lecturer. There were 30 Brothers present. Many interesting points were brought up to be clarified by the Grand Lecturer. The session broke for a wonderful Roast Beef Dinner prepared by the Eastern Star and was enjoyed by all.

The evening session was opened in ample form by R.:W.: F. Edward Powley, DDGM. The Grand Lecturer was introduced and was given Grand Honors and the gavel of authority was handed to him. Prior to beginning the Degree work, I had the distinct honor of having the Grand Lecturer present me with my AGL Apron. This was the highlight of my evening.

R.:W.: Ted Powley, DDGM, then called R.:W.: R. Stuart Smith, Jr., immediate Past AGL, to the East and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for all of his years of service to the Craft as AGL. The Grand Lecturer then congratulated R.:W.: Smith, both as a Brother and his friend of many years. R.:W.: Smith was then accorded Grand Honors.

We began the exemplification of the 1st Section of the 3rd Degree with the following Lodges sitting in the chairs: Master, Sodus No. 392; Senior Warden, Humanity No. 406; Junior Warden, Rose No. 590; Senior Deacon, Drumlin Square No. 1180; Junior Deacon, Clyde No. 341; Senior Master of Ceremony, Pultneyville No. 159; Junior Master of Ceremony, Marion No. 926; Marshal, Wayne No. 416; Stewards, Savannah No. 764 and Wolcott No. 560; Chaplain, Pultneyville; Candidate, Drumlin Square, and Conductor, Humanity.

The Degree was performed up to the Obligation with the Grand Lecturer placing emphasis on the making and breaking of the Temple. The Grand Lecturer then thanked all present for the courtesies of the evening and the session was closed in ample form. In all, our Convention was a tremendous success and I thank all the Brothers who assisted me in making it so.

December

My schedule for December is as follows:
1st - Newark Lodge - Edict
3rd - Rose Lodge - Edict
8th - Clyde Lodge - Edict
10th - Humanity Lodge - Edict
16th - Sodus Lodge - Edict
17th - Wayne Lodge - Edict
My Brothers, my wife and I extend to you, your lady and

your families, the warmest of holiday greetings and look forward to seeing you at the District Christmas Party to be held at Cinelli's Country House Restaurant on December 19th.

Grand Steward

R.:W.: James Frind
(315) 946-9630
jwfrind@redsuspenders.com

Each Fall we all approach the coming Masonic activities with great enthusiasm and anticipation. Unfortunately, the days fly by and we don't always accomplish many of the goals of our Lodge.

Lodges, as well as individuals, who careen through the days and months with no plan of action or trestleboard, are almost sure to fail. Think about the successful Lodges and individuals you know. Inevitably, you will find that they have a plan or a well thought-out trestleboard. If you will examine these plans, you will find that a major component is continuing education. Successful Lodges and individuals are always learning.

Brothers, what have you learned in Masonry lately? We have tremendous resources available to us, from the *Road to the East*, Masonic Development Course, to the lending library. Have you completed either of these courses? What book on Masonry have you read recently? Have you used a *Short Talk Bulletin* as a Lodge program?

For Masonry to rebuild to its former strengths, we must be committed to producing strong leaders, both to serve our Lodges, as well as training ourselves to undertake higher offices within the Fraternity. We have many men who would make excellent leaders for their Lodges as well as for higher office. Unfortunately, they are not qualified.

They have not taken the RTTE or the MDC, both of which are required for those who aspire to the Purple. Many Lodges require their incoming Master to have completed the RTTE. However, a requirement for office is frequently not backed up by a plan for fulfilling those requirements.

I would be interested in your views as to why so few members take advantage of these excellent courses. Call, write or email with your opinions. If I get enough responses to be statistically relevant, I will include them in a future article along with my opinion on this subject.

For now, let's commit ourselves to improving ourselves in Masonry by taking and encouraging other Brothers to complete these important courses.

The Gift of Love
The Masonic Service Bureau greatly appreciates your contributions. If you have not made a donation for this year, would you please do so now, before you forget? If you have, would you consider increasing it?

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District Deputy Grand Master



Monroe District
R.:W.:
John E. Zabel
223-3228

jjzabel@iecc.org
john.zabel@kodak.com

Congratulations!!

I extend my sincere congratulations to the Lodges which qualified for the Howard Potts Award. The Award is for the attendance of the top seven Officers of a Lodge at the Grand Lecturer's Convention. The Awards will be presented at Grand Lodge next May.

This year's Convention was held at Fairport Lodge. There were 131 Brethren present. The Lodge room was full. What a sight that was. Thirteen of the District's sixteen Lodges were represented at the Convention.

The Lodges which qualified for the Howard Potts Award were Craftsman Robertson, Etolian, Fairport/Flower City, Union Star, ERAC, Fame and Seneca. This is the most number of Monroe District Lodges to qualify for the Award since 1994 and the highest percentage of Lodges ever. Additionally, Fame Lodge won the Attendance Banner of the Grand Lecturer's Convention and Charlotte/Corinthian won the School of Ritual Attendance Banner. Again, congratulations to the Potts Award qualifying Lodges and the Attendance Banner winners.

Masonic Education

We are rapidly approaching the final session of the Masonic Development Course Fall presentation. I hope that the Brethren who have attended the Course are learning more about this Craft of ours. If you have not taken the Course, look for those Brothers who have and get their opinion. I am sure that if enough are interested there will be a Spring presentation. R.:W.: Derek VanHouten will be more than willing to schedule another District-wide presentation.

Increasing your knowledge

Learning more about Freemasonry is a great pastime. There are several ways to do this. One is the MDC mentioned above; another is to subscribe to one of the Robert Livingston Library reading courses. These courses consist of a number of books loaned to a Brother and sent through the mail. The Brother has approximately a month to read the book, or renew it for another month. The next book is sent after the previously lent book is returned. The cost of the course is return postage for the books. This is approximately \$1.50, as the books are returned at library rate. I have taken several of the courses and have enjoyed all of them.

Getting involved in discussion groups or joining Research Lodges is another way to learn more about the Craft. There are many Research Lodges which a Brother can join. The cost is from \$15 to \$30 depending on the Lodge. As a member of several, I can answer any questions you may have. Feel free to contact me.

Lodge Finances

As most everyone is aware, there is a good possibility that the Grand Lodge Per Capita Dues will be increased by vote of the members of Grand Lodge. This will affect Lodge dues, but more importantly, Lodges must start to look at their financial health. Every Lodge should be actively assessing what it costs to run the Lodge, provide for a meeting place and meet the needs of the members. I have noticed during my Official Visits that some Lodges have a good handle on their finances and others are more tenuous. I suggest that the Brethren make it a priority to review the Lodge budget with a critical eye. If it is your wish that your Lodge continue well into the future, then it is your responsibility to see that the finances are adequate and properly managed.

The latest *Short Talk Bulletin*, from the Masonic Service Association, addresses Lodge finances with what one Lodge did to correct a poor financial position. I suggest that this bulletin be read. Copies can be obtained from the MSA, from the member of your Lodge who receives the Lodge's copy, or contact me. There is not a magic bullet for Lodge finances. But what this bulletin is pointing out is that there are many methods of solving a financial problem. It just takes creative thinking.

'Tis the Season

The Winter season is rapidly approaching. There will be many different celebrations during this coming month. I encourage all to enjoy the celebrations of your choosing. Enjoy the season as we look, with anticipation, for the New Year and all that it can bring. x

Grand Sword Bearer



Monroe
R.:W.:
Derek E. VanHouten
247-2920
hooter95@rochester.rr.com

Have you ever wondered how many leaves are on a typical tree? We really don't have time to count each one, however there must be thousands and I think they all came down in my yard. I was out the other day blowing and raking much of the afternoon and then looked out the next day and I swear the leaf fairies must have imported the neighbors leaves to my lawn because it looked like I had not done anything the day before. I remember last year when the snow caught many of us with our yards still full of leaves and it was almost Spring before we were able to get rid of them.

There was a special spirit as more than 130 Masons from 13 of 16 Lodges in the Monroe District gathered at Fairport Lodge to hear the Grand Lecturer, R.:W.: Ed Gilbert, deliver his annual presentation. Thanks go out to our AGL, V.:W.: John Dyer, for his efforts in making the arrangements for the evening, and to the Master and Brothers from Webster Lodge in presenting the work from the Fellowcraft

Degree. It was a great evening, from the delicious Steak Dinner to the singing of "God Bless America" at the close of the Convention. I believe that seven of the Lodges qualified for the Howard Potts Award, which will be given out at the Grand Lodge Session in May. Congratulations to the Lodges who will receive it.

The next opportunity for Lodge participation in our Educational Programs is *The Road to the East*, for those Officers who are advancing to the East. This pertains to the current Junior and Senior Wardens and any others who are thinking about advancing to the upper chairs in the Lodge.

Some of the presentations will deal with "The duties and prerogatives of the Worshipful Master;" "Public Speaking;" "The elements of Membership Retention;" "What constitutes a good trestleboard;" and several other topics. Each Senior Warden is required to bring with them a working copy of their proposed trestleboard, and a sample article for the *Masonic Times* or your local newsletter.

The sessions will be held at Eunice Lodge in Caledonia on February 21st and March 20th. Sessions will start at 9:00 a.m. and should finish by 3:00 p.m. The cost will be \$20.00 and the DEADLINE will be January 15th. Grand Lodge needs at least 2 weeks to send materials out to the Lodges. We learned from the recent MDC Course that some of you still believe that making reservations after the deadline is proper. Believe me, it isn't. It just increases the headaches we have to contend with.

Our Official Visits are about over and it has been our pleasure to be with you and explain to you what our Grand Master has upon his trestleboard. We will visit Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge on December 2nd and Seneca Lodge on January 13th. As you have heard, the Grand Lodge has many programs which individual Lodges can incorporate into their programs and allow their Brothers to participate. The spirit of good fellowship and giving to the communities in which we reside are important facets of the Masonic order. It brings together many men from different life-styles and allows them to grow and share with one another the opportunities that Masonic life can offer.

May the blessings of the approaching Holiday Season be plentiful as your families gather together and share the bounties of this year. To all of you who labor in the quarries of Masonry, thank you for allowing us to be part of your Masonic life..... x

Membership

R.:W.: Joseph Privitera
Monroe District

Masters and Wardens

The District Masters and Wardens Association is a group of all the Masters and Wardens of Lodges in the Monroe District. They meet once a month at different locations to discuss and coordinate District activities such as the Have-a-Heart Campaign, Child ID Program, and the ElderWear Program. They bring up

the different events that are going on in all the Lodges.

If a Master or Warden is looking for ideas and programs for his trestleboard, the Masters and Wardens can be a source of ideas and advice. They also discuss their particular group's year at Grand Lodge, places to go, hotel reservations, and type of transportation to get to New York City.

Why am I writing about this? Because the attendance at these meetings is not what it should be. Going to these meetings can be very beneficial to both your Lodge and to your Master and Wardens. Plus, there is the possibility that your Lodge is paying dues to the Masters and Wardens Association and no one from your Lodge is participating.

When and where is the next Masters and Wardens meeting? Look for their article in this publication. W.: Pat Schwartz, the current Master of Etolian Lodge, is the President of the Masters and Wardens Association. Contact him for more information.

Ask the Master or Wardens of your Lodge if they are attending. If not, ask why not? I hope he has a good answer, because I can't think of one.

Dues

As I mentioned in last month's article, if there is any reason you are unable to pay your dues and you receive a letter from your Lodge Secretary about being dropped for non-payment of dues, please contact the Secretary or Master and talk to him about your situation.

Happy holidays to all and I will see you in Lodge.

To Masters and Wardens

I hope to see you all at the next Masters and Wardens meeting. x

ERAC Lodge No. 163

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

Master
W.: Terry W. Wihlen, Jr.
377-4695
Secretary
R.:W.: Terry W. Wihlen, Sr.
346-4380

152 West Commercial Street
East Rochester 14445

Our "Back to the Basics" motto continues at ERAC Lodge and I appreciate the continued help from the Brothers. Congratulations to the Officers and the great achievement for qualifying for the Howard Potts Award at the Grand Lecturer's Convention. It shows the commitment the Officers have to the Lodge and its continued commitment for success this Masonic year.

November was an exciting month for ERAC as we had two important events. On November 10th we presented Michael J. Mamo the DeWitt Clinton Award for his help in the Grand

Master's One-Day Class. Mr. Mamo is the Assistant Superintendent of Business for the East Rochester School District and helped the Craft last year by extending his services to ensure our One-Day Class would be successful.

On November 24th we conferred our 1st Degree and our Junior Warden, Steven Ly-senko, did an excellent job sitting in the East. All who participated in the Degree did an excellent job and we were prepared for examination by our Assistant Grand Lecturer, according to the Grand Master's Edict.

December

December will be our busiest month, due to both Lodge events and holidays. We need your help, if you have not already signed up to participate in our Lodge events. Again, the dates for the events include Holiday Visitation on December 20th; ElderWear Program, November - January; and the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive, December 13th.

R.:W.: Richard Friedman is in charge of the Red Kettle Drive and we have two locations to man at Pittsford Plaza from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please email your 2-4 hour slots to R.:W.: Rich at rich-ddgm@frontiernet.net, or call him at 377-6175.

Holiday Visitations

I will be taking over Holiday Visitations and encourage all who can attend to mark the date now and email me at twihlen@webbox.com or call 377-4695, if you can help. The day starts with breakfast at 8:00 a.m., followed by visits until noon. It is a great time to visit your Brothers who can not make it to Lodge.

ElderWear

W.: Lew Perna is in charge of ElderWear and the program started on November 10th and runs until January 31st. ElderWear is a clothing drive aimed at providing staple clothing for the elderly in area nursing care facilities who can not afford new clothes. The campaign needs new staple larger-sized sweatshirts, sweat pants, socks, underwear, pajamas and night clothing. Please bring new clothes to the Lodge on meeting nights or mail/drop-off to my address, 18 Captiva Crossing, Fairport. Again, only new clothing can be used and if you are unable to shop, we do accept monetary donations and we will purchase the clothing for you. W.: Lew Perna will also need help in sorting and delivering the clothes during this time and you can call or email him to offer your help at lperna@peoplepc.com, or 334-8265.

I hope your holidays will be enjoyable and safe. Please call or email me if you need anything. Thanks again. x

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Charlotte/Corinthian
Lodge No. 1088
1st & 3rd
Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: William J.
Mitchell
581-1806
C. William Flemming, DSA
Secretary 723-0083
4550 Lake Avenue
Rochester 14612

Sickness and Distress
Brother Ernest G. Allen passed to the Grand Lodge on High on October 22nd.

Brother Don Freeman is in Hill Haven Nursing Home, and is still open to visitors, cards, and phone calls.

Brother Harold Bolotin has been released from the hospital, as of October 25th. I paid him a visit on the following Saturday and he was in great spirits. He told me then that he expected to get out in a week or two. Things must have gone very well, because he called me the following evening and gave me the great news.

Misplaced or Lost
We seem to be having some difficulty locating the Master's Traveling Apron. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the Apron, please contact me at 581-1806, or contact one of the Lodge Trustees.

Symbolic Lodge Award
Brother Mike Hueston received the Symbolic Lodge Award at the Annual Scottish Rite Awards Night. This Award is in recognition of the dedication, service, and continuous support by a member of his Symbolic Lodge. Congratulations, Mike!

Sincere apologies
My sincere apology to W.: Don Fox. In my column last month, I mentioned the School of Instruction BUT, I made no reference of Don's participation! The need for a Chaplain was made known, and without hesitation, Don assumed the Chaplain's Chair. From that moment on, his actions and dialog were letter perfect. Truly a performance to be envied! Congratulations Don, great job! Again, I apologize.

Wish List
The number one subject on my "Wish List," other than candidates, is input from the members of our Lodge. Well, my wish has finally come true. I heard from two of our Brothers, and I promise to act upon both suggestions. Thank you.

Officer Installed
At our October 21st meeting, W.: Tom Grape was installed as our Tiler. He replaces W.: Don Freeman, who is now residing in a nursing home. We

will miss Brother Don very much.

First Time at Bat
Brother Mike Hueston (Junior Warden) did an excellent job as "Acting Master" on October 21st. Well done, Mike.

Did You Know?
A dentist, (William Semple) who was looking for a way to exercise his jaw, invented chewing gum!

The smallest bone in the human body is in the ear. It is called the Stirrup Bone.

Good Luck, Good Cheer, and God Bless. *

Union Star
Lodge No. 320
8 North Main Street
Honeoye Falls 14472
2nd Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Kerry S.
Ripley
346-3124
Secretary, Robert Sweeney
(h) 381-5286; (w) 464-6316
38 Cullens Run, Pittsford 14534

I hope everyone is in good health, and had an enjoyable Thanksgiving. It's now time to find a parking space, heat up the credit card, and get serious about Christmas shopping. It's kind of like going to the Dentist, you don't look forward to doing it, but it feels great when you're done!

