



Masonic Times

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

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Scouts Busy Beavers Hewing Firewood for Camp DeMolay



Boy Scouts filled trailer with cut logs, which were delivered to the splitting machine set up near the fire pit on the hill. Logs were split and stacked in the racks until they were filled. Extra firewood was stacked alongside the racks. Wood should be ready for 2006 season.

By Skip Waterstreet

On an atypical Rochester-area November Saturday, Boy Scout Troop No. 134, sponsored by the Rush Volunteer Fire Department, spent several hours clearing some of the fallen trees from the hillside of Camp DeMolay and stacking it for use in the Anderson Lodge fireplace. Fourteen members of the troop and their adult leaders were spending the weekend at the Camp. This is an annual event and the Scouts are always looking for a way to "pay back" the Masons for the privilege of using the facility.

With much work accomplished by the team from Xerox

Brother Timothy McNelly, of ERAC Lodge and one of the Assistant Scout Masters of the Troop, solicited his Lodge for help with the program. ERAC provided the funds to rent a log splitter, which Michael Knolla ran to perfection. This made the labor part relatively easy, although the young men still had plenty of work in stacking the split rails.

Much of the work centered on the South side of the property between the driveway and Lake Road. Leaders used chain saws to cut fallen trees into fireplace-sized chunks. The Scouts then rolled them down the hill to the waiting tractor and wagon. Af-

building in the meadow to the bunk houses up on the hill. They proceeded to finish installing the insulation on both cabins. By this time next year, it is hoped to have panelling on the walls making them more hospitable for campers staying overnight.

Members of the Troop who spent the weekend at the Camp, and participated in the clean up activities, included: Doug Collinge, Jacob Eggleston, Josh Eggleston, Johnny Greiner, Zack Hilt, Ivan Luft, Jeremy Mack, Corey Masseth, Ian McNelly, Adam Murray, Max Murray, Alex Pilarski, Colin Pilarski and Jacob Porter. Supervising adults included: Scout Master, John Goebel; Brian Hotchkiss, Committee Chairman; Rob Lewkowicz and Jim Masseth, as well as the previously mentioned Eggleston, McNelly and Pilarski. Representatives of ERAC Lodge were Mike Knolla and Tariq Siddiqi.

Brother Jack Steinkamp, who lives next door to the grounds and has spent many hours working on the property, was available with some heavy equipment, but the Scouts did not require his assistance this day. Jack, and his significant other, Denise Washburn, have kept the Camp under surveillance during the week, to assure us there is no vandalism or unauthorized use of the facilities. They have also spent time devising plans for use of the Camp and are assisting in grant writing to obtain funds to improve the entire operation. Jack is a member of the Board of Directors of Camp DeMolay.

Others who have helped out this season include Maurice "Bill" Guinup, Rene VanDeVeire, Ron Weber, in addition to Richard Snyder (Camp Project Manager) and Bill Hook (Camp Manager).

Alice Anderson, wife of Ill. Robert L. Anderson II, Potentate of Damascus Shrine, previously created and laminated

Continued on Page 17

Masonic Development Course



By Hugh Woodside

The Masonic Development Course is a three-part Course designed to help all Brothers better understand the symbolism of the three Blue Lodge Degrees. The Course is well designed in a discussion format, which gives all those in attendance an opportunity to participate. It offers some detailed insight into the symbolism of the Degrees, a topic not regularly addressed in a formal setting. Having taken the

Course when it was first offered, I can guarantee that you will walk away from it having learned something new, whether you are a newly-raised Master Mason or a Brother who has served the Craft for fifty years.

The Course will be held at Wakan/Hubbard Lodge in Penfield on the third Mondays in January, February and March of 2006. The specific dates are January 16th, February 20th and March 20th. Each event will begin at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person, which covers your Course materials and refreshments at each session. All Brothers who complete the Course will receive a Pin and Certificate of Completion.

Reservations for the Course should be submitted to R.: W.: William Kuehne, Grand Director of Ceremonies, no later than January 2, 2006. If you have any questions, Bill can be reached at 334-9635 or via email at:

wkuehne@netacc.net. Please mail your checks to Bill at: 1420 Martin Road, West Henrietta, NY, 14586. x



Brother Mike Knolla, ERAC Lodge, supervises and assists Tariq Siddiqui in operating the log splitter, for which ERAC Lodge donated the rental fee. Members of Troop 134, BSA, gathered the split logs and stacked them for future use.

Corporation for the United Way Day of Caring during the Spring, one might think that there would be a minimal amount of follow up required to keep the grounds in good shape. Mother Nature had different ideas, however, and many more trees were downed over the Summer by storms that moved through the area. She fully cooperated this day, providing bright sunshine, blue skies, relatively balmy temperatures and very little wind.

ter the wagon was filled, Mark Pilarski, Assistant Scout Master, drove the load up to the plateau near the fire pit where the ERAC fellows took over. The logs were unloaded, split and stacked so they would be ready for the 2006 camping season. Weather permitting, some of the logs probably will be burned in the fire pit as well.

While the hillside was buzzing with activity, Tim and Keith Eggleston moved rolls and bats of insulation from the storage

CHILDREN'S PARTY

December 10th is the All Masonic Bodies Children's Christmas Party with Santa. This year, the Scottish Rite Bodies and York Rite Bodies have joined with Lalla Rookh Grotto and Damascus Shrine to co-sponsor the event.

This 3rd annual event promises to be bigger and better than before...and the kids had a great time the past two years. Geared for youths 10 and under, older siblings are invited to join in the fun, but should be advised that most of the activities will encompass the younger children.

Santa will deliver the gift you provide for your special child or children. Each gift should be wrapped and contain a tag with the child's full name, so no one is disappointed.

While reservations are not required, they would be appreciated so there are sufficient refreshments for all. You may call the Masonic Service Bureau - 671-9730 - to leave the number of children and adults attending.

From 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., come party with Santa! x

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Season's Greetings

From the staff of the Masonic Times

Dated Material



671-9730
Editor's Corner

Right after I wrote my column last month reminding you that the deadline is the 2nd Monday of each month, I looked at the calendar. Whoa! If I don't receive copy earlier in November, I risk failing to deliver the *Masonic Times* prior to December 1st. I will have the same problem in December, trying to publish the January issue. It isn't totally the "fault" of the Staff. We have to arrange our schedule to mesh with what the printer and the United States Postal Service are able to accomplish. The response from Dave Young and his crew at Webster Printing has been tremendous in my brief tenure. For the most part, the Postal Service has also done well by us. We want to hold to that record, and hope you will understand the need for the change. At the same time, we will try to work with anyone for whom these changes create problems. Just let us know your situation, should you need an extension.

As you peruse this issue, if you discover an article you submitted did not get published, here's the reason why. We received two pages by fax machine with nothing on them but "page 1" in the corner. Many machines will publish the fax number in the margin of the page so you know from whom it came and could reply if necessary. The pages were received close enough together for me to assume that the same sender tried twice, maybe realizing the first one had failed (and possibly the second, and thus gave up trying). I am relaying this information as a way of asking again to call us to confirm receipt of any article(s) you submit. We try to acknowledge email messages with a reply. If you don't hear from us, you should try again and/or give us a call to assure it's receipt.

Finally, all of us working on the *Masonic Times* - Barbara, Bev, Linda, Dave, Leon, Mat, Bob and I, wish you and yours a safe and happy Holiday Season. May you enjoy the company of family and friends and, as Tiny Tim says in *A Christmas Carol*, "God bless us, everyone!"

Masonic Service Bureau

of Rochester, NY Inc.

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Charles Waterstreet

May this holiday season be a joyous and safe one for all of you. I hope that you will read this column carefully, as I think it could help in getting new members, retaining present ones and bringing some others "back into the group."

When you have a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night or the women have a similar program, do you tell them about the Masonic Service Bureau and all the services available to residents in Monroe County and the surrounding area whether or not they belong to a Fraternal organization?

Some of these are:

1. Awarding grants to Rochester area charities whose primary sources of income are donations such as ours and not from the government. Some of our past recipients are: Cameron Community Ministries, The Kids Café, hospice houses, St. Peter's Kitchen and many others. If you know of a group that would fit into this category, you are at liberty to tell us and submit their name. Check with the Masonic Service Bureau to make sure they fit the requirements. These are given at a special awards ceremony in June.

2. Scholarships to high school seniors or anyone who has not received the award before and is attending an accredited college. They must have a Masonic affiliation.

3. We have a Library, which is one of the best sources of Masonic-related literature in the area. It also contains a lot of useful historical material. The Library is at the Shrine Center and access is available when the Masonic Service Bureau office is open.

4. Providing, on a loan basis, home-care medical equipment free of charge to any per-

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son in need, except for a wheelchair, where a \$25 deposit is requested and is refunded when the wheelchair is returned. They do not need a Masonic connection.

5. We operate Camp DeMolay on Lake Ontario in Sodus Point, which is open to area youth groups, Masonic and non-Masonic, free of charge. It is also available to organizations and individuals for picnics, camping and meeting purposes. There are separate buildings for sleeping, as well as separate bathrooms for men and women. These have hot and cold running water and shower facilities. For more information and a tour of the Camp, call the Masonic Service Bureau office.

6. The Masonic Service Bureau publishes the *Masonic Times*, one of the best Masonic newspapers in the State. Not only does it provide Masonic news and information about the Monroe, Livingston, Genesee/Wyoming, Ontario/Seneca/Yates and Wayne Districts, but also about the Concordant Bodies in these areas. There are also informative articles about subjects of interest to everyone, eg., taxes, le-

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December 2005, incorrect phone numbers and titles, or numbers to be added, please call the *Masonic Times*, 671-9730, 8-12 noon, Monday-Friday.

gal rights, electrical problems, etc. Share this paper with your friends and neighbors and if any of them have a business, they might be interested in advertising. Encourage them. We have a circulation of over 4,000 and it would be worth their while to give this consideration. Again, call the Masonic Service Bureau office for more information.

In addition to all of the above, we sponsor an annual Widows Luncheon and an Interfaith Service and Brunch, where the Distinguished Community Service Award is presented to a member of the community chosen by a Service Bureau committee. The recipient may be anyone who performs community service

as a volunteer without receiving any form of compensation for such service. Anyone can submit a nomination. Watch future issues of the *Masonic Times* for the exact procedure to follow for doing this. The Interfaith Service and Brunch is open to everyone - friends, family and neighbors. Please invite them.

Mark the following dates on your calendars now.

Awards Night - June 21st.
Widows Luncheon - September 16th.

Interfaith Service and Brunch - October 29th.

Important numbers to have at hand for contacting the Masonic Service Bureau are: Telephone - 671-9730; FAX: 671-8390 and email: bmasonic@rochester.rr.com

If you would like printed sheets telling the above information to hand out to any interested people, please contact the Masonic Service Bureau.

I wish for you all a peaceful and blessed New Year.

Give to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund Campaign

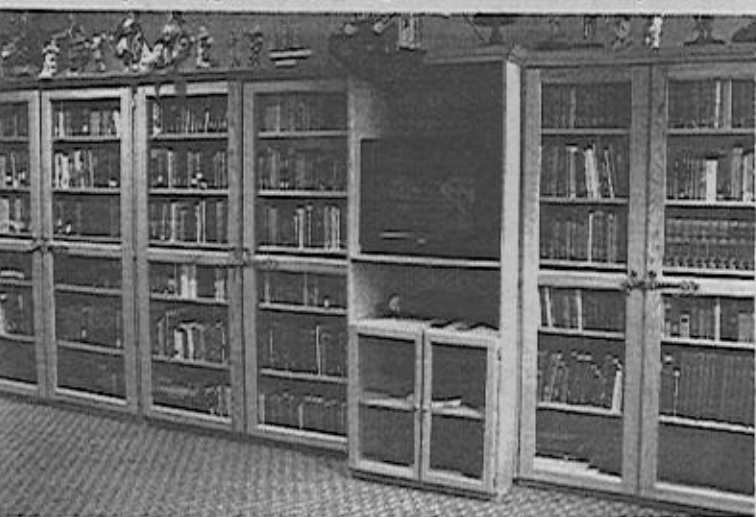
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Ads are based on column inches. Each column is nearly two inches wide. The minimum is one column inch; maximum, full page. This message is fit into a 1-column advertisement.

Column inches	Pricing for	
	Single*	10 issues
1	\$15	\$125
2	\$30	\$250
3	\$45	\$380
4	\$60	\$510
5	\$70	\$590
6	\$90	\$760
8	\$110	\$930

* Pre-Payment required for all single issue ads.

Discount for Masonic Affiliates. Call 671-9730 for more details or to place your advertisement.



The Herman A. Sarachan Memorial Library is housed in these enclosed bookcases with glass doors, made by R.:W.: Larry Canfield, past president of the Masonic Service Bureau. Damascus Shrine donated the space in their lobby.

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

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____

Clip and mail to:
Masonic Times
979 Bay Road, Suite 2
Webster, NY 14580-1736



Order of the Eastern Star

Monroe District OES HiLights

DDGM
Rt. Wthy. Nancy Venette
425-9590

DGL
Rt. Wthy. George Bundoc
328-0111



Newly elected District Deputy Grand Matron, Rt. Wthy. Nancy Venette, with Rt. Wthy. George Bundoc, the new District Grand Lecturer, and Wthy. Nancy Shepardson, who introduced the Associate Matrons and Associate Patrons.



Wthy. Joy Woodley marshaling in the new Grand Officers at the District Banquet.

By Wthy. Joy Woodley

A patriotic red, white and blue theme was the decor of the Monroe District Banquet. A salute to veterans, past and present, was accompanied with a lively musical marching song as the Officers were escorted to the head table.

The American Flag and a young soldier were given a very moving tribute.

Lifespan's Elder Abuse and the Alternatives for Battered Women Programs each received over \$450.



Past Grand Matron, M. Wthy. Wanda V. Williams, sat with Past Grand Patron, M. Wthy. Neil E. Laundry, and Rt. Wthy. Vickie Gross, Associate Grand Marshal. (Photos courtesy Linda Zahn)



Rt. Wthy. Dorothy Wolfe gave the invocation.



Rt. Wthy. Bruce Whitmore, District Grand Lecturer, and Rt. Wthy. Diane Maltese, District Deputy Grand Matron of the Livingston District, attended the Monroe District Banquet.



The Grand Representative of Utah, Rt. Wthy. Evelyn Ann Heller, was seated with Rt. Wthy. Roger Lynch, junior Past District Grand Lecturer, and Rt. Wthy. Janet Porter, junior Past District Deputy Grand Matron, who also presented a Tribute to the Flag.

ber 20th, 17 Main Street Scottsville. Telephone: 889-7350. Reservations should be made with Tracy or Kim before December 6th. Thank you! Gathering at 6:30 p.m.; dinner at 7:30 p.m. To put us into the festive mood, the committee has asked that you wear something either red or green and bring a grab bag gift of \$5.00 labeled "male" or "female."

Our neighbors

It was wonderful to visit with our neighbors from Batavia Chapter, Bergen Chapter and Caledonia Chapters on November 1st. We thank you for your attendance and welcome you back any time in the future! It is always so special to renew old friendships, as well as making new ones!

A friendly meeting

Many of us traveled to Hesperus Chapter in Bergen for an open meeting and Friendship Night in November. It was very enjoyable and we were pleased to be able to support our Brothers and Sisters from other Chapters.

Thanks

This is my one-month notice to inform all of my wonderful readers of my Nolatka article. I will be passing my pens and keyboard buttons onto another beginning in January!

With being Matron in January, and my health being skeptical, it is best that I pass the newsletter onto someone who is or will be more capable than I! My successor will be Worthy MaryAnne Sovocool and I ask that you be as kind to her as you have been to me! Please continue to share your human-interest stories and Eastern Star memorabilia with MaryAnne. I thank you, in advance, for all of the love and support I have received during this year of service. May you all get out of the Eastern Star, exactly what you put into it: love, peace of mind and awesome Sisterhood and Brotherhood! May the good Lord up above, bless and protect you all, until we meet again! Farewell!

First aid kit suggestions

One triangular-bandage, one small bar of soap, 25 1" Band-aids, one small towel, five 4"x 4" Gauze Pads, four large safety pins, five 2"x2" Gauze pads, 10 Q-tips, one 1" Roller bandage, 1 or 2 pairs of Latex gloves, one 2" Roller bandage, tweezers, one roll of 1/2" adhesive tape, scissors, simple face shield and antiseptic (hand) towelettes.

Tape a QUARTER to the inside of the plastic lid in case

you need to phone for assistance.

It is not enough to just carry a first aid kit with you. You should also have the knowledge to use it effectively when the need arises. The Red Cross can train you in the techniques of first aid. Why not give them a call at 241-4434 to register today?

NOLATKA Chapter No. 320

Order of the Eastern Star
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Matron
Wthy. Antoinette Jeerings
354-1988
Patron
Wthy. Robert Crystal
473-0279
Secretary
Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings
594-4692
22 South Main Street
Churchville 14428

and journey down South to warmer weather. Next year, take us with you, okay? God bless you and journey safe, Pilgrims.

I have moved into a very nice house! Here is my new address for those of you who were looking for it: Ms. Kim P. Robinson, 47 Elmhurst Street Rochester, NY 14607. I may be reached at: 241-3915.

Katrina

We are collecting household items for many of the families who were displaced to here from hurricane Katrina. Please turn in any donations to Sister Tracy Daylikus at the Chapter.

Items needed

Clothing: men's, women's, children's and infants.

Toys, books, Bibles, shoes, socks, slippers, bathrobes, slippers, toothbrushes and paste, soap, deodorant, towels, sheets, curtains, blankets, boots, Winter coats, hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves.

A good thing

Our annual Christmas/Holiday Party is coming up soon. It will be at the Oatka Steak and Seafood Restaurant on Decem-

As we make a drastic change from falling leaves to falling snowflakes, let us keep safety in the back of our minds. Enclosed you will find a list of what needs to be in your first aid kit.

Sickness and distress

Sister Kathleen Skelton remains in our prayers. It is wonderful to hear that she is doing better!

Best of luck to Antionette Jeering's son, Carl, as he begins the season on the wrestling team at school.

We bid a sad farewell to our "snowbirds" as they leave us

Rochester Chapter No. 314

Order of the Eastern Star
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Patron
Wthy. George Bundoc
368-0111
Secretary
Rt. Wthy. Barbara Spano
244-1503

133 South Union Street
Spencerport 14459-1337



Greetings to all. Grand Sessions are over. Our energy is being stored up for another year. Our Rochester Chapter's Patron is now Rt. Wthy. George Bundoc, District Grand Lecturer. Congratulations!

Our meeting on December 3rd is at 7:00 p.m. It is in ample form, with Elections and Reports.

District Deputy Grand Master Livingston District



R.:W.:
Roy W. Moses
346-9260

In October, seven Brothers received the Valley of Rochester Symbolic Lodge Award. As these Brothers were presented the Award, I couldn't help but think that they all really earned their Awards. All these Brothers are very active in their respective Lodges and are very deserving. I thank the Valley of Rochester for all the time and effort that goes into the program. Great job, Brothers. The Brothers recognized from Livingston District were: Bruce Whitmore, Union; James Nichol, Phoenix; David Bryson, Mt. Morris; Francis Ragard, Avon Springs; Robert Cox, Nunda Station; Steven Shull, Livonia; and David Howlett, Eunice. Congratulations to all the Brothers.

