



Masonic Times

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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

Volume 44 Number 3 USPS 0359-540

Rochester, New York

Circulation 4599

March 2005

Child ID Program at Mall Targets Deaf Community



Four volunteers helping out with the Child ID Program were (left to right) Don Bell, Bonnie Bell, Robb Schmiegel and Jen Proseco. (Photos courtesy William Lindsay)

By Harrison Parson

We had a successful Child ID Program at The Marketplace Mall the first weekend in February. It was the initial attempt to provide this service specifically for the hearing impaired community in the Rochester area. Many deaf parents came and had their children fingerprinted and videotaped. Overall, 282 children were recorded.



R. W. Lew Perna, DDGM, took a turn at operating the video camera.



Ekwen Bogmis gets fingerprinted at the Child ID session by an unidentified New York State Police Officer.

Most of the volunteers were deaf, but there was an interpreter from RIT and several Brothers who also helped with registration and taping. The New York State Police provided troopers to take the children's fingerprints.

There was an article in Saturday's *Democrat and Chronicle*, which publicized our program and helped to bring in

additional members of the deaf community. We also had television news coverage.

Many of the deaf volunteers told me they enjoyed the experience and had a lot of fun working on the project. One told me that the kids were so cute, it made their day interesting.

Continued on Page 3

Haggai Chapter No. 41 Presents Social and Community Awards

The Fifth Annual Social and Community Awards Dinner of Haggai Chapter No. 41, Holy Royal Arch Masons (Prince Hall Affiliated), will be held on April 30th at Rick's Prime Rib House, 898 Buffalo Road. A social hour will begin at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 7:00 p.m.



Dr. David A. Anderson

Dr. David A. Anderson will be a recipient of the Community Service Award and keynote speaker. Also receiving the award is G. Jean Howard.



G. Jean Howard

Dr. Anderson, a noted historian, storyteller, performance lecturer, educator, and author, received his Ph.D. in Educational Administration from The Union Institute, an

MA in Education from Syracuse University, and a BFA in Photography from Rochester Institute of Technology.

His faculty experience includes positions at St. John Fisher College, where he was a Lecturer in African American History and Culture; State University of New York College at Brockport, where he was a lecturer in the Department of African/Afro-American Studies; Rochester Institute of Technology, where he was a visiting Assistant Professor in History and Sociology; the University of Rochester Medical School, where he was a Community Health Associate working on issues involving the delivery of health care; State University of New York at Geneseo, where he was a lecturer in Political Science; and the City School District of Syracuse, where he taught in the reading program for seventh graders and managed a curriculum materials development center.

Ms. Howard has a distinguished portfolio of community service activities. She is the recipient of a MS in Education from Indiana University, a BA in Sociology from Bennett College, where she was the President of her Senior Class, and a Certificate in Program Evaluation Systems Development from Cornell University.

From 1990 to present she has been the Executive Director of Wilson Commencement Park (WCP) where she was responsible for the completion of the facilities \$10.6 million construction, program design, implementation, and management of a Family Self Sufficiency and Life Skills organization.

(Continued on Page 23)

Ronald McDonald House Annual Fundraiser, Have-a-Heart Drive

By Michael McBride

We were in the malls again, from Tuesday, February 1st through Monday, February 14th. The Campaign for 2005 was a SUCCESS! More than \$13,400 was collected! Special thanks to everyone who helped! On behalf of Rich Greenaway at Eastview Mall, Dave Sylvester at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center, Eugene Crews, Janet Porter and James Robinson at Marketplace Mall, and the Management of the local Ronald McDonald House, we thank each and everyone of you who helped!

All Monroe District Lodges participated, as did Milnor Lodge, Social Lodge, Hesperus Lodge, ladies from all Eastern Star Chapters, Scottish Rite, Damascus Shriners, Damascus Shrine Clowns, Grotto, the Masonic War Veterans, James A. Hard Post and our Prince Hall Brothers from Eureka Lodge and Haggai Chapter, RAM, and Sisters from Estella Chapter of the Eastern Star. We also had a group of men and women from the local National Guard man a booth for a day (and they want to continue). Special thanks, to all!!! (Sorry if I missed naming anyone).

Personal thanks to the Shrine Clowns, who rotated through all of the malls to assist us (and help, they did!!!), Dave Sylvester, Rich Greenaway and Eugene Crews who helped open and close daily, Jan Porter, who raised support from all of the District Chapters of the Eastern Star and Dean Smith, who kept the bank records straight, during this two-week event!

We had a local ROTC group ask about joining with us next year and are on the lookout for other groups. We all realize that without the group and in-



W. Jesse Noble, Master of Churchville Lodge, does his stint at the Have-a-Heart booth at Marketplace Mall. He was on duty while the Child ID Program operated a few doors away.

dividual help, we could have done nothing. Thanks again!

On the downside, we still had manpower problems when four of the groups didn't show up, and a few times we only had one or two members of a Lodge or Concordant Body show up. Everyone, please support your Lodge or group!

The check was presented on February 26th at the Ronald McDonald House on Westmoreland Drive, where the Masters and Wardens held a meeting.

Call me (home, 663-4636; work, 722-7714) if you have any suggestions, comments or complaints.

What's Inside?

Daughters of the Nile	21
DeMolay	2
Editor's Corner	2
Genesee/Wyoming	9, 10
Grotto News	19, 22
Hot Numbers	2
Livingston District	10, 11
Looking Ahead	20
Masonic Service Bureau	2
Masonic Servicemen	18
Memorials	21
Monroe District	4-9
New Exhibition	23
Order of Eastern Star	13
Ontario/Seneca/Yates	11, 12
Scottish Rite News	14, 15
Shrine News	20, 21
Tall Cedars of Lebanon	2
Taxes, Taxes, Taxes	23
The Degree Journey	22
Wayne District	4
York Rite News	16-18

Dated Material

Social & Community Awards Dinner
Tickets are \$30.00 per person
Contact James Ghent, 889-7119

Editor's Corner



The Flu!

'Tis the season! Things seemed to be going along pretty smoothly, and then the wheels started to come off. The first obstacle occurred when I picked up the delivered February newspaper and saw in the Big Calendar that I had allowed myself just two weeks to have the next one in your hands. Why couldn't I have noticed that BEFORE we went to press?

I hoped to overcome that oversight by asking all my writers to get their material in as soon as possible. I did; so did they! We were overwhelmed with articles very quickly. The result was we began editing and pasting up pages much faster than we had done previously.

Dave had a nagging respiratory problem. That, and a few other concerns, dragged him down until he wound up visiting the doctor and hospital for tests. Brother Ralph Jurgens, a retired Middle School English Teacher, stopped in a couple of times to proofread some of the typeset articles. Norm Austin, in spite of illness in him and Miss Linda, was able to do a proofing stint, as well.

Then there is Mat! I really worked him over this issue. Not only did I push him to get the work done more quickly, but I gave him four more pages to assemble than we usually have.

Of course, I can't forget Barbara. She put in extra hours our first production week to make sure all the typing was completed. Then took proofs home to scan for possible errors.

I, so far, have avoided any and all germs...Praise the Lord!

What's this got to do with the price of wheat in China? Nothing! However, the staff worked diligently to overcome the setbacks to get the **Masonic Times** delivered promptly, and I wanted you to know it.

So, if this paper is in your hands and it isn't March yet, you know the extra efforts paid off. If it isn't...well, we tried. I hope information you needed arrived in time. And, hey, if you'd like to be a part of this great team, give me a call.

Thanks for reading.

Masonic Service Bureau
of Rochester, NY Inc.
979 Bay Road, Suite 2
Webster, NY 14580-1736
Tel: 671-9730; Fax 671-8390
Email: bmasonic@rochester.rr.com

President
Linda Zahn
Vice-President
James Ghent
Secretary
Barbara Goodrich
Treasurer
William Lindsay
Executive Director
Charles Waterstreet

From June to December, some very important dates to remember!

June 22nd - Awards Night. Presentations of Scholarships to students and Grants to organizations. Light refreshments will be served at the Shrine Center.

September 10th - Widows Luncheon at Logan's Party House. Entertainment by "Women of Note."

October 16th - Interfaith Service and Brunch at Logan's Party House. The Service is at 10 a.m., followed by Brunch at 11 a.m. The highlight is the presentation of the Distinguished Community Service Award.

I hope these will be put on every organization's calendar and the importance of attending them emphasized.

Special notice!

The March 9th meeting of the Masonic Service Bureau will be held at the Old Country Buffet, Culver Ridge Plaza, 2255 East Ridge Road. They are giving us a private room from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please try to be there at 11:30 to get your food so that we may start the meeting at noon. The cost will be the same. When you enter the restaurant, sign in with the cashier and tell her why you are there. She will give you a Blue ticket and you will pay Barbara. Thank you. ✕

New Location
Masonic Service Bureau
monthly
Board Meeting
March 9th
at the
Old Country Buffet
2255 East Ridge Road
in the Culver-Ridge Plaza

Hot Numbers

- Grand Lodge**
1-800-3-MASON-4, (362-7664)
Grand Lodge Officers
Grand Master
Edward R. Trosin, Jr.
(o) 212-337-6643, (f) 212-633-2639
(h) 716-693-6812, (c) 716-693-6961
trosin@buffnet.net
Grand Marshal
W. Bruce Renner
(h) 716-824-1629
k2b.renner@prodigy.net
Deputy Grand Master
Neal I. Bidnick
(o) 212-337-6640
(h) 845-638-3128, (c) 845-639-1832
neal.bidnick@verizon.net
Grand Secretary
Gilbert Savitzky
(o) 800-362-7664, (f) 212-633-2639
DGMA
Norman Steinbaugh, G/W
(h) 591-2073
Roy W. Moses, Livingston
(o) 346-9260, (f) 346-9260
(h) 346-2117
Lewis J. Perna, Monroe
(o) 368-3949, (f) 368-3948
(h) 334-8265
lperna@peoplepc.com
Eldon N. White, O/S/Y
(h) 924-1603
Craig Sewert, Wayne
(o) 442-8422, (f) 442-8494
(h) 315-926-5956
csewert@lynnnet.com
Staff Officers
James W. Frind, GSB
(h) 315-946-9630
jwfrind@redauspenders.com
Herbert L. Goodman, GSB
(h) 315-536-4794
hgoodman@localnet.com
William J. Kuehne, GDC
(h) 334-9635
wkuehne@netacc.net
Richard J. Trescott, GSB
(o) 233-6570, (h) 226-9042
rtrescot@frontiernet.net
Donald A. Tubman, GSB
(h) 889-4725
datubman@yahoo.com
J. Michael Willwerth, GDC
(o) 637-3154 ext. 245, (h) 344-8443
depchiefsb002@msn.com
Masonic Education
Grand Lecturer
Edward G. Gilbert
(o) 212-924-0764, (f) 212-633-2639
(h) 716-822-2051
Regional AGL
Alan Ramsay
(h) 458-2335
AGLs
Richard C. Friedman, Monroe
(o) 271-2775, (f) 271-8916
(h) 377-6175
richrdgm@frontiernet.net
Joseph F. Oelgoetz III, Monroe
(o) 381-4900 ext. 2443, (h) 425-9969
joeyo11@mac.com
David R. Rising, Wayne
(h) 315-331-7337
drising3@msn.com
George R. Springett, G/W
(h) 247-3557
grand_pooobaa@msn.com
- William A. Valois III, O/S/Y
(o) 315-568-2000
wvalois@sonoca24.net
John W. Waitt, O/S/Y
(h) 315-548-9670
jwaitt1@rochester.rr.com
- Committees**
New Member
David J. Beardsley, G/W
(h) 493-2426
Emil Schirano, Monroe
(h) 265-3932
Membership Development
Joseph Privitera, Monroe
(h) 392-5583
Michael Rhodes, G/W
(h) 237-3922
Public Involvement & Awareness
James P. Allen, G/W
(h) 457-3079
jpallan57@hotmail.com
R.J. Muto, Monroe
(h) 249-0699
Gerald Pease, Livingston
(h) 346-3003
Fellowship & Family Involvement
Ken Buckley, Livingston
(h) 468-2024
Raymond Glegg, Monroe
(h) 223-3433
Mark L. Hopkins, G/W
(h) 457-3325
The Beacon Project
Cy White, West Region Chr.
(h) 315-597-9546
ukcy@juno.com
Steve Vanderbilt, Livingston
(h) 226-8168
Blood Chairman
James P. Allen, G/W
(h) 457-3079
jpallan57@hotmail.com
Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention
Robert D. Mix, West Region,
Vice Chr. (h) 798-0335
Dave Bryson, Livingston
(h) 658-2149
Merle L. Roblason, G/W
(h) 343-5159
Brotherhood Fund
Dennis Parmerter, G/W
(h) 535-0595
Joe Shanks, Livingston
(h) 582-1028
Derek VanHouten, Monroe
(h) 247-2920
hooters@rochester.rr.com
Child ID/DARE
Andy Alvarez, Monroe
(h) 426-1946
Bruce D. Anderson, G/W
(h) 591-0190
John Dyer, Monroe
(h) 503-4270
john.dyer@kodak.com
Ray Ellis, Livingston
(h) 658-2534
Pat Schwartz, Monroe
(h) 395-0874
Lodges and Buildings
Joe Privitera
(h) 392-5583
Phillip Hurwitz
(h) 720-6019

Class Note: Incorrect phone numbers and titles, or members to be added, please call the **Masonic Times**, 671-9730, 8-12 noon, Monday-Friday.

Periodical postage PAID at Webster, NY and additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
Masonic Times
979 Bay Road, Suite 2
Webster, NY 14580-1736
Telephone: 671-9730
Fax: 671-8390
E-mail:
bmasonic@rochester.rr.com
www.monroemasonic.com

Published Monthly except July and August
Class. Data. Int. Article. 2nd Monday of the Month providing the Month of publication.

Staff
Editor: Charles Waterstreet
Associate Editor: David King
Office Manager: Barbara Goodrich
Production: Norman P. Austin
Assistant: Norman P. Austin
Barbara L. Gungolt

Published by
Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester, NY Inc.

Linda Zahn - President
James Ghent - Vice-President
Barbara Goodrich - Secretary
William R. Lindsay - Treasurer
Charles N. Waterstreet - Executive Director

Owned by
Empire State Weeklies, Inc.

Subscriptions: Individual, \$8.00 per year
Group rates: \$5.00 per year per member
Group subscriptions for Affiliates, Associated or Constituent Bodies are billed at \$1.00 per year for those members who already subscribe to the **Masonic Times**.

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

Installation

Mother Nature out-foxed us again. Consequently the new Officers, headed by Grand Tall Cedar, Norman Austin, were not installed at the January meeting; it was cancelled. Hopefully we will have installed the Officers on February 26th. If you should receive this news before then, please join us for that event, 7:30 p.m., at Wakan/Hubbard Lodge. We congratulate all the new Officers, as well as our new member(s), who were scheduled to be obligated in short form at that meeting. We wish them all well in the coming Cedar Year. Any new petitioners will be obligated in short form prior to the Installation.

Membership

The Prologue and Royal Court Degrees are scheduled to be conferred at the March meeting, depending on the availability of cast members. If you would like to participate, please let me know; we can put you to work. New candidates are a good sign and may be a turning point for our Forest. The only way to fulfill our charitable objective, Muscular Dystrophy, is to increase our numbers. All members should talk to their fellow Masons, friends and neighbors about our Forest, especially our charitable objective. If you know of anyone, even non-Masons, whom you think would be interested in joining in our "Fun and Frolic," talk to them. Petitions are available from me at 458-6125 or the Scribe. This is your Forest. If you want it to survive, we need candidates

A reminder

At the risk of being tiresome, once again, please remit your dues as promptly as possible and if you are in arrears, please remit what is owed. We are counting on the early remittance of dues to help cover our assessment payment to the Supreme Forest, which was due by the end of February.

Sickness and distress

Don Freeman's condition remains about the same. Paul Kober is doing well. Lou Di-James is home from the hospital, a second time, and is on the road to recovery. These Brothers would like to hear from you. Please send a card or call. Let us all keep these Woodsmen in our prayers. Please call me (458-6125), if you know of a Woodman with any health related problems.

Listen up!

The Communications Committee is still looking for help in contacting our members regularly. The Forest needs you for this important service. This would only involve making three or four calls, once a month. Join our Calling Committee and get back in the mainstream.

Finally, a couple of quotes from Abraham Lincoln: "Killing the dog does not cure the bite" and, "Leave nothing for tomorrow which can be done today." ✕

Looking for a few good men ...and women! (for DeMolay)

By Gary Burke

Would you be interested in working with young people in one of the premier youth groups? Do you enjoy youth and youthful activities? Are you a good role model? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, we have an opportunity for you.

Rochester Chapter, Order of DeMolay, is in the process of organizing its Advisory Board and is looking for you. Training provided!

If you have an hour, or if you have several hours, which you

could spare to aid in the development of our youth, give us a call. We would be happy to discuss with you the opportunities we have available, as well as the benefits of working with the young people of our community. There is no commitment needed to talk and discuss this exciting experience with us; it's your decision. Contact Bob Crystal at 473-0279, his email address is: crys24634@aol.com, or Gary Burke at 865-4940, email: g.d.burke@juno.com to learn more.

Interfaith Service and Brunch Sunday, October 16th

By Jim Ghent

Nominations are needed for the Distinguished Community Service Award to be presented on October 16th. If you or your organization has knowledge of anyone you think is a suitable candidate, please submit the name along with a resume containing the individual's qualifications. If it is someone who has been nominated before, you must submit updated information about the candidate.

Nominations, please

Include with your nomination letter the name of the person or organization submitting the nomination, together

with telephone numbers, so that we may make contact if there are any questions.

Calendar event

We would appreciate it if you would put this item on the agenda for your organization's March meeting, as we would like to receive all nominations by May 1st. Don't forget to mark October 16th on your program calendar.

Your participation in this request is sincerely appreciated. Please send nominations to: Jim Ghent, 445 Hosmer Road, Churchville, NY 14428-9544. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 889-7119. ✕

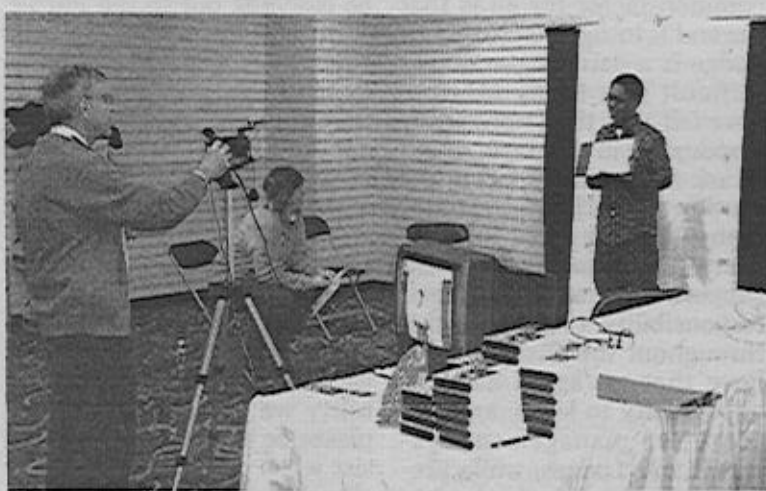
Are You Moving?
Print your NEW address below (including seasonal changes)

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

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

Enjoy the CitySM
Coupon books
Fine Dining
Fast Food
Car Washes
Sporting Events

Proceeds support your Masonic Times



Donald Bell (left) and Bonnie Bell produce the video tape of Ekwe Bogmris during the Child ID Program at Marketplace.



Thanks to all who contributed to the success of this weekend, especially R. W. Lewis Perna, DDGM, for all his encouragement and support. This was the largest single project I had ever attempted, and I hope to run another during Deaf Awareness Week, September 18th to the 24th. ✕

Support the Masonic Care Community

To continue to provide the highest quality of care, the Masonic Care Community needs your support! Because of ever increasing costs, and insurance reimbursements which do not come close to meeting expenses, the Masonic Care Community faces deficits each year. Won't you help by sending a tax-deductible contribution? This is your "home" - please support it.

For more information about dedication opportunities at the Masonic Care Community, please call Brother Ira Cooperman, Director of Development, at (315) 798-4703, or toll-free at (800) 593-3353; or mail the coupon below.

TO: Masonic Care Community, ATTN: Ira Cooperman,
 Director of Development
 2150 Bleeker Street, Utica, New York 13501-1788

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ as a tax deductible contribution made payable to the Masonic Care Community of New York.

Please send me information about dedication opportunities.

Name _____

Address _____

In MEMORY/HONOR of _____

Mail acknowledgement to: _____

Address _____



The Answer!

This picture of Officers of the Masonic Service Bureau is slightly larger than the one published last month, which may make it a little easier for you to identify some of the individuals. Matilda "Mat" Burger's daughter, Dee McClay, sent us the picture at her mother's request. Mat lives in a retirement village in Florida, is 99 years old and is doing well except for failing eyesight. She recently found the picture and wanted to share it.

We believe the people in the photo are: (front row, left to right) **Anthony Schatzlein, Stanley Allen and Rodney Rittenhouse.**

(2nd row) **John Braund, Mat Burger, Maurice Solomon, William Zufall and Leonard Parker.**

(3rd row) **Harry Kennedy, George Wetzell, Ken Crawford, Ralph Kellogg, Margaret Johnson, Ronald Mertens and Charles McCracken.**

Our thanks are extended to Mat and Dee for sending this picture to us and testing our memories! ✕

Donations Needed for Tsunami Victims
 Submitted by R. W. Ron Bower

Grand Master, M. W. Edward R. Trosin, requested that donations for Tsunami Relief can be sent to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund and specified for "Tsunami Relief." He will send these funds, with an additional donation from his allocation, to a recognized authentic Masonic Association to be determined shortly.

M. W. Edward R. Trosin cautions against sending money solicited over the Internet by Masonic Lodges in the disaster area, unless their authenticity can be determined. ✕

Last Chance
 this year!

Get your
**Enjoy the
 Citysm**

Coupon Books
TODAY!!

'Tis a Grand Month to Plan a Visit!

You are cordially invited
 to spend a day at
 The Masonic Care Community



Schedule your Bus Trip NOW!

- ❖ Free Transportation
- ❖ Free Luncheon at Acacia Village
- ❖ Tour of the Masonic Care Community:
 Acacia Village
 New Health Pavilion
 New Wiley Hall (in progress)
 Tompkins Memorial Chapel
 Masonic Library & Museum

For details call Angie Caiola,
 Director of Community Relations
 800-322-8826 or 315-798-4768

And leave the driving to us...



We have a "NEW ADDRESS"...
www.CrawfordFuneralHome.com

As the March issue of the *Masonic Times* rolls off the presses we are pleased to announce our helpful new address on the World Wide Web:

www.crawfordfuneralhome.com.

Our website's goal is two-fold: First, to inform and educate consumers with practical information and answers to important questions they may have about funerals and end of life issues. Second, to provide links on the internet to other important sites that have expanded information we feel will be most helpful to you while in the comfort and convenience of your own home; whether right here in Rochester-Monroe County or anywhere the internet reaches.

Naturally, this internet address is no substitute for having a personal visit with me at our funeral home located at 495 N. Winton Rd, which I encourage you to do whenever convenient. My staff and I are also always available to answer your questions by telephone at (585) 482-0400.

For almost half a century the Crawford Funeral Home has stood ready to and has assisted thousands of families during a most difficult time in their lives. Our funeral home website is now available to assist you with some of your initial questions or concerns. We invite and look forward to your visiting us either in person at our funeral home or on the web.

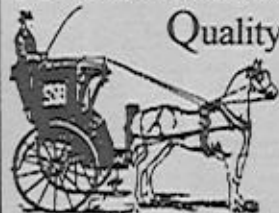
Crawford
 FUNERAL HOME INC.
 Independently Owned And Operated
 (585) 482-0400

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



David P. Crawford

BARTHOLOMEW HEALTH CARE GROUP
 Quality Long Term Care Facilities



You have a choice...
 come and see us.

visit our web site at www.bhcg.com

Crest Manor Living and Rehabilitation Center
 6745 Pittsford-Palmyra Road
 Fairport, New York 14450
 (585) 223-3633

LeRoy Village Green
 10 Munson Street
 LeRoy, New York 14482
 (585) 768-2561

East Side Living and Rehabilitation Center
 62 Prospect Street
 Warsaw, New York 14569
 (585) 786-8151

The Greens of LeRoy
 One West Ave. P.O. Box 7
 LeRoy, New York 14482
 (585) 768-2740

**Assistant Grand Lecturer
Wayne District**



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

Welcome to March, Brethren. This will be a busy month with my visiting three Lodges; Wayne on the 9th, Rose on the 16th and Savannah on the 21st, all for the conferring of Fellowcraft Degrees. Remember Brothers, Ritual is the backbone of our Fraternity, so let our excellence in it show through to our new Brothers.

Masonic Etiquette

During my travels, I have seen some things that need a little clearing up and maybe this column is the way to reach the most Brethren. The first item is discussion in the Lodge room during a meeting. The Master is in charge of the meeting and no one should carry on a conversation with another Brother without the permission of the Worshipful Master. If you wish to ask a question of another in the Lodge, you should first get the permission of the Master to speak to the Brother. When speaking to the other Brother, unless he is of a higher rank than you, you do not come to the sign of Fidelity.

This brings me to the second item, The Sign of Fidelity. This is the most misused sign in Masonry. There are times when it is used in Ritual which cannot be discussed here, but here are some that are permissible to discuss.

1. The Sign of Fidelity should always be given by an Officer of a Lodge when addressing or being addressed by any Officer of higher rank, either in the Ritual or during the transaction of business of the Lodge.

2. Every Brother in the Lodge must be on his feet and at the Sign of Fidelity whenever the Lodge is at Prayer; whenever the Senior Deacon attends at the Altar; and whenever the Brethren form the Symbolic Lodge during an Obligation.

3. The Sign should not be given when a class of candidates enters the Lodge in any Degree; nor when a Master or any Grand Lodge Officer enters the room, except that when the Grand Master enters all come to the sign and remain at the sign until Grand Honors are given.

4. The Sign of Fidelity is given only on two occasions in public—at a Funeral Service and at the Laying of a Cornerstone (both when clothed as a Mason).

5. Do not come to the Sign of Fidelity at a banquet table.

6. The Sign of Fidelity is NOT to be given in Lodge during the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country; we now use the Civilian Salute which is the Right Hand across the Heart.

Reference for the above is from the book of *Masonic Etiquette* by Henry G. Meacham, Grand Lecturer Emeritus.

We will continue our discussion of Masonic Etiquette next month. Until next month, THINK SPRING! x

**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



Palmyra Masonic Temple
161 East Main Street 14522

March is here, can Spring be far away? I hope March will be a month of planning for the Lodge. I would like to have a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night in April. This would be preceded by a dinner and followed by refreshments and fellowship in the dining room. Please begin thinking of some worthy prospects so that we may send out letters of invitation. I would also like the sponsor to sign the letter in addition to myself. This makes the invitation more personal. A lot of work must go into this project to make it successful.

I would also like to look into the possibility of the Lodge sponsoring a Blood Drive in Palmyra. I know that there is one in Walworth, but I believe there is a need for one in Palmyra, also. We have the facilities to put it on and the help to be able to staff it. It is something to think about. The Lodge needs to get more involved in Community Service.

We still need to think about our fundraisers. I mentioned them in a previous column, but I have heard nothing. Let's go, Brothers; I know somebody has some ideas!

Brothers, I would also like to remind you that dues are due and to remit yours in a timely manner to the Secretary.

I would also like to remind you of the Brotherhood Fund. Please send your contribution to R.:W.: Leonard Bennett, Chairman.

Please keep our service men and women, both at home and abroad, in your thoughts and prayers; may the Great Architect of the Universe be with you and yours. x

**District Deputy
Grand Master**



Monroe
District

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

lperna@peoplepc.com

Winter is moving on and I hope that you have survived it well. Many Brothers and their families spent much time battling the flu and other health-related problems. I have attended several Masonic funerals and have expressed my respect to some stalwart Brothers. It is my hope that the coming of Spring brings renewed life and hope for all of us.

The Masonic year is nearly complete for the 2004-2005 Masters. For some it has been a trying year, fraught with attendance issues, inactivity, and changes in leadership. Some have celebrated the ongoing support of their Brethren by witnessing large turnouts for meetings, involvement in community service

projects and great Degree work. It is my opinion that the common factor for all is that the end is in sight. Managing a Lodge is a daunting and very difficult job. Many Masters have felt that they were solely responsible in this task, afraid to ask for help in sharing the burden with their Brethren. Many Masters came into the East without having sufficient support and training for their responsibility. I have seen this throughout the District. I believe that we again have an opportunity to learn, and improve the management system in our Lodges, while preparing Brothers for leadership positions in the District.