Thanks
First of all, I extend my personal gratitude to my Officers and the Brothers who attended the Grand Lecturer's Convention in Fairport. Not only did our Lodge earn the Howard Potts Award, the entire Monroe District had an outstanding turnout. The Steak Dinner was fantastic, and the meeting informative.

I thank W.: John Williams for donating a refrigerator to our Lodge. W.: Terry Hatch, and W.: Joe Cotteleer delivered it. It is now at our Lodge and will be very useful for our various functions.

Thanks again, to W.: Terry Hatch for delivering our new tables for our dining room. It's nice to have matching tables now, and they look great!

50 Years
Congratulations to W.: Donald A. Miller, for 50 years of service to the Fraternity. Don could not make it to Recognition Night at our Lodge, but I presented him with his Certificate and Pin at the Warsaw Hospital. Don was in good spirits, and we hope he has a speedy recovery.

Best wishes
Brother Elliott Schwartz has taken a new job and will be moving to Pennsylvania. We hope Elliott will settle in fine,



Recipients of Anniversary Awards from Union Star Lodge were (from left): W.: James Nersinger, W.: Joseph Cotteleer, W.: Kerry Ripley, W.: Richard Dye and Brother John Frost. (Photo, Robert Sweeney)

and we wish him well. He definitely will be missed!

Congratulations to our newest Brothers who had the 1st Degree conferred upon them November 24th. As usual, the dinner put on by Rob and Jim was great. Thanks to all Brothers who attended that night and gave support to our new Brothers.

Join us
On Monday, December 8th, we will have our next scheduled Lodge meeting at 7:30 p.m. Our program speaker for

the evening will be William Zufall, who will be discussing The Morgan Affair. I invite any Brothers who have not had the pleasure to hearing Bill give this informative speech, to come and join us. We look forward to seeing you there and, as always, if you need a ride, don't hesitate to call me.

Our Fellowcraft holiday meeting will be Monday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

I hope everyone has a great holiday and we all hope to see you in the Lodge. *

Churchville
Lodge No. 667
2nd & 4th
Wednesdays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Edward L.
Kelley
293-2538
Secretary
W.: George
R. Burke
293-1629
www.geocities.com/churchvillelodge667
20 South Main Street, Churchville, 14428

Annual Business Meeting
Our annual business meeting will be on December 10th at 7:30 p.m. The major discussion of the evening will pertain to the issue of raising dues. The last time Churchville Lodge raised its dues was in 1993. Since then, we have dealt with a number of issues including a declining membership base and increase in per capita dues. My Brothers, believe me when I say that every avenue has been explored to try to avoid raising our dues, but the Lodge at this time, has no alternative. Also at the meeting, we will put a couple of fundraisers into action to help

offset the cost of operating the Lodge. I strongly urge each and every member to attend.

Christmas Party
On December 4th, we will have our annual Christmas party at the Johnson House in Churchville starting at 7:00 p.m. The menu consists of three entrees: Chicken French, Roast Prime Rib, or Broiled Shrimp. Price will vary by entree. This will be a great time to get together with one another before the rush of the holiday season gets into full swing. Reservations are required, so please call me at 293-2538 by November 28th.

Officers, Mark your Calendars
Practice for the 1st Degree will begin in December. Officers should be already studying their parts in preparation for the Degree, which will take place January 16, 2004. A full practice schedule will be distributed in the upcoming weeks.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me at 293-2538 or email me at edwardkelley@netzero.net. *

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Lodge No. 722
4275 Culver Rd.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: David
Foster
244-0194
Sec. W.: Leon
VanHuben
647-1391

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and did take the time to reflect on all the blessings we enjoy. As I wish you the happiest of holidays, I hope that you will find the joy and peace that is meant for all of us.

Our ONLY meeting this December is on the 9th and will be our annual Summoned Communication where the reports for the year and budgets for 2004 will be presented. We'll try to keep the business as short as possible because that night will be our annual Holiday Party for the Brothers and our ladies.

The meeting will be preceded by a snack bar at 6:30 p.m. featuring all kinds of goodies. At 7:00 p.m., we'll sit down to a sumptuous feast of Steak Delmar, vegetable, potatoes, salad, rolls and butter. The Brothers will retire to the Lodge room upstairs after dinner and have our short meeting. Right after the meeting, we'll rejoice the ladies for dessert and more merriment. The cost for the dinner is \$5.00 per person and reservations are required. This should be a very nice evening and I hope we'll have a great turnout that night!

Reminder
Please remember that there will be an Officers and Trustees meeting on Tuesday, December 16th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Temple. These meetings are used to do planning for the Lodge. These meetings allow us to spend more time and go into greater detail on items than we would normally like to spend at a regular Lodge meeting. The meetings are open to all the Brothers; anyone who cares to, is welcome to attend.

Thanks
I know that this is "old" news, but I thank again all the Brothers who turned out for the Grand Lecturer's Convention this past October. Fame Lodge won the Attendance Banner and also a Howard Potts Award. The Convention itself was very instructional and was the best attended in the State (up to that time). I look forward to receiving our Potts Award on behalf of the Lodge at Grand Lodge this coming May!

Brotherhood Fund
W.: Keith Moore assures me that he is well prepared to receive all your Brotherhood Fund contributions. We did very well last year, but I know we can do better. Brothers, I know people everywhere are asking for help, and we can only do what we can, but please remember that these are our Brothers and charity is the cornerstone of our Craft.

Again, may the blessing of this season be yours now and throughout the years to come. Last, but not least, happy birthday to all our Brothers with birthdays in December. See you at Lodge! *

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O-At-Ka Lodge No. 759

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

Master
W.: Charles
A. Piazza
247-5032
Secretary
W.: Charles W. Crevison
899-6414



5 Browns Avenue
Scottsville 14546

First, I extend my hand to all my Officers for jobs well done for the Official Visit. Thank you. The DDGM, R.: W.: John Zabel, gave the Grand Master's word. I hope all the Brothers found the Message interesting.

Sympathy

Our condolences to the family of our Junior Warden, Tim and Shelly White, on the passing of their daughter, Elizabeth. Our hearts go out to you.

Good news

We were pleased to see Albert Bastenelli from Florida at our meeting. His wife, Jesse, was diagnosed with Diabetes and we hope that she is doing better. His daughter, Angela, was ill, and we also hope that she is doing fine.

Brother Jasper Brady is home from the hospital.

Contribution

Our heartfelt thanks to Bart Bracaglia for his generous donation in memory of the late Charles O. Ogburn.

Reminders

Our date for the 1st Degree will be January 13, 2004.

Seneca Lodge No. 797

2nd Tuesday
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Raymond
G. Glegg
266-8652

Secretary
Robert C. Green, Jr., 223-5953
30 Orchard Street
Webster 14580

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. I am still recovering from an overdose of both food and football; a nice problem to have.

Breakfast with Santa

We are now closing in on the end of the year and I want to remind you of two events coming up this month. First, we will be having our annual "Breakfast with Santa" on Saturday, December 13th, at 9 a.m. This wonderful event is always enjoyed by the children. If you have any questions on details or want to make a reservation, please contact Bob Kimmel at 544-5964. I know the Jolly Olde Elf has been making his list and checking it twice, so please come to the Breakfast if you've been nice.

Holiday Egg Nog Party

The next event is one that has become somewhat of a tradition over the last few years. It's our annual Holiday Egg Nog Party. Brother Jack Phillips has graciously accepted our request to make up another batch of his delicious potion. Originally provided by General Washington to the troops, this creamy concoction is guaranteed to warm both your heart and your spirit. Please join us for this celebration on Tuesday, De-

ember 9th at 6 p.m. Reservations to Bob Kimmel are greatly appreciated.

Take a moment

As I write this article I think about those among us who have fallen on hard times or are in need of our assistance. As Masons, we are dedicated to helping our fellow men. But also as Masons, we often fail to ask for help. Though there are many members of Seneca Lodge, we don't often get to see each other, as not everyone is able to come to our meetings or events.

Please take a moment right now to pick up the phone and call someone who is a member, but whom you haven't seen in quite a while. At this time of year especially, people are vulnerable to personal sadness. I'm sure that any contact with a Brother not seen in a long time will be very much appreciated.

Happy holidays to all, may the blessing of heaven rest upon you and those you love. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

ETOLIAN Lodge No. 479

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



Master
W.: Patrick M.
Schwartz
395-0874

Secretary
W.: James E. Toogood, 594-2189
133 South Union Street, Spencerport 14559

As I sit down to write this article, I am hearing a rather unpleasant topic on the news. SNOW!!! Can you believe it? This made me think of a very important point for this upcoming Winter season. For those of you who find it extremely difficult, or even impossible to make it out to meetings because of the weather, please let any one of your Officers or me know that you would like, or need, a ride. Speaking for myself, and I'm sure the vast majority of the Brethren, we would be more than happy to arrange transportation, if it meant that you would be able to share your evening with us.

For those of you who have been unable to make it to Lodge recently, a number of very positive things have been happening. The last meeting in October was History Night. The topic was Masonry in the American Civil War. A very comprehensive presentation was given by Brother Jeffrey VanSice who, along with Brother Craig McCann, two visiting Brothers and myself, were dressed in Civil War uniforms. Everybody had a great time, and we learned something about the strength of Masonry.

Award

On the very next evening, October 28th, Etolian accomplished something for the second year in a row. We have earned the Howard Potts Award at the Grand Lecturer's Convention. My personal thanks to everybody who attended to make this possible.

Meetings

Before our first meeting in November, we had our second monthly dinner sponsored by the Etolian Chapter of OES. We will not have a dinner in December because of our joint

holiday party, but will begin again in January on the 12th, at 6:00 p.m.

In December, we will be having our 1st Degree on the 8th, with Brother David Sylvester in the East. Everybody involved has been working very hard and this will make the Degree a success.

On the 15th, at 6:00 p.m., we will be having our annual Holiday Party with the Etolian OES. The Lodge will be providing the meat and beverages, so all you need to bring is a dish to pass and your own place settings. We have some great entertainment planned and, if everybody has been good this past year, we may even have a special visitor.

In closing, please take care and be careful as we get reminded why a lot of Brothers migrate every Winter. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

WEBSTER LODGE NO. 538

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



Master
W.: Douglas
Koenig
223-6638

Secretary, Richard Collazo
339-9662
30 Orchard Street
Webster 14580

I hope all of you had a nice Thanksgiving and that you enjoyed the time spent with family and friends. The furnace seems to be kicking on all the time now, which means Fall is definitely here and Winter must be just around the corner (boo, hiss). What this also means though, is that the Christmas season is now upon us. I don't know about the rest of you, but for me, the last couple of months have gone by way too quickly and the year 2003 is rapidly coming to a close. What that means is, guys, go start your Christmas shopping before you get yourself in trouble with the little woman.

We all know that on the night of setting the clocks back to end daylight savings time, we're supposed to check the batteries in the smoke detectors, but who remembered to go check their furnace filter? You should switch that as well. You should also make sure that the car is ready for Winter, as in brakes, battery, radiator, and tires. Winter is not the time you want to be saying, "oops."

Since my last article, we have had the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards (my congratulations to Brother Dennis Gellasch, this year's recipient), the Webster Tall Cedars and Yellow Dog Degrees, the Interfaith Service and Brunch, the Grand Lecturer's Convention, and the first of my Masonic Education nights.

For our first Masonic Education night, Brother Paul Stillman put on a wonderful portrayal of President and Brother Teddy Roosevelt and I read a little piece on the flag and why thirteen folds at a Military Funeral.

Great dinner!

I extend a warm and hearty thank you to Joy Woodley for a delicious dinner that night and to all who came and en-

joyed a terrific evening. We had 48 for dinner at last count, and about 70 for the program. I'm very glad that everyone enjoyed the program and I'll continue to do my best throughout the year to bring you more enjoyable programs, as well.

December

4th - Table Lodge and Eureka Lodge visit - 6:30 p.m.

5th - Spaghetti Dinner - 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Who has



the
Traveling
Gavel?

Valley/Simes Lodge No. 109

2nd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.



Master
W.: David
W. Mura
637-8695

bigdave@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: Edward J. Schmitt
244-8459
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

I hope you all are doing well. It appears that Winter is near and I am no closer to being prepared for it, than I was last month. I have done more yard work and home improvements than ever before, but it never seems enough. Oh, how I long to be a snowbird.

By the time you read this, we will have had our Lodge of Remembrance. We honored those who left us this year, as well as those veterans who have laid down their lives for our country. In the spirit of the Red, White, and Blue, I did a special presentation with the help of the late "Red" Skelton. The program consisted of an inspiring monologue that "Red" gave on the Pledge of Allegiance. I also gave a quick reading of Red Skelton's history as a Mason.

Sickness & Distress

I recently spoke with Howard Belt and Patrick McBride and both are progressing well in their recoveries, and both appear in good spirits. We are hoping that they will recover quickly and will be able to join us soon in the

December 2003

15th - Masonic Development Course, part 3 - 7:30 p.m. Damascus Shrine - Bay Rd., Webster

18th - Lodge of Remembrance - 7:30 p.m.

21st - Poinsettia Delivery - noon to 3:00 p.m.

Before I go, let me extend wishes for a warm and wonderful Holiday Season to all of you and may the New Year bring you many days of joy and fun.

Lodge. Dick Giedd has had some problems with his legs, but is determined to get better through a self-monitored exercise program.

If you are in a sickness or distress situation, or if you know of a Brother who is, please contact me.

Upcoming Events

Highlights of upcoming events are the following:

December 2nd - 6:00 p.m. - Officers' meeting; verbal practice for 2nd Degree

9th - 2nd Degree

16th - Fellowcraft - Glenn Stahl's home, Annual Holiday Get-Together

January, 2004

6th - 6:00 p.m. - Officers' meeting

13th - Lodge Night - Business meeting; Masonic Program

20th - Fellowcraft - Joe Bishop's place

February

3rd - 6:00 p.m. - Have-a-Heart Fundraiser - Officers' meeting

10th - Lodge Night - Sweetheart's Night with the Ladies

17th - Fellowcraft - Dave Mura's home



M.:W.: Carl J. Fitje, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York presents the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award to Brother Joseph Gingold as R.:W.: John Zabel, DDGM (left), observes.



Brother Joseph Gingold, recipient of the Scottish Rite Symbolic Blue Lodge Award with Ill.: and M.:W.: Carl J. Fitje, 33°, Grand Master, W.: David Mura, Master of Valley/Simes Lodge, and Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, after the presentation. (Photos courtesy of Mrs. Michael Knolla)

3165 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Road Rochester, NY 14623
(585)-427-2880 FAX (585) 272-1216
Claude H. Wright
President

Wakan/Hubbard Lodge No. 154

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

Master
W.: Joseph F. Oelgoetz
425-9969

Secretary
W.: Theodore J. Snyder, 467-0165

Asst. W.: Donald C. Bell, 334-7768
1822 Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

Official Visit

We were honored on October 13th to have Wakan/Hubbard Lodge's very own member to visit our Lodge Room in his official capacity as the District Deputy Grand Master of the Monroe District - R.:W.: John E. Zabel. Accompanied by R.:W.: Derek E. VanHouten - Grand Sword Bearer, they relayed the Grand Master's Message to the Lodge. Prior to our meeting, they both joined us for dinner. It was an enjoyable evening, and we thank them both for the time and sacrifice that they have been willing to take-on in the service of our Craft. We, of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge, are proud of the honor our Brother John Zabel has brought to our Lodge. We wish continued success in your Masonic and life's "travels," John.

New Brethren

It is with a great deal of pride and honor that our two newest Brethren of our Lodge took their Fellowcraft Degree on October 27th. I thank our Senior Warden - Brother Bruce Horncastle, for doing an excellent job in his role in the East during the 2nd Degree. I also want to thank all of the Brethren who assisted in putting on the Degree. A special Masonic thank you goes to W.: James MacConnell, from Hesperus Lodge who did an outstanding delivery of the Middle Chamber Lecture. I thank Jim and W.: Garry Hutcherson for making the long journey from the "West to the East" in order to help us in our Degree. The Master Mason Degree was scheduled for November 24th.

Bro. Donald D. Osborne

On October 16th, it was my pleasure and honor to escort our Brother Donald D. Osborne to the Ancient Accepted



Brother Donald D. Osborne (right), 2003 recipient of the Valley of Rochester, AASR, Symbolic Lodge Award, with W.: Joseph F. Oelgoetz III, Master, and Ill.: Carl J. Fitje, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

Scottish Rite's Valley of Rochester Symbolic Lodge Awards event. This Award is given to an individual in each Lodge who has shown commitment and dedication to Masonry, and to his Lodge in particular. Brother Don was recognized by both M.:W.: and Ill.: Carl J. Fitje, 33°, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, and Ill.: Harold Aldrich, 33°, Deputy, AASR, for the State of New York. I cannot think of any other Brother who is more deserving of the Award than Brother Don. His work on the Building Committee, as well as one of our Trustees, has been exemplary. The Lodge, especially the public areas, has never before been so clean or organized since Brother Don took charge. His work in the "quarries" are a "rule and guide" to all of us. Thank you, Don, for being a role model that I, as Master, am trying to live up to.

