



# Masonic Times

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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

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[www.monroemasonic.com](http://www.monroemasonic.com)

## The website is updated!

By R.: W.: Jay McCullough

The Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester assumed control of the [monroemasonic.com](http://monroemasonic.com) website at the end of March, 2005. Responsibility for all aspects of the site has been placed in the hands of the Editorial Board of the Service Bureau. The current members of the Editorial Board are Brothers Andrew Tascione, Anthony Marotti, Skip Waterstreet and Jay McCullough.

One mission of the Editorial Board is to serve Lodges, Concordant, Related and Allied Bodies with a website that showcases their information. Board members are responsible for website maintenance and future development.

The principals who pioneered [monroemasonic.com](http://monroemasonic.com), with R.: W.: William Lindsay as the coordinating District Deputy Grand Master in the Monroe area, are Brothers RJ Muto who positioned the website online, and Pedro Ugalde who mastered input, along with John Dyer who also created attractive graphics. We salute each of them for the time, talent and treasure they invested in this undertaking.

The Masters and Wardens Association had been the central unit when Internet action first developed in the Monroe District. A Masonic Service Bureau link was added. Annual changes, which are natural to the Masters and Wardens group, slowed maintenance of an ongoing technical profile where revisions and updates of online information could occur on a frequent basis. It became evident that to be dynamic, the site had to be maintained where there would be

organizational and staff continuity to collect data from all Masonic bodies in the community and put it online for the enlightenment of all interested parties.

Since the Service Bureau is viewed as "the hub of Masonic information" in our community, with a long history of service, it appeared to be the logical unit to meet the challenge of R.: W.: Rich Friedman who recently stated, "I've always wanted a great website for the District: go!"

When you visit the site you will find important information about local Masonry. It is essential that the information on the site be kept current so that online visitors are able to get an accurate glimpse of local Masonry.

The immediate goal of the Service Bureau Editorial Board is to bring the information presented on the site up-to-date. To help accomplish this goal the Service Bureau will be sending a letter to each Lodge, Concordant and Allied group asking for the assignment of a correspondent responsible for keeping their website information current.

There are a number of significant challenges in what to place on the Internet site that will be in harmony with Grand Lodge website regulations. An objective is to make this site the "go-to" place in reference to local Masonry. Imagine having a Masonic directory online! Or, a calendar of Masonic activities that take place throughout "our community!"

Look for more information to come on this communications tool.

## What We Need!

By Skip Waterstreet



W.: George Nasra, Master of ERAC Lodge No. 163 (front), poses for a picture following the raising of his recent class of eight new Master Masons

In the photo above are pictured the eight new Master Masons who were raised by ERAC Lodge last month. Wonderful! This is what the Fraternity needs, Brothers...an infusion of new members. Wouldn't it be terrific if every one of the fourteen Lodges in the District could achieve that success? The candidates are out there! It now takes more effort to locate them than it did years ago.

Earlier this year, Unity Lodge raised a full class. I have been

promised a picture for next month's issue of their class raised on April 25th. Six Brothers were expected for the conferral of the 3rd Degree.

Other Lodges are having Degrees and adding Masons to their membership, but I haven't heard reports of classes as represented above. Most of our local Lodges have declining numbers, as their Brothers join the Celestial Lodge, and replacements are not rushing to join.

If there is a new magical formula used by these successful

Lodges to obtain candidates, perhaps they can share it with everyone. I know many Lodges and other organizations who would like to find the secret to increasing their roster numbers and, more specifically, acquire enthusiastic and active members to participate in their meetings and functions.

Meanwhile, we congratulate the Brothers of ERAC and Unity Lodges, and wish them continued success.

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*United Way Campaign*

for 2005 has begun. Please consider the *Masonic Service Bureau* as the recipient of your contributions. You may do this by asking your Campaign representative to provide you with a Donor Card on which you may designate our Donor Number.

