



Masonic Times

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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

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Grand Master's Class - A Golden Opportunity

By R.W. Richard Friedman

The Grand Master's Class is an historic event in New York State Freemasonry. For the first time in 223 years, candidates in 16 locations statewide will receive the three Degrees of Masonry. It is now up to each and every one of us to invest ourselves into this project. Regardless of any philosophical differences that you have with this event, we, as Freemasons are honor bound to assist the Grand Master in his programs.

It is time for every Mason in this area to STEP UP and begin bringing in candidates for the Class.

This is one of a series of informational articles to inform you in as comprehensive a way possible about how the Area 15 (Monroe, Livingston, Wayne, Ontario/Seneca/Yates and elements of Genesee/Wyoming) team will be conducting the Grand Master's Class and what each Lodge needs to do to prepare for success.

Demographics

Date: March 29, 2003

Location: East Rochester High School (200 Woodbine Avenue, East Rochester, NY 14445)

Time: Registration begins at 6:30 a.m.; the First Degree will go off by 8:30 a.m. Candidates must go through registration by 8:00 a.m., latest.

Attending: Candidates, Mentors, Degree Teams, and coordinating staff. Space for observers will depend on size of Class.

Mentors: Will be chosen by Lodge or assigned by coordinating team if Lodge needs assistance.

Dress: Tuxedo for Masons preferable, business suit acceptable. Business suit for candidates.

Food: There will be morning refreshments and a box lunch provided.

Preparation
Each Lodge should adjust its trestleboard to allow for a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night close to the first of the year. The Districts are having a joint Brother Bring-a-Friend event in January at Webster Lodge.

All Secretaries and Masters received a packet of instructions from the Grand Secretary guiding them in the process of registering candidates for the One-Day Class. NOTE: All candidates for the Grand Master's Class must go through a Lodge in the normal way in induction - petition/interview/ballot. Registration is on a rolling admissions basis.

The Ritual parts for the Grand Master's Class are being done by audition as follows:

3rd Degree - Saturday, January 4th at 9:00 a.m. at Webster Lodge.

The AGL's of Area 15, under the supervision of R.W. Maurice Solomon, will be casting the Degrees.

There will be a Mentors' training date set after the first of the year.

Please be creative and innovative in reaching out to prospective members for this Class. Reach out to all of your EA's and FC's on your books to see if they would like to finish their Degrees. Reach out to the busiest people you know and inform them of this unique opportunity.

The Day of the Event

Come early! We will do our best to facilitate the registration process but the earlier candidates and mentors arrive, the timelier the day will be.

It is important to note that a candidate or Brother will not be certified as having completed his Degrees unless he is there for the ENTIRE day. At the very least it will afford Brethren the opportu-

nity to see the Degrees again and avoid a registration nightmare.

Your Secretary has a registration sheet that must be brought to the site to complete registration for the Class.

Each candidate will be presented with a kit for the day once registered. This will include his Apron, Bible, Square and Compasses, other printed materials and a copy of the new Masonic Development Course.

More information will be published on this section as we get closer to the event.

Post Grand Master's Day Class

Our coordinating team is working on plans for Masonic education for every member of the Grand Master's Class. We hope that this will be one of the more highly trained groups to enter the Craft in recent memory.

Each Lodge is expected to host a welcome dinner for the new Brothers following the Grand Master's Class.

Opportunity

The Grand Master's Class offers the opportunity for portraying the Ritual with excellence, standardized protocol education, standardized Masonic Education, and the chance for some men to join our ranks who may not have been able to otherwise.

The coordinating team listed below, your Grand Lodge Officers and the AGL's are prepared to answer your questions or find out who can. We want your positive input.

Coordinating Team

Rich Friedman, Erwin Newell, Steve Whittaker, Jim DeLorenzo, Don Dill, Maurice Solomon, Bill Lindsay, Bob Ossont, Glenn Stahl, Terry Wihlen, Bill Jones, Charles Hancock, Bruce Chilton and Ken Kohlhagen. □

Masonic War Vets at Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony



Members of the James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post No. 12 shown during their participation at Charlotte Pier, December 7th, at the annual Throwing of the Wreath Ceremony to honor the victims of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. (See page 3 for article for James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post.) (Photo - Ken Hutchinson)



Start the NEW YEAR with a Bus Tour of the Masonic Campus.

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The Masonic Home.

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- ❖ See the Tompkins Chapel with its Tiffany windows.
- ❖ See the construction progress on the new Health Facility
- ❖ Learn Masonic history at the Robert R. Livingston Library & Museum



HOWEVER...

If you can't come to The Masonic Home.....

The Masonic Home will come to you!
We can provide you with an informational program on the many services available on our Campus
Call Angie Caiola, Director of Community Relations
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800-322-8826

All Masonic Bodies' Children's Christmas Party Big Success

Grotto-Sponsored event thrills youngsters!

By Skip Waterstreet

Over 100 people, including about 40 children, were overwhelmed when they entered Ca-

thedral Hall on December 14th for the first Annual All Masonic Bodies' Children's Christmas Party, sponsored by the Lalla Rookh Grotto. The stage had been transformed into Santa's living room, complete with Christmas Tree and a toy train. The main hall was arranged with tables for several craft activities for children's participation.

Shortly after the event began, Santa (Monarch Al Pulcino III) arrived amidst jingle bells and exclamations from the children. Sitting in his over-stuffed chair, he greeted each child individually and presented them with a gift. Mrs. Claus (Shirley Kothiringer) and Santa's elf (Christopher

Lewandowski - Al's nephew) helped keep the stream of children moving.

The children excitedly left the stage, heading for the nearest corner to open their gift. Many spent the next several minutes playing with their new toys. (And, yes, there were a couple who were a bit too shy to get on Santa's lap!)

Among the craft activities available were cookie decorating, pine-cones, which were spread with peanut butter and then rolled in birdseed, and sheets for coloring. Children were able to get their faces painted and take a swipe at a pinata, which yielded candy surprises as it broke.

The Friday night setup crew,

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along with Monarch Al Pulcino III, were Jerry Spero and Greg Ludwig. They, along with many other Prophet's were on hand to provide assistance to Santa and any parent or child needing help. They also distributed ice cream and cookies and dispensed soda for the attendees. There were several tables set up with munchies...something for everyone to do while the children played with their new toys..

Others assisting with the event were Helen and Bill Hook (ice cream) and Michael and Doris Bell, who provided gifts for the forgetful.

Beverly Murray provided Christmas selections on the organ, and assisted Santa as he led the children in singing Jingle Bells. WOW! What a party! Hope you can make it next year. □

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Best wishes, Don

First things first. On behalf of the Directors, Council members, Officers, Representatives and members of the Masonic Service Bureau, I hereby thank Donald Brugger for serving as Editor of the *Masonic Times* for the past 11 years. He has done an outstanding job in elevating the quality and prestige of the *Masonic Times*. We will miss him. Our thanks, also, to his wife, Jean, who, over the years, has volunteered a lot of time.

Changes

This New Year is a sad one, for it not only means the closing of the Downtown Temple and its beautiful rooms, but more importantly, it means the diffusion of all of the organizations which have met here. I can only hope that the Masonic ideals will prevail in time, and that we can look beyond the present. While Masonry is still declining in numbers, that makes internal conflict all the more disparaging. We can, we must, start the healing process NOW!

MSB Community Service

By Harold Bolotin

Walk-About up-date

In my last article I reported that the total amount of donations raised by the Al Sigl Center Walk-About on Sunday, October 27th was \$80,000.

I have been informed that the latest figure is now \$101,900. Fantastic! I am highly gratified that we had a small part in the venture.

Editor's Corner

By Don Brugger

(585) 473-4351 (o) (585) 458-6125 (h)

I always have difficulty, like everyone else, starting my column for the month. This one is particularly problematic, because it will be my last as your Editor. I trust that, as always, it will be-

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come easier as I get into it. I have given advice on this subject in the past and I suppose I will always be willing to help anyone who is having difficulty in writing for this publication.

It seems we never know if we will miss something until we don't have it any longer. I know, however, I will miss working on the *Masonic Times*. I may still be around to help out now and then but, the responsibility for getting it out, after ten years, will no longer be mine.

Jay McCullough once said that getting out the *Times* was like giving birth. I doubt that he had any first-hand knowledge of that biological function, but I can relate with that description. First there is the expectation that you will be getting something from your authors, an expectation that is sometimes frustrated. There is the setting of the copy, the editing (to make it understandable, unambiguous and readable) preparation and layout of the pages, the composing and final pasting up.

The real labor pains come at the end of production (attempting to get all dates right and making sure all articles are included within the limitation of space or working through the filling those empty pages with interesting and quality copy when you are short of material or judiciously cutting when necessity requires).

Finally there is the relief of getting it out the door (taking that trip to the printer, still fearing, however, that you must have forgotten something). That "birthing," however, never seems complete until the paper is delivered. Then you know that there is absolutely nothing you can do to change a punctuation mark or correct one misspelled word.

Satisfaction gained

It's been a fulfilling experience being your Editor and I thank all for their support and cooperation during my tenure. I especially thank Barb Goodrich, Mat Gingold, Dick Giedd, Bob Ogden, Jay McCullough and finally, my wife, Jean, for her many hours volunteering on the paper and for putting up with me all these years.

I know there are some who, at times, didn't agree with my philosophy. I have always tried to remain objective and candid in my relationship with all my Brothers. A stance as a Realist was, at times, misinterpreted for negativity, but Truth, that Cardinal Masonic Virtue, has always been my goal. I do not say this in a derogatory sense, but, I have always thought that truth was more instructive than mollification.

New kid on the block

Your new Editor is trying some innovative measures to speed up our typesetting. This may take a while and will be fairly transparent to the reader, but should improve the processing time. Skip Waterstreet has experience with software other than what we have been using and its use should increase our capability for file transfer and interpretation. That means we will be able to download directly, copy that formerly had to be set from the print-out. We can expect good things from his fresh approach. I encourage your support for our new Editor and Associate, Dave King. I am sure that they would like some assistance, if anyone out there would be interested in volunteering.

As for me, I don't expect to be idle after my second retirement, but, a little breathing room will be a welcome change.

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ElderWear

By Lew Perna

ElderWear will be over January 31, 2003. I am writing this article on December 4, 2002, and you are reading it early in January, 2003. As of this date, the response has not been inspiring. What the program needed most was Masonic enthusiasm and support. It needed to be embraced by the Masonic community, not just a few. You will recall that King Solomon's Temple was built with the effort of thousands of men.

Many hours have gone into the development of this program by few people. Some responded with sincere overtures and your help was utilized and appreciated. Most of you never responded to repeated requests for help. Some of you wanted dates, and specific tasks required. What was needed most was your commitment to the program. With that, ElderWear would be a great success, and a program that non-Masons would view as one of our other great benevolent achievements.

As we enter our Masonic futures, we cannot afford the luxury of complacency. Complacency will further erode us. We will become nothing more than a vanishing breed. The evil and negativity around us will flourish more readily. Perhaps we will then ponder the all-important "why" to better understand our current dilemma. By then it will be too late.

I love this Fraternity for what it stands for, to the extent that it brings tears to my eyes. I want to see it into the future. I want to see it continue to influence the attitudes and behaviors of the world. Great men need to stand together, to say and do what is right. Great men need to act.

So as ElderWear winds down, and the New Year begins, let it remind all of us our sworn obligation to be upright men, sworn to faith, hope and charity.

The Masonic Service Bureau Loan Closet

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

Equip. Type	On loan
Bathtub equip.	146
Bed (Access.)	2
Canes	119
Commodes	76
Crutches	230
Walkers	185
Wheelchairs	113
Miscellaneous	10
Total	881



Your Legal Rights FYI

By Phillip Hurwitz, Esq.

Miranda Warnings

In last month's article, we began our look at the Miranda warnings. The police, to anyone whom they have placed in custody, must recite Miranda warnings. These warnings are to remind an individual of his right not to be compelled to incriminate himself, and to the assistance of counsel.

If the police take someone into custody, create a coercive atmosphere while questioning an individual, then they must Mirandize that individual being questioned. Failure to do so means that any statements given by that individual can't be used against that same person. Unless the prosecutor has other independent evidence of guilt, then continued prosecution will be unsuccessful.

Refusing to talk to the police is not as easy as it may seem. Experienced police investigators are very good at getting someone to open up. Contrary to what you see on TV, successful detectives do not have to rely on physical brutality to gain admission. Subtle, yet effective, psychology is all it takes. A person, when confronted by the police, may be led to believe that if he just opens up, the

situation he finds himself in will fade away. From the perspective of the person being questioned, it may become a matter of "if I tell them what they want to hear, they will leave me alone and let me go home." The desire for freedom is a powerful emotion that can be used to motivate or manipulate people. Coercion can be a subtle (tell me and I will let you go; tell me and we won't question your wife about the, etc.); of coercion can be blatant (tell me or else I will have the county take your children away from you; you can use the bathroom as soon as you tell me; I'll get you something to drink as soon as you tell me, etc.)

The right to remain silent and the right to the assistance of counsel are what the Miranda warnings are all about. They are based upon constitutional rights. The 5th Amendment guarantees that we cannot be compelled to incriminate ourselves. The 6th Amendment guarantees us access to counsel. It works like this: if the police question you, you are within your rights to politely (or impolitely - it's your right) decline to answer questions, and elect to walk away. Unless you are commanded to stop, there is nothing the officer can legally do. Let's say the officer doesn't like that response and takes you into custody. Again, and presuming he had probable cause to take you into custody to begin with, you don't have to answer his questions; more importantly, by being taken into custody, you are now entitled to the assistance of an attorney while being held in custody.

As Masons, we strive to live our lives by the square and angle of our work. For many of us, the only traumatic encounter we have with the police is when we are pulled over for speeding. Life can be crazy. Circumstances beyond our control may conspire to place us in a situation where we become the object of suspicion.

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!
By Tom Michielsen

Everybody wants our hard earned money! The IRS, Social Security, the State, the County, the local municipalities, and even on most of our purchases somebody has their hand in our pockets.

Hello Brethren. Let me introduce myself. I have worked in accounting and taxation for twenty-eight years, preparing tax returns for individuals, corporations, partnerships, fiduciaries, estates, sales tax returns, and payroll tax returns. I am a member of the National Association of Tax Professionals. This is the first of what I hope will be a monthly feature for this paper. I will discuss current tax law changes that affect most of us, tax due dates over the next forty-five days for calendar taxpayers, and answer any questions that I receive through my e-mail address.

The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service have released a revenue ruling that will help taxpayers preserve their retirement savings when there is an unexpected drop in the value of their retirement savings accounts. Some taxpayers began receiving fixed payments from their IRA or retirement plan based on the value of their account at the time they started receiving payments. Those taxpayers may now switch, without penalty, to a method of determining the amount of their payments based on the value of their account as it changes from year to year.

In addition to permitting a one-time switch in method, the revenue ruling:

- ◆ Clarifies how an individual can satisfy the permitted method that tracks the required minimum distribution rules of section 401 (a) (9) in light of the recent finalization of regulations regarding those requirements.

- ◆ Provides guidance on what constitutes a reasonable rate of interest for determining payments to satisfy the substantially equal periodic payment rule; and

- ◆ Provides a choice of mortality tables that can be used in satisfying the permitted methods.

As part of the IRS' ongoing effort to make it easier for people to file and pay taxes, the threshold for filing a separate schedule for interest or dividend income will increase to \$1,500 for 2002 tax returns. This replaces the existing threshold of \$400.

The increase means more than 15 million taxpayers will have one less piece of paper to file at tax time. Another 800,000 will be able to use the shorter form 1040EZ or use TeleFile to file their returns by phone.

Increasing the threshold will not affect the IRS' efforts to ensure that people comply with the tax law. The IRS still matches amounts reported by taxpayers with the third-party information returns it receives from the thousands of banks and financial institutions that pay interest and dividends.

Standard mileage rates are used in computing the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving expense purposes. A decline in fuel prices has resulted in a decrease in some of these rates for 2003.

Effective January 1, 2003, the standard mileage rate for the use of a car for business purposes is 36 cents a mile for all business miles driven, down from 36.5 cents in 2002. The standard mileage rate for medical and moving purposes is 12 cents a mile, down from 13 cents. The charitable rate, which is set by law, remains at 14 cents a mile.

Are you an employee or an independent contractor? Both work for someone for compensation, but there are differences. An independent contractor pays for the employer's portion of Social Security and Medicare, and Liability and Workman's Compensation Insurances.

In examining the relationship between a worker and the person for whom the services are being provided, the IRS and Tax Court look at a number of factors. These factors generally fall into three categories as follows:

1) Behavioral controls. Who provides the training and/or instruction for how a task is to be performed?

2) Financial controls. Does the worker have a significant investment in his business? Are the worker's expenses reimbursed? Are the worker's services available to the general public? How is the worker paid (i.e. hourly, per contract, by the job, etc.?) Does the worker have the opportunity to make a profit or incur a loss?

3) Relationship of the parties. What is the intent of the parties as expressed in written contracts? Is the worker eligible for employee benefits? Do the parties have the right to terminate the relationship? Is the relationship temporary or more permanent in nature? Are the services provided by the worker a part of the recipient's regular business activities?

Clergy Housing Allowance Clarification Act of 2002 ensures that ministers may exclude the

fair market value of their homes from their income, including costs for furniture and utilities.

The change in the law matches the IRS regulations that limit the exclusion to the lesser of the three items: the amount designated as a housing allowance, the amount spent, or fair rental value.

Eligible educators (if you are a kindergarten through grade 12 teacher, instructor, counselor, Principal or aide who works at least 900 hours during a school year) can claim an adjustment to income up to \$250 per year of qualifying unreimbursed classroom expenses for tax years 2002 and 2003. These expenses include those paid for books, supplies, computer equipment, other equipment and supplementary materials used in the classroom.

The standard deduction for 2002 is \$7,850 for married filing jointly and \$4,700 for single taxpayers. The Personal Exemption amount is \$3,000.

Residents of New York State who have past due tax liabilities can apply for tax amnesty. For a limited time, taxpayers have the opportunity to pay overdue State taxes at reduced interest rates and with no penalty charges. The amnesty period runs through January 31, 2003. After amnesty is over, tax delinquents will face higher interest charges and possible civil and criminal penalties. If you have outstanding tax liabilities, apply for New York State's Tax Amnesty program now.


Upcoming calendar year taxpayer due dates:

January 15th - December Payroll Taxes; Fourth Quarter IRS Estimated Tax

January 31st - W2's and 1099's mailed to recipient.

February 15th - January Payroll Taxes.

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



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Thank you to everyone who came out on a cold Winter day on December 7th for the Throwing of the Wreath by the Pearl Harbor Veterans.

The Masonic War Veterans were there with a great turnout to support the Pearl Harbor Veterans at the Charlotte pier. The ceremony was followed by a good breakfast at the American Legion Hall on Dorsey Road.

By the time this article comes out in January, we will have put behind us our yearly Christmas dinner and the Christmas and New Year Holidays, and I hope everyone had Joyous and Prosperous ones.

There will not be a meeting in January, as some members go South for part of the Winter.

Our next meeting will be on February 28th and we will start with a Meat Loaf Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; cost will be \$7.50. This will be followed by a Lodge of Remembrance, which is the evening set aside to remember our Brothers who were taken to the House not built with hands, eternal in the Heavens.

Sickness and distress
Jim Spencer is still a little under the weather and Cy Kloner is not feeling well. Harold Bollotin had a tooth pulled and was having a problem with bleeding. I hope you all will get better soon; our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Have a happy New Year and please remember to take time to stop and smell the roses.

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If you're like most Americans, you have a vision of how you'll spend your golden years. It may be as exotic as traveling to far-off destinations or as modest as spending more time with your family and friends. Amazingly, however, 60% of all Americans put their future at risk by postponing retirement planning altogether.* A serious mistake when you'll be spending 20 years or more in retirement. After all, *a nest egg of just \$100,000 could last 9 years.***

That's why we'd like to invite you to come in for a free Retirement Planning consultation. A Financial Advisor will help you project the amount needed for retirement, how much to set aside between now and then, and how the Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Family of Funds can help you meet your goals. And it's available free, only at your local Morgan Stanley Dean Witter office.

You are going to work very hard for your future - you deserve to enjoy it to the fullest.

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**District Deputy
Grand Master**
Genesee/Wyoming



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

The New Year will bring changes, as does every New Year. It is with regret and understanding that the District acknowledges R.W. Sheldon Moden's request to terminate his chairmanship of the Veterans Services Committee. The District would like to acknowledge Sheldon's 25-plus years and extend to him our sincerest thanks for a job well done. R.W. Robert Dagen, R.W. Ray Barber and W. Michael Willwerth, have been appointed as coordinators to continue the necessary work of this Grand Lodge Committee. The Assistant Grand Lecturer has also asked to be relieved, due to conflicting work hours. This office will also need to be filled, and I am equally sure that V.W. Adrian Miller's position will be as challenging to fill. Just a thank you to both of these Brothers does not seem adequate compensation for the jobs they have done.

Many Lodges have planned, and/or presented, Brother Bring-a-Friend programs, such as Constellation Lodge, Warsaw Lodge, Attica Lodge, Batavia Lodge and Hesperus Lodge, and they are reaping the benefits of these well-planned and executed programs. Continued efforts and attention to these new and potential Brothers will promote growth in our fraternity. These programs will also provide candidates for the Grand Master's One-Day Class, scheduled for March 29th. The Genesee-Wyoming District is on the dividing line for the One-Day Class. Whether your Lodge attends the class in Buffalo or Rochester will have to be determined, and notification will have to be sent to either site. Lodge Secretaries should have this information.

Brothers, the Road to the East program is scheduled for February 15th, and can be considered a must attend program for those aspiring to higher office in the Fraternity. To those who do not look to occupy the east, it is also a beneficial course for gaining insight to programs and organizational skills used in Masonry and elsewhere. Any Brothers attendance would be welcomed; new Senior Deacons or Wardens will gain from their participation in this one-day event. The program is expected to start at 9:00 a.m. in Phoenix Lodge in Dansville and run through 5:00 p.m., with a break for coffee and lunch. The staff officer, R.W. Norm Austin should be contacted with any questions. Should there be bad weather, the secondary date is March 15th. Please hold these dates open for this class.

Congratulations to the past and present Brothers of Batavia Lodge No. 475 for the dedication and determination that allowed their Lodge to commemorate its 4000th Communication on December 10, 2002. Over 100 years of Masonry was celebrated at this event. In attendance were members of Batavia Lodge, other Lodges of the District, the District Staff Officer and the District Deputy, a Grand Lodge represen-

tative of the New York DeMolay and the Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of New York and many other guests.

Brothers, as always, inform Brother Robert Dagen about upcoming events so that the District may be made aware of and support your functions. □

**Grand Sword
Bearer**
Genesee/Wyoming



R.W.
Norman P.
Austin
494-2223

lindalee15@hotmail.com

Hopefully each of you and your families enjoyed a safe and happy Holiday Season. Welcome back to a New Year and some exciting times ahead as we begin our labors once again. Before looking to the future, I would like to recap some of the recent events and bring everyone up to speed on where we are currently within the District.

Where were you?