Masters and Past Masters owe it to the Lodge to begin mentoring the identified successor to the Master. Begin meeting with the next Master of your Lodge. Share with him the nuances of position, the importance of leadership, organization, communication and delegation. The Master cannot manage all of the duties required, but with support from past leaders, he can identify and engage Brothers who can and would be willing to help.

The state of the District also deserves all of our attention. Several Lodges are struggling

and will require the support of the District to survive. I will be reaching out to the Purple Club and other experienced Brothers to help these Lodges by assisting them in processes that will likely require consolidations or mergers. We cannot allow these Lodges to languish another year. We cannot stand by, commenting on their condition and not raise a hand to help. The District cannot afford to lose members. Death already takes more than we take in. This is a responsibility we all must share. So please be ready to aid and assist when called upon.

Lastly, I have enjoyed my first nine months as your District Deputy Grand Master. I have met many new Brothers who have continued to remind me why I enjoy this Fraternity. I have been witness to the hard work and dedication of many Brothers. I have heard presentations that have excited me. I have met men who show promise and have the skills needed to move this Fraternity into the future. I thank you for all of the support that I have received, am about to receive or may hereafter receive. I look forward to the next few months of transition as one Master's term ends, another begins, and being an active part of this. x

**Grand
Sword Bearer**



Monroe

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

datubman@yahoo.com

Bearing the sword seems to be a trite expression but a sometimes formidable task. It is an enjoyable and easy task for me because of all the work you, as Masons, do for the Craft.

RTTE 2005

We started the *Road to the East* with 31 Brothers registered from Livingston, Monroe and Wayne Districts. As other commitments came up over the three week course, 28 Brothers "graduated" on January 22nd at Eunice Lodge. The proof of our instruction and the Brothers labors will lie in the quality of their Lodge programs. We will all be watching.

School of Ritual

After a great dinner by our hosts at Webster Lodge on January 31st, R.:W.: Rich Friedman, AGL, with assistance from Webster Lodge Officers and the past AGLs, exemplified the

Road to the East Follow Up

By Phillip R. Hurwitz, Esq.
Trustees' Certificate

During my presentation at the *Road to the East* Program on January 15th, I stated that the Trustees' Certificate needs to be filed every year after the Lodge's annual elections. Some Brothers have, since that time, questioned the accuracy of that statement.

That bit of advice was incorrect. A Trustees' Certificate need only be filed once. That

has been confirmed with the New York Department of State. There is no requirement to file a new Trustees' Certificate, unless the Lodge consolidates with another Lodge, or changes its name and number.

Brothers, don't hesitate to contact me if further clarification is needed.

My thanks to those Brothers who took the time to bring this to my attention. x

Fellowcraft Degree. Around 55 Brothers were present.

Child ID

Brother Harrison Parson, Jr., of ERAC Lodge, organized a most excellent Child Identification Program for hearing impaired children at Marketplace Mall on February 4th, 5th and 6th. Brother Parson was able to have interpreters available to question and film the children. New York State Police and per

sons from the Missing and Exploited Children Center provided fingerprinting of the children, and Brothers from numerous Lodges heeded the call and, with their families, provided additional support as needed.

Have-a-Heart

This program is well subscribed by a number of Lodges and is still underway at this writing. Hopefully, there will be great financial and fellowship reports.

**Five monkeys/Brothers parable
or why do our ideas/Lodges sometimes fail?**

They claim that you can start with a cage containing five monkeys. Inside the cage, hang a banana on a string and place a set of stairs underneath it. Before long, a monkey will go to the stairs and start to climb towards the banana. As soon as he touches the stairs, all of the other monkeys are sprayed with cold water. After awhile, another monkey makes the attempt with the same result—all the other monkeys are sprayed with cold water. Pretty soon, when another monkey tries to climb the stairs, the other monkeys will prevent it.



Some of the Brothers who attended the *Road to the East* Course at Eunice Lodge.

WAYNE LODGE NO. 416

Presents

Lenten Fish Fries

1932 RIDGE ROAD, ONTARIO

EVERY FRIDAY IN MARCH

5:00 - 7:00 P.M.

ADULTS - \$7.00 CHILDREN - \$5.00

TAKE-OUTS AVAILABLE

Now, put away the cold water. Remove one monkey from the cage and replace that monkey with a new one. The new monkey sees the banana and wants to climb the stairs. To his surprise and horror, all the other monkeys attack him. After another attempt and another attack, he knows that if he tries to climb the stairs, he will be assaulted.

Next, remove another one of the original monkeys and replace it with a new one. The newcomer goes to the stairs and is attacked. The previous newcomer takes part in the punishment with enthusiasm! Likewise, replace a third original monkey with a new one, then a fourth, then the fifth.

Every time the newest monkey takes to the stairs, he is attacked. Most of the monkeys that are beating him have no idea why they are not permitted to climb the stairs or why they are participating in the beating of the newest monkey. After replacing all of the original monkeys, none of the remaining monkeys have ever been sprayed with cold water. Nevertheless, no monkey ever again approaches the stairs to try for the banana.

Why not? Because as far as they know, that's the way it's always been done.

That, my Brothers, is how Lodges become stagnant and may ultimately fail. x

Here is the list of the Brothers who completed the *Road to the East Course* held at Eunice Lodge in January. Three Masonic Districts - Livingston, Monroe and Wayne - were represented at the tri-session program. Attending (alphabetically) were:

Ronald E. Baylor, Livonia No. 778; Gilbert L. Blew, Craftsman Robertson No. 969; Ronald Bryant, Webster No. 538; Robert Cox, Nunda Station No. 682; Glen Cone, Wayne No. 416.

Richard A. DeCroce, Valley Simes No. 109; Harry J. Dehollander, Clio No. 779; Michael DiCataldo, Wakan-Hubbard No. 154; Kevin Faro, Wayne No. 416; Volney B. Frankel, Craftsman Robertson No. 969.

J. Michael Grady, Union No. 45; David Howlett, Eunice No. 830; Derek Howlett, Eunice No. 830; Melvin Hussey, Eunice No. 830; Richard J. LaFave, Eunice No. 830; Gordon J. Lawrence, Livonia No. 778.

Stephen W Mitchell, Clio No. 779; Roy Moses, Union No. 45; Gerald Pease, Livonia No. 778; David R. Rising, Drumlin Square No. 1180.

Frank Sassone, Clio No. 779; Steven D. Shull, Livonia No. 778; Howard L. Simpson, Nunda Station No. 682; Michael J. Simpson, Nunda Station No. 682; Richard Snyder, Valley Simes No. 109; Richard J. Trescott, Livonia No. 778; William R. Wright Jr., Nunda Station No. 682; and, Wayne R. Zimmer, Phoenix No. 115. x

Grand Director of Ceremonies
Monroe




R.: W.:
William J. Kuehne
 334-9635
 wkuehne@netacc.net



It is heartening to see so many new candidates at the Lodges in our District. I hope to be able to attend your Lodge to witness the fine work being done.

To the new incoming Masters, I would remind you that the Winter goes really fast, and your installation will be here in just a few short months. I would appreciate an email or phone call with your installation date so that your Grand Lodge Officers can attend and support you at this most important event.

On a personal note, I thank the many Brothers who attended the Memorial Services for Brother Reginald Meagher, and Brother Richard Dye during February. Reginald was a family member, and Richard Dye was a special friend to me. I had the pleasure of working with him at his establishment. x



ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS
MONROE DISTRICT

R.: W.:
Rich Friedman
 377-6175
 richddgm@frontiernet.net

V.: W.:
Joe Oelgoetz
 425-9969
 joe.oelgoetz@sentrysafe.com

The Grand Master's Edict

IMPORTANT! The Grand Master's Edict is still in force! Specifically, either my partner, R.: W.: Richard C. Friedman, myself, or another person who has been designated, must observe each and every Lodge in the District in its performance of one of our three beloved Degrees. Additionally, it CANNOT be the same Degree that was observed by the AGL last year. I have sent each Master and Secretary of each Lodge the "Annual Lodge Degree Schedule Form." I will be following-up via a telephone call to those Lodges which have not provided that form to us to date.

Please, Brethren, help me out by returning a completed form (with your Lodge Seal embossed), as soon as possible. Send it to me: Joe Oelgoetz, 44 East Pointe, Fairport, NY 14450. If you have questions, please contact me at 425-9969.

Joint Investiture

We are in the planning stage for our annual joint Investiture for all incoming Masters for the 2005 - 2006 Masonic year. So, to all Senior Wardens, please put Friday, May 20th on your calendar. We plan to have a dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m., with the Investiture Service beginning at 7:30 p.m. Location is still being worked out. We have approached a Lodge, via their Master but want to confirm it before we announce it to the public. We are also working on a guest speaker for the evening. More to come in next month's message.

Fellowcraft

(from the *Short Talk Bulletin*)
 This word is a shortening of Fellows of the Craft. A fellow is an associate or comrade of equal rank and privilege. In the development of learned societies and universities following the Renaissance, a Fellow was a distinguished member of an educational group or college faculty. The Fellows of the Royal Society of London are the modern successors to the outstanding men of science and letters who founded that organization in the Seventeenth Century, during the time when operative Masonry was evolving into the social, charitable, and philosophic institution we call Freemasonry today.

A Fellow of the Craft originally was a worker who had completed his term of service as an apprentice, and after a further period of employment and experience as a journeyman, had been received into the Fellowship of his guild or "trade union." In the case of workers of stone, they passed into the Fellowship of the Lodge. They became associates, or equal Comrades, because they were now believed to be "of great skill, tried and true."

The ultimate goal of an apprentice was to become a "free citizen" or burgess. This allowed the individual to practice his trade with the widest latitude and freedom. He had to have "the freedom of the city." It was the highest station in life to which the ordinary man could aspire. Generally speaking, an operative mason had to be a Fellow of the Craft if he hoped to achieve the status of burgess, or free man.

In spite of the differences between the operative masons grade of Fellow of the Craft and the present Fellowcraft Degree, there is a thread that runs from ancient to the modern. It is the great theme of enlightened manhood. The symbolic ritual stresses the necessity of the cultivation of the intellect and acquisition of habits of industry, both essential to the man who would be a Master in the building of a spiritual Temple of Brotherhood.

The operative Fellow of the Craft was in the full vigor of physical manhood. The typical Fellow of the Craft in operative masonry was in his late twenties by the time he succeeded to that rank. In an era when the average life expectancy was somewhere in the early forties, such a man was well into the period of middle life, when his skills should be mature and his goals in life well defined.

In the modern Fellowcraft Degree, the underlying idea of the Middle Chamber Lecture is the development of manhood through useful knowledge and constructive work. It is rever-

ence for knowledge and its moral usefulness which is illustrated for the speculative Fellowcraft.

The Ritual stresses the need for studying and for learning throughout the period of manhood. It illuminates the idea that a Fellowcraft must search for knowledge about the ideas of morality and brotherly love. If he would truly become a Master engaged in building "a house not made with hands," he must know the means of achieving a universal tolerance and understanding. A "Fellow of the Craft" should understand that he has fulfilled, symbolically, a Journeyman's years of learning and of labor in the arts of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

So mote it be. x

Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.



President
 W.: George S. Nasra
 377-2832
 gnasra@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
 Steven Lysenko
 671-2606

By R.: W.: Derek VanHouten

From the By-Laws of 1998, "To establish a unified group of like peers from among the Masters and Wardens of individual participating Masonic Lodges in the Monroe District. To provide a forum for the discussion of common issues and to explore solutions which may be applicable within member Lodges. To provide support to each other as he approaches or occupies the East. To provide a coordinating Body for certain District wide-projects. To encourage Masters to attend Grand Lodge as a group. To serve as a common point for the dissemination of information concerning Masonic events."

Sadly, the above has not been the norm for the current group of Masters and Wardens in the last couple of years. We started out the year with a great turnout and the attendance has been slipping since then. We realize that health and business sometimes is a valid reason for not attending, but when certain Lodges never show up, it is disheartening since they are missing the opportunities to get to participate in the group's planning for events and socializing with other leaders of the Craft.

The January meeting was attended by only nine Brothers from Clio, Craftsman Robertson, Wakan/Hubbard, ERAC, Seneca, Valley-Simes, and Union Star Lodges. The District Deputy was in attendance. He certainly has a busy schedule, but he made the commitment to be there. With 14 Lodges in the District, how can we meet our counterparts, arrange functions such as the just completed Have-a-Heart Campaign and the upcoming trip to Grand Lodge, if we only get a handful of Brothers out?

In the past, the Masters and Wardens were a great group; they wore distinctive jackets, had parties after the meetings at various homes of the members and, according to the By-Laws, had "group responsibilities." Today it seems that we don't have the time to attend a

meeting such as this. Is it because we spend too much time on the computer, work is more demanding, longer hours, less time with the family?

Hopefully, as the days get longer we will see more of the Lodge leadership at Masters and Wardens. This is YOUR group, please SUPPORT it. x

Brotherhood Fund
 R.: W.:
Derek VanHouten
 Monroe District

Back in February, we passed the \$12,000 mark for the District. With only three months left, we need to double our efforts if we hope to get anywhere near the \$30,000 that YOU, the Brothers and Ladies, raised last year. Last year we were ranked in 6th place overall for the State; there's no reason why we can't do that again. Remember, any donation is TAX-Deductible, so I ask that you search your own situation and give again.

We have heard from these hard working Lodge Chairman: Brothers Bill Nersinger, Union Star; James Toogood, Unity; Richard DeCroce, Valley-Simes; Frederick Nortel, Seneca; Keith Moore, Fame; Mark Dibelka, ERAC; Allan Fowler, Fairport-Flower City; Stephen Mitchell, Clio; Ralph Jurgens, Craftsman Robertson; and Mike Nohle, Webster. There were four Lodges which haven't responded as of yet. Just think what we could accomplish if all the Lodges in the District would participate. It's not too late to join in.

This month I want to inform you of another Program that Grand Lodge supports through the Brotherhood Fund, "The Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program." The purpose of this program is to educate and promote the dangers of the use of abusive substances. These addictive items range from alcohol to marijuana, and other narcotics, as well as nicotine. The committee has on-going programs in the elementary schools on drug awareness and the dangers of drug use and abuse. They work with local police and sheriff departments who have ongoing DARE programs. A new program, Masonic Student Assistance Training, teaches our educators to recognize children who have drug problems and work with them.

The committee is also active in promoting the use of the "Drug Free School Zone" signs in schools around the State. These signs are available to Lodges when they get permission to put them up.

As you read this, the smells of Spring should be in the air, and the last of Winter is just around the corner. Enjoy the season! We'll see you in the *Masonic Times* next month. x

NEED DEGREE HELP?
Shrine Degree Team
 now available to assist Lodges with
1st, 2nd and 3rd Degree Ritual
 For bookings, contact:
 Shrine Office
 or John Faro 671-7701 or Bill Jones
 bud82034@aol.com wjones@rochester.rr.com

Support!!!
 the
Masonic Brotherhood Fund

Craftsman Robertson Lodge No. 969

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



Master
W.: Kenneth
Schumacher
436-2076
coolbluschu@aol.com

Secretary
W.: Thomas W. Kendig
(315) 524-4063
tkendig4@hotmail.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

By W.: Skip Waterstreet, DSA
I don't know how to begin this column. I don't know what is going to happen next. Our January Fellowcraft gathering for rehearsal was cancelled due to the weather. Then we were going to join ERAC Lodge for the 2nd Degree. Their Degree was cancelled because their rehearsal was cancelled due to the weather. Mother Nature has not been very cooperative, even though the month, in general, was delightful for a January.

The last I knew, we were scheduled to confer the first half of the 2nd Degree at our meeting on February 15th. This would have been observed by an AGL, to fulfill the Grand Master's Edict. ERAC Lodge Brothers were expected to join us, as both recipients and participants. Since this column is written in advance, that's the best I can tell you right now.

ERAC Lodge was going to host the second half of the Degree at their meeting on February 28th, preparing all our Brothers to be raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. That event could be March 15th in our Lodge, or in ERAC Lodge at one of their meetings, or some other time to be determined. Call the Master, W.: Ken Schumacher (224-6129) or Secretary, W.: Tom Kendig (315-524-4063) when you read this to find out the accurate information. You might also try me at the Masonic Service Bureau. I might know by then, too.

Historic Erie Canal

Our presentation on the Erie Canal, accompanied by slides of illustrations and photographs, was interesting and entertaining. City Historian, Ruth Na-

parsteck, proved very knowledgeable and informative in her description of the construction and users of the Canal, which once traversed downtown Rochester and was the "main street" for commerce from Albany to Buffalo.



Ruth Naparsteck, City Historian, displays two publications she authored on Rochester.

Dues

Our Secretary, W.: Tom Kendig, would dearly like to hear from the couple dozen of you who have not responded to his request for payment of your current dues. I'm sure all of you want to make him a happy camper...and keep him that way! Please send in your check.

Brotherhood Fund

Brother Ralph Jurgens has sent out a second request for contributions to this campaign to individuals who had not replied to his initial mailing. He also would be delighted to receive your check. A reminder: it isn't the amount of the donation, as much as it is trying to achieve a high percentage of Brothers of our Lodge participating. A second reminder: you may designate which portion of the campaign receives your contribution. A third reminder: this money directly benefits your Brothers and Sisters throughout the State.

Fellowcraft Club

It is time once again for the Fellowcraft Club Dinner, which we hold annually at Rick's Prime Rib, formerly Doud Post, on Buffalo Road. The date is Tuesday, April 12th. Thirst aid will begin at 6:00 p.m., with Dinner served about 7:00 p.m. If you have not already made your reservation, please call W.: Clyde Siverd at 334-3642. Menu and pricing is the same as last year.

We are looking for another great turnout. You are welcome, even if you are not a "member" of the Fellowcraft Club...your ticket includes next year's dues. Come join the fun!

March celebrants

Happy birthday wishes are extended to Richard Barth, Donald DeBack, Douglas Fix, Ronald Freida, Robin Hamm, Clifford Hayner II, Richard Howard, W. Duane King, Patrick McWhinney, Jay Rodgers, Clyde Siverd, Walter Walker and Larry Weekes. Our desire is you have a wonderful day!

Have-a-Heart

Members of our Lodge, their wives and some friends worked two Wednesdays at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center to support the fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House. I learned the total from the first session was close to \$700, but did not get information from the second event as I wrote this column. We can be proud of our results. Halfway through the campaign, the amount raised was just over \$7,000. Since the inception of this endeavor, the House has been the recipient of \$175,000. This is definitely a shining light for the Fraternity in our efforts to be a more viable and visible entity to Rochester and the surrounding community.

See you in Lodge

Fairport/Flower City Lodge No. 476



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

Master
W.: Bernard
D. Lazerson
271-7446

Secretary, W.: George R. Bracht
383-1947

Fairport Masonic Temple
87 South Main Street

My Brothers, my apologies to all for missing last month's article. It won't happen again.

In the last couple of months, we have lost several of our Brothers, and we already had far too busy a Lodge of Remembrance this January. Brothers Roy Bowerman, Irving Popkin, Harold Reynolds and David Shure were all summoned to the Great Architect of the Universe. His ranks are now filled with our Brethren, and I pray that he spare those of us who are left in this world to do his noble work. Also, I am sad to report that Brother Alfred Miller is in Strong Hospital and could use our support and assistance as much as possible.

On a much more pleasant note, we initiated a new candidate, February 14th. Let us not forget that membership is the lifeblood of any organization. We must always be on the alert "for a few good men."

Now, on to feasting. Our January dinner at the Olive Garden was a wonderful success for nearly 20 Brothers, wives and friends, despite the cold weather. Thanks to Gerry Spero, we ate like Chinese royalty at P.F. Changs in Eastview. Then, fully provisioned and our stomachs full, we labored for two solid days, filling the coffers for Ronald McDonald House. It was fun, but a lot of the usual suspects were involved - I'd like to see all my Brothers, who are still braving the Northern Exposure in Upstate New York, involved.

March will be filled with opportunities. March 8th we be-

gin with our monthly dinner, tentatively at Charlie Browns on Penfield Road...an intimate and enticing dining establishment. Gerry Spero is our point man at 334-7616. Let's really make an effort to meet there for fun and good cheer. March 14th is our 2nd Degree in formal attire; we need to make this an especially warm and fraternal evening for our new Brother. Worshipful David Taber will be in the East. March 28th will be the 3rd Degree for our new Brother, at the usual time, with dinner preceding. Call Brother Dave or me for dinner details.

Finally, let me just comment that so far, few have done the work of a great many. Let us all share in the bounty and good fellowship of our Lodge.

Seneca Lodge
No. 797

2nd Tuesday
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Richard N. Shellman
383-8228
shellman@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: Robert C. Green, Jr.
407 Bluhm Road, Fairport 14450
223-5953
green407@earthlink.net

30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580

As I am enjoying a vacation weekend in Traverse City, Michigan, with our daughter and her family, I am interested in what state Masonry is in Michigan. As I spend more time here in the future, I will look for Lodges and try to attend a meeting and report back on my findings. I ask any member who travels or resides outside of New York State, "What is Masonry like in your State?" Please let us know by letter or email, so we can communicate differences to our Brothers here in Rochester.

We had a fine Degree with Webster Lodge on February 3rd. We had one of our newly raised Entered Apprentices receive his 2nd Degree with Webster Lodge. My sincere thanks to the Officers and Brothers of Webster Lodge for responding to our request to join in their Degree and for the warm welcome they gave us. This Degree was completed with participation from members of both Webster and Seneca Lodges. Thank you to Jack Breitung for his excellent Ritual work with the Question and Answer portion of the lecture.

We are moving forward with a successful year in our Lodge and we need to think about why this is so. As Master, I have had willing support from all who have been asked to contribute. From the first meeting, which included the "Lodge of Remembrance" and Service Awards, to our completed 1st Degree, I thank all who have done such a superb job. I am also pleased to announce that the enthusiasm among the Brothers for the ensuing year is most encouraging. I feel we have a promising future.

Our newly raised Entered Apprentices have participated in our Have-a-Heart Campaign and look forward to learning and helping our Fraternity in other areas. When you are in Lodge, please take the time to introduce yourself to our new members and share with them your experiences in Masonry.

Keep your calendar open for upcoming events, such as the Seneca Tea and the fast approaching St. Andrews' visit. I urge you to keep those dates

available so you may attend and enjoy the benefits of our work in the quarries. Look for full details in your next trestleboard.

As always, I look forward to the next time we meet.

CLIO LODGE No. 779

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



Master
W.: J. David
Goodrich
392-3384

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

I thank all the Brothers who helped with the Have-a-Heart Campaign. I know our efforts will be appreciated by those in need of the services provided by the Ronald McDonald House. I also thank the ladies of Leah Chapter, OES, who volunteered to help us (we also enjoyed their company).

February events

On February 1st, an excellent Brother Bring-a-Friend Program was held. The planning and leadership of W.: Robert Pedersen was what made it a huge success.

A 1st Degree was presented on February 15th with Senior Warden Harry DeHollander in the East. Two gentlemen became Brothers in our Lodge. We also had the honor of a Brother from Unity participate in this Degree.

Degrees

The 2nd Degree will be held on March 15th with W.: Scott Brickman in the East. W.: Sean Noonan will be in the East when the 3rd Degree is conferred on April 19th. I ask all the Brothers of Clio Lodge to attend all of the Degrees, if your cabletow allows. It is important that we be a part of the most important event in the lives of our new Masonic Brothers.

Successful dinners

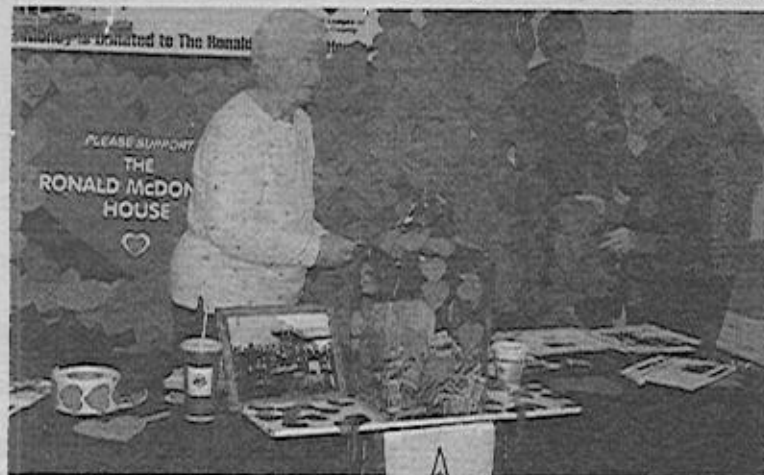
Our Spaghetti Dinners were well received in the stormy weather. I am grateful for your unselfish help, which was needed to make these dinners as successful as they have been.

Changes

Due to changes in the trestleboard, please check the *Masonic Times* on a monthly basis. Two of the changes are: June 7th - Tuesday, Installation of Officers; June 21st - Tuesday, Annual Steak Roast.

Remember Saturday, May 7th, will be the date of our annual Ox Roast Dinner. This major fundraiser will require help from all to prepare and serve the dinners and, of course, to sell tickets.

Keep Lodge Brothers, Lts. Thomas Casper and Nathan Thompson, in your prayers. Remember all of the Brothers serving in the military services of our great country.



Sue Kendig and friend, Ginny O'Reilly, helped fundraise at the Have-a-Heart Booth during one of our stints at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center. W.: Ken Schumacher, Master, is in the background.

Discover
the support you need to get
back on your feet again

Innovative rehabilitative services and a superior level of medical care in a loving home-like atmosphere.

Kirkhaven
Transitional & Long-Term Care

Our People Make the Difference

254 Alexander St., Rochester
585-461-1991

**Empire State
Weeklies, Inc.
Webster Printing
Corporation**

2010 Empire Boulevard
Webster, NY 14580
(585) 671-1533
Specializing in Newsletters
Printers of this Publication

Valley-Simes Lodge No. 109
 2nd Tuesdays
 7:30 p.m.
 Acting Master
 R.: W.: Richard Snyder
 342-2419
 e7afret@aol.com
 Secretary
 R.: W.: Herbert Spencer
 334-7493
 hspence1@rochester.rr.com
 979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

By R.: W.: Richard Snyder
 Hello, is anybody there? Our February communication left a lot to be desired attendance wise. We ordered twenty meals because we had not received any reservations, and ten Lodge Brothers and one guest showed up. Everyone attending ate well. Following the communication, we had "make your own banana splits."



Dave Anderson speaking to Valley-Simes Lodge Brothers at February meeting.

Guest speaker

Dave Anderson, of the Ronald McDonald House, was our guest speaker for the evening. He spoke about the wonderful things that are happening now, and being planned in the future. Masonry has played a big part in the success of the House because of our sponsorship of the Have-a-Heart Campaign in the area malls. A check for \$200 was presented as a token of thanks from our Lodge.

In support of Have-a-Heart, our Lodge covered one day each at the Marketplace and the Mall at Greece Ridge Center. Many thanks to W.: Mike McBride, Program Chairman, for doing double duty as our Lodge Chairman, and for his work and dedication to the success of the event. Thanks, also, to each of our Brothers who took the time to man a booth.

Sweetheart Night Out

The flyers have been sent out for our "Dinner Theater Night Out" on March 12th. It

is very important that you get your reservation back to me as soon as possible, as seating is limited. The play "Murder at the Howard Johnson's" is a comedy and sure to be a sell-out. Any questions, call the Master and I can tell you if there still are seats available. Sorry, but this night is for Lodge Members and their Ladies only.

Important stuff

This month's communication will be our Official Visit by the DDGM, R.: W.: Lewis J. Perna, who will be inspecting our Lodge records and relaying the Grand Master's Message. The GSB, R.: W.: Donald Tubman, and the GDC, R.: W.: William Kuehne, normally also attend. This is a very important night for our Lodge and I am asking each of you to make every effort to attend. A dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and Lodge will open at 7:30. Reservations are a must. Preparations for the evening will begin at 5:00 p.m. Help, please!

Brother Bring-a-Brother

Starting this month, any Brother who brings a Brother to Lodge who has not attended a Lodge activity in less than a year, is in for a treat. The good news is that both will get their meal for free. Reservation required of course.