*Donor Choice Number 1060*



Through the efforts of Jim Ghent, Camp DeMolay played host to Robert Remillard on April 19th. Robert is with United States Department of Agriculture. Camp DeMolay may qualify for a Federal Grant to assist in soil conservation and erosion prevention. Next we expect a visit from an engineer to survey the property, report on the existing conditions, and determine how further damage might be prevented. We'll let you know!

### Wish List

By R.: W.: Richard Snyder

The following items are needed for Camp DeMolay. We will publish this list frequently, as new projects and requests are made, so anyone able and/or willing to make a contribution will know what is needed:

- Ongoing: Several volunteers to help clean and maintain the Camp throughout the season.
- 25 sheets of 4' x 8' plywood.

- 20 rolls of paper faced 3-1/2" insulation for bunk houses.
- 2 pneumatic nailers.
- Chain saws, in good condition, for removing dead trees and clearing brush.
- A stump grinder with operator for removing old stumps.
- A log splitter for a few weeks to split firewood.
- A replacement sliding glass door for Anderson Lodge, the main building.
- Donations to the Endowment Fund.

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Let me start right off with the bad news. The subscription price of the **Masonic Times** is increasing, effective with the January 2006 issue. I am officially informing you of this now, so budgets for the next year can include the necessary funds. The new rates will be \$8.00 per year for a group subscription; \$10.00 per year for an individual subscription; \$2.00 per year for Concordant or Affiliated Body members who already receive the **Masonic Times** through their Lodge.

It causes us great pain to make this announcement. Nothing is getting any cheaper. The postal rate increase next month will add to this year's deficit, and the expenses for the rest of our supplies are continually increasing.

David and I have tried to honor your requests and have published virtually all copy and advertisements for upcoming events that have been submitted. We must be doing something right! We have another 24-page issue, due to the volume of material we received. This costs more to print and mail, and I don't have the budget to do this on a regular basis. This is the third issue this Masonic year that has been this big. It will be necessary to make some policy changes, if our correspondents continue to submit lengthy manuscripts for publication.

We will not be able to continue as a forum for some to educate the membership on the mysteries of the Craft. It may become necessary to charge for ads promoting special occasions. We may have to eliminate the Organization box headings, in favor of straight text, to save space and keep the paper at the desired 20-page issue. I'm sure we will come up with other ideas along the way. These are not pleasant thoughts for us to ponder, considering our efforts to improve the appearance and readability of each issue.

We will try more fundraising events; maybe solicit Boosters; and we hope to have the *Enjoy the City* coupon books again and earlier this fall. Your support by purchasing these would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for reading.

It's May! The flowers are blooming and hearts are uplifted. There is much to do. On May 1st, if you know of someone who needs cheering up, take him/her a May basket. This is an old tradition and one that is always appreciated by the recipient. When you are doing some yard work, remember Camp DeMolay could also use a few hours of your time. Call Richard Snyder to make a date. When you come and work, you get fed. See ac-

companied article about the Camp.

We celebrate Mothers' Day and Memorial Day in May. Please take the time to remember all those who have helped you out and give thanks for what you have received.

When you read this, Bob and I will be on the final leg of our cruise through the Panama Canal and on to Vancouver. We are able to do this as his cancer is in partial remission, thanks not only to the doctors, but to all of you for your prayers and kindnesses. We are truly blessed.

May is also the month when the new Masters are elected and installed. I wish all of you the very best and hope that your dreams and plans are fulfilled. If the Masonic Service Bureau can ever be of help to you, be sure to call upon us.

Hope is not pretending that troubles don't exist. It is the trust that they will not last forever, that hurts will be healed and difficulties overcome. It is the faith that a source of strength and renewal lies within to lead us through the dark into the sunshine.

Elizabeth A. Chase

## Waterstreet Enters Hall of Fame

At the 2005 New York State USSSA Hall of Fame Dinner on April 2nd, Charles "Skip" Waterstreet was presented with the *Frank & Al Ciaccia Lifetime Achievement Award*. Held in Liverpool this year, there were eleven other recipients, including four from the Rochester area, who were inducted into other categories.