At the Genesee/Wyoming District Council of Masonic Activities, held at West Star Lodge in Varysburg on Sunday, December 1st, only 9 Brethren were present and only 7 of 12 Lodges represented. One can only assume that the Masters not present were at home, busily composing their articles for this month's issue of the *Masonic Times*.

Our next meeting of this organization will be a special session on Sunday, January 19th, at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing Officers. Please make every effort to attend and represent your Lodge.

The Brethren of Genesee/Wyoming have been busy of late with involvement in varied activities, and this involvement is expected to continue for some time. There have also been some changes in personnel on various committees.

Degree

On January 1st, a 3rd Degree will be conferred at Attica Lodge, with a candidate each from Attica, Arcade and Olive Branch Lodges becoming Master Masons. It's nice to see new members increasing the roles of our District.

On January 11th, Oakland Lodge of Castile will be hosting a Table Lodge at Constellation Lodge in Perry at 8:00 p.m. For details, contact either W. Henry Robinson or W. John Cook, Masters of those Lodges respectively. This sounds like a really good time; hope to see you there.

Child ID

The Child ID Program, which was conducted by District Chairmen, R.W. Len Mason and his Staff in LeRoy, served approximately 300 children at three day care centers in the Village. This month, Lovey Day Care in LeRoy will be the site of another Child ID shoot. As a result of these Child ID Programs, R.W. Ken Kolhagen and W. Jim Allan are now certified cameramen. Hopefully, these fellows behind the camera will now receive the recognition they so richly deserve! Plans are also underway for an ID shoot at Pavilion Middle School in April. The Brothers of Attica Lodge, of which W. Bruce Anderson is Master, also organized a Child ID Program at Six Flags Darien Lake.

The Genesee/Wyoming Post No. 72, Masonic War Veterans, have also been busy. They held their Election of Officers last

month, and the following are those now among the "ins":

- Jerry Brade Commander
- Art Drew Adjutant
- Mike Driver 1st Lt. Commander
- Mark Hopkins 2nd Lt. Commander
- Dennis Turton 3rd Lt. Commander
- Bernie Whaley Quartermaster

On December 12th this organization presented a Flag Program at Attica Lodge entitled: The Many Faces of Old Glory, narrated by Ray Barber, State Director. A Color Guard was also in attendance. The next meeting of this organization will be Friday, January 24th at Attica. Possibly, Attica will become the permanent meeting place.

Congratulations

On December 10th, Batavia Lodge celebrated its 4000th communication. This is quite a milestone, of which the Brethren of this Lodge can be rightfully proud. It was nice to see R.W. James E. Sullivan, Junior Grand Warden, in attendance for the occasion. Our congratulations go out to the Brethren of this Lodge.

Among the events taking place in the near future are the following: W. Jim Allan, Masonic Home Counselor, will begin soon to travel to Lodges throughout the District to explain the Program, and his role as Counselor. Also, R.W. Ray Barber and W. Jim Allan will soon begin working with the Red Cross on a Blood Drive within the District.

We also have a new Chairman of Candy Bar Sales for the Genesee/Wyoming Council of Masonic Activities. W. Jim Allan (when he is not engaged in his role as Secretary of Mt. Vernon Lodge, attempting to gain well deserved recognition behind a Child ID camera, counseling for the Masonic Home, or working with R.W. Ray Barber on a Blood Drive) has agreed to assume this role from W. John Cooper, who has done the honors for a number of years.

If you recall my article last month, I related that many Brethren had expressed their disappointment at the low turnout at their Lodge-sponsored events.

My response was that it is imperative that word of said event be well publicized. Well, here's another excellent opportunity to do just that. Are you aware that Genesee/Wyoming has a very nice 4' X 8' lighted sign for rental for your special event? It is available for rental at \$10.00 for Lodges, Chapters and Concordant Bodies throughout the District. For other than Masonic organizations within the District, the rental fee is \$20.00. Should you be interested, contact R.W. Dennis Turton, of Attica Lodge.

Don't forget, Brethren, Saturday, February 15th, from 8:00 a.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m., will be the Road to the East Program at Phoenix Lodge in Dansville. This will be a one-day session this year, and anyone enrolled will need to bring along a copy of the "24-Inch Gauge." There will be a "working lunch" provided and included in the cost of registration. Homework assignments can be submitted the following week. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the e-mail or telephone number in the heading of this article. Remember, this Course should be taken by all Deacons and Wardens, but certainly, any Brother is welcome to enroll.

Best wishes go out to Anna Olsowsky, wife of W. Bill Olsowsky of Bliss, and Bob Clement, Bill Jennejohn, and Tony Irrera, all of Batavia Lodge as they re-

cover. Our thoughts are with Ray Barber, as well, as he faces some surgery later this month. Also, our sympathy is extended to the family of Brother John Sickerson, roommate of R.W. John Bater at the NYS Veterans' Home in Batavia. Brother John was over one hundred years old when he joined the Grand Architect of the Universe, and had been a Mason for many years. □

**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 E. Main St., Batavia, 14020

Our 4000th Communication of Batavia Lodge No. 475 is now a memory and we look forward to the next event in the life of our Fraternity. The observation of this immediate past event was well attended by the members of Batavia Lodge and visiting Brethren. Along with our District Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lodge Staff Officer, was R.W. James E. Sullivan, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge. It was pure delight to have such a great turnout for this occasion.

During the month of December, Brethren of Batavia Lodge participated in the annual Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army and also entertained the veterans at the Batavia VA Medical Center with an evening of Bingo.

One-Day Class

Probably the next important event for our Lodge, and Fraternity in general, will be the upcoming One-Day Class of creating Master Masons, which will be held March 29th. For our convenience, it will be held in Rochester. I am mentioning this again as a reminder to each of you. I have on hand an ample supply of petitions for this event. Please contact me ASAP for the same and they will be sent immediately so that the Brethren can act on each application in a timely manner. The standard procedures will be applicable for this program, i.e., applications must be filled out and submitted, investigations will be held on each applicant and the Brethren of the Lodge will vote on the application. Again, please contact me, either by telephone at 548-7148, or by e-mail at rdagen@rochester.rr.com. I am sincerely convinced that each of you knows of individuals whom you would recommend for our Fraternity. We have at hand a new life-style at present, times and commitments have changed drastically over the past 50 years or so. We should, and must, keep up with the changing times.

These one-day sessions have been tried throughout other Grand Jurisdictions with great success and participation. My recommendation is to give it a chance and encourage participation. More details will be forthcoming in the very near future -- watch your mailbox and internet/e-mail notifications.

Sickness and distress

We continue to remember W. William Genagon, who is recovering from recent surgery. We have been informed that Brother Anthony (Tony) Irrera is presently under the doctor's care. We don't have the particulars at present, but we ask that you keep

him in your thoughts and prayers. W. Robert Clement is presently in the hospital. We ask that you remember him. Again, a reminder, please, my Brothers, let me know if you, or someone you know of, should be mentioned.

Last, but not least

I ask that each of you remember what the real reason for the season is all about. I think that at no other time in our respective lives do we need to be reminded just what we have been given and why, as we celebrate the Birth of the Christ Child! I hope you all had a Merry Christmas. Remember our service men and women as they continue to serve you and me in providing their services to our country.

May the New Year bring you and your families much happiness and prosperity!

May God bless America! May God bless us all! □

**Arcade
Lodge No. 419**

7:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th
Tues., Sept.-June,
4th Tues., Jan., Feb.

Master
R.W. Leonard
Mason
492-1813

Sec. R.W. Arthur Drew, 492-4860
Main St., Arcade, 14009

This November, Arcade Lodge prepared meals for some of the needy people in the area. We packaged twenty-eight hot meals and everyone working on the project seemed to enjoy the spirit of the Holiday Season. The recipients also seemed pleased to receive them. It was our first attempt at this kind of community project and when the kitchen started warming up and the odors started floating around, we felt it was going to be a success. I want to thank those who provided food and those who provided time and energy to make it happen.

This coming year promises many challenges for all of the Lodges in our district. With the One-Day Class coming up shortly, it would be nice to be able to raise some candidates for Arcade Lodge. We just completed the 2nd Degree, but I would like to see us raise more Masons. If you know of any potential candidates, let me, or any other member of the Lodge, know.

Maybe your son, grandson, friend or neighbor would join if asked. By the way, it is now permissible to ask if an individual might be interested in becoming a Mason. Try it and see. I have a brochure, "What's A Mason?," published by the Masonic Information Center in Silver Spring, Maryland, which answers most questions in a very open manner. If you need a copy, let me know.

We will be having a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night and, that same evening, I am planning on having representatives from the Concordant Bodies to explain what they are about. So come and help us communicate to others what we are and what we stand for.

When you read this article, I would ask that you take a few minutes and write a note back to us and let us know how you are doing. We know where you live because you are receiving our mail but it would be nice to hear from you at this time of year at least. Send it to me, Len Mason, PO Box 313, Arcade, NY 14009-0313. I guarantee it will be read in Lodge.

Those Brothers having birth-

days in January are: Allan Dean, Walter Howell, Arthur Reinhardt, Robert Waters, Arthur Dilloway, Clinton Salmon, Louis Domes, Fred Warner and Arthur Cartwright.

Have a wonderful Holiday Season and may it extend throughout the year for you and yours. □

Oakland Lodge
 No. 379, F. & A.M.
 1st and 3rd Tues.
 (Jan., Feb., Mar.: 1st Tues. only)



Master
 W. Henry Robinson
 322-7545

Sec. W.: Richard L. Smith
 493-5408
 134 S. Main St., Casville 14427

I will start by wishing all Masons from Oakland Lodge and the Genesee-Wyoming District a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Some of our valued members have made their annual voyage South for the Winter months. Their attendance at our communications will be missed, but we wish them all a safe and healthy trip.

The last couple months have been slow at Oakland Lodge. All of our Official Visits have been completed for this year.

Our Worshipful Master is in the process of planning a 3rd Degree sometime in March or April. This Degree will be to complete the edict sent to Oakland Lodge by our Grand Master. We will be looking for help from every member to participate in this Degree work. Remember Brothers, our Ritual and Degree work is the backbone of our time-honored organization. This work is truly some of the most memorable times in this organization and my life. Just think back to how you felt when you were going through the Degrees and were raised to the Degree of Master Mason.


The Coleman Temple Association has accepted a purchase offer from Bruce and Chris Carney for the Masonic Temple. Bruce and Chris are the owners of the food market next to our Temple. We have already started to get rid of the contents of the Temple. A special thanks to Richard Smith and Jim Little for finding organizations who were interested in and purchased the folding chairs and tables from the dining room area. Jim is also in contact with a local restaurant owner who is, possibly, looking to purchase the dishes and flatware from the Temple. As you can see, we have gotten off to a good start, but a lot of work still needs to be done before we can say good-bye to the building that we have called home. We are going to try and keep as much of the contents as possible, but we can't store everything. If any member is interested in any of the articles in the Temple, please contact one of the Officers or fellow members to make them aware of what you are interested in. The Lodge will be scheduling work parties to box and move the contents of the Temple into storage. The first work party took place on December 14th. Thanks to all the members who helped and to Jim Little for the use of his barn for storage. I will inform all members on any future work parties that are planned.

That time of the year has arrived again. By now, every member should have received a dues notice from the secretary. Please help facilitate the dues collecting process by sending in your dues

as soon as possible. This will allow the Lodge to concentrate its efforts in other areas and prevent you from falling behind a year. Just a friendly reminder that the Masonic Brotherhood Fund campaign is in full swing for this Masonic year.

Once again, Happy New Year to all Brothers and their families. □

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 263
 2nd & 4th Mon.



Master
 W. Kay Dilker
 716-537-9165

Sec. W.: Jim Allan 457-3079
 Main Street, Java Village

By W. Jim Allan

Happy New Year, Brothers! I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and that you and yours had a wonderful holiday season.

Lodge Christmas Party

Thirty-one people enjoyed a terrific repast catered by Java Village's own Dave Kirsch of Creative Catering. As always when we get together for an event like this, there was a lot of laughter and great fellowship. For those of you who weren't able to make it, we hope to see you next year!

Special thanks to Carol Whaley and her merry elf, Bernie, for the splendid decorating of the dining hall. We also thank W. Kay Dilker for his cheerful assistance with setting up the hall and finalizing the details.

Lodge research

W. Bernard Whaley, in his travels as the District Chairman for the Brotherhood Fund, had many chances to interact with members of other Lodges, and found a disturbing common denominator concerning buildings and grounds. This included proof of ownership of Lodge property, including the Lodge itself, boundary lines, etc., and volunteered to research Mt. Vernon's history at the County Court House in Warsaw.

When he gave his report on his findings at our last meeting, the results left everyone sort of scratching their heads. While we do indeed (no pun intended) have two Deeds covering our Lodge building itself and some adjacent property, the boundaries are not entirely clear. Our Lodge Historian, R. W. Ray Barber, is reviewing the minute books dating back to 1912 and forward, to see if we purchased additional property or sold some somewhere along the way.

If any of you can remember anything at all that might pertain to this issue, why not drop Bernie a note, call at 457-9905, or e-mail him at whaley@buffnet.net

Grand Master's Edict

By now all of you, I hope, read my last article and reviewed the Grand Master's Edict on the One-Day Class, whereby a petitioner can receive all three Degrees on one day. I'm sure that some of you just shook your heads, threw your hands up in the air and muttered to yourselves, What is Masonry coming to, a one-day Mason? Am I correct? Let me clarify a few points for you.

This does not mean that the individual Lodges can no longer confer their own Degrees as we have in the past, and will continue to do so. This is simply an opportunity that the Grand Master has given every Lodge in New York State to bring in some much needed 'new' blood to keep our

Lodges alive and open. Most Lodges are struggling mightily to remain solvent, and the facts were all in two years ago that if we don't have an infusion of new members, real income, which can only help us with some new ideas, enthusiasm and vigor to get out there and DO something, Masonry, as we know it, will be extinct! No lie, my Brothers.

Resistance to change is natural. It is simply human nature. How many times have you, in the past, as a new Mason, had your new idea slapped down by the old timers because that's not the way we've done it in the past? C'mon, we've all seen it! We have also driven many of those same people away.

The qualifications for the new candidate remain the same, they must be upright men of integrity whom you would be proud to share your Lodge with. A committee will investigate them as usual and pay all of the usual fees to the Lodge. See if this rings true of you. I, myself, have only brought in one Brother to our Lodge. He, in turn, because of what he saw and felt in our Lodge, brought in his good friend.

I think that we all have friends or acquaintances that you would like to give a petition to, but hesitate. Maybe they just wouldn't be able to memorize all of the Ritual that we did. He's always on the road somewhere, but might be able to make it to most of the meetings. What an opportunity we have to bring these people in!

This One-Day Class is not a new thing; the State of Ohio has done this in the past with great success, as have other States. Guess what I just learned recently, the retention rate is the same as the old way. This means that you don't petition every Tom, Dick and Harry who passes by to please the Grand Master; you select every bit as carefully as you did before. If you have any questions, contact your DDGM, R. W. Robert Strang or your AGL.

Secretary's Corner

You should have all received your dues notices by now. If I show you in arrears and you feel this is in error, please contact me and we'll straighten it out. If you would, if you have an e-mail address, either e-mail me at the address in the heading or jot it down on paper and forward it with your dues. I would like to get everyone on the District e-mail notification list put out by R. W. Bob Dagen. Most importantly, it is your job to inform me of any address changes. It's frustrating and time consuming to have mail returned. Grand Lodge prints out mailing lists for me and for the Brotherhood Chairman for the Lodge, and your Worshipful Master is wasting a lot of postage on returned mail.

Enough chastising.
 Happy New Year! □

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HESPERUS
 Lodge No. 837
 1st and 3rd
 Thursday



Master
 W. Ralph Marsocci
 820-6355

Sec. Lee Vainio, 548-2470
 12 Lake Ave. Bergen, 14416

I would like to thank Brother Tracy Miller for doing a great job as interim secretary. Neither Tracy nor myself realized the volume of work that the position actually entails; I know that you are as appreciative as I am that we have people like Brother Tracy who work hard to keep our Lodge thriving.


The Brotherhood Fund is alive and doing well, we are on pace to meet our goal for this year. Brother Ron Morris is confident that with your full participation we will reach our goal. We would like to thank you in advance for your generosity.

Our High Twelve Club is thriving -- we had thirteen Brothers in attendance at our last luncheon. I anticipate an additional four or five Brothers on January 9th at the



From left, Brother Ron Morris, Brother Harry Tyson, R. W. Robert Strang, DDGM, W. Jim MacConnell and W. Ralph Marsocci presenting check to Chairman Roy Hill and the rest of the Bergen Park Committee.

Eagle Valley
 Lodge No. 1161
 2nd & 4th
 Thurs.



Master
 W. Edwin C. Law
 237-2579

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

Happy New Year to all! Looking back over '02, the loss of Brothers Drake and Chandler saddened us greatly.

Eagle Valley Lodge's participation in the Child ID program was a real success, with 85 children videotaped.

Our annual Chicken Barbecue in May, and our annual auction in November, were well attended and successful in every way. Many thanks to all who had parts in, and contributed to, the success of these events, which are so vitally important to our Lodge's survival.

Lodge. Why not plan to attend and bring a guest? I appreciate your participation very much. I also would like to remind you that there is no charge for the meal.

Ladies Bingo Night was a huge success. After the Brothers prepared and served an authentic Italian Lasagna Dinner, fourteen ladies were escorted by limousine to the Bergen Fire Department Bingo Hall. We returned the ladies to the Lodge for dessert. At the conclusion of our evening, each of our guests was presented with a rose as a token of our appreciation.

On December 5th, District Deputy Grand Master R. W. Robert Strang made his Official Visit to our Lodge. As usual our evening began with an excellent meal prepared and served by the ladies of the O.E.S. After a short meeting I presented the gavel to DDGM R. W. Robert Strang, who eloquently delivered the Grand Master's Message and also congratulated the Lodge for its dynamic vibrancy. We would like to thank Bob for his dedication to the Craft and his adherence to its time honored traditions.

It was a pleasure to present W. Marty Krause his Past Master's

Continued on page 6

Your Worshipful Master, and his lady, have had a change of residence, and are comfortably situated in our new quarters.

Last month (December), our Lodge accomplished its annual distribution of poinsettias to deserving Eagle Valley residents. Heartfelt thanks to all who participated in this most worthwhile operation.

I look forward to the '03 Winter/Spring activities, and invite each and every Eagle Valley Brother's attendance, participation, and input as to how we may improve ourselves and our service to our community. □

District Wide
Brother
Bring-a-Friend
Night
 Sponsored by Monroe
 Masters and Wardens
 Association
 Webster Lodge No. 538
 30 Orchard Street
 Webster, NY
January 25, 2003
7:30 p.m.
 All Districts are invited
 Bring your candidates and their
 wives for a presentation by
 R. W. Bruce Chilton
 Refreshments will follow

Courage
 Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic.
 e-mail Wisdom

Hesperus Lodge No. 837

Continued from page 5

Apron. Marty has been, and continues to be a dedicated member of our Lodge.

In December, I presented Mrs. Martin, the wife of departed Brother Gregory Martin, with a Widow's Pin. Mrs. Martin reiterated her family's thanks and deep appreciation for the beautiful Masonic Service. She was impressed with the dedication of the members of Hesperus Lodge.

Last month we presented a check of \$703 to Roy Hill and the rest of the Bergen Park Committee. The money was raised at a Fish Fry that was prepared by Brother Jim MacConnell at the Lodge. The Bergen Park Committee is working to beautify the several parks and other parts of the community.

W. Joseph Chimino, W. Marty Krause, Brothers Ron Morris, Don Mattice, Harry Tyson, and Dave Liles and I, attended Batavia Lodge on December 10th, for the celebration of their 400th Communication. We all had an enjoyable time and would like to congratulate them for reaching this milestone.

I am putting together a committee to discuss the possibility of opening a DeMolay Chapter here in Bergen. If you have any questions, comments, or would to join this committee, please call me at 820-6355.

Sickness and Distress

Delores Hargrave is doing much better. I am confident that she will be back to her regular schedule soon. We are thinking about you; our best wishes go to you and Brother Don.

Brother John Bater's roommate, who was also a Brother, passed away at 100-years-old. Although he was not a member of our Lodge we will miss him. During each visit with Brother John Bater, we also spent some time with centenarian John. We often talked about his time in the military, especially WWI.

I would like to inform everyone that Brother Don Liles is going to have surgery on his right shoulder. We hope that he has a quick and full recovery.

In closing I would like to wish all of you and your families a Happy and safe New Year. □

District Deputy Grand Master Livingston District



R.W.
Robert
Fisher
226-2210

We, in the Livingston District, have been busy. The Staff Officer, R.W. Gene Hill, and I have successfully completed our initial round of Official Visits. We were graciously received and we thoroughly enjoyed visiting each Lodge in the District. On behalf of the Staff Officer and me, I thank all of you for the hospitality and courtesies extended to us.

New Brothers

Several of the Lodges are bringing in new members and putting on the necessary Degree work. We are looking forward to meeting these new Brothers as they travel toward full membership in our Fraternity.

Programs

The various programs for the year are all underway. This year

we hope to concentrate on the Beacon Project, the Drug and Alcohol Program and the Child ID Program. It is hoped that we can create a synergy to make them work in harmony and become even more effective.

In an attempt to become more proactive, I am forming a Long Range Planning Committee for the District. We expect to research, formulate and recommend a comprehensive plan, which will allow the District to stabilize and revitalize itself rather than to do nothing, wither away and wonder what happened. We will start in January.

Attend meetings

I urge all members of the District to support the various Lodges and regularly attend the monthly Association Meeting. We do our best to expedite the meetings and to make them meaningful. Please support the effort.

In keeping with the closing of the year, I want to close by sending you each my best wishes for a joyful Holiday Season and a most happy and prosperous New Year. □

Grand Director of Ceremonies Livingston District



R.W.
Clarence
E. Hill
538-6581

At the time of this writing Thanksgiving and Christmas are past, and I hope everyone had good holidays and have a Happy New Year.

Half of the 2002-2003 year has gone by and all of the Lodges in Livingston District are busy at work. Union Lodge has conferred the 1st and 2nd Degrees and will have the 3rd Degree on January 23rd. Eunice Lodge has conferred the 1st Degree, November 20th to one Brother and will again do the 1st Degree for one candidate on January 2nd.

Nunda Station Lodge prepared for balloting on affiliations at their December 17th meeting.

Sickness and Distress

R.W. Edwin Dickson of Nunda Station had hip surgery and is recovering.

W. Charles Sawyer had his knee replacement surgery, done on December 7th.

Brother Vic Bisig, Geneseo Lodge, is recovering nicely from his knee replacement surgery.

The Grand Master has stated that each Lodge, annually, will confer at least one Degree upon a candidate or an exemplar. The Lodges of Livingston District are complying with the Grand Master's edict. The AGL, V.W. Mark Dibelka, has observed the 1st Degree, on a candidate, at Eunice Lodge and Degree work at Union Lodge. This edict states that the Lodge Masters annually will establish a schedule with the AGL for this Degree work.