Our annual Child ID Program was held at eleven schools in the Livingston District, with over 1,000 children participating. This was again a great effort by the Brothers, Livingston Sheriff's Department and participating local Police Departments. I thank Brother Ray Ellis for a job well done again this year.

As of this writing, Geneseo Lodge has held their 2nd Degree and Union has held a 1st Degree. All Lodges have Brother Bring-a-Friend Nights planned and most have petitions in before the event. There is going to be more Degree work done in Livingston District than in the last five years put together.

Union Lodge held their 3rd annual Table Lodge on November 17th. R.:W.: Jim Sullivan, Senior Grand Warden, was the guest speaker. What a fantastic time! I wish all Lodges would plan an event like this. It not only brings Brothers out of the woodwork, but gives the word "Brotherhood" its true meaning.

In closing, I thank ALL the Brothers for the efforts being put forth this year on improving their Lodges. You all have taken the challenge and run with it. God bless you and God bless this great Fraternity. ✕


everyone comfortable in its telling. Thank you for a wonderful evening.

We are working on the Livingston District Ladies and Widows Night to be held on April 1st. Please save this date for a very special evening with your ladies. This year looks to be even better than last year! ✕

Union Lodge No. 45
2nd & 4th Thursdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Benjamin P. Thorp
343-1215
besthorp@aol.com

Secretary
R.:W.: James Slocum
367-2425
jbs@frontiernet.net



Lima Masonic Temple
1891 Rochester Street, Lima 14485

As I write this, it is still a week away from our third annual Table Lodge. But with thirty-three reservations, I can safely say it was a rousing success! I thank R.:W.: James Sullivan, Grand Senior Warden, for being our special guest and speaker for the evening.

Remember that we are holding a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night on December 1st, hosted by our own R.:W.: Roy Moses. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program for the evening. I encourage everyone to bring a friend or relative whom you feel is interested in joining our Fraternity.

Our Annual Meeting is on December 8th. Please try to attend, as we will be balloting on two petitions and making plans for the New Year.


I have some unpleasant news to communicate to you. This will be my final article as Master of Union Lodge. I have accepted a position with a company in Battle Creek, Michigan and will be starting there on November 28th. In my absence, the Senior Warden and the Past Masters will assume my duties. I will be back and forth for awhile as my wife and I have decided to keep our house here so my daughter can graduate from her high school. So, if I am back here on a Lodge night, you can count on me being there.

I wish everyone and their families a happy and safe holiday season and all the best in the coming New Year. ✕

Eunice Lodge No. 830
1st Thursdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: David Howlett
671-4277
DMHow@aol.com

Secretary
R.:W.: Francis E. Oberer
9501 Asbury Road, LeRoy 14482
768-6698



Symbolic Lodge Awards
W.: David Howlett received the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Award for his service and dedication to the Lodge. W.: Howlett and I went to the Damascus Shrine Center in Webster where M.:W.: Trosin presented the Award to W.: Howlett, along with the other Award winners. It was great to see so many distinguished gentlemen at the event and I thank the Scottish Rite for the opportunity.

Veteran Recognition Night

Our November meeting was preceded by a Recognition Dinner for all of the veterans from our Lodge. The turnout was excellent, 11 out of the 16 Veterans showed from Eunice Lodge. We enjoyed great tasting Pulled Pork Sandwiches and then listened to the veteran's stories from the spanning from Southern France during World War II to Berlin in the 1970s. I presented the Lodge with a framed Certificate honoring our veterans. This event exceeded my expectations. I am very proud of our Brothers.

Veterans from Eunice
Air Force: Melvin Hussey, 1955; Kenneth Mattice, 1960; and Arnold Palmer, 1961.

Army: Gordon Bell, 1955; Hampton Brown and Steve Cross, 1967; Carl Fisher, 1946; Larry Fortner and Rick Lafave, 1970; Allen Roggen, 1953; Harry 'Jack' Sims and Robert Weitzel, 1945.

National Guard: Floyd Manley, 1960.

Navy: Burton Brown, 1942; Eugene Hill, 1946; Hugh Outterson, 1944.

Note: I apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact me and I will make proper changes.

During our meeting, we also learned that W.: Steve Cross, Army 1967, recently received the Purple Heart.

Temple Club Elections

The November meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be after our Communication on December 1st. The Lodge meeting will be brief so we can get through everything without staying out all night.

Brother Bring-a-Friend

W.: Hussey had a great event November 29th. There was finger foods, fellowship and a program. Bringing friends to these events will help our Lodges continue to grow.

Holiday Family Dinner

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend our Holiday Dinner on Sunday, December 11th. The event will start with a social hour from 1:00-2:00 p.m., with a fresh Turkey Dinner to follow. This will be a great opportunity for us to catch up with each other. Bills fans, the game versus the Patriots will be on. If you are worried about the stairs, we have a lift that will carry you to the first floor. See you then. ✕

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District Deputy Grand Master Ontario/Seneca/Yates District



R.:W.: Eldon N. White
924-1603
ewhite01@rochester.rr.com

Community service takes many forms. Some Lodges serve as bell ringers for the Salvation Army, others collect food for area food banks, and still others buy groceries for needy families or act as "Santa" and distribute toys to local children. Giving during the Christmas Season has long been a tradition in the OSY District. The December "Charities" meeting is a buffet at Canandaigua Lodge in Shortsville. A non-perishable food item from everybody attending will be donated to the local food bank.

Degree

Geneva, Eagle, Seneca and Pocahontas Lodges will all be conferring the Fellowcraft Degree. Dundee is again leading the way; six petitions accepted for membership at their meeting in November. Since the current meeting place will not accommodate that many candidates, the conferral of the 1st Degree will take place at Seneca Lodge in Dresden. Dundee's success should show every Lodge who doubts the power of the Brother Bring-a-Friend program. This makes 13 candidates in a year and a half. If they can do it, other Lodges can do it, as well. I know many Lodges have not held a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night. Remember, this is not an option this year; the Grand Master made it a directive.

December Official visits


Seneca Lake Lodge on the 1st; John Hodge Lodge the 5th; Farmerville-Union the 6th and Dundee the 13th.

Have a blessed and safe holiday season. ✕

Ark Lodge No. 33, F. & A.M.
3rd Wednesdays

Master
R.:W.: Anthony Khoury
(315) 789-6420


Secretary
Peter Einset



3394 Sutton Road
Geneva 14456

We are a Lodge of Brothers committed with many responsibilities to our Lodge, Fraternity and community to make responsible decisions that are charitable to everyone. We need the Brothers to come to our communications on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and contribute to this great endeavor. We are entering our 199th year of Masonic work with a very positive attitude, and are privileged to continue onward to our 200th an-

Grand Sword Bearer Livingston



R.:W.:
Richard J. Trescott
226-9042
rtrescot@frontiernet.net

I have had the pleasure of sharing a Veterans Program with Eunice Lodge. This was one of the best programs that I have seen. The Brothers who are veterans were invited to have a free dinner and share with us one of their most memorable war stories! Each Brother got up and spoke about something they remem-



Veterans and Brothers of Eunice Lodge who shared memories of their military service experiences were provided a free dinner by the Lodge prior to the program.



Brothers participating in the Official Visit of R.:W.: Eldon White, OSY District Deputy Grand Master, to Canandaigua Lodge, with Staff Officer, R.:W.: Herbert Goodman, included R.:W.: Roy Moses and R.:W.: Richard Trescott from the Livingston District. (Photos courtesy of Richard Trescott)

niversary...a milestone few Masonic Lodges have achieved.

When someone asks you, "What does Ark Lodge do?" you will be able to tell them! We try to help our Masonic Brothers, help our Geneva community and try to nourish our own values. We find out who we truly are. We Masons become better to ourselves, families, community, nation, and to whomever needs our help, aid or assistance.

We ask God's blessings on Brothers Robert Inscho, William Kashouty, Maxwell Kaufman, Edward George, John Stelter and Ramon Baroodly.

Master needs help!

I need someone to chair the Brother Bring-a-Friend Night. I have all the information a Brother needs to carry out this work. It is an Edict by the Grand Master and must be carried out in a dignified, organized manner.

Masons meet, act and part

R.: W.: John Stelter presented his 60-year Certificate and Pin by the District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: Eldon White. Grand Lodge Historian, R.: W.: George Peter, Brothers Charles Rouse, Roger Haich, W.: Howard Colegrove, Peter Einset, R.: W.: Donald Dill and I, along with some of our spouses, celebrated this wonderful event at Brother Stelter's home. A good time was had by all.

Ark Lodge's Christmas Party will be held at St. Michael's Church on December 7th at 6:00 p.m.

The Lodge donated \$550 to Brother Ron Philbrook of Seneca Lodge and his family. They suffered a very damaging fire, which destroyed their home. We hope and pray that Brother Ron and his family are doing as well as can be expected.

Thanks go to the silent majority who pay their dues and are always there when you need them! They want to belong to the Masonic Fraternity and be loyal to something bigger which is helping the community and mankind.

R.: W.: John Stelter believes that some people who joined the Masonic Craft have a need for security, a sense of belonging, Fraternal affection, a need to be recognized and appreciated, a need to create a new experience or a need to demonstrate leadership.

I had a nice phone conversation with Brother Stanley Welty of Wooster, Ohio, discussing our views about our society, culture and Lodge. Brother Welty is one of our Brothers who has been given his 50-year Certificate and Pin.

Brothers Howard Colegrove, Jed Brandow and I attended the Grand Lecturer's Convention at Pocahontas Lodge in Seneca Falls and had a grand informational look at the opening and closing of Lodge.

The Brotherhood Fund Honor Roll for October was: Brothers Kenneth Colegrove, Tom Bryan, Howard Colegrove, Edwin Watling, Dale Erikson and me. We deeply appreciate their donations, totaling \$210.

December

7th - Christmas Party at St. Michael's Church at 6:00 p.m. Bring a dessert dish to pass. Please call me at 789-6420 with your reservation. We

must know exact count, as the dinner will be catered.

17th - Bell ringing for the Salvation Army at Tops Supermarket. Hopefully, we will split the time of 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. with Geneva Lodge.

We have not yet established the date for delivery of our Christmas packages to the elderly citizens of Exchange Street, Lewis Street and the Court Yard Apartments. Brothers of both Lodges will be needed.

A very merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. May the Great Architect of the Universe bless all of you with good health, happiness and joy in the New Year.

as he was always there using his talents at the Organ. Brother Lash's Award Presentation was witnessed by Mrs. Lash, our DDGM, R.: W.: Eldon White, myself and others. Grand Master, M.: W.: Edward R. Trosin, was the featured speaker. Certificates were awarded, pins were handed out and pictures were taken. After the ceremonies, we enjoyed snacks, pizza, and other refreshments which were available.

October 28th was our Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, with two potential candidates. A delicious meal of Lasagna, salad, bread, choice of beverage, and yes, dessert to behold, was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Brothers Ron Galens and George Landstrom, their assistants and all the wives who helped put on this great meal. After watching a 12 minute video, *Freemasonry in the Empire State*, we all went up to the Lodge room where our speakers, Brothers Donald Tiffany, Historian; Clayton Ruggles, Community Service, and John Walti, Initiation Process, delivered their related topics. A very captivating presentation for the Order of the Eastern Star was given by Mary Ruggles. Her delivery was exciting and I loved it. Thank you very much, Mary.

On November 1st, we combined a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night with our first Lodge of Remembrance. Since the combining of the two Lodges, Garoga No. 300 and Sincerity No. 200, into Garoga/Sincerity, it was agreed that it would be proper and

timely to honor those Brethren whom death has taken from us. We honored 33 Brothers that night, and I believe it was a good thing.

November 3rd the Grand Lecturer's Convention was held at Pocahontas Lodge in Waterloo. It was preceded by a delicious Roast Pork Supper. There were approximately 75 Masons from 14 Lodges in attendance. The Howard Potts Award was earned by the same two Lodges as last year, Garoga/Sincerity and Geneva.

R.: W.: White, DDGM, opened the Convention. Work for the evening was the Opening and Closing of Lodge. The evening was both educational and fun. Thanks to Brothers Stephen Durso, Junior Deacon, and Ronald Galens, Senior Warden, for their participation. Brother Galens also filled the Master's chair for the closing. Thanks guys. R.: W.: Gilbert complimented the Brothers on the fine work and we closed with the singing of *America*.

I congratulate our Brother Ronald Galens, Senior Warden, on completion of the *Road to the East* course. You will find it to be a most useful tool.

From the Grand Master

"On behalf of Barbara, myself, our family, and the entire Grand Line, to you and those you love, may all enjoy the coming holidays, to the very fullest. And let us again give thanks that we live in a land of the free and the home of the brave that has truly been blessed by our Divine Creator."

Dates to remember

Game Nights will be the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month. Not on December 23rd.

December 20th - Annual budget summary

January 3rd - DDGM Official Visit

January 17th - Brother Ernie Day's Maple Syrup program

Please send your email address to the Secretary at:

cruggle1@rochester.rr.com, or to me at:

tsergeant@rochester.rr.com.

This is an excellent way of getting a message or last minute changes to as many Brothers as possible.

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

Congratulations to these Brothers raised in December: Gordon Campbell, 12/03/02; Kevin Fisher, 12/17/96; David Smith, 12/05/95; James Carney, 12/07/93; Perry Adams, 12/06/94; David Mowers, 12/04/90; John Sherman, 12/04/90; Craig Andrews, 12/01/86; Charles Anderson, 12/05/78; Ronald Rudio, 12/05/78; William Tatro IV, 12/02/75; John Carney, 12/02/69; William Dean, 12/14/62; William Goodman, 12/14/62; Robert Lannon, 12/01/61; Bernard Dell, 12/02/60; Everett Grimsley, 12/02/60; Howard Burgess, 12/07/56; Frederick Gifford, 12/05/52 and John Record, 12/05/47.

Hope to see you at Lodge soon. We need you. It's your Lodge.

Milnor Lodge No. 139
 2nd & 4th Thursdays
 Master W.: Randy Henry
 Secretary R.: W.: Kenneth R. Hall
 289-3801
 gsosy@rochester.rr.com
 21 Maple Avenue Victor 14564

On October 20th, W.: Steven Harwood was awarded the Symbolic Lodge Award at the 20th Annual Scottish Rite Awards Night. I had the honor and privilege of escorting him when he received the Award. Congratulations!!!

By the time you read this, we will have had our first monthly Spaghetti Dinner. These dinners are being held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month as a joint fundraiser for our Lodge and Gah-A-Yan-Duc Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. All are welcome to attend. Dinner is at 5:00 p.m.

Planning ahead

January 12, 2006, will be the Official Visit by the Staff Officer. On January 26th there will be a program on Estate Planning.

February 4th is our Annual Turkey Dinner. February 9th is the Official Visit by our District Deputy.

See you at our next meeting on December 8th. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

Garoga-Sincerity Lodge No. 200
 1st & 3rd Tuesdays
 Master W.: William Sergeant
 (315) 521-0906
 tsergeant@rochester.rr.com
 Secretary R.: W.: Clayton Ruggles
 315-548-3573
 cruggle1@rochester.rr.com
 67 Ontario Street, Phelps 14532

By Clayton Ruggles, Secretary At our Lodge meeting of October 18th, we were visited by Geneva Lodge, on the pretext of participating in our 3rd Degree, which we were "putting on?" The reality was, they came here to deliver the Traveling Trowel. Thank you very much. At the end of our meeting they took with them the Traveling Gavel.

October 20th was the Symbolic Lodge Award Night at the Shrine Center in Webster. Our Lodge honored Brother Robert Lash to be one of the year 2005 recipients of this Award. Our Degrees have always had that little added touch to them,

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Canandaigua Lodge No. 294
 1st & 3rd Mondays
 Master
 W.: David Mason
 981-9340
 Secretary
 R.: W.: George N. Stanton, Jr.
 394-6829
 Shortsville 14548

Monday, November 7th, was our Official Visit by the District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: Eldon White. The evening started with dinner at the Lehigh Restaurant in Shortsville, where all had a good time. The DDGM went over some highlights from the Grand Master's speech. He was joined by several guests: R.: W.: Roy Moses, DDGM for Livingston District; R.: W.: Richard Trescott, Grand Sword Bearer; R.: W.: Herbert Goodman, Grand Steward

Assistant Grand Lecturer
 Wayne District
 V.: W.: David R. Rising



(315) 331-7337
 drising3@msn.com

My Brothers, another year has almost come to a close and I guess I have good reason to be again disappointed in the Lodges in Wayne District. I have sent out two letters to the Masters and in both have mentioned the Edict Degrees. I have heard from three Lodges. These Degrees have to be completed by the end of April so that I may forward my report to the Grand Lecturer and he to the Grand Master. I guess my asking for your help early in the year so that I may set my schedule does not mean anything to you. The following dates are already taken: December 5th-Newark, 3rd Degree; February 8th-Humanity, 3rd; March 1st-Drumlin Square, 3rd. You will now have to work around my schedule.

The Grand Lecturer's Convention went over very well, even though there was low attendance. There were only 35 for dinner as compared to 75 in 2003 and 56 in 2004. I guess this can be attributed to the fact that the Brothers were responsible for paying for their own meal. The afternoon session went well and the evening session was opened by R.: W.: James Frind, Staff Officer, representing the DDGM. There were only 25-30 in attendance for the exempli-

and W.: Randy Henry, Master of Milnor Lodge.

On Sunday, November 6th, we bid a regretful farewell to our Senior Deacon, Brother Roger Simmons, who is a Sargeant in the Army. Brother Simmons and his family are on their way to Ft. Bragg in North Carolina where he will be stationed. He is not certain where he will end up. I will include updates as I receive them. Let's all keep them in our prayers and hope he doesn't ship to Iraq.

Upcoming dates

December 17th will be our annual breakfast with Santa. Those who can help are encouraged to be at the Lodge at 8:00 a.m., so we are ready to serve at 9:00 a.m. The Palmyra Canaltown Queen and her court will be assisting us again this year as elves.

December 19th at 6:00 p.m. we will be taking our ladies out to dinner at Schooners in Canandaigua.

I look forward to seeing you all at our upcoming events and at our next meeting.

fication of the Masonic Memorial Service.

My Brothers, my Lady, Jan and I wish you all the joy and happiness of the holiday season and may the Great Architect of the Universe watch over all of us.

Drumlin Square Lodge No. 1180
 1st & 3rd Wednesdays
 Master
 V.: W.: David R. Rising
 (315) 331-7337
 Secretary
 R.: W.: William C. Jones
 (315) 986-9150
 161 East Main Street
 Palmyra, New York 14522



My Brothers, with this month's issue, another year comes to a close. The time goes so fast. The Grand Lecturer's Convention was held in our Lodge with 35 present for dinner. An excellent meal, prepared by my wife and daughter, was enjoyed by all. We exemplified the Masonic Memorial Service and the Grand Lecturer clarified a lot of information for all present.

December

On December 7th I plan to hold an open meeting for a Lodge of Remembrance. I hope to see you all at Lodge during the coming month.

On December 21st, the Lodge will be conferring a 1st Degree for at least one candidate. I would like to get another if possible. The Senior Warden will be in the East for this Degree.

My Lady, Jan, and I wish you all the joy and happiness of the coming holiday season and may the blessings of the Great Architect of the Universe be with us all.