Churchville Lodge No. 667

2nd & 4th
 Wednesdays
 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Jesse Noble
 321-1995
 Secretary
 W.: George R. Burke
 293-1629
 www.geocities.com/churchvillelodge667
 20 South Main Street, Churchville, 14428

I thank the DDGM, R.: W.: Lewis J. Perna, for his attendance at our Lodge on February 9th.

Sickness and distress

Past Masters Frank Higgins and Garry Hutchurson each had successful surgery. They are at home and resting now.

W.: Larry Bright lost a special nephew, André Murray.

Events

We are having our Table Lodge Dinner on March 9th at 6:30 p.m. Please call in your reservation to our Junior Warden, John Lent, at 338-9221. You may also contact our Secretary, George Burke, at 293-1628 or W.: Larry Bright at 359-2257.

UNITY Lodge No. 479
 2nd & 4th
 Mondays
 7:30 p.m.
 Senior Warden
 David Sylvester
 594-9779
 davidsylvester@hotmail.com
 Secretary
 R.: W.: Clifford Short, 225-5284
 short4us@frontiernet.net
 133 South Union Street, Spencerport 14559

By David Sylvester

Thanks to all the Brothers who volunteered time during the Have-a-Heart Campaign. As Co-Chairman, it was especially gratifying to have such a strong commitment from our Lodge. An extra special thanks to Art McMichael, Bill Mitchell, Karl-Heinz Reich and Jim Toogood for going above and beyond the call of duty, as well as Mike McBride who coordinated the entire event. This doesn't lessen the fact that while some Brothers were able to commit many hours at the mall, all the Brothers who came out, even for an hour, helped make this one of the most successful campaigns to date. We couldn't have done it without you!

Welcome!

I congratulate the newly raised Brothers of Unity Lodge. They are: Rick Randolf, Anthony Marotti, Andrew Tascione, Pablo Lopez and Chad Kuyler.

Remember, the more you put into Masonry, the more you will get out of it.

Degrees

As of this writing, we are planning a 1st Degree for five candidates on February 28th. A special thank you to W.: David Goodrich of Clio Lodge and all the Brethren who allowed one of our candidates to take his 1st Degree on February 15th at Clio Lodge.

Join us!

On March 14th, our Lodge committees will be giving their Annual Reports. This is a good time to get caught up on all the various Lodge activities and expenditures. If you are a newly raised Brother, this would be an excellent meeting to attend.

A reminder to all Brothers to get your reservations in for the Dedication Ceremony and the Charter Presentation on Sunday, May 15th. This is on a first come first served basis; \$30.00 per person. RSVP to Tom Michielsen, 127 West Avenue, Spencerport, NY 14559. His telephone number is 352-4831.

The Dedication Ceremony will be at Unity Lodge, 133 S. Union Street, Spencerport, at 3:00 p.m. The Charter Presentation is at The Party House, 677 Beahan Road, with festivities beginning at 5:00 p.m., including a Prime Rib and Shrimp Scampi Dinner. The Master of Ceremony will be Gabe Dalmath. The keynote speaker will be Grand Master, M.: W.: Edward R. Trosin, Jr.

Upcoming events

- March 26th - Spring Egg Hunt
- March 28th - 2nd Degree

You're Invited
UNITY LODGE NO. 479
 Sunday May 15, 2005
DEDICATION CEREMONY
 3:00 p.m. at the Lodge
 133 South Union Street, Spencerport
CHARTER PRESENTATION DINNER
 The Party House, 677 Beahan Road, Rochester
 5:00 p.m. Social Hour
 cash bar, hors d'oeuvres
 6:00 p.m. Dinner
 Prime Rib/Shrimp Scampi, \$30.00 per person
 Reservations by May 6th
 Featuring M.: W.: Edward R. Trosin, Jr.,
 Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York
 and Members of the Grand Line
 Contacts:
 Thomas Michielsen
 352-4831 / tmichic1@rochester.rr.com or
 Jay McCullough
 352-1061 / jaymac@usadatanet.net
 Proceeds benefit the Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester NY, Inc.

FAME Lodge No. 722
 2nd & 4th TUESDAYS
 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Frank Churnetski
 671-7551
 Secretary
 W.: Michael Bell
 244-2895
 mbell6@rochester.rr.com
 4275 CULVER ROAD

I thank the Brothers from Fame Lodge who worked the Have-a-Heart booth at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center on February 5th. All things considered, we had a very successful day. It is a very worthy cause. During the course of the day, we had a number of people who stopped by the booth and expressed their thanks for having a Ronald McDonald House. They, themselves, or other family members, had used the facilities and wanted to thank everyone involved in Have-a-Heart and the Ronald McDonald Program.

On February 8th, we conferred the 2nd Degree with V.: W.: Dan Walker in the East. I thank everyone who participated in the Degree, as well as those involved in the planning. Please remember to get your dues into Lodge as soon as you can. It makes the Secretary's job a little easier. If you have questions about dues, please call or email our Secretary, W.: Michael Bell, or call me.

Our first meeting, March 8th, will be a 3rd Degree which will be put on by the Shrine Degree Team. There will be a catered dinner of Chicken Diane at 6:30 p.m. at a cost of \$8.00. Please make your reservations. Our meeting will start at 7:30 p.m., with a short business meeting and the Degree.

Our second meeting will be March 22nd at 7:30 p.m. There

will be no dinner at the Lodge beforehand, but some alternative dinner plans have been made. Anyone interested in dinner prior to the meeting that evening will learn the details at Lodge or you can give me a call at 451-9025.

I ask you to remember our Brothers and their families, who find themselves in sickness or distress, in your thoughts and prayers.

Happy Birthday to all of you who have March birthdays. May God bless you.

NORTHFIELD
 Lodge No. 426
 Instituted March 1857
 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Glenn Hedges
 586-0238
 W.: John A. Dudley, Secretary
 586-6426
 jdudley1@rochester.rr.com
 17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

The trestleboard has been changed for March and April. We will confer the 2nd Degree on March 17th for one person with the 3rd Degree on April 20th. The Lodge received permission from Grand Lodge.

Notice from the Trustees

The Trustees are conducting a fundraiser for the building by collecting used printer cartridges from your home and work printers. Members are asked to collect these items for recycling at the Lodge. They should be placed in the tote bin located in the dining room, and will have a value of \$1.00 to \$5.00 to the Lodge. Here's a great way everyone can participate. Let your family members know, also!

On February 5th, 10 Brothers were at the Have-a-Heart booth, in support of the Ronald McDonald House, at Eastview Mall from 12 noon until 9:00 p.m. Thank you for your support. The Brothers were: Dave Adams, Jonathan Buck, Pierre Dubé, Ray MacNally, Joe Abamonte, Glenn Schaefer, Randy Griswold, James Knapp, James Weick, and me.

Continued on Page 8

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

RL
Rochester Lumber Company
 103 N. Washington Street
 East Rochester
 586-0909
 Since 1909, supplying homeowners and contractors with service and quality building materials.

Purchase
Enjoy the Citysm
 Coupon books to support the Masonic Times

Northfield Lodge No. 426**17 Church Street, Pittsford****DeWitt Clinton Award****April 2nd, 7:00 p.m.***Recipient***Anita M. Mance***Library Media Specialist**East Rochester Elementary School**(Pre-K to 4th Grade)***Refreshments after Program
Everyone Invited****Northfield Lodge**

Continued from Page 7

February 3rd was Pas. Masters' Night, with R.: W.: Raymond Beardsley in the East, Senior Warden, W.: James Weick and Junior Warden, W.: Randy Griswold.

Congratulations!

It was announced in Lodge that Brother Richard Trolley will receive the Dedicated Service Award. He was escorted to the East by R.: W.: Robert Zahn where he received Grand Honors.

Condolences

Our deepest sympathy goes to George Durkee on the passing of his wife. George moved to Clifton Springs a year ago and his wife died in February, after a long illness.

Brother Paul Fritsche's widow, Betty Jane, passed away, also in February.

Brother Curtis Fox passed away in Florida, January 17th. Our prayers are with all the families.

Good news

Brother Dave Ambrose is continuing to improve. W.: William Fraser is holding his own while waiting for a kidney transplant.

Dates to remember

March 3rd - meeting

March 17th - 2nd Degree

April 2nd - DeWitt Clinton Award to Anita M. Mance, Library Media Specialist. *

Wakan/Hubbard**Lodge No. 154**2nd & 4th
Mondays
7:30 p.m.

Master

W.: Bruce R.
Horncastle
(607) 347-4680
brhorn@yahoo.com

Secretary

W.: Theodore
J. Snyder
467-0165
ted3078@aol.comAssistant
Secretary

W.: Donald C. Bell, 334-7768

1822A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

Hopefully, the brunt of the Winter season is almost behind us and we can all look forward to the Spring, much awaited.

I missed the meeting of January 23rd, due to the weather that day and getting my Lady Janet out of the hospital. She is now doing much better and is getting back on her feet, albeit slowly and carefully. Lodge was presided by our Brother, Senior Warden, Hugh Woodside.

Sickness and distress

R.: W.: Robert Pettit (Doc) had a stroke in January and is making a rapid and excellent recovery. He has been home for a few weeks now. It is

alright to call him and send cards and letters, which he will indeed appreciate, but Brothers, please do not "drop in" on him yet. Calling him would be much more appreciated by him presently. Perhaps, if called, Doc will want company. Our thoughts are with you, Doc, and we are looking forward to your recovery.

Brother Michael DiCataldo, our Junior Warden, recently had surgery on his shoulder and is making his recovery in good time. This has been Mike's second surgery in a year! Mike, here's to your recovery.

Coming up

The joint Table Lodge with ERAC Lodge is on! It will be held on March 14th at our Lodge and the announcement for reservations will go out at least a couple of weeks in advance. This is a momentous event for our Lodge, as it is not often we get a chance to "break bread" or share a toast with members of other Lodges.

On the same evening, I will debut my program on the Kirkwall Scroll. It will be a short program about this very unique, antique artifact of Scottish Masonry and is of worthy of mention to any Masonic Lodge. Several hundred years of age, it's Masonic keepers have maintained it intact, as it is replete with emblems of the Craft. However, much more needs to be learned from it, as to its origins and purpose. I may never give this program again, so please attend this special event and Table Lodge with our Brothers from ERAC Lodge.

Because of the joint Table Lodge, however, there will be no Wine Tasting event on the 28th of March, as per the trestleboard. Brothers, that evening is open for anything special that you may suggest; otherwise, the meeting will address the Lodge's business, as usual.

3rd Degree

Brothers, please make yourselves available for Ritual parts in the Degree, as there will be room for your help in the second section. We are calling upon Brothers for their assistance for this, but don't hesitate to contact me offering your help. The Degree is to be conferred on April 25th and there will be at least one big evening for rehearsals for this.

Thanks for your attention, Brethren: that is it for now. *

DA Enterprises

Dave Gardner - Owner

Internet Sales Broker

PO Box 10150, Rochester, NY 14610

Office: (585) 288-2703; Cell: (585) 797-5334

Email: dgardne5@rochester.rr.com

ERAC**Lodge No. 163**

2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: George S.
Nasra
377-2832
gnasra@rochester.rr.com
Secretary
R.: W.: Terry
W. Whilen, Sr.
346-4380
ddgmmost@netzero.net
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580
website: www.eraclodge163.org

The harsh Winter weather has forced us to make several changes in our trestleboard. The 2nd Degree, scheduled for January 24th, had to be postponed and was to be held on February 21st. I would like to thank Brother Steve Lysenko for his leadership and his assistance while I was away in February. It is a wonderful feeling to know that your Lodge is in good hands if you have to be absent for unexpected business. The following meeting, on February 28th, was dedicated to the explanation of the 2nd Degree of Masonry. Brothers Nelson Bertch and Patrick Mulrooney started the evening with the "Q's and A's" of the Fellowcraft Degree, which was followed by a great discussion, moderated by Brother Rich Friedman.

March events

Our meeting of March 14th will be a joint Table Lodge meeting with our Brothers from Wakan/Hubbard. We will meet at 1822 Penfield Road and share food, fellowship and fun with our Brothers.

March 28th is promising to be a great evening. This will be an open meeting to families and friends with the theme being Medicine and Masonry. ERAC invited officials from the Shrine Hospitals for Children and from the Masonic Medical Research Laboratories, dedicated to the study of cardiac arrhythmias and cardiovascular disease. We also hope to have Brother Berislav Zlokovic, member of ERAC, a local physician and researcher at the University of Rochester, give a brief overview of his research on Alzheimer's Disease. This should be an informative and entertaining evening for all, and I will invite other Lodges to join us for this event.

Master's Message

As I write this column, I am getting ready for an urgent overseas trip to visit my father, whose health has deteriorated over the past several months. I apologize to all my Brothers of ERAC Lodge for not being able to attend meetings and I hope to be back with you again in March.

I will focus this month on the Fellowcraft Degree, as our new Brothers are moving up the Masonic ladder toward the source of eternal light and knowledge. In preparation for this month's column, I was reading again the *General Ahiman Rezon* by Daniel Sickels, 1880. In his book, Brother Sickels describes the symbolism of the Degree of Fellowcraft as follows:

"If the object of the 1st Degree be to symbolize the struggles of a candidate groping in darkness for intellectual light, that of the 2nd Degree represents the same candidate laboring amid all the difficulties that encumber the young be-

giner in the attainment of learning and science. The Entered Apprentice is to emerge from darkness to light - the Fellowcraft is to come out of ignorance into knowledge."

Brother Sickels reminds us that Freemasonry is a progressive science. The teaching of Masonry is divided into Degrees. As Entered Apprentice, we are born into the Fraternity and, as an infant opening his eyes to the world, we open our eyes and thus move from darkness into light. An Entered Apprentice is an infant child, but a Fellowcraft is no longer an infant. He is ready to acquire "more light in Masonry," and move from ignorance into knowledge.

The 2nd Degree of Masonry, therefore, stresses the importance of acquiring knowledge. The Fellowcraft is man in his youth, standing in the Middle Chamber. He is an adolescent eager to learn, by aid of his five senses. He is told to seek all the knowledge and all the mysteries of life that science can teach him.

The genius of Freemasonry is that it speaks to every man. Within its Ritual and in its teachings the rich, the poor, the mathematician, the scientist, and the laborer, will find something that appeals to him. Freemasonry, as an organization, includes fellowship and fun, charitable work, Brotherly Love, and deeper scientific inquiries into the meaning of life and the betterment of mankind. There is no limit to the extent of inquiry into the meaning of Freemasonry. It is important to remind ourselves that no Freemason is better than another, as long as we follow the path of light and we seek more knowledge according to our interest and our capacity. Some of us immerse ourselves deeper into the symbolism and the Ritual of the Fraternity. Others learn the lessons of leadership by progressing through the chairs as Officers of the Lodge. Yet others contribute to the organization from the sidelines through their participation in social and charitable programs and thus make a difference in their community. All are good men and Masons.

The 1st Degree stresses the importance of Morality. The 2nd Degree expands on this teaching and adds to it a comprehensive system of instruction and knowledge which includes the seven liberal arts and sciences. The square is an important emblem in this degree. The Fellowcraft is instructed on his entrance that this symbol should be the rule and guide of his conduct with all mankind but especially with a Brother Mason. He is encouraged to seek knowledge through his five senses and to diligently study the sciences of the world, because it is only through diligent research and individual study that we can achieve true Masonic light and an understanding of the glory of the Creator of the Universe.

This teaching is in sharp contrast with the didactic, passive, and dogmatic teaching, where a man is told what to believe, and how to live his life. Freemasonry encourages each to search for the meaning of life according to his own religious, cultural and moral beliefs, knowing that there are certain eternal and unalterable truths

and codes of Morality common to all. By so doing, it also teaches an acceptance and tolerance of the views of others, and recognition that we are all members of the human family, children of the same God and Brothers, one of another. This is the beauty of our Fraternity, my Brothers. Let us proudly proclaim our allegiance to this Fraternity and spread the light of Masonry to others who seek it.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless you and your family. *

Union Star**Lodge No. 320**3 North Main Street
Honeoye Falls 144722nd Mondays
7:30 p.m.

Secretary

Robert Sweeney

(h) 381-5286; (w) 464-6316

38 Cullens Run, Pittsford 14534

rsweeney@rochester.rr.com

By Gary Sanford

I hope the Winter weather will start to slow down and provide us with more sunshine and warmer days ahead.

Have-a-Heart Campaign

Thanks go to the following Brothers for assisting me with the Have-a-Heart Campaign on February 6th and 13th at Marketplace Mall. Brothers Harold Wagner, Rob Sweeney, Keith Banister, George Foehner, Jim Nersinger, John Williams and Ron Morthorst.

Condolences

We have lost one of our Brothers. The Supreme Architect of the Universe called Richard H. Dye on January 24th. Richard was a member with us for over 47 years. May the blessing of God be with his family and may he rest in peace.

Pictures

Thanks to Rob Sweeney for adding the pictures from the Have-a-Heart and January 24th dinner to our web page. You may view these photos at: www.unionstar.roch-web.com.

Camp Turk

If you know of a young boy or girl who could benefit from the experience that Camp Turk offers, please contact our Secretary for an application. If you have a student who is a high school senior, planning to attend an accredited college, the Secretary has the Masonic Youth Scholarship forms, as well.

Thanks go out to W.: Kerry Ripley and his wife, Joyce, for providing the fine dinner for the large gathering we had for the 3rd Degree on February 28th. Thanks to the Shrine Degree Team for the great work in conferring the Degree.

Please remember to participate in the Brotherhood Fund and return your donation to William Nersinger. There are nine different categories for your selection this year. We are behind last year at this time, so please help to make this a banner year.


March


Our schedule for March will consist of the following events: Move-Up Night on the 14th, as well as the "Walk About" Program presented by R.: W.: Robert Sanford, at the Fellowcraft meeting on the 28th and the School of Ritual for the 3rd Degree on the 31st. *

O-At-Ka
Lodge No. 759
 2nd & 4th
 Wednesdays
 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Mark G. Arlauckas
 889-8418
 BrotherMark759@aol.com
 Secretary
 W.: Charles W. Crevison
 889-6414
5 Browns Avenue
Scottsville 14546




WEBSTER
LODGE NO. 538
 1st & 3rd
 Thursdays
 7:30 p.m.
 Master
 W.: Bernard Russell
 872-1353
 Secretary, Henry Libera
 872-5427
30 Orchard Street
Webster 14580



District Deputy
Grand Master
Genesee/Wyoming
District

 R.: W.:
 Norman H. Steinbaugh
 591-2073
 normann@pcom.net

Batavia
Lodge No. 475
 2nd & 4th
 Tuesdays
 Master
 R.: W.: J. Michael Willwerth
 344-8443
 jmw2003@rochester.rr.com
 Sec. R.: W.: Robert F. Dagen
 548-7148
 rdagen@rochester.rr.com
200 East Main Street
Batavia 14020



1st Degree

On February 9th, we had the honor of initiating a new Brother into our Lodge. Thanks to all Brethren present, especially W.: Larry Blazey for officiating from the East and to Brother Pete Crandall for conducting the candidate. Bad weather was truly a factor for some planned participants and additional credit goes to those who stepped in at the very last minute to insure this important work was performed without a hitch.

Have-a-Heart Campaign

We cheerfully participated in our annual Masonic obligation to the Ronald McDonald House on Friday, February 11th. Thanks to Brothers Jasper Brady, Evar Miller, Chuck Piazza, Kevin Fisher, Rob Wise and Gary Trescott for helping raise funds by selling paper hearts, which were displayed at Marketplace Mall through St. Valentine's Day.

Sweetheart Brunch

Several couples and family members enjoyed what has become an annual event held Sunday, February 13th at Mario's Via Abruzzi. Thanks to W.: Rich Fimbel for coordinating the Brunch. I was told by some the chocolate fountain was unbelievable!

Dinner and Wine Tasting

The planning process is well under way for a couples dinner and wine tasting demonstration to be held Wednesday night, March 9th. W.: Larry Blazey is busy coordinating this event along with a local wine aficionado. The current plan involves dinner with our wives at a local restaurant followed by our (brief) regular work and then reconvening for our evening program. Thanks to Brother Mark Ellwanger for this great suggestion. I'm hoping this event paves the way for a future Table Lodge to be held before my privilege as Master is over.

2nd Degree

We are currently busy planning and rehearsing for our 2nd Degree scheduled for Wednesday, March 23rd. Please make every effort to support your Lodge, meet our new Brothers, and participate in the Ritual. Your presence will be greatly appreciated by everyone in attendance.

Lodge Dues

Thanks to all Oatkan Brethren, both near and far, who have sent in their Lodge dues. Your commitment is vital to the business and maintenance of our Lodge and its building. We appreciate your cooperation, concerns and comments over the Grand Lodge dues increase. We will continue to develop ways to help defray inevitable future increases.

Finally, I hope everyone is having an enjoyable Winter and I look forward to seeing you at our next meetings on March 9th and 23rd.

February review

Webster Lodge was treated to an excellent 2nd Degree with W.: Mike Nohle in the East. Brothers Ron Bryant and Brad Lewis performed the Senior Deacons' Ritual extremely well in the First Section and the Middle Chamber Lecture respectively. They also delivered the Questions and Answers with enthusiasm, while never missing a cue. Thanks to Brothers Dick Shellman and Ray Crandall, Seneca Lodge, for helping Webster with the Junior Warden's Station and Junior Deacon's Place. Brothers John Ross, Lew Wallace, Bob Fisher, Bob Passino and Warren Patterson executed the floor work confidently, adding to the mood of the Degree. My thanks to all the Brothers who attended the Degree.

The second meeting in February was dedicated to National Heart Health Month. The Brothers of Webster Lodge were educated on heart health and safety.

Looking forward

Lodge activities for March include the Past Masters' Night on March 3rd. Please come out to Lodge and join us in fellowship with the Past Masters of Webster Lodge. The events of the evening will start promptly at 7:30 p.m. After Lodge closes, the Brothers will partake in the traditional Webster Lodge Official Stink Night Festivities.

Our Spaghetti Dinner is set for March 4th from 5 to 7 p.m. Any Brothers who are interested in helping with the Spaghetti Dinner, either cooking, serving, eating, or cleaning up, please come over and join us. During Winter months a lot of the Brothers who normally help, travel South. If you are free, please stop by and give us a hand with the work that needs to be done.

On March 17th Webster Lodge will confer the 3rd Degree. Brother Bernard Russell will be in the East. Brothers, raising Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason is the last step in the initiation process but the first step into our great Fraternity. I remember every Brother who welcomed me after I was raised as a Master Mason. Those Brothers still help me to this day. I invite you to come out and join the Officers of Webster Lodge in welcoming our new Brothers while showing our support by sharing with them Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love.

The Officers and I are here for you. Please make it a point to attend the meetings and to support the Lodge. If there is any Brother who needs help getting to and from Lodge, please let me know and I will help make arrangements for travel. I can be reached at 872-1353. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.


Child ID

The New York State Masonic Fraternity has a long commitment to the children, their families and our community. A parent's worst nightmare is the disappearance of a child, and more than twenty thousand children throughout the State are reported missing each year. The Masonic Child Identification Program is the most comprehensive child identification service available to our communities. The videotape is a recovery tool which provides far more individual characteristics and mannerisms than any still photograph could accomplish.

This Program also provides Masons with the opportunity to bring before our community, by example, the principles of our Craft. By increasing awareness of what Masonry means and what Masons do, we promote the public image of our Fraternity. This increases our ability to provide even more good to our communities and our families.

The Genesee/Wyoming District has all the necessary equipment and tapes to conduct videotaping sessions. A District team is organized, however, as six to eight personnel are required for a videotaping session. Recruiting new team members is an ongoing process. Team members are needed from each Lodge in the District to fill vacancies. Ladies, older teenagers and friends, are invited to join.

The National Child ID Day will be Saturday, May 21st, in support of National Missing Children's Day. At present, 16 States and the Province of Ontario have agreed to participate. As many as 12 other States may join. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will give their full support, as they did last year.

Grand Director
of Ceremonies
Genesee/Wyoming

 R.: W.:
 J. Michael Willwerth
 344-8443
 depchiefsb902@msn.com

As I write this article, I now understand the snowbirds! I have had my fill of Winter already. I put the gun up for the season, but almost took it back down to go ground hog hunting. Has anybody seen Phil? If you see him, tell him I'm looking for him. Six more weeks of this - I have had my fill.

Masonic Education

Now that I have broke wind on that one, I would like to talk

about Masonic Education; a subject near and dear to my heart. I will be holding a Masonic Education Course and *Road to the East* Course in the Spring. Within days of reading this article, I would like any and all who are interested in taking either one or both courses, to contact me. I would like to hold the *Road to the East* in April and Masonic Education in May. It looks like we will try to do both courses in two consecutive Saturdays.

With all that said, I will be putting an itinerary together for the days of training and would also like to have members of the Purple Club and present and Past Masters, who would be willing to assist in the training, to contact the Chairman, R.: W.: Robert Strang, or me. If there is a certain section you would prefer to present, let us know that also.

Until we see each other again, which I hope will be soon, may the Heavens rest upon us and all good Masons.

Assistant Grand
Lecturer

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

Flap!!

A Flap is commonly thought of as a form of agitation or a covering. Well, the flap that I am thinking about is on your Apron. You know, the one that forms a triangle suspended from the waistband of your Masonic Apron.

Its three sides are a reminder to you of the three distinct knocks you made the first time you entered a Lodge and their relationship to the three precious jewels. That flap is a reminder of the three principle tenets of Masonry, which are Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love, found within you.

You are also reminded of the triple ties you have to the Fraternity as you attested to at the Altar, supporting the three Great Lights in Masonry, the Holy Bible, Square and Compasses, surrounded by three candlesticks, or tapers, situated on three points of a compass.

The three sides are emblematical of the three principal Officers of the Lodge and their symbols, the Square, Level and Plumb, representing our first and most important three leaders of the Craft, King Solomon; Hiram, King of Tyre; and Hiram Abif.

These are just a few reminders of the teachings included in the allegories of the beautiful Ritual offered by Masonry.

The one true symbol that this flap means, and the reason that this flap or triangle is above the square of your Apron, is that its shape is recognized world over as the symbol of Deity. The flap is above, or on top of, the square to remind us that we were taught to first enter upon an important endeavor with a prayer, thus placing Deity first and foremost in our daily lives, as the Great Law Book of Masonry, the Holy Bible, tells us to live our lives.

On January 20th our newest member, Eric Rada, consummated his membership in Batavia Lodge by being raised as a Master Mason at Hesperus Lodge in Bergen. That evening Batavia Lodge had six members in attendance and claimed Molly. Our possession of Molly was short-lived. At our regular communication the next Tuesday, January 25th, six members of Attica Lodge were in attendance to claim Molly. Attica Lodge had its next communication on February 16th, so they had possession of Molly for a while longer. Perhaps when this is being read, Molly will have a new home again.

It was nice to see our Secretary, Robert Dagen, in attendance at our February 8th communication. Bob has had a long recuperation from his surgery last Fall, and it is great to see him back in circulation after having a great recovery.

We will be having a final rehearsal of the Fellowcraft Degree at our March 8th communication, followed by the exemplification of the Degree for the AGL on March 22nd.

Widows Banquet

Plans are being made to hold the Widows Banquet in early May. More information will be available as plans progress.

Masonic anniversaries

Members of the Lodge celebrating Masonic Birthdays in March are:

- Edward T. Cain - 55 years
- Vernon G. Rupert - 50 years
- LeRoy G. Seekins - 47 years
- Richard L. Plue - 46 years
- Richard G. Rung - 25 years
- Alexander W. Shaw - 2 years

Happy Birthday

Those having Birthdays in March (with the year omitted) are:

- Stanley R. Halstead - 1st
- Paul H. Joslin - 4th
- Harry T. Morith - 4th
- Glenn L. Seifert - 8th
- Cuneyt V. Okay - 11th
- Scott A. Blossom - 17th

The Secretary will be happy to receive the dues of those Brothers who have not yet paid their dues for the current year. Since Grand Lodge has raised the per capita tax, we will be amending our By-Laws to change our dues structure at our summoned Communication in May, when we will also be electing Officers for the coming year.

Our Treasurer and Chairman of the Brotherhood Fund would welcome donations to that Fund.

Give to the
Masonic
Brotherhood
Fund
Campaign

Olive Branch

Lodge No. 39, F. & A.M.

1st & 3rd
WednesdaysMaster
W.: Nevin A.
Brick
768-6473Secretary
W.: Douglas S. Poole
584-3601
dspool@frontiernet.net

8 West Main Street, LeRoy 14482

I hope everyone is surviving the Winter and keeping warm and cozy. I am very glad the cold snap finally broke in January; I'm afraid the gas bill for the Lodge may be quite a whopper!