Three out of nine Lodges in Livingston District have agreed to receive the *Masonic Times* and I would encourage the other Lodges to consider subscribing to such a great publication.

District Child I.D. Program

Our program is unique; we do not do the Grand Lodge video program. Ours is a program of finger printing, palm prints, tooth impressions, and DNA samples. Our program is a combined effort of the Sheriff's Department and

Masons and we are very proud to state that we have served over 17,000 children. The Chairmen of this program are R.W. Gene Flint and Brother Ray Ellis. We are proud of their great efforts in operating our Child I.D. Program. Brother Ray Ellis is also a Major with the Sheriff's Department. God Bless all who have worked with this and other Masonic programs.

The promotion of Masonic Education is one of my jobs in Livingston District. All of you can help me in this effort by working with me and informing the Brothers of the events occurring in your Lodges. Working together we can build a well-educated Masonic District. Work with the AGL on Masonic Ritual and Protocol.

Membership Retention and Development is the other half of my responsibilities as Staff Officer. In this program I have asked all Secretaries for their assistance in ensuring that we do our best to retain our present members.

The Road to the East Program is, at this writing, being setup for February 15th. The meeting place has not been established because Steuben and Allegheny Districts will probably not join us this time. The Staff Officers of Livingston, Monroe, Genesee-Wyoming and Wayne Districts met on December 19, 2002 to finalize the particulars of the RTTE program.

May God Bless. □

Canandaigua Lodge No. 294

1st & 3rd Mon.



Master
W. Ed Hall
289-3395

Secretary
R.W. George N. Stanton, Jr.
394-6829
Shortsville, NY

I hope all my Brothers and their families had a very Merry Christmas and wish them a Happy New Year. Our Lodge will have had their 2nd annual Breakfast with Santa on December 26th. We hope the children and grandchildren had a great time.

Don't forget the petition you received from our Secretary. Let's do our best to raise some new Brothers in the Craft.

To all those who haven't been attending Lodge, please try to come once in awhile. We miss seeing you on the sidelines. I know there are some Brothers who I have never met in the ten years that I have been a Mason, and I would like to make your acquaintance. It's YOUR Lodge, come on out and support it. □

Livonia Lodge No. 778

1st & 3rd Wed.



Master
W. Charles
Sawyer
346-6398

Sec. R.W.
Richard
Brown
346-3618

65 Big Tree Street, Livonia, 14487

Happy New Year from Livonia Lodge No. 778!

I hope that my Lodge Brothers and their families enjoyed their celebrations of Christmas or Hanukkah, and that all of you had a safe and sober New Year's Eve.

Our first regular Lodge meeting

of 2003 will be held on Thursday, January 2nd, instead of Wednesday, which is New Year's Day.

On Monday, January 13th, our Lodge will be hosting the School of Instruction starting at 7:30 p.m.

On January 15th we will have a regular communication.

My best wishes for a healthy and productive New Year! □

Milnor

Lodge No. 139

2nd & 4th

Thurs.

Master

R.W. Eldon
N. White
585-924-1603

Sec. R.W. Kenneth Hall
585-259-3801

21 Maple Ave., Victor, NY

Chicken and Biscuit Dinner

The annual Chicken and Biscuit Dinner was a success with \$200 raised for the Brotherhood Fund. Our thanks to Joyce and Glenn Thon, Nancy and Bud Peglow, and Georgia and Jim Powell for a great meal.

Christmas Charities

Thank you to all the Brothers who took their time on Saturday, December 7th, to help others by ringing bells for the Salvation Army at Wade's Supermarket. Special thanks to R.W. Don Dill for his assistance. \$550 was raised.

Christmas Basket project

Thank you to everyone who donated food or money for the annual Food Drive to help the needy. John Purdy and Bill Hall headed this project. Thanks for the many years of hard work.

Widows

Again this year, we gave our Masonic widows poinsettias to help brighten their holidays. This also helped to brighten the day of the Brothers who had a chance to visit our ladies.

Calendar

January 9th, is the Official Visit of R.W. William L. Colin, Staff Officer. An Oyster Dinner will be served (an alternate for those who do not like oysters will be available) at 6:30 p.m. and communication at 7:30 p.m.

If you have a petition, there is still time by January 23rd.

February 1st is the Annual Turkey Dinner.

Dues

My Brothers, the 2003 dues notices have been mailed. Your prompt attention to this obligation will be greatly appreciated by your Lodge.

Distress

The passing of Brother Frank Wiley and the death of Brother Norman Smith's mother saddens us. Our sympathy is extended to the families. □

Eunice Lodge

No. 830

1st Thurs.

7:30 p.m.

Master

W. Melvin
R. Hussey
585-768-7336

mhussey486@aol.com

Sec. R.W. Francis E. Oberer
9501 Asbury Rd., LeRoy NY 14482
585-768-6698

Happy New Year!!

These are exciting times for Eunice Lodge. There are FIVE new Brothers entering Lodge, a 10% increase. A side benefit being the new-to-be Brothers are in a lower age group than the median age we now have. I remember a time when we would kill for that problem. Now it is upon us.

Read the "24-Inch Gauge" under "Brother Bring-a-Friend Night." Try expanding it to a "Masonic Open House" and "magic" happens.

Now we are addressing the new "problem" of Degree work. We are getting the rust off the gears because it's been a while. We are now working more together with a purpose. The candidates feel good about coming in, too. There will be a 1st Degree here on Thursday, January 2nd and a 2nd Degree on Thursday, January 16th, a Special Communication for this purpose. Naturally, all Brothers are invited.

Committee Reports

Brotherhood Fund is reporting 17% contributions to date.

Brother Andrew Reid received a 50-year Certificate and Pin Award for his time in Masonry. Grand honors were given.

We were also privileged to hear that the Webster-Schroeder High School football team, coached by our Sr. Warden, Brother David Howlett, won the NYS Class AA championship title this year. Great going, Dave!

And, oh yes, I reported I would be on a two-week trip to Moscow, Russia, commencing January 21st, possibly visiting Masonic Lodge Aurora which is an English-speaking Lodge there.

January dates

January 2nd, Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Regular Communication and 1st Degree.

January 5th and 12th, Sundays, 2:00 p.m., 2nd Degree Rehearsal.

January 16th, Thursday, 7:30 p.m., 2nd Degree.

January 27th, Monday, 7:30 p.m., Livingston Association Meeting; Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

January 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Euchre card parties, Lodge Building. □

District Deputy Grand Master



Monroe
District

R.W.
John E.
Zabel
223-3228

January events

The Grand Master's Class is only three months away. This is a chance to change the trend of the Fraternity and return to growing. To help support this one-day event, the Monroe District is holding a District-wide Brother Bring-a-Friend event. This will be held on Saturday, January 25th at 7:30 p.m. at Webster Lodge. The event is open to all, meaning that wives are invited. We encourage the Brethren to invite good men who are not now members of the Craft. The presenters at the event will include R.W. Rich Friedman, R.W. Bruce Chilton and me. The Masters and Wardens have volunteered to supply the refreshments after the talks. More information can be found in this issue.

Our AGL's are planning a School of Ritual on January 29th. The work on the trestleboard is the Walkabout. This program is to be given to new members of a Lodge as one method of introducing them to the functioning and officers of a Lodge. It is recommended that all Lodges attend this School. The Walkabout Program should be the first Lodge event that new members, especially those from the One-Day Class, experience.

The future

The future of our beloved Craft is in our own hands. Forty years ago few Masons would have predicted that the two Monroe Districts would consolidate and the number of Lodges in Monroe County would drop from thirty-one to sixteen. If the current trend continues, this District will be very small in just a few years. Therefore it is time that we, the Brethren, start building plans to reverse that trend. Planning should start at the Lodge level. The Lodge plans and actions should fold into a District long-range action plan.

During Official Visits, the idea of a Lodge long-range plan and a planning group was recommended. As a District we must also look to the future. Therefore, I will be building a District long-range planning team this month. The District planning success will not be in a vacuum, we will need input from the Lodges and Brethren of the District. Please feel free to send comments or suggestions to me at any time. As we work together we can build this District and its Lodges and stay the premier District in New York.

The Principal Tenants

One of the principal tenants taught in the 3rd Degree is relief. How is relief to be observed by a Brother? First, a Brother can aid a fellow member of his Lodge who may need assistance. The form of assistance could be anything from helping to install an extension telephone to helping a Brother move. It can also include monetary help when needed. However, I am going to focus on one District program that fits into the relief category. The program is called ElderWear. The District Chairman is W. Lew Perna. Brother Perna introduced the Program to the Monroe District last year.

What is ElderWear? It is a program of supplying clothing to nursing homes for the residents of the home who do not have the resources to maintain sufficient clothing during the Winter months. The idea of the Program is to donate such items as sweatshirts, sweatpants, and socks for nursing home residents. What can you, the Brethren, do to support this Program? Simply this, either buy the clothing items mentioned while shopping for this season, or contacting Brother Perna and volunteer to sort clothing when needed. Brother Perna's number is 334-8265. Your Master should know where the clothing drop-off point is, or have a Lodge drop box that is periodically taken to the drop point. This Program is greatly appreciated by area nursing homes. It also is one way to meet the tenant of relief.


The Question

Finally, at most of the Official Visits a question was asked. The answer to the question was not given at that time. I will now reveal the answer. But first the question: is there such a thing as a Masonic Wedding and if so, where has it been performed? The answer can be found in the World Wide Web or in the book, *Millennial Masonry*, by Kent Henderson. The answer is yes; there is such a ceremony as a Masonic Wedding. It has been performed under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Turkey and the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands. A full description of the ceremony used, etc., can be found in the referenced book. The ceremony is in addition to a civil or religious ceremony. I have read the description and was impressed. I hope that everyone had a great

Holiday Season. Let us all now prepare for a New Year and work to make the New Year an exciting time in Freemasonry.

Grand Sword Bearer

Monroe



R.W.
Derek E.
VanHouten
247-2920

hooter95@rochester.rr.com

The holidays are behind us, the presents have been opened, the bountiful tables have disappeared and the decorations are once again stored away till next year. The New Year waits for us with unlimited opportunities to serve and to grow within the family of Freemasonry.

As in any New Year, we all make resolutions of what we are going to do and achievements we hope we can reach. Unfortunately, some are never obtained, either because we set our goals too high or we get so busy that they fall by the wayside. What can I do, or what help can I give to my Brother in the Lodge setting or to the family of man in general this year? Sometimes I have detected a look of apathy from some Lodge members when projects are presented.

Remember that the fellowship which we enjoy revolves around the physical well being of our Lodges. I know from personal experience that we all are too busy at times to provide the necessary assistance which might be required to complete a job, assignment, or task.

In this year of 2003, let's make a commitment to assist, take the initiative, support or otherwise help when the opportunity to serve presents itself, either to our Lodges or to the world around us.

We may not all agree as to what projects are worthy of our commitments for this year and we all have our separate agendas, both personal and Masonic. However, one of the most important opportunities that we can participate in is the upcoming One-Day Class on March 29th, which has been explained by several Brothers in recent issues of the *Masonic Times*.

Auditions

On December 7th, I went to Charlotte-Corinthian Lodge to observe the turnout for the tryouts for the 1st Degree. Several Masters were in attendance with other Officers, and some Brothers were presenting their best in vying for parts in the Degree. It dismayed me to see that many Lodges were not present. I know there are some Brothers out there who are gifted and who really could be an asset to the District if they would come out and be part of this important day.

Don't sell yourselves short, my Brothers. Each of you has something to offer. We may not all be great Ritualists, but there are openings for Stewards, Marshals and Masters of Ceremony. A very important aspect of this day is the need for MENTORS to be with each new candidate. All of the above are opportunities to serve your Lodge, yourself and the Grand Master in 2003. Please consider what you can do and come out to have a memorable experience, which you will be able to talk about for years to come.

Thank you

I thank the members of Craftsmen Robertson Lodge for my Grand Sword Bearer's Apron. Up until December of 2002, I had the pleasure of wearing R.W. William Wood's GSB Apron. Now I have my new Apron and it is fitting to enter a New Year proudly wearing this symbol of the Craft.

It is also fitting that, to this time and place, I have very much enjoyed the company of you, the Brothers of the District, as we have visited all the Lodges during our Official Visits and shared with you the message of the Grand Master. Again, to my Brothers, thank you.

Road to the East

Plans are proceeding for our RTTE Class on February 15th. The difficult part is, as I write this article, we haven't had our Staff Officers' meeting yet and I can't and won't comment on precise parts of the program until next month. What I will do, is send out, either by e-mail, regular mail or by phone, the details as I receive them. This Class is open to Senior and Junior Wardens primarily, but others may attend. Questions may be addressed to my web site or to 247-2920.

Community

The word Community is a simple word, but it's meaning is much greater. The dictionary says, "a body of people having common organization or interests." Our Community stretches from sea to shining sea; our Brothers are from small towns and even the hills of Tennessee. The articles we write in the *Masonic Times* reach our Brothers in distant lands that we can't even visualize. The *Times* is the conduit for keeping our Brethren well informed of daily and monthly events that are important to the family of Masons in the Community of Man.

May the New Year bring you and your family the greatest opportunities. Til next time...

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS MON.



R.W. Keith
Stambach
865-7416
kstambachgl@yahoo.com



V.W. John
Dyer
503-4270
john.dyer@kodak.com

Do you have the new Ritual Book?

There is only one acceptable ritual book used in our jurisdiction. That is, "The Standard Work and Lectures of Ancient Craft Freemasonry," reprinted in 2001 and it can be obtained through your Lodge secretary. Why is it important that we all use the standard work? The answer is simple. The Custodians of the work, the Grand Lecturer and our Grand Master have indicated that it is the duty of all Officers and those who do ritual work to follow only the standard work for our jurisdiction. Through our travels throughout the district it has become quite obvious that several variations in the ritual are being used. With the upcoming One-Day Class and the new edict from the Grand Master it becomes even more essential that all of us learn and use the standard work.

Third Degree Tryouts.

January 4th at 9 a.m. at Webster Lodge will be the third opportunity to audition for a part in the one-day-class. We will be recruiting for the 1st section,

Raising, the Legend, as well as Q&A's and charge. Please come out and show your support. If you have any interest in participating in the One-Day Class, but are unable to make the tryouts, please contact one of your AGLs. There are many speaking and non-speaking parts available for all three Degrees, and we are looking for your help.

January School of Ritual

With all the events that are coming up to prepare for the One-Day Class, we felt it would be best to cancel the January SOR. We will also be moving the SOR on March 31st to Friday, April 11th at 7:30 p.m., at Etolian Lodge in Spencerport. This will be the last opportunity to compete for the attendance banner so come out and try to take the banner from Charlotte-Corinthian. It is still up for grabs.


Don't forget

All Masters received a copy of the District Ritual List. If you are putting on a degree and require assistance, please refer to the list for help. Everyone that is on that list has volunteered to help any Lodge that needs it. Also we are here to help you. If you want us at your rehearsals or just need advice about the Ritual, call on us. That is what we are here for.

In parting

We are starting a fresh new year, and with that in mind, if you have any suggestions for the new year, let us know. The Schools of Ritual are for each of you, and we need to know what you want to work on. Feel free to contact us anytime with your thoughts.

Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.



President
W. Michael McBride
663-4636
Secretary
Raymond G. Glegg
223-3433

Hope you all had a great Holiday! New York Trip - Grand Lodge

We are planning a get-together for dinner, with maybe a couple more get-togethers before the trip. We will use the time to get to know each other and start planning for our trip to Grand Lodge in May. We would like to go as a Unified Body, if possible, so please make every effort to attend. Call Dean Smith for more information (586-9298).

Have-a-Heart Campaign

This will benefit the Ronald McDonald House. I will continue to put this request for help in my article. *We need your help!* to fill time slots between Saturday, February 1st at 12:00 noon to 9:00 p.m. (daily) through Friday, February 14th at 6:00 p.m. Call Dean Smith (JoAnn) at 586-9298 for Eastview Mall, Karl-Heinz Reich (Trudy) at 426-6836 for Greece-Ridge Mall and Mike McBride (Jean) at 663-4636 for Marketplace Mall. We can also use concordant bodies as well as youth groups and non-Masons. Please help!

Monroe District Web site

John Dyer still needs more input from Individual Lodges. Please call or e-mail information. His new phone number is, 503-4270; correction to his e-mail address is, john.dyer@kodak.com.

Child ID Program

We are now at 1,035 children taped! Masonic brochures are needed! Get them to John Dyer or call or e-mail information to

him. More help is also needed with program management in order to support the program.

District One-Day Degree

Cast members are needed for all 3 Degrees (78 parts to fill!). Please call to sign up for a part: Keith Stambach, 865-7416, or John Dyer, 503-4270.

Upcoming Events

January 4th - Auditions for District 3rd Degree, Webster Lodge 9:00 a.m.

January 11th - Masters and Wardens Meeting, Seneca Lodge 9:00 a.m.

January 25th - District-wide Brother Bring-a-Friend Program, 7:30 p.m., at Webster Lodge. Open to potential new members and their ladies, including those from other Districts.

Now through January 31st. ElderWear. Lew Perna asked for help from each Lodge. Please appoint a (volunteer) from each Lodge and have him call Lew at 334-8265 as soon as possible. They are also looking for Corporate Sponsors.

February 15th - Road to the East class, Phoenix Lodge, Dansville, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Backup date is March 15th. Call Derek VanHouten (Judy), 247-2920.

February 22nd - Masters and Wardens Meeting, Ronald McDonald House, 10:00 a.m.

March 29th - The Grand Master's One-Day Class at East Rochester High School.

Hope to see our meetings filled with all Sr. Deacons, Jr. and Sr. Wardens and current Masters as well as members of the District Leadership Team and anyone else interested.

Membership

R.W. Joseph Privitera
Monroe District

Special Friendships and Memories

Saturday, December 7th, was a day that started pretty much like any other day. I was up around 7:30 a.m., and scheduled to be at the Lodge for the Grand Master's Day Ritual tryouts at 9:00 a.m. One of my first thoughts was of my wife's great-uncle Arnold, who was a Chief Petty Officer aboard the hospital ship, *Solace*. The ship was positioned off shore in the middle of Pearl Harbor. I have seen pictures of the ship. It was solid white with a red line around it with a Red Cross in the center. The ship was not hit, but took on many of the casualties. He rarely spoke of that day, so we never brought up the subject. One night at the cottage, kids in bed, he started to speak about that day. No one else spoke. It was a night I will never forget.

At 9:00 a.m. the tryouts began. The words of the Ritual were especially meaningful that day. When it was over, some of us hung around and sat in the anteroom. There we were, a few Past Masters and Past Grand Lodge Officers. I think I was the oldest of the group of six Brothers present, so this was no group of old-timers. We were just a group of Brothers with some experience in the District. We talked about the state of Masonry in the County and in the State. We talked about promises and possibilities that never worked out. We talked about all the good things that occurred in recent years. Nothing was resolved, but at least we walked away with a better understanding of each other.

District Membership

Continued from page 7

R.:W.: Dave Jones and I left and had lunch. Dave and I go back a long way. We were in line together and Masters in '86 and '87. I was District Deputy from '92-'94 and Dave was District Deputy from '96-'99. Dave was a committee chairman when I was DDGM and I served as one of his chairmen during his term. We made our mistakes, but I think we did some good things in those times. Dave is not only a Masonic Brother, but he is a true friend. Whenever I needed him, he was always there. Dave works evenings, so I haven't spoken to him in person in a while, but we get together on the phone a lot. It was good to see him again.

Later that evening, I was with the 1986 Masters' group at our annual Christmas Party. I believe that we are the only Masters group still getting together. We meet several times a year at very informal gatherings. We all had a good time and enjoyed renewing old acquaintances. I sincerely hope that I am wrong about the only Masters' group still meeting. I feel sad for those Masters' groups who don't see each other any more.

I know this is a long article for me, but I needed to share with you some of the reasons why I think this is a great Fraternity. The friendships will always be there, not to mention the memories. We should be anxious to bring new Brothers into this Craft so they cannot only share the friendships and memories, but the fellowship and possibilities we have. That is one of the reasons why my son will be in the Grand Master's Class on March 29th.

Maybe you should invite someone to share these experiences.

See you in Lodge. □

Craftsman/Robertson Lodge No. 969
1st & 4th Tues., 7:30 P.M.
Master W.: Duane Smith 473-6195
Sec. W.: Thomas W. Kendig 1-315-524-4063
875 Main Street, East, Rochester, 14605

By W.: Skip Waterstreet

Happy New Year everyone! We are halfway through the Masonic year and time is flying by. We are still meeting in the Downtown Temple in January. The current arrangements allow us to remain through the 31st, which means our January 7th meeting and our January 28th dinner and program will be in our usual location. We should be moving to the Shrine Center on Bay Road for our February, and future, meetings.

Several more petitions have been received, read in Lodge and turned over to the Investigating Committee. There is still time for you to obtain petitions for your candidates for the Grand Master's One-Day Class on March 29th. Why not request one from the Secretary today. Petitions must be returned on or before our February 4th meeting. This will permit sufficient time to read the petition in Lodge and have the candidate investigated in time for balloting on the petition at the March 4th meeting.

From the Master

Our Awards Night was held on November 26th with the members of Valley/Simes Lodge. As it

was an open meeting, our Ladies and friends were also invited. The following Brothers were recognized for their many years of dedication to the Masonic Fraternity: Brother James Spencer (55 years); Brother Jack Grover (65 years); and Brother Robert Ogden (65 years).

W.: William Shelby was presented the Dedicated Service Award Apron and Pin for his outstanding contribution to our Lodge and its activities.

Special thanks are in order to R.:W.: Vernon Goodrich, who served as Master of Ceremonies; W.: Thomas Kendig, who served as Marshal; and W.: Charles Waterstreet, who served as photographer for the event.

Christmas Party

The multi-organization Christmas Party, sponsored by Lalla Rookh Grotto, was held in Cathedral Hall on December 14th. Though the attendance could have been better, those present had a wonderful time, plenty of food, and lots of holiday spirit for everyone - especially the children who received their gifts from Santa. We are grateful to Al Pulcino, III, and all the Prophets for the time and effort they put in to plan and execute this District-wide event.

Dues

To date, nearly 60% of the membership has paid their 2003 dues. Are you one of them? If not, how about sending your check to our Secretary? Do it today, before the thought slips your mind. We need your financial support to provide recognition to our Brothers, carry on the Lodge programs and pay our Grand Lodge dues. Both Tom and I appreciate your promptness.

My Brothers, I ask that you change your address book information for our Lodge to our Secretary's address, which is: 2064 Brookway Crescent, Ontario, NY 14519-9625. Some of you are mailing your dues back to the Masonic Temple. Our move from the Downtown Temple is imminent and mail addressed to Main Street East will be delayed, even though it will be forwarded. Thanks for tending to this issue.

Birthdays

James Clark, Albert Connon, Samuel Eleoff, Royden Guess, Jasper Kennedy, Oran Kissinger, Franklyn Morse, Robert Ogden, Dirk Oukes, John Sanna, Kenneth Skidmore, L. Edward Walker, William Wimberly and Charles Zicari are our Brothers born in January. Congratulations and all good wishes to each of them as they celebrate on their special day. □

Valley/Simes Lodge No. 109
2nd & 4th Tues. 7:30 P.M.
Master W.: Michael C. McBride, Sr. 663-4636
michael_mcbride@nexpress.com
Sec. W.: Edward J. Schmitt 244-8458
875 Main Street E., Rochester, 14605

Hope everyone had a great holiday! Happy Birthday to everyone born in January!