The United States Slo-Pitch Softball Association was created in 1968 to overcome difficulties many individuals encountered with the major softball association in the country. Rochesterians, the late Frank Ciaccia, and his brother, Al, were instrumental in the formation and success of the organization. Eight years ago, the group added programs in fast-pitch softball, baseball, basketball and golf, and changed its name to the United States Specialty Sports Association. Currently in the neighborhood of 100,000 registered teams, participants engage in bowling, fast ball, flag football, karate, lacrosse, soccer, taekwon do and volleyball, in addition to those mentioned above.

Waterstreet began officiating basketball in the YMCA program in Amsterdam, New York, while in high school. Years later, after playing and coaching teams (including teams whose rosters included his wife and daughter), he joined the Metropolitan Umpires Association in Rochester. There he served terms as Secretary, Assignor and President.

When the Sports Officials of the Rochester Area (SORA) was formed in 1990, Skip became a



Skip Waterstreet shows his Lifetime Achievement Award

Charter Member. Serving terms as Secretary, Assignor and At-Large Board member, he was a leader in transforming the new organization into one of the largest officials groups in the Rochester area. He rewrote the groups' constitution and created the league rules' matrix, which has become an important part of the training process and is used by all umpires to understand the differences in rules used by the multiple leagues serviced by SORA.

For several years he traveled to softball tournaments in Georgia, Maryland and Florida, as well as within New York State. In 2002, Skip umpired in the Divisional Tournament in Glen Burnie, MD, and in 2003, the World Tournament at Disney's Wide World of Sports in Orlando.

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about hospice care and you would like to arrange a program for one of your meetings, contact **Ed Rosen** at 377-3513. When you speak with him, please reference the Masonic Service Bureau, so he will know why you have the interest and how you obtained his name.

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## ZAMA TEMPLE No. 14

### DAUGHTERS OF THE NILE

# CARD PARTY

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Dinner  
 Baked Ziti, Garden Salad  
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Reservations by April 22nd to Debi Burke  
 58 Bancroft Drive, Rochester, NY 14616

# Happy Mother's Day

By Norman Austin

Here we are in May already. This is the month during which flowers are supposed to bloom in response to the showers of the previous month of April. This is also the month during which we honor the individual to whom most of us owe a huge debt of gratitude, not only for who we are, but for our very being—our Mothers. My mother, unfortunately, "took off" when I was five, and I never saw her again. Having been raised in a series of foster homes, I often dreamed of what it would be like to be a part of a "real" family, as portrayed on such period television shows as "The Adventures

of Ozzie and Harriett," "Leave It to Beaver," "The Donna Reed Show," or "Father Knows Best." Although this was not to be, I guess I do owe the woman some degree of thanks for my being here today, and for her first five years of nurturing, I'm sure I was a "handful."

Little girls, it is said, are made of sugar and spice and everything nice. By the time all the sugar and spice have worn off, they become mothers and all they have left is everything nice, but that lasts forever.

Mothers cook, clean, wash, mend, dream, punish, wheedle, improvise, cajole, and

make things go twice as far as a man could. Children are what they read to, listen for, play with, watch over, think about, pray for, worry with, do without because of, and brag to the neighbors about. A bobby pin and gummed tape are Mother's kit of tools; intuition is her college degree; and a new hat or outfit is her Declaration of Independence.

All mothers, from the Arctic Circle to the Equator, have the reputation of being wonderful cooks. The older we become, the more convinced we are that nobody anywhere can make quite as good an apple pie (or jerked walrus goulash) as Mother.

Mothers are patient souls. Lucky for most of us that a mother's heart is as boundless

as the universe itself. Anyone else would have scrubbed our ears, dressed us in our Sunday best, and sent us packing to the nearest orphans' home after the first two or three years of trying to convert a small savage into a civilized boy or girl (mine, at least waited a little longer than that.)


All mothers are beautiful when they are young—remember? Then as the years turn into decades, Mother meets another man besides Dad, and this man is Old Father Time. Her fresh beauty changes after she and Old Father Time get to be good friends. There are little cut lines on her thumb made by the paring knife and Winter winds roughen her cheeks when she hangs out the clothes. She doesn't carry the

grocery bags as jauntily as when we were skipping along by her side. And her eyes, once dancing, are tired because they have seen so many, many things.