Brothers, we really need some of you to step up to the plate and help us out. There is a small core of us keeping things going, and we are tiring out. Olive Branch needs some new leadership. If not, who knows if we can survive.

We have had the same Master for four years. Due to job pressures, Nevin cannot do a 5th year. I have even offered to replace him, but if he takes over as Secretary, it is just as much work. Someone needs to pitch in and help. Treasurer, Clayton Dimick also deserves a rest.

We are fast approaching our 200th anniversary. It would be a shame if we have to fold up now. All we require of you is an hour or two twice a month. Is that so hard?

I really don't like to write negative articles and show our dirty laundry in public. However, it is what the situation requires. Five people can't run a Lodge. Please attend the next two meetings as we look to our future.

**West Star
Lodge No. 413
F. & A. M.**1st & 3rd
MondaysMaster
W.: Paul
Baetzold
535-7533W.: Kenneth Kohlhagen
Secretary, 591-9598

2473 Route 20A, Varysburg 14167

Spring is just around the corner, but unfortunately the flu season was here first. Several Brothers and their families are combating the flu. I hope you and your family are missing this experience. Trust me, it's no fun.

On a happier note, we held our Euchre Tournament on February 26th at West Star Lodge. I played at The Central House in North Java on Thursday nights to see how a tournament runs. This is a lot of fun. If you didn't make it to this

tournament, try to make it to our next one.

April

On our trestleboard we have a couple of things coming up in April. On the 4th, we will hold our Uniform Night at West Star. All Lodges are welcome and any Mason who wears a uniform is welcome to attend and tell about his uniform and his job.

April 18th will be our Awards Night. We have several Brothers receiving Certificates for their years of Masonic service. We have a Brother who will receive a 50-year Pin and one who will receive his 60-year Pin. This Brother became a Master Mason before I was born. I'm looking forward to shaking hands with all these Brothers.

Sickness and distress

We have two Brothers who would love to receive your phone call or receive a card of good wishes. Brother Ange Sellan has been sick for several weeks. I just heard he has had a recurrence. W.: John Hermann would like to read your cards or talk with you on the phone. We all have busy lives, but take a minute to drop these Brothers a line. Let them know you are thinking of them.

Hope to see you soon.

Oakland Lodge

No. 379, F. & A.M.

1st and 3rd Tuesdays
(Jan., Feb., Mar.: 1st Tuesday only)Master
W.: Henry
Robinson
322-7545Secretary
W.: Richard L. Smith
493-5408

134 South Main Street, Castile 14427

I just can't believe I'm settling down to watch the Super Bowl, and it is 50 degrees outside. It was so nice that I actually washed both of my vehicles outside in the sunshine on the first Sunday in February. Yes, I said that I washed my vehicles in the sunshine on the first Sunday in February. I would like to say that this is the start of something beautiful, but we all know that our favorite groundhog once again saw his shadow. This means that the next time I will be able to wash my vehicles in the sunshine will be the first Sunday in June.

Sickness and distress

I'm happy to report that no Brothers of Oakland Lodge are in need of our aid or sympathy. However, I would like all the members of Oakland Lodge to keep Sandy Hoffmeister and Jane Hance in their thoughts and prayers. Sandy is the wife of our Senior Deacon, Gerald (Bud) Hoffmeister. Sandy has

been experiencing some pain and discomfort in her left arm. It appears as though Sandy might have a pinched nerve to combine with the Crohn disease she has been fighting.

Jane is the wife of our Treasurer, Fred Hance. Jane has been in Buffalo for rehabilitation for the past month and still has at least one month of rehab left. I ask all the members of Oakland Lodge to keep the members of these two families in their prayers as they continue to endure these times.

Table Lodge

Constellation Lodge hosted another very successful Table Lodge on January 29th. This event was postponed and rescheduled twice due to weather conditions, but this did not hamper the fun-filled evening experienced by all. The food, once again, was out of this world, and there was plenty of it. If any Mason went away from this event hungry, he spent too much time socializing and not enough time eating. I would like to thank Constellation Lodge for their wonderful hospitality and fine cuisine.

2nd Degree

Oakland Lodge will be conferring the 2nd Degree on March 1st. This Degree will be with the use of an exemplar to fulfill the Grand Master's edict. Every Lodge is required to have a Degree witnessed and graded by the Assistant Grand Lecturer each Masonic year. Oakland Lodge had the 1st Degree graded last year and has chosen the 2nd Degree to be our graded work for this Masonic year. By the time this article arrives, all the positions for the Degree will have been filled, but I invite all the Brothers of Oakland Lodge to come and see their Officers in action. I thank all the members of Oakland Lodge and others Lodges throughout the District for their help in conferring this Degree.

Dues

By this time, all the members of Oakland Lodge should have received their dues notice. Please help the Secretary by submitting your dues as soon as possible. This allows the Secretary and other Officers to spend their time attending to the business of the Lodge. This will also prevent you from falling behind a year and having to double up the next year.

Here's hoping this article finds all Masons and their families experiencing a happy and healthy start to the New Year. 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.

HESPERUS

Lodge No. 837

1st and 3rd
ThursdaysMaster
W.: Harry
Tyson
494-1137

hlytson@hotmail.com

Secretary
Leo E. Vainio, Jr., 548-2470
vainio@localnet.com

12 Lake Avenue, Bergen 14416

This past January, Hesperus Lodge has once again had the pleasure of bringing to light three new Master Masons. Congratulations to Brothers Chris Kramer, Eric Rada, and Jason Smally. I thank all who took part in presenting the beautiful Degree work. Your rehearsal time proved once again that no ceremony of any kind could be done well without rehearsals, even for the minor parts. I encourage these new Brothers to be faithful in their attendance and to become an active member in the many labors of the Lodge.

The Table Lodge was again, as in years past, a great success. The cannons were charged and aligned for each obligatory health, followed by a delicious food course. That sure is easier to write than to say, isn't it, Brothers Junior and Senior Wardens. Our Junior Warden, Courtney Gale, and his committee, provided a meal fit for King Solomon himself.

Up-coming dates

March 3rd - Past Masters' Night. We are hoping to have many Past Masters present this evening and there will be a surprise presentation. Dinner will be served by the Ladies of the Hesperus Eastern Star Chapter at 6:30 p.m.

March 17th - Finance and Investments will be reported during this meeting. Irish Stew will be served following the meeting and we invite all of you fine Irishmen to join us.

July 31st - Really looking ahead to Summertime weather and fun. Plan to attend this year's family picnic and steak roast to be held at Marty and Donna Krause's cottage on Silver Lake.

I encourage the long-time members to reach out and bring the new Brothers into the Light of Masonry. The growth and success of the Lodge depends on YOU, my Brothers. So where would we be, my Brothers, without you in Masonry today?

Communicate**District Deputy
Grand Master
Livingston District**R.: W.:
Roy W.
Moses
346-9260

This has been a very busy month in the Livingston District. A 2nd Degree was held jointly by Geneseo and Eunice Lodges, with four Brothers receiving the Degree. The Degree was excellent. Well done, Brothers. Nunda Station held a 1st Degree that was almost perfection. Livonia Lodge conferred the 3rd Degree and again, the work was outstanding. I am proud of the Lodges and Brothers who dusted off their Ritual books and performed with such excellence.

The Ladies Night Committee has met several times, and everything is falling into place. The date is April 2nd at the Conesus Country Club, 1 Pine Lane, Conesus. The cost will be \$25.00 per person. R.: W.: James Sullivan will be our guest speaker. We will be presenting a DeWitt Clinton Award to a very worthy applicant. Don't miss this event. Let's not forget this dinner is also the for Ladies! Enjoy dinner, dancing and an all around great time.

Save the date of May 15th for our annual Communion Service and Breakfast. The guest speaker will be the Grand Master, M.: W.: Edward Trosin. I would like to see a great turnout for this event. Take time to mark your calendar.

Food for thought: enthusiasm is contagious. "You can start an epidemic!"

**Grand
Sword Bearer
Livingston**R.: W.:
Richard J.
Trescott
226-9042

rtrescot@frontiernet.net

I really enjoyed the School of Ritual at Avon Springs Lodge last month. It was the 3rd Degree, and I learned a lot and had a lot of fun at the same time. There is a lot of Degree work going on in the District, and I am proud of being part of it. Geneseo and Eunice Lodges had a joint 2nd Degree; that was a lot of fun also. Both Masters and their Lines should be proud of the time, work and the pride that all put into these Degrees!

Nunda Station conferred a 1st Degree on the 15th and did a great job. Livonia conferred a 3rd Degree with the help of almost every Lodge in the District, and that was impressive, to see all work together as one and enjoy the fellowship of everyone. Thank you for proving that Masons, no matter which Lodge, District or place, are from one Fraternity!

R.: W.: Roy Moses, with his wife, Susan, along with my



FUNERAL HOME

Family Owned & Operated

RONALD JOHN ARNDT
ROBERT J. ARNDT SHARI L. ARNDT1118 Long Pond Road
South of Maiden Lane

(585) 225-6350

- Pre-planned Funeral Arrangements By Appointment
- Formal Chapel on Premises
- Complete Funeral Arrangements At One Convenient Location
- Personal & Dignified Service For All Faiths
- General Price Lists Available
- Central Greece Area
- Locally Owned



www.arndtfuneralhome.com

BILL & EARL'S

AUTO MAINTENANCE, INC.

Complete foreign and domestic auto repair
235 WINTON Rd. N. (585) 288-3210

Since 1957

FIREPLACE FASHIONS

Celebrating Our 48th Year

Visit our showroom
Experience our
burning displays

(585) 266-8967

www.fireplacefashions.com

1936 Hudson Avenue
Irondequoit

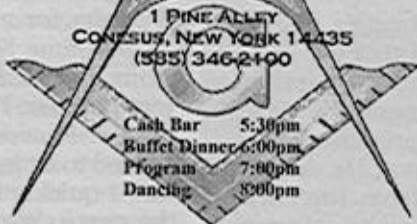
LIVINGSTON DISTRICT MASONIC ASSOCIATION

FIRST ANNUAL

LADIES NIGHT

SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND 2005

AT THE CONESUS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB



GUEST SPEAKER - JAMES SULLIVAN

Senior Grand Warden of F&AM of the State of New York

COST: \$25 PER PERSON

Make check payable to Livingston District Masonic Association Ladies Night and send to Richard Trescott, 11 Meadowlark Drive, Avon, NY 14414; (585) 226-9042

wife, Vilma, and myself, attended a Masonic Widows Banquet and Ladies Night at Macedonia Lodge No. 258, Bolivar, NY, on February 19th. We all had a great time. Livingston is putting on a Ladies Night on April 2nd at the Conesus Golf Club in the town of Conesus and everyone is encouraged to attend as this will be our 1st District Ladies Night. There will be dinner, dancing, awards and individual recognitions. R.: W.: James Sullivan, Senior Grand Warden, has agreed to be our guest speaker. Please come speak with R.: W.: Jim and his

wife, Gail. Make them feel welcome and show them that we support them as a District.

I sure hope that we, as a District, can have picnics or just get together next Summer. Let's keep the fellowship up and show the new Brothers how we stick together as a District to help and support each other.

Again, a short reminder. Please get your reservations in for the District Ladies Night as soon as possible. Come and support your Lady and your Senior Grand Warden, James Sullivan.

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

It is hard to believe that another month has passed. Many of you are on vacation or living in warmer places. We weren't sure if we were going to have to cancel the 1st Degree due to the weather, but it did clear up and we were able to proceed. My congratulations to our new Entered Apprentice who has been working diligently with Brother LaFave to prepare for the 2nd Degree this month in Geneseo.

On that note, we will be having a light dinner before the March meeting. Our Junior Warden, Rick LaFave, will be

putting it together; something easy, but filling! I'm sure he will be soliciting his "secret baker" for some of her delicious desserts, as well. The dinner will be at 7 p.m. and Lodge will open at the regular time, 7:30 p.m.

Future events

I am very excited about some of the things we have planned for the next few months. I hope that some of you can join us. We will have three Brothers to raise as Master Masons in April, the Horse Show, the Air Show in Geneseo, and some other "social" events as the Spring evolves and brings us some better weather.

Degree

As mentioned above, the 3rd Degree will take place on April 14th at a Special Communication here at Eunice Lodge. I am giving you due and timely notice that we will open Lodge at 6:00 p.m. A buffet dinner will be at 6:30 p.m., with the Degree to follow at 7:30 p.m.

I am happy to announce that the Shrine Degree Team has agreed to confer the Degree, which will be a joint venture

Road to the East Follow Up

By Phillip R. Hurwitz, Esq. Trustees' Certificate

During my presentation at the Road to the East Program on January 15th, I stated that the Trustees' Certificate needs to be filed every year after the Lodge's annual elections. Some Brothers have, since that time, questioned the accuracy of that statement.

That bit of advice was incorrect. A Trustees' Certificate need only be filed once. That

has been confirmed with the New York Department of State. There is no requirement to file a new Trustees' Certificate, unless the Lodge consolidates with another Lodge, or changes its name and number.

Brothers, don't hesitate to contact me if further clarification is needed.

My thanks to those Brothers who took the time to bring this to my attention.

between Eunice and Geneseo Lodges. Between the two Lodges, we will have six candidates. As I have stated previously, I think this will be an excellent chance for many of us to have a great night and not have to worry about conferring the Degree. It should be quite a show! I am anticipating a full Lodge and think it will be great for our new Brothers to be raised in such an atmosphere. If you plan on coming, please contact me or Rick LaFave by Friday, April 8th.

Ladies Night

The First Annual Livingston District Ladies Night will be on April 2nd. The program will be held at the Conesus Golf and Country Club (1 Pine Alley, Conesus) and the cost is \$25/person. The cash bar will open at 5:30 p.m., with a Buffet Dinner to follow at 6:00 p.m. The program will include a District Service Award being given on behalf of each Lodge, the DeWitt Clinton Award and guest speaker James Sullivan, the Senior Grand Warden of Masons of the State of New York. Dancing will commence at 8 p.m. until closing.

Money and reservations (checks made out to Livingston District Masonic Association Ladies Night) are due by Friday, March 25th, and should be mailed to: Richard Trescott, 11 Meadowlark Drive, Avon, NY 14414. For more information, call 226-9042.

Membership

My final thoughts are on the subject of membership in the Fraternity. One of the jobs that

Grand Lodge has emphasized for itself and to the local Lodges is the retention of our membership. I know it is something we don't like to talk about, but it is a reality of our Fraternity, we are losing members. At all Lodges in our District, as well as Eunice, we have lost several Brothers due to many things, including death, dimitt or lost ties. A key question that is always raised is, "What has kept you away"? We have discussed this in detail and want to do whatever it takes to get you back. One thing that has been brought up is that perhaps you are worried because you don't remember all of the signs, passwords and etiquette. If this is keeping you away, please don't worry about it. We will make an effort to have this information for you and we will do it discreetly. Contact us, we are willing to come to you. I hope to see you along the way.

Union Lodge No. 45

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

Master
W.: John A. Gallant
624-9629
jgallant@rochester.rr.com

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



Lima Masonic Temple
1891 Rochester Street, Lima 14485

Our wishes for a speedy recovery go out to W.: Ron Manning. Brother Ron was in a bad car accident this month and ended up with a few bro-

ken bones and is pretty much sore all over. Fortunately, Ron still has his wacky sense of humor and is always looking at the bright side of things. Take care, Ron; we all look forward to seeing you back with us once you are on the mend.

I again extend my thanks to Brother Dad Gary L. Burke, the Masonic Adviser for the DeMolay Chapter in Rochester. We were able to reschedule Brother Gary's presentation on DeMolay, and he appeared at our last meeting in February. It was a pleasure to meet Brother Gary and hear about his experiences with DeMolay.

March

At our first meeting, we will have a representative from the Lima Volunteer Ambulance Corps come and visit us. Norm Caccamise will be making a presentation on the new Lima Ambulance facility which is being planned for the West side of the Village. It will be very interesting to see what is the current "State of the Art" when it comes to our "First Responders" and what outstanding things they can do.

Continuing with the state of the art theme, W.: Skip Thorpe will be presenting a slightly older one with a Revolutionary War talk at our last meeting in March. Skip will be able to tell us how a Revolutionary War soldier lived and spent his days during that time. If you have been lucky enough to hear Skip's Civil War talk, you will not want to miss this one. He is a wealth of information and always willing to enlighten his Brethren.

District Deputy Grand Master Ontario/Seneca/Yates District



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

The Brother Bring-a-Friend Program works! We all know it, but do we use it? We can be reminded when we examine the results of Dundee Lodge. They held a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night in the early Fall, resulting in three newly raised Master Masons. They didn't stop there, a second Brother Bring-a-Friend Night netted four more petitions. If your Lodge does not have one on it's trestleboard, ask your Master, but remember it takes more than the Master and Secretary. Every Brother must be willing to recommend a friend or relative who would be a good Mason. We can make Freemasonry grow.

Join us!

On April 2nd, the OSY District has scheduled a trip to the Masonic Care Community in Utica. This is available to all Masons, family and friends. We will depart from the Masonic Temple in Phelps located at 67 Ontario Street at 8:00 a.m. Upon arriving in Utica, at about 10:00 a.m., we will be served coffee and other refreshments. Then we will start the tours of the various facilities. Lunch will be served at Acacia Village and tours will

continue. The bus will leave at about 4:00 p.m., returning to Phelps at approximately 6:00 p.m. This will be a full day, but not taxing. I left the best until last. The trip is totally paid for by the Masonic Home and Hall Trustees and I am sure everyone will enjoy the information and the fellowship.

Past DDGM, R.: W.: Clayton R. Ruggles, recently had surgery for a torn rotator cuff and will be convalescing for some time. Best wishes to both Bob and Mary.

Suggested reading

The February, 2005, issue

of the Scottish Rite magazine, *The Northern Light*, contains an excellent article entitled "The Degree Journey," by M.: W.: Wayne T. Adams, Past Grand Master of Maine. This article gives a unique view of Masonry, its Degrees and how we, as Masons, can guide our entire lives through its principles and teachings.

The next OSY Association meeting will be held at 8 a.m., March 12th, at Milnor Lodge in Victor. We need at least one representative from each Lodge, as many important issues will be discussed.

Maine Grand Master Tusch visits Geneva Lodge

By R.: W.: Bruce D. Huie, Secretary, Geneva Lodge No. 965, OSY District

The M.: W.: Claire V. Tusch, Grand Master of Masons of the State of Maine, visited Geneva Lodge No. 965 on January 27th. The purpose of the visit was a trip down memory lane. M.: W.: Tusch's father was a member and organist of Geneva Lodge from 1926 to 1959. M.: W.: Tusch had a desire to visit his father's Lodge while he was Grand Master.

Accompanying the M.: W.: Tusch was M.: W.: Wayne T. Adams, PGM of Maine, R.: W.: Peter Baker, PDDGM, and the Senior Warden of Prebble Lodge, Brother Matt Farris.

Also in attendance were M.: W.: Bruce Widger, PGM of New York State; R.: W.: Paul

Fritsch, Past Grand Steward, from Skaneateles Lodge No. 522 and R.: W.: Harold Chapman, PDDGM from Morning Star Lodge No. 524.

About 20 Brothers enjoyed a dinner before the meeting. On Friday they visited with R.: W.: Dr. John Stelter, and enjoyed a lunch with several Brothers who were unable to attend Thursday night. They also had a tour of the old Masonic Lodge room on Main Street in Geneva. This was the Lodge room where his father practiced Masonry and played the organ for many years.

The group from Maine had a great time and promised to visit again. If you are ever in Portland, Maine, look up the Grand Lodge of Maine and take a tour of their facilities.

Contact us at the Masonic Times:

Phone: (585) 671-9730; Fax: (585) 671-8390

Email: bmasonic@rochester.rr.com

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

True Master Mason

An upright man and a wonderful doctor! This message is long overdue and should have been written by someone of great Masonic authority: It should be said of Brother Dr. John Stelter, whom I have known and loved as a person and a Brother of Ark Lodge for over fifty years. In my humble estimation, Brother John is one of the most informed, knowledgeable Mason of our generation. He has read, studied, researched, as well as written, volumes and volumes of enlightenment about Freemasonry here in the Ontario/Seneca/Yates District, New York State and the United States. Brother John delved deeply into Masonic literature, its history, traditions, implications and portrayed it to his Lodge Brothers in his monthly newsletters for many, many years (35 years that I know of).

Brother John portrayed Freemasonry as a way of life, to take a good man and, by Masonic Ritual and teaching, make him a better man to his Masonic Fraternity, his family, community and nation. No matter how rich or poor you are, no matter how high or low you are, we all are on the same human and Masonic level.

Brother John wrote his newsletters so wonderfully, that I, a so-called educated Brother, wondered where in God's name he got all this information. Brother John influenced me, his Lodge Brothers, and other Freemasons, to be more dedicated, to be leaders and not followers, to study and to learn about our Masonic Fraternity and its many years in existence.

I would like to shed a "little fiction and fact from Master Tony Khoury's Masonic Almanac" about Brother John Stelter. He was raised a Mason on March 16, 1944, affiliated with Ark Lodge on January 2, 1952. He was editor of our famous Ark Lodge newsletter (one of the best in New York State) for over 30 years and Lodge Historian for over 50 years. In 1971 he was appointed to the Board of the Medical Research Laboratory in Utica; in 1976 Dr. Stelter was awarded the Grand Lodge of New York Chancellor Robert R. Livingston prestigious medal for Masonic writing. From 1951 - 1956, Brother John formed the Masonic library of 850 Masonic books to be made available to the Lodge and the OSY District. In 1969, Brother John was given a Masonic Testimonial Night and Dinner in his honor, where 250 Masons enjoyed the festivities. He has received many awards from 1980 to the present.

To me, and to the Brothers of the Lodge, Brother John is truly a very special person and Brother, who is loved by all. Over the many years, he has displayed the role of the devil's advocate, just to get a Masonic

discussion going. His speeches and presentations were always Masonically educational. Everything he did was with zest and gusto. Brother John would push you, shove and provoke you verbally, to become the best Mason humanly possible. Brother John (93 years young) is a Brother who gave his life and service to the Masonic Fraternity and to all of his Masonic Brothers. We praise and exalt him in his dedication and love for Masonry.

Brother John, may you have many, many more years in good health, and much joy and happiness. Thank you for allowing me the honor to say a few words about an upright man and Mason. Please, Brothers, visit Brother John at his home.

Masons, meet, act, part

It is with great sadness and sorrow that I announce the death of Brother Arnold Everett Schofield. Brother Arnold was raised on September 16, 1981, and died January 10, 2005. God bless his wife, Yolanda, who lives in Palm Bay, Florida. He will be deeply missed.

A check was received from Brother George Gordon, Excelsior, Minnesota, for his dues and the Brotherhood Fund. Brother George is one of our fifty-year Brothers who does not have to pay his dues. He sent me a nice note of how he appreciates Freemasonry.

I also received a full page, type written letter from Brother Rev. Richard Hart and his wife, Elizabeth. Brother Richard relates that Jesus Christ gave us a great gift in the Lord's Prayer, His birth, and His life. Thank you so much, Brother Richard Hart.

R. W.: Herbert L. Goodman, Grand Steward of the OSY District, visited us on January 19th. A good message was enjoyed by all.

Keep in your prayers Brothers Ray Smith, Ramon Baroody, Robert Inscho, Harry George, Max Kaufman, Bill Kashouty, John Stelter and Horace Riddle.

The Ontario/Seneca/Yates District Masonic Memorial Service will be held in May, 2:00 p.m., at the Farmington Methodist Church, 2925 County Road 41. The host Pastor is Rev. Jeffrey Long, and the Memorial Address will be given by R. W.: and Rev. Charles Roberts. R. W.: Eldon White, DDGM of the OSY District, will read the names of the 2004 deceased Brothers. This beautiful public testimonial of our deceased Brothers deserves our full support. We will honor all those who have passed away in the OSY District. It's hard to believe Ark Lodge had no Brothers who died in 2004. I can't remember the last time this has happened! God bless!

Dues

My Brothers of Ark Lodge, the dues of 2005 must be paid. They are \$57 plus \$9.50 for Grand lodge dues, totaling \$66.50. Some Brothers are in arrears for the year 2004. Please call Brother Peter Einset if you are not sure.

Dates to remember

March 16th - 1st Degree will be conferred by W.: Tom Abraham, 7:30 p.m. Please join us.

April 2nd - Free one-day bus trip to the Masonic Care Community in Utica to visit the Laboratory, Home and other buildings. All District Masons and wives are invited.

Brotherhood Fund

Please give as much as you can to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund. Money is so needed! Visit

The Grand Master of Masons of Maine, Claire V. Tusch, and four others of the Grand Line came to Geneva on January 27th to visit his dad's Lodge, Geneva No. 965, where his dad was an organist for 30 years. A dinner was held at the Ramada Inn which Brothers Lance Ward, Howard Colegrove and I attended, along with the Lodge meeting. A magnificent night of Masonic fellowship was had by all. New York Past Grand Master, M. W.: Bruce Widger, also attended. M. W.: Tusch gave a great talk about his dad and Freemasonry. He was presented with an honorary membership in Geneva Lodge. M. W.: Tusch was presented an honorary membership in the Damascus Shrine in Rochester by Brother Lance Ward. A very memorable night in Geneva. Brother Tusch visited Dr. John Stelter in his home, escorted by Brother Lance Ward. A good time was had by all. *

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

Condolences

The Great Architect of the Universe called our beloved Brother, W.: Homer W. Cotton, on February 2nd. He was a member of Milnor Lodge for 53 years and will be greatly missed.

Great success!

On February 5th our 52nd Annual Turkey Dinner was a delicious success! Thanks to the cooks: Gary Bliss, Nick Creteko and John Purdy. Special thanks to Gary Bennett and his wife, for their management of the tables and waiters. The Eastern Star ladies and the Lodge Brothers together did a fantastic job. Many hands made the work and clean up a lot easier.

On February 10th our guest speaker was R. W.: James Rice. He gave an interesting talk about the Scottish Rite and Masonic History.

Awards

February 26th the DeWitt Clinton Award was presented to Karen Johnson, honoring her for her achievements. The hard work and dedication making this prestigious Award possible was due to our DDGM, R. W.: Eldon White, Kathy, her husband, Brother Nick Creteko, and W.: Robert Meuler.

Upcoming events

March 10th - Regular Lodge, 7:30 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner by W.: James Hartz - 6:30 p.m. If you're not familiar with Jim's "Pot Luck," it is made with nature's finest meat!

Schedule change

The February 24th 1st Degree has been changed to March 10th, due to unforeseen schedule changes.

As always, please remember to keep our service personnel in your prayers! God Bless. *

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
History

At our second meeting in January, a program of Masonic History was presented by W.: Donald Tiffany. He described the history from the earliest days of Ancient Masonry, through various time periods, to the present. He described the formations of Garoga Lodge No. 300 in Clifton Springs and Sincerity Lodge No. 200 in Phelps. Because of the compatibility of the two and other logical reasons, a merger took place in 1999. Brother Tiffany was very clear on associating Brothers with their respective Lodges in describing the history of each. Again, Brother Tiffany, it was a fine presentation.

Ancient and Modern Grand Lodges

In 1751, a Grand Lodge was formed in London that became known as the "Ancient" Grand Lodge. For many years, there was a schism as members from regular Lodges withdrew to form a rival organization. Later studies disclosed that Irish Masons, who were unwelcome by the "aristocratic" members who did not care to have the Irish workmen visit their Lodges, formed the Ancient Grand Lodge. In order to prevent such visitations, they changed certain modes of recognition to exclude the visitors. The new group was formed to preserve the "ancient" usages, thus the name. The other group, though older, was dubbed the "moderns" because of the changes made. These two rivals existed until 1813, when there was reconciliation and the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England.

During the years of rivalry, much harm was done in the Craft and there was much confusion with each competing against the other. The rivalry existed even in the Colonies as Lodges secured charters from both Grand Lodges. (From *The Hat and The Gavel*)

February

At our first meeting in February, the Building Committee recommended to table the building addition project for

now, due to unforeseen mandatory costs coming into play. A motion was made, seconded, and carried.

At the same meeting, a program of Masonic stories was presented by Brothers George Landstrom, Ronald Galens, and myself. It was different and interesting. Thanks for a fine presentation.

The Lodge and Eastern Star Chapter will jointly sponsor a band concert at Redfield Park this Summer as part of the village's Sesquicentennial Program for 2005.