Adopt-a-Highway

Wakan/Hubbard Lodge has adopted a highway. It is the stretch of Whitney Road from Linden Avenue to Fairport Nine-Mile Point Road (Route 250). We held our second clean-up on October 18th. I thank the following Brothers for their participation: W.: Don Bell, Brother Paul Kober, D.S.A., Brother Don Osborne, W.: Ted Snyder, Brother Art Johnson, and Brother Joe McGinnis.

Grand Lecturer's Convention

On the evening of October 28th, some of the Officers and Brethren of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge participated in the Monroe District's Grand

Lecturer's Convention at Fairport/Flower City Lodge. It was very educational and informative. I thank the following Brethren for taking the time out of their busy schedules to represent our Lodge at this very important annual event: R.:W.: John Zabel; W.: Don Bell; Brother Michael DiCataldo, Senior Deacon; Brother Steve Doyle, Junior Deacon; Brother Art Johnson, Senior Master of Ceremony; and Brother Ray DiJames, Junior Master of Ceremony.

100th Anniversary

On March 16, 1904, the Brethren of Penfield Union Lodge No. 154 bought the land on the Northeast corner of Penfield and Five Mile Line Roads in Penfield. Soon after the Penfield Masonic Temple was built (the same Temple that presently serves Wakan/Hubbard as its Lodge building). In celebration of the hundredth anniversary of our building, we will be having a Re-dedication Ceremony on March 22, 2004.

The Grand Master, M.:W.: Carl J. Fitje, has agreed to preside over the festivities (this was confirmed at the recent Scottish Rite Symbolic Awards event). We plan to have a dinner that will immediately precede the formal Re-dedication. Make sure you mark your calendars, as seating for both the dinner and Ceremony will be limited. As the date approaches, we will be providing additional information.

December

Our first meeting of December is scheduled for Monday evening, the 8th. It will be our "Toys for Tots" event. There



Brothers in attendance at the Valley of Rochester, AASR, Symbolic Lodge Awards event were (from left): Brothers Donald D. Osborne, recipient; Don Brugger; Ted Snyder; Paul Kober; Charles C. Spiegel, Jr.; Joseph F. Oelgoetz III; Robert Zabel; and John E. Zabel.

will be a festive holiday dinner prior to this meeting, where our ladies are invited. The cost of the dinner will be a toy to donate to the Marine Corps program. As a guest speaker to this event, we will have a representative from the Marine Corps to join us for the evening.

This will also be our Annual Summoned meeting and two important business issues will be covered. The first is the annual review of the Lodge's finances, as well as a vote on the 2004-2005 Lodge budget. Additionally, a vote to change our By-Laws on when we will meet will occur at this meeting. Specifically, the motion is that we will go dark in January and February and continue our work through the Summer months.

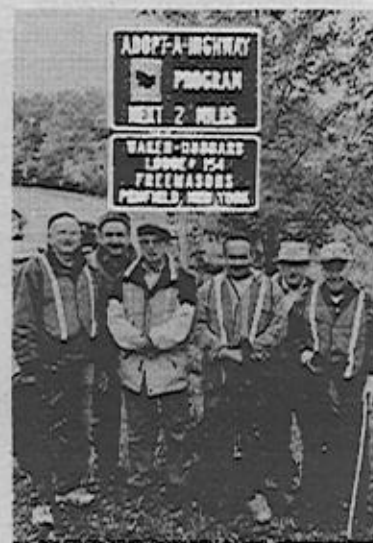
The festivities will begin at 6:30 p.m. Please contact the Muddler, Brother Paul Kober, at 381-1058 or via email at muddler@rochester.rr.com for reservations for any of our events.

Caroling

On Sunday, December 14th, we will be visiting some of our Masonic Brethren who, for health or age reasons, cannot get out and attend Lodge meetings. We will be "entertaining" them with some holiday caroling. We will meet at the Lodge around 1:00 p.m. After our rounds, we will return to the Lodge for some "Holiday Cheer." We definitely need the assistance of our ladies to help in the singing.

Rossllyn Chapel

Our first meeting in January is Monday, the 12th. Brother



The team of Brothers who participated in Wakan/Hubbard Lodge's recent Adopt-A-Highway cleanup day program were (from left): Brothers Art Johnson, Paul Kober, Don Osborne, Joe McGinnis, Don Bell and Ted Snyder. (Photos courtesy Joseph F. Oelgoetz III)

Bruce Horncastle, Senior Warden, will give a program on Rossllyn Chapel of Scotland. It is a place whose architecture is filled with Masonic symbolism as well as a place that in ancient lore was said to be a special place for the Knights Templar. Brother Bruce visited this fascinating place a couple of years ago and will have slides to go along with his talk. Our meeting will be preceded by a dinner, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. This event is stag. Please get your reservations into Brother Paul Kober DSA, at 381-1058 or, muddler@rochester.rr.com.

I wish you and your family a very blessed, safe and happy holiday season. God bless. "

Craftsman Robertson Lodge No. 969

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

Master
W.: Charles E. Strickland
(315) 947-5539

Secretary
W.: Thomas W. Kendig
(315) 524-4063

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

By W.: Skip Waterstreet
We can be extra proud of our Officers! The required seven were in attendance at the Grand Lecturer's Convention and our Lodge will receive the Howard Potts Award at Grand Lodge in May.

Another outstanding program, provided by Brother Warren Doerrer, entertained an enthusiastic crowd at our November dinner meeting. Phyllis Greenstine, a registered pharmacist, spoke on her profession and the need for patients to discuss their medicines more specifically

with their doctor and their pharmacist. Many people assume their health care providers are up-to-date on all the newest products available for their illness. That may not be the case. Your pharmacist can offer insight into newly released products which may be superior to the current doctor-prescribed medicine, and may have fewer of less-severe side effects. She would like the tag line, "Ask your doctor," expanded to, "Ask your doctor or your pharmacist," if this medication is for you.

First Degree

One new Brother was initiated into the Fraternity at our November business meeting night. Our Officers performed admirably for the visiting AGL, V.:W.: John Dyer, who was critiquing our efforts per the Grand Master's edict. We displayed a bit of rust on the floor work, but that will improve with more Degree work for more candidates. So, Brothers, continue to search for worthy men and give each a

petition (readily available from your Secretary or Treasurer) to join our great Lodge and Fraternity.

At this writing, the date of the 2nd Degree is to be determined. Our new Brother's work schedule has him out of town on the date we originally anticipated conferring the Degree, so his progress is temporarily delayed. You will be informed of the date as soon as it is established. We hope you will join us then.

Two dozen people attended the annual Chinese Dinner coordinated by W.: Bill Shelby, DSA, and his wife, Roberta. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this social evening.

December Events

Our dinner on the 2nd will be at the Nutcracker Restaurant again. The fare will be Roast Beef. I understand that musical entertainment around a Holiday theme will highlight the evening (with an appearance by our entertainment chairperson?).

Also mark on your calendar the Christmas Party on the 6th. Once again, we are participating with Lalla Rookh Grotto, who did a spectacular job last year, and are joined by Damascus Shrine in hosting the event this year. It will be at the Shrine Center on Bay Road, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Bring your children and grand-

children under 11-years-old for a couple of hours of real fun. (Santa requests you provide a modest gift for each child you escort, properly wrapped and with the child's full name on the tag. He doesn't want anyone to be missed or disappointed!)

Continued on Page 10

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Craftsman Robertson
Continued from Page 9

Older siblings may also attend, but should be advised that the party is geared toward the younger set.

Anyone attending last year's event can tell you what a wonderful party it was. We should be looking forward to a similarly delightful time this year.

Sickness and Distress

Brother Harold Impson is in the Brightonian, recovering from a stroke, which has left him with some paralysis. His spirits remain good, and we extend our wishes for a complete and speedy recovery.

Stella VanDeVeire, Brother Rene's mother and mother-in-law of W.: Bill Hook (Helen), fell and broke her wrist. Previously scheduled to have hip replacement surgery, it was moved up and she had both procedures taken care of at the same time. Last report has this 91-year-old doing quite well, and we wish her a quick recovery, as well.

Brotherhood Fund

Brother Ralph Jurgens is still accepting donations to the Brotherhood Fund. Please respond as you are able. Everyone is aware of the rough economic times we have encountered recently. The continuing loss of members has reduced the number of contributors to charitable causes in all organizations. Our need to support our Brothers suffering difficulties is still great. Your support is appreciated. Send Ralph your contribution today.

Looking Ahead

Our Lodge has signed up to staff the Have-A-Heart Campaign booth at The Mall at Greece-Ridge Center on February 11th...a Wednesday. Please mark this down on your calendar and call ne 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 671-9730 (home is 381-8028) or Tom Kendig at (315) 524-4063 if you are able to put in some time. The booth will be open between noon and 9:00 p.m. We expect to have three blocks of three hours each. If you can fill a time slot, it will be a big help, but any amount of time will be appreciated.

Birthdays

The following Brothers celebrate their special days during the last month of the year. All good wishes go to John Auer, Paul Case, Thomas Colombo, Jack Grover, Richard Gundry, Carlos Mederos, Earl Pearce, John H. Smith, and George Wyatt.

Service Awards

Presentations were made by W.: Chuck Strickland, Master, and W.: Tom Kendig, Secretary, to several Brothers who were able to attend the event. The photographs were not available in time to make last month's *Masonic Times*. I'm putting them in this month to give suitable recognition to our Service Award honorees.

Warmest holiday wishes to you and yours.

See you in Lodge.



John Smith, 60-Yrs



Joseph Roe, 60-Yrs



Richard T. Smith, 25-Yrs



Warren Doerr, 50-Yrs



Kenneth Skidmore, 50-Yrs



Robert Freitag, 50-Yrs



Malcolm Nulton, 50-Yrs



Albert J. Neracker, Jr., 55-Yrs

NORTHFIELD

Lodge No. 426
Instituted March 1857
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.



Master
W.: Pedro M. Ugalde
(h) 820-1128

pugalde1@rochester.rr.com
W.: John Dudley, Secretary
(h) 586-6426
jdudley1@rochester.rr.com
17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

During October the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Award was presented to our Past Master, Randy Griswold, for his consistent support and dedication to our Lodge. Congratulations, Randy.

November

We had a brief talk about the Year of the Light, and we had

Communicate

District Deputy Grand Master

Genesee/Wyoming



R.:W.: Robert W. Strang, Jr.
591-2888

"What came you here to do?" We learned the just response to this question, but how many of us live the response? Do we, as Masons, put ourselves second and tend to the feelings and needs of others? To subdue our passions, would require that we first think of what our actions would do to those around us; and to improve ourselves would require that we work toward a better world as a whole. Masonry, and the society we profess to belong to, is but a quilt with each of us representing a swatch in that quilt. The Great Architect has the final design of this blanket, and only he knows what swatches to use to complete his desired pattern. If we can acknowledge that we came to this society of brothers and fellows with the honest desire to improve our world, then we must work toward that goal and accept that the several obstacles that block our path are means of building character, not put there to stop us, but to assist us to build our character and understanding, and perhaps to lead us to another door. Masonry has only one clear-cut goal; improve us and, through us, our world.

With the Holiday Season and time of joy and peace we should each remember that as a quilt is fashioned with many different pieces, colors and fabrics, so too is our society. We must learn to interact with each piece of that quilt, or surely the quilt, like our world, will become nothing but connected pieces which, as individual parts, do little to provide comfort or warmth.

As Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays bring their influence to bear on us, please stay the course and spread the peace that the Great Architect has intended Masonry as a Brotherhood and Fraternity, to bring to the world. Bring peace to yourselves in the knowledge that we cannot know the divine plan, however, by our being, we are intended for noble and glorious

purposes. Trust in the Great Architect; ask His divine guidance and intercession in all our words and deeds.

Remember the Brotherhood Fund, look well to those around you and may the blessings of heaven continue to be bestowed upon us and all.

Grand Sword Bearer

Genesee/Wyoming



R.:W.: Norman P. Austin
494-2223

lindalee115@hotmail.com

It hardly seems that the year is almost over and we will be beginning a new one within weeks. With the holidays upon us, there will be celebrations and preparations for all the festivities soon to take place.

MDC Course

The first session of the MDC Course was attended by thirteen Brothers and provided lively, thought-provoking and stimulating conversations and interactions. Our thanks go out to R.:W.: Len Mason for setting up the Lodge and obtaining the refreshments for us. It is greatly appreciated. R.:W.: Bill Lindsay did a yeoman's job in conducting this session. I believe all in attendance found their time well spent.

Plans are also underway for the Road to the East Course, to be given in the Spring; more details will be forthcoming as plans progress.

The Genesee/Wyoming Council of Masonic Activities meeting, held at Arcade Lodge, was informative, and we have received money from Fish Fry tickets from all but one Lodge in the District at this point.

Candy bars will be available for distribution at our next meeting. Thanks, once again, are extended to R.:W.: Len Mason, for his hospitality in providing for the attendees at this meeting. While I am on this topic, my apologies are extended to R.:W.: Merle Robinson, who was instrumental in making arrangements for our last Purple Apron Ladies' Dinner. I inadvertently omitted his name in my last article. (Sorry, Merle!)

Sickness and Distress

We continue to keep in our thoughts and prayers: R.:W.:

Brother Bruce Horncastle speak about the Rosslyn Chapel.

We also had our Official Visit, and as always, R.:W.: John Zabel, enlightened us with the Grand Master's message, and very interesting Masonic history. Thanks.

December

At the first meeting in December we will have our 1st Degree; our Senior Warden will be sitting in the East. Let's all give him our support by attending this important event.

Another interesting Masonic subject is scheduled for our second meeting in December.

At this time, on behalf of all the Officers of Northfield Lodge, we wish all of you happy holidays and a very prosperous New Year.

Bob Dagen, as he continues his physical therapy; R.:W.: Ken Kohlhagen, as he recovers from his recent surgery; R.:W.: Dick Anderson, following his recent hospital stay; and R.:W.: John Bater, as he recovers from his fall.

We express condolences to the families of R.:W.: Trevor Rogers, W.: Bill Calnan, and Jesse Albro, a 35-year member of Hesperus Chapter No. 823, OES, who have gone to join the Great Architect of the Universe.

Last month, we, as a District, slipped from eight Lodges contributing articles to appear in this publication, to five. Hope things begin to pick up again. I know there have been Degrees conferred, dinners held, and other activities taking place, the results of which could be reported.

Where are you, Ladies?

The activities of the Genesee/Wyoming Order of the Eastern Star continue to remain shrouded in mystery, for although there is ample space in this publication as a venue of communication, there continues to be no word regarding this organization. It is indeed unfortunate that no one feels this group's activities are

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important enough to be newsworthy. Although the year is just beginning for the Order of the Eastern Star, the Masonic year will soon be at the half-way point, as is the number of issues of this publication. If you are as curious as am I, contact your District Representatives and inquire about their absence on these pages.

A Reception was held for Rt. Wthy. Joyce Sands, our new District Deputy Grand Matron, and Rt. Wthy. Ron Morris, the new Grand Lecturer, at Hesperus Chapter on November 7th. This event was well attended and all seemed to have had an enjoyable time. A great deal of time and effort on the part of many people went into the preparation for this event. This Reception therefore, is a prime example of a newsworthy occurrence, which could and should have been reported upon herein, if anyone felt it was worthwhile enough to take the time to do so.

Although the Shrine Circus is not scheduled until March, one of the Lodges in the District held a circus in October, complete with clowns. I hope all the children attending had a good time.

Here We Go Again!

One didn't do it
The other did the same
If the truth is known,
Who do we blame?

Two didn't do it
That's what sparked the flame,
Let's make some calls
In order to defame

If nobody did it,
Why is it they came?
Here we go again,
And it's a doggoned shame!

See yourself as others see you; there should be more mirrors on the walls of Lodges.

While we're on this topic, Brethren, if you set up a meeting with others, and subsequently cancel it (especially so you can attend some other "more enjoyable" or "fun" event), at least have the courtesy to notify the potential attendees of your change in plans. This unfortunate situation occurred recently in one of the Lodges in the District and caused one Brother who lives outside the District to make a lengthy trip for naught. Such an occurrence was totally unnecessary, and could have been avoided by a simple telephone call. It would only have been the decent thing to do!