Membership

Please refer to articles throughout this newspaper for information about the Masonic One-Day event on March 29th. We need petitions! We need them by our next meeting (January 14th) at the latest, in order to get them through the review process. If you know of anyone who would like to become a Mason, but has not



(front) Jayne Ogden, Jim Spencer, George Hornung, James Coleman, Elsie Barrett, and James Barrett. (back) Carl Pigage, Bill Shelby, Bob Ogden, Fran Grover and Jack Grover. (Photos - C. Waterstreet)



Brother Robert Ogden receives his 65-year member Certificate from W.: Duane Smith, Master.



Brother James Coleman receives congratulations and his 50-year Certificate from W.: Mike McBride, Master of Valley/Simes Lodge.

had the time available to learn the degree work, this is an ideal method of getting them into the craft. If you need more information, please call me, or our secretary, Ed Schmitt, at the numbers listed above.

Years of Service Awards

Our Awards Night social with Craftsman Robertson Lodge members went well. I had good feedback from the participants! George Hornung and his wife, Rosamond, were there (25 Years)! James Barrett and his wife, Elsie, were there (30 Years)! James Coleman was there (50 Years)! And Carl Pigage was there (55 Years)!

Howard Belt could not make it but was presented his award at our following meeting (55 Years)! I have started delivering awards to others who could not be there. Carl Pigage and I Presented a 55-Year Award to Elmer Wight at St. John's Nursing Home. Elmer was very pleased (Elmer and Carl were raised on the same day in 1947!). He remembered quite a bit about the old days. I enjoyed meeting him. His wife, Lorraine, couldn't make it because of the weather (the roads were bad).

My wife, daughter and I went to DeMay Nursing Home in Newark to present a 50-Year Award to Bob Geiwitz! We had a great visit with him and his wife Edna! We will see them again soon (I forgot his award).

A group of us will be going to the Masonic Home in Utica to present a 65-Year Award to Charles Lennon (what an accomplishment)! I'll let you know of the others as I deliver them. Congratulations to all! Many thanks to all who supported the effort!

Sickness and Distress

Howard Belt's wife, Virginia, is home, slowly recovering from surgery, but is still in pain. Irving Spalty had a setback with his heart and had a stint put in. He's home now. Calls and cards are welcome for both.

My wife had a tumor removed and just got the results back as A-OK! I am getting over pneumonia. Please let us know how you are -- good news is appreciated also. □



W.: William Shelby tries out his Dedicated Service Award Apron with the assistance of W.: Thomas Kendig, Marshal for the Awards event, and W.: Duane Smith, Master of Craftsman Robertson Lodge.

Upcoming events

January 4th - District 3rd Degree Audition, Webster Lodge, 9:00 a.m. Please help!

January 7th - Officers Meeting, Country Village, 6:00 p.m.

January 11th - Masters and Wardens Meeting, Seneca Lodge, 9:00 a.m.

January 14th - Lodge Meeting, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

January 25th - District Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, Webster Lodge, 7:30 p.m.

January 28th - Ladies' Night with Craftsman Robertson Lodge, Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Make-Up show for the ladies; Cards for the men.

February 4th - Have-a-Heart Booth, Marketplace Mall, Noon to 9:00 p.m.

February 11th - Lodge Meeting, Dinner 6:30 p.m.; Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

February 25th - Ladies Night with Craftsman Robertson Lodge. Sweethearts' Night, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Hope to see all of the regulars at each of these events, along with some new faces. Invite your family and friends to the social functions and remember, Widows and their escorts will be our guests. For more information or reservations, contact Dick Giedd (Molly) at 621-3045, Herb Spencer at 334-7493, Joe Gingold at 637-6008, Dave Mura (Pat) 637-8695, Mat Gingold (Norma) at 266-6384 or me, at 663-4636 (Jean). □



W.: Carl Pigage is "pinned" in honor of his 55 years in the Fraternity. W.: Gary Burke performed the duty.

WEBSTER Lodge No. 538
1st & 3rd Tues. 7:30 p.m.
Master W.: Brad Lewis 265-2914
Secretary, Peter Bowers 265-2526
70 Orchard St. Webster, 14580

During the busy Holiday Season, I hope each of you remembered what we were celebrating. It is difficult sometimes with all the advertising, shopping, lights, parties, etc., to find the peace that this holiday is supposed to be about. Take a minute to give something back,

Brothers, whether it be through the Brotherhood Fund, by visiting or calling a distressed Mason, or just by smiling and sharing some joy.

New members

On December 5th, Webster Lodge conferred a 1st Degree for two candidates. We had a good turnout for the Degree and the Ritual work was fine. Let's see if we can continue to improve it; I know I can. Welcome, Brothers.

December events

December 12th was a Fellowship Dinner, organized by Trustee Mark Fenton.

On December 19th we had a presentation of the Royal Arch Masons' Fervency and Zeal Program.

Our traditional poinsettia delivery took place on December 24th. This is always a high point of the Masonic year to me.

Upcoming events

We have rescheduled the Lantern Lecture from the 1st Degree for January 2nd. R.W.: David Jones always does a terrific job with this Ritual.

January 10th will be Fellowship Club, as well as a 2nd Degree rehearsal for those with parts in that Ritual. Our 2nd Degree will be conferred on January 16th. Brother Mike Nohle has been working very hard

on the Middle Chamber Lecture and I am looking forward to seeing him perform it.

I personally wish you and your families all the peace, joy and love of this season and warm Fraternal wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

16th of January, and the Lodge needs the help of all the Brethren. Thank you, and please come to dinner the night of the Degree. Enjoy the holidays.

ERAC
Lodge No. 163

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

Master
W. Josue C.
Bogmis II
423-1965

Secretary
R.W. Terry
W. Whilen
346-4380

www.erac.org
162 West Commercial St., East Rochester

Acknowledgment

Brethren, it is hard to believe, but 2002 is gone and we are already in 2003. I hope that you all have had a beautiful end of year. 2002 has been a special year in many ways and a very busy and tough one, as well. I thank all the Brothers who have stepped forward to offer their talents to our Lodge. We have done part of the job, but a lot of work still needs to be done. I greatly appreciate your support and the teamwork so far.

Brief report

The month of December saw us initiate four new Brother Entered Apprentices and the Degree was conferred by Brother Terry Wihlen, Jr., on November 25th, not November 17th as stated in the December issue.

Remember Brethren, it was agreed that our Lodge as a whole will devote the time to shepherd these newly initiated Brothers. Please remember your commitment.

Our Lodge cleaning scheduled on December 2nd did not happen due to the snowstorm. Most Brothers who showed up were Officers; we went ahead with the other portion of that evening's program which was the Officer's meeting. We thank Brother Nasra for offering us free Pizza that evening. The next Lodge clean up evening is February 3, 2003. I count on all Brothers showing up. On December 9th, W. James Weick from Northfield Lodge gave us a great presentation on Malawi, Africa Mission Project Site in which he participated. It was enlightening for most of us.

Due to some technicalities, we have called off the Holiday visitation, which was scheduled for December 14th. We will have a visitation around Easter; the tentative date is April 19th. Please keep tuned.

We have sponsored a single family of two children in our East Rochester community this holiday season. We thank our Brother, Jim Hamme, for coordinating the project. We also thank R.W. Rich Friedman for continuously leading us in raising funds for the Salvation Army. He did it again this past December.

A sad note

It saddens me to announce the death of Brothers Norris Curtis and Carl Rider. Both were great assets for ERAC Lodge and have left nothing but great memories for those who knew them. We will miss them a lot. We extend our deepest sympathies to their families and friends.

Dates to remember

Our Table Lodge, which will also be a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, is scheduled for Monday, January 13th. Brethren, each one of us knows a family member, a friend, a colleague, or a good man they can invite for this special event. Please do so, and contact

Brother George Nasra, our Junior Warden, at 377-2832 for your reservations. This is definitely a beautiful setting to introduce someone to Masonry. Remember that these candidates might be participants of the Grand Master's Class (become a Master Mason in one day).

Our 2nd Degree is scheduled for January 27th. I hope to see a Lodge full of Brothers.

Finally, Brethren, my wife, children, and I wish every one of you and your families the best of greetings for this Holiday Season. Happy New Year, 2003!

ETOLIAN
Lodge No. 479

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

Master
James E.
Toogood
585-594-2189

Sec. W. Michael Schwartz 352-4018

January events

January 4th - Auditions for 3rd Degree, for our One-Day Class, will be held at 9 a.m. at Webster Lodge, 30 Orchard Street, Webster.

January 13th - Annual Reports. January 16th - High Twelve Lunch. The Brother Bring-a-Friend program, also scheduled for January 16th, has been canceled. It may be rescheduled.

January 25th - District-wide Brother Bring-a-Friend night 7:30 p.m. at Webster Lodge, 30 Orchard Street, Webster. Bring Candidates and wives; Refreshments will follow.

January 27th - Move-up night. Patrick Schwartz in the East.

February events

Etolian Lodge has responsibility for the Have-a-Heart Campaign booth at Greece-Ridge Mall from Noon to 9 p.m. on February 1st and 14th.

February 15th - Tri-Lodge Ladies' Night at Viking Valhalla Restaurant in Bergen. Tickets are \$20.00. See Karl-Heinz M. Reich for tickets.

ElderWear

If you like to volunteer, call Lew Perna at 334-8265 or e-mail him at lperna@peoplepc.com. He will try to arrange pickups and deliveries to the West side of the County for Etolian members. I did one for him the other day. From St. Mary's Hospital to the Westgate Nursing Home. I delivered 10 lightweight boxes of clothes.

Union Star
Lodge No. 320

3 N. Main St.,
Honeoye Falls

2nd Mon.
7:30 P.M.

Master
W. Gary R.
Sanford
425-4248

Sec. Robert
Sweeney,
(h) 381-5286
(w) 464-6316

38 Cullens Run, Pittsford, 14534

Our regular meeting in December was the Official Visit from our District Deputy Grand Master, R.W. John E. Zabel and the Grand Sword Bearer, R.W. Derek VanHouten. We thank them for their visit and the message from the M.W. Carl J. Fitje, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Thanks to Joe Cotteleer for the Chicken Cordon Blue dinner.

R.W. John E. Zabel presented W. James Nersinger the Re-member the Blue Lodge

Ladies Nite Out

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February 15th

at the
Viking Valhalla Restaurant

Music by the
"Southern Comfort"

Cash Bar 6:30 p.m.	Dinner 7:30 p.m.	Dancing 9:00 p.m.
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Tickets \$20.00 each

**Dinner Choices - Prime Rib - Breaded Shrimp
Stuffed Chicken Breast - Baked Ham**

All Dinners include soup and salad bar, garlic bread, potato, coffee or tea, and dessert.

For tickets, call:
Karl-Heinz Reich - 426-6836
Harry Tyson - 494-1137

Award. This award is from concordant bodies to members of the Blue Lodge who sign the petition of candidates that are raised to Master Masons.

Last month I forgot to correctly thank Robert Sweeney for providing the Lodge dinner on the 1st Degree night with the assistance of Jim Nersinger. Thanks Rob.

Brothers, please remember to send your dues payment to our Secretary, Rob Sweeney if time slipped away last year. Also, please remember to participate in the Brotherhood Fund. There are nine different categories for your selection this year.

My thanks to Bud Ripley and Jerry Weidemann for the installation of the Christmas Lights for the Lodge building.

The quiz, which was taken on the Entered Apprentice Degree, was most correctly answered by

R.W. Robert Sanford. He will receive his free dinner on the evening of the 2nd Degree.

January Activities

Our January meetings will consist of our annual communications on the 13th and the conferral of the 2nd Degree on the 27th. Please call Rob Sweeney at 381-5286 for your dinner reservation, if you have not signed up.

February

We will be staffing the Have-a-Heart table at Marketplace Mall on Sunday, February 9th from noon to 6 p.m. Please see myself for the sign up times. Our February meetings will consist of our Past Masters Night on the 10th, come see them do the work, and on the 24th the 3rd Degree will be conferred.

NORTHFIELD

Lodge No. 426

Instituted March 1857
1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 P.M.

Master
W. Dean L.
Smith
(h) 586-9298
chef@rochester.rr.com

R.W. William D. Spillane
Secretary 334-6596
17 Church St., Pittsford 14534

From our family to your family, JoAnn and I would like to wish all the best for the New Year. Happy Holidays to all.

Truth be known

We all remember when we were young, our parents reminded us not to tell stories and lies as the same may come back to haunt us. We are instructed not to talk outside the Lodge room of our Masonic business or ill of a Brother. A word of caution for all Brothers to heed: Think well of each other, cherish friendship, and Brotherly Love for all friends or foes. When times are hard and work is not available to a lot of our friends, support is needed to get families or friends through the problems at hand. Some are quick to cast a stone without considering all the facts. Think of others, rather than one's self.

The Wintertime brings sickness all around us. There are so many beset with the flu or colds. We hope for the best for all. R.W. Jack Thibaut is doing much better since his accident and his last jaunt to the hospital. Brother Fred Hull (DSA), our prayers are with you and Eloise after her operation. V.W. Dan Walker is on the mend after surgery on his knee. Brother Donald Abamonte is doing well after his car accident. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

On January 3rd, Charles Hancock will give a talk on Scottish Rite and it would be nice to see a large turnout at the meeting. The 3rd Degree is being held on the

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F A M E
Lodge No. 722
 4275 Culver Rd.
 2nd & 4th Tues. 7:30 P.M.



Master
 W. David
 Foster
 (585)244-0194

Sec. Leon
 VanHuben,
 (585) 647-1391

First of all, Happy New Year! I hope you all had a safe and joyous holiday. Hard to believe another year is starting up already.

Our first meeting this January is on the 14th and will be preceded by a Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m., featuring Pot Roast, potatoes, salad, rolls and butter. The cost per person is \$7.00 and reservations are required. A Pot Luck Dinner will precede the second meeting, on the 28th, also at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Don't forget, our ladies are encouraged to join us at our Pot Luck Dinners! Trust me, they won't be bored while we're up in our meeting.

Speaking of our ladies

Our Annual Honor the Ladies Gala will be on Sunday, February 16th, at Nick's Seabreeze Inn, just up the road from the Lodge on Culver Road. Cocktail hour will be from 3:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., followed by a hot and cold Antipasto Buffet Dinner. After dinner we will repair to the Lodge for sweets, coffees and cordials. The price is \$13.00 per person. Mike Bell has all the information and will be taking reservations. Mark your calendar now for a great time!!

February

We will be manning the booth for the Have-a-Heart Campaign on Sunday, February 9th, from 12 noon until 6:00 p.m. We'll be at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center this year. We need at least 3 volunteers for each 3-hour shift. Please contact me if you're willing to help raise money for this special cause.

Reminders

Brotherhood Chairman, Keith Moore, tells me that contributions are coming in slowly, but surely. If you haven't made your donation yet, please do!

Dues are due! Please remit your dues to our Secretary, Leon Van Huben, as soon as possible. I am pleased to say that, for the most part, you Brothers have stepped up to the plate wonderfully with regard to the assessment - and - we have had quite a few members make additional contributions to help the Lodge. My sincerest thanks to all of you and I want to let you know that your Officers continue to try to find ways to get our financial situation more stable. Thank you, again!

Condolences

The Great Architect of the Universe has welcomed two more of our Brothers into their eternal rest. Sincere condolences are extended to the family and friends of Henry Spies and Robert Lansing. They have laid aside the working tools of life.

Good news

We are glad to note that Glenn Campbell and John Foster are going through their rehab process and are making excellent progress. If you know of any of our Brothers in sickness or distress, please call one of your Officers. I would rather hear any news from three or four people than not hear from anyone. Please let us know

if there is something you would like to see as a program at Lodge. We'll see if we can accommodate it somehow.

Last, but not least, Happy Birthday to all our Brothers with birthdays in January!

See you in Lodge! ☐

CLIO
Lodge No. 779
 1st & 3rd
 Tuesdays
 7:30 P.M.



Master
 W. Gordon
 F. Smith
 392-9261

Secretary
 W. Sean Noonan 392-8156
 287 East Ave. Hilton, 14468
 www.mastermason.com/clio779

Happy New Year Brethren and friends. Here's hoping all had a wonderful holiday. December was very busy at Clio Lodge with two regular meetings, one spaghetti dinner and our traditional holiday family dinner. Thanks to all the Brothers and their wives who worked to make the dinner a success. A great time was had by all.

January will be equally busy with Lodge meetings on the 7th and 21st. Two spaghetti dinners on the 15th and 29th. We will also schedule another Ronald McDonald House spaghetti dinner. The spaghetti benders will have details at the January 7th meeting.

Brothers, the Grand Master's One-Day Class is approaching and we encourage all to get involved in this event. The regular petition process must be followed. Once the candidate is voted on and approved, I will provide all necessary forms, etc. Call me at 392-8156 or W. Bro. Dave Upham at 392-6486 or see us in Lodge.

As I'm sure you're all aware, Clio Lodge closed its books for 2002 on November 30th. The 2002 reports from the treasurer and secretary are complete and may be examined on January 7th. Please keep in mind dues received after November 30th are counted in the 2003 report. As of November 30, 2002 we have received 60% of dues.

Brother Bill Hunn is recovering at home after recent surgery. Give him a call at 392-2935 or drop a card to him at 35 Short Hills Dr., Hilton, NY 14468.

January birthday greetings to Brothers Art Barrett, Roosevelt DeCarlo, Frank Kimmel Jr., John Lewis, Ian McKay, Bob Pedersen, Ralph Shaw and Gary Wahl.

Profiles of Clio Masons

Brother David Goodrich, DSA, has been a member of Clio Lodge for over 20 years. He received the DSA Award 4 years ago. Dave served as treasurer of Clio Lodge for 7 years. His father and grandfather were Masons in Ohio.

Dave graduated from Ohio State with a degree in Social Administration. Dave is a veteran of the US Army, serving with the German Occupation Force. Dave was employed in Rochester first with the YMCA as Executive Director and later with Monroe Community Hospital, retiring several years ago.

Dave and wife Marilyn have been married 47 years and have 3 children and 7 grandchildren, all living in the Hilton area. Did you ever wonder how a Mason qualifies for the DSA? Listen to this. Dave volunteers and is involved with the following organizations: Boy Scouts of America - 50-year member and past District Chairman; Hilton Rotary - Past President, 2 times; Hitchcock Fishbaugh American Legion Post 788

- Past Commander; Parma Hilton American Legion Color Guard - Chaplain; Lakeview Community Church - Elder; last but not least, the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign. Brother Dave runs the Hilton/Hamlin program. He secures prime locations from local businesses, sets up the kettles, recruits bell ringers and, once in a while, brings a hot cup of coffee. What a guy! By the way, being one of Dave's bell ringers is a real treat. Sign up next holiday season and join the fun.

That's it for now Brothers; hope to see you in Lodge. ☐

Fairport/Flower
City No. 476
 2nd & 4th Mon.
 7:30 P.M.



Master
 W. Kermit B.
 Moyer
 388-9303

Sec. W. George R. Bracht
 383-1947
 Fairport Temple,
 87 South Main St.

Happy New Year

Here's hoping all of you had a Blessed Holiday and wish the very best for the upcoming New Year.

Charlotte/Corinthian
Lodge No. 1088
 1st & 3rd Tues.
 7:30 P.M.



Master
 W. Clifford A.
 Short
 225-0646

C. William Flemming, Secretary
 723-0083
 4550 Lake Ave. Rocheste 14812

By now, we should be half-way through the Holiday Season, and things around the house should be settling down a bit. I have always loved this time of the year because, with the hustle and bustle of Christmas being over, we can settle into the New Year with our family and old friends.

Looking back a little bit, our Senior Warden did a fantastic job, sitting in the East, for the 1st Degree on November 19th. We started off the evening with a turkey dinner prepared by yours truly. My thanks to Senior Deacon Mike Hueston for his donation of the bird. It still amazes me how 17 Brothers can polish off a 22-pound turkey in less than 10 minutes. Put the Brothers from other Lodges on alert. If you are coming to Charlotte-Corinthian Lodge for dinner, better not be late. Another interesting bit of information about the Degree that evening. We needed an exemplar for the Degree. Brother Bill Fredenburg volunteered. We realized that it turned out to be al-

2nd Degree

I thank all the members of the Degree Team for their work in conferring the 2nd Degree. A special thanks to W. Tommie Richenderfer for all his work and preparation. In addition, he did an outstanding job in the East. Additionally, Senior Deacon Bernie Lazerson was just awesome in doing the floor work. Keep up the good work, Bernie. Thanks to Brian Bills for filling in as our exemplar.

Holiday flowers

On Saturday, December 14th, many of the Brethren met at the Lodge at 9:00 a.m. to distribute holiday flowers to our widows. I thank all the Brothers for their help in meeting the needs of our widows at this special time of year. A special note of recognition to Brothers Brian Bills and Greg Ludwig for their work in the organization of this very worthwhile event.

Officer's meeting

A meeting of the Officers will take place on Sunday evening, January 5th, at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will take place at the Lodge and will last approximately one hour. Please make every effort to attend.

New Officers

I would like to take this oppor-

tunity to thank three Past Masters for their willingness to step in to the Officer's line for the remainder of the year. W. Bill Nardone will be our Senior Warden, W. Scott Pellegrino will be our Junior Warden and W. Sy Kopen will be our Junior Deacon. Your commitment to our Lodge is much appreciated. Thank you, my Brothers.

January meetings

I extend to all of you a very joyous Holiday Season and a very prosperous New Year. I will see you at Lodge. ☐

Seneca Lodge
 No. 797
 2nd Tues
 6:00 P.M.



Master
 W. Stuart A.
 Walthour
 (h) 321-1948

Sec. Robert C. Green, Jr., 223-5953
 30 Orchard St., Webster 14580

I hope everyone enjoyed spending time with his or her families during this Holiday Season. Remember the number of days from Christmas to New Year's is a lot shorter than the number of days from New Year's to Christmas. Last month we raised three new

muster to support them.

The ElderWear program continues through the month of January, so we will have more opportunities to donate some of our efforts and time.

January 25th is the date for the District-wide Bring-a-Friend evening. It will held at Webster Lodge. If you have a potential candidate for the One-Day Degree Class, this would be a perfect event to extend an invitation to him and his family.

It's not too early to start thinking and planning for the Have-a-Heart fundraiser this year. Charlotte-Corinthian Lodge is scheduled for February 5th, from 4:00 until 9:00 p.m., and February 12th, from Noon until 9:00 p.m. I will be there both days, and I will be asking that we set up shifts to be sure that we cover the display.

Mark this date on your calendars, APRIL 15th, 2003. This is the date that Paul Stillman, of Historically Speaking, will be making a return visit to Charlotte-Corinthian Lodge. More details will follow in next month's article. This will be a truly enjoyable evening of entertainment for the entire family.