Our Game Nights are going along successfully. Euchre is very popular. I'm not a Euchre player. However, I was persuaded to sit in and get my feet wet. I quickly learned most of the game. We encourage you to share in the fun. Spouses are invited. All that is suggested is to bring a snack to share. Other games are available or you can bring your own. We meet the 2nd and 4th Fridays at 6:30 p.m. Come and have fun.

Sickness and distress

It was reported that Brother Howard Lester was in the Canandaigua Hospital and, following a period of recovery, may have to go to Strong Memorial Hospital. Brother Rod Wolfe is home following his heart attack. He is in good spirits, can move about the house, but is limited in his physical activity. I talked with Brother Dave Roll's wife, Birdie. He might try to get to Lodge. Brother Bob Ruggles had rotator cuff surgery. We wish these Brothers well and will keep them in our thoughts and prayers. I urge you to call on these Brothers by phone or a visit.

Dates to remember

March 4th - OSY Charities Dinner at DiPacific's, 6:30 p.m.
March 11th - Game Night at the Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

March 15th - Flag Etiquette Program by Brother Bill Peterson
March 17th - Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, 6:30 p.m.

Happy March Birthdays to Brothers Gregg Dell, 2nd; Robert Taylor, 7th; Charles Anderson, 22nd; Ramon Howard, 22nd; Garry Clock, 23rd; Clayton Ruggles, 23rd and Howard Burgess, 31st.

Congratulations to those Brothers raised in March; Nelson Gulvin, 3/16/1954; Robert Lash, 3/16/1954; Vincent Rozella III, 3/17/1998; Stephen Phillips, 3/18/1981; Robert Patrick Jr., 3/21/1989; David Roll, 3/21/1989 and Norman Schafer, 3/23/1972.*

Returning Snowbirds

Do we have your
correct address?

Harloff Funeral Home
SERVING YOUR NEEDS SINCE 1955
803 S. Washington St.
E. Rochester, NY 14445 586-5948

Retiring? Retired?

You want to live independently with dignity!
The mission of Seniors Outreach Solutions is to help you accomplish that same goal.

Don't delay!

Talk to a professional with over twenty-five years experience.

Call Brother Bernie Lazerson
Seniors Outreach Solutions

(585)242-9720

FFCL #476



Order of the Eastern Star

Monroe District HiLights, OES

DDGM Rt. Wthy. Janet Porter 663-6719
DGL Rt. Wthy. Roger Lynch 334-7953

We thank the OES members who participated in the Have-a-Heart Campaign at the area malls. Another successful year, and we were glad to help!

Phone Home Cards

District project headed by Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings. As of Valentine's Day, 318 phone cards have been purchased for our troops! Thank you, thank you, and God bless you! This project continues through June. As a reminder, the cost is \$7 for a 100-minute card - that's 7 cents per minute! Out-of-town members, this is an opportunity for you to be counted in Monroe District's support of our troops.

Dates to Remember

- March 5th, 9 a.m. - Line Officers Meeting at Hilton
- March 19th, 10 a.m. - School of Instruction at Webster. Bring Ritual, Constitution and Chapter By-Laws.
- April 9th, 9 a.m. - School of Instruction

Here's one of my favorite recipes:

Broccoli-Corn Casserole

Sauté together:
1 cup herb stuffing mix
2 Tbls butter
Mix together in a separate bowl:
1 egg, beaten
1 can creamed corn
1 pkg. broccoli florets, thawed
2 T chopped onion
1/2 cup parmesan cheese
Salt and pepper (to taste)
Add most of sautéed stuffing mix and pour into greased casserole dish.
Sprinkle rest of stuffing mix and some more parmesan cheese on top.
Bake at 350 for 20-30 minutes, until bubbly. *



Rt. Wthy. Janet Porter, DDGM, and Rt. Wthy. Roger Lynch, DGL, conduct business at the Line Officer's Meeting in Hilton.

March 5th will be our next meeting, beginning at 8 p.m. We will march in and out with our Easter hat parade. EVERYONE, men and women, are invited to participate. There will be prizes and everyone will get a chance to vote. Also, three lottery tickets will be sold during March for April winnings.

Please don't forget the Birthday Bank - please make your deposit for the birthdays in January, February and March.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to everyone who needs them. Please keep Rt. Wthy. Barbara Mertens, Rt. Wthy. Barbara Spano, Sister Krystle Alley and Sister Norma Gingold in your prayers. Please remember to notify our Secretary of any other concerns.

As always, Let Us Support One Another (LUSOA). *

NOLATKA
Chapter No. 320
Order of the Eastern Star
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Matron Wthy. Cynthia Nielsen 889-4207
Patron Wthy. Robert Crystal 473-0279
Sec. Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings 594-4692
22 South Main Street
Churchville 14428

An Irish Blessing
May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sunshine warm upon your face,
May the rain fall soft upon your fields,
Until we meet again,
May the good LORD hold you in the palm of HIS hand.
Many thanks to Mary Anne Sovocool for the loan of this beautiful poem!

New Telephone Number
Antoinette Jeerings may be contacted at: 344-0538

Sickness and Distress
1. Sister June Hagen passed away in June, 2004; unfortunately we did not find out until recently!

2. Sister Vickie Gross, has retired recently from Davenport Machines. Our hats are off to you, my dear! Congratulations!
3. Sister Wilda Robinson and household are all sick with either the flu-bug or bronchitis.
4. Sister Martha Loomis is recuperating at home after gall bladder surgery
5. Please remember our Brother Max Smith at the Ma-

sonic Home, 2150 Bleeker Street, Utica, 13501-1787.

6. Please continue to keep our Matron and Patron in your special prayers.

Survey results

I recently conducted a telephone survey to some of our members on the following question:

Will March come in like a Lion or a Lamb?

The response was: Lion, 48%; Lamb, 52%. Interesting! Now, only time will tell the future, I guess!

Special greetings

Our Sister Alice Hassett has officially become one of our "snowbirds" this year. She sends her warm greetings from the beaches of Florida!

Coming attractions

Plans are underway for our second Progressive Dinner. Our last one, held in 1999, was very successful. I urge you to keep your eyes peeled for further information!

Please send your email inquiries to: fishmom1@juno.com.

In closing, I wish you to:
Dance, as though no one were watching you,
Love, as though you have never been hurt before,
Sing, as though no one can hear you, and
Live, as though heaven is on Earth! (Souza) *

Tri-Star Chapter No. 209 OES
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.
Matron Wthy. Donna Hiler (315) 986-7173
Patron Wthy. James Elliott (315) 597-4173
Secretary Rt. Wthy. Helga Haak (315) 597-4105
Palmyra Masonic Temple 161 East Main Street

On March 1st the Chapter will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Come join in the wearing of the green (or orange). Associate Matron, Millie De Pew, will preside in the East, as I will be out of town on business.

March 6th is the first of the District Dinners and will be held at Tri-Star Chapter in Palmyra. If you can work, please call Rt. Wthy. Donna. If you only want to eat, please come and enjoy the Roast Beef Dinner.

On March 15th we will have our Official Visit from Rt. Wthy. Donna M. Hiler, DDGM,

Wayne District OES
Roast Beef Dinner
Sunday, March 6th
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Palmyra Masonic Temple
Adults: \$8.00 Children: \$3.50
For more information
(315) 986-7173

accompanied by Rt. Wthy. Craig M. Sewert, DGL. There are plans for lots of fun and camaraderie this evening.

Our Pot Luck Dinners have been a lot of fun, with entirely too much food to eat.

The Pound Auction had yours truly spending \$10 for a can of soup! Sister Jean Crumb spent the same amount for a small TV. A good time was had by all.

The Chapter meeting room was the location of a reception following the funeral services for Wthy. Fran Daniels. *

WEBSTER CHAPTER, OES
By Joy Woodley

A big thank you to all the Mix and Match OES, 95, 96 and, 97 Club, for their help of generous donations of vases, silk flowers, lap robes, etc. We gave them to the Arbor Hill Center for Valentine's Day.

You all made a lot of nice folks very happy. We couldn't distribute them ourselves, as they had a flu bug at the home! *

Canandaigua/Fenogowone Chapter No. 326 O.E.S.
2nd & 4th Wednesdays
MATRON Wthy. Leslie Smith 554-6715
SECRETARY Wthy. Shirley Wells 394-2778
Shortsville Temple

February is over and March is here. Spring is one month closer to us.

I thank each and everyone for sending in their responses regarding our Charter. One of the responses was to try and have a Bring-a-Neighbor Night. Rt. Wthy. Ronald Edwards is the one who sent in this response. I have asked Ron to head this up. As of yet, no date as been set. I will keep you informed on this.

Official Visit

Our Official Visit this year will be combined with Dresden Chapter in April. I will have more information in our April newsletter.

Nice cruise!

The Worthy Patron and I have just returned from a cruise. It was nice to get away for a week. The only problem

was that the weather was not as warm as we had expected, but there was no snow.

I hope that everyone is well, as I have not heard of anyone of our Sisters or Brothers being under the weather.

I wish each of you a Happy St. Patty's Day. Hope you don't turn green! *

Wayne District Order of the Eastern Star
DDGM Rt. Wthy. Donna Hiler 315-986-7173
DGL Rt. Wthy. Craig Sewert 315-926-5956

Is it Spring yet? I don't know about you, but I'm ready to see the daffodils in bloom. Things are going to start getting busy. By the time you read this, we will have had our first Study Club. It won't be long before our Chapter Official Visits will be starting with my home Chapter in Palmyra. Hopefully the weather will cooperate.

The Wayne District Membership Committee held a Card Party in Newark on January 29th. We didn't have many out, but sure had a good time playing cards. We will have had a Membership meeting at the February 26th Study Club. We figure to have more in attendance and will try to get more ideas on what we may want to do next.

A few dates to keep in mind are as follows: Pizza Party at the VA Hospital on Saturday, March 5th at 2:00 p.m. We usually dress up as clowns, but all are invited to help.

Roast Beef Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 6th at the Palmyra Masonic Temple from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Price is \$8.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

A Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Friday, April 8th, at the Marion Masonic Temple from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Price is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.

Wayne District Official Visits are as follows: Tri-Star Chapter in Palmyra, Tuesday, March 15th at 7:30 p.m. and Humanity Chapter in Lyons, Tuesday, April 5th at 7:30 p.m.

Don't forget the cancelled postage stamps, Campbell Soup labels and Box Tops for Education. *

Rochester Chapter No. 314
Order of the Eastern Star
First Saturday, 8:00 p.m.
Matron Wthy. Deavera Bundoc 663-2949
Patron Wthy. George Bundoc 365-0111
Secretary Rt. Wthy. Barbara Spano 244-1503
133 South Union Street
Spencerport 14459-1337

Oh Happy Days! A Blessed Easter to all!

Thank you very much ladies and gentleman! We enjoyed a good meeting in February and the wonderful luncheon that followed.

Rt. Wthy. Evy Ann Heller and I represented Rochester Chapter at the Have-a-Heart Campaign at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center, plus Wthy. George Bundoc and Sister Sharon McComber helped for Valley-Simes Lodge, to benefit the Ronald McDonald Houses.



Scottish Rite NEWS

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

Commander-in-Chief



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

February Programs

February was a busy month for the Fraternity. The Have-a-Heart Campaign was again, a fruitful and positive Masonic event. This program supports the local chapter of the Ronald McDonald House; referred as the "home-away-from-home." What a delight to see all the different Masonic organizations work together for such a wonderful community project. A special thanks to Thrice Potent Master, Michael McBride as chair, supported by the Mall coordinators; Richard Greenaway, Eugene Crews, Janet Porter and David Sylvester.

The Masonic Child ID Program was in full swing as Harrison Parson, assisted by our DDGM, R.: W.: Lew Perna, served the community's hearing impaired children. This endeavor, with appropriate accolades, was aired on a local TV station and supported by the *Democrat and Chronicle*.

February 17th was our annual obligatory Scottish Rite program, The Day of Adar. The Officers of The Chapter of Princes of Jerusalem, led by Norman Austin, Sovereign Prince, had a great time with those in attendance. This was a Brother Bring-a-Brother event, and was presented in a Table Lodge format.

Free

(Mark Your Calendars)

March 11th will be a Brother-Bring-a-Brother Dinner at Hawthorne's, East Avenue. Bring a prospective Master Mason (with spouses, of course) and receive a free dinner for all.

Obviously, there will be a slight "sales pitch" to be heard. With your guiding hand, we look forward to having you as a mentor, and joining the other classmates during the upcoming Ill.: Robert P. Zabel, 33^o Class Reunion.

On March 17th there will be a presentation of our new 4th Degree, The Master Traveler, by our Deputy. Also that evening, for your viewing pleasure, the Valley's Degree Club, for the first time, will present this Degree. Bring your passports. Directed by John Zabel, the cast will include: Guide, William Zufall; Hiram, Michael Fazio; King David, Norman Austin; Solomon, Michael McBride; Joseph, George Nasra; Sepa, Pedro Ugalde; Araspes, unknown; Artaban, Allen Fowler; Bartacus, Derek Van-Houten; Most Wise Master, Michael Knolla; Senior Warden, Kenneth Howe, Jr.; Warden, Keith Freeman; Chaplains, Warren Doerr and David Taber; Chief Spotted Eagle, Craig Mollon; George Washing-

Rite Events Calendar

(when, where, what) see article for details

Friday, March 11th

Brother Bring-a-Brother Dinner - Hawthorne's
Call office for details 264-1160

Thursday, March 17th

Tiled presentation new 4^o "Master Traveler"
Damascus Shrine Center 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 13th

Feast of the Pascal Lamb,
The Party House, Beahan Road
Social hour 5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m.
Ceremony 7:30 p.m.

ton, Joseph Oelgoetz III; Constans, Glenn Stahl; and Flag Bearer, Eldon White.

Solemn Feast of the Pascal Lamb

This most solemn presentation will be on Wednesday, April 13th. The day will begin with a visit from our Sovereign Grand Commander, Walter E. Webber, 33^o, at our local 32^o Learning Center for Children. From 2 - 4 p.m., a tour and public reception will take place at the Frank & Bette Paul 32^o Learning Center, located at 3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 330. Later that day, we will travel to The Party House, situated on Beahan Road, for a 5:30 social hour and a 6:30 dinner, with the ceremony beginning at 7:30 p.m. During the dinner hour, there will be time available for those individual or group contributions to be presented to the 32^o Learning Center Foundation.

Please note that dinner reservations are a must, while attendance to the 7:30 p.m. ceremony is open to the public at no charge. If you have any questions, please contact the office staff at 264-1160.

The good we do!

The 32^o Masonic Learning Centers for Children have been actively engaged in helping children overcome the obstacles of dyslexia. One-on-one multi-sensory reading and written language tutoring is provided at no cost to the family. For most of us, the words on this page swiftly submit to understanding, and we take for granted our ability to read. But for someone with dyslexia, words are the enemy which must be wrestled into submission before they will yield their meaning. Do you remember in your early years reading this nursery rhyme:

Mar gha dal it tle lamb. It sflée cem as Whit eas snom.

(Translation: Mary had a little lamb, Its fleece was white as snow.)

The goal of the 32^o Masonic Learning Center for Children is to provide that tender care so the children around us have the same opportunity we have experienced, to grow to our full potential. Without your help and assistance, we can not begin to assist the 45 million children (and adults) who have this disease. Dyslexia has nothing to do with a lack of intelligence or desire to learn. If you are interested in supporting

and helping this worthy cause, please give the Office a call.

The Valley of Rochester is getting underway a new committee and campaign drive. Let me "wet your whistle." It is the vision of this group of volunteers to assist every child who suffers from the detrimental effects of dyslexia. This is to include, but not limited to, aid free of charge with properly trained tutors, and facilities that will maximize the students multi-sensory learning on a one-on-one basis. Did you know:

- That it costs \$5,000 per year per student?
- That when completed, the average increase of the student in reading comprehension is 3 years?
- That there is a backlog of 45 students at your local center?

• YOU can help by supporting our local campaign.

This committee is under the chair of G. Michael Morris. There are many committee opportunities to assist: Vision/Strategy, Foundations, Corporations, Individual Donors, Fraternal Organizations, and Public Relations. You can also assist by supporting one of your local runners in the upcoming Boston Marathon, Kate Zabel (daughter of John and Cheryl Zabel, granddaughter of Robert and Doris Zabel). You should have received a form in the mail recently. If you have misplaced it, or you need to donate a little more: call the Office!

So Mote It Be.

2nd Lieutenant Commander

By Joseph Oelgoetz III

By Michael Knolla

Why Scottish Rite?

631,152. That's it, that's all most of us get. Assuming you live to age 72, you get 631,152 hours. If you get a healthy eight hours of sleep a night, you'll only be awake for 420,768 of them. By the time you're eligible to become a Mason, you'll already have gone through 184,080 hours.

Given that time is such a precious commodity, "Why Scottish Rite?" is no small question. To me, "Why Masonry?" is relatively simple, as I fully believe that each time a man becomes a Mason, the world becomes that much better and that the time a man invests in Masonry improves the quality of the

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^o
(h) 388-7595, (w) 464-4806
pedersen@frontiernet.net
rpedersen@pfaudler.com

Thrice Potent Master

Michael McBride
(h) 663-4636, (w) 722-7714
michael_mcbride@nexpress.com
Mcbride1@rochester.rr.com

Sovereign Prince

Norman F. Austin
(h) 494-2223
Message phone 234-0296
lindalee15@hotmail.com

Most Wise Master

Rev. Charles M. Roberts
(h) 621-3796
cholyone@frontiernet.net

Deputy's Representative

Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33^o
(h) 223-7630
swhittaker@monroeltho.com

Treasurer

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

Secretary

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

Associate Secretary

Norman F. Austin
(h) 494-2223
Message phone: 234-0296
lindalee15@hotmail.com

New York State Council of Delegation
Frank & Bette Paul 32^o Masonic Learning Center
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 320, 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^o, 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^o
Grand Minister of State

Ill.: Norman L. Christensen, 33^o

Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33^o

Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill.: Lawrence D. Inglis, 33^o
Deputy for the State of New York

Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33^o

Active Members for New York

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33^o

Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33^o

Active Emeriti Members

Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33^o

Ill.: James F. Niehoff, 33^o

Ill.: Carlton A. Winchester, 33^o

Ill.: Bruce Widger, 33^o

Past Deputy for New York

Past Deputy for New York

Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33^o

rest of his time, more than compensating for the time he spent. The lessons taught in the first three Degrees of Masonry provide us with vital tools to guide our thoughts and actions in an uncertain world.

Once a Brother has these tools, why should he go on and join the Scottish Rite? Why does it matter to Masonry in the greater Rochester area (GRA) that we have the Valley of Rochester, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite?

The answer to this question, to me at least, lies in the other name for this Concordant Body; the college of Freemasonry. In general, there is a correlation between a higher standard of living in a community and the presence of a college, an institute of higher learning. A college benefits a community in many ways, but especially by providing access to members of that community to educational opportunities unavailable from other local institutions.

Similarly, it is my belief that a Masonic community benefits from the presence of a Masonic college. The GRA Masonic community does have the incredible benefit of having many knowledgeable individuals from whom I, and many others, have had the benefit of learning. These individuals help Brothers better understand the lessons of the first three Degrees of Masonry. This is important, as being handed a hammer is not the same as knowing how to wield it. While I think the education provided in the first three Degrees is exemplary, the lessons inculcated within provide enough material for a lifetime, not just three nights.

Yet, there are only so many individuals like this, and not every Brother will be able to sit down with one of them as often or as long as they may want and/or need. If we are to be honest with ourselves, many of these Brothers are

among our older members. What current Brothers will be able to fill their shoes in the next generation?

This is where the college of Freemasonry finds its role. It exists to "Provide Further Light in Masonry," on an on-going and formal basis, just as those valued individual Brothers do as much as they can. The college of Freemasonry expounds upon the earlier lessons of the Blue Lodge, helping the Brother wield the tools given with confidence and skill.

How do we do this? First, with 29 Degrees, which follow Masonry from the founding of the first Temple (where the 3rd Degree concludes) on through the 2nd Temple, the Middle Ages, and into its history in the United States of America. This history is used to provide further lessons about how Masonry as learned in the first three Degrees can help us "walk uprightly before God and man."

Each year, a set of these Degrees is presented. These Degrees allow us to bring in new members and to continue to provide learning opportunities to existing members. On March 17th, we will be presenting the 4th Degree at 7:30 p.m. at the Damascus Shrine Center. The 4th Degree is the first Degree a new member must go through to join the Scottish Rite and serves as an introduction to the Degrees which will follow.

On April 21st, the 13th and 14th Degrees will be presented, followed on April 30th by the 15th, 18th, 28th, 31st and 32nd Degrees.

In the 2005-06 Masonic year, we will be bringing the 26th Degree to the Blue Lodges. Supreme Council has given us permission to present this Degree publicly. Blue Lodges in the GRA will be able to use this program as a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night or Family Life event. The 26^o

deals with President Abraham Lincoln and Masonry during our country's darkest hour, the Civil War, offering an important lesson on the value of brotherhood in even the worst of times.

The mission of the college of Freemasonry doesn't end with its Degrees. Last year around 100 Brothers, friends and family attended a private screening of *National Treasure*, a program we opened to the Blue Lodges. The movie dealt with Masonry and the founding fathers in a highly fictional way and was enjoyed by all who attended, as was the lecture which followed on the actual relationship between Masonry and our country's founding. Given the program's success during the 2005-06 Masonic year, the college of Freemasonry will be running a Masonic film series, providing Brothers with an opportunity to see how our Fraternity is portrayed (in both positive and negative contexts) on film.

Building on this idea, the college of Freemasonry is forming a Masonic book club. The first meeting will be held on Saturday, May 14th at 10 a.m. in the 32° Masonic Learning Center Office conference room. We will be discussing Dan Brown's *Angels and Demons*, the precursor to the very popular *Da Vinci Code*. In the 2005-06 Masonic year, we plan on discussing four books (one every other month) including a biography of a Mason, a history book on Masonry, and two fictional books dealing with Masonic themes. Brothers are encouraged to participate in one or all as their interests and time dictate.

Hopefully, this has given you some parts of the answer to the question, "Why Scottish Rite?" Masonry exists to make good men better men. The college of Freemasonry exists to make Masons better Masons by providing "Further Light." It is our hope that, as an institution, we can bolster the work of the knowledgeable individuals in our area and train the next generation who will follow in their footsteps. The college of Freemasonry, as exemplified by the Valley of Rochester, exists solely as a service to the GRA Masonic community and it is our hope that, through our efforts, the Brothers in this community will benefit even more going forward.

If you are not currently a member, or are a current member who knows a non-member Brother who could benefit by enrolling in the college of Freemasonry, we will be holding an informational session and Fish Fry on Friday, March 11th, at Hawthorne's, starting at 6:30 p.m. Brother Joe Oelgeotz will be presenting a talk on the Ark of the Covenant during the dinner, as an added bonus. To make a reservation or to get information on any of the programs above, please contact our Office at 264-1160 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays.

Sovereign Prince

By Norman Austin

It doesn't seem possible that March is here already, and with it, the welcoming harbingers of Spring. Likewise, Easter comes early this year, and

also shares this month, taking place one week later. With these two events occurring in close proximity, I thought this little poem, by Garnett Ann Schultz might help brighten the day for readers:

Easter and Springtime
Easter and springtime go hand in hand
At this happiest time of the year,
Both bring a welcome to bright pleasant days
Where flowers and blossoms appear.
Winter may linger, but try, as he will,
He finds he no longer can stay—
For Springtime is tripping o'er valley and hill
And Winter is running away.
Easter is smiling and Spring time is gay,
Those March winds are blowing their last;
Soft April showers are busy at play,
And snowtime and Winter are past.
Springtime is greeting the first little birds
And driving the chill from the air,
The leaves bursting wide and the grass sparkling green
And ever so precious and fair.
Easter and Springtime have so much to give...
New life and new hope do they bring.
Smiles are abundant wherever you go,
For it's Easter, and Easter means Spring!

Best Wishes for a wonderful Easter and Spring from those of us in the Scottish Rite.

The Day of Adar celebration last month proved very enjoyable for those in attendance. The repast was delicious, and the camaraderie and toasts were also enjoyed.

It was encouraging to see the turnout this year at the Have-a-Heart booths at the various malls. Chairman Mike McBride has done a stellar job revitalizing and rejuvenating this most worthwhile program.

This month, we turn our attention to the upcoming presentation of Degrees, which begin with the 4th Degree on the 17th. Next month, we will continue the series of Degree presentations, with exemplification of the 13th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 28th, and 32nd Degrees.

An interesting point, of which many may not be aware, is that some of these Degrees have been revised. Therefore, even if you have seen them presented previously, you may find the revisions interesting and quite worthwhile to view once again.

While I am speaking on the topic of Degree presentations, consider for a moment, if you will, how intriguing the presentations were to you the first time you enjoyed them. If you think you would like to re-experience that enjoyment by once again attending the upcoming reunion, why not avail your fellow Brethren who are not currently members of the Scottish Rite the opportunity to share that enjoyment with you?

What better time than now, when the Degree series is just getting underway, to make that call, or bring up the subject of becoming a Sublime Prince? If you are currently a member, you are most certainly aware of the reasons you initially joined and are still a member

to this day. Perhaps you are unsure of exactly how, in words, to convey to your prospect, why he should become a member of the Scottish Rite. After all, in today's fast-paced world, time appears of the essence, and we all wish there were more hours in a day to do all the things and interact with all the people we wish we could. With the intense competition for an individual's time, there are many interests and diversions to attract people. They are subject to salesmanship in many forms by both the printed and spoken word: radio, television, newspapers, computer messages and a myriad of other forms of media. Therefore, it behooves us as Scottish Rite Masons to have a good approach and be ready to explain and justify why one should become a member of the Scottish Rite.

It also follows that an organization such as the Scottish Rite must have much to offer to have survived, grown and prospered as long as it has in this competitive world. We who are members of this organization have had an opportunity to satisfy ourselves in detail as to the reasoning behind our organization. However, we must be ready to offer a prospective candidate some solid reasons for affiliating with the Scottish Rite.

Generally speaking, non-members view our Fraternity with respect, and the badge of a Scottish Rite Mason is accepted in the community as evidence that its wearer is a good citizen. But, often, the reasons which make this so are neither salient, nor too well organized in people's minds. Stop for a moment to ponder whom you might approach as a potential candidate. What are the qualities members of the Scottish Rite possess, along with yourself, that you see in the fellow Mason you would like to sponsor? Does he attend your church? Is he a co-worker? These are two excellent sources from which to select, for a Scottish Rite Mason believes in God as the Supreme Architect of the Universe. Likewise, he believes in the dignity of labor and that it is basic for the good of all men.

What other qualities might you look for when considering sponsoring a potential candidate for membership? Well, the Scottish Rite Mason also believes in love and consideration of his fellow man, and despises selfish endeavor; after all, isn't that one of the reasons you are friends? He is honest and fair at all times, he is truthful and trustworthy, he believes in the principle that life eternal will conquer death, and seeks to put more into the world than he takes out, to serve both his own and future generations. In addition, he is patriotic, and loves his country, being willing to defend it with his life; he is also a charitable individual.

While this may, on the surface, sound similar to the oath of a Boy Scout, the qualities are intrinsic in the type of individual we each would like to be and which we admire in others. Why not look around at church, work and other places where you enjoy the companionship of others who share the same interests and seek out that fellow Mason whom you believe is in possession of the

*Rochester Chapter of Rose Croix
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite*
**FEAST OF THE
PASCHAL LAMB CEREMONY**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13th
THE PARTY HOUSE
677 BEAHAN ROAD
585-235-5654**

Attire: Men (Tux or Dark Suite); Ladies (Cocktail Dress)

**Social Hour - 5:30 PM
Served Dinner - 6:30 PM**

(\$20.00 per person)

Feast Ceremony - 7:30 PM

**Address by: Ill. : Walter E. Webber 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, U.S.A.**

Dinner reservations by **FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2005.**

Send your check to:

The Valley of Rochester, 3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 320
Rochester, NY 14618-4617, or call 585-264-1160

qualities of a Scottish Rite Mason?

See you at the Reunion! ✕

**Most Wise Master
By Charles M. Roberts**

Brethren and friends, your Officers and I have been very busy making final preparations for the upcoming Solemn Feast of The Paschal Lamb. As your Most Wise Master, I strongly encourage your attendance at the Feast this year. We have been blessed to secure the Sovereign Grand Commander, Walter Webber, 33°, to be our guest speaker for the Feast Ceremony proper.