Makes Sense

This Year may Christmas come to you
Through all your senses good and true.
May you HEAR Christmas in every bell
And "Praise God" as voices swell

May you SEE Christmas in every place
And in the sparkle of each shining face.
May you FEEL Christmas in all you say
And in friendly handclasp along the way.
May you TASTE Christmas in all that's fine
And all good things like grand old wine.
May you SMELL Christmas in all that's bright
And in the stillness of a Winter's night.

To bring you Christmas joy

May your senses do their part

But it really isn't Christmas
"Till you find it in your heart.

May each of you have a Blessed Holiday Season and a Healthy, Prosperous New Year.

Assistant Grand Lecturer



V.:W.: George R. Springett
247-3557
Genesee/Wyoming District

In my travels throughout the District, it has been a great pleasure to witness good Ritual work being accomplished by the Lodges I have had the opportunity to visit. What really impressed me was the fact that even the smaller Lodges of the District have so many good Ritualists within their membership and who pride themselves as Master Masons in our great Fraternity.

Enough accolades for now, it is time that I present some food for thought. The principal tenets of Freemasonry are Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love, which lay the foundation separating a man in Masonry and a profane man.

Friendships we have formed through our association with the better men developed by the understanding of our Ritual, creates a trust in men within our Fraternity that is unsurpassed by any other organization in the world today. Although we may differ in opinion, we have learned that truly desirable and honest friendships will last a lifetime, even when in the presence of our enemies. We must guard this friendship as we would guard our own family and let not an erring Brother be without wise counsel concerning his inappropriate ways, less we likewise stand in agreement with this digression from our teachings.

Morality is that rule and guide which we set as a code of life, separating us from the cruelty found in the profane world around us in our daily lives. We will not, shall not, cannot ever waver from the practice of these high standards, to which we have freely obligated ourselves. To do so would lower us to the same standards as in the surrounding profane world and diminish the true values of the Free and Accepted Masons.

To allow the morality of a Brother Mason to diminish unchecked would be un-Masonic conduct on our part, as well as it could be construed as an un-Masonic act. We must, therefore, fit our hearts and minds to that high standard like that house we built within us, likened to the house made without hands, eternal in Heaven.

Brotherly Love is the giving of our aid or sympathy to a distressed worthy Brother Mason. Comforting him or his family when in sickness, be it mental or physical. Assisting him in times of disaster, that he may again become an asset to his world as before his setback. This is the way we offer care for our own without asking, which differs from the profane world, where one must ask, plead, or even beg, for assistance.

These tenets of Freemasonry should always be followed, and never abandoned, by all Brothers, as they are the reasons we, as Free and Accepted Masons, separate ourselves from the profane world. Let no man cause a distraction from these tenets as we near the completion of the third century of Speculative Masonry.

Visitation Schedule

December 3rd - Olive Branch, Degree review
December 4th - Council Convention at Palmyra
December 17th - Attica Official Visit
December 19th - Masonic Development Course - Attica
January 18th - Council of Masonic Activities Meeting - Hesperus
February 4th - Olive Branch Official Visit
February 24th - Batavia Official Visit
March 17th - Masonic School of Instruction - Attica
The above listing completes all known Official Visits and Degree Reviews as required in my position as your AGL for the Genesee/Wyoming District. There are FOUR known exceptions; Lodges have not scheduled a Degree Review according to my calendar at the time this article was prepared.

ALL DEGREE REVIEWS ARE TO BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 2004.

Genesee-Wyoming Council of Masonic Activities



President
V.:W.: Adrian J. Miller
676-2775
R.:W.: Dennis M. Turton, Sr.
Secretary 591-1179

By V.:W.: Adrian J. Miller
Our annual Fish Fry, was a success and we wish to thank the following:

R.:W.: Norm Austin for placing the ads in the *Penny Savers* in Batavia and LeRoy areas. I handled the ads in the Arcade, Cuba and Franklinville *Penny Savers*.

W.: Paul Smith for the use of his deep fryers.

R.:W.: Richard C. Anderson for purchasing the supplies and helping with the cooking.

R.:W.: Jerold A. Brade for picking up the deep fryers and being our chief cook and bottle washer.

Attica Lodge for the use of their kitchen and dining room.

All the workers and Lodges who bought and sold tickets to make this dinner a success. Thank you, everyone.

These fundraisers are very necessary to raise the money to support all our projects.

Directories

Each Lodge is given between fifteen and twenty District Directories at no cost to the Lodge. The Council paid \$784.00 for the Directories in 2003 and this is the reason we need your support.

Dues

Our dues are only \$1.00 per year and if you don't attend the meetings, the dues go unpaid. If you could send them in, it would be greatly appreciated.

At our Spaghetti Dinner, there were three Lodges who did not send in their tickets or money. I will not mention your names, but you know who you are.

Candy sales

This, also, is a very important fundraiser, as everyone knows. I have been informed that all the Lodges have received their order forms and need to place their orders with W.: Jim Allan of Mt. Vernon Lodge, our District Candy Chairman, at 457-3079. Orders will be available for pickup at the Council of Masonic Activities on January 18, 2004 at 2:00 p.m., at Hesperus Lodge.

Sickness and distress

Does any Brother know of a Brother in sickness or distress, or in need of our aid or sympathy? If so, please contact any Officer of the Council.

My wife, Roxann, and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Triluminar Lodge No. 543

2nd & 4th
Wednesdays
Master
R.:W.: Keith Granger
493-2908
Secretary
W.: Richard Anderson
493-2203
Main Street, Pike 14130

War

I am sitting here wondering how to start this article to the *Masonic Times* and all I can think about is my daughter, Nicole, who is in Kuwait. She has been sent there for four months. Previously she had to go to Saudi Arabia. W.: David Mayer has a son in Iraq. It is hard, because there is very little communication with them. Please keep them in your prayers along with any other Brothers, family or friends, who are in the military.

Assistant Grand Lecturer

On October 8th, we had our Official Visit from V.:W.: George Springett, who communicated the Grand Lecturer's message and informed us of the proper way to come to fidelity and to salute the American Flag.

On October 15th, we had our Grand Lecturer's Convention in Attica Lodge. The Brothers who attended had a great time.

Turkey Party

The Annual Turkey Party was held on November 8th, and a great time was had by all. I thank Jerold Brade and R.:W.: Richard Anderson's granddaughter and her two friends for working in the kitchen. Thank you to all the Brothers who helped sell tickets, worked and donated.

Official Visits

November 12th was a night to remember. We were set to

do our Entered Apprentice Degree for V.:W.: George Springett. The Degree went very well and I thank everyone for their help. We also had our Official Visit from R.:W.: Robert Strang, DDGM of the Genesee/Wyoming District. He communicated the Grand Master's wishes for the year and said that he would like everyone to donate to the Brotherhood Fund. He also said that the Child ID Program was going to have two things added for identifying children, which are teeth impressions and DNA samples.

Masonic tip-off

This basketball tournament was held at Letchworth Central School on November 28th and 29th. It is probably the biggest exposure for the Masonic Fraternity in the Letchworth area. There are four Masonic Bodies who support this event: Triluminar, Eagle Valley, and Oakland Lodges, and Arcade Chapter. Thank you, Brothers, for your support and donations. It's nice to see about 200 kids running around with our names on their backs. This article will not be out before the tournament, but I am positive that a great time will be had by all. Thanks to the Brothers who presented the trophies.

Eagle Valley Lodge No. 1161

2nd & 4th
Thursdays
Master
W.: Edwin C. Law
237-2579
Secretary
R.:W.: Sheldon J. Moden
322-7343
Liberty Street, Bliss 14024

Season's Greetings, Brothers! I wish you and yours happy holidays and safe travel to and from wherever you may go.

Merger talks, with Triluminar Lodge in Pike, have begun with guidance from the DDGM, as prescribed. There is no further merger news at this point in time.

The annual fundraiser at Eagle Valley was a fine "event" as predicted. Special thanks to all who participated and purchased. Very special recognition to Brother William Olsowsky, who has always been the man who pulls our plans together! Bill, we can't thank you enough!

As we approach the year 2004, we expect to make a wee bit of Masonic history between Bliss and Pike. We look to the Great Architect for wisdom and guidance.

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



1st & 3rd Mondays
Master
W.: Paul Baetzold
535-7533

W.: Kenneth Kohlhagen
Secretary, 591-9598

2473 Route 20A, Varysburg 14167

By W.: Stephen A. Licht

Please extend Fraternal greetings to our two newest Brothers, as they begin their labors in the quarries of Masonry. On Monday, December 1st, the Worshipful Master plans to advance them to the Degree of Fellowcraft, pending their suitable proficiency in the preceding Degree. The conferral will begin at 8:00 p.m. Our Senior Warden will confer the Degree and an old Past Master will deliver the Middle Chamber Lecture.

Our Entered Apprentice Degree Team demonstrated the quality of Ritual that a small Lodge is capable of conferring. Our DDGM graciously delivered the Historical Lecture with the accompanying slides. Two rehearsals were proven insufficient to prepare us for the inevitable attack by "Murphy's Law;" anything that can go wrong, WILL !!

When everything is going like clockwork, expect the mainspring to get "unsprung." Our hoodwinks appeared like new, but closer inspection revealed three of them to be out of service - the rubber bands to secure them had become unsecured themselves. After careful search in and about the Temple, replacements were quickly found, OR SO I THOUGHT. About three minutes into the Degree, "snap" one of the replacements bit the dust. A silent and hasty correction was made, much to the credit of the attentive Officers present. The Degree went on in a most dignified and solemn manner, but we were not out of the woods yet!

Just when everyone thought we were home free with the DDGM left to give the Historical Lecture, "Confusion in the Craft" reared its ugly head once more. About five minutes into what is always an interesting Lecture, the phrase 'Let there be Light' took on a new meaning, especially for R.:W.: Strang. The projector bulb decided that it had shed enough "Light in Masonry" and promptly retired from Masonic service. For many years Masons have been told to replace themselves in their Lodges- the operative word is "REPLACE". Thus, the Lecture continued without the visual support. Perhaps the DDGM will remember to have his replacement with him next time. Those old candle lit projectors never blew out their filaments and we have lots of candles.

Our AGL sat stoically throughout the Degree and was most complimentary while we were at collation. Our AGL apparently wondered if the quality of our work was a one-time fluke, so he returned two weeks later. During these Opening Ceremonies, the AGL's forgetfulness necessitated the Junior Deacon declaring "confusion in the Craft"- not that we aren't frequently confused at the goings-on!

After de-confusing V.: W.: Springett, we proceeded to struggle through the evening without one of our Great Supports of Masonry, a Brother who has been both a Jachin and Boaz in Genesee/Wyoming District Masonry for many years, R.:W.: Kenneth Kohlhagen. I will give you a brief synopsis of what has befallen him in recent days.

The Friday before Lodge, I called his wife and learned that he was in bed, not feeling well. He attributed the symptoms to a cheese and onion sandwich he snacked upon the previous evening. Later that evening, Ken called me and the conversation turned to his not feeling up to snuff- a seldom heard complaint from him. After "doing my thing" and playing 20 questions with him, I arrived

at the crucial question- do you still have your (or anyone else's) gallbladder? The response was in the affirmative. My reply was that everything pointed to the need to rid himself of that troublesome organ - or maybe it was just bad cheese in his sandwich! He promised to see a MD in the morning if the situation did not resolve..... that night I am told by 10:00 p.m. he was in the hospital. Saturday, R.:W.: Kohlhagen spent an interesting time with the Surgical Staff at the local hospital. Apparently they were Royal Arch Masons and Ken had violated some part of his Past Master's Obligation as he now possesses the scar of that penalty being inflicted upon him!

I am pleased to report that he is now at home recuperating and wishes to thank everyone for the cards and well wishes. He will be taking a brief hiatus from his Masonic activities, but after he sees the minutes kept by the Acting Secretary of his Lodge, I know he will be back at his desk soon!

Now that he lives in a two-computer home and has high speed internet access, we should expect to see a lot from him online. R.:W.: Kohlhagen has requested that all Brethren of the Lodge advise him of their email address, either by a note with their dues check or an email to kenkohlh@juno.com

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season from the Officers and members of West Star Lodge.

Answer to photo caption - R.:W.: Ken Kohlhagen. x

appreciated if you could please join us if you can.

The Friday prior to this event, December 12th, Brethren and some of their ladies will be manning the Salvation Army "Red Kettle" Campaign at the Top's store in Batavia. We will be participating from noon until 9:00 p.m. Again, if you can help in this annual tradition, please let the Secretary or me know.

Past news

At the first communication of our Lodge held on Tuesday, November 11th, the complete Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred by our Brethren with the assistance of some very much appreciated help from those Brethren from visiting Lodges from within the District. It should be noted that two newly initiated Brothers from West Star Lodge were in attendance to observe this exemplification. Our thanks go out to all who helped to make this a full and complete evening where we make our "first and lasting" impression on a Brother who, until this time, is in the dark as relates to Masonry. It should also serve as a reminder that this is the time that our responsibilities have just begun, as we "walk the walk and talk the talk" to the new Brother as to just what our Fraternity represents and offers to each of us.

From the West

It has become a renewed opportunity to have some input though this medium, not that it was forbidden by anyone. One of the observations that I have made at the present time, is the fact that our number of Brethren is slowly dwindling. I realize that there is no one answer to remedy this situation, but it behooves each of us to make a "diligent effort" in introducing our friends or neighbors to the tenets and benefits of our great Fraternity. All I need to do personally, is to just think back over the past thirty years or so that I have been a part of Masonry. Obviously, it may not have materially been anything of importance, but, morally and spiritually, it has been a mainstay of my life, introducing me to a whole new family of common thinking and resolve. I ask you at this time, to take the time to share this experience with someone special to you.

For me, just over the recent past, I have had the opportunity and enjoyment of introducing one of my sons to the Fraternity, not only was this event a privilege, but more importantly, it opened the door to continue this great Fraternity in my own family.

From the Secretary

Just a reminder, you should have received your dues notices as of this time. Please respond at your earliest convenience, so that I can perform my respective duties to you and your Lodge in making sure that you have your "2004" membership card in your possession.

Sickness and Distress

In case you are not aware of two of our Brothers from the District who recently have had some trying times physically, R.:W.: John Bater, of Hesperus Lodge, is healing from some broken bones. At the time of this writing, he is a patient at Highland Hospital. R.:W.: Ken Kohlhagen, of West Star Lodge, had a go-around with

some gall bladder problems. He is presently at home recuperating. We wish these Brothers complete and speedy healing processes. I know of no one from our own lodge to report on at this time.

Finally Brothers, we continue to ask that all keep our troops in their thoughts and prayers, especially now as we enter the holiday season. These men and women are giving of their time while diligently performing their respective duties overseas and at home, while we are in the comfort of our families and homes.

May God Bless us all! x

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

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



Master
W.: Henry Robinson
322-7545

Secretary
W.: Richard L. Smith
493-5408

134 South Main Street, Castile 14427

I'm sitting at my computer pondering what I should write about to inform my fellow Brothers. It's hard to find any inspiration on a day that the Buffalo Bills lost and Old Man Winter is giving us an early reminder of what is soon to come. It won't be long before that white stuff begins to fly and some of our Brothers will make their annual pilgrimage to the South. Hopefully, all those Brothers traveling South for the Winter will have a safe and healthy commute.

Sickness

I reported last month that Brother Robin Bowles went in for lung surgery. Brother Bowles is now home and recovering slowly. He seems still to be in a lot of pain at times, but is making progress everyday. Hopefully, his condition will continue to improve for the holidays.

Degree

Oakland Lodge conferred the Fellowcraft Degree upon its newly made Brother on November 18th. Much hard work and practice was undertaken to perform this Degree, as well. Once again, I thank the Brothers of Constellation Lodge and R.:W.: Robert Strang for their help and support in conferring this Degree. It was a great night and a great performance by many great Masons. I know it has been a repeated theme in many of my articles this year, but how can you not get excited about Degree work?

Brotherhood Fund

The Brotherhood Campaign is off and running for another year. The Brotherhood Chairman for Oakland Lodge is Kenneth Smith. The best place to make your contributions is at our monthly communications. For those Brothers who are unable to make our communications, your contributions can be sent directly to Brother Smith.

Please send all contributions to: Kenneth Smith, 8562 E Main Street, LeRoy, NY 14482. If you are making a contribution through the mail, please indicate toward which category you would like your contribution to be dedicated.

Please respond

I would like to know from the members of Oakland Lodge, if

Batavia Lodge No. 475

2nd & 4th Tuesdays



Master
W.: J. Michael Willwerth
344-8443

jmw40@rochester.rr.com
Sec. R.:W.: Robert F. Dagen
548-7148
rdagen@rochester.rr.com
200 East Main Street
Batavia 14020

From the East

It is my sincere hope that all have enjoyed your Thanksgiving Day. As is customary, most of us have taken this time to sit at the table with our families and/or friends and, as intended, share with each other those thoughts of 'thankfulness' which this one day of the year symbolizes. This time of the year also begins the season of many more celebrations. The coming Advent Season should remind each one of us of the true meaning of what Christmas really represents. May each and every one of you enjoy the traditional gift giving and family gatherings.