Then one day Mother looks into the mirror and says to herself, "I am no longer pretty," and it is a sad and lonely day. Mother is seldom wrong, but she is wrong this time. The beauty of most mothers is as indestructible as Faith, Hope and Love because most mothers are all these things and a very great deal more. If you are fortunate enough to still have your mother, be sure to give her a hug; if your mother is no longer with you, send her a prayer of thanks.

Happy Mother's Day! ✕

**Your Legal Rights FYI**  
By Bro. Phillip Hurwitz, Esq.



Having become effective November 18, 2004, it may now cost you even more if you are pulled over for a traffic violation.

Traffic infractions can incur points which are assessed to an operator's license by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). For example, going 15 mph over the speed limit will result in a 4 point assessment; failure to use turn-signals, 2 points; going through a stop sign, 3 points. The laundry list on how to commit a traffic infraction is stunning in its scope.

A driver who earns 18 or more points within an 18-month period is at risk of having his/her license suspended (temporary loss) or revoked (permanent loss). For those of you nearing this threshold, I recommend enrolling in a defensive driving course (AAA offers them). Successful completion will result in subtraction of up to 4 points from your license.

As the title suggests, "another hidden tax." Here's what happens. If you are assessed 6 points or more within a 18 month period, the DMV will impose a driver responsibility assessment, as a condition of maintaining driving privileges. DMV will impose a \$100 assessment per year for a three-year period (total=\$300) for the first 6 points. For each additional point over 6, DMV will assess an additional \$25 per year.

If convicted of driving while intoxicated, or ability impaired by drugs or alcohol, the assessment is even steeper. DMV will impose a \$750 driver responsibility assessment, which can be paid in three annual installments of \$250. This assessment also applies if you are pulled over, but refuse to take a breath test. This type of assessment also applies to boating or snowmobiling while intoxicated. Non-payment of this driver responsibility assessment will result in a mandatory license suspension until the assessment is paid. While I still recommend a defensive driving course, taking the course will not cancel out any assessments that were imposed by DMV; only the points can be cancelled. ✕

## Child ID Program May 21st



By Harrison F. Parson, Jr.

First of all, a big thank you to John Dyer for his four years as leader of the Monroe District Child ID Program. Now John may pursue other endeavors in Masonry.

National Child ID Day is May 21st, and the Grand Master has called upon all of New York State to be involved. Our District will comply but, as this is written, the location is to be determined. We hope to secure a location by May 1st, and

will notify all Masters as soon as we know.

Right now, DeMolay and Triangle, as well as Masons, will be involved in this Child ID Program in Monroe District. If members of the Order of Eastern Star also want to participate, they are most welcome...the more the merrier! The DeMolay and Triangle youth will be involved with individual registration and reviewing. The Masons and Eastern Stars will do the videotaping. We will have two camera setups and one reviewing station. A fingerprinting station will be handled by Law Enforcement Personnel.

With your help, we can have a successful Child ID Program. Every one of you should make an effort to be involved in this event. It can be a fun time. I have a real sense of satisfaction with the Child ID Program because I know it helps Law Enforcement personnel in the search effort, should a child become missing. Please contact me for more information. ✕

## Kate Zabel Runs for Learning Center

Monday, April 18th was the 109th Boston Marathon. The 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Children had 15 sponsored runners in the race. One of the runners was Kate Zabel, the daughter John Zabel, 1st Lieutenant Commander of the Valley of Rochester.

Kate is an avid runner and trained from December for the Boston Marathon. Each sponsored runner was requested to raise a minimum of \$5000 for the Learning Center. With the assistance of Brother G. Michael Morris and the support of the Scottish Rite Masons of the Valley of Rochester, over \$8000 was pledged. More money was raised in Kate's name than any other runner.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts held a banquet on Saturday, April 16th, for all the Learning Center runners and their families. The banquet was in the Grand Master's Ball Room of the Grand Lodge building in downtown Boston. This presented the runners with an opportunity to meet and socialize with each other.