Earlier that day, the distinguished guests will attend a public reception at the Frank and Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children from 2 - 4 p.m., and then at-

tend the social hour prior to the Feast at 5:30 p.m. at the Party House. By now you should have received in the mail your invitation to attend and reservation form. Do not hesitate to get your reservation into the Valley Office as soon as possible, as this will greatly assist the Valley Office Staff. Since the visit of the Sovereign Grand Commander coincides with a fundraiser for the Learning Center Program, that evening there will be a time for presentations of your financial gifts to the Sovereign Grand Commander for this program.

I look forward to your support and attendance that day. This is a great opportunity for the Valley of Rochester to really shine while Sovereign Grand Commander Webber is in our midst. Until then, may the good Lord continue to watch over you and yours always. ✕

**Learning Center Announces
2005 Capital Campaign**

By G. Michael Morris, 32°
Campaign Chairman

We are announcing the kick-off of the 2005 Capital Campaign for the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children, located in Rochester.

There are several special events which have been introduced to help the Learning Centers meet their annual operating expenses. In October, 2004, we held the first annual "Walk to Help Dyslexic Children" event for the Learning Center in Rochester. The event was a great success. It fielded 49 walkers and raised over \$5000 for the Learning Center.

The next special event is an opportunity to sponsor a runner in the 109th Boston Marathon, which will take place on April 18th. The organizers of the Boston Marathon have granted the Learning Centers Program 13 charitable entries, which permits runners raising funds for the Learning Centers to participate in the race without having to meet a qualifying time. On the Saturday prior to the race, there will be a reception and dinner at the Massa-

chusetts Grand Lodge for the runners and their families. During the festivities, the runners will be presented with Learning Center uniforms, which they will wear during the race.

Each runner is asked to raise \$5,000 in pledges, the amount needed to sponsor a child at a Learning Center of their choice. These contributions are tax-deductible, and all of them go to the sponsorship of the child at the Learning Center.

Kate Zabel, avid runner and daughter of Ill. : John Zabel, 33°, has expressed a keen interest in representing the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children in Rochester. Brethren, please take this opportunity to help children battle dyslexia and support our representative and runner, Kate Zabel, at the Boston Marathon. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. Please call the Scottish Rite Office at 264-1160 for a Contribution Form.

On behalf of everyone at the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children in Rochester, thank you in advance for your help and assistance! ✕

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

Because of the deadline for the *Masonic Times*, a report of the High Priest's training (held on February 12th) cannot be included in this message. Keep tuned.

Grand Chapter's convocation is March 4th and 5th. Come join with Companions from all over the State. Enjoy the camaraderie, plus you can learn first-hand what's what at Grand Chapter.

The Grand Lecturer will be visiting our District on April 4th to conduct a Convention. The Chapter selected is Palmyra Eagle in the Palmyra Masonic Temple. Items to be covered, in addition to the regular Opening and Closing, will be the Most Excellent Master Degree to include only the Second Section concerned with Completion and Dedication of the Temple.

I'm looking forward to seeing you, and I do mean you (the Royal Arch reader), around the Holy Altar of Royal Arch Masonry.

Remember, in the words of our Grand High Priest, "accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative."

District Deputy Grand High Priest

25th District RAM



R. E. L. Ronald Edwards
394-3205
redwards@frontiernet.net

The 25th District is half up and half down for January, February and March. King David Chapter in Port Byron and Excelsior Chapter in Shortsville are in darkness until April. Geneva Chapter in Geneva and Salem Town in Seneca Falls are in full swing and carrying the load for the District.

March will have two more practice runs for the Grand Lecturer's Convention. One will be March 1st in Seneca Falls at 7:30 p.m. and the other on March 9th in Geneva at 8:00 p.m. The Grand Lecturer's Convention is April 5th in Seneca Falls at 7:30 p.m. when R. E. Eugene Ellis, Grand Lecturer, will be with us for dinner at Abigail's Restaurant. The social hour will be at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. We will order from the menu.

The Convention will consist of the Opening, the second section and the closing of the Most

Excellent Master Degree. Please try very hard to make the next three convocations mentioned above. We need you. There are a lot of parts and many of them are non-speaking. Come help us make a good showing and have a great time, as well as, a great meal.

Geneva Chapter is planning to be in a parade this Summer and wants a good turnout from the District from all Bodies of Masonry to ride on the Masonic Float. More specifics on this when we get them.

CHEERIO

**Excelsior
Chapter No. 164**

2nd Monday
7:30 p.m.
except
Jan, Feb, Mar

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

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

Companions, we are still dark until April 11th, when I hope to see you around the Altar. April 5th is the Grand Lecturer's Convention in Seneca Falls at Salem Town Chapter No. 173. Dinner will be at Abigail's Restaurant with a 5:30 p.m. social hour and dinner at 6:00 p.m. ... order from the menu. This is the 25th Capitular District Convention and all Officers from all four Chapters in the District should be present. We will have two more practice runs before the Convention, March 1st in Seneca Falls at 7:30 p.m. and March 9th in Geneva at 8:00 p.m. We need you, so please come and support your Chapter and District.

May the Lord God be with you and keep you in good health until we meet again.

Maine Humor

The State Trooper stopped Mulligan, whom he had known for years for speeding. "Mull, let me see your drivers license." "Don't have one," Mull said. "I've seen you driving for years, did you lose it?" "Nope, never had one."

"Why didn't you ever get a license?" "Never needed one until just right now."

Hiram Chapter No. 62

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

E.: Douglas M. Koenig, High Priest
223-6638
quequesquared@hotmail.com

E.: Charles M. Roberts, Secretary
225-6533
cholyone@frontiernet.net
17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

Installation of Officers

On January 13, 2005, I was honored to be installed as the High Priest of Hiram Chapter No. 62, Royal Arch Masons. I am also honored to be serving with such great Companions for the 2005 Royal Arch Ma-

sonic year. The following will be serving Hiram Chapter as Officers in the year 2005:

High Priest
Joseph F. Oelgoetz III
King **Lawrence Dunn**
Scribe **George Springett**
Treasurer **James Nersinger**
Secretary **Charles Roberts**
Chaplain **Donald Brugger**
Captain of the Host
John E. Zabel
Principal Sojourner
Thomas Paglia
Royal Arch Captain
Richard Horton
Master of the Third Veil
Michael Adamus
Master of the Second Veil
Glenn Shafer

I am truly looking forward to serving our Chapter this year as your High Priest. I thank the Installing Team for their fine work. It was wonderful to have such stalwart Masons to install us. They were: R. E.: Raymond Beardsley, Installing High Priest; R. E.: William Zufall, Installing Captain of the Host; and R. E.: Charles Roberts, Installing Chaplain.

Future events

The following events will be taking place in the next couple of months at Hiram Chapter.

March 1st, beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a dinner, we will be conducting a Brother Bring-a-Brother event at Northfield Lodge in Pittsford. It will be the Ferency and Zeal program. This will give us an opportunity to discuss the benefits of Chapter membership to our Lodge Brothers who are not Royal Arch Masons.

March 10th will be our Mark Master Mason and Past Master Degrees. Chapter will open promptly at 7:30 p.m.

April 14th - Hiram Chapter will be hosting the Grand Lecturer's Convention, also at Northfield Masonic Temple. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.; Chapter will open at 7:30 p.m.

If you want a reservation for any dinners, please contact me at least a week in advance via my home phone - 425-9969 or by email at: joeyo11@mac.com.

Ancient York Masonry (From the *Short Talk Bulletin* "Ancient York Masonry")

Did, or did not, a form of Freemasonry exist in the City of York, England, in the year A.D. 926? The answer to this question has been one that many Masonic scholars have been researching for years. Eminent Masonic students, scholars and investigators have for years discussed, analyzed, examined, taken apart and put together all the direct evidence, all the indirect evidence, and evidence that is not even remotely indirect concerning Ancient York Masonry.

The oldest evidence is the Regius Poem, Freemasonry's oldest document, telling the story. The pertinent paragraph, with modern spelling and words to make it easier to understand is:

"This craft came into England, as I tell you, in the name of good King Athelstan's reign; he made them both hall, and also bower and lofty temples and great honor, to take his recreation in both day and night, and to worship his God with all his might. This good lord loved

this craft full well, and purposed to strengthen it in every part on account of various defects that he discovered in the craft. He sent about into all the land, after all the masons of the craft, to come straight to him, to amend all these defects by good counsel, if it might so happen. He then permitted an assembly to be made of divers lords in their rank, dukes, earls and barons, also knights, squires and many more, and the great burgesses of that city, they were all there in their degree; these were there, each one in every way to make laws for the estate of these masons. There they sought their wisdom how they might govern it; there they found out fifteen articles, and there they made fifteen points."

Our next oldest document in which this legend is recited is the Cooke Manuscript, whose date is estimated to be in the first half of the 1400's. The passage referring to the legend is as follows (in modern working):

"And after that was a worthy king in England, that was called Athelstan, and his younger son loved well the science of Geometry, and he understood well and the practical usage of that science of Geometry so well as masons; wherefore he drew himself to counsel and learned the practical usage of that science.... and he loved well masonry and masons. And he became a mason himself. And he gave them charges and names as it is now used in England and in other countries. And he ordered that they schedule reasonable pay. And obtained a free patent of the king that they should make assembly when they saw reasonable time to come together to hear council of which the charges, manors and symbols as is right and taught in the book of our charges wherefore I leave it at this time." In latter lines, which it appears to have been taken from the "Book of Charges," the legend is repeated in these words:

"In this manner the foresaid art was begun in the land of Egypt by the foresaid master Euclid, and so it went from land to land and from kingdom to kingdom. After that, many years, in the time of King Athelstan, which was for some time the King of England, by his council and other great lords of the land by common assent... One time of year or as need be the King and great lords of the province and from country to country would meet in congregations they that be made masters should examine the articles written and thoroughly examine whether they be able and skillful to the profit of the lords them to serve, and the honor of the foresaid art."

Subsequent manuscripts contain the legend substantially as above. Most of them appear to be mere copies of it.

Lionel Vibert, a Masonic authority in the 1950's in England, concluded that in the character of Athelstan, in the traditions of the city of York, backed by the old Manuscript Constitutions, there was no positive evidence for the old

York legend, but certainly no real evidence against it. He stated that, "If the phrase 'York Masonry' be understood to imply not that the users of it belonged to York, but merely that in common with the brethren of that city they adhered to the ancient customs of the Order and valued the old traditions in the Craft, the legend can imply a high standard, a reverence for time immemorial customs, and the preservation of all that is best in Freemasonry today."

Albert Gallatin Mackey wrote that he believed the evidence of the manuscript(s), and that about the year 926 a General Assembly of Freemasons was held at York under the patronage of Edwin, brother of Athelstan, at which assembly a code of laws was adopted, which became the basis by which all subsequent Masonic Constitutions were framed.

Whether an assembly to ratify a code of laws occurred in York in the Year A. D. 926 be true or just a legend, it underlines the fact that our beloved Craft has its roots in the dark recesses of history. Isn't it fascinating?

So mote it be!

**Nundawaga
Council
No. 92**

4th Mondays
West Main Street
LeRoy 14482

R. I.: Merle L. Robinson
Master - 343-5159
I.: Vernon G. Rupert
Recorder - 343-8429

By R. I.: Charles H. Lee,
Correspondent

It's time again for another *Masonic Times* article. As this is being read, just think there are only about three weeks until the official Spring. How we all are looking forward to that! It's been a long and bleak Winter. Our Illustrious Master, R. I.: Merle, cancelled the January meeting since 'old man Winter' descended with stormy blasts and nearly impossible travel at the time of the meeting.

February

Nundawaga Council's first meeting of 2005, was cancelled as noted above. So the January business was included, hopefully, at the February meeting on the 28th, the last day of the month. That business included: first, the conferral of the Royal Master Degree under the direction of R. I.: Steven Wing and the cast; second, was the official presentation of a Grand Representative's Apron to R. I.: Vernon G. Rupert, Recorder of Nundawaga Council, who was named Grand Representative of the Grand Council of Georgia near New York by the Grand Master, M. I.: Stephen A. Licht. The Grand Council of Georgia has affirmed this special appointment, paving the way for the official Apron Presentation by Grand Master Licht and R. I.: Merle Robinson, Master of Nundawaga Council.

March

At our Monday, March 28th meeting, conferral of the Select Master Degree will be under the direction of I.: Kenneth E. Kohlhaugen, with the Degree cast. Refreshments will follow the March meeting, as usual. The Illustrious Master hopes all Nundawaga members will continue their strong support of the Council, as it has been doing, in this 52nd year of its history and join in welcoming the newest member of Nundawaga Council, as he concludes his receiving the Cryptic Degrees that night.

August Grand Council

Companions of Nundawaga Council, it's not too early to make your plans to be in attendance at this year's Annual Session of the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons of the State of New York. Nundawaga Council will be the host Council and will be opening the Grand Council Session, Friday, August 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the R.I.T. Inn and Conference Center, 5257 West Henrietta Road, Rochester. The Grand Council session will end with the Installation of the Incoming Grand Master and the Banquet for the Most Illustrious Grand Master, Stephen Arnold Licht. More will be forthcoming in the next issues of the *Masonic Times*. The Councils of our Eighth Cryptic District will be helping the host Council. Again, more details will be announced as finalized.

dreadful cold spell here in Western New York. For most of the month of January, the temperature averaged about 4 or 5 degrees and the wind chill averaged around 15° to 20° below zero. It was one of the coldest and most bitter Januaries in recorded history and one that we haven't seen in quite a while. This was the case the week of our January meeting. We got about 3 feet of snow that week and 10 - 16 inches that day, depending on where you live. Considering how nasty the weather was, I was quite happy to see how many Companions turned out for the meeting that night.

As far as business for the night, it was mentioned that M.: W.: Steward C. McCloud, Past Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, and Past Grand High Priest, RAM, passed away. So, in true Masonic protocol, a moment of silence was held, a prayer was said and a page set aside in the minutes. It was also mentioned that Captain of the Guard, Companion Garry Hutcherson, was still recovering from his quintuple by-pass surgery, but is coming along well.

As far as membership in the Council goes, we received a petition. An Investigating Committee was then assigned, and voted favorably. The petition was balloted upon and passed. So we now have a candidate for our Degrees in March and April.

Before I continue, let me take a moment to correct an inaccurate statement I made in my January article. I mentioned at that time that we needed to raise the annual dues to \$50.00 a year to comply with the edict from Grand Council, which raised the annual Grand Council per Member Assessment. This statement was incorrect, and it was mentioned to me more than once by the higher-ups. The \$5.00 increase in dues was, and is, needed for the normal operating expenditures of the Council, i.e. Secretary's expenses which have increased (stamps, office expenses, supplies, etc.) coupled with our reduced income due to our loss in membership over the last couple of years.

Our last meeting was also our annual AGL's visit, which went very well. Your Officers and I weren't perfect on everything, but we were pretty close and our AGL, M.: I.: E. William Whittaker, was quite happy. The only speed bumps we had were: 1. We (meaning the Officers) all need to work on our Ritual a little more; 2. The importance of Masonic Protocol relating to the investigation of a potential candidate; 3. The proper balloting procedure for said candidate; and, 4. Making sure that the person, who is the first-line signer on a petition, is not also part of the Investigating Committee, which is a conflict of interest.

Finally, let me remind everybody that M.: I.: Bill Whittaker is our Degree Coordinator for the Royal Master Degree. If you have been assigned a part, please start now with your studies. If there is anyone out there without a part who has the time, and/or who would like to help out, please give Bill a call at (315) 536-2525, or you may email him at: migm01@adelphia.net

Upcoming events

March 16th - Royal Master Degree. Officers in Tuxedos
 April 20th - Select Master Degree. Officers in Tuxedos
 May 18th - Annual Reports/Elections/Move-Up Night. Officers in Tuxedos

Palmyra Council No. 26

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

Master
 I.: F. Edward (Ted) Powley
 (315) 483-2745

Secretary
 David W. Taber
 388-0629

Palmyra Masonic Temple
 161 East Main Street

Since our March 3rd assembly is the same day that many Companions will be traveling to Albany for the Grand Chapter meeting, we will be dark. However, we will not omit Council events for the month of March, as we can attend our Sister Councils. Doric Council will meet on March 16th; Hornellsville, March 17th; Skoi Yase, March 21st; Bath, March 23rd; and Nundawaga, March 28th. Reports on these Council activities will be presented at our April 7th assembly.

We certainly enjoyed going to dinner at the Lehigh Valley Restaurant and then meeting in the Shortsville Masonic Temple in February. During that meeting, our Altar was Draped in memory of Companion Francis E. Daniels, who passed to that house not built by human hands, eternal in the Heavens. The program of the evening was a lesson on the symbolism of the Council's Apron, as presented in the Select Master Degree.

I hope you are all enjoying the approach of Spring. I still get a big kick out of people's reaction to 40 degree weather after having two weeks of zero degree days!

May we meet again, soon.
 Mark April 7th on your calendar today!

Genesee Council No. 51, Allied Masonic Degrees

By Rev. Charles M. Roberts, Sovereign Master

Who or what is a Council of Allied Masonic Degrees? The Allied Masonic Degrees are detached Degrees, some of which were conferred under Craft warrants many years ago and formed part of the then loosely governed Freemasonry of the period. Many of these detached Degrees became dormant in some places, although in others they were conferred as side Degrees. In time, the better of these Degrees were grouped together in an organized Body under the title of the Allied Masonic Degrees. In addition to perpetuating these Degrees, there is another and equally important purpose to a Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees.

It is a place where Freemasons come together in small groups and serve the Craft better through the medium of study and research. The Council of Allied Masonic Degrees has, over the years, evolved to be a place where scholarly Masonic papers are presented and even published for the entire Craft through *The Annals*,



Sovereign Master, Charles Roberts (center), and the ten members of Genesee Council No. 51, Allied Masonic Degrees, who received honors and Certificates for long-time service.



Sovereign Master, Charles Roberts with charter member, Roy VanDelinder.

a publication of The Grand Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees of the United States of America. Wherever there is an active Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees, it exerts an influence for the betterment of Freemasonry in all of the Masonic Bodies in the area. There is no intent on the part of the Allied Masonic Degrees to detract from any organized and established Body of Masonry. On the contrary, you will find our members active beyond the average in all local Masonic Bodies.

Membership in a Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees is by invitation only, and is predicated on membership in a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. Each Council can only have a maximum of twenty-seven members; when that number is attained, the Council membership is closed until such time membership drops below that number again.

Genesee Council No. 51, Allied Masonic Degrees, meets the first Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. on a quarterly basis at the Northfield Lodge in Pittsford. At our Winter assembly on Wednesday, February 2nd, we honored ten of our members for long-term membership and service to their Council. These honorees have served their Council anywhere from ten years to forty-five years. We were honored to have at this meeting our charter member, Excellent Companion Roy E. VanDelinder, Jr. After presenting a brief reflection on "Light in Masonry," as Sovereign Master, I had the opportunity to present to each of these Companions their certificates of long-time service. Our fellowship ended that

evening with pictures and refreshments.

We hope, that as Companions of the Holy Royal Arch, if you are asked to join our Council in the future, you will consider it a high honor and accord it with a positive response.

Sagoyewatha Commandery No. 17

3rd Saturday, 9 a.m.

Commander
 SK F. Edward Powley
 (315) 483-2745
 Recorder
 SK David Taber
 (585) 388-0629

Phelps, NY

Sir Knights, our March conclave will be our annual Inspection, on Saturday, March 19th at 10 a.m. This is an hour later than usual so that our guests may have some extra time to travel to Phelps. Our Inspecting Officer this year is Sir Knight Donald J. Berry, Grand Warder of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar State of New York. I hope that you will join us on the 19th to welcome SK Berry to Western New York from his home in New York City. For those who can join us for breakfast, we will meet at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant, corner of Routes 88 and 96, at 8:30 a.m.

Our sister Zone 11 Commanderies will have their Inspections on April 18th for Cyrene-Monroe No. 12 and on May 5th, DeMolay No. 22. Please call me if you wish to car pool to either of these Inspections.

SK Ronald Edwards reminds everyone that he is collecting aluminum for the Eye Foundation. Bring your collections to any of our meetings.

Our sympathies were expressed to the family of SK Francis Daniels on his passing. There was a good turnout of Sir Knights at his Masonic Service and funeral service.

There is still time to make reservations with SK Christo Papadopoulos if you wish to attend the Easter Sunrise Service at the George Washington Memorial in Alexandria, VA. At this time, it appears that

Do you need a speaker for a Lodge Meeting, District Event or other special occasion?

R.: W.: James E. Sullivan
 Senior Grand Warden
 Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons
 in the State of New York
 is ready willing and able

Call (716) 434-5401
 or email him at: jesullivan@aol.com

Doric Council No. 19 Cryptic Masons
 (Chartered 1861)
 3rd Wednesday
 Ill. Master Douglas Koenig
 223-6638
 quequesquared@hotmail.com
 Donald W. Wright, Recorder
 621-5764
 dwright3@rochester.rr.com
 17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

Well, it's that time of month again to sit back down and say "Hello." March, the month of March Madness and the college basketball tournament. My favorite sporting event of the year and the month when thousands of sane students from across America go crazy for two weeks in support of their team. The month of Four Leaf Clovers and the Leprechaun, that little guy who runs around in the funny green shorts chasing the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. A month of luck, wishes and dreams. It is also that time of year when Spring returns; a time of crocuses starting to peek out of the ground with their little purple blooms and a time when mother nature starts putting that wonderful array of color back into our lives after a long, cold and gloomy Winter. It's also a time when the first robins start showing up and you awake each morning to the pleasant sound of birds chirping. It's a time of renewal and rebirth and it is why the Ancients started the Calendar of Nippur, the first ever recorded calendar, in 3760 BC on the Spring Equinox of March 20th. Since my last article, we've gone through an absolutely

Sagoyewatha Commandery will be represented as the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of New York marches up Shooters Hill on Easter morning. It's a sight you will long remember.


Happy Easter to everyone!*

Cyrene-Monroe
Commandery No. 12

Chartered 1993
3rd Monday

Commander
SK Charles
M. Roberts
621-3796

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



By Don Brugger

Old Man Winter does not seem to be in a cooperative mood these days. Our last meeting in January had to be moved from the 21st to the 31st. As mentioned in the February article, we will be utilizing the 1st Mondays of the month from now through April to practice for our Inspection on April 18th. It is hoped that those of you who have not been regular attendees of our meetings will take this opportunity to reacquaint yourselves with the Commandery.

A York Rite Valentine's Day get-together was held on February 16th at Hawthorne's Restaurant for Hiram Chapter, Doric Council and Cyrene-Monroe Commandery. It was an opportunity for each gentleman to express his sincere thanks and appreciation for the lady in his life and for her support of these York Rite Bodies.

Future events

The Inspections for Zone 11 are as follows: Sagoyewatha, March 19th; Cyrene/Monroe, April 18th and DeMolay, May 5th. The requirements for the Inspections are Full Form Opening, Inspection, Sword Manual and three Ritual parts from the Order of Malta. Our Commander, SK Roberts, has scheduled inspection rehearsals starting at 7:00 p.m. every first Monday at our regular place of meeting, Northfield Lodge Hall, Pittsford. Rehearsals should involve only about an hour of your time. If you need a ride or directions, please call the Commander, Recorder or me at 458-6125.

Your help appreciated

You are encouraged to make every effort to come out to support your Officers and your Commandery. It makes a difficult job much harder if there are no sideliners to fill the escort ranks; bring Chapeau and sword on the 1st Monday, full uniform or dark suit on the 3rd. We would appreciate all the help we can get.

All welcome

Our Easter Observance will be on March 21st at the Northfield Lodge, 7:30 p.m. Bring your lady, friend or potential member with his lady. Those who are interested in the Easter Sunrise Service in Alexandria, Virginia, should call the Commander or Recorder.

Installation

A combined Installation of Officers for the Zone 11 Commanderies is tentatively scheduled for May 21st at the Hornell Lodge Hall. At present, per our Zone Commander, William Jones, there apparently seems

to be a conflict on this date with the Grand Lodge Child I.D. Program. We will work this out and keep you informed.

Summer!

A joint York Rite Summer Picnic has been scheduled for June 9th at Henrietta Town Park, 6 p.m., in an open pavilion. A joint picnic will make it a lot more convenient for the members who belong to Hiram Chapter, Doric Council, Cyrene/Monroe Commandery, and Genesee Council of the Allied Masonic Degrees. There will be just one picnic to plan and give you a few more days of the Summer to spend with your families.

Sickness and distress

The Commandery expresses its deepest respect at the passing of Sir Knights Ellsworth VanGraafeiland, James Morrow, and C. Robert Schwappacher. It is reported that Sir Knight William Earl was in a nursing care facility in Florida, and Wayne Slack now resides at Grand Vie Senior Living Community in Penfield. Sir Knights Arnold Palmer and Raymond Beardsley were both ill at the time of our last meeting. Let your prayers be with these Sir Knights and the families of the departed.

Membership

No organization can survive without active members. The turnout at our regular meetings is usually enough to open, but we encourage all those who have gotten out of the habit to come out, participate and support your Commandery. We may be able to supply a complete uniform. In any case, we would be glad to see you.

Zone 11

There will be no Spring Zone 11 Officers' meeting. Since there are apparently no candidates for the Orders, the next meeting for the Zone Officers will be the Zone Picnic, at Zone Commander, Bill Jones, home on June 5th. Watch for future details.

As the Holy Seasons of Passover and Easter approach, we wish you and your family a Blessed renewal in your walk with God. Please remember those who are on the front lines sacrificing for freedom for others and security here at home. God Bless our Commandery, and God Bless the United States of America. *

Batavia Commandery
No. 34
Knights
Templar

2nd & 4th
Thursdays

Commander
SK Norman H. Steinbaugh
591-2073

Recorder
SK James MacConnell
494-1815
39 Main Street, Attica 14011



Easter

New York Knights attending the Easter Sunrise Service, March 25th - 27th, in Alexandria, Virginia, are staying at the Hotel Washington again this year. We will, once again, join Sir Knights from other Grand Jurisdictions and celebrate the most holy of days of our Order. There will be tour packages available through the hotel and a special tour for the Sir Knights is planned. The hotel is within walking distance to many of the Capital's attractions. Transportation from the hotel to the Masonic Memorial will be provided.

Reservations can be made directly with Hotel Washington at (800) 424-9540 before the cut-off date of March 4th. Reservations for the Saturday, March 26th Banquet at Old Ebbitt Grill, will not be accepted after March 15th and are to be made directly with Christos Papadopoulos at (718) 267-0451 or email: Wm1999scg@aol.com


If you haven't already made reservations, time is short, so do not delay. *

Genesee
York Rite
College No. 25

(Chartered July 14, 1962)

Pre-Eminent Governor
Cyril R. White
(315) 597-9546
ukcy@juno.com

Secretary
Charles M. Roberts
225-6533
cholyone@frontiernet.net



The next Stated Assembly will be Saturday, March 12th, at 2:00 p.m. sharp in the Palmyra Masonic Temple, 161 East Main Street. The program for the day is to confer the Order of Knight of York. Officers, please bring some "munchies" to snack on prior to the Assembly. After the Assembly there will be a "We survived the Order of Knight of York" Dinner with our ladies at the Lehigh Valley Restaurant, Manchester (formerly the Steak Out) located at the intersection of routes 96 and 21 at approximately 5:30 p.m. The meal choices and reservation form will be noted in the Secretary's notification of the Assembly.

As announced at the last Assembly, the Officers will fill the parts in the Order of York, as listed in the yellow book.

First and Third Sections
Governor **Cy White**
Deputy Governor

James MacConnell
Chancellor **Norman Austin**
Primate **John Dudley**
Preceptor **Ken Kohlhagen**
Seneschal **Thomas Paglia**
Marshal **Ted Powley**
Sentinel **Jerold Brade**
Overseer **Stu Smith**

Second Section
Athelstan **Cy White**
Prince Edwin

James MacConnell
Lord Chancellor
Norman Austin
Lord Archbishop
John Dudley
Lord Preceptor
Ken Kohlhagen
Lord Grand Commander
Tom Paglia
Lord Mayor **Ted Powley**
Knight Commander

Ruel Lovett
Rose Lecture **John Dudley**
Prologue **Rev. Charles Lee**

David Taber will be the Director and Wardrobe Master for the Order.

Rev. Charles Roberts is the prompter for all sessions.

Dinner arrangements - Ron Edwards

All Officers are expected to attend, but in the event you cannot make it, please call me at 315-597-9546 as early as possible.