The month of December also is a very important time of the year as we, as Brothers of Batavia Lodge, share our time with some of our local veterans. We will be hosting the annual "Bingo Party with the vets" on Tuesday, December 16th. We will meet at the VA Recreational Building at 6:30 p.m. This event is one in which we can share a very short period of time, approximately two hours, but I can assure you that as you come away that evening, you will leave with the feeling of accomplishment and appreciation. It would be



Who is missing from this picture?

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they are enjoying the material and information that I have been sending out each month. Hopefully, my articles have been informative and enjoyable to read by each and every member. I would like any feedback possible, whether positive or negative. Please let me know if you have enjoyed what I have been communicating through this article. Please feel free to call me at 768-7731, email me at kesmith@kgptel.com, or write me a letter at Kenneth Smith, 8562 East Main Street, LeRoy, NY 14482. Remember Brother's, this is your article, not just one Brother's.

December

Our communications for the month of December will take place on the 2nd and 16th. Oakland Lodge now meets at its new home, the American Legion Building. This is the big white building down the hill from our previous location.

Hopefully, all Masons and their families enjoyed a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. We each have much to be thankful for this year. Please take the time to stop and think of all the wonderful things we should be thankful for and for all the people, past and present, who have fought to provide these wonderful things. Take the time to thank your family and friends for the wonderful

things they have done for you throughout the years. Most importantly, be thankful that every day you wake up in the United States of America.

May the blessings of Heaven fall upon us, all regular Masons and their families everywhere. x

Attica Lodge No. 462
 1st and 3rd Wednesdays (Jan-Feb-Mar 3rd Wed. Only)

 Master W.: Keith Countermine 591-1023
 Secretary W.: Norman Steinbaugh 591-2073
 39 Main Street, Attica 14011

When you receive this we will have hosted the Grand Lecturer's Convention. It was well attended, so thanks to everyone for being there.

We also held our first monthly breakfast, with very poor results. Our next one will be December 7th from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Please mark your calendars and try to stop by.

December

Our 3rd Degree is still on for December 3rd. Again, mark your calendars. Let's make this a sellout and welcome these Brothers into the Fraternity as we should.

Plans

I am hoping to hold a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night on January 21st, so plan on attending with any friends who might like to find out about Masonry. I plan on being at Lodge about 6:30 p.m.

I was very lucky in the past

Milnor Lodge No. 139
 2nd & 4th Thursdays

 Master W.: Steven L. Harwood (315) 597-1177
 Secretary W.: Philip A. Trautman 394-6976
 21 Madoc Avenue, Victor 14564

A storm to remember - our November meeting was canceled due to a power outage. This definitely was not a good time for that to happen, with our 2nd Degree, an important meeting, and holidays all coming up. Winds from the storm also blew out one of the old wooden windows in the bell tower. Brothers Jim Hartz and Jim VanWyk will repair it.

Our Brother Entered Apprentice will take his Fellowcraft Degree at Garoga-Sincerity Lodge in Phelps, December 2nd. Brothers will be contacted by telephone x

two weeks, as I was able to see my son, Kevin, who was home from Iraq for a two week R and R. He returned to Iraq on November 18th. I ask that we keep our military personnel serving all over the world in our prayers.

This brings me to my closing note. As we enter the holy

seasons for all faiths, please try to keep in mind that we are all on this earth together, so let's work together for the good of all mankind, keep the sick and less fortunate in our prayers and reach out to help someone.

Thank you and God bless all of you. x

Keep in your prayers

Before I get into upcoming events, please include in your prayers, our Brother John Newvine, who was diagnosed with lung cancer and had surgery to remove part of a lung. He is now doing well. Also it appears that Brother Nate Dolce will be shipped out to Iraq in the near future.

Official Visit

Our December 11th meeting will be the Official Visit of our District Deputy Grand Master, and will feature Brother Corky Thon's famous Chicken and Biscuits Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Brother Corky at 924-2656. The proceeds go to the Brotherhood Fund.

December

The 3rd Degree will be conferred on December 18th at 6:30 p.m. Rehearsals will be on December 13th and 17th.

We will be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army at Wades Market on December 6th. Contact Bud Peglow at

924-5632 to volunteer. Bud will also be obtaining the pointstias for our widows.

Please contact Brother John Purdy at 394-0952 to donate or volunteer for our annual program of Christmas Baskets for the Needy.

We will have a Christmas Party on Sunday, December 14th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Lodge. It will feature desserts and snacks. Please bring a dish to pass. There will be some small gifts for the kids. Please give W.: Steve Harwood a call at (315) 597-1177, if you can attend or help.

Brotherhood Fund

Please remember the Brotherhood Fund! An envelope is included with your dues notice. Your generous contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Your attendance and participation during this time of year is needed and very much appreciated.

May God bless and keep you all in His care. x

Rochester Forest No. 133

Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America
 4th Wednesday - 7:30 p.m.
 Penfield, New York 14526



Don Brugger, GTC 458-6125
 Donald C. Bell, Scribe 334-7768

Rochester Forest No. 133 is now down to 36 members. We have been there before, but times have changed. Postage is up, costs are up and although Supreme Forest has not increased its per capita assessment in quite some time, it may happen soon. At our November meeting we discussed increasing the dues from \$17 to \$20 per year. This, of course, would involve a change in the By-Laws. Any change in the By-Laws would require not only approval at a Summoned Meeting, but also approval from Supreme Forest; that could take some time. The change would probably not take place until 2005. We will probably start the process early next year; be ready to come out and weigh in on this.

Our communication of the Prologue and Royal Court Degrees went well. The cast, consisting of John Zabel (King), Mike Dox (Azaria), Angelo DiCataldo (Prince Abibaa), Don Wright, our newest member (Baelbazer), and I (Prince Master of the Palace). Although without costume and a minimum cast, all did well and I believe the portrayal was impressive. We hope to solidify the cast, and recruit backups. We anticipate doing the Degrees again next year. If you would like to take a part, either speaking or nonspeaking, let me know.

Coming events

The menu for our Annual Holiday Party at Valicia's in-

cludes: Italian Wedding Soup, salad, beverage and dessert. The choice of entrees is: Filet Mignon at \$25.50 or Strip Steak at \$23.00, Chicken Marsala at \$18.00, and Eggplant Parmigiana at \$15.50. The costs here include 28% tax and gratuity.

Since the affair is on December 6th, we will be telephoning or emailing all the Woodsmen for their reservations. If you have not heard from us by the time you read this, please call me immediately. I have no control over when you get your *Masonic Times* and by that time the reservations may already be phoned in to the restaurant. A few more may be added, but don't wait.

Sickness and Distress

I have been in contact with Doug Draker by phone. He sounds in good spirits and his rehabilitation after the auto accident is going well. He is getting around with a cane for now, but his mobility is improving daily. Doug will be residing in Dundas, Ontario, Canada for the time being. He will be fitted with a prosthesis as soon as his arm is ready. I am sure he would welcome cards. Please call Paul or me for his address.

There has been no change of which I am aware in Don Freeman's condition. I am sure he would appreciate cards. Please call to get his address.

As I have said before, we are still looking for a few good Woodsmen to volunteer for the Communications and Logistics Committees. The Forest needs you for this important service. Communications involve making sure that all the Woodsmen are informed of our events; only 3 to 5 calls, once a month. This is your Forest. If you want it to survive, we need candidates! x

The Veteran

It is the veteran, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the veteran, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the veteran, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is the veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the veteran, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

It is the veteran who salutes the Flag, who serves under the Flag.

On the ABC evening news, it was reported that, because of the dangers from Hurricane Isabell approaching Washington, DC, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They refused. "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment, it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person.

The Tomb has been patrolled continuously since 1930. We can be very proud of our young men and women in the armed forces no matter where they serve.

God bless them and the USA. Submitted by Moe Schirano (Author unknown) x

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Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

Shrine News

Potentate - Kenneth E. Buckland



Phone - 671-7701
Fax - 671-7702



Illustrious Potentate



Shrine
Office
(585)
671-7701

Kenneth E. Buckland
(607) 545-8461

Wow, 2004 is fast approaching. I find it hard to keep up with the calendar changes. To all our "Snowbirds" who are headed South, we wish you safe journey, good health, and look forward to seeing ya all again in the Spring. Thanks for your support and participation this year.

December meeting

1 - **The total rewrite of our By-Laws.** If you need a larger print copy, they are available in the Recorder's Office. Please take the time to

review the entire copy because the changes are numerous. Your Directors, along with Past Potentates Maldoon, Kloner, and Clark, have worked very hard many evenings in preparing this rewrite. This was presented at our November meeting and then tabled for the required 30 days. There will be time for discussion before the vote.

2 - **The Election of Officers for the coming year.** If you are interested in becoming a Damascus Shrine Officer

in the coming years, please contact one of your Divan members.

3 - **We will be recognizing** many of our Nobles for 25 and 50 years of membership and dedication to our Fraternity.

Saturday, December 6th, Damascus will be joining the Grotto and other Masonic Bodies in hosting a Children's Christmas Party. This will be the first of the holiday parties and I hope that you will be able to participate with your Club or Unit during this festive season.

Reminder

The 2004 dues statements have been sent out and we still have a few who have not sent in their 2002 dues. Please take the time to send in at least that portion of dues so we will not have to suspend any Nobles this year. Thank you for your prompt attention to this very important matter.

Lady Mary and I wish all in our Shrine Masonic family a very happy, healthy and safe holiday season and a prosperous 2004.

From the Recorder



Shrine
Office
(585)
671-7701

Erwin
Newell
544-2242

At the November meeting we had the honor of initiating the following Nobles to membership in Damascus Shrine. Congratulations to our new Nobles: Jeffrey W. Amering, Craig Chilton, John A. Fulmore, Matthew F. Goulden, William C. Jones, John Malyj, Glenn F. Schaefer, and James E. Toogood.

Congratulations to the Di-

rectors Staff for the fine Second Section of the Ceremonial.

The December meeting will be the Election of Officers for the ensuing year. You must have a current Damascus dues card in order to ballot.

The By-Laws which were proposed last year did not meet all the changes that Imperial has ordered to be inserted. Therefore, the Poten-

tate appointed a By-Laws Committee to research all the changes which were required by Imperial, including the 2004 changes. This Committee has totally rewritten our By-Laws. Please read them so that we may answer any questions or concerns you may have. These By-Laws will be voted upon in December.

Once again, there will be a

dinner preceding the meeting. Make sure that you have a reservation for dinner. When making your reservation, please say your name and spell it so that we may better understand your message. Reservation line number is 671-3565.

Brenda and I wish you a happy holiday season. May the New Year bring health and happiness to everyone.

Damascus Shrine AAONMS

You are hereby
Summoned
to attend the
December 3rd meeting
Election of Officers for 2004
and
Ballot on the new By-Laws

Past Masters Degree Team

By Joe Minas

On November 24th, twenty-five Past Masters and Nobles went to Fairport/Flower City Lodge to dramatize the 3rd Degree. Everyone did a wonderful job. My thanks to all who participated.

There is a need for Past Masters and Nobles to fill in the chairs and characters in the 3rd Degree. Members of the present Team are not always able to take part.

Call the Damascus Office at 671-7701, if you are willing to join us.

Legion of Honor

By Fred Cornell, Commander

Here we are, approaching the end of a memorable year. It has been an honor for me to serve as your Commander.

I thank all my Officers for a job well done. You certainly were there for me when help was needed. I personally thank my Adjutant, Vance Collom, and my mentor, Don McDill,

HL Beatrice Quinter has moved to One Clark Meadows, Canandaigua, NY 14424. HL Emily Whitney is home and doing well. Both would appreciate a call, visit and/or card.

PC, for special help when needed.

We have one more function at which we honor our ladies. It is our Christmas Party, which will be at the Burgundy Basin Inn on December 10th. Please mark your calendars.

To all Nobles, Past Commanders and their ladies, thank you all for your support at all the functions. I hope you will give the same support you have given me to our incoming Commander.

Zama Temple Daughters of the Nile

By Jean Friedrich, PQ

Our Next-to-New Sale was a success, thanks to all our members (and their Nobles) who gave so much of their time and worked so hard. This was our first time holding a one-day sale in Fairport. We have all sorts of ideas and plans for next year!

Holiday Tea

Now comes that special time of the year filled with excitement, festive parties and Santa with his bag of gifts. We will hold our Annual Holiday Tea on Sunday, December 7th, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at the Damascus Center. Chairwoman Princess Tirzah, Virginia Gramse, and her Committee are making plans for a fun afternoon. Be sure to come and enjoy this holiday party with your Nile friends and their Nobles.

Culinary experts!

Before our December 13th Stated Session, we will have a gala luncheon provided by those culinary experts, the Past Queens of Zama Temple. Mark your calendars now and don't miss it!

Remembering children

Remember, too, that December is the time we contribute to the Special Convalescent Relief Fund for the patients in Shrine Hospitals. We also collect toys, stuffed animals, games and small items for gift bags suitable for young children and teens to be sent to the Erie Hospital before Christmas. Please come and be prepared to give whatever you can.

Our Queen, Joan Davis Bright, and her Officers, wish all of you a happy and healthy holiday season. May you extend your bounty and friendship to our shut-ins and those who are alone - your special gift to others.

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Queen Christina

Court No. 13
Order of Amaranth
3rd Saturday - 2 p.m.

Royal Matron
Audrey Curtis
442-5860
Secretary

Donna Stalker
(315) 986-1570
Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street

The next meeting of the Court will be Saturday, December 20th, at 2:00 p.m. Honored Lady Beverly Brown, District Deputy Grand Royal Matron, will make her Official Visit. This will be the first such visit since joining District Five. Sagoyewatha Commandery No. 17, Knights Templar, have again invited us to participate in their Christmas Observance. That will also be on December 20th. It will be held at 10:00 a.m. at the Phelps Masonic Hall. We will join the Commandery and their guests for lunch at the Masonic Hall. Honored Lady Beverly Brown will be invited to join us in the morning.

The Grand Royal Matron will be visiting Olean on Saturday, December 6th. Syracuse Court will have its Official Visit on Friday, December 12th, at the Solway Masonic Hall.

Fidelity Triangle No. 4

Fame Lodge
4275 Culver Road

2nd & 4th Saturdays
8:00 p.m.

Junior Advisor
Jennifer Jeerings
343-0960



Fidelity Triangle No. 4

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Saturday, November 8th
7:00 p.m.

Charlotte/Corinthian Temple
4550 Lake Avenue

All are welcome

By Wendy Burrows, Jr. Deputy
From October 10th to the 13th, eight girls of Fidelity Triangle attended their Bi-Annual Convention at Swan Lake, NY, where the Triangle of the Year was announced.

Our congratulations to Sunrise Triangle No. 146 who earned first place. Lockport Triangle No. 128 received second place, with Fidelity Triangle finishing third.

Each Triangle competed in three areas: Community Ser-

vice, Ritual Exemplification, and the Expansion Goal Program. Each Triangle contributing to all three Program Goals will receive a personalized "Triangle of Distinction" Banner to hang in its Temple, for their participation. The girls have earned this Banner.

Fidelity Triangle had six new members, completed 34 hours of community service, donate \$1,324 to charity and has seven members who earned the Senior Ritual Proficiency Level.

November 8th was Installation of Officers. Miss Kelly Gorall was installed as Beloved Queen for the 2004 term. Michelle D'Angillio, Senior Lady; Gloria Taylor, Junior Lady; Theresa Waterhouse, Guardian; and Ashley Burke, Chaplain.

November 22nd was an open meeting, with a reception for the newly installed Senior Advisor, Mrs. Debbie Burke and Junior Advisor, Miss Jennifer Jeerings.

December 13th will be an open meeting and Christmas Party at 8:00 p.m.

January 10, 2004, will be an open meeting at 8:00 p.m. It will be Homecoming for Past Senior Advisor, Mrs. Doreen Rhodes and Junior Advisor, Miss Jeanne Dombrowski.

Sharing is caring

CHANUKAH GREETINGS



Scottish Rite NEWS

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

Fall 2003 Scottish Rite "Bivouac" Proves Positive!

Commander-in-Chief



Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°

Lodge of Perfection Degrees

What a thrill it was on Thursday, October 30th, to witness the performance of the Twelfth and Fourteenth Degrees! This is the first opportunity that the Valley has had to "learn" about working in another new Degree conferral environment...and it proved to be very positive! Special thanks to the Directors of these Degrees: Sublime Prince Cliff Hayner, 32°, and Assistant Sublime Prince Steven Ly-senko, 32°, Twelfth Degree Team Coordinators and Ill.: Robert D. Pedersen, 33°, Fourteenth Degree Coordinator, for their leadership. Of special note is the role that was taken by Sublime Prince G. Michael Morris, 32°, while acting as the Thrice Potent Master of the Lodge of Perfection in the Fourteenth Degree. His leadership brought together those dozen or so new Sublime Princes in attendance who had taken their Degrees on April 26th in the role of teaching the meaning of this Degree. The "esprit de corps" among the casts for both Degrees was very positive; there were many first time participants as well as many faithful regular participants. The scheduling of these particular Degrees allows our Degree presentation matrix to stay on target for the successful exemplification of all Scottish Rite Degrees by the end of 2005.