District Deputy Grand Master



Monroe District

R.: W.: Lewis J. Perna
 334-8265

lperna@peoplepc.com

I am sitting in the office of my position with BOCES, which I began on October 19th. I am a bit bored as I ramp up and am forced to pay attention to the details of my other responsibilities. I am quite conscious of the extent of my Masonic responsibilities, which are life-long. I am aware that I am required to be a positive example to my fellow Brothers and Sisters. My role as a parent exceeds young adulthood, as I find myself missing my adult children who are in various parts of the country. They need a father who remains a part of their growth no matter how far they are from him. Contact with my biological brothers is required if I am to look in a mirror and convince myself that I have done all I can do to maintain relationships that can easily fade due to the business of daily living. I don't think you can be the best Mason possible if you don't reflect on your responsibilities and act on these reflections. We are required to be responsible for ourselves and "do the right thing."

The change in seasons is fully upon us. It's getting colder. The leaves have fallen and we are getting ready for our typical Upstate weather. The District is busy with Degrees making men into Masons. How are we doing with this? Do you need help? Making men into Masons requires commitment. It is not enough to walk them through an activity of Ritual. Assign a mentor following the 1st Degree and engage this Brother. Bring him back for subsequent Lodge meetings. Get his email address and begin providing "need to know" information. An investment in time and commitment will result in a higher likelihood that this Brother will become an active part of your Lodge.

Child ID

I am pleased to announce that Brother Harrison Parson has agreed to resume the responsibilities of the Child ID Coordinator. Please begin to contact Brother Parson if you have any specific Child ID needs that you cannot address. As a reminder, the Child ID equipment is being stored at Unity Lodge and Wakan/Hubbard for equal convenience to all. Contact the respective Masters of each Lodge should you require the equipment.

The Grand Lecturer's Convention had a very good turnout with four Lodges winning the Howard Potts Award. Unity Lodge walked away with the Attendance Banner. I am very proud of all who turned out. Thanks for those outstanding Brothers who stepped up to make the night most educational. Our Grand Lecturer, R.: W.: Ed Gilbert, provided clarification of the Grand Master's Edict regard-

ing all Lodges doing Degree work under the observation of the AGLs. He used an example of a struggling Lodge that, with the help of other Brothers in the District, was able to adhere to the edict.

The next day, R.: W.: Bill Kuehne and I were visiting Churchville Lodge for an Official Visit and found ourselves filling chairs to open the Lodge. Considering all of the above, it was decided that Churchville will be doing the 3rd Degree, and that in the spirit of Brotherly Love, I have committed the efforts and talents of the District to assist Churchville in accomplishing this goal. The spirit and revitalization of Masonry is all of our responsibility. I need your help to achieve this. The date is March 22, 2006. Worshipful Jesse Noble assures me that he will cook a Chicken and Rib Bar-B-Que for the event. Please contact me at: 334-8265 or:

dswlew@rochester.rr.com.

I wish you all the best for the upcoming holiday season. Please be sure to make contact with those Brothers and their families who can no longer make it to Lodge. Assure them they have not been forgotten.

Grand Sword Bearer
 Monroe



R.: W.: Donald A. Tubman
 889-4725

datubman@yahoo.com

I am now the Blade Runner anticipating the selection of a new Sword Bearer to take over the "Blade" from me in May.

The Official Visits continue and I have been stressing that we need to promote what we are doing in the Lodges and what we are doing in Masonry so that the general public knows we are here! In doing so, we will attract men of quality and our ranks should grow.

I have attended two Grand Lecturer's conferences, one at Fairport/Flower City and the other in Palmyra at Drumlin Square Lodge. R.: W.: Edward Gilbert pointed out that all of the Masters received Ritual packets and they should be returned to our AGLs. He stresses the idea or concept that attempting to perform the Ritual is more important to Masonry and to him than performing the Ritual perfectly.



R.: W.: Donald Tubman with V.: W.: David Rising.

I went to Drumlin Square to award Road to the East Certificates. The Brothers attended our School at Eunice Lodge in Livingston County back in

January. One was presented to David Rising, AGL and Master of Drumlin Square Lodge. I also caught Kevin Faro, of Wayne Lodge and Wheelers fame, off guard at the last Damascus Shrine meeting and gave him his Certificate at that time.

MSAT

I am led to believe that the Monroe County School districts have subscribed to this program. MSAT is a program funded entirely by the New York Masons, who bring national trainers to New York State to work with teams of teachers from school districts. The trainers help schools identify and assist children at risk in a systematic and proven-effective program. Since 2001, more than 180 teams have been trained from New York State elementary, middle and high schools. The training is provided free to the schools! No strings attached. New York Masons know that schools face some major problems. Tax dollars are tight, funds are short, and we all agree that kids today face problems. Too many turn to drugs, alcohol, and even suicide. Our schools need to identify and help these students and their families. MSAT helps schools meet these problems head on, with a plan to address the needs of kids at risk and get them back on the right track.

The Widows Lodge of Remembrance is a topic that I have been discussing at Official Visits, as I mentioned last month. I think that this would be a great way of reaching out and keeping track of our widows. Keeping accurate lists and contacts with the widows is of paramount importance with Grand Lodge, as well.

Non-payment of dues

As I mentioned last month, both Bill and I have the responsibility of insuring that anyone being unaffiliated for non-payment of dues or taking a dimit is contacted. This is requested by Grand Master Trosin and is something very necessary in view of the vast numbers who seemingly are leaving the Craft. Please call Bill or me if you are thinking of dimitting, are having trouble with paying your dues or any Masonic issue which may be causing your lack of attendance at Lodge functions.

To all Masters and Secretaries, please advise of any problems and also mail your trestleboards to me. Bill and I will review them. We would like all trestleboards ASAP.

See you in the quarries-Happy Holidays.

Grand Director of Ceremonies

Monroe



R.: W.: William J. Kuehne
 334-9635

wkuehne@netacc.net

This is the season for us to give thanks for all our good fortune throughout the past year. We are truly blessed to live in America, the land of the FREE. I wish each and every one a happy and safe holiday season.

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Please don't forget to reserve the third Monday evenings in January, February, and March for the 2006 Masonic Development Course. This program, while open to all Masons, is especially useful to our newly raised Brethren. There will be a modest fee to cover the cost of certificates, pins and refreshments.

Our Official Visits are progressing well, and your Grand Lodge Officers appreciate the hospitality being provided by all the Lodges.

I urge all business people reading my article to consider purchasing advertisement space in the *Masonic Times*. Your ad will not only have great exposure, but assist keeping the paper as a self-sustaining entity. Thank you for your consideration.

Brotherhood Fund

R.:W.:

Derek VanHouten
Monroe District

The smell of Fall is in the air and the crisp crunch of colorful leaves, which are underfoot, is a sure sign that another season is upon us.

We, in the Monroe District, are once again laboring in the quarries of the Fraternity as we tend to the programs of Grand Lodge and our various Lodges. Each year from October to May we talk to and encourage you to think of the many programs that Grand Lodge makes available to you, the heart and soul of the Fraternity. As you are well aware, these programs can't function completely without your support and that is one reason why each Lodge has a Brotherhood Fund Chairman who works hard during the year to remind you of the benefits in donating to the Brotherhood Campaign to help fund programs such as: the Livingston Library; the Veterans Program; the Medical Research facility and the Masonic Care Community in Utica.

One of our Lodge Chairmen has written a letter to his Lodge Brothers I would like to share with you. Brother Stephen Mitchell writes in part, "As you know, the Brotherhood Fund has many areas to donate to and I hope your favorite will receive a gift from you. Remember any donation, whatever the amount may be, is tax deductible and is sent to where you want it to go. Please find it in your hearts to give so others may know who we are and the great work we do."

As the Grand Master has said, "I urge each of you to respond to this appeal as generously as you can. No contribution is too small. This important Fund acts as an umbrella to collect and provide funding for all charitable endeavors of Grand Lodge and it makes it all possible."

brella to collect and provide funding for all charitable endeavors of Grand Lodge and it makes it all possible."

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

Communication

I have been writing and speaking for a long time on the benefits of communicating with the Craft. Once in a while a case of miscommunication rears its ugly head and begs for someone to bring it up again. Well, here I am. I have been accused by some people that, as far as the computer world is concerned, I am stuck in the 20th century. I will accept that fact but will say that maybe I am currently grazing around late 1999. But, give me a break. At least I use email and other current programs. Let me get to the point.

Grand Lodge, a few years ago, approved sending summoned communications by email. Lodges send many of their communications by email. I support the whole idea of communicating by email. It is fast, easy and saves money in postage. Where I get off the bandwagon in this parade is that we sometimes tend to forget that not everyone uses a computer. We must remember to stay in touch with those brothers, who do not use email, through the postal system.

While we are on the subject of communication, we also must remember those Brothers who are unable to attend meetings and other events because of illness or disability. All it takes is a phone call or a card to make their day.

Masonic Education

Several Lodges have classes going through their Degrees. If you are fortunate to be in this situation, then I hope your Lodge is using the L SOME (Lodge System of Masonic Education) books and tapes to educate these new Brothers. These materials were passed out to Lodges over the last few years. If they can't be found, call your District Staff Officers or me. They are also available from Grand Lodge. The material is excellent for the new Brother and may be beneficial to some of us who have been around for awhile.

The information is in four sections and covers the material learned in each Degree in four meetings. The first section is covered before the 1st Degree and the remaining sections are after each Degree.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all. I hope to see you in a Lodge somewhere. Maybe I can finally get to the 21st century on my computer.

Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.

President
W.: Hugh Woodside
248-2106
hhw@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
Timothy White
328-3732
tim.white@rotork.com

By Hugh Woodside, President
A number of things are going on with the Masters and Wardens. Preparations for the February 2006 Have-a-Heart Campaign are underway, and I expect that you will soon be seeing more information in the *Masonic Times*. We had a productive discussion at our November meeting about membership retention, and have begun early preparations for the trip to Grand Lodge in May. As you know, we are also working on the operating budget and revising the By-Laws.

Our January meeting will be focused on the Have-a-Heart Campaign and other events coming up this Spring. We'll also have some time for information sharing and problem solving, helping each other address issues with which we are faced.

No December meeting

There will be no meeting in December due to the holidays.

January meeting

Our January meeting will be held on Wednesday, the 18th, at the Country Village Family Restaurant, located at 1092A Long Pond Road. The telephone number there is 227-2047. This will be a dinner meeting, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. and adjourn no later than 8 p.m.

Union Star Lodge No. 320

3 North Main Street
Honeoye Falls 14472
2nd Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Gary Sanford
425-4240
ggsanford@aol.com

Secretary
Robert Sweeney, 381-5286
38 Cullens Run, Pittsford 14534
rob@robsweeney.com

At the Grand Lecturer's Convention, held at Fairport/Flower City Lodge, our Lodge was able to qualify for the Howard Potts Award. Thanks to the seven required Officers and the three additional Brothers who were able to join us for dinner. As usual, the Fairport/Flower City Lodge put on a fine steak dinner with all the trimmings.

Our Degree schedule called for a change, as we have another candidate. We conferred his 1st Degree on November 10th. Our Senior Warden, Scott May, sat in the East for this Degree. Thanks to R.:W.: Rod Rittenhouse for the Historical Lecture; W.: Bud Ripley for the Working Tools; W.: Terry Hatch and Brother Rob Sweeney for the Questions and Answers and all our Officers for their parts. There was a good Chicken Dinner prior to the Degree. Thanks to my wife, Gail, and daughter, Cheryl, for their work.

It is that time of year again for the Masonic Brotherhood Fund. Our chairman for this year's campaign is Brother Will Nersinger. Please support him and our Fraternity by returning your envelope with your pledge for any of the listed programs you chose.

The South side of the building is starting to look much better with that area of the brick repaired and painted. The work to the chimneys on the roof is complete and they should be good for another twenty years.

Sympathy

Our condolences to R.:W.: Martin Reitz on the passing of his wife, Eleanor, in October. May the blessing of God be with him and his family.

Dues

I wish to remind you that your Lodge dues need to be into our Secretary, Robert Sweeney, by the end of December this year.

December

We will be conferring the 2nd Degree on December 12th with three candidates and will have a rehearsal on December 5th at the Lodge at 7:00 p.m. Please call me at 425-4240 to make your dinner reservation, if you missed the sign up.

The annual Fellowcraft Club Christmas Party will be on December 19th at the Lodge at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be very brief, as we will have snacks and games for the evening.

January

Please remember that we will be holding our Annual Communications on January 9th and the 3rd Degree on January 23rd, conferred by our own Lodge.

Please take the time to enjoy yourself and family during this holiday season and remember those less fortunate than we are.

Give to the
Masonic
Brotherhood
Fund
Campaign

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present

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FAME

Lodge No. 722

2nd & 4th Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.Master
W.: Frank
Churnetski
671-7551Secretary
W.: Michael Bell
244-2895mbell6@rochester.rr.com
4275 Culver Road

Our Lodge meeting this month is December 13th. There will be a dinner at 6:30 p.m., and our business meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. The dinner will be our regular Christmas Party and will be Tips and Tails at a cost of \$10.00 per person. Please make reservations for you and your guest.

Please support the Brotherhood Fund. It is very important to provide financial aid to many worthwhile programs. Please give what you are able.

I wish everyone a happy, healthy, holiday season. During this holiday season, please take some moments to remember our Brothers who have passed on. Let us also remember in our thoughts and prayers our Brothers and their families who find themselves in sickness or distress.

Last but not least, I wish a happy birthday to everyone celebrating in December. ✕

**Craftsman
Robertson
Lodge No. 969**

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

Master
R.: W.: Derek
Van Houten
247-2920

hooter95@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: Thomas W. Kendig
(315) 524-4063
tkendig4@hotmail.com

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

The Fall season is upon us as we struggle to keep up with the amount of leaves, which seem to be everywhere. The crunch of the crisp colorful remnants of warmer times is a pleasant reminder for when it really gets cold.

We recently said good-bye to a long-time member of Craftsman Robertson Lodge, Brother Chester 'Chet' Kowalski. Our Chaplain, W.: Volney Frankel, did an outstanding Service that was emotional for both this writer, as well as the family. Thank you, Volney!!

December

At the December 6th dinner at the Nutcracker we will enjoy a repeat performance by Denny and Her Escorts, a musical group who have entertained us in the past.

Our December business meeting on the 20th will be a

Summoned Meeting. Our May election paperwork was rejected by the Grand Secretary's Office. The election we held did not conform to Grand Lodge Constitutional regulations. As a result, we will be changing our By-Laws to mirror those of Grand Lodge to get us back in good graces. Please attend to voice your opinion in the matters at hand.

W.: Tom Kendig, Secretary, has sent out the dues notices for 2006 and would appreciate your assistance in getting the dues back to him so we can carry on the work of the Lodge.

Happy Birthday to you

John Auer, Thomas Colombo, Richard Gundry, Carlos Mederos, Earl Pearce, John Smith and George Wyatt are Lodge Brothers celebrating their special day this month. Congratulations to all of you.

It was nice to see Brother Jim Causey at Lodge. If any Brother needs a ride, please contact an Officer or me.

We will be delivering Poinsettias to our shut-ins and widows on Sunday afternoon, December 18th. ✕

**Wakan/Hubbard
Lodge No. 154**2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.Master
W.: Hugh H.
Woodside
248-2106

hhw@rochester.rr.com

Assistant Secretary
W.: Donald
C. Bell
334-7768Secretary
W.: Theodore
J. Snyder
467-0165

ted3078@aol.com

don_bell@hotmail.com

1822A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

It is hard to believe that the holidays are upon us already! Wakan/Hubbard Lodge continues to be busy, and I appreciate the dedication that each of you has brought to your work in the quarries.

Thanks to our veterans. Veterans Day has come and gone, and I apologize to each of our veterans for not recognizing your service and dedication to our great country in a more timely fashion. I reached out to a number of you at the Lodge and via email, but I know that all of you are not able to join us regularly and many do not have access to email. It is your service to this country that helped make it great, and continues to make it strong. You are an inspiration to all of us. THANK YOU!

New Organ!

Many of you may have noticed the "new" organ in the Lodge hall. Brother Bill Fay's son, William, donated it in November. Bill arranged to have it moved into the Lodge before our Entered Apprentice Degree on November 14th. With it, I hope Bill will continue to share his beautiful music with us for many years to come. Please take a minute to thank

Bill and his son for this generous donation.

Building update

By the time you read this, the work on the building facade will be complete. The Great Architect blessed us with some great weather in late October and early November, which allowed the contractors to complete their work. Please stop by to have a look—it looks better than it has in years. We've received great feedback from the photography shop and many passers-by.

The tenant search continues. The Trustees had an open meeting at the Lodge on November 5th to discuss our options with the building. A number of good things came out of that meeting.

First and foremost, there was a discussion about the operating budget for the Lodge. Given the resources that we currently have, we will be able to operate without a tenant for more than a year (if absolutely necessary). A number of areas were identified where cost savings are available, and those items are being researched. Alternatives to generate additional rental income were also brought to the table for consideration.

Second, the Trustees and Officers agreed that it was time to find a realtor to help us in the tenant search. Although this will likely cost us a portion of the annual lease income, this is a small price to pay to have the space filled with a new tenant. Having two tenants gives us sufficient income to meet our budget and have funds for capital improvements. Without the income from a second tenant, we have a budget shortfall and no room for improvement.

Third, a number of Brothers volunteered to join the Building Committee to assist its Chairman, Bruce Miles, in caring for the building and developing a long range plan for its upkeep and modernization. These Brothers included Joe Oelgoetz, Gordon Ball, Don Brugger and Angelo DiCataldo. I am confident that we are now moving in the right direction with the building.

Importantly, we must thank our Senior Warden, Mike DiCataldo, for all of his hard work. Mike has been working hard on the tenant search and has played a key role in facilitating the renovations. Without his help, much of this may not have been done. Thanks, Mike!

Upcoming events

December Trestleboard Dates. Important! There are two errors in the dates printed in our December trestleboard. Correct dates are as follows:

(1) The holiday visits for shut-ins will be on Sunday, December 11th.

(2) Our December communication will be held on Monday, the 12th. Please make sure that you have the correct dates in your calendar!

Officers' Meeting

This will be held at the Lodge on Monday, December 5th, at 7:00 p.m. We will make preparations for the Annual Meeting and the Fellowcraft Degree coming up in January, and discuss a number of other important issues.

Holiday visits

On Sunday, December 11th, groups of Brothers will be going out to visit our shut-ins.

Please take some time to join us for these visits, as it is very important to remember our Brothers in need and to spend some time with them. Please contact the Master if you would like to help us spread some holiday cheer.

Financial Meeting

Our annual financial meeting will be held on Monday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m. As usual, this is a summoned meeting and will include the discussion of the proposed budget for 2006 and the financial reports for 2005. I hope to hold a special election to fill expected vacancy for Treasurer. Please be sure to attend.

Family Holiday Party

Wakan/Hubbard Lodge will hold its First Annual Family Holiday Party on Saturday, December 17th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This will be a holiday party with a purpose, as the Lodge will adopt a family in Rochester to help for the holidays. Of course, this family event will provide a great opportunity to gather with your Brothers and their families to celebrate the holiday season. There will be activities for the kids, and refreshments for everyone. Please get your reservations to our Junior Warden by Monday, December 12th. Details on the cost will follow, as well as details concerning the family and their needs. Please join us, and help us share the holiday spirit with those in need.

Degree Rehearsal

We will have a rehearsal for the Fellowcraft Degree on

December 2005

Tuesday, January 3rd at 7:00 p.m. at the Lodge. Officers and Degree participants should plan accordingly, and study hard.