It's hard to believe that the year is half over, but there still is a lot of work ahead, so stay tuned, and call me if you need any information about what's going on, or with something that you would like to see us change.

Have a very Happy and Safe New Year.

I will see you in Lodge. ☐



Left to right: Myron Waterman, Bill Fredenburg, R.W. Cliff Short, John Evans, Jr., R.W. John Zabel, Don Dreher and Roger Bense.

Brothers. I thank all the Officers, but especially Brother Richard Shellman and W.: Michael Ferguson, in their roles of Degree Directors and for all the planning that went on in the sidelines. A job well done.

Official Visit

On December 10th we had our Official Visit. R.: W.: John Zabel and R.: W.: Derek VanHouten brought us the Grand Master's Message and words of wisdom, along with programs that the Grand Master wishes to incorporate. Brother Jack Phillips mixed his concoction of eggnog that is a favorite at Lodge.

Breakfast with Santa


On December 21st Seneca had its Annual Breakfast with Santa Claus. This has and still remains a well-attended event and the kids enjoy seeing Santa. My thanks to all who helped in the kitchen to cook and clean up.

Bring-a-Friend Night

This month Seneca will sponsor a Bring-a-Friend Night. This will enable us to have two classes of candidates this year.

In March Seneca will sponsor a Ladies Night at the Daisy Flour Mill. As in the past, it has been a good time to have fellowship with Brothers and their ladies.

Health and happiness to all. Happy Birthday to all who celebrate in January.

Wakan/Hubbard
Lodge No. 154
 2nd & 4th
 Mon. 7:30 P.M.

 Master, W.: Steve S. Xander 223-7162
 Sec. W.: Theodore J. Snyder, 467-0165
 Asst. W.: Donald C. Bell 334-7768
 1822 Penfield Rd. 14528

I hope everyone had a joyous Holiday Season and may we all have a happy and prosperous New Year.

3rd Degree

We conferred our 3rd Degree and raised Brother David Sisson. It takes a great combined effort on the part of the Ritualists in a Lodge to confer the 3rd Degree. We did it in its entirety without any outside assistance. I thank all those Brothers who participated in conferring the Degree. I commend you all for an exceptional and impressive presentation of the 3rd Degree. In particular, I would like to recognize R.: W.: A. John Tijou, King Solomon, and R.: W.: John Zabel, First Craftsman, for their exceptional portrayals in the Drama of the Hiram Legend.

One-Day Class

As our Degrees are over for this year, we now look forward to the Grand Master's One-Day Class on March 29th. Please let all potential candidates know about this one-time event. There is an informational brochure regarding this event, which should be given to prospective candidates. This can be obtained in the Lodge hall.

Sickness and distress

R.: W.: Bob Pettit had fallen and broke one of his ribs. For a time he was very sore, but at last report, he is feeling much better.

Brother Bruce Miles has recently undergone coronary artery surgery. He is doing well and is back to attending Lodge meetings.

Congratulations


W.: Gordon Ball has received a Blue Cap for his distinguished service in the Scottish Rite. Congratulations, Gordon, for being recognized by your Brethren for exemplary service in the Concor-

dant Body known as the University of Freemasonry.

January meetings

Our January 13th meeting will be preceded by a dinner with the ladies invited. Suzanne Xander, affiliated with Capital Business Advisory Group, will present a program on financial and long-term care planning following the meeting. Our January 27th meeting will feature the Past Masters in the chairs. Following the meeting will be a program regarding the Concordant Bodies of the Fraternity.

District Deputy Grand Master Wayne District



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

Holidays over time to work now

Best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous 2003 to you! Official Visits concluded with our visit to Savannah Lodge No. 764 on December 16th. I enjoyed meeting so many Brethren of the Wayne District. R.: W.: Jim Frind and I thank you for your warm welcomes and words of encouragement and support. I ask that you now show your support for your Lodge and Master by your actions.

Do it today

Have you remembered to pay your Lodge dues for 2003? Have you made a donation to the Brotherhood Fund? Have you asked good men to become Masons? There is still time to join the Grand Master's Class on March 29th, but time is growing short. There are petitions to be received, interviews to be done, ballots to be cast and submissions to the Grand Secretary to be in the Grand Master's Class. Call your Master or Secretary if you need a petition or any help. Do it today! Don't put it off any longer.

As I audited Lodge procedures and books this Fall, many Lodges were in the process of re-doing their By Laws. I encourage all Lodges to look at their annual dues and initiation fees. Is your Lodge still charging 1960's or 1970's levels? Don't sell Masonry too cheap. Grand Master Fitje is recommending that initiation fees be \$250 for new members. Lodges with budgets are still in the minority in our District. The new MSL system for secretaries will help solve this problem and help with the bookkeeping chores, too. R.: W.: Bill Jones of Drumlin Square Lodge No. 1180 is the furthest along in the process of any secretary in the District. I am sure that he will be glad to answer questions and show examples of what he has done if you contact him.

January meetings

W.: Norman Howard reminds me that the next Blood Drive in Walworth will be on January 22nd. This is a great way to give back to the community.

The next Wayne District Masters and Wardens Association meeting will be at Sodus Lodge on January 23rd. A Prime Rib Dinner (\$10) will be served at 6:45 p.m.; meeting at 7:30 p.m. President Daryl Bentley reminds all Lodges that a new Traveling Gavel is up for grabs. Marion Lodge No. 926 won the 3rd leg to

keep our last one. Get your Lodge members out on January 23rd for a great meal and evening.

DeWitt Clinton Award

Wolcott Lodge No. 560 presented a DeWitt Clinton Award to Richard Lasher on November 17th for his outstanding contributions to the Wolcott community for the past 25 years. Members of the community present said that it is always fun to work with Dick and he treats everyone like family. Through Dick's efforts, the Wolcott Fire Department has given Christmas dinner and presents to roughly 250 people each year for over 20 years. The Grand Lodge has a number of awards available for non-Masons who contribute to their communities and youth activities. Ask your Officers to help match the award to the person you have in mind. Publicize the presentation; invite the local paper and the general public. They will come to honor your recipient.

R.: W.: Stu Smith, Assistant Grand Lecturer, is working hard with the other Districts to make the Degrees in Rochester on March 29th a memorable event for all participants. Give him a call at 315-597-9763 to help or give him encouragement in this enormous undertaking. You can also be a Mentor or Shepherd for a new Brother and help with his understanding of the new Masonic Education Course in place of the Questions and Answers.

Encourage your Wardens and Deacons to take the Road to the East Course in Dansville on February 15th. All Masons can gain from taking the Course, even if you have taken it in the past. I've taken it three times, but there is always something new to learn. I also eat my share of the donuts!

Take it easy on the roads in this Winter weather. It's still very enjoyable to travel to Lodge meetings at home or in the District or even in the State with some Brethren. If the weather turns bad that day, you may have to change your plans. But most days, you will be able to proceed as planned. We need to plan more. I'm guilty, too, of not calling ahead of time. But we can change. I've been told that what you get out of Masonry is always greater than what you put into it. I haven't been disappointed. Give R.: W.: Jim Frind or me a call if we can assist you in anyway. We'll be around.



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Thank you, Brother David G. Cromwell

Drumlin Square Lodge No. 1180
 1st & 3rd Wed.

 Master R.: W.: Edward C. Lonneville 315-986-1489
 Secretary R.: W.: William C. Jones 315-986-9150
 Palmyra Masonic Hall 161 E. Main St., Palmyra

In all likelihood you will receive this newsletter a few days prior to January 1, 2003. It is the hope of your Master and all the Officers of the Lodge that you and your families have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Due to the fact that the first Wednesday of the coming year falls on New Year's Day, there will be no Communication. In keeping with the By-Laws; Article II section 4 states: No communications shall be held on any legal holiday nor the eve thereof.

The January 15th Communication will be a regular business meeting, and planning for a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night to be held on January 29th. With the advent of the Grand Master's One-Day Class to be held on Saturday, March 29th, this Lodge must make a concerted effort to find any and all possible potential candidates to take the three Degrees of Freemasonry, and become members of this Lodge.

This One-Day Class is designed to encourage good men in our communities who do not have the time to join our ranks in the conventional manner, to come into our Fraternity. Those who do submit an application for membership will be interviewed and balloted on, after paying the normal initiation fee, in the conventional manner, and it must be done by this Lodge prior to March 5th. They will then be asked to attend the One-Day Class to be held at East Rochester High School on the 29th. They will receive all the Degrees in their entirety, with the finest Ritualists available, who have auditioned for the various parts and held rehearsals. Although many comments have come to light with this event, it is not really the first time a one-day class has been held in this State, as many may think. It was quite popular during the First World War, and was conducted by Sea and Field Lodges, who were chartered at the time to serve those who were about to depart for combat in Europe.

It is an ideal opportunity for all of us who know and admire many of the professional and business men of the community to invite them to this Brother Bring-a-Friend Night so that we may educate them to the principles that Masonry's greatest hope is to take "good men and make them

better sons, husbands, and fathers." The Master has asked the Secretary to chair this event, with the hopes that you, our members, will get behind this effort and invite those whom you would like to see become members of "your Lodge," to come and see who we are and what we have to offer. If you know someone who you would like to "sit" with in your Lodge, contact the Secretary ASAP for a Petition For Initiation and Advancement, so we may start the proper procedures.

With this Lodge being a few weeks over a year old, with the strides that have been made, and those that are in the making and planning, Drumlin Square is becoming a Lodge to be proud of, and will soon be one of the most active Lodges within the District. New and innovative members are needed and wanted with active participation. No more listening to "we never did it that way before;" if it's within the Constitution of Grand Lodge, and our By-Laws, we should make every effort to convey to the men of the Community we are a viable force for the good of our towns and the Southwest part of Wayne County, and that we want to grow with them being a part of us.

VAMC

 Canandaigua, NY
 Reporter Harold Bollotin

Gift Wrap Session

On Tuesday, December 10th, the Annual Gift Wrap Session was held in the Auditorium of Building 5. As usual, it was a festive and hectic event. A good-sized crowd of volunteers participated. Our seven volunteers, representing the Masonic Service Bureau, were: Tom and Cora Paglia, Sylvia and myself, Larry and Marge Hood, and June Moon. An estimated 1,800 gifts were wrapped for the patients.

Gift Distribution

On Sunday, December 22nd, the Annual Holiday Gift Distribution was made. After a briefing and assignment of Wards, the volunteers proceeded to their respective Wards. This was our last visit to the VAMC for 2002.

2003

Visits are scheduled for January 5th, February 9th, March 9th, April 6th, October 5th and November 9th at 1:15 p.m. in Ward 8A.

Volunteer Awards

The Annual VA Volunteer Awards Banquet will be held at the Burgundy Basin Inn on April 25th at 11:30 a.m.

For further information, contact Tom Paglia at 227-2046.

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Scottish Rite NEWS

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



Commander-in-Chief



Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°

"And Crown Thy Good with Brotherhood From Sea to Shining Sea!"

Fall 2002 Reunion

Congratulations to Ill. Myron L. Dox, 33°, our Fall 2002 Class Sponsor, and to the new Sublime Princes of the Valley of Rochester:

Sublime Prince William Armstrong (Sponsored by Sublime Prince Derek E. Van Houten, DSA), was elected Class president;

Sublime Prince Nathan Dolce, (Sponsored by Sublime Prince Robert Roys);

Sublime Prince David King (Sponsored by Distinguished Brother Vernon Goodrich, 32° MSA);

Sublime Prince Lewis Perna (Sponsored by Sublime Prince George Nasra);

Sublime Prince Carl Preddy (Sponsored by Ill. Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°), was elected Class Secretary.

At the conclusion of the Thirty-Second Degree, each new Sublime Prince was presented with his name badge and 32° Pin. A personal "Letter of Welcome and Congratulations," written by the Class Sponsor, was then read and presented to each new Sublime Prince. On the following day, a lengthy phone conversation was held with Past Commander-in-Chief, Ill. Myron L. Dox, 33°, thanking him for being our Class Sponsor.

Reunion Degree Series

Special thanks to our very dedicated team of Officers and members

who spent many hours planning and organizing the Degree series:

Ill. John E. Zabel, 33°, Director of Directors;

Sublime Princes Herbert Spencer and Peter J. Van Elzaker, Class Committee Co-Chairs;

Sublime Prince Clifford N. Hayner II, Ninth Degree Director; Sublime Prince Robert D. Pedersen, Fourteenth Degree Director;

Sublime Prince Eldon White, Fifteenth Degree Director;

Sublime Prince Norman P. Austin, Eighteenth Degree Director;

Sublime Prince Philip A. Trautman, Twenty-Second Degree Director;

Ill. Charles O. Hancock, 33°, Thirty-Second Degree Ceremonial Section Director;

Sublime Prince Steven M. Lysenko, Thirty-Second Degree Allegory Section Director;

Sublime Prince James A. Slocum, Engineer and Seneschal (Sublime Princes Demarco, Fredenburg, Freeman, Gelder, King, Ludwig and Williams: Stage Assistants);

Distinguished Brother Frank T. Jansson, 32° MSA, Director of Wardrobe and Properties;

Sublime Prince Paul Kober, Makeup;

Sublime Prince William J. Kuehne, DSA, Organist;

Sublime Prince Leon Randall, Sound Engineer;

Valley of Buffalo, AASR: Twenty-Third Degree Presentation.

In an effort to provide Degree information for those in attendance, a special Stated Fall Rendezvous Folder was prepared and distributed. Special thanks to our Office Manager, Ms. Julie Pettis, for her special efforts in coordinating all of the information in this document.

Brotherhood and Patriotism

In an impressive and very touching setting, we watched as the banner of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry and the flag of our Coun-

try were brought together. Distinguished Brother R. Curtiss Montgomery, 32° MSA, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Valley of Buffalo, provided a very inspirational delivery of the significance. It was fitting that time was taken later in the program to celebrate with Grand Honors for those who have served our country during the Viet Nam era, and a fitting tribute to newly created Sublime Prince William Armstrong, a decorated hero of this military action, who served two active tours of combat duty followed by fourteen months as a POW. A special prayer of thanks is extended to all military veterans as well.

We were blessed with the presence that day of military heroes from World War II, Korea, Desert Storm, and other military conflicts. That we are allowed to celebrate religious, civil and intellectual liberties under the beloved banners of our Scottish Rite and United States Flag is a proud, cherished and treasured part of our heritage and tradition.

Special thanks to Ill. John E. Zabel, 33°, who has provided vision and insight to ensure that our Degree presentations continue to stay on target in order that our matrix of all Degrees is completed in the defined five year window; he provided all of the special Invitational Arrangements with the Valley of Buffalo's Team who traveled and presented the Twenty-Third Degree at our Reunion. The presence of their five candidates, Officers and nearly thirty-five members, provided a very meaningful experience as the Thirty-Second Degree was conferred jointly by the Valleys of Buffalo and Rochester. The camaraderie and shared "esprit de corps" provided a very positive setting for the day's events. Special thanks to all of our Sublime Princes who made the day special!

New participation

It was very refreshing to see many new faces participating in major roles in the Degree series. Sublime Princes Michael Morris, Michael Knolla, Distinguished Brother Glenn Hedges, 32° MSA, Norman Austin, George Nasra, and other Sublime Princes as well, displayed proficiency and professionalism in the new work that each had learned. Thank you very kindly for the dedication, hard work, enthusiasm and love of our Craft that each of you has displayed in teaching and sharing the many lessons of our beloved

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry.

Operations Management

At the November "Top Three Officers" Planning Conference, the agenda for in-process and new projects was very lengthy.

The new "Fives Listing Worksheet" has been greeted with enthusiasm by the Officer lines in your Valley. This tool asks for five referrals in the categories of "Reactivating Inactive Sublime Princes," "Reaching Out and Saying Hello" to Master Masons to invite them to join our Consistory and "New Prospects" that can be invited to take their Degrees in the Craft Lodge structure. Special thanks to Sublime Prince Robert D. Pedersen, 1st Lt. Commander, for his special efforts to launch and monitor this program.

The Valley's Five Year Strategic Plan was also reviewed. It is most interesting that we are currently participating in thirty-seven activities (of the fifty-two that are outlined by Supreme Council and our Council of Deliberation).

The Lodge of Perfection, under the leadership of Thrice Potent Master Gary L. Burke, has begun the crusade to contact those who are two years in arrears and near suspension. Please let us know if you are currently faced with a personal challenge that requires our assistance and support.

New Home!

The Scottish Rite Office and Learning Center were moved to their new home in the Lauer's Building at 3300 Monroe Avenue on November 26, 2002. Special thanks to Sublime Prince Peter J. Van Elzaker, Ill. Charles O. Hancock, 33°, Ill. Rodney R. Rittenhouse, 33°, our Office Manager, Ms. Julie Pettis, and all others who assisted in arranging for this move. We again are deeply indebted to the Valley's Facility Planning Team, under the leadership of Sublime Prince Glenn A. Stahl, who provided the vision, direction and strategy for the Valley to move ahead with these projects. Special thanks as well to our membership and Trustees for their positive support and involvement in these two projects. Please make a special note that the Valley has several new contact numbers:

Office Telephone: 264-1160

Office Fax: 264-1161

Toll Free: 1-800-858-2320

New Address:

The Valley of Rochester
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
of Freemasonry
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 320
Rochester, NY 14618.

The Learning Center is located in Suite 330.

On Saturday, November 30th, the Costumes and Properties were moved from their former cabinets and lockers to appropriately identified storage containers for off-site storage (and retrieval on an as-needed basis). Special thanks to Ill. John E. Zabel, 33°, 2nd Lt. Commander, for his leadership and management in this important part of our moving process.

Grand Master's March 29th Class

As you are all aware, this special one-day event will take place (locally) under the leadership of Sublime Prince Richard Friedman. As the Coordinator for the Concordant Bodies, your Commander-in-Chief will be reaching out for volunteers to assist in the many tasks that need to be completed for this high-impact "breakthrough" event. Ill. Charles O. Hancock, 33°, is the Registration Chair for this event and he will also be soliciting volunteers.

Scottish Rite One-Day Event April 26, 2003

As a follow-up to the Grand Master's One-Day Class effort, the New York Council of Deliberation has been granted a spe-

Valley of Rochester A.A.S.R.

Suite 320

3300 Monroe Ave.

Rochester, N.Y. 14618

Phone: 1-800-858-2320

e-mail: srroch1@juno.com

C-in-C Steven R. Whittaker
(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

Joseph F. Oelgoetz III

(h) 924-1603

j.oelgoetz@sentrysafe.com

Most Wise Master

Craig T. Mollon

(h) 975-1528, (w) 343-0960

craigmollon@cs.com

Deputy's Representative

Rodney R. Rittenhouse

(h) 223-0488

r.j.rittenhouse@msn.com

Secretary

Charles O. Hancock

(h) 223-1850, (w) 264-1160

FX 264-1161

chancock@frontiernet.net

NYS Council of Deliberation

Frank & Bette Paul

32° Masonic Learning Center

Suite 330, 3300 Monroe Ave.

Rochester, NY 14618

(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:

Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill. Walter E. Webber, 33°

Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill. Robert Clark, 33°

Grand Minister of State

Ill. Harold L. Aldrich

Deputy for the State of New York

Active Members for New York

Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33°

Ill. Gary A. Henningsen

Ill. Frederick D. Greene, 33°

Ill. David P. Spencer, 33°

Active Emeritus Members

Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33°

Ill. Carlton A. Winchester, 33°

Past Deputy for New York

Ill. Bruce Widger, 33°

Past Deputy for New York

Deputy's Representative

Ill. Rodney R. Rittenhouse, 33°

Some people
come into our lives
and quickly go.
Some stay for awhile
and leave footprints
on our hearts
and
we are never
ever the same.

Anonymous

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David P. Crawford



Scottish Rite Worshipful Master Recognition Ceremony

Thursday, January 16, 2003

A celebration and tribute to the
Worshipful Masters of
Genesee Wyoming, Livingston, Monroe,
Ontario-Seneca-Yates and
Wayne Districts
and their service to the Masonic Fraternity

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Place: Milnor Lodge
21 Maple Avenue
Victor, New York

Lodge members, family and friends invited!



cial dispensation from the Sovereign Grand Commander to confer the Scottish Rite Degrees in a very abbreviated ceremony. The Degrees for the Lodge, Council and Chapter will be conferred by "Communication." The Thirty-Second Degree will be presented in full form. The entire process is meant to be no longer than two and one-half hours; the site for the Western New York Consistories that will be presenting this event (Corning, Jamestown, Buffalo, Niagara and Rochester) has yet to be chosen. It is possible that if there are enough candidates, this ceremony may be done more than once during the same day. Stay tuned...

Reach Out and Say Hello

We salute Sublime Prince Robert D. Petersen, 1st Lt. Commander, for his diligence, fortitude and perseverance in leading this critical effort. As opportunities arise for inviting your Lodge Brothers to join the Scottish Rite, the new special one-day class removes many of the often quoted obstacles; seize this as a positive opportunity. Remember, only two of every ten of your Lodge Brothers in the Craft Lodge is a member of the Scottish Rite; what a unique opportunity to solicit the other eight!

Day of Tebeth

The Council again provided a new, unique event this past December, an Obligatory Day Program called the Day of Tebeth. Special thanks to Sublime Prince Dr. George Nasra, for making the arrangements that brought our Deputy Grand Master, the R.W. and Ill. Edward R. Trosin, 33°, for this special program presentation in Cathedral Hall.

Treasurer

We welcome Distinguished Brother Donald M. Rose, 32° MSA, as the new Treasurer of our Valley. Don brings many years of professional experience as an accountant and financial planner to this position.

DeMolay Advisor Recruitment

The Most Wise Master of our Chapter of Rose Croix, Distinguished Brother Craig T. Mollon, 32° MSA, and his staff of Officers are in the process of soliciting those Master Masons who have an interest in becoming part of a DeMolay Advisory Council. It is our intention to recruit and train a group of ten Master Masons before applying for reinstatement of Rochester Chapter's Charter. Please take a moment and contact Craig if you are so inclined.

Place of meeting

Under the direction and management of your Valley's Facilities Planning Team, the Office, Learning Center and Costumes and Properties have been carefully moved.

Our next area of attention is the "Place of Meeting" issue and series of issues that are related to the same. Many of you have taken the time to call and express your concern about the importance of having a dedicated place to meet on a regular basis. As part of our long term vision, your planning team has directed its counsel to focus on several basic process and corporate issues relating to the current lease expiration, future potential proposals, corporate accountability and operation of the holding corporation, etc. From a business management focus, we will provide careful and attentive review of each of these items.

Future Valley meetings and programs will be scheduled with due and timely notice.

As history repeats itself, we have much to learn from other Masonic

communities within New York State who have transitioned from a centralized "downtown or centralized Temple" environment. Case studies from Binghamton, Buffalo and Syracuse have shown how different unique approaches, over extended periods of time, have provided new meeting homes under several different, unique sets of conditions.

As Scottish Rite Freemasonry in Western New York continues to reshape itself for future survival, one can only wonder at what kind of future "home" we may have. By continuing to work together, plan together, listen carefully to each other, provide interesting and appropriate value for our customers and consider the future of our organizations related to the critical mass of each, there is faith that we can plan for those who will carry each of our banners in the future; let us not make it burdensome for them.