Council, Chapter and Consistory Degrees

We convened again on Saturday, November 8th, at the Webster Masonic Temple for the execution of the Fifteenth, Eighteenth and Twenty Fifth Degrees.

Special thanks are due [again] to Ill.: John E. Zabel, 33° for his direction of both the fifteenth and twenty-fifth Degrees. We also thank Sublime Prince Norman Austin for directing the 18th Degree.

It was again an excellent opportunity to see the warm fellowship, camaraderie and "esprit de corps" that prevailed throughout the day.

We especially reach out and thank Ill.: John E. Zabel, 33°, Director of Directors, for his special efforts in coordinating all of the necessary elements for these conferrals.

We convened a third time on Saturday, November 15th, and drove to Buffalo for a joint conferral of the 32nd Degree. The feelings of working together, sharing strengths, fellowship, "esprit de corps" and fraternalism were shared between our

two Valleys in this work. Of paramount importance is that many of the new Sublime Princes who had participated in the April 26th One-Day Scottish Rite Class were able to see this Degree from another, new perspective.

Marketing Management

Special thanks to Ill.: Robert D. Pedersen for his outreach and leadership. Bob lead the team that reached out to all of the new members of the Grand Master's Class from March 29th, with several letters of invitation. At the last Brother Bring-a-Brother Information Dinner, there were five signed petitions submitted.

Special thanks, as well to Ill.: Charles O. Hancock, 33°, for his assistance.

These petitions will be carried to 2004 for the conferral of Degrees. We also salute Distinguished Brother Charles C. Spiegel Jr., 32° MSA, Associate Secretary, for his special efforts in calling and contacting each of those on this list. We appreciate the efforts of our Lodge Ambassadors, Grand Lodge Officers, Valley Officers and all who share in promoting 32° Freemasonry.

New Member Night

Ill.: Pedersen chaired another "Introduction Program" on October 8th which brought together many of our new Sublime Princes from the last couple of years. There were presentations about who we are, what we do, what's in it for our new Sublime Princes and finally, a summary of our important charitable efforts, with special emphasis on the 32° Masonic Learning Centers. We are fortunate to be able to host The Frank and Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center.

New York's Senior Honorary Member Passes

It is with a great deal of sadness that we note the passing of Ill.: Trevor W. Rogers, 33°, Past Commander-in-Chief of the Valley of Buffalo. Ill.: Brother Rogers was coroneted a 33° Honorary Member of Supreme Council in 1954. His Masonic Memorial service was conducted on October 28th.

Our own Past Commander-in-Chief, Ill.: Robert P. Zabel, 33°, now becomes the Senior Honorary member of Supreme Council in New York State.

Active Member Assignment

In a memorandum sent on October 28th, it was announced that the new Active Member of Supreme who will be the liaison to our Valley is Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°. We welcome Ill.: Spencer to our Valley in his new capacity. The Deputy has assigned all of the Valleys to the other four Active Members of Supreme Council within New York in order that he can function as the administrative and management chair of the same.

Ritual Books

The Valley of Rochester was pleased to distribute 142 Craft Lodge Ritual Books in the pack-

ets for members of the Grand Master's "One Day Class."

In a recent conversation [and training session] with several of those class members, we explained the contents of this tool and how it relates to the work done in each Lodge. Thank you for that special opportunity!

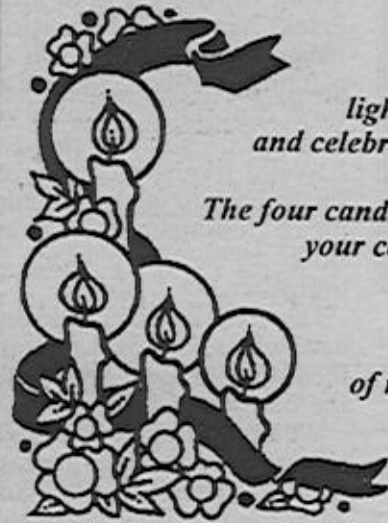
DeMolay "Tip of the Hat"

Several members of the Hadi-Ya-Saga Preceptory of the DeMolay Legion of Honor of Rochester, were in attendance in Buffalo, October 10th, and participated in the Honorary Legion of Honor Conferal on Ill.: Brothers Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, Active Member of Supreme Council and Deputy for New York and Edward R. Trosin, 33°, Deputy Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

On November 8th, several members were in attendance in Utica to honor Ill.: Robert Wakelee, 33°, and Jeffrey French, who were knighted as Active Legion of Honor recipients. This is the highest honor that can be conferred by the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, on an active Freemason for his service on behalf of his country, mankind, and the Order of DeMolay. Warmest congratulations and best wishes to these distinguished recipients.

May the special blessings of Hanukkah and Christmas be with you and your family members everywhere; may Brotherly Love and Peace prevail. ✽

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This holiday season
light four candles in honor
and celebration of your loved one.

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your courage, your memories,
and your love.

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of new hope, may you find
peace and joy
in remembering

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David P. Crawford

Season's Greetings

from the staff of the
Masonic Times

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Commander-in-Chief

Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
(h) 223-7630, (w) 454-3290
swhittaker@monroelitho.com

Thrice Potent Master

Gary L. Burke
(h) 865-4940, (w) 621-2266
g.d.burke@juno.com

Sovereign Prince

George S. Nasra
(h) 377-2832
gnasra@rochester.rr.com

Most Wise Master

G. Michael Morris
(h) 223-2828
morris@apollooptical.com

Deputy's Representative

Ill.: Rodney R. Rittenhouse, 33°
(h) 223-0488
rod77@frontiernet.net

Treasurer

Dist. Donald A. Rose, 32° MSA
(h) 423-9682, (cell) 329-8354
(w) 264-1160, Fax 264-1161
donr@maxnet.net

Secretary

Ill.: Charles O. Hancock, 33°
(h) 223-1850, (w) 264-1160
Fax 264-1161
chancock@frontiernet.net

Associate Secretary

Dist. Charles Spiegel, Jr., 32° MSA
(h) 453-0285, (w) 264-1160
Fax 264-1161
spiegelc@rochester.rr.com

Assistant Secretary

Norman P. Austin
(h) 494-2223
Message phone 234-0296
lindalee115@hotmail.com

New York State Council of Deliberation
Frank & Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 330, Rochester, NY 14618
Office (585) 264-1690; Fax (585) 264-1692

Allegiance

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

Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill.: Walter E. Webber, 33°

Grand Minister of State

Ill.: Norman L. Christensen, 33°

Active Members for New York

Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°

Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°

Active Emeriti Members

Ill.: James F. Nichoff, 33°

Ill.: Carlton A. Winchester, 33°,
Past Deputy for New York

Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill.: Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°

Deputy for the State of New York

Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°

Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°

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

Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°

24th, 25th, 27th & 29th Dists. - RAM
8th Cryptic District - R&SM
Zone 11 & 12 - Knights Templar

York Rite NEWS

York Rite College
Judah Maccabeus

**GRAND
WARDER**

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

STATE OF
NEW YORK



**SK James R.
MacConnell**
494-1815

The "Red Books" are out! You can get one from your Commandery's Recorder. If you missed the reception of our Grand Commander on November 1st, you missed a good time. All the dates of the Inspections are printed in the book and this year I have the pleasure to inspect the following Commandery's:

March 8th - Lake Erie
March 11th - Norwich and Otsego

April 17th - Sagoyewatha
May 6th - St. Augustine
May 25th - Nassau and Trinity

My boss thinks I might be in China installing a film slitter during the month of March, but I'm still negotiating the time frame (hoping for February instead). We may have to reschedule the first two Inspections. S.K. Stephen Wing and S.K. David Lathers have agreed to fill in for me. One way or another we will get them in. I will keep everybody posted as we get closer. I will be sending to the Commander's the requirements and my itinerary for my Official Visit by December 1st.

November 15th

DeMolay Commandery conferred all three Orders on four candidates and did an excellent job under the leadership of S.K. Dave Lathers and S.K. William Jones. I thoroughly enjoyed the day.


We are fast approaching the holiday season and Lady Marsha and I wish the best for you and your loved ones. If you have never been to a Christmas Toast below is a partial list of the ones coming up.

Christmas Toasts

December 5th - DeMolay Commandery
December 11th - Batavia Commandery
December 15 - Cyrene-Monroe Commandery
December 20 - Sagoyewatha Commandery

If you are looking to go with someone to any of these functions, please give me a call 494-1815.

**District Deputy
Grand High Priest**



**27th
District
RAM**

R..E.. Benjamin P. Thorp, Jr.
(585) 346-6542

I wish all of you and your families a joyous holiday season and all the best for the upcoming New Year.

As you are aware, Grand Chapter is fast approaching. The dates are March 5th-6th, 2004, in Albany. Your High Priest has the information. Please let him know if you are planning to attend. You can always cancel a hotel reservation if your situation changes. I would like the completed sheets back to me by the middle of December so I can arrange to secure a block of rooms for our District.


I have the luncheon and dinner tickets, and will forward these to your High Priest after the money is received.

We are looking for a few good men to step forward and apply for District Deputy and AGL for the upcoming two years. If you feel you would like to apply, please see your High Priest, who has the applications. I need these back ASAP so they can be sent to Grand Chapter.

Hope to see you all soon. *

**District Deputy
Grand High Priest**

**29th District
RAM**



R..E.. Leonard Mason
492-1813

The first few months have been educational and have allowed me to get a little better feeling for Capitular Masonry in the 29th District. There is a lot of interest and a lot of talent in our District but there aren't a lot of members. Last March, there were 161 members in our District. We have had the pleasure of greeting a few new members and most of them have shown a great deal of interest. I understand that some are going to become Officers in some of the Chapters.

There has been a list composed of Companions who are Right Excellents in our District. I have asked them to become available to assist in any Chapter's Installation if the Chapter so desires. Please contact R..E.. Richard Anderson if that is what your Chapter wants.

I am proposing that in the future, the Councils (High Priest, King and Scribe) of each Chapter represent their respective Chapters in the proposal of names for all appointments in a joint meeting with the current Companions who are Right Excellents.

I have also made two appointments to act as a Finance Committee for the District funds raised by the District for the use of purchasing Aprons at the Annual Picnic. They are R..E.. Richard Anderson and R..E.. Vernon Rupert, who will have exclusive check signing privileges. They will provide an accounting of all funds raised and expenditures from those receipts.

Additionally, I have asked four Companions to put together a list of prescribed uses for the available funds outside


of the initial intent of providing for District Deputy Aprons regularly and AGL Aprons, as needed. These items will be discussed at the next meeting along with the four Councils.

The Grand High Priest has been invited to meet with the District Members in LeRoy Chapter next May 25th. This has been done in an attempt to get onto his schedule. Please try to hold that month open for his visit. Remember that our District is only as good as all of those who make it up and not just a few. *

Hiram Chapter

No. 62

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



E.. Charles M. Roberts, High Priest
225-6533

E.. Dennis K. Gellasch, Secretary
265-3993

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14834

Companions, let me digress a little bit over last month's great events. We had a terrific event with our Companions from Orient Chapter No. 79 of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, November 7th - 9th. The fellowship and companionship were truly admirable.

We had, I believe, eight candidates to take the Old Saratoga Degree. What a very humorous time was had by all. "Well done" to the Degree Team. I'm sure many understood the "point" or at least got it! We raised \$150 for our Grand Chapter Charity/Scholarship program.

The ladies were entertained during the Degree by a magician extraordinaire. Following the Degree, we went to the Brookwood Inn, where we enjoyed a great hospitality room, followed by the banquet. There were forty in attendance. After a delicious meal, recognitions, exchange of gifts and the presentation of the Traveling Plaque, we continued the festivities in the Chapter's hospitality room at the Brookwood Inn.

It was truly a pleasure to have M..E.. David Stoy, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of NY, RAM, and his lovely lady, Sandy, join us for this event, along with District Deputy Grand High Priest, R..E.. Benjamin (Skip) Thorp. I extend my sincere thanks to Companion Joe Oelgoetz for all his hard work in coordinating this event, and to R..E.. Tom Paglia for his assistance and gifts, as well. I believe it was truly a very successful evening. I hope more of our Companions will participate in this event in the future.

Veterans

I understand that the Veterans Program presented by E.. Dennis Gellasch and R..E.. Tom Paglia at our scheduled convocation of Thursday, November 13th in recognition of our nation's veterans, was well done. My sincere thanks, Companions, for your dedication to the work of the evening. My only regret was that I was not

able to be present. My thanks, also, to Companion Doug Koenig, our King, for assuming the East for the evening.

I pray your Thanksgiving was truly a blessing and that you didn't eat too much.

It truly has been a pleasure to have served you this past year as your High Priest. I am truly thankful for all the Companions who assisted in so many ways this past year in making Hiram Chapter to have another successful year in its history. I look forward to many more.

To my Officers, Degree casts, staging crew and the Companions on the sidelines, my sincere thanks and gratitude go out to each of you. Let me say, thank you and "Well done good and faithful servants."


In closing, our December 11th convocation will be the Annual Meeting and the Election of Officers for the ensuing Capitular year. We do plan to have a dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please give Companion Joe Oelgoetz a call if you plan to attend. I extend my best wishes to the new incoming Officers of Hiram Chapter, may you, too, have a very productive and fulfilling year.

As my time is winding down as your High Priest, let me take this opportunity to wish for each Companion and his family a most blessed Hanukkah or Christmas Season. May your gifts received during this upcoming season always represent the love behind them. May you always find happiness within and outside the Masonic Fraternity.

Until I see you again around the Chapter's Altar, thank you, thank you, thank you, and Happy Holidays to all. *

**Palmyra/Eagle
Chapter No. 79**

1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.



**High Priest
Cyril White**
315-597-9546

**Secretary
R. Stuart
Smith**
315-597-9763

161 East Main Street, Palmyra 14522

The next Stated Convocation of Palmyra Eagle Chapter will be held on Monday, December 1st, at 7:30 p.m. in the Palmyra Masonic Temple, 161 East Main Street, Palmyra. This will be the Chapter's Annual Convocation. Business to be covered will be the Election of Officers and the Annual Reports of Committees. Please plan on attending this very important meeting and help determine who will be the new Officers for the coming year.


There will not be a dinner prior to this meeting, as is usually the case, because the R..E..'s of the 24th Capitular District will be holding a meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Temple to make their recommendations for new DDGHP and AGL to the incoming Most Excellent High Priest. Again, as usual, refreshments will be served after the Convocation.

I thank the Officers and Companions for their support during my term in office as High Priest. I had a good time and I hope you did too.

I look forward to seeing you around the Altar in friendship and brotherly love. *

**Excelsior
Chapter No. 164**

2nd Mon.
7:30 p.m.



**High Priest
E.. L. Ronald
Edwards**
394-3205

**Secretary
R..E.. George Stanton, Jr.**
394-6829

Shortsville, NY

December is here and I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving; now have a wonderful Christmas. December 22nd is the first day of Winter and the shortest day of the year. So you see, I must hurry to Florida before Spring comes.

Election

December 8th will be the Election and Installation of our new Officers. We need you that night, so please plan to attend the convocation. All of the Chairs are open; if you would like to fill one, just say the word and it most likely will be yours.

A Great Big "THANK YOU" to the Officers of 2003 for a job well done.

Work completed

Our work being complete, Excelsior Chapter will go dark again this year for the months of January, February and March and open April 12th for our first convocation of 2004. Have a great Winter, Companions. I plan to be in Florida and to enjoy the sunshine.

The Degree of Mark Master Mason was completed on November 12th in Geneva Chapter's Tabernacle after practice in each of the other three Chapters in the 25th Capitular District. Thanks to the Companions of the District who made this happen.

District news

December 2nd will be the Grand Line Visitation by R..E.. John S. Jones, Grand Principal Sojourner of Grand Chapter, RAM, State of New York, to the 25th Capitular District. We will have dinner at Abigail's Restaurant at 6:00 p.m., ordering from the menu, and the convocation will open at 7:30 p.m. in Salem Town Chapter, located in Seneca Falls.

The four Chapters will each hold their Elections in December and some will also install their 2004 Officers, so please make an effort to help each other out again this month.

Thinking of you

To any Companion or any member of his family who is ill, we pray for your recovery. May God bless you one and all.

Have a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. God bless you.


Enders

Everything is so commercial these days. There is a sign in the mall that says, "Five Santa Clauses - No Waiting."