Fellowcraft Degree

The Lodge will confer a Fellowcraft Degree on Monday, January 9th at 7:30 p.m. There will be a dinner prior to the Degree, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Details on the meal will follow from the Junior Warden.

Master's Message

As the holiday season continues, it is important to reflect on all of the things we have to be thankful for. The Great Architect of the Universe gazes upon us lovingly each and every day, and his blessings are many and varied. While many of those blessings are immediately evident, some are disguised as challenges. When faced with those challenges, it is up to us to recognize the good that may come from them and do everything in our power to ensure that good DOES come from them. Facing them may make us uncomfortable, but only in doing so can we help others and ourselves. Recognize that many folks out there are dealing with challenges that may be much more difficult than those you are facing, and reach out your hand to help. Each time you offer kind words, or think of others before yourself, you add one more brick to your spiritual edifice, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

May God Bless you and yours. Have a happy holiday season! ✕

**WEBSTER
LODGE NO. 538**1st & 3rd
Thursdays
7:30 p.m.Master
W.: Michael
Nohle
216-9016Secretary
W.: Bernard Russell
872-135330 Orchard Street
Webster 14580

My Brothers, December is here already. How fast time flies! I know that many of you have, or are getting ready to, head South for the Winter. All I can say is "you lucky ducks!" and "Take me! Please!" Okay, I promise to try to hold down the fort while you're away. Please travel safe.

Sickness and distress

Please keep Brothers Brad Hebner, Ken Hutchinson and Harry Brewer in your thoughts and prayers as they each recover from various health-related troubles.



Webster Lodge members (and friend) who participated in the Highway Cleanup project sponsored by the Lodge. Another example of Webster Masons serving their community.

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President

to work (and there were many) and to the Explorer Post for a job well done. I am so pleased with our success. I have received many compliments regarding our generosity to the community.

On November 17th, following a delicious turkey dinner provided by Wthy. Joy Woodley, we conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree to seven of eight candidates. R.: W.: Bruce Chilton served as Master for the Degree and one of the candidates was his son, Bill. Also, W.: Tom Pellett presented the Aprons; Brother Aaron Perry provided Answers to Questions; W.: Bill Edwards did a wonderful job with the Historical Lecture, and R.: W.: Bill Kuehne delivered the Charge and played the organ. It was a very special evening. Nice job, Officers and Brothers!

Coming in December

On Thursday, December 1st, we will have a Masonic education program concerning the symbolism and teachings of the 1st Degree.

On Friday, December 2nd, we will again sponsor Girl Scout Troop No. 490 for our monthly Spaghetti Dinner. Please come out in support of the girls and enjoy a great dinner. Please know that just coming and eating is support. There should never be appre-

hension or guilt for not working if you come and buy dinners. I do ask that everyone try to contribute some time to help at some point. Let's continue to make this program a success and continue to send our message out to the community. Bring your family and friends!

On Saturday, December 10th, I would like to have an informal holiday gathering at the Lodge. Please send me your feedback on this. Your interest will determine if we have this program or not.

On Thursday, December 15th, we will have a Lodge of Remembrance program.

Saturday, December 24th, is our annual breakfast and poinsettia delivery.

Closing remarks

For many, this time of year can be a bummer. The cold, dark, short days can make us feel down. Why not let Masonry pull you back up? Conferred our Degrees and making Master Masons is exciting and a way to breathe new life into our Lodge and our whole Fraternity. Coming to Lodge and enjoying good company and fellowship can be uplifting and may very well help those Winter blues.

I wish for all of you and your families many blessings and a joyous holiday season. x

Toogood did the Whys and Wherefores. Senior Warden, Ron Bryant of Webster and I did the Q&As, with Brother Gus Neidrich III doing the Working Tools; I did the Charge. We again had Entered Apprentices on the sidelines and just too many other Brothers to name. There came a time when I asked Unity's W.: David if he would like to say a few words. He did: he wished Brother Joe Privitera a happy 65th birthday at which time W.: Karl Heinz-Reich of Unity stood up, produced his accordion, and we all sang the birthday song. We retired to the dining room where we had two huge pans of baked ziti prepared by the wife of our steward, Jeff Robinson, and a birthday cake for old Brother Joe. What a super night.

November 8th was Leah Chapter, OES, Master Masons' night at Clio. Preceding the meeting 13 Master Masons, including myself, enjoyed a superb Ham and scalloped potato dinner prepared by the Sisters of Leah Chapter.

During the meeting following the dinner, the Sisters complimented the Clio Brothers for having such a good turnout of Master Masons. The Sisters also complimented and thanked us for the recent work that has been done on the Lodge building, inside and out. As Master of Clio, I personally thanked Leah Chapter for an enjoyable evening.

November 15th was our 2nd Degree with W.: Scott Brickman in the East and Brother Mike Grady of Union Lodge, Lima, doing the Middle Chamber Lecture. Filling in for our Junior Warden, George Todd, was W.: Gerry Jones, a former Marine.

December

December 6th will be a regular stated business meeting. This is a very important notice to Clio Bothers. At this meeting we will be reviewing our membership and financial records. The 2006 dues notices have been mailed out. If you have not received one, please notify our Secretary. If you haven't paid your dues, help us out by mailing your check ASAP. If for some reason you find it financially difficult or are in arrears on your dues, please call me or our Secretary, W.: Sean Noonan.

December 20th is our 3rd Degree; if all goes well between now and then, W.: Sean Noonan will be in the East. Come out to Clio and enjoy!

Our Spaghetti Dinners are doing well. I am pleased with the Brothers who are helping our Lodge stay afloat.

December 14th is our only Spaghetti Dinner this month.

- No dinner on December 28th.
- No meeting January 3rd, 2006.

Please respond


Brotherhood Fund notices are out; please don't throw it out - send it back with a little something inside. Our Brotherhood Fund is one of the most important projects that we have in Masonry. Please be as generous as you can in your contribution. Some of our Brotherhood Fund donations will be going to our Southern Brothers and Lodges to help following the damage suffered from the recent hurricanes.

Sickness and distress

W.: Dale Polmateer and W.: David Goodrich have been visiting some of our house-bound Brothers. Two of the Brothers visited were W.: Harry Hopkins and Brother Nick Panarites. Brother Frank Celona, our Junior Deacon; has had a lingering chest and head cold or flu. W.: Gordie Smith and Brother Scott Blystone are still being plagued by a stomach flu. Brother Dana Daniels is having some eyesight problems. Brother Ross Wayne is reported to be under the weather. Our Junior Warden, Brother George Todd, was scheduled for surgery the middle of November. Brother Norman Wright had a successful surgical implant of a heart defibrillator/pacemaker and is in recovery at home. Let's remember these Brothers in our prayers.

Before closing, let me ask you a very important question: Does your dues card show a 2005 date? If not, you need to call the Lodge Secretary. In God We Trust! x

UNITY
Lodge No. 479



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

Master
W.: David
Sylvester
594-9779
davidcsylvester@hotmail.com

Secretary
R.: W.: Clifford Short, 225-0464
short4us@frontiernet.net
133 South Union Street, Spencerport 14559

Unity Lodge has developed a new service program aimed at helping our Brothers and widows who may be in need of some help. The program called, "Masonic Helping Hands," stems from a proposal brought before the Lodge by Brother Leon Randall. The Lodge is making itself available to bring aid to our members in the form of light handyman jobs, rides to the doctor or supermarket, or any type of support we can be to those Brothers and widows who may be in need. If any Brother knows of a member who needs our help, please have them call the Lodge at 352-4831 or W.: David Sylvester at 594-9779. A team of Brothers is ready to respond to the immediate needs of our Fraternal family.

We have brought the challenge before the Monroe and surrounding Districts to adopt this same program within the Blue Lodge to help spread the cement of brotherly love and be a genuine support to those Brothers and widows in need.

Our first meeting in November was the 2nd Degree. Our three new Brothers worked diligently to become proficient and it was a pleasure passing them. Thank you to all the Brothers who helped out, and a special thanks to W.: Michael Schwartz for an outstanding job in the Middle Chamber Lecture. Thank you to the ladies of Etolian Chapter of the Eastern Star for the excellent meal they provided before the meeting.

At our second meeting, November 28th, we had our Official Visit. DDGM, R.: W.: Lew Perna and his Staff Officers were in attendance. We enjoyed a fine dinner before the meeting at Stuey's in Spen-

cerport. After Brother Perna's message to the Lodge, he assisted the Worshipful Master in presenting awards to some members of Unity Lodge. Due to the recent consolidation we did not have an official awards ceremony this year, and wanted to recognize these Brothers before the New Year. Our next awards ceremony will be in May of 2006.

We assisted the Red Cross with a Blood Drive at the Ogden Town Hall, to end November.


December

In December we have only one stated communication. It will be the 3rd Degree on the 12th. We will have the Assistant Grand Lecturers in Lodge to observe per the Grand Master's Edict. Please come out and support the newly raised Brothers. Joe Privitera, 392-5583, is organizing the Dramatic Section of the Degree. Contact him if you would like a part in the ceremony.

Our Holiday Party will be at the Lodge on December 19th at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass. Ham and beverage will be provided. If you would like Santa Claus to present a gift to your child or loved one, please bring a wrapped gift with the persons name attached.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, and I hope the new year brings great peace and joy to you and yours. x

Valley/Simes
Lodge No. 109



2nd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Joseph H.
Gingold
637-6008
cptg03@aol.com

Secretary
R.: W.: Herbert Spencer
334-7493
hsponce1@rochester.rr.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

By R.: W.: Herbert Spencer


As I sit thinking what to put into this message, I also think of our snowbirds who have fled South. I trust they will find their homes in tact, despite the hurricanes.

At our November meeting, we had what I call terrible attendance. We were missing half of the Officers and had a total of only 13 Lodge Brothers. Of course we had plenty of dinner leftovers to take home. I realize that there are other Lodges out there that wish they could get 13, but we usually have an average of 17 to 18 Brothers attend all meetings. If we are to survive, we need Officers who take the commitment to be there seriously. Whatever our financial status is, the money does not help us if we keep getting the same Brothers in attendance.

We had substitute Brothers in various chairs and Brother Richard DeCroce did a fine job for his first time in the East. We did not do the usual method of the Lodge of Remembrance, but we did a moment of silence as we mentioned their names and remembered our Brothers and all who serve our country who are in harms way.

W.: Ed Schmitt gave us a heads-up on his visit to New Orleans. He mentioned the police SWAT team and that they are without uniforms and other necessities to perform their duties. There will be a fu-

CLIO
Lodge No. 779



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

Master
W.: Harry J.
DeHollander
244-2615
NY4HARRY@aol.com

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

Let me begin by wishing all my readers a very happy holiday season. Today is November 7th and it's 55° out, so pardon me for not being quite in the holiday spirit yet. I am looking forward to the upcoming Thanksgiving meal, which will have come and gone by the time you read this article. Deer hunters: be careful out there!

October

On October 8th, W.: David Upham represented Clio at the "Meet Your Deputy Grand Master" meeting at Webster Lodge. Brother Dave reports it was a well coordinated and excellently presented program; R.: W.: Neil I. Bidnick, Deputy Grand Master, did an outstanding overall job answering questions and conversing with the Brothers. W.: Dave was very impressed with R.: W.: Neil's knowledge and understanding of Masonry in New York State.

On October 18th we had a 1st Degree for one candidate. This was the first time Clio's new line had performed this work and I was told that it was a job well done. I was in the East; Senior Master of Ceremonies, Brother Gus Neidrich III presented the Working Tools; W.: Stuart Brickman and I did the Questions and Answers and W.: Richard Barnes presented the Charge.

In attendance were new Entered Apprentices from Unity Lodge with their escorts and other visitors. I would be re-

miss not to mention our Westside Monroe AGL, V.: W.: John E. Dyer, who assured me he was only there as an observer. Sitting next to him was V.: W.: Mark DiBelka, past AGL of Livingston District. When an AGL smiles, is that good or bad?

On October 20th, I had the pleasure of escorting Clio's Treasurer, Brother Frank Sassone, to the East at the Shrine Center to receive his Symbolic Lodge Award, sponsored by the Valley of Rochester, A.A.S.R. Presenting the awards were Ill.: Harold Aldrich, 33° Active and Deputy for New York; M.: W.: Edward Trosin, 33°, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York; and Ill.: Robert D. Pedersen 33°, Commander-in-Chief of the Valley of Rochester. Twenty-four Lodges from six local Districts were present; one Brother from each Lodge received the Award. Also presented were three "Remember the Blue Lodge" medallions and year bars. Two of the three went to Clio Brothers: W.: David Upham and me; and one to Wakan/Hubbard Brother, R.: W.: John Zabel, 33°. It was an outstanding Masonic evening. Thank you, A.A.S.R.

On October 25, Clio had five Brothers attend the dinner and Grand Lecturer's Convention at Fairport Lodge. Not enough for a Howard Potts Award. Maybe next time. While at this meeting, I learned that Unity Lodge also had a candidate who had missed their 1st Degree. I informed Unity's W.: David Sylvester and Secretary, R.: W.: Cliff Short that Clio was doing a second 1st Degree on November 1st, and invited them to bring their fellow to our Degree.

November

On November 1st, Clio and Unity, at Clio, conferred a very well executed 1st Degree with me in the East. Clio's line did the floor work and Unity's R.: W.: Joe Privitera and W.: Jim

ture article by him telling us of their needs. We had an excellent dinner, as usual. We missed Richard Snyder, who took off to bring his new motor home South. He expects to be back for the December meeting.

Our December business meeting will be very short, but we will have a few urgent things to do. The Lodge will open at 5:30 p.m. to conduct its business; this is your notice to be there. I am calling it "A Night to Remember." A flyer has gone to all Brothers of the Lodge with details. You will also find an ad in this issue. Reservations are a must. We will be welcoming home our Worshipful Master, Captain Joseph Gingold from Iraq. We will be having a Buffet Dinner with all the trimmings. There will be entertainment, gifts for the ladies and will include a holiday celebration. Make your reservation early.

It has been a while since I wrote an article, as you can tell by the way I did it. I will take this moment to wish all my Brothers, their ladies and families, a most happy holiday season for the celebrations of Christmas and Chanukkah. *

Brotherhood Fund

By R.: W.: Mat Gingold

I am pleased to report that since the kick-off of our Campaign in September, we have received response from 80 Lodge members. This is indeed more than 50% of our membership. It is most gratifying to find such spontaneous showing of support of our effort to attain 100% participation this year. I received notes stating that they didn't have an envelope provided by Grand Lodge and they wanted to show their support so they sent me a one dollar bill or a check payable to the "Masonic Brotherhood Fund."

I thank each and everyone of you for your cooperation and I am confident that by the next edition of the *Masonic Times*, we will be close to achieving our goal of 100% participation by the Lodge's membership.

As previously requested, please return your donation to: Mathew L. Gingold, 104 Drake Drive, 14617-4309.

I am sure that each one of you will receive your reward in many ways for your charitable act.

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon you and yours. *

District Deputy Grand Master

Genesee/Wyoming District



R.: W.:
Norman H.
Steinbaugh
591-2073

normann@pcom.net

The meeting with R.: W.: Neil I. Bidnick, Deputy Grand Master, at Lackawana Lodge, held on November 5th, presented a myriad of ideas and ways to greatly improve Masonry in our District. The program included information about Lodges and buildings, Masonic Education, including a seminar on the Masonic University of New York and updates on the Individual Development Course. Information was also presented on the MORI - On Line Registry Program, which was of great in-

terest to the Lodge secretaries in attendance. I have the information on all these programs and others which I will gladly share with the Lodge members who were unable to attend the meeting.

District Officers

LAST CALL! The District is searching for applicants for new District Officers for the coming term and time is very short. I know that there are many qualified Brothers in the Genesee/Wyoming District who are interested and there is no time left to procrastinate. Submit your applications NOW. Selections will be made the first week of December.

Travels

R.: W.: Harry Tyson and I have enjoyed our travels around the Lodges, attending events and meeting all the Brothers of the Genesee/Wyoming District this year. We look forward to many more in the coming year.

May God bless our great country and may peace and brotherly love prevail. *

Oakland Lodge

No. 379, F. & A.M.

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



Master
W.: Kenneth
E. Smith
768-7731

Secretary
W.: Richard L. Smith
493-5408

134 South Main Street, Castile 14427

I'm sitting down to start this article and wondering how bad we are all going to pay for the wonderful weather that Western New York has been experiencing this Fall. I took my daughter out for Halloween and she was able to dress as a ballerina and not a girl dressed to go sledding. I just cringe at what lies ahead of us regarding the weather, but I am very excited about what lies ahead for Oakland Lodge.

1st Degree

Oakland Lodge conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on three candidates at a special communication. Two of the candidates were from Oakland Lodge. We also had the pleasure of a candidate joining us from Olive Branch Lodge. I welcome the two Brothers from Oakland Lodge and one Brother from Olive Branch Lodge into our wonderful Fraternity. The Degree went extremely well and I was very pleased with the Ritual

performed by the Officers and members of Oakland Lodge. I congratulate Brother Bob Kemp and Brother Art Robinson for the excellent Ritual work they did as Master and Senior Deacon, respectively. This was the first time for Brother Kemp sitting in the East and Brother Robinson sitting in the Senior Deacon chair for Ritual work.

Thank you

I thank the members of Attica, Constellation and Olive Branch Lodges for the help and support provided in the conferral of the Entered Apprentice Degree. I don't believe it would have been possible for Oakland Lodge to confer this Degree without the help of the Brothers from these Lodges. I am fraternally grateful and hope that I can provide the same type of help and support in the future.

2nd Degree

I would like to confer the Fellowcraft Degree at our second communication in December, the 20th. It appears as this will probably be a joint Degree with the candidates from Oakland and Olive Branch again and possibly a candidate from a third Lodge, also. Hopefully, this date will allow the Brothers throughout the District to fill the sidelines and assist in bringing more light in Masonry.

Thankful

By the time you receive this article, we will all have celebrated Thanksgiving. There are plenty of things which we can all be thankful for this year. Living in the United States of America should be on the top of all our thankful lists. As bad as it seems sometimes to live and experience what we do on a daily basis, just stop and think that we still have it the best in the world. Even though it seems as though a lot of our freedoms are getting taken away, we are still afforded a lot of freedoms that many people throughout the world do not ever get to experience. I know that I have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season: I'm thankful for my family; I'm thankful that another little girl is going to be added to my family this January; I'm thankful for being a Mason; I'm thankful that my

father gets to experience my Mastership with me; I'm thankful that everyday I get to wake up in a country that is free; and I'm thankful for those who have and are currently serving in the armed forces. I challenge all Mason's to take some time this holiday season and think about what they are thankful for. See just how many reasons you can think of yourself to be thankful for this year.

Brotherhood Fund

I am the Brotherhood Chairman for Oakland Lodge. The best place to make your donations is at our monthly communications. For those who are unable to make it, please mail your donations to: Kenneth E. Smith, 137 Lake Street LeRoy, NY 14482. If you would like your donation to be designated towards a certain category, please inform me of that on the memo section of your check or a small note sent with your donation. For those donations that do not state a designated category, you leave me no choice but to designate your donation for you. I thank all the Brothers of Oakland Lodge for any donations received towards this Fund. This is just one of the ways that we can show support for our great organization and those who are our Brothers.