I'm looking forward to seeing you around the Holy Altar of York Rite Sovereign College. *

Masonic War Veterans



Letters from a Brother Mason in the United States Military Service

From Joe Gingold, Master Valley-Simes Lodge No. 109

Things are going well here and we are learning more about the pieces of the puzzle that we are responsible for regarding our jobs and the importance we have to the theater ops. We are starting to find out how to get many things done using the transportation system and how our higher command needs things done. Bottom line is we support our "customers," which are the units and soldiers going North, with the necessities they need to travel. We feed them, give them housing to stay over night, fuel them up and give them the intel that they need to have a "safe trip." We coordinate the services they need, clear/certify routes and program their travel time indicating when they are clear to leave to drive North.

We have a crew that handles the "yard" operations, which is a very large staging/parking area and a computer operations center. I work in the computer center, researching intel, doing the required reports, preparing and giving a daily brief, as well as helping/coordinating travel times. My primary role is researching the threat/road intel and doing an intel brief to the

convoy leadership each day. I additionally help with the travel arrangements for convoys resolving logistical issues, programming their travel times and ensuring that their issues have been resolved.

The hardest challenge for me is getting my body to adjust to the food here and the environmental factors. I have been sick for several weeks and the food is very hard on my system. They say that it takes some folks 6 to 8 weeks to adjust; we will have to see how long it takes for me.

It is very interesting to see the stars and moon at a different position in the sky. The other interesting thing about this location is the soil; it is very hard clay, like concrete after it gets wet and then dries. It also holds the water after it rains and will not let it dissipate. I now understand how this region is able to flood so easily.

The best news is that I am on my second month here and I have, hopefully, only ten more to do. It is my hope that we are able to do all of our tour here, since we now know our jobs and it is a good place to be if you have to be over here.

Please wish all of the folks back home my best and I hope you all are doing well. *

From Brother Nate Thompson Clio Lodge

I was just thinking about all of you today and realized that I have not written to you in a while. Things are going well here in Iraq. For the most part, attacks have been down ever since the elections, even though there are attacks here and there that you hear on the news that results in high rates of casualties.

I have moved out of my room and moved into a new one. My Battalion has moved back down to Camp Liberty and is now going to start missions in the city of Baghdad itself. I am not sure if they are going to let me go outside "the wire" or not. I seem to be stuck in the liaison position, and I am not liking it. We are with one of the Brigades from the 10th Mountain Division. "Climb to Glory!" is their motto. They are an every day active unit and are, of course, from Fort Drum, as some of you may know. I am not sure if any are Masons or not. I am still trying to find that out. We have been with them since the elections and will be with them for a few more months. They are really good to work with, and they leave me alone, unlike the Brigade from Louisiana with whom we came to Iraq.

I did receive the Membership Card in the mail. Thanks. I was a bit surprised to get it in the mail. I was unsure if I would be getting that while over here. Speaking of that, I am currently trying to go

home for leave during the month of March. I am not sure if I am going to get March as a leave month or not. There are only so many slots available to the soldiers our company. I think there are only 24 slots for March...so there isn't a lot of room for all of us. We can only send about 10% of each company each month in order to maintain combat readiness.

I have bought a few things relating to Masons and Eastern Star, alike. I bought two coins that depict both just outside of the PX where we exit out of the building. They always have these people selling all sorts of stuff. Well, they have this one guy who sells coins of all different things, mostly different units and divisions are shown on them. I will show you them when I get back home.

We lost seven soldiers in January. All were in a Bradley fighting vehicle and were killed instantly. Just to give you an idea of how big that bomb was...a Bradley fighting vehicle weighs 27 tons. The Bradley fighting vehicle was flipped on its backside and caught fire from the blast. All but one were from Louisiana. Still, no Masons from the battalion have been killed so far.

Well, that is it for now. I hope this gives you some insight to what has been going on here in Iraq. I will write again sometime soon. *

Support
Our Troops



Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian

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



**Ken Rhodes
Monarch**
621-6051
busyrhodes@aol.com

March 21st is the start of Spring!! Hurray!

There will be a meeting of the Board of Governors on March 7th, 7:00 p.m., Shrine Center.

Fellowship

Farrah Grotto has their Past Monarch's Ball on March 12th. Reservations can be made at the Holiday Inn, Warren, PA.

On Wednesday, March 16th, there will be a Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner with our ladies to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Please call Mike Bell with reservations at 244-2895. A meeting will follow the dinner. There will also be entertainment after the meeting by Mike Kornrich, a one-man band.

On March 19th, Orak Grotto, Bradford, PA., will have their 200 Club Dinner. This is a very good evening with lots of food. Please contact Kris Goll for reservations at (814) 368-6550.

Sickness

We wish Edna Hutchinson, wife of Ken, PM, a speedy recovery after her surgery. ✕

Grand Historian



Home phone
(315) 589-9021

Grotto office
671-6320

Kenneth Hutchinson, PM
hutchkv@yahoo.com

A Prophet recently asked about our Emblem. We had no emblem until 1903. In the minute book of Azim Grotto, February 26, 1903, "Charles E. Lansing, PGM, presented a drawing of color of head gear."

Later, at the Supreme Session held in Hamilton, New York, in October, 1903, Azim Grotto wore the Fez, which was accepted and adopted as the official head gear for Prophets.

In the early 1900s, cardboard Fez cases contained a drawing of a devil (FDC influence) and many early Fez's had black thread from top to bottom of the Mokanna emblem suggesting a veil, influence of the Lalla Rookh Book.

Some have seen the large face of the Great Mokanna, located behind the Monarch's chair in Mokanna Grotto in Hamilton. Pictured in this article is the Parade Banner of Mokanna and Lalla Rookh Grottoes. Each has a different image of the Great Mokanna.

The Great Hamilton Fire of February 19, 1895 completely destroyed the downtown business district, along with the Grotto and Hamilton Lodge. Many things were saved, such

as the original FDC Pledge, By-Laws and minute book, but they might not have been in the building at the time. What was there, and carried out, was the Monarch's chair, built by LeRoy Fairchild.

The original image of Mokanna may have been drawn by a Hamilton Prophet because they took his name. The likeness took various images through the years, apparently starting out with a clean-shaven face to the official image we use today.



In the book Lalla Rookh spoke of he had a silver veil to hide his face. The Mokanna Grotto shows that veil. Present day images do not.

Note: "The Great Hamilton Fire of 1895," mentioned above, will be reported in great detail in a future *National Grotto Magazine*. ✕

Secretary's Column

By Kenneth Hutchinson, PM

Our Legion of Honor has a new Commander, the very popular Brian Bills, who is involved in all things Masonic. We are, indeed, fortunate to have him in Lalla Rookh Grotto.

Chief Justice, Norman Austin, took over the Board of Governors meeting and did a top-notch job. It was his "fledgling effort." He was very well prepared and there were many favorable comments.

Our Honorable Sir and his Lady took a sabbatical leave and went to England after his Installation in January. Doreen said, "Once a Knight..." You know the rest to that one.

Monarch Ken Rhodes' Monarch's Ball could be one of the largest in recent memory. It

Ken Rhodes, Monarch

may be pay-back time and 89 English relatives may come over for the event. Where will they all sleep?

A few days ago I received an envelope from Fred P. Kinney of Selama Grotto in St. Petersburg, Florida, with a photo of their Installation. In the photo was our Grand Monarch, Philip A. Gialone, Sr., PM. They were as delighted to receive him, as we were in September, 2004.

Sickness and distress

Our snowbird, Charles White, had two stents implanted on January 31st in a Leesburg hospital. At present, he has a minor lung problem. Bob Bueg is scheduled for surgery on February 15th. Alfred Pulcino III, PM, recently underwent back surgery and is doing fine. Dave King was in the hospital for several days due to shortness of breath. Emil Schirano was in the hospital due to heart problems.

It is my sad duty to report the passing of Prophet Richard H. Dye on January 24th. He was a member for 38 years and will be sadly missed. ✕

Chief Justice

By Norman Austin

The Installation of Officers on January 22nd was an evening enjoyed by all. While the weather was somewhat less than optimal, those intrepid individuals who were able to venture forth, found the event most worthwhile. Those of us elected to new offices are looking forward to becoming proficient in our new positions.

Our Monarch, Ken Rhodes, and his Lady, Doreen, have traveled the Globe to England, to enjoy Doreen's birthday with family and friends. During Ken's absence, I assumed the onus of conducting last month's Board of Governor's meeting, while Michael Bell, PM, conducted our regular meeting, this month, featuring a Valentine's dinner for the ladies. Thanks go out to him and his Lady, Doris, for the hospitality, as well as for our entertainment for the evening, the lovely songstress, Maria Gillard. In addition, each Lady present received a long-stemmed carnation, compliments of Monarch, Ken Rhodes.

According to the old adage: "practice makes perfect;" these events provided me with the opportunity to hone my skills toward proficiency when I assume the reins next year. I enjoyed the pleasure of filling in for Ken, and stand ready to do so again, should the occasion arise.

On the evening of February 5th, Miss Linda and I were invited by the ladies of the Caldron, to join them at Rick's Prime Rib House for the Caldron's 57th birthday celebration. We had a wonderful time and enjoyed ourselves immensely. A great deal of work went into the preparation of this event, and it showed. Thank you, ladies!

February 9th was the Grotto's assigned day to man the Have-a-Heart booth at

Marketplace Mall. A bit more manpower would have been helpful, but we did fine as we supported this most worthwhile cause.

Congratulations

February 12th was the date of the Grotto Legion of Honor's Installation of Officers, at the Green Lantern Inn in Fairport. Our Treasurer, Prophet Brian Bills, was installed as Commander. Our heartiest congratulations go out to Brian and his Officers.

Sickness

Prophets Bob Bueg, Al Pulcino III and Dave King have all been hospitalized recently and our thoughts go out to each, along with their ladies, Merline, Shirley and Edna, respectively. Also, our Secretary, Ken Hutchinson's lady, Edna, has made the transition from walker to cane during her recovery. Our best wishes are extended to her.

With Easter taking place this month, may I leave you with this thought, which I unfortunately, do not have a source to cite:

There's a certain happy feeling

That Easter brings each year—

The feeling of new hope—new joy,

New happiness—new cheer:

May you have that certain feeling

At Easter—and what's more,

May it be a part of your thoughts and heart

All through the days in store

May you have the Faith and Hope of the

Easter Season as we welcome Spring once more.

A Happy Easter from all of us in Lalla Rookh Grotto. ✕

(Editor's Note: This article from Fred Cornell was inadvertently omitted from the February issue, though received in plenty of time. We apologize for this oversight.)

Legion of Honor

By Fred Cornell, Commander

My Brothers and Legion members, it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your Commander this past year.

I thank several members for their help this year: Brian Bills as my Personnel Officer; Mike Bell, Chaplain, picnic organizer and cook who, without guys like him, I'd have been sunk; Ron Morthorst, my go-to-guy for most all questions, as he had the answers; Frank Murrer, the money man; Lou Campaniello, flag man and 50-/50 arranger; Jan Lughart, for sitting in for me in October when I was away; and last, but not least, Al Pulcino III, who was there with the questions and the answers.

I ask that you give both Brian and Greg the same support as you did me, and we will see another great year. ✕

Legion of Honor

By Brian Bills, Commander

Well, my Brothers, another year has come and gone. I believe we should give our thanks to Past Commander Fred Cornell for the past year. I only hope I can fill his shoes.

By the time this will hit the press, we will have enjoyed a

nice dinner and Installation at the Green Lantern Inn in Fairport. I know the turnout was good because I have received over 40 reservations.

This year the Officers will be Commander Brian Bills; Personnel Assistant, Greg Ludwig; Chaplain, Richard Topel; and Luigi Campaniello as Sergeant at Arms. We anticipate a good year. Remember, we meet each month on the 3rd Monday. We will be meeting at the Nutcracker Restaurant on Empire Boulevard in Webster. We order of the menu, so everyone should find something to their liking. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m., followed by the meeting.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 21st. Why not come out a little early to enjoy a cocktail with your Brothers? ✕

Master of Ceremonies

By Michael Bell

One of the Master of Ceremonies responsibilities is overseeing ritualistic work. In line with this, it falls to him to dispute or refute rumor and misconstruance.

Therefore, I must categorically state:

1. We do not go to Niagara Falls in February so Al Pulcino can visit his money.

2. Lalla Rookh Grotto was not named after a gay chess player.

Many happy and healthy birthday wishes this month to: Joan Palmer; Annie Towle, 5th; Alida Doud, 23rd; and Merline Bueg, 28th.

3. We do not address mail to Mrs. and Mr. Judy Ludwig.

4. Norm Austin is not both younger and better looking than his identical twin brother.

5. George Knierim does not have the world's largest collection of overcoats.

6. Nobody really heard Ken Hutchinson offer to buy Jerry Spero a drink at the Grotto Installation.

7. There is no real, undisputable proof that Jerry Spero has been taking ventriloquism lessons.

8. Mike Batz was not kidnapped by gypsies as a child, and later returned for free.

9. Heinz Gunkel was not the model for Hans in the comic strip, "The Katzanjammer Kids" (he was the model for Der Inspector).

10. Jan Lughart is not so tight that he squeaks. (That squeaking sound is his shoes screaming in pain.)

I sincerely hope that I have settled all those issues. ✕

Caldron News

By Susan Wilson, MCO

After a disappointing February meeting due to the weather, March will hopefully let us catch-up and fulfill all our meeting plans. I'm sorry we had to postpone so much these past couple of months, but living in our area, it's to be expected. One thing we did accomplish was to celebrate our 57th Birthday at Rick's Prime Rib on February 5th.

Continued on Page 22

979 Bay Road
Webster, NY
14580-1736



Phone - 671-7701
Fax - 671-7702



Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

Shrine News

Website - www.damascusshriners.org

Potentate - Robert L. Anderson II

Email addresses:

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

From the Potentate

Shrine Office - 671-7701



Robert L. Anderson II

As I write this article, Rochester is in the throes of its winter weather. This can mean only one thing: the Damascus Shrine Circus is coming to town. This is our major fundraiser for the year. This year, we have an exciting new Circus. Your help is needed to ensure that the seats are filled and the concession stands are manned. If you haven't yet, make a commitment to work at the Circus. Bring your wife. Everyone is welcome to help us at the Circus. This is a fun time. Don't forget, because of the Circus, we won't have an April Shrine meeting.

We have had two meetings where our significant others have joined us for dinner and part of our meetings. We will continue this in March. As usual, while we have our meeting, the women will have entertainment and will then join us. Our program for March is about our Canadian Rockies Trip in October. We look forward to another great turnout. Make your reservations early. Of course, we will have pasta for those who don't want Corned Beef and Cabbage.

We must let our Brother Masons know about the fun we are having. We are having a Noble Bring-a-Brother event on May 7th, featuring the Imperial Assistant Rabban, Bernie Lemeux. This isn't the first opportunity that you have to expose your friends to the Shrine. Don't forget to bring them to Joey and Maria's 25th Wedding Anniversary on March 19th. Our fun continues with the Potentate's Ball on May 21st. This event is coupled with the Duffers Golf Tournament on May 20th.

The Golf Tournament is part of our support for the Hospitals. We are looking for that event to bring in \$5,000 for our fundraising project. Make sure that you fill out your foursome and sign up for a spot in the tournament. The cost is only \$100 per golfer. It is one of the most reasonable charity tournaments in the area. Another way to raise funds is the sale of ladies magnetic Shrine name-tags. We are selling them for \$20, and the difference between that and the cost will be contributed to the hospitals. Call Nicole and order your pin. Our project has had support from several of the Clubs and Units.

Don't forget your Blue Lodge. Invite your Brothers to join us in our activities.

From the Recorder

Shrine Office
671-7701



James Slocum
367-2425

Shrine Reservation Line
671-3565

As we go into the month of March, Spring can't be far away.

Once again, dinner reservations must be called in ASAP. Last month we did pretty well; let's keep up the good work.

I am looking for Ritual books. If anyone has one in their possession, please call the Office and give us the number of your book.

The Hospital Fund is growing, and to date we are at \$4,933 towards our goal of \$20,000. We thank our most recent supporters: Bruce Dibble, Kenneth Gordon, Jr., Robert Anderson, Sr., Robert Anderson II, Livonia Rotary, The Wheelers, The Lunch Club, Peter Koch, Lance Ward, Judy VanHouten, The Greeters and the Auburn Shrine Club.

We are still looking for a few good men and women to help with the Circus. If you are available, please call or email the Office and let us know when and what time, and we will put you on the list. Let's ALL work toward making our 2005 Circus a success.

Legion of Honor

By James P. Kahn, Commander

Nobles, our next scheduled meeting is March 9th at McGinnity's on West Ridge Road. The time is 1800 for cocktails and dinner at 1900. We are looking forward to seeing you all there.

On Saturday, February 5th, eight of our Nobles and ladies traveled to Ismailia for the passing of the gavel of their Legion of Honor. We all had a great time. The IALOH Commander, Robert D. Cook (Zembo Temple), was present at this event; it was a great honor to visit with him and his lady. Also present was the 2nd International Junior Commander, James L. Taflinger (Murat Temple) and James A. Dorsch, Commander NYOSALOH (Ismailia Temple). Noble Richard A. Wolf became the 2005 Commander. His Lady is Carol.

We received a commitment from the IALOH Commander Rickie and from at least two couples from Ismailia Temple, Richard and Carol and 1st Commander, James C. Van Slyke and Lady Susan, to attend our August 6th Picnic at the Shrine Center. Please plan to attend this event to show our guests that Damascus is Up and COMING ALIVE in 05.

The Nobles from Ismailia are also interested in attending our Past Commanders' Dinner, scheduled for May 11th at our

Damascus Duffers

3RD ANNUAL HOSPITAL BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT

MAY 20TH
LAKESHORE COUNTRY CLUB

OPEN TO ALL GOLFERS
11:00 A.M. CHECK-IN
11:30 A.M. LUNCH
12:30 P.M. SHOTGUN START
6:00 P.M. DINNER
RAFFLES AND PRIZES

All for \$100.00
Dinner only - \$25.00
To sign up
call the Shrine Office at
671-7701

Shrine Center. Both the Picnic and Past Commanders' Dinner will be with our ladies/guests.

Thank you, again, to our Nobles Dean L. Smith, PC-04; James A. Slocum PC-01, PNY-OSAC-01 and Lady Beverly; Donald J. McDill, PC-96, PNY-OSAC-97 and Lady, Winifred; PP Cyrus Kloner, PC-90, IALOH Parliamentarian and my wife, Mary, for attending the Ismailia event and making that evening in Buffalo great for us and successful for Richard and Carol Wolf.

Shrine Degree Team

By John Faro, President

Nobles, we are back in business. During a very poor evening weather-wise, the Degree Team traveled to Palmyra to visit Drumlin Square Lodge and conferred the 3rd Degree on three Brothers. Noble Joe Shanks was in the East for the conferral and Noble Rich Friedman portrayed King Solomon, with the assistance of Noble Don Krech. Nobles Norm Johnstone and Gordon (Jingles) Bell returned to "active" duty after being absent. Noble John Zabel returned after serving a two-year term as DDGM for the Monroe District. Welcome back all of you.

Also, Mike Grady, a new Noble (last class) did an excellent job as Senior Master of Ceremony and 3rd Craftsman. We look forward to utilizing Mike in many different rolls.

We have upcoming Degrees in March and April. On March 8th we will be traveling to Fame Lodge in Sea Breeze, and Noble Don Krech will be in the East at his home Lodge. On April 14th, we will be traveling to Eunice Lodge in Caledonia. There are many parts still open for these two Degrees. There is a possibility that we may car pool to Caledonia.

I have reserved the Shrine Center for the second Friday of each month for rehearsals, discussions or whatever occasion arises. There will be a meeting in March to critique our performance at Fame and prepare for our appearance in Caledonia.

On the subject of costumes, John Zabel gave a preliminary report; we will discuss this at the March meeting.

Noble Bill Jones has arranged a list of all the Nobles on the team who have email addresses. Henceforth, you will receive notification of Degrees thru this media. Those who do not have email addresses will continue to receive either a post card or phone call or you will be "accosted" by me at the Center before meetings.

See you at the Center.

Clown Unit

By "Spot McDot" and "Roscoe"

The final score: Damascus Clowns "0" - 2005 Blizzard "1."

There were six clowns who went to the Northeast Clown Institute School in January. Everything was calm until about 4:00 p.m. Saturday afternoon when the blizzard of 2005 hit Plymouth, Massachusetts. By 4:00 Sunday afternoon we had endured winds of 72 mph (with gusts to 94 mph) and accumulated 38 inches of snow.

The Radisson Hotel, where we were staying, lost power about 6:00 a.m. Sunday, and it was out until 8:00 p.m. We had a great time and took this opportunity to learn more about clowning from our fellow clowns. They were more than willing to share their knowledge and experience with us. We would encourage all the clowns (and potential new clowns) to attend Clown School next January - it is well worth the time and effort.

The following clowns attended the Clown School as

first year students: Gary "Smirkey" Burke, Dave "Spot McDot" Balcom, Debby "Ladybug" Balcom, Bruce "Boxman" Chilton, and Andy "Uncle Andy" Rueby. The first year students learn more about the different types of clowns and the makeup that goes with each type.



(Left to right) Smirkey, Spot McDot and Boxman in costume at the Clown School.

Oscar "Rosco" Wilson was the only second year student from the unit. The second year student learns more about makeup and how to develop one-and-two-clown skits. They also learn a few scientific magic tricks.

We had many opportunities to speak with and learn about new things from other clowns. On Friday, we had the chance to work with "Wacko" the Clown and learn some new detailed balloon animals. Rosco felt like a novice next to Wacko and his wonderful balloon artwork.

Local appearances

Many of our clowns participated in the Have-a-Heart Campaign through the area malls. Even many of the new clowns had the chance to showcase their acquired skills.

We were at Entercom's Kids Fest on February 19th at Total Sport Experience. We had a great time promoting the 2005 Circus and making balloons for children of all ages. We would like to thank all of the Nobles who came out to help with this promotion.

We have selected our clown skit for the Circus and are rehearsing to get ready for the big show.

Until the next time, keep a smile in your heart, don't be afraid to pass it on to a friend and may your days be filled with the laughter of a child.

SHRINE LUNCH CLUB

Every Monday
starting in March
11:30 a.m.
Cost \$5.00

Ladies Day
3rd Monday
Cost \$6.00

Refreshments available
50/50 Drawing
Ladies Day
Special Program
Everyone welcome

YOSHI

By Douglas Spencer

A new Club is being formed at Damascus Shrine. You will be asked to join in the fun and help make this Club an important part of our Shrine. Our Potentate wants our organization to help mentor new Nobles and help grow our Shrine.

YOSHI stands for Young Shriners. In the past, an age limit was put on membership but, since all Shriners are "Young at Heart," all are invited to participate. This means spouses and significant others, too. These important people in our lives will always be invited to attend our meetings and share in the great times.

A "Meet and Greet" Cocktail Party with food, entertainment and fun has been planned. The place will be the Shrine Center; the time will be 6:00 p.m., and the date is March 5th. Cost will be \$5.00 per Noble. This will help defray expenses for the evening, as well as start up our Treasury. The Triangle girls, a Masonic youth organization, have volunteered to run a baby-sitting service that night at the Shrine Center. We encourage you to bring your friends to the YOSHI's Cocktail Party. The Shrine will buy your friends their first drink at the bar. We will also have many bar specials going on during the evening.

Reservations may be made by calling me at 723-8703 or by sending me an email at: outerguard@damascushriners.org.

Perry Shrine Club

By Ken Buckland, President

We met at Hawley's Lumberyard, and all were greeted by our Ill. Potentate, Robert Anderson, and Lady Alice. We missed many of our Nobles who we usually see there and know that the weather was probably the cause. It was minus 4° and getting colder!

It was mentioned that Noble George Cox was down with the shingles. Get well soon, George.

We met on the second floor with lots of communications, fellowship and a great dinner. Oh yes, you have the same Officers for 2005 to contend with: Noble Howard Wood, Vice-President; Noble Russell Gillett, Secretary/Treasurer; and me as President.

After a brief business meeting, we called upon our new Divan Representative, Noble Pete Yendell. He informed us of the many upcoming events planned for Damascus Shriners and talked much about our Shrine Circus coming to town. He is looking forward to the Perry Shrine Club taking care of the Dip n Dot concession and helping out in whatever way they can. We are looking for a volunteer to co-ordinate the help for this concession. Please contact Noble Howard Wood at our next meeting.

Ill. Sir Robert Anderson was then introduced, and he thanked Noble Pete for the fine job of promoting all the events. He then spoke of our need to work with our Masonic Lodges in building Masonry membership and, in turn, our Shrine membership, working hand in hand together. He spoke in detail about our need of fundraising for our Shriners Hospitals and his goal of \$20,000 by November. Do you have a fundraising idea for the Perry Shrine Club? Let's discuss this next meeting.

Our mini-cars are taking a rest for a few months, but it won't be long until they will be ready to be fitted for the upcoming parade season. Yes, we are always looking for drivers and other volunteers. Contact one of our car owners and let them know you are interested. I believe that Noble Gerry Husong, captain of the mini-cars, would like to hear from you.

I hope to see you next meeting.



It is the beginning of March, and Election of Officers is about a week away. I know that Princess Royal, Virginia, has been very busy planning the Installation and Dinner for April 2nd. By this time, you should have received a flyer with all the details. Please make your reservations as soon as possible and support our Temple. Virginia also has many exciting events scheduled for this year, and we hope to see all of you there having fun and supporting the Shriners Hospitals for Children. I know I will be. I look

forward to a busy year as your Junior Past Queen, as well as a busy year at Damascus since my husband, Doug, has been appointed as Outer Guard by Illustrious Robert L. Anderson II.

As for me, it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve you as Queen for the past year. I have had a busy year with lots of work and also a year that has been filled with fun and friends. I have gained confidence in myself that I can be a leader, especially if it is something I truly believe in. I'm grateful for all the support and cooperation that I received from Illustrious Bruce Chilton, PP, and all of Damascus Shrine. I look forward to continuing this relationship and strengthening the Shrine and Nile. Together we will make both of our organizations GROW so that we are better able to support the Shriners Hospitals.

My heartfelt thanks to ALL the members of Zama Temple for their support this year. Special thanks to my advisor, Carol Colegrove, PQ; my prompter, Juanita Gorton, PQ; my Installing Officer, Betty Nohle, PSQ and to Garda Houston, PQ, who started me on this road to becoming Queen. This is one year I will never forget.

Do you know the importance of an Admissions Counselor?

ADMISSIONS COUNSELORS ARE SPECIAL PEOPLE!

They:

- ♦ Are trained Masonic Care Community Representatives
- ♦ Will answer questions on the Masonic Campus
- ♦ Are available to provide a program about the Masonic Campus for your District Meetings.
- ♦ Are trained to help any Mason in need of assistance regarding admission to the Masonic Campus and will guide them through the admission process.

If You Are Interested In Becoming An Admissions Counselor or To Find Out Who the Admissions Counselor is in your District

Call

Angie Caiola at 800-322-8826
Email caiolaa@masonicohomey.org

In Memoriam

January, 2005

Shure, David

David was residing in Massachusetts at the time of his passing on January 19th. He was 84 years old and was a member of Fairport/Flower City Lodge. He is survived by one daughter, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Meagher, Reginald, Jr.

Reginald was called Home on January 20th. A member of ERAC Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine, he leaves his six children, twelve grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Cotton, Homer

The loving arms of the Lord embraced Homer on January 24th at the age of 84 years. A member of Milnor Lodge, he is survived by his wife, JoAnn, two children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Dye, Richard H.

The Great Architect of the Universe claimed Richard on January 24th. Richard was the owner of the Merton Kays Funeral Home in Honeoye Falls. He was a member of Union Star Lodge, Union Lodge, Rochester Consistory, Damascus Shrine and Lalla Rookh Grotto. His wife, Julia, four daughters, and eight grandchildren survive him.

Daniels, Francis E.

Francis died peacefully at his home on January 26th at the age of 81 years. He was a member of Drumlin Square Lodge; Sagoyewatha Commandery, KT; Eagle Chapter, RAM and Tri-Star Chapter, OES. He leaves his wife, Lois, and other family members.

Fagenbaum, Sam

Sam passed away on January 26th. He was a member of Fairport/Flower City Lodge and Damascus Shrine. Survivors include his wife, Shirley, three children, nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Gill, Aura D.

January 30th was the date Aura met his Maker. He was a member of Unity Lodge and leaves his wife, Grace, two sons, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Hill, Leon F.

Livonia Lodge lost a member with the passing of Leon of January 31st. He is survived by many family members.

February

Leggett, William H., Sr.