A gentleman never heard the story before.

The generosity of Americans is just wonderful. There's one outfit that's already collected 3 million dollars - and they don't even have a disease for it. CHEERIO

LeRoy Chapter No. 183 RAM



4th Tues.
7:30 p.m.

High Priest
V.E. James R. MacConnell
494-1815

Secretary
E. Norman P. Austin
494-2223

8 West Main St., LeRoy

My Companions, it becomes my sad duty to announce the passing of Excellent Companion William Calnan on October 26th. Our sympathy and prayers go to his family and loved ones. Bill was a long time member and friend of LeRoy Chapter. I have fond memories working in the Chapter and kitchen flipping pancakes and sausages with Bill over the years. He will be sadly missed, but we know he is in a better place. "Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Amen!

Well, December is here and, soon will be Christmas. It is a time for each Companion to reflect and give thanks for the all of the wonderful things which have happened to us over the past year. On behalf of Marsha and myself, we wish each of you a very successful holiday season and if we can assist you in any way, please give us a call.

On October 28th, we had our Table Chapter meeting where we toasted Robbie Burns. The proceeds went to the Irene McMichael Memorial RAM Scholarship Fund. We had 42 people present. Craig Mollon did a great job getting the Steaks and preparing them. Thanks Craig! Karl-Heinz Reich entertained us with his squeezebox and Art McMichael brought his whole family. We had a great time and Craig Mollon gave us four Scottish toasts. We raised close to \$150.

Upcoming events

November 25th - LeRoy will hold the Annual Election of Officers for next year.

December 8th - Past Master and Most Excellent Master Degrees at Arcade Chapter, Pike

December 23rd - LeRoy will have their Installation of Officers for next year.

On Saturday, January 10th, LeRoy Chapter will do all four Degrees. Registration, coffee and donuts at 8:00 a.m. At 8:45 a.m., is the Mark Master Mason Degree; at 10:15 a.m., Past Master; 10:45 a.m., Most Excellent Master and 1:00 p.m., the Royal Arch Mason Degree. Lunch will be provided at a price of \$7.

Get your candidates ready. We are hoping for at least four new Companions in LeRoy. I know three who are submitting petitions, so if you know somebody who might make a great Royal Arch Mason and need to get a petition, call me or Norm Austin, and we will see that they will get one.

If you would like to take part in the Degrees or want to take

an office, please call me and we will fit you in. Come and enjoy the companionship!

If any Lodge would like us to put on the "Fervency and Zeal" Program, give me a call.

District Deputy Grand Master



8th Cryptic District


R.I.
Cyril R. White
315-597-9546

Illustrious Masters, it is time, once again, to think about Official Visits. Last year R.I.: Stephen Licht, at that time Grand Principle Conductor of the Work, and I, did most of our Visits jointly and that worked very well, but this year it is thought that separate Visitations would give each Council two programs. Because of scheduling conflicts, there will still be some Joint Visitations with the present Principle Conductor of the Work, R.I.: and Reverend Charles M. Roberts.

Official Visits schedule
Thursday, January 22, 2004, Hornellsville No. 35
Wednesday, January 28, 2004, Bath Council No. 40

As I said in my last communication, I will do all I can to accommodate your Council's

Nundawaga Council No. 92



4th Monday
West Main Street
LeRoy 14482

I.: Edwin C. Law
Master - 237-2579
I.: Vernon G. Rupert
Recorder - 343-8429

Season's Greetings, Companions! It is time for mistletoe and holly again. I wish you all safe travel and the happiest holidays ever!

When next we meet, it will be January 26th, 2004. R.I.: Ill.: and Reverend Charles M. Roberts, Grand PCW, will officially visit us. We shall dine at 6:30 p.m. that date at LeRoy's L.B. Grand Restaurant. I look forward to seeing you there.

Drive safely and practice the "Golden Mean of Old Socrates - Moderation - Nothing in Extreme!"

Pray for peace and our fighting men and women. God Bless America. Amen.

Palmyra Council No. 26

Cryptic Masons
1st Thursday, 8:00 p.m.

Master
I.: Lee L. Coller, Sr.
(315) 589-8146

Secretary
David W. Taber
388-0629

Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street

The next Assembly of the Council will be Thursday, December 4th. R.I.: Ill.: Charles M. Roberts, Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, will make an Official Visit. The Illustrious Master will be taking our visitor to dinner at the

schedule. Please send your trestleboard for the Cryptic year and any newsletters to me at: 1201 Johnson Road, Palmyra NY 14522-9761. The Grand Council's web page <http://www2.-2ki.net/slicht>, also has me listed.

The Grand Line Officer making Visitations to the Eighth Cryptic District is R.I.: and Reverend Charles M. Roberts, Grand Principle Conductor of the Work. His schedule, available to me at this time, is:

Thursday, December 4th, Palmyra Council
Monday, January 26, 2004, Nundawaga Council
Wednesday, March 17th, Doric Council

Help needed

Illustrious Masters, would you please help me by collecting a list of email addresses and telephone numbers from your Officers and Companions and forwarding them to me? This will help in the delivery of timely news, etc. This information would only be used for Masonic communications.

Are you interested?

As you all know, my tenure as DDGM is coming to a close in August of 2004. Any Companions who have an interest in this position should make it known to R.I.: Stephen Licht, Deputy Grand Master, or me.

I look forward to seeing you, and I do mean you, around the Holy Altars of Masonry.

Garlock House at 6:00 p.m. Any who wish to join them are welcome. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m.

We are sorry to hear that Ill.: Companion Hank Bedette will be moving to Colorado by the end of year. We will miss both him and Joan. Our best wishes go with them.

It has been great to see R.I.: Ill.: Jack Cowan out and about. We hear good things about R.I.: Ill.: Joe Nye, R.I.: Ill.: Cullen Henry and Ill.: Francis Daniels.

Batavia Commandery No. 34 Knights Templar



2nd & 4th Thursdays

Commander
SK Garry Hutcherson, 494-1395
Recorder
SK James MacConnell, 494-1815
39 Main Street, Attica 14011

We have so much to be thankful for during this Christmas Season. We have our Christmas Toast on December 11th, and hope all SKs can make it the success we have had in the past.

October

We had a great "Sunday-Go-to-Meeting" at the North Bergen Presbyterian Church on October 26th. This was chaired by SK James MacConnell and it was a huge success. SK MacConnell gave an overview of Knights Templar to the congregation and the Pastor also gave information about the Knights Templar and a wonderful welcome for us. We had a coffee hour after and a wonderful time of fellowship with the congregation.

November

On November 13th, we had our Thanksgiving Dinner and

it turned out well. Thanks to SK Vern Rupert and his lovely wife, Ann, for cooking the turkey and all the ladies for their help with the dinner.

Sickness and Distress

SK Gordon Reeves is in Strong Memorial Hospital in guarded condition. Please remember him in your prayers.


Wishes

I wish everyone blessings for Christmas. A reminder...for all the snowbirds going South to remember us when you're by the pool with the margaritas.

A special hello to SK Allen Capwell and wife as they cross the country in the motor home. Have a safe journey and we miss you.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery No. 12



Chartered 1993
3rd Monday
Commander
SK Benjamin P. Thorp, Jr.
346-6542
Recorder
SK Lawrence W. Dunn
594-8033
17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

I extend my wishes to you and your families for a joyous and happy holiday season and good wishes for the upcoming New Year.

I would like to remind you all that our Christmas Observance will be on December 15th. I hope to see all of you and your families there to help celebrate this, our most important celebration, as Christians and Knights Templar.

Ten Points for Betterment of Masonry

The essence of Masonry lies within the hearts of men. If every member were to practice all of the things he has been taught, then, perhaps, we would not be facing the problems we face regarding membership. We may see ourselves as an enlightened group, but others may see us as an outdated fraternal organization that serves no useful purpose. In order to build a strong organization, we must begin at the bottom, which is with each individual member. Each individual represents the organization. Non-Masons can easily draw conclusions based upon the behavior of a single individual member. If each stone is well made and the mortar is well mixed, the building will last forever.

With this in mind, I have listed 10 points which can be applied for the betterment of Masonry.

1. The best way to promote Masonry is by setting an example. If our appearance, behavior, and demeanor set us apart from others and people recognize the Masonic influence, then we have done our job.

Also, Sagoyewatha Commandery will be having their Observance on Saturday the 20th of December. This is a short article this month.

Sagoyewatha Commandery No. 17



3rd Saturday, 9 a.m.
Commander
SK F. Edward Powley
(315) 483-2745
Recorder
SK David Taber
(585) 388-0629
Phelps, NY

Sir Knights, Attention

On December 20th, we will celebrate our Christmas Observance at 10:00 a.m. I am looking for volunteers for the readings. Please call or email me. Our ladies and friends are welcome to this public event. Please mark your calendars now. For those desiring to meet for breakfast, we will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant, Phelps. Light refreshments will be served at the Lodge following our Christmas ceremony.

I wish to remind everyone that Sir Knight Ronald Edwards is our Eye Foundation Chairman and he asks that you save aluminum again for fundraising.

In January, we will continue our review of the Sword Manual and continue to work on the Order of the Red Cross for our Spring Inspection by Sir Knight James MacConnell, Grand Warder.

I wish all Sir Knights and their loved ones a joyous, and happy Christmas and a prosperous new year!

2. If the typical or average Mason is no different than the average Joe, there is no advantage to becoming a Mason.

3. If it is perceived that Masonry provides an obvious improvement to the individual, then that is reason enough to become a Mason.

4. If others look up to and admire Masons, then they will want to become Masons.

5. It is far better to demonstrate that "Masons make good men better" than to just say it.

6. If we say, "you can always trust a Mason" then, let's make sure that this is the truth rather than just a truism.

7. Masonry is a fraternal organization, and we must begin to treat every man as a Brother. First, determine what that means, then do it.

8. To make good men better, first start with yourself, and then encourage others.

9. It is not seemly to lecture or criticize other Masons, just set a good example.

10. Do not tolerate behavior that is unbecoming of a Mason. Challenge others to do the same.

(Courtesy "Southern Tier Masonic News")

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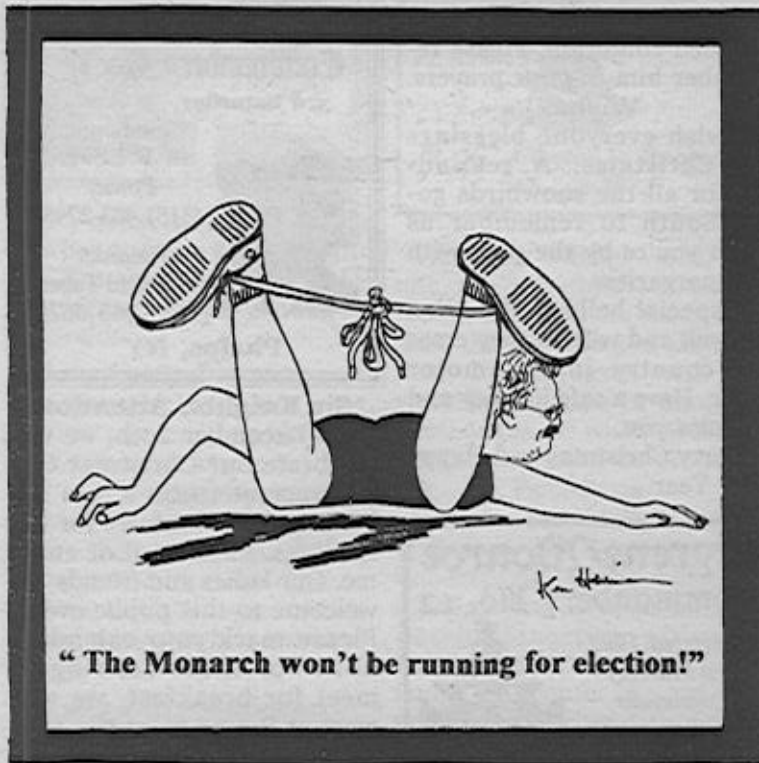


Lalla Rookh GROTTO

News

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian 

Alfred Pulcino III, Monarch



"The Monarch won't be running for election!"

Chief Justice

By Jerry Spero

This has been a year of change and challenges for all of us. It started by having to say farewell to a grand old building and saying hello to a much newer one. We endured the pain of packing the property of the Grotto and moving it all to the basement of the Shrine building. We moved to the Shrine building and tried out a new meeting room in which to hold our monthly meetings and we were promised an office with a second floor storage area for all our "stuff" later in 2003. Next we started using the dining room as a place to hold our business meeting until our new office was built. We were no longer able to use our portable bar, but instead, used the permanent one at the Shrine.

The day finally arrived when our office was completed and we moved in. It wasn't all we had expected, although it's fine for all our needs. We have a new home, and it is a great place for us to meet and perform the business of the Grotto. Through it all, the Monarch and his Officers have labored to allow Lalla Rookh Grotto to move forward and meet the challenges of today!

Trust me when I say it took a great deal of effort to make everything pan out so well. When you see Al Pulcino III, thank him for his leadership, hard work and the planning needed to bring us to where we are today. It is also very important to thank the Officers and members of the Shrine for making us feel welcome in their home.

The October meeting consisted of our Ceremonial and included the nominations of Officers for 2004. I thank Mike Bell and all those whose fine work made the evening's Ceremonial a success.

I am very grateful to the Officers who had to move up in line again at the October meeting in order to assist me with the program of the evening.

The joint Monarchs' Ball was held at the Days Inn in Batavia. Those of you who attended, know what a great time it was. Those of you who missed it, all

I can say is you lost out on a great meal and a fantastic fourteen piece swing band, not to mention a great, supersized and well-stocked hospitality room. The staff of the Days Inn did a great job of providing us with everything we asked for and a few really pleasant surprises, such as the free hospitality room. Both Lalla Rookh and Zulieka Grottoes shared a profit. That was a first for a Monarch's Ball in a long, long time.

Congratulations, Ken!

All of us have been aware that Past Monarch, Ken Hutchinson, is very knowledgeable regarding the history of the Grotto. We have all seen his articles in the *Masonic Times* and have heard him tell of some of the people who were greatly involved in the early days of the Grotto. Even the Grand Monarch, Carl Landerholm, Jr., discovered the extent of Ken Hutchinson's knowledge of Grotto history. Ken has now been appointed Grand Historian by the Grand Monarch. Congratulations are certainly in order. Great job, Ken.

Dates to remember

December 1st is our business meeting.

Saturday, December 6th, is the Children's Christmas Party with Santa.

The Legion of Honor meeting is on Monday, December 15th and Wednesday, December 17th is Lalla Rookh Grotto's dinner meeting. x

Secretary's Column

By Ken Hutchinson, PM

The next meeting of the Grotto, to be held December 17th, will be our Annual Meeting and Election Night. It is the duty of the membership to come out and cast its vote for the nominated candidates, who are listed below.

Monarch **Gerald Spero**
Chf. Justice **Kenneth Rhodes**
MC **Norman Austin**
Secretary **Ken Hutchinson**
Treasurer **Brian Bills**
Ven. Prophet **Keith Freeman**
Marshal **Jacob Ponschok, Jr.**

One Trustee for a 3-year term. Candidates are: Greg Ludwig and Ken Milner, PM.

Board of Governors, three positions are open:

1. Howard Topel
2. Richard Bull
3. Leon Randall

The rest of the Officers will be appointed by the Monarch-elect after Election of Officers at the December meeting.

Those who are elected will lead the Grotto in the years to come.

Sickness

Leon VanHuben had surgery on his left shoulder and is now out and about. x

Grotto Humor

By Ken Hutchinson, PM

I did some cartoons while I was Monarch in 2001. Al asked me to continue doing them while he served as Monarch. Al is a good subject, the walrus mustache and glasses were always recognized. Al loved the cartoons.

The visual commentary was to get you interested in it, an image that can grab you.

It is for the Grotto members who haven't come to a meeting, to get them to come back:

Reaction - Look at what I've been missing.

For the person who is not a Grotto member:

Reaction - I want to know more about the Grotto.

For Al it's relaxation, after two very busy years as Monarch. He may very well turn up in another cartoon. Our new Monarch, Jerry Spero, has asked me to continue the Grotto cartoons. x

Membership

By Bill Fredenburg

A very happy holiday wish to all Brother Masons. As we come to the end of another year and look forward to the next, we can reflect on all of the great times we have had at our Grotto functions. It has been a successful year for our membership activities and the committee members thank all of our Prophets for their continued support and dedication to our Fraternity.

Membership is everyone's responsibility, so together we can keep Lalla Rookh Grotto strong. Since this is my final column as Membership Chairman, I personally thank all of you for your support and help over the year. x

Historian's Corner

By Ken Hutchinson, PM
Grand Historian

Masonic members came from six villages around Hamilton. On the Monday meeting night, the members attended by horse and buggy. It was a time for the boys to get away and have a little fun, but it was contained, to a certain degree, in the Masonic Lodge. In inclement weather, they made arrangements to stay in town overnight.