December

The regular communications for the month of December will be the 6th and 20th. The first communication will be used to rehearse the first section of the Fellowcraft Degree and take care of any business brought before the Lodge.

At the second communication of the month, Oakland Lodge will be conferring the Fellowcraft Degree.

Here's hoping this article finds all my fellow Brothers enjoying a happy and healthy start to the holiday season. Let us never forget those who have fought and are still fighting to keep our great nation free and safe. Always remember that freedom isn't free.

May the blessings of heaven rest upon all Masons and their families wherever they are throughout the world. *

West Star Lodge No. 413

F. & A. M.

1st & 3rd
Mondays



Master
W.: William R.
Geitner
535-7874
WGeitner@aol.com

W.: Kenneth Kohlhagen
Secretary, 591-9598

2473 Route 20A, Varysburg 14167

Fall is here and this weather is unbelievable. Months ago I predicted good weather, but I never guessed it would last this long. Now I'm looking forward to a green Christmas. Santa can put wheels on his sleigh!

At our stated communication November 7th we had 12 Brothers present. Next meeting we will try to do even better. It's nice to see a full house. For a little Lodge like West Star, we do great. At this meeting several topics were discussed.

The first was under sickness and distress. Brother Robert Hawkins was in the hospital for an operation. He came home soon after and is now home resting. R.: W.: Merle Robinson is in the hospital in Virginia. Merle and Bob need lots of cards and prayers. Merle's address in Virginia is: 2316 Strangford Circle, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

The next topic was the trestleboard. First on the agenda is a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night on December 5th. Bring as many friends as possible because on January 16th we will confer a 1st Degree with or without a candidate, weather permitting!

On January 2nd we will have limburger and liverwurst on rye. If you like limburger, you have to cut it, because I'm not touching it!

Uncle Mel has been busy making repairs to the Lodge building. We had to replace an outside wall to the back of the pantry. He also patched a leak in the roof. Thank you!

I wish for you and your family a happy New Year and a very Merry Christmas.

We hope to see you soon. Until then, have a great day. *

Mount Vernon Lodge No. 263

2nd & 4th
Mondays



Master
W.: Arthur
C. Brach
(716) 875-1429

cwhistory@adelphia.net

Secretary
W.: Jim Allan, 457-3079

Main Street
Java Village 14083

WOW! December. Where has the Summer gone? According to my lawn mower and snow blower, it is definitely Winter. Is it my imagination or did I miss Thanksgiving? It seems that all the retailers went right from Halloween into Christmas. I guess everyone is entitled to celebrate however they can.

Speaking of celebrating, let us not forget our Brothers, widows and orphans who are not as fortunate as us. PLEASE, if you have not as yet responded to our Brotherhood Fund, DO SO NOW. I realize that this time of year it seems that everyone wants our donation. But the Brotherhood Fund is one of the many things that separates us from other organizations.

Once more I thank Dana Foster and her volunteers for the incredible Wine and Cheese Party they sponsored in Octo-

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Night to Remember

Valley-Simes Lodge No. 109

Tuesday, December 13th

Damascus Shrine Center 979 Bay Road

Welcome Home Worshipful Master
Captain Joseph H. Gingold

Official Visit

R.: W.: Lewis J. Perna

District Deputy Grand Master

15th Annual Holiday Celebration

Social hour 5:30 p.m.; Buffet Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Reservations by December 9th to

Herbert Spencer (334-7493) or Richard DeCroce (426-3725)

December 2005

ber. We gave out two petitions to the sons of one of our newest Brothers. If you missed this, you shorted yourself, family and friends of an incredible evening.

On November 28th the Eastern Star hosted our second Family, Friends and Brother Bring-a-Friend Night. Our Longevity Cane was presented to W.: Ray Driver by his sons, W.: Mike, and Brother Dan Driver. Ray was raised on March 22, 1943!

Also, Dana Foster presented the Past Master's Apron to her husband, W.: Craig Foster, our Master in 2004-05. During Craig's tenure we raised two new Brothers, excelled in our Ritual work and installed a handicap ramp at the Java Village Baptist Church. CONGRATULATIONS to these very special Brothers.

Be sure to make your reservations for our Christmas Party/Dinner on the 12th. Bring your family, friends, significant or insignificant others. Contact J.P. at 457-3079.

May the blessings of heaven rest upon us and all our loved ones. May the Great Architect protect and safely return our service personnel, and may peace prevail during this Holy Season and forever more. ✕

even after the death of two Brothers and the loss of a member.

This month I would like to tell you about one of our members and what he brings to our Lodge. He has sat in the East, and is the Hesperus Treasurer. If there ever was a person who lives as a Mason, W.: Richard Sands is certainly one of the great exemplars of Masonry.

He is about to start his season to solicit donations, pack Christmas baskets, Christmas flowers, Christmas meals to so many of the local residents and to several of our Masonic friends who need to know that Masons care. Brother Richard is also assisted by several other community groups in this project. It seems that every organization he comes in contact with, the same results are demonstrated. In addition to this project, he also sends phone cards to our military personnel who are from the Hesperus area and wish to communicate to their friends and families.

This past year again, Brother Richard and his committee took our Chicken Bar-B-Que to better financial results. With so many outstanding members, I thought that it would be in order to tell you about different members at times so that we can say thank you in yet another way. Thank you Brother Richard Sands.

Again, I wish to encourage people with talent to join us in our March 5th variety show and dinner. ✕

is very nice of these young men to get up on a Sunday morning to help us. Our sink is a back breaker and the boys do a great job on dishes and end of day cleaning duties. Come out to the Lodge on the first Sunday of the month to enjoy, not only breakfast, but the entertainment.

Degree

We have a Brother ready to experience his 2nd Degree. Due to work schedules it has been hard to find a date and, with holidays fast approaching, it will probably have to wait until January.

I am proud to say we had all of our Officers present for the Official Visit of V.: W.: George Springett and were able to open in due and ancient form. George was easy on us and only had a little constructive criticism. I will try to remember Four HUNDRED Sixty Two.

Oh, by the way, Molly says hello and how happy she is at Attica Lodge. We are still looking for the book that is to accompany Molly, as it has much history that can never be recreated. Please check your desk, safes and the back seats of your cars to see if this blue loose-leaf book can be located.

Please plan to attend on December 21st for a dinner with your spouse and to celebrate the first official day of Winter. ✕

Ron Starkweather Regains the Scratch Lead!

By Jay McCullough

At the beginning of November, at Brother Tom Sardou's Rose Garden Bowl in East Bergen, Ron Starkweather, League president from Basom, NY (we draw from everywhere - that's West of Byron for you city folk and just East of the Tonawanda Indian Reservation) took over from Gary Cornelius of Unity Lodge in Spencerport with a 187 average. Brother "Let'r Rip" Derek Van Houten returned from a Mediterranean voyage and regained possession of the "Derek (5) Pin." It just stood there at the end of last season, so he had to take it home with him. And it looks like it wants to 'stand' for him again more often than two or three others who accidentally acquired it for a short time.

Even John Specht of Hesperus Lodge in Bergen fell victim once or twice, but just couldn't sustain the aim required to make it his.

Dick Kessler, of Unity Lodge, is sneaking up the leaderboard with some well crafted strikes and John Mattern, also of Unity, continues to be "Mr. Deliberate" as he carefully sets up his approach for each release of the ball. Some on opposing lanes call this nap time, but I wouldn't want to air that in public! After all, John places high in the handicap game standings, holding 2nd place in the prize list. Jack Spencer has returned with a vengeance, having finished the season on the grounds of Terry Hills Golf Club. He's taken over 2nd high league scratch average already with that smooth hook delivery.

The lanes are at 21 Buffalo Road on the East side of the

LET'S GO BOWLING



Village of Bergen (phone: 494-9900). You can lunch at the Viking Valhalla Restaurant and Lounge, which are part of the facility, before the first practice ball.

Dick Giedd of Valley-Simes, with spouse Molly, who is his cheerleader, and Dave Liles of Hesperus, regularly take advantage of the fare prepared by Harris, who doubles as troubleshooter when the pinsetters are out of alignment or the computerized score sheets need adjustment.

The call "let the games begin" is heard at 1:10 p.m. and we bid adieu to each other between 3:30 and 4:00 p.m. That beats traffic and darkness and we're in plenty of time for dinner, especially if we're the one's making it (yeah, right, huh ladies!).

You don't have to own equipment. It's available at the hall, even for the senior set! Non-Masons are welcome to participate, so bring a buddy who may enjoy an early afternoon activity once a week from Fall to Spring.

Fresh coffee is always on and offered as a house feature. Cost is a nominal 6 bucks. There are about 20 weeks remaining, so there's still plenty of time to join us. See you on the lanes!! ✕

HESPERUS Lodge No. 837
1st and 3rd Thursdays
Master W.: David H. Smalley 392-3988
Secretary Leo E. Vainio, Jr., 548-2470
12 Lake Avenue, Bergen 14416

Hesperus Lodge is embarking on its first set of Degrees. We have four candidates, and another Entered Apprentice who will join us for the 2nd Degree in January. Our Brother Bring-a-Friend Night was a great success with the Brothers sitting at a round table giving histories, activities and telling of the joys, and especially their Masonic pride, to our guests. The evening was concluded with the satisfaction that we would continue to have a net gain in membership

Attica Lodge No. 462
1st and 3rd Wednesdays (Jan-Feb-Mar 3rd Wed. Only)
Master W.: Bruce D. Anderson 591-0190
Secretary R.: W.: Norman Steinbaugh 591-2073
39 Main Street, Attica 14011

Hard to believe another month has gone by and it is time to take keyboard in hand. We had another successful Pancake Breakfast on November 6th, with several Brothers in attendance to help out, along with the Boy Scouts. It

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Scottish Rite NEWS

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

Commander-in-Chief



Robert D. Pedersen, 33°
388-7595
pedersen@frontiernet.net

Rite Events Calendar

See article for details
(All events at Shrine Center unless otherwise noted.)

Saturday, December 10th
All Masonic Christmas Party
and Toys for Tots

Thursday, December 15th
Meeting, 4° and 5°

Saturday, January 14, 2006
MSA Meeting

Thursday, January 19th
Meeting, 14° and 15°

Saturday, February 11th
Meeting, 17° and 18°

Thursday, February 16th
Day of Tebeth Table Lodge

Tuesday, February 28th
Book review, *Foucault's Pendulum*
Scottish Rite Office

Friday, March 3rd
Masonic Education Fair Dinner, AASR only

Saturday, March 4th
Masonic Education Fair, Open

December 15th will be a presentation of the 4th and 5th Degrees. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m., and the Degrees begin at 7:30 p.m. That evening, you will begin your journey in the Lodge of Perfection Degrees. The lessons learned are a continuous process. Our journey for perfection has only begun. While we will not reach perfection in this life, we invite you to join us to continue the journey as we grow closer to our creator. The 4th Degree, "The Master Traveler," will be presented for only the second time since its release by Supreme Council in 2004. The 5th Degree, "Perfect Master," depicting corruption, greed, and ambition, will also be presented that evening.

January 19th we will continue our Degree series, with a social hour and dinner, after which the 14th Degree, "Grand Elect Mason," which closes the required Ineffable Degrees, will be presented. We will then begin the next journey of Historical Degrees with the presentation of the 15th Degree, "Knight of the East, or Sword," conferred in the Council of Princes of Jerusalem.

Counting down

As we close the year, let us be thankful to everyone who has touched our hearts. We must remember those who have left an image in our soul.

Remember

- To reach out to those who are in need of our aid, or our sympathy,
- That we have exercised our Constitutional right to vote (whether you favor the results or not),
- That we are a nation united, not divided,
- Those who serve, for our freedom(s),
- The freedom(s) we experience because of their personal sacrifices.

Happy Chanukkah, Merry Christmas, and most of all, Happy New Year. ✪

2nd Lt. Commander

By Joseph F. Oelgoetz III

Interested in the Scottish Rite?

How about gaining more light in Masonry? If you are interested in gaining further knowledge about the Craft, then consider joining the Valley of Rochester, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. We are re-establishing ourselves as **The College of Freemasonry**.

We will be putting on the first two Degrees, in order for a candidate to become a 32° Mason, on the evening of December 15th at the Damascus Shrine Center. I invite you to call the Valley of Rochester's office at 264-1160 for further information.

The 29 Degrees of the Scottish Rite are not the only tools that we have to help Brethren achieve further light. This year the Valley has scheduled several programs under the auspices of **The College of Freemasonry**.

Our next Masonic Book Club meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28th at 7:30 p.m. at the Valley office, 3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 320 in Pittsford. The book to be reviewed is *Foucault's Pendulum* by Umberto Eco. If you have read and enjoyed *The DaVinci Code*, then you will enjoy this novel. Non-Scottish Rite Masons are invited!

We provide an additional 29 Degrees that will increase your knowledge by building upon the three Degrees in your Symbolic Lodge. Our Degrees do not supersede the three Degrees, but rather they delve deeper into the understanding of the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason Degrees.

Our next "Rite Night at the Movies" will take place on January 24th. The feature film will be *Kingdom of Heaven*.

Valley of Rochester A.A.S.R.

3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 320
Rochester, NY 14618
Meetings at Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster, NY
Phones: 1-800-858-2320; (585) 264-1160
Fax: (585) 264-1161

Commander-in-Chief
Ill.: Robert D. Pedersen, 33°
(h) 388-7595, (w) 464-4806
pedersen@frontiernet.net
bpedersen@pfaudier.com

Deputy's Representative
Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
(h) 223-7630
swhittaker@monroeltho.com

Secretary
William R. Lindsey, 32° DGA
(h) 621-3573, (w) 264-1160
Fax 264-1161
wrl@rochester.rr.com

Thrice Potent Master
Joseph E. Bourcy III
(h) 334-6762, (cell) 703-9343
jbourcy1@rochester.rr.com

Sovereign Prince
Reginald R. Reed
(h) 288-1993
reed43@rochester.rr.com

Most Wise Master
Michael A. Knolla
(h) 732-7680 (cell) 732-6880
mknolla@manning-napier.com

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

Allegiance

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

Sovereign Grand Commander
Ill.: Walter E. Webber, 33°
Grand Minister of State
Ill.: Norman L. Christensen, 33°

Active Members for New York
Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°
Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°

Active Emeriti Members
Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°
Ill.: James F. Niehoff, 33°

Grand Lieutenant Commander
Ill.: John W. McNaughton, 33°
Deputy for the State of New York
Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°

Active Emeriti Members
Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°
Ill.: Edward R. Troian, 33°

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

This movie is not only an interesting drama concerning the 2nd Crusade of the Holy Land during the 12th Century, but puts forth concepts and thoughts on what the true Knightly duties are (which many would say is what our Masonic Ritual teaches us). I anticipate a great discussion following the movie. Location will be the Shrine Center with the showing beginning at 7:30 p.m. Again, both Scottish Rite and non-Scottish Rite members, along with family and friends, are invited. The Valley of Rochester will provide popcorn and soft drinks.

Masonic Education Fair
The Valley of Rochester is sponsoring a Masonic Education Fair on Friday and Saturday, March 3rd and 4th. The objective of this event is to provide those in attendance with nationally recognized Masonic speakers. These speakers will discuss subjects that are of interest and that will provide further light. We are very pleased to announce that the following Masonic scholars have accepted an invitation to participate in our First Annual Masonic Education Fair: Mr. Mark Tabbert, Curator for the Museum of our National Heritage in Lexington, Massachusetts, and author of *American Freemasons* -

Three Centuries of Building Communities; Mr. Nelson King, FPS, Editor of the Philalethes magazine, *Journal of Masonic Research and Letters*; Ill.: Thomas W. Jackson, 33°, Masonic scholar and book reviewer for the Book Nook section of *The Northern Light* magazine, which is the official magazine of the Northern Jurisdiction of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry; Ms. Kathleen Kutolowski, Professor of History and Chairman of the Department at Brockport State University; and Brother Paul Stillman, Historical re-enactor.

Friday evening will consist of a dinner and a talk by one of our scholars along with the portrayal of Mason and President Teddy Roosevelt by Paul Stillman. This event will only be open to Scottish Rite members and their families.

Saturday, March 4th, will be open to the public. Masons, non-Masons - all are invited. It is expected that the Saturday segment will run from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with a continental breakfast and box lunch included. Presentations will begin at 9:00 a.m. We are also planning a panel of our distinguished guests, along with other Masonic dignitaries, to discuss the future of Freemasonry.

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The cost will be \$15.00 for both Friday and Saturday events for AASR members. The cost for the Friday or Saturday event only is \$10.00. We need reservations, so please contact the Valley office for more information and to secure reservations.

Consider joining

As to the Scottish Rite's 29 additional Degrees, we plan to put on more than usual this year. It is through these Degrees that we will provide additional understanding and light of Freemasonry. Our Degree presentations will form the basis of what the Scottish Rite's **The College of Freemasonry** can provide to a Brother considering membership in the Valley.

If you want further information on becoming a member of **The College of Freemasonry**, contact the Valley of

Rochester's office. The first set of Degrees for membership is scheduled for Thursday, December 15th at the Shrine Center, beginning with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The Degrees will begin around 7:30 p.m.

In the meantime, you are cordially invited to the following events in order to meet and become acquainted with some of the Scottish Rite Brethren of the Valley of Rochester and to ask questions:

Tuesday, January 24th - Rite Night at the Movies - *Kingdom of Heaven*, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Damascus Shrine Center. Soft Drinks and popcorn will be provided.

Thursday, February 16th - Day of Tebeth Dinner and Table Lodge at the Shrine Center, beginning with a 5:30 p.m. social hour. A Meatloaf Dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 28th - Masonic Book Club - *Fou-*

cault's Pendulum at 7:30 p.m. at the Valley's office.

For further information on all of the above, please contact the Valley office: 264-1160.

Bringing further light to members of the Scottish Rite and Masons throughout Western New York via **The College of Freemasonry** is our goal. Consider joining and thereby gaining further light. ✕

**Secretary's note
2006 Dues**

Dues bills/cards will be arriving shortly. This year the card will be included. Please remove the card, sign it and carry it with you. When you send your dues check to the office, please include the invoice, which comes with the card, and write your membership number on your check. Any questions, call 264-1160. Thank you.

Blue Caps

By Jerold J. Gilmore

We assisted at the Symbolic Lodge Awards Night, setting up the Hors d'oeuvres and helping with the refreshments after the meeting at the request of Jack Van Elzakker. We were formally dressed, including our Caps and nametags. Following this event, I received calls questioning the "Kitchen Police" duty in tuxedos. Our Commander-in-Chief has suggested we obtain aprons imprinted with our logos. I have requested a Cap look into this issue and report back with a recommendation.

Ill. Robert Pederson, our Commander-in-Chief, sent me a communication praising the DSAs for the excellent effort they put forth on Awards Night. "I want to personally thank the DSAs for their support at the Valley's Awards Program," is an excerpt from his letter. These words are to be shared by the Blue Caps who were present that evening: Bill Fredenburg, Greg Ludwig, Jim Slocum, John Williams, Ron Weber and Warren Doerrer.

Brother Jack wore his Red Cap that evening and served as an escort.

Wear your uniform!

I will read the letter in its entirety at our next meeting, Wednesday, December 7th, at Roncone's on East Avenue. The meeting will begin at 11:45 a.m. Please mark the date on your calendar and, in respect to our honored dead, wear any part of your Military clothing you may have on hand. We will pay tribute to them.