A Quote

"My Grandfather told me there are two categories of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit; he told me always to be in the first group, there will always be less competition there." *Mark Twain*

Stay tuned for the special "January Worshipful Master's Recognition Program!"

The Secretaries Corner

Patience as a virtue is ever under test. Ours is being strained. Your dues notices are late in being mailed out. Unfortunately, Supreme Council prepares both our dues notices and membership cards and packages both together for mailing. We in the Valleys are not allowed to do that so we are at their mercy as to when they may be mailed out. They are seriously behind schedule due to implementation problems with their Membership Development System (MDS). Please bear with us.

As we attempt to work with some of our members who are in arrears with the payment of dues and assessments, we note some confusion that needs to be cleared up. Specifically, dues notices and membership cards are, and have been for several years now, mailed together at the same time. The membership card is enclosed and is part of that notice. Possession of a membership card is not proof of dues payment. In fact, everyone receiving a dues notice receives a membership card. Record of payment is made in the Valley Office and then logged in the Supreme Council MDS records. If you are in doubt as to your payment status, please call the Valley Office for an update on your current status.

All members are required to pay assessments.

The New 32° Masonic Center

The move of our Valley Office to Suite 320 Pittsford Place Mall, 3300 Monroe Avenue, is complete. There are, despite repeated past assurances from Frontier to the contrary, several phone number changes. For a limited time you can continue to reach the Valley Office at 271-0715, but that number will change to 264-1160 and our FAX number is 264-1161. For the benefit of those members outside the local dialing area, we have added a new 800 number - 1-800-858-2320.

The new numbers for the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children are: phone 264-1690 and FAX 264-1692.

At your convenience, please stop by and see the new Office and tour the Learning Center.

The Fall 2002 Class Members of the Valley of Buffalo and the Valley of Rochester.



Distinguished Brother Frank Jansson, 32° MSA, receiving plaque for dedicated service.



Commanders-in-Chief of the Valley of Rochester and the Valley of Buffalo, Ill. Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°, and Distinguished Brother R. Curtiss Montgomery, 32° MSA.

Family Life "Toys for Tots" Event
It was disappointing that the "Toys for Tots" Family Life event had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. Only thirteen individuals signed up for the event.

Day of Adar Celebration
The Valley of Rochester will be celebrating The Day of Adar, which is a Scottish Rite day of obligation. It celebrates the completion of the building the second Temple.

The event will follow the format of a Table Lodge with formal toasting. The event is scheduled for Thursday, February 20th. Location is still to be determined. Social hour will begin at 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 7:30 p.m. The special guest for this event is R.W. Richard C. Friedman, Past Grand Junior Warden for the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Cost of the event is \$20.00. This is a stag event and is for Scottish Rite members only. Dress is suit & tie - black tie optional. Reservations must be sent with check to the Scottish Rite office to arrive no later than Friday, February 14th. Walk-ins or phone reservations will not be accepted. Call the Scottish Rite office for more information at 264-1160.

The Boston Marathon April 23, 2003
The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children were granted 10 charitable entries in the 2003 Boston Marathon. This means that the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction can enter 10 runners who will not have to qualify.

The objective of this event is to utilize it as a fund raising opportunity. The plan is to have each runner selected commit to raising no less than \$5,000 from family, friends, business associations, Masonic organizations, etc., to sponsor a Child at his/her designated Learning Center.

This opportunity is to be open to all Valleys within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction on a first-come, first-served basis. Therefore, we at the Valley of Rochester have an opportunity to be one of those ten entries. Do you know of someone (a runner I hope) who would consider this charitable opportunity. If you do, contact the individual and then get his name



Sublime Princes, Ill. Myron L. Dox, 33°, Class, are (l. to r.) David King, Carl Preddy, Nathan Dolce, William Armstrong and Lewis Perna.

to the Valley of Rochester Office Phone number: 264-1160.

Mention that it is for the Boston Marathon Learning Center opportunity. This is a great way to generate enough money to sponsor a child for one year. Potential runners are not limited to Masons. It can be anyone in the community at large.

The Frank & Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children

This is the third in a series of short talks on the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children. Today's discussion is to provide an overview of Dyslexia and the method used by The 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children to combat it -- The Orton-Gillingham method.

Dyslexia is a neurologically-based disorder, which interferes with acquisition and processing of language. Varying in degrees of severity, it is manifested by diffi-

culties in receptive and expressive language, including reading, writing, spelling and sometimes arithmetic. Dyslexia is not a result of lack of motivation, sensory impairment, inadequate instructional or environmental opportunities, or other limiting conditions, but may occur together with these conditions. Those suffering

Continued on page 15

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

York Rite NEWS

York Rite College
Judah Maccabeus

Palmyra/Eagle Chapter No. 79

1st Mon. 7:30 p.m.



High Priest
Cyril White
315-597-9546
Sec.
R. Stuart Smith
161 E. Main St., Palmyra 14522

A tip of the hat and a big thank you to all the Companions who made the 8th Cryptic District Grand Lecturer's Convention a success. It was good rehearsal for the Select Master Degree. And, it will stand us in good stead for the District's Festival on March 22nd in Hornell. The weather did not co-operate as well as it could have, but as we say in the old country, "It could have been worse."

The 8th Cryptic District's Festival will be on us in short order. To give cast members and understudies time to learn and/or review their parts it will be necessary to make assignments. (Illustrious Masters that have not sent in their list of potential participants, please do so immediately. You can forward it by e-mail to me at ukcy@juno.com; Fax me at 315-597-4913; or call me at 315-597-9546.) Luckily we have volunteers for MOST of the cast but we do need additional names. Also it will be necessary to have a rehearsal in the actual Chapter room where the Degrees will be performed. (Why in the actual Chapter room? Because we need to know the layout, logistics, acoustics, etc., for that particular location.) Keep tuned -- more information will be forthcoming.

Official Visits

January 2nd - Palmyra Council No. 26

January 27th - Nundawaga Council No. 92

Talking about Official Visits, I must say how much I have enjoyed the experiences afforded me by my visits so far. I'm looking forward to seeing the "hometown Companions" in Palmyra, and then on to Nundawaga to wrap-up my Official Visits for this Cryptic year. By saying this, I don't plan on disappearing until next year!

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

We pray our members had a wonderful Christmas with their families. This is that time of year when everything seems to be all right. A New Year 2003 is almost upon us and with it comes new challenges in our lives and in our Chapters. The years go by on the calendars and our own lives at an ever-increasing rate of speed. We cannot do anything about the toll that the years do to us except to use the remaining years we have to assure that our Chapters do not

suffer the same end. We are all destined to an end here on earth, but our Chapters of Royal Arch Masons are not, should not, and can not be destined to this same end. The answer to prevent this end is ever so simple: Members, yes MEMBERS. What my Chapter is to be, is up to me in 2003. Let each and every one of us promise and vow to bring in a petition of a future member in 2003. Remember we did agree in a group of three, now let's do it.

Excelsior Chapter had its Election and Installation of the following Officers at our December 9th Convocation with 12 present: H.P., L. Ronald Edwards; King, Vern Trickey; Scribe, Ronald Bertie; Secretary/Treasurer, George Stanton, Jr.; Captain of the Host, Roger Haich; Principal Sojourner, Joseph W. Proctor, Jr.; Royal Arch Captain, Michael Taylor; Master of the 3rd Veil, Joseph D. Nye II; Master of the 2nd Veil, Norm Holcomb; Master of the 1st Veil, Cullen O. Henry; Sentinel, Oliver Amesbury.

The vote was unanimous for Excelsior Chapter to adjourn after the December Convocation, resuming labor at the April Convocation and continuing through the Summer till December. This means there will not be any Convocations in January, February or March. We will see you in April.

King David Chapter No. 34 has voted to change their meeting night to the 3rd Tuesday of the month starting in January. This will put all 4 of the Chapters in the 25th Capitular District on different nights, so now we can do our visitations to all the Chapters in the District.

We pray this newsletter finds everyone well and you have a healthy Winter. Stay well. Cheerio.

Enders

We should try to be happy and live within our means, even if we have to borrow money to do it.

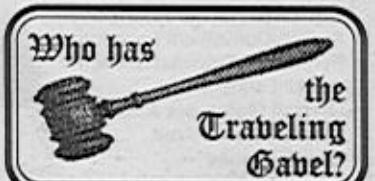
If the world is getting smaller, why do they keep raising the postal rates?

District Deputy Grand High Priest



R.E. Benjamin P. Thorp, Jr.
(585) 346-6542 ddgdp27

I hope everyone had a most enjoyable Holiday Season. I want to congratulate the incoming High Priests and wish them well in the upcoming year. I want to remind you to please forward a copy of your trestleboard to me if you have not done so already. Companions, make sure you have reserved your rooms and made your dinner reservations for Grand Chapter. Your High Priest has the necessary forms. I want to remind the High Priests to canvas your Chapters for Mentors for the upcoming Grand Master's Class on March 29th. That's all for now.



District Deputy Grand High Priest



29th Dist. RAM
R.E. Richard C. Anderson
(585) 493-2203
ddgdp29

Have yourselves a safe and Happy Holiday. Remember others in distress, who could use our help and sympathy, and exercise Friendship and Brotherly Love.

A reminder to everyone in the District that January 10th is the deadline to make room reservations and purchase meal tickets for Grand Chapter in March. Please contact me so I can get this information in on time. Grand Chapter in Albany, March 7th and 8th, please support our District's attendance and witness the Order of the High Priesthood on Friday, March 7th. This is an opportune time to reunite with the Companions and friends throughout New York State.

Arcade Chapter in Pike has rescheduled the MMM and PM Degrees for January 13th, weather permitting. They appreciate your needed help. If any other Chapter has candidates and is in need of help, please make it known.

To the Excellent High Priests in the 29th District, now is the time to complete your trestleboard in order to help you and your Chapter to better fulfill your obligations as RAM's.

V.E. Leonard Mason, AGL, will be visiting each Chapter before Grand Chapter in March. He will be sending notification on the dates.

I thank all in the 29th Capitular District for your help and support in the past 2 years in filling the office of DDGHP.

LeRoy Chapter No. 183 RAM



4th Tues. 7:30 p.m.

HP. E. James R. MacConnell
494-1815
Sec. E. Norman P. Austin
494-2223
8 West Main St., LeRoy

Hopefully, each of you and your families had a wonderful Holiday Season, and with the onset of a New Year upon us, it is once again time to return to our labors in the quarries.

At our November meeting, we held our annual Election of Officers, and the following Companions are now among those having been elected to serve our Chapter for the ensuing year:

High Priest	James R. MacConnell
King	Cordyn C. Durney
Scribe	Garry R. Hutcherson
Treasurer	Karl-Heinz Reich
Secretary	Norman P. Austin
Capt. Of Host	Harry L. Tyson
P. Sjr.	Karl-Heinz Reich
RA Capt.	Ruel R. Lovett
Trustee	Donald R. Reed

The appointed Officers will be selected at our January meeting.

Our sincere thanks are extended to the Wayne County Shrine Club, for their most generous donation of \$100 to the LeRoy Chapter No. 183 RAM Scholarship Fund, in apprecia-

tion for R.E. Karl-Heinz M. Reich's providing them with musical services.

Companions, dues notices have been mailed out: if you have not yet remitted your dues, your card is awaiting you.

Our next meeting will take place on the 28th of this month: we look forward to seeing you in Chapter as we begin a New Year.

Doric Council

No. 19 Cryptic Masons
(Chartered 1861) 3rd Wed.



Ill. Master
John A. Dudley
(h) 586-6426
jdudley1@rochester.rr.com

Donald W. Wright, Recorder
621-5764
875 Main St. E., Rochester 14805

We are about to kick off our *Annual Fight Against Parkinson's Disease Charity Campaign*. Please give from your heart to this very worthy fight. There are now three lifetime membership levels: Sponsor Level, Up to \$50.00; Patron Level, \$50.01 to \$100.00; Grand Master Level, \$500.00 and over. Donations may be sent to John Dudley, 57 Park Road, Pittsford, NY 14534. Last year we came in second and, with your assistance, we could finish first this year. We actually donated more per member than any other Council.

No one has called with the combination of the Doric Council safe. We will try to open it without damaging it so we can sell it before we move. If you would like to purchase the safe, please call me or Recorder, Donald Wright, 621-2382.

We have one petition in at this time; however, we are looking for others. If you need a petition for one of your Masonic (Royal Arch) friends, please let me know and I will mail or e-mail one to you. I think it is important to support the Blue Lodges and Chapters so we can build our support base and build a potential candidate base.

Last month I helped Northfield Lodge get the Traveling Gavel and helped at the Lodge Child ID Program. I got great satisfaction from participating in each of these activities and helping to build fellowship by supporting and protecting the community.

At our November meeting we voted unanimously to move to Northfield Lodge in Pittsford, NY. The York Rite Planning Committee found options for our future home that were presented at the meeting. No information was received from the TCC. There has been a lot of hearsay information, but nothing that has been put in writing. Of the Lodges in the final running, Northfield Lodge was the most centrally located.

Five of our members, M.I.: Bill Whittaker, Companion Dennis Gellasch, R.I.: Charles Roberts, R.I.: William Zufall and myself attended the Grand Lecturer's Convention in Palmyra on December 5th. We all had a good time at the Convention with great fellowship in the kitchen after the meeting.

Edmund (Ted) Harrison has agreed to be our Guest of Honor/ Speaker for our Doric Table Council on April 23rd. If you have heard Ted speak in the past,

you know what a treat you are in for on April 23rd.

Remember that we meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month and have a delicious meal before each meeting. If you want to attend the dinner, please contact Edward Walker at 647-2382 with your reservation and your meal choice. See you at Council.

Palmyra Council

No. 26 Cryptic Masons
1st. Thur. 8:00 p.m.

Master

I. Lee L. Collier, Sr.
(315) 589-8146

Secretary

David W. Taber
388-0629

Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street

The Council will welcome its own Rt. Ill. Companion Cyril White, District Deputy Illustrious Grand Master for the Eighth Cryptic District, on his Official Visit on January 2nd. The meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. There will not be a dinner before hand. Palmyra Eagle Chapter No. 79 of Royal Arch Masons will have their monthly meeting at 6:45 p.m. prior to the Council meeting.

The February Assembly usually is held in Shortsville Temple. If the Chapter requests to meet prior to our meeting again, we may have to meet in Palmyra. Further notice will be given in the February issue.

Nundawaga Council

No. 92

4th Monday
West Main Street
LeRoy, NY 14482

Ill. Charles H. Lee
Master - 343-2819

Ill. Vernon Rupert
Recorder - 343-8429

Golden Anniversary Year Dawns

As Master of Council, I greet each of you, readers, as the New Year 2003 begins. This will be a notable year since it marks the 50th Anniversary of Nundawaga Council's charter. The Officers of Grand Council will officially celebrate this with a Rededication Ceremony on Saturday, July 19th, at the LeRoy Masonic Hall. More details will be announced as plans are finalized.

Grand Council Official Visits

On Monday, January 27th, the District Deputy Grand Master, R.I. Cyril "Cy" White, will make his Official Visit to our Council. An opportunity for dinner with the Deputy is being arranged for 6:00 p.m. at the L.B. Grand Restaurant, within walking distance from the Temple. Officers and members, this is your invitation from the Master to join him for dinner. We will order from the menu and it will be your treat to yourself that night before the meeting. Light refreshments will follow the meeting during the fellowship time.

If you have an e-mail address, please bring that information to the Master that night. Now that I have e-mail, I am endeavoring to compile such a list, which will be shared with the District Deputy for more prompt communica-


tions with you regarding Cryptic events and activities.

At our February 24th meeting, the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work, R. I. Stephen A. Licht, will have his Official Visit to his home Council. Further details in the next *Masonic Times*.

8th Cryptic District Festival
Hornellsville Council No. 35 at the Masonic Temple in Hornell will host our 8th Cryptic District Festival, Saturday, March 22nd, starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending about 4:00 p.m. This depends on whether or not the Super Excellent Master Degree is conferred. A lunch will be held at noon at the Temple.

Companions from Nundawaga Council, petitions are in order and are urgently needed to make this festival a success. Members of your Council will be involved. I know for certain at this writing that I. Kenneth E. Kohlhaugen will portray King Solomon in the Select Master Degree. Sideliners will be used for some lesser parts, so come and participate. You'll find it enjoyable and educational as well. It is expected that the Grand Master will be present for the Festival.

Batavia Commandery
No. 34
Knights Templar
2nd & 4th
Thursdays



Commander
SK Vernon L. Rupert 343-8429
Recorder
SK Allen L. Capwell 786-3897
39 Main Street, Attica


The Holiday Season will be nearly over by the time this issue is published and it is hoped that everyone had a Merry Christmas and will have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The Christmas Observance was held on December 12th with about 40 Sir Knights and their ladies and guests taking part. The program took place at tables placed in the form of a cross diagonally across the Lodge Room. Brother Chet Banach provided music for the Carols during the Observance and during the social period that followed.

Following the program, refreshments were served in the downstairs dining room, which was decorated for the holidays. Snacks, cookies and a Birthday Cake was furnished by the Ladies of the Commandery.

At the January Conclaves we will be polishing up on the requirements for our Inspection, which will be held on May 8th. Annual Reports will be presented at the January 23rd Conclave.

Sagoyewatha
Commandery No. 17
3rd Sat., 9 a.m.



Commander
SK Lawrence E. Hood
(585) 396-9848
Rec. SK David Taber
(585) 388-0629
Phelps, NY

Christmas Observance
Our Annual Christmas Observance was held on Saturday, December 21st, and was very well attended, even with the expected inclement weather that was predicted. Seems like everyone was in the Christmas spirit and disregarded the weather!

Thanks

A special thank you to SK William Kuehne, whose Christmas Carol renditions on the organ put us all into the spirit of Christmas, along with Lady Isabel Henry's (I should have said "Izzy") capable leadership in the singing of the Christmas Carols.

We had an abundant, delicious assortment of finger foods, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, etc., prepared by our Ladies, Marge Hood, and Shirley Wells, ably assisted by SK Ron Edwards. A special thanks from Sagoyewatha Commandery Sir Knights and visitors for their yummmies, hard work and dedication to our Commandery.


Saturday, January 18th

Don't forget this important date. It's the Western Regional Seminar, which will be held at our Commandery, starting at 10:00 a.m. The dress is casual; no uniforms, swords, etc. Three topics will be discussed by SK V. Em. Paul Barrera, Jr., Deputy Grand Commander; SK George Knorr, Eminent Grand Generalissimo; and SK Jeffrey Williamson, Commander of Lake Erie Commandery No. 20. I am hoping for a good turnout from all the Commanderies in our area for this Seminar. Let's show our support even if the weather is unstable in Phelps.

We haven't had a regular Conclave in the past two months, due to the School of Instruction and this Seminar falling on our regular conclave dates. So, Sir Knights, be prepared for a few extra rehearsals in February, as our Inspection is in March. The Ritual requirements have been assigned for several months, so I presume that aspect is covered. The Sword Manual will be rehearsed at our February conclave, as this will determine the extra rehearsals required prior to our Inspection.

My Lady, Marge, and I send our sincere good wishes for happiness in the coming year.

Cyrene Monroe
Commandery No. 12
Chartered 1993
3rd Monday
Commander
SK Benjamin P. Thorp, Jr.
347-6542
Recorder
SK Lawrence W. Dunn
594-8033



I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season. I want to remind everyone that we will be holding our January meeting in our new location at Northfield Lodge in Pittsford. If you need directions please call John Dudley at 586-6426.

Now that the dust is starting to settle, we need to start getting ready for our inspection in May. I expect all the Officers to start getting their parts down as we will be rehearsing from now on.

As you are aware, our trustees have been doing an ongoing inventory in preparation for the moving of our armory to Northfield. I am asking all Sir Knights to please contact the Secretary or myself with a list of the things in your possession that are on loan to you from our armory. This includes swords, chapeaus, or anything else you might have. I am also asking all past commanders to please let us know if you have one of our jewels. If you know someone who is no longer active or has dropped his membership, please contact him regarding what he might have. This is the first time in a long while that we will have an up-to-date inventory.

So please take a few minutes and check see what you have. Thank you in advance for your help. I also want to remind everyone that the area seminar will be held on Saturday, January 18th at Sagoyewatha Commandery in Phelps. I would expect all the Officers to be there and as many Sir Knights as possible.

Secretary's Corner

Continued from page 13

from dyslexia are typically of average or above average intelligence. Dyslexia is not a disease and it cannot be cured. Unfortunately, this affliction often leads to emotional, confidence and self-esteem problems.

It is estimated that Dyslexia affects approximately 2 million school-age children in the United States. Dyslexia is considered a specific language disability. Other learning disabilities may or may not be present. It is a disorder that exists across a continuum, with varying manifestations depending on the individual. Some characteristics of a dyslexic child are difficulty saying the alphabet correctly in sequence; difficulty in forming shapes of letters; difficulty in writing the alphabet in sequence; errors in naming letters; reversals, additions, transpositions, omissions and substitutions when reading or writing; difficulty in learning and remembering the printed word; difficulty with handwriting; and difficulty with reading comprehension. Although dyslexia is lifelong, individuals with dyslexia frequently respond successfully to timely and appropriate intervention.

Testing and evaluation of dyslexia is important to better understand the problem. Test results provide a basis for planning educational programs, and often

determine the eligibility for special programs. Testing should be done by a professional, and should include developmental background, an academic and behavioral history, intellectual measurements, tests of language skills and educational achievement skills.

The 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children utilizes the Orton-Gillingham method to train individuals in dealing with dyslexia. Teachers go through a one-year training program on the Orton-Gillingham method. The Orton-Gillingham system is based on sound/symbol associations employing all of the learning pathways of auditory, visual, kinesthetic and tactile -- hearing, seeing, feeling and touching. This method is very effective in the remediation of the reading, spelling and writing skills of dyslexic students. The teachers use the Orton-Gillingham method on a one-on-one basis with each student. This multi-sensory method is structured to each student to meet the student's specific need. The average improvement is in excess of two grade levels in reading, writing, spelling and other cognitive skills.

The Frank & Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children's new home is:
The Lauer Building - third floor
- Pittsford Place Mall,
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 330
in Pittsford.
Telephone: 442-7290;
Fax: 442-3173

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Attention!
All current residents of the
Downtown Temple, Rochester.

All paraphernalia, furniture and equipment must be moved from the Downtown Temple by January 31st. Masonic Bodies moving to the same location are advised to coordinate their moves with one carrier.

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Lalla Rookh GROTTO

News

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian

Alfred Pulcino III, Monarch

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



Alfred
Pulcino III
Monarch

I sure hope you all had a great holiday and I wish all a very happy New Year and healthy one, too. I hope I survive another year as Monarch of Lalla Rookh Grotto. Most of all, I hope I get it right this time around. It sure was a learning and great experience in 2002, with lots of things going on all the time. Without the help of the Officers and Prophets, and most of all the ladies, the year would have been a nightmare, not just for me, but for all of us. With that, I do, from the bottom of my heart, thank all of you for your support, help and understanding this past year. I sure do hope you all had a good time.