Kate finished the race in 4:32:36, placing 3223 in her division. Her running pace for the entire race was 0:10:24 per mile. She was exhausted at the finish but had a great time and enjoyed the whole experience.

Sheryl Zabel, Kate's mother, along with John were at the race to witness her performance. It was a great day for the race. ✕

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David P. Crawford

**District Deputy  
Grand Master  
Livingston District**



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

**Grand  
Sword Bearer  
Livingston**



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

for their work and dedication to the Child ID Program.



R.: W.: James Sullivan, Senior Grand Warden and featured speaker, poses with DeWitt Clinton Award winner, Phyllis Applin, and R.: W.: Roy Moses, DDGM.

R.: W.: James Sullivan, Senior Grand Warden, and his wife, Gail, made a great contribution to the program with his fantastic speaking ability and composure. He is a credit to Grand Lodge! Thank you, R.: W.: Jim!

I would especially like to thank Brother Rick LaFave from Eunice Lodge for his expertise and contribution to the night; to Carol Howlett for her contributions making and handing out the flowers and the centerpieces and to W.: John Gallant for his fantastic MC ability.

The annual communication is finally all arranged and I hope that we all will have a good time and learn a lot more from Grand Lodge. The Communion Breakfast is on May 15th, and tickets are being sold now and with the Grand Master, M.: W.: Edward Trosin, being the guest speaker, I hope that we will be sold out to show him the respect and support of the Livingston District! If you need any information please contact R.: W.: Roy Moses, R.: W.: Robert Ossont, V.: W.: Rick Howe, W.: John Gallant, or myself.

It was my pleasure to accompany V.: W.: Rick Howe on his Official Visits to the Lodges as Assistant Grand Lecturer. We completed his tour at Avon, April 7th. The Lodges all did very well! I learned a lot this year from these tours. Thank you, V.: W.: Rick.


The Degree work was finished with Geneseo/Eunice on April 14th at Geneseo and on April 23rd at Nunda Station. They were all very impressive and a lot of fun!

**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

**Congratulations**  
I congratulate the newest Master Masons at Geneseo and Eunice Lodges. The Brothers from Union and I went to visit Geneseo and we had the privilege to watch as five Brothers from the two Lodges were raised to the Degree of Master Mason. The Lodge was packed, as there were Brothers from around the District who were

there to help and offer their support. The Degree work was conducted by the Shrine Degree Team and they did an excellent job.

I congratulate the winners of our local and regional youth talent shows the Livingston Masonic District held last month. The kids were wonderful and all the acts were very interesting. It always amazes me how talented our kids are and how fearless some of the younger performers are when they participate on stage.

**Grand Lodge**  
I will be going to New York City for my second visit to the Grand Lodge Communication in May. It will be very interesting to be surrounded by the sights and sounds of the City once again. This time I will be attending the Grand Master's Ball and the breakfasts. I am looking forward to seeing all the Brethren from around the State while I am there.

**Morgan Affair**  
At our first meeting in May we will have a guest speaker, R.: W.: Bill Zufall, who will be giving a presentation on the Morgan Affair. We will also be holding our elections that night. I hope everyone can join us that evening. For our last meeting, we will be having our Installation of Officers for the following Masonic year.

I thank all my Brothers at Union Lodge for making my two years as Master both enjoyable and memorable. I could not ask for a better group of friends and Brothers.


I wish the new Officers all the best for their year and I offer my continued support during their tenure.

**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



Things are progressing as we move towards the end of the year. We had a great Degree on April 14th at Geneseo. The dinner was wonderful, thank you to Brother LaFave for another terrific job. The Shriners put on quite a show and it was great to see such a full Lodge for the three Brothers who were raised that night. Congratulations to Brothers Troy Jeffers, Don Gallagher and Gus Kovalik. We are proud to have you join us and look forward to your contributions to a great Fraternity.