William was 86 years old when he passed away in February. He was a member of Craftsman Robertson Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine. He leaves his wife, Ann, three children, and one granddaughter.

Wight, Elmer J.

Elmer entered eternal rest on February 4th at the age of 83 years. A member of Valley-Simes Lodge, he leaves his wife, Lorraine, two daughters and two grandchildren.

Alden, Richard

Richard died suddenly on February 7th. He was a member of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge and is survived by his wife, Dorothy and two children.

Linney, Helen E.

Helen was 94 years old when she passed away on February 7th. She was a member of Nolatka Chapter, OES and is survived by one son.

Diedrich, Norman A.

Fairport/Flower City Lodge lost a member with the passing of Norman on February 9th. He was 96 years old and leaves two daughters, eight grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Wallner, Raymond L.

Raymond was a member of Unity Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine at the time of his death on February 11th. He is survived by three children, five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Vogel, Layton F.

Layton passed away on February 14th at the age of 90 years. He was a member of Oakland Lodge and Nundawaga Council. Survivors include his son and two grandsons.

A Place for Us.

For over 100 years, your Masonic Care Community has maintained a tradition of compassion and service to humanity. Now, more than ever, that tradition thrives.

The Masonic Care Community addresses all levels of need including:

- ❖ Independent retirement living for active seniors
 - ❖ Residential adult care for moderate health-care needs
 - ❖ Skilled nursing care at one of the most advanced facilities in the country
- For life's transitions, there's a place for *you* at your Masonic Care Community.

For more information, please call or visit our web site.



MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY
of New York
For Life's Transitions

2150 Bleecker Street, Utica, New York 13501
1-800-322-8826 or 315-798-4800 ❖ www.MasonicCommunityNY.org

The Degree Journey

By Wayne T. Adams, 33°

Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maine

The term "rite of passage" is commonly used to describe a significant milestone following which we see the world very differently.

The first time a boy goes hunting with his father, the first time he drives the family car alone, the first sexual encounter, the first day of military service, a wedding, the birth of a child. These are all events we can describe in detail many years later. They are milestones, and in subtle ways they change the way we look at the world.

The term "rite of passage" is also used to describe a second, more profound experience following which we see ourselves very differently. It is an experience which causes us to stand outside ourselves and reflect on where we are, what we are doing, what we want to be, where we want to go in life and, very important, by whom we want to be accepted.

The three Degrees of Craft Masonry are intended and designed to provide a man with such an experience and to give him insight into his own life.

In the 1st or Entered Apprentice Degree, he sees a young man learning the tenets of his profession (brotherly love, relief and truth), guided in the theological virtues (faith, hope and charity) and instructed in the cardinal virtues (temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice). This is the ideal instruction of a youth. Each of us would want a son to learn those things well as a young man.

In the 2nd or Fellowcraft Degree, we see a man in the working years of his life receiving further instruction to develop his abilities and hone his skills to the end that he may be a better provider for his family and a more productive member of society. That is the ideal, and that is exactly what each one of us hopes to do.

In the 3rd or Master Mason Degree, we learn through the example of Hiram that at the end of our days when all else is gone, the only thing that will matter to us is that we have been faithful to our obligations. That is the ideal. It is what each one of us hopes for. It is the consolation we want to find at the end of a well-spent life.

The rite of passage from Degree to Degree which gives us insight into our own life and values and which gives us the ideal toward which we should travel has three important characteristics:

- It is individual with respect to the decision to undertake and continue on the journey.
- It is experimental with respect to the nature and prominent features of the journey.
- It is spiritual with respect to the habits of life it suggests to us.

Those qualities account for the strong emotional hold Masonry has had on the imaginations of men for over 250 years. Let us look at each of those qualities.

An Individual Decision

Almost every man I know wants to be his own man with

his own identity and his own values and believes that he must arrive at those values in his own individual way. This idea is familiar to Masons.

At the outset, Masonry demands that every man's relationship with God be respected. Further, we believe we all come to Masonry as equals, on the level, just as we come into this world without moral blemish or defect, as square, level and plumb as a perfect ashlar.

But this is a rough and tumble world. We take some hard knocks and acquire some rough edges. We pick up habits and patterns of thought that do not reflect our better nature. We Masons refer to those habits and patterns of thought as "the vices and superfluities of life."

At some point along the way most men see the need to make an adjustment, to get themselves squared away. This is an individual decision. It has to be made of a man's own free will and accord. In fact, during our Degrees a candidate is asked repeatedly if his progress in Masonry is of his own free will and accord.

We, who are Masons, come to understand we are voluntarily trying to regain that which is lost and that every step along the way has to be of our own free will and accord.

Indeed, the whole purpose of Masonry is to help us get back from the condition of the rough ashlar to the condition of the perfect ashlar.

The distance between the two in most Lodges is only about six feet, but the distance is not measured in feet. It is measured in acquired wisdom, a wisdom that has to be arrived at freely and individually.

In each of our three Degrees five separate things are going on simultaneously: A candidate is being obligated. A story is being told. Symbols are being taught. An allegory is being developed, and a philosophy of life is being subtly suggested. One might ask, "Why go through all of this? There must be a simpler way. Why not just have someone get up and explain it like it is?" The answer is simple.

Educators are just now discovering what Masons have long known: We all learn in different ways and at different speeds. When in the course of our Degree journey we present these five strands in the form of prose, poetry, prayer, monologue, dialogue, symbol and movement, the candidate has the opportunity to observe the interaction among those strands and absorb the principles they suggest in his own individual way and as seems most meaningful to him individually.

Masonry honors and respects a man who is his own man, a man who maintains his own individuality and who nourishes and guards his own values in his own way.

A Personal Experience

Almost every man I know believes his personal values are and must be the product of his own experience. As we

look back, we realize it is from our life experiences that we learn the most.

Many young people today have taken an interest in eastern religions and with the cultures of primitive peoples as they search for experiences which will contribute wisdom and meaning to their own lives. Surprisingly, this opens up another opportunity for Masonry because our Degree journey contains experiences that are, as we know, a source of great wisdom. Each of our Degrees has a pattern, a progression and a purpose. Taken together, they have an overall pattern, progression and purpose.

Our Masonic communications, or meetings, are quite different from the everyday things people normally experience. Each of our Degrees has a different purpose, but they follow a similar pattern.

First, we very consciously close out the noise and haste of the outside world. We settle down. We do this slowly by following a 6 to 8 minute opening ceremony with which we are familiar. When we complete that ceremony, we are focused. We are centered.

Next, we encounter a story. It is really two stories or legends. The first is the story of the stonemason on his life journey which each candidate, which each Mason symbolically takes. The second story or legend is of the building of King Solomon's Temple. Those two legends come together in the 3rd Degree.

As we proceed further we begin using a new language, the language of symbols. Many Lodges have framed charts hanging on the wall. An experienced Mason does not just see and recognize those symbols. He can actually read them and in reading them he understands the story and lessons of the Degree they illustrate.

Beyond the legend and symbols, we discover that there is another story, a second story, a story within a story. We begin to understand that our legends themselves are allegories and have double meanings.

From that discovery, we can go further and begin to discern the outline of a Masonic philosophy, a philosophy characterized by toleration, respect, self-discipline, help and trust. Most of us, when we get to that point discover that this philosophy fits our needs and the components of our life so perfectly that we feel we must have had it once and lost it. We feel it is what we have been seeking - not to find as much as to recover.

Finally, having achieved this point, we slowly retreat. In fact our closing charge tells us, "We are about to quit this sacred retreat of friendship and virtue." We retreat back through our closing ceremony and formally close our Lodge.

After the Lodge is closed, we repair to the kitchen or dining room. We joke and laugh and chat about the cares and expectations of daily life. We have returned to the world of the present. But for a few moments, we have journeyed together to a place very close to the center of whom we are, individually of whom we want to be and of what we want to become.

The Masonic Degree journey is experiential. Anyone can read almost all of the Degree work, patching together the exposes and plain English texts from other jurisdictions. There is very little a non-Mason cannot know or find out, but that knowledge alone will not make him a Mason. What makes him a Mason is the experiential quality of the Degree journey.

A Spiritual Discipline

Almost every person I know, church-going or not, believes he or she has a higher spiritual side that is just as valid as anyone else's. Spirituality involves nurturing the very best that is within us, better enabling us to live out our professed beliefs. This nurturing is best accomplished by consciously following a personal discipline. Such disciplines in different forms are associated with many belief systems.

I recently read a short book, *Zen for Christians*. It referred to "the Eightfold Path to Liberation from Suffering," what we might call ways to deal with the challenges of this world. The eight paths or disciplines were divided into three groups: three, three and two. I read them carefully and was astonished to find that the three groups corresponded precisely to the themes of our three Degrees, themes more universal than we suspect.

Masonry offers two kinds of discipline. There is the organizational discipline as reflected in the three obligations. Those obligations define a Mason's responsibilities to Brother Masons and to the Fraternity as a whole. The Fraternity has administrative procedures to deal with the failure to comply with those obligations.

Masonry also offers a spiritual discipline consisting of voluntary and personal duties enforceable only by our own consciences. Remembering to invoke the blessing of Deity before any great and important undertaking is a spiritual discipline.

Consciously trying in our daily lives to follow the tenets of our profession (brotherly love, relief and truth), to be mindful of the theological virtues (faith, hope and charity), to practice the four cardinal virtues (temperance, fortitude, prudence and justice) is a spiritual discipline.

Working daily to develop the habit of subduing the passions, acting upon the square, keeping a tongue of good report, maintaining secrecy and promoting charity is a spiritual discipline.

Taking time from busy lives to view with reverence and admiration the glorious work of the creation and to be inspired with the most exalted ideas of the perfection of our Divine Creator is a spiritual discipline.

Very consciously going out of our way to serve a worthy Brother, remembering him in our devotions to Deity, keeping his secrets as our own, stretching forth a helping hand, protecting his character, guarding his good name and giving him timely notice is also a spiritual discipline.

Finally, living a life faithful to all our obligations to God, our neighbors and ourselves, the great lesson of the sublime

degree, Masonry's crowning spiritual discipline.

These are the disciplines of a Mason. These are the things we are taught we must do to become living stones for that spiritual building, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. The discipline of consciously remembering these duties as a daily habit and trying to act on each one of them does not, of course, make one a better person. If does, however, put a person in a frame of mind where it is possible for him to become a better person.

Masonry holds that these disciplines are best taught, exemplified and reinforced in the company of and with the support of men on a similar journey, committed to a similar effort in their own lives.

The Masonic rite of passage, the Degree journey is individual in that each man must embark on it of his own free will and accord. It is experiential in that we believe it is learned by Degrees. It is spiritual in that it holds out to every man the possibility of strengthening his own character.

The first purpose of every Lodge is to provide a man with that rite of passage and to help him on this journey to the end that he may become a better man.

Then, when he has arrived at the ability to see the ideal that the journey presents to him and has made a commitment to live consistent with that ideal, to stand and walk and think and talk as a just and upright Mason, he is accepted into a brotherhood as an equal, a fellow traveler on a journey from darkness to light. In that moment of acceptance, the mystic tie is extended and renewed. *

Caldron

Continued from Page 19

Many thanks to Merline Bueg for all her planning and organizing a wonderful party and to her helper, Cecil Losinger, for making the beautiful favors and centerpieces. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a great one!

Dates to remember

March 10th - Caldron meeting at 7:30 p.m. PMCO's Night

March 17th - Executive Committee, 7:30 p.m. at Unity Lodge in Spencerport, unless otherwise notified.

March 31st - Caldron make-up meeting at 7:30 p.m.

April 16th - Prophets and Ladies Card Party at 1:00 p.m., followed by a Smorgasbord from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. This will be open to one and all! The Card Party is free and includes refreshments and table prizes. The cost of the Smorgasbord dinner is \$7.50 per adult, \$3.75 per child 12 years and under. Come for a day of fun, food and fellowship and help us add to our 2006 Convention Fund. The Calling Committee will contact all members for food donations.

Get well wishes

Our wishes and prayers to all who have been ill, especially Jean Wood, who was hospitalized for heart by-pass surgery; Chris Eeckhout, who is still recovering from knee surgery; Jay Riggs is improving daily; Bob Bueg is doing well and feeling better and Doris and Mike Bell are both improving daily and keeping active. *

Haggai Chapter Awards
(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. David A. Anderson

In addition to his teaching positions, Dr. Anderson has been the Administrator of continuing, community, and parent education programs at the Rochester City School District. He was Deputy Executive Director of the Urban League of Rochester, and before that was the Associate Director of Action For a Better Community, Inc.

A selected list of his performances include: 2004 performance as Frederick Douglass, for the Spring Grove, PA, Historical Commission's commemoration of the 1854 Anti-Slavery Convention; the title role in "Frederick Douglass, Here and Now," a 1995 play commissioned for Rochester's commemoration of Douglass. In 1998, he made a cameo appearance in AKUA Productions premier of "The Origin of Life on Earth," a theater/dance production of his book by the same title. He has appeared annually, since 1996, as Civil War Veteran George Brown, in Landmark Society's "Walk-the-Walk: Encounters with African American Ancestors." He has participated in WGBH-Boston Public Radio's "Celebrating African American Storytelling" in 1998. In 1993, he presented "Africa to African American: Storytelling and Storybook," to African and African American librarians in Accra, Ghana, West Africa. He has been the featured storyteller at colleges, libraries, and schools in 19 States.

Some of Dr. Anderson's community service includes Chair-

man of the Rochester-Monroe County Freedom Trail Commission; Coach, Baden Street Settlement after school program for adolescents, creating statements on issues that impact their community; Secretary, Rochester Heritage Cemeteries Foundation; Co-Director, the 18th Annual National Black Story-telling Festival and Conference in 2000; Vice-President, United States Colored Troops Institute for Local History and Family Research, Inc. at Hartwick College, Oneonta, NY; Convener of the local annual Kwanza Celebration.

His publications include: *The Rebellion of Humans: An African Spiritual Journey*, 1994; *The Origin of Life on Earth: An African Creation Myth*, 1991, which won the "Coretta Scott King Award" (illustrations) of the American Library Association, 1993; "Outstanding Children's Book on Africa" in 1992 by the African Studies Association; and three other national honors. He also published *Kwanza: an Everyday Resource and Instructional Guide*, 1992.

Dr. Anderson has been the recipient of many awards: the Dr. Charles Terrell Lunsford Distinguished Service Award; Eli Rudin Second Half Hero Award; James Mamba McCuller Award for Excellence; Rochester Business Hall of Fame Award; Culture and Arts Award; and, Outstanding Contribution to the Arts Award.

He served in the United States Air Force from 1948 to 1954.

Dr. Anderson is married to Ruth J. Brown, and they are the parents of three children. x

G. Jean Howard

Wilson Commencement Park provides services through business units: Housing, Case Management, Community and Civic Engagement Services and Early Childhood Services. These services are provided to over 1800 single parents and children annually, who seek self-sufficiency and alternatives to welfare dependency.

From 1980 to 1990, Ms. Howard was the Director of Residential, Adult, and Clinical Services for the United Cerebral Palsy Association of the Rochester Area, Inc. Before that, she was a Clinic Coordinator at Hutzel Hospital/Detroit Maternal and Infant Care Program, Detroit, MI. In addition, she was the project manager for Well-Being Services for the Aging in Detroit. Previously she was the Adult Program Director at the YWCA in Springfield, MA.

Ms. Howard has been the keynote speaker at several events between 2000 and 2004: Bennett College Annual Alumnae Convocation Service; Rochester Institute of Technology President's Breakfast; Council of Foundations; Chautauqua Institution; University of Rochester Janice Lynn Cohen Memorial Symposium; Rochester's Downtown Community Forum; Rotary Club of Rochester; and, the National Association of Federal Credit Unions.

Awards

Her Honors and achievements include: Center for Civic Entrepreneurship; nominee for Athena Award; member of the Search Committee for the

Monroe County Commissioner for Health and Human Services; Chairperson, Athena Award Selection Committee; Hattie Harris Foundation "Citizen of the Year" Award; *Eve Magazine* feature story; March of Dimes "Mother of the Year" Award; Chairperson, United Way of Greater Rochester Area Nominating Committee; Search Committee for President and Chief Executive Officer of the Visiting Nurse Service; Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Advisory Council; the Community Choice Housing Advisory Committee; Women of Valor Award Recipient, American Diabetes Association; Director's Award, Greater Rochester Association of Women Attorneys; and many others.

In addition, Ms. Howard is currently serving on the following Board of Trustee/Directors: Pluta Family Cancer Center Foundation; McQuaid Jesuit High School; Center for Governmental Research, Executive Committee and Chair of the Nominating Committee; Chair of Monroe Community College Personnel and Programs Committee; Rochester Business Alliance; Energy East Corporation; Key Bank Advisory Board; Bergman Associates; Rochester Chapter of Links, Inc., Executive Committee; GEVA Theatre; Community Choice Housing Advisory Board; and Chair, Monroe County Mental Health Board. She has been a Member of the Board of numerous other organizations.

Ms. Howard is the mother of three young adults. x

New Exhibition

The Initiated Eye: Secrets, Symbols, Freemasonry, and the Architecture of Washington, DC

What do the international best-selling novel *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, the current hit movie *National Treasure*, starring Nicholas Cage, and the upcoming Octagon exhibition *The Initiated Eye* have in common? All three reveal the little known contribution of Freemasonry to American culture and history. In an unprecedented collaboration with the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia, and artist Peter Waddell, The Octagon, the Museum of The American Architectural Foundation is organizing an original exhibition focusing specifically on the interesting and significant contributions of Freemasons to the design and architecture of Washington, DC.

The tradition of Masonic architecture in the United States is grounded in a history far older than the establishment of this country. Many of this nation's founding fathers were themselves Freemasons and the Masonic stamp is visible throughout the city of Washington, DC, the surrounding metropolitan area, and the entire country.

Featuring 20 original paintings by history painter Peter Waddell complemented by original Masonic artifacts, the exhibition will tell the story of the city's design from a new perspective and shed light on the Masonic connections of many historic buildings in the nation's capital. The intention of the exhibition is to demystify the role that Freemasons have played in this nation's architectural history and to provide a different viewpoint of various historic events.

Original artifacts from the rich collections of the metropolitan area's Lodges, many never seen before by the public, will accompany the paintings. The three ritual silver cups used at the laying of the Washington Monument's cornerstone will be displayed with a colorful painting depicting that historic event. An exquisite Klismos-inspired chair designed by architect John Russell Pope for his architectural masterpiece, the House of the Temple on 16th Street, will be shown with a painting depicting the interior of that magnificent structure. A selection of Masonic ceremonial aprons, ranging from a plain white example to elaborate embroidered versions will also be featured. These paintings and objects will explain some of the secret symbols of Freemasonry and provide an understanding of how Masonic symbols were and are used as powerful symbols of this nation.

The exhibition opens to the public on May 18th and remains on view through December 31st. Extensive educational programming is planned to accompany the exhibition, including walking tours of area Lodges and Temples, musical performances, lectures and workshops.

Peter Waddell, well-known for his work as a history painter, has created several series of paintings that have served as the foundation for popular exhibitions at The Octagon, including most recently, *Inside the Temple of Liberty: 19th-Century Interiors of the U.S. Capitol Building (2002)*. A group of Masons is working closely with

Mr. Waddell to identify topics for the paintings and assist in the research necessary to ensure the accuracy of the work.

Freemasonry is one of the world's oldest and largest secular fraternal organizations, whose members are concerned with moral and spiritual values. Freemasonry dates to the Middle Ages as an organization for stone masons, very similar to other craft guilds. Implements of architectural craftsmen are used symbolically in the organization's system of instruction. Many American architects and builders have been and are Freemasons and the ceremonies of Freemasonry are still used at the dedication of the cornerstone of important buildings.

The Octagon, the museum of the American Architectural Foundation (AAF), is a nationally recognized museum of architecture and design located two blocks from the White House. One of Washington, DC's earliest residences, the building is a National Historic Landmark (1960) and is accredited by the American Association of Museums (1973). The Octagon's mission is to educate the public about architecture, design, historic preservation and stewardship of our architectural heritage. These goals are accomplished through on-site exhibitions, traveling exhibitions, collections and a wide variety of creative public programs.

Contact: Sherry Birk,
(202) 626-7575;
sbirk@theoctagon.org.

THE OCTAGON
1799 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20006 x

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!
By Tom Michielsen

The wearing O' the Green is prevalent and I see Leprechauns everywhere. Even the streets are putting on the green. The aroma of corn beef and cabbage is in the air.

Beginning January 1, 2005, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (including vans, pickups, or panel trucks) is:

- 40.5 cents a mile for all business miles driven, up from 37.5 cents a mile in 2004.

- 17 cents a mile for computing depreciation when the standard mileage rate is used.

- 15 cents a mile when computing deductible medical or moving expenses.

- 14 cents a mile when giving services to a charitable organization.

The Internal Revenue Service has certified the model year 2005 Ford Escape as being eligible for the clean-burning fuel deduction. The certification means taxpayers who purchase this vehicle new may claim a tax deduction of \$2,000 on Form 1040.

Under the recently signed Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004, the clean-burning fuel deduction is up to \$2,000 for certified vehicles first put into service in 2004 and 2005. The deduction will be limited to \$500 for vehicles placed in service in 2006, and no deduction will be allowed after that year.

The one-time deduction must be taken in the year the vehicle is originally used, and the taxpayer must be the original owner. Individuals take this benefit as an adjustment to income on Form 1040.

Tax year 2004 (W-2's due in calendar year 2005) will be the last year Social Security accepts W-2 reports by magnetic tapes and cartridges. After that, electronic reports need to be filed using our Business Services Online (BSO).

On January 7, 2005, the Internal Revenue Service announced a liberalization of the rule for interest owed on additional taxes voluntarily reported by taxpayers.

Section 6404(g) suspends interest accrual for individuals on taxes due if the IRS does not notify a taxpayer of the potential liability within 18 months after the filing of the return. This interest suspension then continues until 21 days after the IRS notifies the taxpayer of additional taxes due. Previously, this rule was applied only where the additional taxes were found by the IRS. Now, Revenue Ruling 2005-4 extends the scope of section 6404(g) to additional taxes voluntarily reported by taxpayers on amended returns or in correspondence to the IRS. Further, to allow taxpayers to benefit from these expanded rules for earlier years, the ruling applies to amended returns or correspondence submitted for tax years

ending after July 22, 1998, which is the date section 6404(g) was enacted.

Please be cautious when selecting someone to prepare your tax returns. As the April 15th filing deadline approaches, scam artists ply their trade by promising deductions and refunds to taxpayers who may not be eligible. These claims are often backed by misleading interpretations of the Tax Law or with fraudulent documentation.

Taxpayer due dates

March 15th - February Payroll Taxes

March 15th - Corporate Tax Returns

March 20th - December thru February Sales Tax Returns

March 20th - Annual Sales Tax Returns

March 31st - Electronic W2's and 1099's must be forwarded

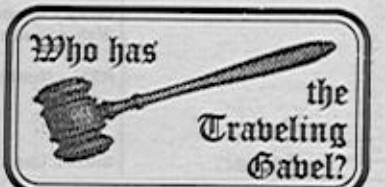
April 15th - March Payroll Taxes

April 15th - Individual Tax Returns

April 15th - Federal First Quarter Estimated Taxes for Corporations

April 15th - Federal and State First Quarter Estimated Taxes for Individuals

If you have any tax questions, please forward them to: tmichie1@rochester.rr.com. x



Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

- April**
 8, 9, 10 Shrine Circus
 30 Haggai Chapter's Community Award
 Rick's Prime Rib House
- May**
 2, 3 224th Grand Lodge Communication
 15 Dedication of Unity Lodge
 M.:W.: Edward Trosin presiding
 20 Shrine Duffers' Tournament
 21 Potentate's Ball
- June**
 22 Masonic Service Bureau's Scholarship
 and Charities Awards, Shrine Center
- September**
 10 Widows Luncheon
 Logan's Party House
- October**
 16 Interfaith Service and Brunch
 Logan's Party House

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

Publication and Public Relations Committees holding April Seminar

Saturday, April 9th, is the date of the next seminar at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory Auditorium on the campus of the Masonic Care Community in Utica. R.:W.: Ronald N. Bower, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Publications Committee, and R.:W.: Ron Steiner, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Public Relations Committee, have lined up an interesting array of speakers.

Those individuals expected to make presentations include: Gilbert Adams, Trustee, Masonic Hall & Home; Clarence

Eckhoff, Chairman, Child ID; Ira Cooperman, Director of Development, Masonic Care Community; Cindy Dardano, Retirement Counselor, Acacia Village; and Ronald Kamp, Director of Development, Masonic Medical Research Laboratory.

Everyone is welcome. A light breakfast and lunch are included. For information or to make reservations, contact Brother Ronald Bower, (716) 434-4946. You can email him at: RonNBower@aol.com. ✕

Remember the Brotherhood Fund

Wayne District OES Spaghetti Dinner

Friday, April 8th
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Marion Masonic Temple
Adults: \$6.00 Children: \$3.00

For more information
(315) 986-717

Classified
For Sale: Player Piano, Haines upright, early 1900s, with rolls. Lots of fun! Nice mechanical condition, minor cosmetic repairs and light tune-up needed. Delivery available. Came from a Rochester Masonic Lodge. Accepting any offers. Call Brother Bob Kimmel - 544-5964.

Phillip R. Hurwitz
 Attorney and Counselor at Law
 585.720.9653
 72 Long Pond Road, Rochester, NY 14612-1107
 www.frontiernet.net/~phurwitz phurwitz@frontiernet.net

Diamonds - Gems Doerrers Jewelers Jewelry Repair
 (585) 232-4874
 Silverware 1100 Temple Building Special Order Work
 (Opposite the Liberty Pole)
 Masonic Jewelry 14 Franklin Street Competitive Prices
 Warren Doerrer

Deadline for the Masonic Times

BIG CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2005

Gem - Aquamarine
Flower - Jonquil

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Oakland - Castile - 2* OES - Fairport, Nolatka, Tri-Star - Palmyra, Webster	2 Attica Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy Damascus Shrine OES - Henrietta, Monroe	3 Constellation - Perry Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster	4 Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 6-7 p.m. \$6 adult; \$3 Child 30 Orchard Street Wayne Lodge Fish Fry Grand Chapter RAM - Albany	5 OES - Rochester Chapter - Unity - Spencerport Daughters of the Nile, Zama Temple - Fairport YOSHI - Shrine Center Grand Chapter RAM - Albany
6 Attica Lodge Pancake Breakfast Clio Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Weds. March 9th & 23rd East Avenue, Hilton	7 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg RAM - Palmyra/Eagle OES - Irondequoit KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford Shrine Lunch Club	8 Arcade Batavia Fame - Irondequoit - 3* Seneca - Webster Valley-Simes (OV) RAM - Dansville, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton	9 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	10 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram - MMM* & PM* KT - Batavia Commandery Lalla Rookh Caldron	11 Wayne Lodge Fish Fry	12 York Rite College - Palmyra OSY Association - Milnor Lodge
13 Traveling Gavel	14 ERAC - Shrine Center Fairport/Flower City - 2* Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls Unity - Spencerport Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield Shrine Lunch Club	15 Clio - Hilton - 2* Craftsman Robertson (OV) Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Oakland - Castile OES - Nolatka, Tri-Star - Palmyra, Webster	16 Attica Ark - Geneva - 1* Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy RSM - Doric Council, Pittsford - RM* Lalla Rookh Grotto OES - Leah Chapter - Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner, Hilton	17 Constellation - Perry Eunice - Caledonia Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps, BBAF Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford - 2* Webster - 3* Scottish Rite - 4* RAM - Western Star St. Patrick's Day	18 Wayne Lodge Fish Fry	19 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps, Inspection Joey & Maria's 25th Anniversary, Shrine Center
20 Leah Chapter Breakfast Buffet 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 287 East Avenue, Hilton Palm Sunday First Day of Spring	21 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford OES - Irondequoit Shrine Lunch Club - Ladies Day	22 Arcade Batavia - 2* Fame - Irondequoit Valley-Simes RAM - Dansville, LeRoy, Wyoming OES - Leah - Hilton	23 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville - 2* Triluminar - Pike Tall Cedars of Lebanon OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	24 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery	25 Wayne Lodge Fish Fry Purim Good Friday	26
27 Easter	28 ERAC - Shrine Center Fairport/Flower City - 3* Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls Unity - Spencerport - 2* Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RSM - Nundawaga Council - SM* Shrine Lunch Club	29	30	31 MON - School of Ritual - Place to be announced Lalla Rookh Caldron - Make-up meeting		