Moving

Well, most of us know that this is our last month at our present location downtown. At this time, the new location will be out to the Damascus Shrine Center at 979 Bay Road, Webster, 14580-1736. We will have our meetings there and are working on a temporary office at that site until the new Masonic Service building is built at the same location. So you know what that means...we will all need to pitch in for the big move in some way. Most know we have been in this process for the past year with not much knowledge as to where we were headed. I do believe we have made the best choice for us. No long hall, elevator or steps to take. The Shrine building has a controlled environment and plenty of parking. You can even be dropped off right at the door! Most of all, this location can be used all year long. I am hoping this will be our home for a long time to come.

As we all know, change is always tough. Hopefully, we are going to make this change and accept it for the best. Time will work out all the little things, but

we do have a new home for the Grotto. In between Lodge, Masonic War Vets, Shrine, we have to start packing up stuff. Aye, aye, aye! So at this time we will have our January 15th meeting on the 3rd floor of the Downtown Temple in one of the Lodge rooms. You don't want to miss out on this start of the year meeting; we will go over our next steps. I am working on attaining female entertainment, but, first of all, our social time will start at 5:00 p.m., and dinner is at 6:30 p.m. I do believe it's going to be an Italian dish of some kind. (I did it...made the request, that is!)

Meetings

For our new, and some of our older, Prophets, Grotto Board of Governors meeting is always on the first Monday of the month. Grotto meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month. All Prophets are welcome to attend both of these meetings.

Our February 4th Board meeting is on, but at this time, I'm not sure where it will be held. Hopefully, it will be at the Shrine Center. I'm working on it. February 19th is our first meeting planned at the Damascus Shrine Center and, to make it more fun, I'm planning on making it open to all. That means the ladies and whoever else would like to join us are invited for some fun entertainment...should be chaos! More information on this meeting in the next *Masonic Times*.

December ayes

As I believe I stated, December was aye, aye month. I should have added another aye!

The December Board meeting was a little on the meek side; the weather was real iffy. We had lots of munchies for those of us who were there. It was ok with me!

The next Sunday, the 8th, was our Tag-a-Long trip out to East Shelby. Those of us who braved the weather, about eight couples, had a great time. Those of you who sat home sure did miss out on a good time with all the homemade cookies, candy, cakes, etc. Lots and lots of things to eat, free! They had craft things to make, sleigh rides, a live Nativity scene with all the animals and a bonfire. Needless to say, it was great! It was blustery cold, but fun.

The sleigh driver informed us that the original settlers came

Attend Grotto Meetings

Mon., January 6th - Board of Governor's Meeting
Grotto Office 7:00 p.m.

Wed., January 8th - Caldron Meeting 8:00 p.m.

Wed., January 18th - Grotto Social hour 5:00 p.m.,
Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Meeting 7:30 p.m.

Mon., January 20th - Legion of Honor - Bosdyk's Rest.
Social hour 5:00 p.m.,
Dinner 6:00 p.m.

Sat., January 25th - Holiday Party Valicia's Ristorante
Social hour 5:30 p.m.,
Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Enjoy the Fellowship

from Boston, Massachusetts, in the middle of January in open sleighs. They must have been part Eskimo, for it surely was chilly! On Wednesday night of the 11th, some of us rang bells for the Red Kettle Drive. We had a very nice turnout for this first-time event.

The President of the ESGA, Michael Bell, too big of a title; Richard Topel; his brother, plain old Howard Topel; Past Monarch's Kenneth Hutchinson, and Ronald Morthorst; Prophets Kenneth Rhodes, Ernest Swan and one of our newest Prophets, Doug Jones. Oh, yea, me, too! I hope I didn't forget anyone. Don Freeman was a drive-by, and for you guys who told your ladies you were there, oh well, you will be there next time. We all had a good time and helped our fellow man.

On Friday the 13th, Greg Ludwig, Gerald Spero and, by phone, Brian Bill offered to help after work and we started to set up for our first Annual All Masonic Bodies Children's Christmas Party. We worked hard for about 3 hours in the morning. Barb Goodrich and Don Brugger had a hand in it, also. That evening, Shirley, Kris and Tom Daniels, sister Cindy Green, nephew Cris and I spent a few hours putting on the final touches. All was set for Saturday's party.

There were about 40 children and twice as many adults. Everyone was having a great time. Thank you to all who pitched in helping to man stations, etc. I believe the adults had as much fun as the children! Big thanks to Bill Hook and his lady, Helen, for their behind the scenes assistance and for the ice cream; Michael and Doris Bell for providing and wrapping the gifts for those who forgot to bring one; and to their daughter-in-law for the great pinata. The little ones had a great time with that. Oh boy, when it broke open, look out! I do believe all had lots and lots of fun.

The Brethren, who did not participate for whatever reason, sure missed out. Your little ones are the ones who missed a nice party, put on by the Masons. Don't let it happen again! Next year we hope to hold this at the Shrine and I sure hope ALL Masonic



Santa (Monarch Al) with 2 year old Ireland Sutton.



Santa and Mrs. Claus singing "Jingle Bells" with the children in the gaily decorated Cathedral Hall. (Photos courtesy Ken Hutchinson)



Participants, (front) Shirley Kothiringer, Doris and Michael Bell, (back) Linda Bryant, Norm Austin, and Ken Rhodes, in the Grotto "Tag-A-Long" trip to East Shelby for an 18th Century Christmas Day.

Bodies will be involved. That will make it more fun.

"On the Road Again"

Oh, boy! I thought I was done with all this pencil and paper stuff, but I need to tell about out of town events. First of all, the date of the Installation for Farrah Grotto in Warren, PA, is January 5th. It will be an Open Installation at their Club, starting at 1:00 p.m., with a buffet.

Then it's off to Zuleika in Buf-

falo on January 16th for their installation, starting at 8:00 p.m. this year. Theirs is closed.

Last, but not least, is Zafar in South Williamsport, PA, on January 18th, starting with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. at their Club and this Installation is open.

The big trip to cure the Winter blues is the planned Sweetheart Weekend in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. The dates are February 7th and 8th. We will stay at



"Not again! He didn't know where he was going, and didn't know where he was when he got there".

January 2003

the Hampton Inn. This is a first-time event and sure does sound like fun. The casino is right down the street. Maybe not such a good thing! More information on all of the events will be available in the Office or call me.

Now that's it! God bless ya all, and ya all come back soon! Ciao! ☐

Chief Justice

By Ken Hutchinson

The year 2002 will be remembered as a very memorable year in Grotto history, mostly because of our very active Monarch Alfred Pulcino, III.

In reviewing the activities that come to mind are the out of town trips to other Grottoes; the bus trips to Turning Stone and Toronto; the many Summer picnics; the Officers' and Past Monarchs' Picnic in Al and Shirley's yard; and the formal and informal dinners. There were also the Farrah Grotto's Picnic and our own Golf Tournament.

Our Prophets were there to help in the Have-a-Heart Campaign and ringing the bells for the Salvation Army's Christmas Campaign.

All Masons and their Ladies were invited when we were entertained by the Actors for Catholic Education, and for our first Children's Christmas Party held in recent years. Monarch Al, as the year comes to an end, we all are indebted to you for a job well done.

In closing, I remind all members that the value you receive from your Grotto membership may be measured only by the effort you extend in making yourself an integral part of it: by your willingness to enter into its activities. ☐

Master of Ceremonies

By Jerry Spero

The January meeting is the time when we welcome our new officers and discuss our plans for the new year. Al Pulcino III will again be our Monarch with a new slate of Officers. We need to be there to help lighten the load for Al and share some of the work. I am certain that you will be there for our Monarch as you have in the past.

We have another interesting program planned. I am sure you will enjoy it as much as the first program last year.

I thank all those who assisted me with the refreshments this past year. You were great! It made light work for everyone so we could really enjoy being there. Times are the usual - 5:00 p.m. for snacks and drinks, with a Macaroni and Meat Balls Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Chicken is also a choice for the dinner. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. and the entertainment will follow. Remember to make reservations with me at 334-7616. ☐

Membership

By Bill Fredenburg

Happy New Year, Prophets. We hope you all had a joyous and wonderful holiday season. The year 2002 was quite successful for Lalla Rookh Grotto as we made several new Prophets. Now we all need to focus our attentions on doing an even better job this year. Plans are being formulated for our activities for the 2003 season. Watch for more information in future *Masonic Times* publications. Let's all get behind our Monarch and bring into Lalla Rookh Grotto more Brother Masons this year than last. Now is the time to talk about our Grotto to your Lodge Brothers and provide them with the infor-

mation available to you from the office. Call Ron Morthorst at 334-4196 or me at 334-4753 for any information that you may need. Thanks to all the Prophets for their efforts in the Membership Programs of last year.

Together we CAN! ☐

Legion of Honor

By Ron Morthorst

As the holiday season is winding down, the year is coming to a close and so is your Commander's year. I thank all the Prophets for their support and help throughout the year.

You will have a new Commander, Jerry Spero, with his Officers, in 2003 who will help your Legion reach new heights.

The Legion of Honor meets the 3rd Monday of each month (this month on January 20th), social hour 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.; dinner at 6:00 p.m. at Bosdyk's Restaurant, Long Pond and Lyell Roads. You order off the menu with individual checks. Reservations are made by calling Jerry Spero at 334-7616 by January 10th, so we can give the restaurant a count to set up for our meeting.

Holiday Party

At our November meeting it was decided to have our Holiday Party in conjunction with our Installation Dinner. Keep this date open - Saturday, January 25th, at Valicia's Ristorante, 2155 Long Pond Road, corner of Lyell Road.

Cocktails are at 5:30 p.m.; Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Your choice of entrée: Chicken French or 8 oz. Prime Rib at \$14.00; Veal Marsala or Sole French at \$16.00.

Reservations can be made by sending your check (please note your choices in the left hand corner of your check). Make checks payable to Jerry Spero, 33 Cobblestone Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. Your check is your reservation. As always, this is an affair that includes your lady, or you may bring a guest. Deadline for reservations is January 20th.

Fellowship

We welcome our new members to our Legion and hope they will come to enjoy the Legion of Honor fellowship as much as I have over the years. It is open to any Grotto member. We are interested in building up our membership. If you are a Mason and a veteran, please feel free to call me at 334-4196 and let's talk about it. You'll be glad you did! There are many new benefits available to all veterans. Call Monarch, Al Pulcino III, at 225-8471, or me.

The Color Guard is in great shape and represents your Legion and Grotto very well. If you would like to join the Honor Guard, you are more than welcome. Contact Bill Fredenburg at 334-4753 today. Thank you, Prophets, for a job well done. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our functions.

I wish all our Prophets and their families a Happy New Year, full of good cheer! ☐

Clowns

By Uncle Al

Happy New Year to all, even to all the Masonic so called clowns. Sure was a big disappointment not to see even 1 of our own at the All Masonic Bodies Children's Christmas Party on December 14th...even after a Masonic call of distress. I do believe we need to sit back and look at ourselves in the mirror and think about that person we see. Are we clowning just for the money? Financial considerations or the notoriety must be hitting close to

home, because I know you are thinking about it now.

Maybe some of us forgot we got into this job to put smiles on faces, and to make others forget about all the problems they might be going through. But, most of all, being Masons, it is to entertain and give joy to children, especially those of our own Masonic Brethren. Clowns sure is the right name to call ourselves. Not to show up for our own Christmas Party is sure being a clown!

Well, I could go on and on, but I already know we all had a good excuse, and so on, and so on. The point is, we need to think about what our purpose is. If I have not embarrassed you yet, stop by and see me or call me, for I do know that I can do a better job of it in person or on the phone! The address is 1406 Long Pond Road, Rochester, NY 14626. The phone number is 225-8471.

God Bless the great Country of the U.S.A. and may we have an even better year in 2003. ☐

Historian's Corner

By Ken Hutchinson

Charter Members of Lalla Rookh Grotto

George F. Loder, PGM, was a Charter Member of Lalla Rookh and our first Monarch. He served as Monarch from 1892 to 1898.

He was also very active in the Supreme Council for a number of years, serving as Grand Master of Ceremonies 1894 to 1896; Deputy Grand Monarch from 1897 to 1899; and Grand Monarch from 1900 to 1901.

As Grand Monarch, he brought the Supreme Council Sessions to Rochester in 1901.

Next, he was one of three Trustees from 1902 to 1911.

A link with the colorful days of Lalla Rookh's past was severed with the death of George F. Loder.

Clarence E. Hedges

The second Monarch of Lalla Rookh Grotto was Clarence E. Hedges, from 1899-1900. At present, there is no other record of him.

Charles M. Colton

Charles was the third Monarch of Lalla Rookh Grotto, in 1901, and served as Secretary for forty-seven years. (See detailed account in the November Grotto News.)

George Edward Hatch

At the same time, George was active in the Supreme Council, serving first as Grand Steward in 1902; Grand Alchemist in 1903; and Grand Marshal in 1904. Activities in 1905 are unknown. He was Grand Keeper of the Archives in 1906; Grand Master of Ceremonies in 1907; Grand Chief Justice in 1908; Deputy Grand Monarch in 1909, and Grand Monarch in 1910, that year the Supreme Sessions were held in Cleveland, Ohio.

George was Grand Secretary from 1924 to 1937. During these same years, Charles M. Colton was Grand Treasurer. Lalla Rookh Grotto was well represented in the early years of the Supreme Council

These Lalla Rookh Past Monarchs charted a different course for themselves, giving of their time and talents for so many years. It can truly be said these were the "Best of the Best." ☐

Caldron News

By Beverly Murray, MCO

Once again it's time to write for the news.

And it's rack your brain to figure out what to tell all of you.

Something funny or witty to chase away your January blues.

It is not old age that has me repeating myself, But I need to thank a few very special elves:

My sister Elaine Miller who baked all the biscuits, Janice Bueg and her fiancé Edward pitched right in with helping on the Chicken and Biscuit Dinner.

And to Bob Bueg and Joe Madison adding two more, Along with Michael Bell who sold bread and donated the money to us bring up the money score. Thank you so very much for your help and support you are very special people.

Our thoughts and prayers go to all those who have been ill or just under the weather, Especially to Dorothy Merritt who is recuperating from a heart attack.

We most certainly hope that each of you are feeling and doing much better.

There were a few Daughters who went to East Shelby for their Christmas event,

It was cold and windy, but the people were warm and friendly and goodies were out of this world,

Cookies of all kinds, cakes and fudge were what caught my eye, Beet soup and pickled herring those who know me know I did not try.

We are looking forward to the next adventure with Monarch Al for their "everything for 1 cent."

Just around the -- corner like the next Saturday was the Children's Christmas Party.

The Caldron looked forward to lending a hand,

With the little ones who find it hard to stand,

Still for there was much to see and do with Santa Claus when he did land.

Calendar dates

February 15th will be our Birthday Banquet - all are welcome and invited to attend.

April 10th will be an Open Meeting - we will honor our Prophets.

Well I guess this will have to do, For my article to you.

'Til we meet again in just a few. (Days, that is.)

Happy New Year to each of you, We hope that you are keeping warm and are not blue,

That God will keep watch over all that you do, And grant you good health and happiness, too.

For many the Holiday Season, Is a time for sadness that seems to come without a reason, Or a time for feeling very much alone,

And it seems hard to get a happy feeling back on your own. I send to you this special poem.

"Special Friend"

By Hope C. Oberhelman

Sometimes we need a special friend

To lift our heavy load; A friend to take us by the hand, And lead us down the road.

Sometimes we need a special friend:

A friend who's good and kind A friend who's there to strengthen us, And bring us peace of mind.

Sometimes we need a special friend

To take away our care; A friend to bring us hope and love, And bless us with a prayer.

Sometimes we need a special friend

To bring us life's reward, And if we search, we'll find one close; We always have the Lord! ☐

Grotto Legion of Honor Installation

Jerry Spero, Commander

Valicias Ristorante
2155 Long Pond Road at
Spencerport Road

Cocktails 5:30 p.m.
Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Dinner choices

Chicken French	\$14.00
Sole French	\$14.00
8 oz. Prime Rib	\$16.00
Veal Marsala	\$16.00

Reservations by mail only

Please list dinner choices

on your check. Send to:

Jerry Spero
33 Cobblestone Dr.
Rochester, 14623
by January 20, 2003

Sweetheart Weekend

Hosted by Rani Ghar Grotto
A romantic weekend away
in Niagara Falls, Canada

February 7-9, 2003, Hampton Inn Victoria Avenue
Arrival Fri., Feb. 7 - Depart Sun., Feb. 9

Hospitality Room

Fri. 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Sat. 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Reservations by phone directly to: the Hampton Inn, 5591 Victoria Ave., Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada, 1-800-263-7135.

Rooms are \$74 a night, \$184 for weekend.

Reserve the Room in your name, mentioning Rani Ghar Grotto.

All reservations must be in by January 7th.

Cancellations 72 hours prior to arrival without charge.

979 Bay Road
Webster, NY
14580-1736



Damascus Shrine Center No. 2 Shrine News

Potentate - Harry E. Dainty



Tel. (585) 671-7701
FAX (585) 671-7702



From the Potentate



Shrine
Office
(585)
671-7701

Harry E.
Dainty
657-8068
ipotent

The year 2002 is drawing to an end very quickly, so this will be my last letter to the Nobles and the Ladies of Damascus Shrine. On January 8th, we will be installing a new Potentate for 2003 and I congratulate all of the new Officers-elect and the appointed positions. I wish them well for 2003.

I thank the Divan and their Ladies for all of their help during 2002. Thank you to all of the appointed Committee Members and their Ladies who have worked hard this past year. Many thanks to the Clubs and Units who have helped this year.

2002, in many ways, was very rewarding. Lady Nancy and I traveled many miles across New York State and Canada, made many new acquaintances and friends who we will cherish forever. This year has enhanced our feelings on how important Shrinedom is and the fact that we must work hard to keep our philanthropic goals going.

At our December meeting we created six new Shriners. We must be vigilant in creating more new Shriners, or our numbers will continue to go down, causing us to lose another representative to the Imperial. I think the Ceremonial Degree Team did a fine job, especially considering there were six new members on the Team.

Reminder

Our January meeting is a Shell-a-Buck Dinner, but you must have your 2003 dues paid. It will cost you a dollar, but if your dues are not paid it will cost \$8.00. Remember, also, you must call in for a reservation.

"Live Each Day to the Fullest"

Live each day to the fullest. Get the most from each hour, each day, and each age of your life. Then you can look forward with confidence, and back without regrets.

Be yourself -- but be your best self. Dare to be different and to follow your own star.

Don't be afraid to be happy. Enjoy what is beautiful. Love with all your heart and soul. Believe that those you love, love you.

Forget what you have done for your friends and remember what they have done for you. Disregard what the world owes you, and concentrate on what you owe the world.

When you are faced with a decision, make that decision as wisely as possible -- then forget it. The moment of absolute certainty never arrives.

Above all, remember that God helps those who help themselves. Act as if everything depended upon, and pray as if everything depended upon, God. *S.H. Payer*

From the Recorder's Desk

By Erwin M. Newell, PP

Congratulations to Ill. Ken Buckland, Potentate-elect, his Lady Mary, and all the newly elected and appointed Officers of Damascus Shriners. I know that our Potentate-elect has a great year planned for all of us. The prescription for a successful year is the support given by you, the Nobles and Ladies, of Damascus.

Circus!

Remember the dates, March 21st, 22nd and 23rd, for the new Vidbel Shrine Circus at the Blue Cross Arena at the War Memorial. This year, for the very first time in a number of years, we will not only be selling the food and novelties, but we will also sell tickets for the Elephant/Animal Rides. This will require more help than we have had in the past. Nobles and Ladies, we need your help more than ever. Please call the Shrine Office at 671-7701, and let us know what days and hours you can work at the Circus. I will have the Manpower Chairperson get in touch with you to set up your schedule. Don't forget to mail in your Circus Daddies and Mommies donations. This helps defray the cost of the Friday morning performance.

Look for a full article on the 2003 Circus in the February issue.

As we get ready to usher in 2003, the Recorder's Office is still collecting dues and finishing the final year-end report. Our Annual Meeting will be on January 8th. Don't forget to make your dinner reservation for the "Shell-a-Buck" Steak Dinner with all the trimmings. The only requirement to receive the dollar dinner is that your 2003 dues must be paid. On the agenda will be Installation of our new Officers.

Here's wishing you and your family a most happy and healthy New Year.

Legion of Honor

By Fred Cornell, Commander

First of all, I thank all Nobles and Past Commanders for electing me Commander of our Legion. I will do my best to make the meetings interesting and informative.

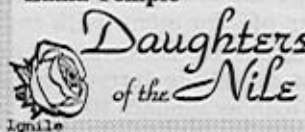
During our Hawaiian Cruise we visited Honolulu and toured

Pearl Harbor. We observed a film on the attack of the Harbor on December 7, 1941, and then went aboard the Arizona Memorial. Nobles and Brothers, this was a very moving experience for me, as I was 6 years old when it took place and now, a US Navy veteran who spent 19 months aboard a ship.

Please make note on your 2003 calendars, our meeting will always be on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The time and place will be announced.

By now our Christmas Party at Burgundy Basin Inn is history. I hope all who attended had a good time. □

Zama Temple



By Jean Friedrich, PQ

We hope you all are having an eventful and joyful Holiday Season with your families and friends. This is a good time to make a New Year's resolution to renew your Nile friendships and activities. Call one other member and plan to meet or carpool for our January 11th or February 8th Sessions. Your bright faces on the sidelines will highlight the day for our officers. We look forward to welcoming you again.

Resounding success

Our Holiday Tea on December 1st was a resounding success. Thanks to the efforts of Pr. Tirzah Sharon Spencer, Chairman, Pr. Royal Joan Bright, and our own Queen Kitty Noble, the decorations were outstanding, the music delightful, the company entertaining, and the food delicious. Our thanks to those of you who

brought those wonderful treats, and to the Damascus Temple.

Another way to spice up these dull Winter days is to join one of our Nile groups - we have something for everyone!

Pageantry Dancers perform dances and have fun entertaining us under the guidance of PQ Sharon Baldwin.

Our Patrol performs precision drills and act as escorts to our Queen directed by PQ Garda Houston.

Finger Lakes Nile Club is open to members living outside Monroe County, and meets on the first Monday of the month at various area restaurants - except for January, February and March. This Club gives those living a distance from our Temple a chance to participate in Nile activities and friendships. Call PQ Carol Colegrove for more information.

Cardarama meets the fourth Tuesday of the month except June, July and August. We play a variety of cards -- Bridge (always looking for more players), Rummy and Euchre. Call Chairman Mary Fox for more information. Any of these groups would welcome you and be happy to have you visit or join them.

Your response to the Holiday Convalescent Relief Fund collection was most gratifying. You can still contribute by sending your donation to the Pr. Recorder Eleanor Canfield. The entire sum goes to benefit the children in the Shriners' Hospitals. Our thanks to you for your generosity. The clothing and toys you donated will go directly to the Erie Hospital children.