The records show that the following Blue Caps served in the Military: Lawrence Canfield, William Fredenburg, Gregory Ludwig, Alfred Miller, Peter Van Elzakker, John Williams and yours truly. Did I miss anyone?

As a result of some difficulty with the phone calling committee, I have revised and re-issued the phone tree.

Reminder

Remember to contact Bill Lindsay at the Consistory Office to order your *Lion King* tickets for April 2nd. He needs to receive your check before he can save tickets for the one o'clock performance.

May the Great Architect guide our paths. ✕

Veterans Honored



Veterans of United States Army (from left): L. Campaniello, J. VanElzakker, B. Fredenburg, S. Whittaker, H. Fritz Friedrich, N. Shapiro, G. Ludwig, A. Miller, R. Rittenhouse, S. Kopen, A. Maupin, R. Bueg and E. Schirano.



Veterans of United States Air Force (from left): H. Spencer, J. Faro, K. Gool, A. Pulcino, D. Turner, J. Zabel, D. Ferguson, K. Rhodes, J. Lughart and R. VanDeLinder.



Veterans of the United States Marine Corps (from left): R. Hood, R. Williams, A. Kananerinos, V. Collom, D. Gellasch, W. Jones.



Veterans of the United States Navy (left to right): T. Paglia, J. Bourey, J. Colonio, J. Powell, D. Upham, J. Williams, H. Dainty, F. Cornell, B. Bills, M. Dox, G. Hubbell, C. Barton.

2006 Abbott Scholarships

Application forms for Abbott Scholarships are now available in the Scottish Rite Office and may be had by calling 264-1160, or printing the application form on-line at:

<http://www.supremecouncil.org/charities/Abbott.asp>

Leon M. Abbott Scholarships provide financial support for the continuing education of young men and women from Scottish Rite families and Masonic-related youth groups. Since 1951, more than \$3 million has been awarded to students from each State of the Northern Jurisdiction.

Eligibility

The following criteria are used to determine the eligibility of applicants for the program:

1. Acceptance at an accredited college or university
2. A child or grandchild of a Scottish Rite Mason in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
3. A member of a youth organization sponsored by the Masonic Fraternity in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
4. A graduate of one of the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

Completed applications and all supporting documents (in duplicate) must be in the Valley Office by April 1, 2006. ✕

Valley of Rochester

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
(College of Freemasonry)

Masonic Education Fair

March 3 & 4, 2006

Damascus Shrine Center

For reservations and further information
Contact the Valley Office, (585) 264-1160

Friday - March 3, 2006

6:00 p.m. Social Hour; 7:00 p.m. Dinner

Dinner with a presentation by Historical Re-enactor, Paul Stillman, as Theodore Roosevelt, Mason and 26th President of The United States. This event is open to Scottish Rite Masons and their Ladies. The cost is \$10 per person for the Friday Dinner, or \$15 per person for Dinner and the Saturday Masonic Education Fair.

Saturday - March 4, 2006

8:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. Presentations

Open to Masons and Non-Masons

Cost is \$10.00 per person

There will be presentations by Nationally Known Masonic Scholars:

Mark A. Tabbert, 32°, Curator of the National Heritage Museum and author of the book, *American Freemasons - Three Centuries of Building Communities*;

Nelson King, FPS - Editor of the *Philalethes* magazine, *Journal of Masonic Research and Letters*;

Ill. Thomas W. Jackson, 33°, - Masonic Scholar and Book Reviewer for the *Book Nook* section of *The Northern Light* magazine, the official magazine of The Northern Jurisdiction of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry;

Kathleen Kutolowski, Professor, and Chairman of the History Department at SUNY Brockport;

Paul Stillman will give a Historical Presentation as Galileo. The final event is a Panel Discussion concerning the Future of Freemasonry. ✕

Fairport/Flower City

Lodge No. 476

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



Master
W. Thomas
D. Goodrich
442-8725

Secretary
W. George R. Bracht
383-1947

Fairport Masonic Temple
87 South Main Street

I would like to start by thanking all the Brothers who helped make our Grand Lecturer's Convention Steak Roast and our OES Prime Rib Dinner successful. We received rave reviews from our guests at each of these events and turned a small profit. They say many hands make light work and this is true as it becomes easier each dinner. As the list of regular volunteers keeps growing, each task becomes easier. I think the word is spreading about how much fun we really have. Thanks again, guys.

DeWitt Clinton Award

The only meeting this month is December 12th and should prove to be very exciting, as we expect to be entertaining a full house. Henry F. Ewing is to receive the DeWitt Clinton Award for Community Service. Mr. Ewing has dedi-

cated the majority of his adult life to serving the residents of the Village of Fairport and the Town of Perinton, as both a Boy Scout leader and a mentor for the young men of the community. As Scout Master for the past 30 years of Troop 209, sponsored by and meeting at the Raymond Memorial Baptist Church in Fairport, Mr. Ewing has earned awards and accolades too numerous to list in this article.

Lodge will open early and the presentation is open to the public. The program will start at 7:00 p.m. sharp. A regular meeting night was chosen for this event, as it is the exact time the Troop meets and it makes it easier for their participation in the ceremonies of the evening. So mark your calendars, invite your wives and family and help us show the honor due this gentleman for his life's work. Help Masonry shine in the eyes of the public whom, we will be hosting.

W. Bernie Lazerson will be again hosting the Fairport/Flower City annual Latke Party on Wednesday, December 20th in our own dining room. He has promised good food, music and an all around great time. Hope to see you there. ✕



979 Bay Road
Webster, NY
14580-1736



Phone - 671-7701
Fax - 671-7702



Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

Shrine News

Website - www.damascusshriners.org

Email addresses:

office@damascusshriners.org
recorder@damascusshriners.org
njackson@damascusshriners.org
plozon@damascusshriners.org

Potentate - Robert L. Anderson II

From the Potentate

Shrine Office - 671-7701



Robert L. Anderson II

December brings us a curious season. It is a time when we give thanks for the past year and a season of hope for the future. Damascus Shriners have had a great year, with many and varied activities, with the assistance and attendance of the Nobility. Damascus Shriners also are looking forward to a continuation of our hope for the future of our Fraternity, its philanthropy and the world.

I thank all the Nobles who have helped make this year a success. Without the help of the Divan, the year could not have been as successful as it was. This nucleus of next year's team will continue the successes of Damascus Shriners.

It was great to be a part of the activities of the Clubs and Units. They are the backbone of the Shrine. If you are not a part of one, become a part of one. They truly make a strong Fraternity that will carry hope for the future of our hospitals.

Each of our meetings was enhanced by the work of the color guard, chanters, organist, bartenders, aides and kitchen staff. Each, in his own way, helps to provide the Nobility with an unforgettable experience.

Finally, I thank all those who whispered wise counsel in my ear and in the ear of the Divan. Remember, they can't read your mind. If you have a suggestion, they will listen, for it is your Shrine, not only theirs.

The holiday season will be a busy one for Damascus Shriners. Our annual Election of Officers will be on December 7th. The Clubs, Units and children have their Christmas Parties. Once again, I encourage you to make your reservations early, for that is the only way we can be sure enough food is prepared.

Making reservations early means before the day of the meeting. For our November meeting, we had 25 reservations made the day of the event and enough additional walk-ins that the last Nobles fed had to share the meat course. Gentlemen, we should not let this occur. Our meetings are always on the first Wednesday of the month and they include dinner. If you feel that you have made reservations that have not been recorded, please let the Recorder know so that it won't happen in the future. Of course, you could sign up with a permanent reservation. Just let the office personnel know and give them your charge card imprint so they can bill your account.

January will be the beginning of a new year with our annual meetings and the Installation of Officers. There will be a shell-a-buck steak dinner for those Nobles who have 2006 dues cards AND HAVE MADE A RESERVATION. All others will pay \$10.

Nobles, have a joyous season. Spend time with your families. Let them know how precious they are to you. *

From the Recorder

Shrine Office
671-7701



James Slocum
367-2425

Shrine Reservation Line
671-3565

Being the Recorder of the Damascus Shrine is one of the most rewarding jobs that I have had in a long time. The benefits are outstanding, where else can you work at your desk and have the opportunity to look out and watch wild life enjoying the serenity of the location; out of the woods come deer feeding on the grass and wild turkeys foraging for their food, pecking at the glass doors because they see their reflection. I told those turkeys if they paid some dues, we were looking for candidates for the Harvest Dinner.

Congratulations to the newly created Nobles. We are giving the new Nobles a red name badge so that a Noble who has been in for any length of time can recognize a new Noble, go up to them, shake their hand and make them feel welcomed. I know that they would appreciate that. So many times we forget them a month or so after they are in and take for granted they know what's going on. For some people it takes more time than others to get into the swing of things and to feel welcomed or a part of the group.

December's meeting is the Election of the Officers who will be running the Shrine for the following year. Come out and show your support.

Regulations

Section 325.11 The printing, publication, circulating or distribution of resolutions, letters, telegrams, tickets, emails or other devices by a Noble, suggesting, recommending, opposing, or containing the names of proposed candidates for office in the Shrine is prohibited.

Section 325.8 Candidates for office and representatives must be placed in nomination from the floor.

December is a month of parties and celebrations. I wish everybody Happy Holidays and good cheer. May all your troubles be small and your rewards huge.

The Shrine Christmas Party is December 17th at Club 86 in Geneva. Get your reservations in early.

Remember the snowbird picnic is February 8th in Punta Gorda, Florida at the Elks Club.

I cannot stress enough that all Nobles should belong to a Club or Unit, where the fun in Shrinedom lays and does the most good.

Past Commander Jim Prey, of the Legion of Honor, and I motored to Arlington, Vir-

ginia, for the Laying of the Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We also did some sight-seeing while in Washington.

Once again, I wish all Happy Holidays. *

Zama Temple Daughters of the Nile

By Corinne Routly

Congratulations to Princess Nancy Grady, our newest member of the Nile. Please welcome Nancy at your first opportunity.

November 12th was the Temple's Founders Day and five members of the Household received 25-year Pins. Thank you, ladies, for your support of Zama Temple.

December

On Sunday, December 4th, we will have our annual Holiday Tea at the Fairport Masonic Lodge on Main Street from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. For information, please call Kitty Noble, PQ, at 321-1995. The Tea is planned to be a festive occasion with many holiday goodies. Plan to attend to enjoy the fellowship.

On Saturday, December 10th, the Past Queens of Zama Temple will host a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Plan to attend for the delicious food.

Princess Royal, Debi Burke, will collect monetary and other gifts for the patients at the Erie Hospital. Contact Debi for information at 455-5181.

Happy holidays and a prosperous New Year.

Thought for the day

We're thankful for this land we love, for sod and sky and tree.

For pilgrims who braved unknown seas that all may worship free.

We're thankful for each blessing Lord, you send along our way.

But, may our greater "thanks" be shown in serving you today. *

Wheelers

By Kevin (Skins) Faro, President

As the year winds down and we put our rides away for that long Winter nap, let's look back at the great ride we had over the year. It started out with roasting our past Pote Bruce, moving on to our Euchre Tournament, the Circus was fun, and then the Pote's Ball. There was a nice ride to Imperial, the Wheelers Family picnic and then off to Camp Turk. Next up was the very successful "UGLY RUN," after which we headed down to Naples for the Grape Fest and then to Bill and Sandi's for fun with guns. There were a lot of ghouls at the Wheelers annual Halloween party, there was the Harvest dinner, and to top it off the Christmas party (which is yet to be and I hope all the Wheelers attend this great event, lots of fun).

I thank everyone for helping Deb and I have a very successful year as your "PREZ" and

first lady of the Damascus Wheelers. So many helped out, way too many to list and Deb and thank you. I know you will help Andy (stand up) Rueby as he once again takes the reins of the most popular and fun unit in all Shrinedom with the greatest members anyone could ask for. I will still be standing in the shadows helping out to make sure the most active fun unit stays strong, especially with the help of our new members Tom "Too Tall" Parrone and Lady Kris; Tom Collier and Lady Joyce; Al Broccolo and Lady Laurie; George Shapow and Lady Judy and Richard Trescott and Lady Vilma. We welcome you to our family, and know you will enjoy the brotherhood, fellowship, and best of all, the high-jinx that we have in this unit.

This month's twist of the throttle goes to my Lady Deb for helping me out with the Wheelers all year long. We say good-bye to our good friends Bill and Patty Lozon and hope to see them from time to time. We would also like to thank Rob Cowley for being Secretary/Treasurer for the past few years. He has decided to give the job to another worthy Brother. Elections are coming up, so if you're interested in taking control of any spot in the Wheelers see me, Andy "stand-up," or Bruce for a position on the line. The qualifications for the job are that you must possess a need for fun and laughter (that pretty much includes everyone). Remember to recruit a new Shriner. GO LANCE! Take care, ride safe, see ya at the Christmas Party. *

Permanent Contributing Member

By Derek VanHouten, PP

It was brought to my attention that Damascus has not had any PCMs in the last couple of months. You may wonder what a PCM is; it is a one-time donation of \$150 that eliminates your yearly \$5.00 Hospital donation for life. It is a tax-deductible gift and you can also give them as a memorial to a loved one or in someone's name as a gift. PCM stands for Permanent Contributing Member and you get a special stamp on your dues card, as well as a Certificate suitable for framing. As the holiday season approaches, please think about this avenue of donating to our Hospitals.

Along with the PCM method of donating, there are several other methods to express your generosity. The \$100 Million Dollar Club was created when the Shrine had almost a million members and the thought if all gave it would raise \$100 Million for the Hospitals. Over the years, unfortunately, our membership has dropped, but the "club" is still an option for you to make a tax-deductible donation. You would also receive a certificate to frame for your home. The membership can be given as gifts to others. Any amount of

Continued on Page 19

Save the date! Hillbilly Fundraiser

Sunday, January 21, 2006, Phelps Hotel

East/West Shrine Game

Damascus Shrine Lunch Club

Christmas Party

Damascus Shrine Center

979 Bay Road

December 5th

Social Hour - 11:00 a.m.

Lunch - 12 Noon

Buffet Lunch

Baked Ham - Baked Chicken

Seafood Newburg

Hors d'oeuvres - Salad - Vegetable

Mashed Potato - Rolls

Coffee - Tea - Desserts

Entertainment

Christmas Music

by Tommy Tunes

Poinsettias for the Ladies

\$16.00 per person

Reservations a must by November 27th

Call the Shrine Reservation Line: 671-3565

No Walk-ins will be accepted on December 5th



Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian

Monarch

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



Kenneth Rhodes

December 21st is the Election and Installation of Officers at 7:30 p.m. at the Shrine Center. There won't be a dinner before, but refreshments will be served afterwards.

A Past Monarch's Recognition Dinner has been arranged at Valicia's Ristorante, 2155 Long Pond Road, on January 21st, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. ✕

Secretary's Column
By Kenneth Hutchinson, PM

The next meeting of Lalla Rookh Grotto, to be held December 21st, will be our Annual Meeting with the Election and Installation of Officers. It is the duty of the membership to come out and cast your vote for the nominated candidates, who are listed as follows:

- Monarch **Norman P. Austin**
- Chief Justice **Michael Bell**
- Master of Ceremonies **Richard Topel**
- Secretary **Kenneth Hutchinson**
- Treasurer **Brian J. Bills**
- Venerable Prophet **Joseph Minas**
- Trustee-3 year term **Easton T. Kelsey**
- 1 year term **Kenneth Rhodes**
- Board of Governors **Three-year positions**
- Luigi Campaniello**
- Franklin H. Ghyzel**
- Heinz Gunkle**
- Two-year position **Jim Toogood**

The Monarch-elect will appoint the rest of the Officers after the Election of Officers at the December meeting. Those who are elected will lead the Grotto in the year to come. ✕

Grand Historian



Home phone
(315) 589-9021

Grotto office
671-6320

Kenneth Hutchinson, PM
hutchkv@yahoo.com

The Grotto Installation, coming on December 21st, has great significance for the Past Monarchs. It is a reminder of their own Installation and, after a short time in office, they become a Past Monarch.

From the archives of Mokanna Grotto was found fourteen hand-written pages entitled, *The Form for Instituting New Grottoes and Installing Officers of new Grottoes*. Unfortunately, the papers weren't signed or dated.

They do give us a glance at the Installation between 1890 and 1903. "All members including the Officers-elect, shall be clothed in their appropriate costume except headgear and weapons (swords). Each Officer-elect shall wear over his costume a long white robe, completely enveloping him."

At the end of the Installation, all sang a song in praise of Mokanna, to the tune of that childhood song; *B-I-N-G-O, Bingo was his name*.

The Installation had much more pomp and ceremony than it has today. ✕

Master of Ceremonies
By Michael Bell, PM

Film Review

Turkey Lurkey

(1932) Ted Healy and his three Stooges; J. Carrol Naish, Arthur Treacher, Mae Bush and Ed (Greasy) Neale.

In this early film, the boys (Larry, Moe and Curly) convince Ted Healy that it is his job to provide a Turkey Dinner for their club. Healy does this, thereby going over the head of, and enraging the club's Proctor, played by J. Carrol Naish. This two-reeler is punctuated by physical comedy and lots of stoogian imbecility. Rating: *** ✕

Caldron News

By Betty Madison, MCO

The Reception for Beverly Murray, SMCO, and Sister Arrah, Doris Bell, was a huge success. Thanks to all who helped to make it so and to everyone for attending. Beverly and Doris also say thank you to all.

The Christmas season is upon us. I hope all of your shopping is done, or are you like me, just starting? Are your cards all addressed? Mine are not!

Our next meeting on December 8th will be a Christmas Family Dinner. The menu will be Ham, scalloped potatoes and other goodies for \$8 per person. There will be a \$1 gift exchange and \$1 for charity. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m., meeting to follow at 7:30 p.m.

The Executive Council meeting will be December 15th,

place to be announced. Get well wishes to Doris Bell, as she is recovering from a hip replacement.

Happy birthday wishes to Susan Wilson, December 5th; my husband, Joseph, December 8th; Kristin DeOrdio, December 21st and my son, Charles, December 24th.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a very happy, healthy New Year. ✕

Attend Grotto Meetings

December 5th -
Audit and Board of
Governors meeting
Grotto Office

December 8th -
Caldron meeting
Christmas Family
Dinner
Unity Lodge Hall

December 10th -
Children's Christmas
Party
Shrine Center

December 15th -
Caldron Executive
meeting

December 21st -
Grotto Election and
Installation of
Officers
Shrine Center

Enjoy the
Fellowship

It is hard to believe that we are at the end of another year.

December 5th will be the Audit Meeting and will start, for those to whom this will pertain, at 5:00 p.m. at the Shrine Center. Please be there on time, as this will be followed by our regular Board meeting, which will begin at 7:00 p.m.

December 10th is the Children's Christmas Party at the Shrine Center from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All helpers need to be there by 9:00 a.m. Prophets, we need lots of children. Bring your great-grandchildren, grandchildren, nephews, nieces or neighbors children. Let us make this a worthwhile event.

December 11th, at East Shelby, is the Christmas Festival. This is a wonderful "Old Fashion Days" with sleigh rides, Santa, caroling and holiday foods, etc. It is at the Community Bible Church, West Jackson Corners, East Shelby from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Take Route 31 to Melville Village and turn left, then proceed about four miles.