LeRoy Fairchild thought the boys should have a little entertainment. He opened a furniture store on the first floor of the Masonic building and

cleaned up his basement, added a few card tables and benches along the wall and a grill so the boys could grill hot dogs.

After the Lodge meeting, they would adjourn to the basement so they could play picture pinochle, and shoot the breeze for an hour or two, the way farmers do when they get together. The social hour became as important to the members as was the Lodge meeting.

The Salesmen

When the Baltimore and Ohio railroad train arrived in Hamilton on Monday morning, a group of salesmen would get off and walk three and a half blocks to the Madison (now Colgate) Inn to register. They would then walk over to the livery stable, rent a horse and buggy and start making their calls.

In the evening there was no entertainment; no television nor radio.

Some of the salesmen had been calling on the merchants and became quite friendly through the years. LeRoy got the bright idea he could do something for the salesmen. LeRoy's whole life was based upon Sympathy and Good Fellowship.

LeRoy suggested to the Lodge that the salesmen be invited on Monday nights after the Lodge meeting for an hour or so to spend time with the Masons during the social hour. The invitation was extended.

The event was very well received among the salesmen, to the point where the basement was pretty crowded. Something had to be done. LeRoy presented a plan to the Lodge that only Masons attend the

social hour. The salesmen, thus, were left out.

This didn't discourage them, they went back home to Syracuse, Rome, Utica, even Rochester, to join Masonic Lodges and came back to Hamilton with their dues cards. They were then, once again, admitted to the social hour.

The salesmen began to tell members of their home Lodges what a fine time they had in Hamilton Lodge. The salesmen were back, and once again the basement was getting crowded. As things unfolded, the salesmen were told they had to join the FDC to continue coming to the social hour. They did, then returned to their home Lodges with the stories of Fairchild's Deviltry Committee, and how there were Chapters springing up.

Continued next month... x



On behalf of Grand Monarch Carl W. Landerholm Jr, Grand Marshal Pierre Shawver, announced the appointment of Kenneth V. Hutchinson, as Grand Historian, at the combined Lalla Rookh-Zulieka Monarchs' Costume Ball.



The Masonic building, at 6 Broad Street in Hamilton, is much the same as it was in the 1890s. Mokanna Grotto is on the second floor. Hamilton Masonic Lodge is on the third floor.



Colgate Inn, located in Hamilton, NY, where the salesmen stayed in the 1890s. In 1927, the ESGA was formed by 36 Grotto members from around the state, while staying at the Inn.

(Photos courtesy of Ken Hutchinson)

Attend Grotto Meetings

Mon., Dec. 1st - Board Governor's Meeting, Shrine Center, 7:00 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 7th - Caldron Past MCO Christmas Party Nick's Seabreeze Inn

Thurs., Dec. 11th - Lalla Rookh Caldron Meeting

Sun., Dec. 14th - East Shelby Community Church "Christmas Past" 3 - 7:00 p.m.

Mon., Dec. 15th - Legion of Honor Bosdyk's Meeting 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 17th - Grotto Annual Meeting Dinner 6:30 p.m. Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy the Fellowship

Caldron News
By Doris Bell, MCO

Another year has begun for Lalla Rookh Caldron. Thanks to all who attended our Installation on Saturday, October 25th - the Grotto Prophets and their ladies, and the ladies who came from Toronto to be with us; PSMCO Quenda Stern, PMCO Marion Ripon, and Marge Haring, who we all know as the "photographer." This was the first Installation at our new home, Charlotte/Corinthian Masonic Temple, and it went very well. Thanks to all the Daughters who participated in any way in the Ceremony. Special thanks to Dick Topel, PM, for toting the chairs.

Lalla Rookh Caldron is proud of our newly installed Supreme Yusef, Daughter Beverly Murray. Bev is two years away from being Supreme Mighty Chosen One, and preparations are already underway for the Supreme Sessions to be held in Rochester in September of 2006.

I hope to be able to provide some variety in the programs for the meetings this coming year, and our usual special events will be held. I call your attention to the Past MCO's Christmas Party to be held December 7th at Nick's Seabreeze Inn at 3:00 p.m. Should you have questions, or if you would like more details, please contact me after November 24th at 244-2895, or Sue Wilson at 436-0064, before then.

Michael joins me in wishing all the Masonic family a wonderful holiday season. May you stay healthy and happy, and count your many blessings.

"THE SMELLS AND TASTES OF CHRISTMAS PAST"
December 14, 2003
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
West Jackson Corners
(Across from the East Shelby Community Bible Church)
GAROLING - COUNTRY DANCES
HOLIDAY FOODS - HOT CHOCOLATE
SANTA CLAUS - SLEIGH RIDES

To get to East Shelby, take Route 31 west. It becomes Route 31A, also called Fourth Section Road, then East Lee Road. When East Lee becomes West Lee Road, go about 6.8 miles and turn left on East Shelby Road. Find the East Shelby Fire Hall and go another mile South.

Grotto Fundraising 2004

How would you like to: Help Yourself? Help the Grotto? Help Disabled Children? You can, by supporting the Grotto fundraising program for 2004.

The Grotto has an opportunity to join other organizations in selling raffle tickets. The grand prize winner will receive a new General Motors vehicle. The prizes will be drawn at the Rochester LPGA next June.

For every \$1 ticket sold, the Grotto and Disabled Children get 50-cents each. There is no cost for the tickets and all prizes will be donated. Questions? Please contact Brian Bills, (h) 388-0913; (w) 315-986-4904.

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!
By Tom Michielsen

May the coming holidays renew your faith in man and bring joy to you and your families. May world peace be restored quickly throughout the land.

The mail person will be delivering a late present on December 26th; your next federal tax return package, unless you use a professional preparer. New York State's will come next month. Another season starts.

You prefer to have your hobby treated as a business in order to deduct expenses in excess of income, while the Internal Revenue Service prefers to have your business treated as a hobby.

If a taxpayer can show that an activity has been conducted with the intent to earn a profit, losses are fully deductible. However, if the activity is not engaged in for profit, it is deemed a hobby, and expenses are deductible only to the extent of hobby income.

Regulations stipulate that the following nine factors should be considered in determining whether an activity is profit-seeking or a hobby:

1. The way the activity is conducted (for fun).
2. The expertise of the taxpayer or his/her advisors.
3. The time and effort which have been expended.
4. The expectation that the assets may appreciate.
5. The taxpayer's previous success in conducting similar activities.
6. The history of profit and losses.
7. The relationship of profits earned to losses incurred.
8. The financial status of the taxpayer.
9. The elements of pleasure

in the activity.

The presence or absence of any factor is not by itself determinative of whether the activity is profit-seeking or a hobby. Furthermore, the regulations provide a rebuttable presumption to the above that asserts that an activity is profit-seeking if it shows a profit in at least three of any five consecutive years.

The IRS has certified the 2004 Toyota Prius as eligible for the clean-burning fuel deduction. The certification means taxpayers who purchase a new hybrid vehicle may claim a tax deduction of up to \$2,000 on Form 1040.

All employers must submit a new hire report within 20 days of the hire date. This report must include the employer's Federal Employer Identification Number, employer's name and address, employee's social security number, name and address. These reports can be faxed to (518) 869-3318, mailed on either paper or magnetic media or by accessing the website: www.nysnewhire.com.

The Internal Revenue Service has announced the optional standard mileage rates to use for 2004 in computing the deductible costs of operating an automobile for busi-

ness, charitable, medical, or moving expense purposes.

To reduce a record keeping burden, the IRS also announced that taxpayers who use no more than four vehicles at the same time for business purposes may use the standard mileage rate, starting in 2004. Currently, those using more than one vehicle at a time cannot use the standard rate, leaving them to track the actual expenses for each vehicle.

Beginning January 1, 2004, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (including vans, pickups, or panel trucks) will be:

- \$.37 1/5 a mile for all business miles driven;
- \$.14 a mile when computing deductible medical or moving expenses;
- \$.14 a mile when serving to a charitable organization.

Upcoming calendar year taxpayer due dates:

- December 15th - November Payroll Taxes
- December 20th - September thru November Sales Tax
- December 31st - Fourth Quarter NYS Estimated Tax
- January 15th - December Payroll Taxes: Fourth Quarter IRS Estimated Tax

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

Lalla Rookh Grotto
and
Damascus Shrine
Present
Second Annual All Masonic Bodies

Children's Christmas Party With Santa
For Children 10 and younger

There will be Clowns, Games, Refreshments and lots of Santa's Helpers
Saturday, December 6, 2003
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster

Note
Please furnish a wrapped gift for each child you bring, with their full name on it, to be given to them by Santa.

Make reservations with Al Pucino at (585) 225-8471

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From the Grand Master, M.: W.: Carl J. Fitje

In my travels around the State, I find that there exist many misconceptions appertaining to the officially recognized fraternal organizations and related Masonic bodies within our jurisdiction of New York State. This letter will help to clarify those groups that we officially recognized as per Section 508 of the Constitutions as well as other related groups that we acknowledge as Masonic:

§508 of the Constitutions states, "The Grand Lodge while acknowledging no degrees of Masonry except those con-

ferred under its authority of a Grand Lodge or Grand Orient which has been, or may hereafter be, recognized by the Grand Lodge of New York as a regular and legitimate Masonic organization, nevertheless, recognizes the following named organizations or bodies to be Masonic: The General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New York, and the Royal Arch Chapters and other bodies under their jurisdiction; the General Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the United

States, the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York and the Councils under their jurisdiction; the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, the Grand Commandery of the State of New York and the Commanderies under their jurisdiction; the Supreme Councils of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern and Southern Masonic Jurisdictions of the United States and the various bodies under their jurisdictions."

In addition to the Masonic related bodies specifically iden-

tified in Section 508 of the Constitutions, there are other fraternal groups and organizations whose members are either Masons and/or the family members of Masons and/or recommended by Masons. These organizations include the Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (the Shriners), Tall Cedars of Lebanon, the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm (the Grotto), the Red Cross of Constantine, the Royal Order of Scotland, the National Sojourners, Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth, the Order of DeMolay, the Organiza-

tion of Triangles, the Order of Rainbow for Girls, the Order of Constellations of Junior Stars and others.

The Grand Lodge encourages support of these organizations because they are part of our "Masonic Family." If we are to continue to move forward, we need to work together and cement the bonds of brotherly love in a concerted effort to raise public awareness within our communities as to "Who the Masons Are." These groups are all continuing to work hand-in-hand with the Grand Lodge to help strengthen the foundation of our Craft and our Blue Lodges.

In Memoriam

September

Nesbitt, Stanley J.

Stanley was 74 years old when he met his Maker on September 20th. He was a member of Charlotte/Corinthian Lodge and is survived by his two daughters, four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Schwappacher, C. Robert

A member of Valley/Simes Lodge; Cyrene/Monroe Commandery, KT; Hiram Chapter, RAM; and Damascus Shrine, Robert passed away September 23rd. He is survived by many family members.

Closs, Harvey F.

Harvey entered into eternal rest on September 25th at the age of 88 years. He was a member of Union Star and Canandaigua Lodges. He leaves his wife, Katherine, four children and seven grandchildren.

October

Wing, William F., Jr.

Etolian Lodge lost a member with the passing of William on October 3rd. He is survived by his wife, Beverly, one son, one grandson and one great-grandson.

Windle, Myrle E.

Myrle was a member of Tri-Star Chapter, OES, at the time of her passing on October 4th. She leaves her husband, William, two daughters and six grandchildren.

Schlegel, Richard M.

The Great Architect claimed Richard on October 6th. He was 86-years-old and was a member of Drumlin Square Lodge. He leaves his two daughters, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Hendershot, Leland B.

Leland passed away peacefully on October 20th at the age of 84 years. He was a member and Past Master of Clio Lodge and leaves his wife, Margaret, two daughters, four grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Fuhrmann, William G.

A Mason for over 60 years and a member of Northfield Lodge, William departed this world on October 21st. He leaves one son and two grandsons.

November

Foster, Alton E.

The loving arms of the Lord embraced Alton on November 8th at the age of 84 years. He was a member of ERAC Lodge and is survived by his wife, Phyllis, two children and two grandchildren.

Anderson, Elmer G.

Elmer was called Home on November 13th at the age of 85 years. A member of Webster Lodge, he leaves his wife, Eva, two children and six grandchildren.

Nolan, Lloyd F.

Death claimed Lloyd on November 14th at the age of 75 years. He was a member of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine. Survivors include his

wife, Irene, two children, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Deverian, Vartan A.

Valley/Simes Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine all lost a member with the passing of Vartan on November 15th. He leaves his wife, Aza.

Byers, William E.

William was 97 years old when he died on November 16th. He is survived by his wife, Thelma, one daughter, four grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

This death was reported with no specific information.

Kelsey, Daniel

Daniel was a member of Attica Lodge when he died in October.

Deadline for the Masonic Times

BIG CALENDAR DECEMBER 2003

Gem - Turquoise
Flower - Narcissus

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>"Christmas Musical" Community Christian Church 2647 Chili Avenue December 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 Nolatka Chapter Serves Dinners</p>	<p>Canandaigua - Shortsville, 2* West Star - Varysburg, 2* RAM - Palmyra/Eagle KT - Batavia Commandery WYN - Newark, AGL OV Shrine Lunch Club</p>	<p>Charlotte/Corinthian, OV 2 Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps, 2* Oakland - Castile Eagle - Honeoye RAM - Excelsior Tri-Star - Palmyra OES - Fairport, Nolatka, Webster</p>	<p>Attica, 3* Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy, AGL OV Damascus Shrine - Election OES - Henrietta, Monroe WYN - Rose, AGL OV</p>	<p>Constellation - Perry Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford, 1* Webster RSM - Palmyra Council, OV</p>	<p>Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 p.m. \$6 adult; \$3 Child 30 Orchard Street</p>	<p>OES - Rochester Chapter - East Rochester Lalla Rookh Grotto/ Damascus Shrine Children's Christmas Party Damascus Shrine Center Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Holiday Party, Vallicia's</p>
<p>Attica - Paneake Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. to Noon James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Charlotte Coast Guard Station Nile - Holiday Tea, 2:00 p.m. Damascus Shrine Center Pearl Harbor Day</p>	<p>ERAC - East Rochester Etolian - Spencerport, 1* Fairport/Flower City Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RAM - Excelsior - Shortsville, 1 WYN - Clyde, AGL OV Shrine Lunch Club - Antonio's, Christmas Lunch with Ladies</p>	<p>8 Arcade Batavia Fame - Irondequoit Seneca - Webster Valley-Simes, 2* RAM - 3x3, Dansville, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton</p>	<p>9 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville 10 Triluminar - Pike Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship WYN - Humanity, AGL OV</p>	<p>11 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor, 3* WYN - Masters & Wardens RAM - Hiram - Pittsford KT - Batavia Commandery Lalla Rookh Caldron</p>	<p>12 GW District Christmas Party, Bergen</p>	<p>13 Seneca - Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m., Webster Nile - Stated Session Fidelity Triangle - Open Meeting & Christmas Party</p>
<p>"Christmas Past" - East Shelby Community Church, 3-7 p.m. Mt. Vernon Lodge Pancake Breakfast 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. Clio Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Weds. Dec 10th East Avenue, Hilton</p>	<p>15 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg MDC Session 3, Damascus Shrine Center KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford Shrine Lunch Club - Ladies Day</p>	<p>16 Charlotte/Corinthian Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Oakland - Castile OES - Fairport, Tri-Star - Palmyra, Webster Nolatka - Christmas Party, Scottsville WYN - Sodus, AGL OV</p>	<p>17 Attica - AGL OV Ark - Geneva Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy Lalla Rookh Grotto RSM - Doric Council, Pittsford Tall Cedars OES - Henrietta WYN - Wayne, AGL OV</p>	<p>18 Constellation - Perry Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster Scottish Rite RAM - Western Star G/W - Council of Masonic Activities, Hesperus</p>	<p>19 WYN - District Christmas Party, Cinelli's Attica - Masonic Development Course</p>	<p>20 Canandaigua - Breakfast with Santa, 8-10 a.m. ERAC - Holiday Visitation KT - Sagoyewatha, Christmas Party combined with Queen Christina Court Amaranth, Queen Christina Court - Palmyra, OV James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post Christmas Party, Fame Lodge First Day of Hanukkah</p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22 ERAC - East Rochester Etolian - Spencerport Fairport/Flower City Mt. Vernon - Java Village, Union Star-Honeoye Falls Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield OSY - Masonic Development Course First Day of Winter</p>	<p>23 Arcade Batavia Valley-Simes RAM - 3x3, Dansville, LeRoy, Wyoming</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Boxing Day (Canada) First Day of Kwanzaa</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>			

Support the ElderWear Project now through January 31.