The Ladies Night at the Conesus Golf and Country Club was fun. Eunice was well represented with seven widows and 12 Brothers and their wives in attendance. It was great to see the ladies enjoying the evening. Each lady who attended received a corsage and all of the widows went home with a beautiful centerpiece (all created by my wife, Carol). The program included an Outstanding Service Award given by each Lodge. Our recipient was Brother LaFave, who also helped to set up the evening. Officer Phyllis Applin received the DeWitt Clinton

Award for her outstanding service to our District. Also in attendance was R.: W.: James Sullivan, who gave a superb keynote speech. Thanks to Brothers Derek Howlett and Floyd Manley, and Rick LaFave's wife, Eileen, for helping transport the ladies to and from the party.

The annual "Old Fashioned Days" was April 24th at Estes Farm. We have a couple of new community activities on tap for the next few months. We also want to increase our visibility in new ways. We will be working on the Nature Trail at McKay Park and will be collecting unworn hats for the "Hats From Home" program to send to our soldiers in the Middle East, showing that we support them and haven't forgotten them. There is a collection box in the Lodge, and we will be organizing a community collection day. I'm also thinking about contacting the school as well, to get as many people involved as possible and collect a large number of hats.

Brother Derek Howlett has planned another Card Night for May 19th. I'm sure he'll be looking to avenge his loss in Euchre to W.: Mel Hussey and R.: W.: Dick Trescott at the last card party. We're also thinking, since the Ladies Night was such a huge success, that we should have another function for our widows. The thought is that a luncheon in May or June would be nice. Brother Howlett has been putting together his line for next year.

We will be balloting on Officers at the May communication. Other Livingston District events are on tap as well. The Communion Breakfast will be on May 15th in Mount Morris and will be attended by the Grand Master and members of the Grand Line.

My final thoughts are on the end of the year. As Grand Lodge approaches, I have been trying to reflect upon the things that we have tried to do this year and what we have truly accomplished. I'm excited to attend my first Grand Lodge and grateful that I am sharing the experience with my brother, who has been behind me this entire year. I also have to thank those of you who have been around and helped to revitalize our Lodge. We wouldn't have been able to do as much as we have if you weren't here helping. As I was looking at the agenda for Grand Lodge and discussing with the group all of the potential changes that there could be, I had to feel a little melancholy about the changes we had hoped to make and didn't achieve. I know the wheels of change have begun to turn and we want to encourage you to climb aboard with us. We didn't get as many of you back as we wanted, but I am hoping that we can put aside whatever has kept us apart and begin building bridges to bring more of you back. I know Brother Howlett and his Officers want to continue on the same path and we all hope to see you along the way.

At the start of my term as DDGM, I asked the Masters of Livingston District to lead Masonry by example, and live to its divine teachings. In other words, to do outside the Lodge that which we are taught within. Freemasonry is where Masons know their duty to God, their country, family and to themselves. As Masons, that's just how we are supposed to live, because as Masons we are expected to act just a little bit better than the rest. I can rightfully say that these practices are doing very well in the Livingston District.

Our Ladies and Awards Night on April 2nd was a huge success. We had ten widows in attendance and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Brothers Mike Grady, Ron Baylor, Rick LaFave and R.: W.: Bob Ossont received Certificates of Recognition for outstanding work and time in aiding the Master this past year. Brothers Ray Ellis and Gene Flint accepted a Grand Lodge Award for the District Child ID Team for their outstanding efforts for the past year. We also honored Phyllis Applin with the DeWitt Clinton Award. A most worthy and deserving recipient. I thank the Committee of R.: W.:s Richard Trescott, Bob Ossont, W.: Dave Howlett, Brother Rick LaFave and W.: John Gallant for a very enjoyable evening and job well done.

**Reminder**  
The Communion Service and Breakfast is on May 15th. M.: W.: Edward Trosin will be our guest speaker. For details, contact R.: W.: Richard Trescott or me.