As we come to the conclusion of our 80th eventful year as Zama Temple, our best wishes to you all for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. □

Rochester Forest

No. 133

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



Don Brugger, GTC
(h) 458-6125, (w) 473-4351
Donald C. Bell, Scribe

a ride for this or any meeting or event, please call me and we will make arrangements to get you to the meeting and back home. This offer extends to any pre-meeting dinners also.

Membership

There can be no doubt in anyone's mind that we need new members. So, Brothers, please be a salesman for Cedarism. Ask your Brothers (friends, neighbors and family members), who are not members, if they would like to join our fun organization. It is only through an infusion of new members that we can hope to survive and perhaps rebuild that Rochester Forest we once had.

More help needed

As your GTC, I will be looking for volunteers for the Calling Committee. There is no other way to make sure each Tall Cedar is contacted for our events. We have e-mail and we send out cards, but it is that one-on-one contact that gets the job done. Paul and I have been splitting the list; with Paul doing most of the calling and e-mail. It would be help us tremendously if we could twist someone's arm and get at least one more person involved.

That's all for now. If you have any questions or have information about a Brother in need of aid or sympathy, please let me know. □

HiLights

GENESEE-WYOMING
DISTRICT O.E.S.
DDGM
Rr. Wrlly. Shirley R. Church
DGL
Rr. Wrlly. Ted LaWall

I am happy to have this opportunity to communicate with the Eastern Star and Masonic community. Rt. Wthy. Ted LaWall and I were installed as DGL and DDGM of the Genesee/Wyoming District in October at the Grand Chapter Session on Friday, October 18th. Our Reception was held in the Perry Chapter rooms with over 90 people attending. It was a wonderful evening, with friends, family, Sisters and Brothers from Genesee/Wyoming and neighboring Districts. When you are starting a new year, it is great to know that you have the loyal support of the people around you. We found, as we traveled to other District Receptions, that attendance was up in nearly all of them, including Erie, Niagara/Orleans, Monroe, Livingston, and Allegheny. Could this be a new trend? Has the tide turned? Is the love of the Order coming back into our lives? Let's hope so. The year 2003 may be the turning point where membership starts to increase instead of a decrease. I am sure this will happen if we all keep focused on

what has to be done to maintain membership in our Order.

Study Club

The first Study Club was held Saturday, November 2nd, at Batavia Chapter, where new Officers were elected for the coming year. Wthy. Marjorie Calkins, Perry Chapter, was elected President; Wthy. Charlotte Hamon, Warsaw Chapter, Vice-President; and Sister Shirley Wright of Perry Chapter, Secretary of the Study Club for 2002-2003.

Christmas Party

Perry Chapter was the host for our District Christmas Party on December 6th. We all brought food; appetizers, casseroles, salads and desserts, with the accompanying recipes. The recipes are to be printed in a cookbook to be sold to raise money for the Genesee/Wyoming Membership Committee. Just a word to let you know that we ran out of food -- so the cookbook will have many good recipes! You just might want to buy one. The proceeds will be used for various projects of the Membership Committee to promote both the Eastern Star and Masonry. We had a gift exchange, and Wthy. Myna Caccamise of Olive Branch Chapter was Mrs. Santa Claus. We sang Christmas Carols and a local Boy Scout Troop stopped by to sing for us. A great time was had by all.

Our next Study Club meeting will be Saturday, January 4th, at 10:00 a.m. at Hesperus Chapter,

Bergen. Please wear your tackiest boots and earrings. Prizes will be given for the tackiest, and the men will be the judges. Remember, all members are welcome to attend and you do not need to be an Officer. You may be an aspiring Officer or a Past Officer, we need you all. At noon, a luncheon will be served and representatives from Community Action of Wyoming County and the YWCA of Genesee County will be speaking on Domestic Violence. The District plans to support this project for the coming year.

Remember, ENTHUSIASM is the answer to increasing our membership and making our Order grow. □

Ontario/Seneca/Yates O.E.S. District News

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

Mat. Wrlly. Leslie Smith
554-6715

Sec. Wrlly. Shirley Wells
394-2778

Shortsville Temple

I cannot believe that a New Year is starting. I hope that each and everyone of you had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our Holiday Party was a great success with 25 in attendance. All enjoyed the sociability and the Food. Next year I will be trying to form a committee to handle the arrangements for this event. I think it might be a good idea to formalize committees for all our social events. Let me know your thoughts or inclination to volunteer for these. I would like to thank Angelo DiCataldo and Karen, Paul Kober and Corinne for their involvement in our social events in the past year. They really have been shouldering most of the load lately and deserve our thanks.

Next meeting

Our next meeting in January will be the Installation of our new Officers. Please make every effort to get to this meeting and support our new line. If you need

Just a reminder that we are now starting our meeting at 7:30 p.m. and we are meeting only once a month, the second Wednesday. I hope more will come out to our meetings. I would like to get more programs going with the help of you, our members.

Our Grand Matron is M. Wthy. Phyllis A. Spahn and our Grand Patron is M. Wthy. Neil E. Laundry. The Flower for this year is the White Rose; her colors are Royal Blue and Forest Green.

Our District Leaders this year are Rt. Wthy. Wende Leonard and Rt. Wthy. Terry Leonard. Rt. Wthy. Wende's symbol is the Butterfly; her motto is: May the wings of a butterfly land on your shoulder and bring you luck. Rt. Wthy. Terry's Symbol is the Skunk and his motto is: Make new friends, but cherish the old. It looks like another good year with our District leaders. I hope that you will get out and support our leaders this year. I look forward to seeing you at Chapter meetings to see what is going on.

I leave you with this:

A squirrel chattered in my tree and told me Winter's near.

Although he spoke in Squirrel-ese, His message was quite clear:

Squirrel away your hopes, desires. Hoard passions, plans and schemes.

Cold Winter days are just the times, for realizing your dreams.

Happy New Year!

Tri-Star
Chapter
No. 209 O.E.S.

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

Matron
Rt. Wthy. Mildred DePew
(315) 597-4532
Patron
Rt. Wthy. Bruce DePew
Secretary
Rt. Wthy. Helga Haak
(315) 597-4105
Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and will have a very Happy New Year.

The first meeting of Tri-Star Chapter will be January 7th, at 7:30 p.m. It will be an open meeting for Installation of Officers. Your new Matron will be Wthy. Eleanor VanDelinder; her Patron will be Wthy. Robert Giles. The Past Matrons will be in charge of refreshments for the evening. Wthy. Eleanor will be sending out her new program book at the end of December.

Our new DDGM and DGL are holding a Social, Soup and Sundaes event, Saturday, January 18th, at the Palmyra Masonic Hall at 2:00 p.m. It will be an open event, with cards, bingo, and fellowship. Come and enjoy an afternoon of fun and refreshments.

The second meeting will be January 21st, New Beginnings, with Rt. Wthy. Mary Poyzer in charge of refreshments.

We wish all of our new Officers the very best in the New Year. □

Monroe District
HiLights, O.E.S.

DDGM DGL
Rt. Wthy. Rt. Wthy.
Debra Leipold William Mattern
647-3550 594-4449

I trust that everyone has survived the hectic holiday rush and that it was filled with joy and sharing.

Now we have a whole new year filled with opportunities and ad-

ventures. Wishes of health and prosperity are extended to each of you and those whom you love.

Please mark your 2003 calendar for February 15th for the Monroe District School of Instruction. It will be from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., breaking half-way for coffee and donuts.

Although you are familiar with your Ritual, please join us to learn of new points of Ritual and to show your support; besides, we enjoy just being together.

If you have any questions or suggestions concerning Monroe District Eastern Star activities, please call Debbie Leipold at 647-3550 or send snail mail to 428 Electric Avenue, Rochester, 14613. Remember...life began in a garden. □

Mother of Grand Patron Order of Eastern Star Passes

Mrs. M. Evelyn Laundry, mother of M. Wthy. Neil Laundry, Grand Patron, Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, entered eternal rest on December 2nd. At the time of her death, she was in the State of Washington, visiting her new great-grandchild.

Evelyn was a member of Monroe Chapter No. 57, OES, and Daughters of the Nile. She leaves two children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

An Eastern Star Service was held on December 14th, following a Memorial Service. □

Webster
Chapter No. 171
Order of the Eastern Star
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.
Matron
Wthy. Linda Zahn,
381-4241
Sec. Wthy. Faythe Mattern
594-4449
30 Orchard Street
Webster, New York

By the time you read this, the Installation of the 2003 Officers has taken place and all of the new Officers are looking forward to an exciting year. December 17th was the first of many Officers' meetings and their plans are already underway to make each Chapter meeting interesting and enjoyable for all in attendance. There will be programs where all members can take part, community involvement projects, and programs with interesting and exciting speakers, etc. All will be followed with good fellowship. I am excited by the possibility of our Chapter gaining a number of new members this year -- yes, we already have several ladies who have expressed interest in joining.

Sickness and distress

Please keep Helen Fordham and Betty Ellia in your thoughts and prayers.

This is a poem my mother wrote several years ago which seems appropriate for this Season.

What You Can Do for Me

Crunch some snow beneath your feet

Listen to carols, old, soft and sweet.

Trim the tree with lights so bright, They will shine, the frosty night.

Make hearts light with Santa's all Bring Christmas cheer to one and all.

Then 'neath the tree on Christmas morn

Don't feel neglected or forlorn

'Cuz Santa's sleigh left one behind And it's still here for you to find. Fill the day with love and mirth

And don't forget Lord Jesus' birth. (Ilma Wright Wiesen) □

Rochester
Chapter No. 314
Order of the Eastern Star
First Saturday 7:30 p.m.
Matron
Wthy. Blinne Johnson
352-1092
Secretary
Rt. Wthy. Barbara Mertens
412-0994
152 W. Commercial St. East Rochester, NY 14445

As Worthy Matron-elect, I am looking forward to an exciting year next year. Camp Poly-Fil will be returning. It will last 2 weeks and will include exciting field trips. The theme for Camp is "Lights along the Lake." I would like to thank Rt. Wthy. Debbie and Rt. Wthy. Karen for allowing me to continue this. Come to installation and learn of some of my other fun plans. I plan to have a lot of fun supporting our own Rt. Wthy. Debbie as District Deputy. So come along for the ride.

Combined Reception

The combined Reception for the 2003 Grand Officers of Monroe District was November 15th. It was a lovely evening. The Grand Matron and the Grand Patron were in attendance. All the Grand Officers looked wonderful. I know that all the members of Rochester Chapter who were there were very proud. We all had a wonderful time and hope that the Grand Officers did too.

Sickness and Distress

Please keep Sister Gail Caraballo and Rt. Wthy. Barbara Mertens in your prayers; both are dealing with serious medical issues. Please continue your prayers for Wthy. Diane Johnson and her family as they continue to deal with the trauma of the house fire they suffered in October. Please, if there is any other sickness or distress, contact me.

And, to borrow a line from television, "We'll be in touch so you be in touch." Please keep the lines of communication open. I have voice mail, so if you need to get information to me, leave a message. I will call back. If it is a real emergency call Rt. Wthy. Barbara Mertens or Rt. Wthy. Barbara Spano. Please remember we are all Sisters and Brothers and need to be here for each other.

Bright New Year

I will end this column with the hope that your Holidays were wonderful and that 2003 will bring a bright New Year. Live Long and Prosper. □

NOLATKA
Chapter No. 320
Order of the Eastern Star
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.
Matron Wthy. Alice Hassett
889-4353
Patron Wthy. John M. Lenzi
586-7492
Sec. Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings
594-4692
20 S. Main Street,
Churchville, 14428

Meetings

Our chapter enjoyed our Christmas Party at the Johnson House on Tuesday, December 17th. After appetizers of cheese and crackers, we had our choices of Scallops, Beef, or Chicken. We were pleased that two of our honorary members, Rt. Wthy. Raymond DiJames and Rt. Wthy.

Barbara Bossert, and their spouses attended.

Installation of new Officers will take place at an open meeting on Tuesday evening, January 15th, at 7:30 p.m. Our new Officers are as follows: Rt. Wthy. Diane Maltese and Rt. Wthy. Bill Baxter will be Worthy Matron and Patron. Associate Matron and Patron will be Wthy. Cynthia Nielsen and Wthy. Robert Crystal. Wthy. Toni Jeerings and Wthy. Kim Morici will be installed as Conductress and Associate Conductress. Secretary will be Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings, and Treasurer will be Wthy. Vickie Gross.

Sunshine

We extend our condolences to Mt. Wthy. Neil E. Laundry, Grand Patron, and to his wife, Rt. Wthy. Donna, Associate Grand Marshal, at the passing of Neil's mother, Sister Mae Evelyn Laundry. Although her deceased husband had been a Mason, Sister Mae had just joined the Eastern Star two years ago. We rejoice that, as a sister, she could participate as her son attained his position of honor.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Sister Ora Combs, who had resided in the Baird Nursing Home for several years. She was 99-years-old, and a Life Member of Eastern Star.

Rt. Wthy. Diane Maltese's son, Mark, is recovering from back surgery. Our prayers for a speedy recovery.

Dues and Thanks

The dues cards for 2003 are white with blue lettering. A special thank you to those who not only sent in their dues, but enclosed donations for the Chapter. We are most appreciative.

Birthdays

Celebrating birthdays in January will be Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings, Wthy. Alice Hassett, Sister Doris Daycock, Rt. Wthy. Judy Lenzi, Rt. Wthy. Martha Loomis, Wthy. Cheryl Scipioni and Sister Linton Warner.

Committee

Refreshments for the January Installation will be provided by Henrietta Chapter.

Holiday Blessings

May your holidays be full of happy occasions, which will brighten the days ahead, and may there also be quiet moments, offering peace and joy. A Happy New Year to all. □

Queen
Christina
Court No. 13
Order of Amaranth
3rd Saturday - 2 p.m.
Royal Matron
Mary Burgess
315-789-1264
Secretary
Donna Stalker,
(315) 986-1570
Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street

Queen Christina Court No. 13 will be dark for the months of January and February. The next meeting will be March 15th at 2:00 p.m. Officers will be elected for the ensuing year.

The 105th Annual Session of Grand Court will be May 8th through 11th in Lake George, NY. It is hoped that District 10 will be dissolved and Queen Christina Court be assigned to District 5 to the East.

Our best wishes to Honored Lady Emily Whitney as she gains strength at the Clifton Springs Hospital.

Enjoy the Winter and the two months off. We will have at least one new petition for the Spring. □

In Memoriam

November

Kuritz, Paul

The Peace of the Lord embraced Paul on November 17th. He was 83 years old and a member of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge No. 154. Survivors include his 2 sons, and 5 grandsons.

Combs, Ora M.

A member of Noaltka Chapter No. 320, OES, Ora passed away on November 25th. She is survived by many family members.

Hendrick, Warren

Warren was 92 years old when he was called Home on November 26th. He was a member of Fairport/Flower City Lodge No. 476 and leaves his 2 children and many grandchildren.

Rider, Carl T.

The Great Architect of the Universe claimed Carl on November 26th. He was a 56 year member of ERAC Lodge No. 163, and Master of Genesee Falls Lodge in 1956. He is survived by his wife, Alice, and other family members.

December

Curtis, Norris E.

The Lord called Norris Home suddenly on December 5th. He was a Past Master of ERAC Lodge No. 163, present Commander of the Legion of Honor, Damascus Temple and a member of Rochester Consistory. He is survived by his wife, Delores, 2 daughters, and 5 grandchildren.

Spies, Henry C.

Henry was 80 years old when he passed away on December 6th. He was a 55 year member of Fame Lodge No. 722 and leaves 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

Smith, Clifford W.

December 14th was the day Clifford met his Maker. He was a member of Craftsman Robertson Lodge No. 969 and Rochester Consistory. Survivors include his wife, Jane, 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

Nielsen, Fred

The Loving Arms of the Lord embraced Fred on December 17th. He was a member and Past Master of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge No. 154, Past Commander and 33° Mason of Rochester Consistory and member of Damascus Shrine. He is survived by his wife, Bernice, 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

The following deaths were reported with no specific information.

Brown, Donald S.

Fairport/Flower City Lodge No. 476 lost a member with the death of Donald. He resided in Florida.

Klein, Charles A.

Charles was a member of Fairport/Flower City Lodge No. 476 when he passed away at his home in Illinois.

Potter, Donald V.

Donald passed away November 11th at his Winter Haven, Florida home. He was a member of Attica Lodge No. 462. □

Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

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

2003

- Feb. 1-14 Have-a-Heart Campaign
- Mar. 29 New York State One-Day Masonic Festival
- Apr. 26-27, NYS Masonic Bowling Tournament
- May 3-4,10-11 at Lake George
- May 31- Jun. 4 Prince Hall OES Grand Sessions, Rochester
- Jun. 5-6 Prince Hall Grand Sessions, Rochester

Classified Services

KRD Painting: Interior & exterior. Quality work guaranteed. Free estimates. Keith Dustin, 585-458-9328. Member Oatka Lodge.

Wanted: Toy Trains & accessories, (O & O27) any condition. Prices per Greenberg Book & condition. D. Brugger, 585-473-4351, 585-458-6125.

Wanted: Oldstyle "sew-on" buttons, especially Masonic and Eastern Star buttons. Alice Hassett, 585-889-4353.

Employment

Wanted: Archangel has just released a new web portal system and is looking for full and part time Account Managers. No experience needed for this product. If interested please contact R.J. Muto, 585-264-0221 or rj@archangelinc.com

Grand Lodge Veterans Service Committee



R.W. THOMAS M. PAGLIA

CHAIRMAN, VETERAN'S SERVICE

Surprises never cease in the Masonic Fraternity. A couple of issues ago I inserted a speech I gave at Grand Lodge to the District Deputies about the Masonic Veterans Service Committee and their involvement with veterans

located in various VA Medical Centers. It seems quite a few people read the article because I have received many reports as such, but something special happened.

About a week after the *Masonic Times* was sent out, I received a letter from a Mason who was quite impressed with what he had read. In his letter he mentioned that he and his friend both were in World War II and that they were Seabee's, which makes them original Seabee's. He then explained that the two of them go to the Canandaigua VA Medical center and once a month, on Tuesday, they play the sax and piano for one hour for the patients in Ward 8A. This is the same Ward that our own Masonic group goes

to on the second Sunday of each month. He also expressed his desire to meet sometime and reminisce some Seabee stories. I called him the next day, we talked a while, and I promised him I would be there at the Ward when they would play again.

Meeting accomplished

It just so happened I had only one week to wait until I would meet with them. My wife, Cora, and I drove to the Canandaigua VA and as we approached Building 8A, we could hear music. Upon entering the Ward, we could see many happy faces, some people were dancing, some singing and others, because of their condition, just sat in their chairs and tapped their feet or clapped their hands. You could feel the happiness in the room. When the two took a break, I went up to them and introduced myself; they said they knew who we were from the picture in the *Masonic Times*. My thanks to Don Brugger for taking that picture in the logo; he made me look good!

Our discussion revolved around, what else, but Seabee talk. At this time, they both said what caught their attention was the fact that I had served in the Aleutian Islands during World War II as a Seabee and that they had also been there about the same time, but were not in the same Battalion that I was in. Their names are: John Keohane, with the 129th Battalion, who is sitting at the piano and Albert Mann, with the 38th Battalion, playing the sax. What a surprise, my heart started thumping real hard, here were two Seabee's who experienced the same weather, K-rations, and isolation. Albert Mann is associated with John Hodge Lodge No. 815 in Naples.



Mrs. Jane Wilson, Recreation Therapist, Mrs. Ina Keohane, Mrs. Frances Mann, and Mrs. Cora Paglia. (Photos courtesy Tom Paglia)



Two former Seabees, Albert Mann, on the sax and John Keohane, on the piano, entertaining at the Canandaigua VMC.

Two wonderful men who have been doing this for many years.

The other picture

In the other photo you will see their lovely wives, who travel with them on their visits every Tuesday to help with the singing, sometimes dancing with the veterans, or just helping out to make a pleasant hour for the veterans.

Living yesteryear

All of the songs they played were from the World War II era. Many joined in by singing, others had memories, some just sat and cried, while others were thinking how sweet the sound of the music of their time sounded. When I walked into the room, Albert

started playing the Seabee song, and then two of the veterans started singing it. Come to find out, one started as a Marine. He saw the light and joined the Seabee's; and the other served with the Bee's.

Many thanks

To all of those involved, The Masonic Veterans Service Committee and I wish to express a heartfelt thank you for all you have done and will be doing. Your presence there help the veterans get enjoyment out of life; it would be a dreary existence if it were not for people such as you. God bless you.

Big Calendar January 2003

Gem - Garnet
Flower - Carnation

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																			
<p>2002 DECEMBER 2002</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>Have a Happy and Prosperous New Year</p>	1 New Year's Day	2 Constellation - Perry Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster Eunice - Caledonia, 1 st RAM - Palmyra/Eagle RSM - Palmyra Council, OV	3	4 Auditions for 3 rd , 9 a.m., Webster Lodge OES - Rochester Chapter - East Rochester
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																			
29	30	31																																							
5	6 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg OES - Etolian, Irondequoit, Germania, LeRoy Shrine Lunch Club	7 Charlotte/Corinthian Clio - Hilton Craftsman/Robertson Oakland - Castile Warsaw OES - Fairport, Monroe, Nolatka, Perry, Tri-Star - Palmyra, Webster	8 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting Damascus Shrine Lalla Rookh Caldron OES - Batavia, Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian/Fellowship	9 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery	10	11 Masters & Wardens - Mon., Seneca Lodge - Webster																																			
12 Clio Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Weds. Jan 15th & 29th East Avenue, Hilton	13 ERAC - East Rochester, BAF Etolian - Spencerport Fairport/Flower City Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield School of Instruction - Livingston, Livonia OES - Mary Jane Holmes, Charlotte Shrine Lunch Club	14 Arcade Batavia Craftsman/Robertson Fame - Irondequoit Monroe - Brockport Seneca - Webster Valley/Simes RAM - 3x3, Dansville, Wyoming OES - Leah - Hilton	15 Attica Drumlín Square - Palmyra Olive Branch - LeRoy Livonia Lalla Rookh Grotto RSM - Doric Council - Pittsford OES - Henrietta	16 Constellation - Perry Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster, 2 nd Eunice - Caledonia, 2 nd Special Communication Scottish Rite RAM - Western Star	17	18 Western Regional Seminar - Sagoyewatha Comm. - Phelps																																			
19	20 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford OES - Etolian, Irondequoit, Germania, LeRoy Shrine Lunch Club Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Observed	21 Charlotte/Corinthian Clio - Hilton Warsaw OES - Fairport, Monroe, Nolatka, Perry, Tri-Star - Palmyra, Webster	22 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike OES - Batavia, Corinthian/Fellowship	23 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery Masters & Wardens - Wayne, Sodus Lodge	24	25 Monroe District-Wide Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, Webster Lodge																																			
26	27 ERAC - East Rochester, 2 nd Etolian - Spencerport Fairport/Flower City Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls, 2 nd Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RSM - Nundawaga Council OES - Charlotte Shrine Lunch Club	28 Arcade Batavia Craftsman/Robertson Fame - Irondequoit Monroe - Brockport Seneca - Webster Valley/Simes RAM - 3x3, Dansville, Wyoming, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton	29	30	31																																				

Deadline for the *Masonic Times*