Lalla Rookh Grotto PAST MONARCH'S DINNER

Honoring

Kenneth Rhodes, PM

Saturday, January 21, 2006

Valicia's Ristorante
2155 Long Pond Road

5:30 p.m. - Cash Bar
6:30 p.m. - Dinner
\$20.00 per person

Choice of:

Lasagna, Prime Rib or Grilled Pork Chop

Reservation with check
and Dinner choice to:

Lalla Rookh Grotto
PO Box 464

Bergen, New York 14416

Your Legal Rights FYI



By Bro. Phillip Hurwitz, Esq.

In last month's article we looked at how to go about obtaining a free credit report from each of the three major credit-reporting agencies. A credit report can indicate if someone else has access to your credit. If so, you may be a victim of identity theft.

How to prevent

I don't believe you can absolutely prevent yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft. There are too many databases out in the world. All it takes is someone evil with access to these databases to compromise your identity.

Just like home security, the best we can do is to harden the target. Here are some suggestions to help protect yourself from identity theft, and what to do if you become a victim.

A Brother once sent me an email suggesting that I photocopy everything in my wallet. That's a sensible suggestion. Who can remember everything kept in their wallet?

When mailing correspondence or bills, avoid putting the flag up on your mailbox. I have read where thieves look for this as an invitation to rifle through your mail. If feasible, a locking mailbox may be a prudent investment. Or, just

deposit your mail in an official post office mailbox.

Whenever possible, avoid using your social security number as a means of identification.

Let's say you discover you are a victim of identity theft. What to do? The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is a very good resource in this area. Their website covers this subject clearly and thoroughly. Their web address is: <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>. Another excellent resource can be found at the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse. Their address is: <http://www.privacyrights.org/identity.htm#sheets>

What follows is a summary of suggestions found on these websites.

Contact any of the three credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian and Trans-Union) and request that a fraud alert be placed on your account. The agency that you contact will in turn notify the other two credit reporting agencies. With a fraud alert in place, any business must call you before issuing credit.

File an identity theft report with the police. Filing this report is a good idea and will help you begin the process of cleaning up your credit file.

Check your homeowner's insurance policy. It may provide financial relief for your efforts in re-establishing your credit.

Close all accounts that you believe may have been either tampered with or opened

without your authorization. The bank or merchant may require an affidavit from you. The FTC website noted above has an ID Theft affidavit that can be downloaded for your use. (<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/pubs/credit/affidavit.pdf>).

If your credit or debit cards have been stolen, notify the bank immediately. Your liability may increase the longer the theft goes unreported.

Notify DMV if your driver's license has been stolen. Report it to the DMV by filing form FI-17. For a list of numbers or locations of local DMV office, call 1-800-Call-DMV.

Unsolicited credit card offers can be a source of identity theft. All it takes is for someone to take the solicitation from your mailbox, change the address, and like that, they can obtain credit in your name. You can opt out of receiving these unsolicited offers by going to: https://www.optoutprescreen.com/opt_form.cgi

Note: you do not have to provide your social security number or date of birth when opting out.

The best defense against identity theft is periodically reviewing your credit file. ✕

Support the Masonic Times
and other Masonic Service Bureau activities
Purchase

Enjoy the CitySM

Coupon Books

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

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

York Rite NEWS

York Rite College
Judas Maccabeus

District Deputy Grand High Priest

24th
District
RAM



R.:E.: Cy White
(315) 597-9546
ukcy@juno.com

My personal thanks to all who came out to support Grand Royal Arch Captain, R.:E.: Jeffrey Williamson, at his Official Visit to the 24th Capitular District. His message was greatly appreciated by all in attendance.

Training Course

Palmyra Eagle will be hosting a Leadership Training Course in the Palmyra Masonic Hall, 161 East Main Street, conducted by the Grand Royal Arch Captain, R.:E.: Jeffrey M. Williamson, on Saturday, December 10th from 9-3 with registration at 8:00-9 a.m. Lunch will be available at a nominal cost. Contact me at: ukcy@juno.com or (315) 597-9546 for reservations by December 3rd. All Companions and Officers from Capitular Districts 24, 25, 27 and 28 are invited and urged to attend.

Grand Chapter

Grand Chapter is soon approaching and it is time to make the necessary arrangements for hotel rooms, banquets and lunches. Tickets are available through me. Remember the earlier reservations are made the easier it is for everybody!

Official Visits

Monday, December 5th, Palmyra Eagle: Dinner at the Yellow Mills Restaurant, Route 31, at 6:00 p.m. The Convocation to follow at 7:30 p.m. in the Palmyra Masonic Hall, 161 East Main Street.

Tuesday, December 13th, Wayne Chapter (Sodus): The Excellent High Priest has stated there will be a dinner at the Steger Haus in Sodus Point at 6:30 p.m. The Convocation to follow at 8:00 p.m. in the Sodus Masonic Hall, 6 East Main Street (3rd Floor), Sodus.

Other Information

Our District will not be hosting the Order of High Priesthood this year. The closest place for our area will be at the Salem Town Masonic Hall, Route 414 North and Bailey Road, Seneca Falls, on February 11, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.

Companions, bend every effort to support your sister Chapters within the District.

Palmyra Chapter meets the 1st Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Palmyra Masonic Hall.

Newark Chapter meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Newark Masonic Hall, 210 East Ave.

Wayne (Sodus) Chapter meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 8:00 p.m. in the Sodus Masonic Hall.

Charities

As I write this article, only 8.1% of our District membership have donated to the Royal

Arch Charities Fund. E.: Aldo Ghirarduzzi, Chairman of the Royal Arch Charities, says, "We can do better than that" and I agree. If you have lost the response brochure, give your contribution to your Chapter Charities Chairman, to the District Charities Chairman, E.: David Taber, or to your High Priest. Is it possible for the 24th Capitular District to be number one in participation in the Grand Chapter's Charity Drive? YES, if we all do our part.

I look forward to seeing you, and I do mean you, around the Holy Altar of Royal Arch Masonry in Friendship and Brotherly love. *

Hiram Chapter No. 62



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

E.: Joseph F. Oelgoetz, High Priest
425-9969

joeyo11@mac.com

E.: Charles M. Roberts, Secretary
225-6533

choiyono@frontiernet.net

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

Holy Royal Arch Degree

By the time you read this, we will have conferred the Holy Royal Arch Degree upon our Most Excellent Master, R. Kenneth Howe, on November 10th. First and foremost, I welcome "Rick" as a Royal Arch Mason. I look forward to his wise counsel and membership in Hiram Chapter. I thank all those who participated in the Degree. Without those who continually participate, we would not be a strong Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Thank you, my Companions.

Our final meeting for this year will be on December 8th. This will be our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers for the 2006 Chapter year. Please consider serving as an Officer. Importantly, we as a Chapter must decide on whom will "rule" us as High Priest next year. We must discuss this in the coming weeks.

On Friday, December 9th, Hiram Chapter will be hosting our Holiday Party. We will be planning to have cocktails, soft drinks and hot and cold finger foods. This will be an event for our ladies, our friends and us. Please plan on attending at the Pittsford Masonic Hall (Northfield Lodge) at 7:30 p.m. All will have fun.

As we enter into the holiday season, I believe that it provides a great time for reflection on what has occurred in the past year and reflection upon our lives thus far. Upon reflection, I am thankful for all of the blessings that God has bestowed upon me. I feel very strongly that God blessed the world with the Fraternity of Freemasonry. I say this because if you listen to and study the lessons that are intertwined within our Ritual, and the Sacred Book of Law, that the truths that they teach us teach us to be better men and thus better husbands, better followers of God. They are

truths that one can fall back on when earthly issues may be keeping one down, or when one feels overwhelmed.

It is believed by many that our Craft was founded upon the chivalry of medieval Knighthood. I cannot say that this is true or simply a legend. I can say, however, that much of what we learn as Masons is Knightly. In addition, if one takes the truths of Masonry to heart one can consider himself a modern day Knight. A man who thinks and acts rightly, a man who stands uprightly in his several stations before God and man, who treats all, including the poor, the down-trodden and those who modern society turns a blind eye to - equal upon the level of God. A man who treats all he meets upon the square of virtue...with dignity, respect, humility, mercy, justice, friendship and brotherly love. All this is Knightly and is what we are bound to by the obligations we all have taken during our Masonic journey.

It is an opportunity during this holiday season to take our "Knightly" truths and reach out to those who need a "Knight" to lift them up, whether it is a family member, a Fraternity member, or a stranger in need. It is an opportunity to spread the love of the Grand Architect of the Universe to those you meet. This is what God expects from one of his Knights.

I have also reflected on my year as High Priest of Hiram Chapter No. 62 of Royal Arch Masons. It has been a wonderful year. A year where I have grown as a Mason and a Royal Arch Mason. A year where I have gained new and wonderful friends, and a year where existing friendships have been strengthened. I thank each and every Companion of Hiram Chapter for giving me the honor and privilege of being your High Priest for the past year. Thank you and Happy Holidays. God Bless. *

Doric Council No. 19 Cryptic Masons

(Chartered 1861)

3rd Wednesday



Ill. Master
Joseph F.
Oelgoetz III
425-9969

joeyo11@mac.com

Donald W. Wright, Recorder
621-5764
dwright3@rochester.rr.com
17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

December meeting

Our meeting on December 21st will be a Holiday theme with the express mission of remembering those who are less fortunate than we. We will be having a "Toys for Tots" Dinner. The cost for Dinner will be one unwrapped toy that can be donated to the United States Marine Corp Reserve "Toys for Tots" program. Dinner will be holiday Ham with all of the festive fixings. Plan to bring your ladies, children or grandchildren. We will have a very short business meeting, then retire to a "Council Holiday Party" with our families.

Looking forward

Before long it will be 2006 and we will be entering our Degree season within Doric Council. Our meeting on January 18th will be the Royal Master Degree, preceded by Dinner at 6:30 p.m. February will be our annual York Rite Ladies Night at a local restaurant. March will be the Select Master Degree. Mark all these in your calendar.

For reservations to dinners, including the Table Councils, please get them in no later than the Friday before the meeting by either calling me at my home: 425-9969 or emailing me at: joeyo11@mac.com.

I would like to take this time to wish all of you a wonderful holiday season. During the year and especially during the holiday season, as Masons, let our light shine to others. The Book of Sacred Law states: "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

As Masons we have traveled East for further light. This light we gain should be shared. I don't mean that we should share our Ritual, but rather the truths that our Ritual and Masonic philosophy (and what we learn from the Book of Sacred Law) teaches us. That is to love one another; to help those in need; to be kind to both friend and stranger; and to support our communities and charities. All this we have learned as Masons. By letting your light shine is to ACT out what we have learned as Masons, not just to SPEAK what we have learned. Actions speak louder than words. This is what it means to let your light shine. So, let your light shine during this holiday season, and let it continue to shine the year round. This will not only bring glory to the Masonic Fraternity, but will bring Glory to God.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless you and yours during this most blessed time of the year. I will be looking forward to seeing each of you in the Secret Vault.

God Bless. *

Nundawaga Council No. 92



4th Mondays
West Main Street
LeRoy 14482

I.: Richard Anderson
Master
I.: Vernon G. Rupert
Recorder - 343-8429

As I missed the deadline for the November article, I am informing you of the past month's happenings of Nundawaga Council.

In October Nundawaga Council hosted a Table Lodge at the LeRoy Hall. We had 22 in attendance for a series of

toasts with a Ham Dinner. M.:I.: Charles Roberts attended and presented M.:I.: Stephen Licht a certificate for his Grand Representation nomination.

R.:I.: John Dudley, DDGM of the 8th Cryptic District, Official Visitation to Nundawaga Council was November 28th.

There are still copies of *Freemasonry Exposed* for anyone who would like one at the cost of \$3.00. If interested, please contact me or any member of Nundawaga Council.

As the holiday season is now upon us, Nundawaga Council will not meet in December. I hope everyone has a happy and safe time with friends and family. *

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery No. 12

Chartered 1993
3rd Monday

Commander
SK Douglas
M. Koenig
223-6638

Recorder
SK Lawrence W. Dunn
594-8033
17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534



I hope all of you had a nice Thanksgiving and that you enjoyed the time spent with family and friends. The furnace seems to be kicking on all the time now, which means Fall is definitely here and Winter must be just around the corner (Boo, hiss). What this also means though, is that the Christmas season is now upon us. I don't know about the rest of you, but for me, the last couple of months have gone by way too quickly and the year 2005 is rapidly coming to a close. What that means is to go start your Christmas shopping before you get yourself in trouble with the little woman.

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

Since my last article, I'm happy to report that for our October 17th conclave I had the privilege of installing Sir Knight Donald W. Wright as our new Captain General for the ensuing year and Sir

Continued on Page 17

Remember



The
Royal
Arch
Charities and
Scholarship
Funds

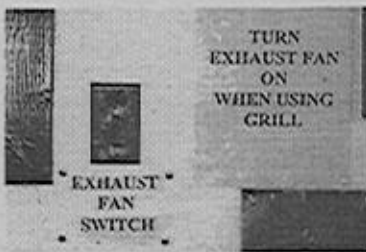
signs, which were installed in Anderson Lodge replacing less-attractive handwritten scraps of paper. I have been negligent in mentioning this contribution and thanking her for her efforts. Please forgive my tardiness, Alice. All of us appreciate your interest in taking up this task.

Other recent donations to the Camp include television sets by Dean and JoAnn Smith, bathroom fixtures by Joe Steffen, throw rugs and shelf paper by Bill and Ginny Guinup and a new flag for Anderson Lodge by Gary Burke. Thank you all for thinking of, and your support of, the Camp.

As a reminder, the Camp is available for use by reservation on a first-come first served basis. Order of preference is Masonic youth groups (DeMolay, Constellation and Triangle), other youth groups, Masonic Lodges, Order of Eastern Star, Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shriners, Masonic members and their families and other organizations of good community standing. Call the Masonic Service

Bureau to inquire about the availability of the Camp.

While we won't get a 5-star or Diamond rating from travel specialists, there is hot and cold water, bathroom facilities (including showers) and a fully-equipped kitchen. It's only a forty minute drive from the Shrine Center...not as far as many people think it is. Why not check it out? *



December 4th Save the Date

(It's not that far away!!!)

The Masonic Care Community

Utica, New York

Presents

WINTERFEST

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Bring the entire family

Enjoy an afternoon of

Sleigh Rides...Musical Concerts

Santa...Arts & Crafts

For more information call

Angie Caiola

(800) 322-8826 or (315) 798-4768

ALL FREE

Cyrene-Monroe

Continued from Page 16

Knight Charles M. Roberts, PC as our new Standard Bearer for the ensuing year. After the Installation ceremony we opened the conclave in due form with a very good job done by your new Officers and myself. No, we weren't perfect, and we have a little work to do before the Inspection in April, but considering this was our first time doing the opening, we didn't do half bad, all things considered. I'd also like to take a moment and thank those Sir Knights who used their time valuably this Summer and studied their new parts.

Zone Pilgrimage

On November 5th Sagoyewatha Commandery hosted the Zone Pilgrimage at the Masonic Hall in Palmyra. 15 Companions from Zones 10, 11 and 12 were made new Sir Knights, with five of them coming into Zone 11. It was an outstanding day, with a job well done by all those who participated, and in my opinion a day we can all be proud of. For all those who couldn't make it, you missed a special day and a wonderful pilgrimage. With that in mind, I'd like to pass a special thank you along to our Zone Commander, Sir Knight Bill Jones and our Grand Captain General, Sir Knight David Lathers, for doing such a fine

job in organizing the whole event. Job well-done, gentleman.

Trestleboard

December 5th - Officers Meeting/Rehearsal

December 19th - Christmas Observance, Breaking of Bread and Communion.

January 2nd, 2006 - New Year's Observance. No rehearsal.

January 16th - Annual Meeting and Templar History Night. Grand Master Jacques DeMolay and Friday the 13th.

Before I go, let me extend a warm and wonderful holiday season to all of you and may the New Year bring you many days of joy and fun. *

Rochester Chapter

Continued from Page 3

Events

The District Holiday Party is December 11th at 2:00 p.m. in Hilton. Bring a dish to pass and your holiday spirit.

Our Installation is scheduled for January 21, 2006, at 8:00 p.m.

Don't forget your dues.

This past year has been GREAT! As a first-time Matron, the experiences have been fantastic. Thank you to all the Officers and to all the others who have helped in one way or the other throughout this past year. Please remember that our Secretary is the one to contact for any sickness, distress, joys and/or concerns.

A personal note from Barbara E. Spano - Thank you to all the folks who have helped me get in and out of the different functions this past year.

Let Us Support One Another (LUSOA) *

Need Special Christmas Gift?

The 2006 *Enjoy the City* coupon books offer year-round enjoyment for your family and friends who are looking for that little something unique. In addition to the offers on fast food and fine dining, there are opportunities for discounts on car washes, sporting events and other entertainment venues.

This book is geared for the Rochester market, unlike others you may have seen. Just a couple of uses and you have been reimbursed for the cost of the book. Meanwhile, you are providing additional support

for the *Masonic Times*. The fundraising efforts of this program help offset the ever-increasing costs.

You have participated in the increase in the price of subscriptions, which will take affect with the next issue, if you continue to receive this periodical. We hope to maintain the current subscription rates by using different fundraising programs, in addition to our advertisements. You can help by supporting this effort. Call the Masonic Service Bureau - 671-9730 - to find out how to receive your books, today! *

The Residents and Staff
of the
Masonic Care Community
Extend Warm Holiday Greetings
To All Masons and Their
Families

"Wishing You a Beautiful Holiday Season
and
A New Year of Peace and Happiness."

Masonic Veterans Service



R.W. Thomas M. Paglia
Committee Chairman
84 Grand View Lane
Rochester, NY 14612
227-2046

The VAVS Executive Committee at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center has appointed R.W. Lawrence Hood to serve on the Executive Board for the unexpired term of one of the members who passed on. His term will be for 1-1/2



R.W. Larry Hood (second from right) with wife, Marge (right) and Cora Paglia (left). Also in the photo, from the VA Medical Center Staff, is Jane.

years, after which he will be eligible to be nominated for election to continue to serve on the Board.

The Board selects and purchases all of the holiday gifts for the veterans holiday festivities, helps set up the gift wrapping program, makes contacts for donations, makes arrangements for the Awards Banquet for the volunteers Annual Awards Dinner and makes arrangements for the Annual Volunteer Picnic. They also select from the Staff who will be the one to receive the award for most cooperative with volunteers, friendly with all they come in contact with and caring for our veterans in their every day activities. This award is only given to a select few. The award is cherished by all of the Staff who receives it. Many names are submitted, but only a few receive it. This is a one-time award, which many seek.

The Board meets once a month on the first Wednesday, except for every third month when the Executive Board meets with the Veterans Administration Volunteer Services Committee, composed of many local organizations.

The Executive Board may recommend to the Executive Director of the VA Medical Center through the Volunteer Program Coordinator any idea that may be of help to the veterans for better care.



Participants in the Annual Seminar and Workshop of the New York State Grand Lodge Masonic Services Committee posed for this group photograph during a break in their discussions last September. Seated, at right, is R.W. Thomas M. Paglia, Committee Chairman.

(Photos courtesy of Thomas Paglia)

The Grand Lodge of the State of New York Masonic Veterans Service Committee held its annual seminar and workshop in September. At this seminar workshop many topics concerning the veterans were discussed. Each Grand Lodge VA Representative assigned to a VA Medical Center gave a report. All of the 15 VA Medical Centers had at least one representative. It was very interesting to find out how each representative and VA Medical Center have many different variations in the way to care for the veterans.