This year has been very busy for both R.: W.: Roy and me, and I have found the time to be extremely rewarding. We have traveled throughout the District, and felt the support and appreciation for the Ritual, fellowship and the Craft. Every Lodge in the District is doing a great job with all aspects of the Craft and I see the District growing with each meeting by the work and dedication of its Officers and the support of them by the Brothers!

The District Ladies Night, held on April 2nd at Conesus Golf Club, was an example of how we are pulling together, supporting our new Brothers, Officers, and Grand Line Officers, but especially the Ladies and widows of the District. We had 10 widows whom the Lodges brought to this event and they all had a good time. We honored them with recognition, flowers, and each widow took home a floral centerpiece. We awarded a DeWitt Clinton Award to Phyllis Applin, who has spent her life earning this Award through her selfless acts and dedication to the community!

We also recognized R.: W.: Robert Ossont, R.: W.: Ed Dickson, Brothers Ronald Baylor, Michael Grady and Rick LaFave for their dedication and contributions to the Lodge.

R.: W.: Gene Flint, Brother Ray Ellis, Phyllis Applin (the DeWitt Clinton recipient), R.: W.:s Robert Fisher, Eugene Hill and James Slocum (the Child ID Committee) accepted a Grand Lodge Award




Brother Ray Ellis, Phyllis Applin (DeWitt Clinton Award recipient), R.: W.: James Slocum, R.: W.: Robert Fisher and R.: W.: Eugene Hill (from left), accepted a Grand Lodge Award for their service to the Child ID Program. Absent from photo was R.: W.: Eugene Flint (Livingston District Child ID Committee).



Part of the crowd attending the Livingston Masonic District Ladies Night. (Photos courtesy of Richard Trescott)


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



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

**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

"A labor of love." We were a captive audience and enjoyed his program. Thank you very much, Bill.

A trip to the Masonic Care Community in Utica was a great experience and was enjoyed by Masons, families and friends. Our Trailways bus was filled to capacity. We were first introduced to a video presentation and discussion about the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory and its accomplishments over the years, recent developments, and future challenges. We toured Acacia Village and the new nursing care wing with its individual living quarters. Lunch was provided. A visit to a new spacious solarium with several tables, snack area, two movie screens, live vegetation, and birds gave a feeling of being in a natural and serene environment. The Chapel was very beautiful with its stained glass windows of Biblical themes. The tour ended with a visit to the Livingston Museum and a group picture.

Brother Bring-a-Friend Night was held on March 17th, with several prospective candidates. Following a Spaghetti Dinner, provided by Brothers George Landstrom and Ron Galens, the event included a video presentation, a number of topics related to the history of Masonry, charities and projects of the Lodge, and information related to membership.

**What do Masons do?**

Members of the Fraternity are often asked, "What do Masons do?" Sometimes, our answers are not very good, or the answers we give are not the best ones. In fact, they may give a cloudy picture of the Fraternity.

The answer is, we offer good men the opportunity to make good friends and help ourselves and others nourish our own value systems. Freemasonry is a very democratic institution. We regard no man for his worldly wealth or high honors. Masons are taught to look for the internal qualifications of a man's character and not his earthly riches. Looking for a man's quality character is a spiritual exercise, which calls again and again on the very best that is in us. We help each other to encourage and support our strengths and weaknesses in Lodge and the community. We help our Brothers who are ill, attend to the needs of surviving spouses, work beyond the Lodge and try to be a positive force in our communities, and pay respect to our young people. We try to nourish our value system through conferment of our Degrees, which reflect very definite moral and ethical philosophies. We listen to the tenets of brotherly love, relief, charity and truth, and reflect on their significance. This is an exercise that nourishes the best within us. So, when someone asks you, "What do Masons do?", you will be able to tell them what Masonry has to offer.

**Sickness and distress**

We report that Brother Paul McIntyre has had minor surgery, Brother Gary Clock is looking for improvement, and Brother David Roll is enduring much discomfort.

**May**

Put the following dates on your calendar. May 3rd is Move-up Night.

May 9th will be our annual Blood Drive to be held at the Phelps Community Center from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.

May 14th the Lodge will have a Pork Chop Bar-B-Que from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. with proceeds supporting youth activities.