The VA Medical Centers each has its own needs because

of the different care that each veteran requires.

Each representative introduced himself, gave a short talk as to how their VA Center operates and what they are doing to help make life more pleasant for the veterans who stay at their Veterans Administration Medical Center.

It was also noted the following materials were provided: about 7,000 comfort kits, 5,000 pairs of socks, wheelchairs, cold weather caps, wheelchair pouches, picnic items, national veterans week celebration goodies (cakes, etc.), fruits of various kinds and postage for overseas packages.

Each Masonic Brother who is called into active duty, whose Master submits his name, will have his dues paid by the Masonic Veterans Service Committee budget for the year while he is on active duty. Upon completion of active duty, his name will be removed from the list of active duty service personnel.

Each year this Committee is allocated from \$45,000 to \$55,000 to help defray the cost of all the programs in which we are involved. Kindly earmark some of your donations to the Masonic Veterans Service Committee budget.

Thank you for your support.

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!

By Tom Michielsen

The Holiday season is fast approaching and everyone is scrambling to get their shopping and wrapping completed. We are attending parties and seeing family for the joyous occasion. May the season bring happiness, joy and peace to you and your family.

Social Security's Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) tax rate for wages paid in 2006 will remain at 6.2 percent for both employees and employers, however the annual limit will increase from \$90,000 to \$94,200. Thus, an employee with wages equal to or more than \$94,200 will contribute \$5,840.40 in 2006. For all wages, the medicare tax rate is 1.45 percent for both employees and employers.

Small employers with payroll tax liabilities of less than \$1,000 annually will no longer have to file quarterly beginning January 1, 2006.

For tax year 2005, Social Security will no longer accept W-2's on magnetic tapes or cartridges, and diskettes will be eliminated next year. Wage reports must be filed electronically via Social Security's Business Services Online (BSO). BSO is a suite of internet services for companies conducting business with Social Security.

If you use a paid tax preparer, he may be required to electronically file your tax return this year or have you fill out a waiver request with a reason why you do not want to electronically file your tax return.

The Internal Revenue Service is seeking 84,290 taxpayers whose income tax refund checks could not be delivered in 2005. Checks totaling ap-

proximately \$73 million can be reissued as soon as addresses are updated or corrected with the IRS.

To check the status of a refund, use the "Where's My Refund?" feature on the IRS.gov website. If you have moved since filing your last tax return, address corrections can be made by filing Form 8822, Change of Address. The form can be downloaded from IRS.gov or requested by phone at 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676) or by contacting your tax professional.

If you pay someone to prepare your tax return, choose that preparer wisely. Taxpayers are legally responsible for what's on their own tax returns even if prepared by someone else. So, it is important to choose carefully when hiring an individual or firm to prepare personal returns. Most return preparers are professional, honest and provide excellent service.

It's important for taxpayers to find qualified tax professionals if they need help preparing and filing their tax returns. Unqualified tax preparers may overlook legitimate deductions or credits that could cause clients to pay more tax than they should. Unqualified preparers may make costly mistakes causing their clients to incur assessed deficiencies, penalties, and interest.

Choose a preparer you will be able to contact and one who will be responsive to your needs. Ask who will actually prepare the return before engaging services. Avoid firms where your work may be delegated down to someone with less training or some unknown worker. You should know exactly who works with your tax matters at all times and how to contact him or her; after all, you are paying for it.

Determine if the preparer's credentials meet your needs. Is he or she an Enrolled Agent, Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Tax Attorney or Tax Professional? Only attorneys, CPAs and enrolled agents can represent taxpayers before the IRS in all matters including audits, collection actions and appeals. Other return preparers may represent taxpayers only in audits regarding a return that they signed as a preparer.

Find out if the preparer is affiliated with a professional organization that provides or requires its members to pursue continuing education and holds them accountable to a code of ethics.

Unfortunately, unscrupulous tax return preparers do exist and can cause considerable financial and legal problems for their clients. Examples of improper actions by unscrupulous preparers include the preparation and filing of false paper or electronic income tax returns that claim inflated personal or business expenses, false deductions, unallowable credits or excessive exemptions.

Tax evasion is both risky and a crime, punishable by up to five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Remember, no matter who prepares a tax return, the taxpayer is legally responsible for all the information on that tax return.

Taxpayer due dates

December 15th - November Payroll Taxes Due
December 15th - Fourth Quarter Corporate Taxes Due
December 20th - September through November Sales Tax Due
December 31st - NYS Fourth Quarter Individual Taxes Due
If you have any tax questions, please forward them to tmichie1@rochester.rr.com *

Rochester Forest No. 133

Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America
3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Penfield, NY 14526
Norman P. Austin, GTC
494-2223
Donald C. Bell, Scribe
334-7768

By Don Brugger, PGTC

The Royal Court went well at our October meeting. All, except one, of our newly obligated Woodsmen witnessed the portrayal along with our latest new member, Ted Powley, a member of Sodus Lodge. We have also added one member by affiliation, Joseph Rubar, previously a member of a New Jersey Forest. That's a 20% increase in membership this year...keep the trend going!

Happened/Happenings

On November 23rd we held our Election of Officers. If things went as planned, Norm Austin will again be the Grand Tall Cedar, SDGTC will be Don Wright, and the JDGTC will be George Springett, a new member. Don Bell has agreed to continue as our Scribe and John Zabel will be our new Treasurer. Appointed Officers will be announced at our next meeting. The Installation of Officers is January 25, 2006.

We thank Paul Kober for his many years of dedicated service as Treasurer and as refreshment provider, funds collector, events manager, roster keeper, reservation taker, bill payer, etc. Paul, at times almost single-handedly, made the difference between success and failure of Tall Cedar social events, as well as keeping the GTC on target. Great job, Paul!

Paul's retirement means that we collectively must take up the slack. If you are called upon to fill or perform some task for the Forest, please re-

member we have big shoes to fill. This is your Forest.

Membership

This year has been the best year for re-Membering our Forest, but let's not let this be just an aberration. Let's make every year a good year to re-Member. Talk to your fellow Masons, friends and neighbors about our Forest, especially our charitable objective. If you know of anyone, even non-Masons, who you think would be interested in joining in our "Fun and Frolic," talk to them. Petitions are available, both for the Lodge and Forest, from Don Bell, our Scribe, at 259-0647, or me at 458-6125. If you would like more information, pamphlets are available. If you want your Forest to survive, we need candidates.

Sickness and distress

We have no news about any change in Don Freeman's condition. Please call me if you know of a Woodsmen with any health-related problems.

Looking ahead

The Christmas Party will be on December 10th, at Valicia's near the Northwest corner of Long Pond and Lyell Roads (same as last year). Gather at 6:30 p.m.; dinner at 7:15 p.m. If any member has a suggestion regarding the place or format of the Christmas Party for 2006, let's have your input.

Dues notices, reflecting an increase (\$17 to \$20) in per-capita and TCF, should be on their way. Please respond as promptly as possible. Early dues returns help pay our Supreme Forest bill, which is due in February, along with our Annual Report.

Remember, we still need help contacting our members...join our Calling Committee and get in the mainstream.

Your Forest wishes you and yours, a Joyous Holiday Season and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

First MSB-sponsored AARP Defensive Driver Course

Eighteen participants, some of whom are shown in the photo below, signed up for the first Masonic Service Bureau-sponsored AARP Defensive Driving Course. While many people use this as a means to lower their

overall insurance rates, some people are able to reduce points from their driver's license. Everyone benefits, as this refresher enables you to learn of current laws (many of which have changed since you may

have first obtained your license). Drivers you encounter on the highways benefit from your keen awareness of your responsibility under different conditions, as taught in this program. Instructor, Dennis "Gil" Gellasch, did a fine job pointing out to us seniors where we needed to improve our skills. If this program is something that appeals to you, call the Masonic Service Bureau - 671-9730 - and let us know. We are willing to set up another session of this program if the interest is there. Remember, your certificate expires every three years. Have you checked yours lately? Maybe it's time for a refresher. x



HELPING THE HUNGRY



Brothers from Eagle Lodge in the cabbage patch standing in front of one of the large cartons filled with cabbages they picked in support of FOODLINK in Rochester. From left, Robert Uderitz, Todd Statt, Harry Dainty and Gary Werren.

(Photo courtesy of Harry Dainty)

ERAC
Lodge No. 163

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

Master
W.: Steven M. Lysenko
671-2606
Steven.Lysenko@websterschools.org

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

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

man, and his new assistant, Brother Patrick Mulrooney, for coordinating the rehearsals and personnel; Brother Sean McKenna for presenting the Master's work and pulling off a truly sumptuous repast; Brother J.B. Jennerson for doing an outstanding job with the Senior Deacon's work; and the entire Officer line and cast.

All the careful preparation and planning truly paid off as was evident in the outstanding execution of the Ritual.

Thank you Brother Tim McNelly for coordinating the cleanup of Camp DeMolay on November 12th. Thanks to all the Brothers who participated in this worthy event.

At Work in the Quarries December

Brother Terry Wihlen, Jr., will be coordinating the annual ERAC holiday visitations to our shut-in Brothers, scheduled for Saturday, December 17th. Please call Brother Terry at 377-4695 for more details or if you would like to be visited by the Brothers of ERAC.

Please bring your non-perishable food items to the December 12th meeting. ERAC will continue its tradition of feeding the hungry during the holiday season. This year, we will be sponsoring a family from our new hometown of Webster. Please contact me at 671-2606 if you would like to participate in cooking and delivering dinner to this family.

ERAC will be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive this month. If you

are interested in participating in this ERAC tradition, please contact Brother John Crough for more details.

ERAC continues to cook and serve dinners at the Ronald McDonald House. Contact Brother Rich Greenaway at 527-8802 if you would like more information about how you can help in this effort. Please assist Brother Rich in this very important work.

The ERAC Long Range Planning Committee will convene in the month of December. Brother Rich Greenaway will be committee chair and will be communicating with the rest of the Brothers who have been selected to serve on this committee as to the date and times of the meeting. This committee has been charged with setting the course for ERAC Lodge for the years to come, and will generate 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year work plans. Please support this committee by offering them your input and comments as requested.

Sickness and distress

Brother Michael Rice, Past Master of ERAC, has been diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. Please contact this Brother and show him support in his time of need. Keep Brother Rice and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

December Birthdays

Please take a moment to wish our Brothers a happy December birthday: 1st-Danny Emerson; 2nd-Albert Patterson; 5th-Mike Hamelink; 7th-Paul Moran; 8th-Nick Lysenko; 10th-Glen Ellis; 14th-Frank Gurney, Tim Slater; 16th-Joe Bacot; 17th-Mitchell Rakus; 18th-David Upham; 20th-Hoffman "Moka" Lantum; 21st-Wesley Hyde; 22nd-Raymond Nersinger, Jr., John Williams; 23rd-Embola Ekiller; 24th-Fred Smith, Robert Turner; 26th-Geoffrey Buell, Walter Hauser; 27th-Robert Nephew; 28th-Grover Peace, Jeff Smith; 29th-Nick Anastas; 31st-George Partal and Roger Pogrow.

In closing, my Brothers, our Lodge is prospering with all your hard work and commitment to continuous growth. With the new crop of Brothers, it will be important to properly introduce them to Masonry and to ERAC Lodge. Please consider making yourself available to mentor one of these new Brothers so they may carry the Light of our Craft into the world.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless us all. x

On November 14th our Lodge welcomed W.: Jayson Richardson and the Brothers of Eureka Lodge No. 36, PHA. Brother Richardson presented us with the Holy Bible, that it may shed its beneficent Light on the Altar in our Lodge for many years to come. ERAC will truly treasure this special gift. Thank you, Brother Richardson.

ERAC welcomed several new Entered Apprentices to the Craft on November 28th. At the time this article was written, we had 12 potential candidates slated to go through Degrees in the coming year. In an effort to make this experience more meaningful for the new Brothers, we conferred the 1st Degree upon six Brothers in November. The other candidates will receive their 1st Degree at our December 12th Communication, complete with the Historical Lecture and Q's and A's.

Thanks to: our Ritual Director, Brother Richard Fried-

Create a New Ritual

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

The four candles represent your grief, your courage, your memories and your love.

During this season of new hope, may you find peace and joy in remembering.

This year our Annual Ecumenical Candle Lighting Service of Remembrance will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. in the Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 Winton Road South. Call 482-0400 to reserve a place for you and your family. Seating is limited.

Crawford FUNERAL HOME INC.
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(585) 482-0400

495 N. Winton Road, Rochester, NY
(Between Browncroft & Humboldt)

By Ken Milner

Foodlink of Rochester benefited from the work of Masons and Boy Scouts. In October, six Brothers of Eagle Lodge and their Master, W.: James Boyer, joined Brother Harry Dainty at White's Farm to pick cabbage. They were joined by nine Boy Scouts and their leaders from Troop 55, Bloomfield, whom Brother Dainty invited to help. Soon after they got started, it began to thunder, lightning was seen, the wind came up and it began to rain. They managed to pick four big boxes of cabbage, which was then donated to Foodlink in Rochester. Because of the rain,

several Brothers of Eagle Lodge returned on October 29th to pick more cabbage. They were able to pick another four boxes.

In years past, these cabbages would have just been plowed under. Brother Dainty talked to the owners of White's Farm and they said if the Masons would pick the cabbage, they would be glad to donate it. This project was started in 2003 by Eagle Lodge and is repeated each year. Last year 5,000 pounds were picked by the Lodge. It was decided to ask the Boy Scouts to help load the boxes to save the backs of some of the Brothers! x

Permanent Contributing

Continued from Page 14

cash may be given. Make the check payable to "Shriners Hospitals for Children."

If you want to create a Trust, or find out about the different types of Trusts, please contact your financial experts. In the foyer of Damascus Center, we have information on *Pooled Incomes, Charitable Gift Annuities, and other methods.* There is a brochure, *Paths to Giving*, that provides you with additional information.

We now have a new program, Shriners Annual Gift Campaign, to provide our members with the opportunity to

give a set amount each year and become a member of either the Bronze Society - \$100 to \$499; Silver Society - \$500 to \$999; the Gold Society - \$1000 to \$2499, or the Diamond Society \$2500 + on an annual pledge. Any one of the above Society's can also be done on a quarterly basis.

Please consider any of the above so that Shriners Hospitals can flourish for many years to come.

My thanks to Noble Ken Pollard, who has helped spread the word in the Auburn area. If any Noble would like to help this most noble cause, please contact me at: 247-2920, or hooter95@rochester.rr.com x

Camp Director
Camp Turk
Masonic Youth Camp
Woodgate, New York

Camp runs from July 2, 2006 through August 20, 2006
Up to 400 campers per Summer

Qualifications:
Ten years camping experience
Minimum Thirty years of age
Six months administrative supervisory experience in camping
Bachelors or Advanced Degree

Mail resume by January 1, 2006 to:
Camp Turk, PO Box 132
Boonville, NY 13309-0132

In Memoriam

October

Lewis, William J.
William passed away October 24th after a brief illness. He was a member of Unity Lodge and is survived by his wife, Audrey, two children, two grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Lippman, James G.
Fairport/Flower City Lodge lost a member with the passing of James on October 25th at the age of 78 years. Survivors include his wife, Phyllis, two children and four grandchildren.

Freer, Russell B.
Death claimed Russell on October 30th at the age of 89 years. He was a member of Damascus Shrine and leaves his three children, ten grandchildren and nineteen grandchildren.

Kowalski, Chester A.
Chet was called Home on October 31st. He was a member of Craftsman Robertson Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Lalla Rookh Grotto. He leaves his two children, four grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Levy, Richard H.
Canandaigua Lodge lost a member with the passing of Richard on November 8th. He leaves his wife, Mary Louise and one son.

Blumenthal, Daniel J.
Daniel was a past Grand Steward of the Westchester/Putnam District before joining Fairport/Flower City Lodge. He passed away November 10th and is survived by his wife, Peggy, and two daughters.

Bastian, Edgar J.
The arms of the Lord embraced Ed on November 14th. He was a member of Craftsman Robertson Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine. He is survived by four children and ten grandchildren.

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November

Lindenmuth, Leroy F.
The Peace of the Lord embraced Leroy on November 5th. A member of Unity Lodge, he is survived by four children, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

January, 2006

- 16 Masonic Development Course Wakan/Hubbard Lodge
- 18 Monroe District Masters and Wardens Country Village Family Restaurant
- 31 School of Ritual, Unity Lodge

February

- 20 Masonic Development Course Wakan/Hubbard Lodge

March

- 10 Masonic Development Course Wakan/Hubbard Lodge

September

- 16 Widows Luncheon, Logan's Party House

October

- 29 Interfaith Service and Brunch Logan's Party House

For additions, call the Masonic Service Bureau at 671-9730.

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Deadline for the Masonic Times

BIG CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2005

Gem - Turquoise
Flower - Narcissus

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster Union Lodge (BBF) RSM - Palmyra Council	2 Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 p.m. \$6 adult; \$3 Child 30 Orchard Street	3 OES - Rochester Chapter (E) Unity - Spencerport
4 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg RAM - Palmyra/Eagle OES - Irondequoit KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford Shrine Lunch Club	5 Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Oakland - Castile OES - Fairport, Lilac Star, Nolatka	6 Attica Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy Damascus Shrine (E) Ark Lodge - Christmas Party Pearl Harbor Day	7 Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram (E) KT - Batavia Commandery Lalla Rookh Caldron	8 Hiram Chapter Holiday Party, Northfield Lodge, Pittsford, 7:30 p.m.	9 All Masonic Bodies Children's Christmas Party, Shrine Center, 11:00 a.m. Daughters of the Nile, Zama Temple - Fairport Tall Cedars Christmas Party, Valicia's Ristorante, 6:30 p.m.	10 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.
11 OES - Monroe District Christmas Party, Hilton Masonic Hall, 2:00 p.m. Clio - Spaghetti Dinner Wednesday, the 14th East Avenue, Hilton	12 ERAC - Shrine Center Fairport/Flower City Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls, 2" Unity - Spencerport, 3" Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RAM - Excelsior - Shortsville Shrine Lunch Club	13 Arcade Batavia Fame - Irondequoit Seneca - Webster Valley-Simes - Night to Remember RAM - Dansville, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton	14 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	15 Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster Scottish Rite, 4* & 5* RAM - Western Star	16 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.	17 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.
18 OSY - Milnor Lodge Spaghetti Dinner December 21st 5:00 p.m.	19 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford OES - Irondequoit Shrine Lunch Club - Ladies Day	20 Clio - Hilton, 3* Craftsman Robertson - Summoned Meeting Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Oakland - Castile, 2* Fairport/Flower City Lodge Latke Party OES - Lilac Star; Nolatka at Oatka Steak and Seafood Restaurant	21 Attica Ark - Geneva Drumlin Square - Palmyra, 1* Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy RSM - Doric Council, Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto (E & I) First Day of Winter	22 Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post	23 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.	24 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.
25 Christmas	26 Boxing Day Hanukkah First Day of Kwanzaa	27 Arcade Batavia Fame - Irondequoit Valley-Simes RAM - Dansville, LeRoy, Wyoming OES - Leah - Hilton	28 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike Tall Cedars of Lebanon OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	29 Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post	30 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.	31 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Wakan/Hubbard Holiday Party, 1:00 p.m. OSY - Canandaigua Lodge, Breakfast with Santa, 9:00 a.m.