May 15th will be the District Memorial Service at 2:00 p.m. at the Farmington Methodist Church on Route 332, South of Route 96.

May 17th will be our annual election of Officers.

A special note from the Secretary's desk. Brother Todd Ruggles has been deployed to Afghanistan and would certainly appreciate letters from his Brothers. His address is:

Todd Ruggles  
HHC 2-503  
APO AE 09355

Happy May Birthdays to Brothers:


- |                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| David Retchless | 5th  |
| John Davis      | 10th |
| William Walp    | 15th |
| Gordon Campbell | 20th |
| Dale Gelder     | 22nd |
| William Smith   | 22nd |

**Brothers raised in May**

- |                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| James Allen       | 5/19/93 |
| Bruce Andrews     | 5/26/77 |
| Robert Bird       | 5/14/70 |
| Ernest Bishop     | 5/22/86 |
| Harold Bond       | 5/23/68 |
| Ranse Brooks      | 5/27/71 |
| Garry Clock       | 5/19/81 |
| Gary Curtiss      | 5/28/81 |
| Otis Davis        | 5/14/70 |
| Bobby Dorgan      | 5/20/75 |
| Jay Ford          | 5/10/67 |
| James Gostley     | 5/27/71 |
| Richard Hamelinck | 5/22/96 |
| Willard Hamelinck | 5/22/96 |
| Donald Henning    | 5/22/86 |
| Richard Houle     | 5/27/70 |
| Chris Howard      | 5/20/80 |
| Thomas Hudson     | 5/24/73 |
| Albert Kamm       | 5/5/50  |
| Richard Kauder    | 5/26/70 |
| Robert Kloepfel   | 5/24/62 |
| Stephen LeRoy     | 5/27/71 |
| Howard Lester     | 5/14/70 |
| James Newman      | 5/24/62 |
| Kenneth Pedersen  | 5/15/56 |
| Timothy Piper     | 5/8/80  |
| Jonn Sabin        | 5/20/80 |
| Donald Tiffany    | 5/15/56 |
| F. Lee Walters    | 5/16/61 |
| John Walti        | 5/19/98 |
| Glen Webster      | 5/16/61 |
| John Werner       | 5/10/55 |

Our congratulations to these Brothers.

**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

**Masonic reflection**

What constitutes a real Master Mason? Is it our individual intellect, moral and ethical character, inner soul, brilliant personality? Or is it the nature and quality of the heart of the man? Do we really know?

Take any great individual who was an outstanding man of his time. What made him so great that the fate of the world rested in his hands? Men like Winston Churchill, General Douglas MacArthur (Mason), President and General Dwight E. Eisenhower, Presidents Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt (Mason). Were they strong physically,

mentally, spiritually, or was it their wisdom, skill, patience, fortitude and courage? What was it?

How can we mold a real Master Mason from a poor, blind candidate? Is he already a good person before he becomes a good Mason? Does he change when he enters the Masonic Fraternity?

I believe we are what we are, by the people, things, and interests with which we identify ourselves. The thoughts by which we habitually live which shape our lives as well as the people with whom we associate. The one common denominator which brings us all together is the fact that we have identified ourselves with the Masonic Craft. What is the significance of this fact? What does Freemasonry stand for? What should each of us as Master Masons stand for?

Are we really dedicated and committed to the principles of Freemasonry, which are Brotherhood, Truth and Charity? If we are, then what do we really do for our Masonic Craft? Do we just pay our dues; just give lip service or are we deeply into what Freemasonry is all about? Is our Masonic Craft just a social club, ritual drama club or is it really a way of life and living? Does it give value to each and every Masonic Brother? The Rituals of the three Degrees show an allegorical representation of the course of a man's life (Grand Master Hiram Abif). Beginning at his birth, portraying his attainment of skill of his occupation and vocation (architect), his acquisition of learning and wisdom and, lastly, his life development of character which ends in his hope for immortality of the soul.

Have we strived as good Master Masons to the philosophy for a higher, better and more kindly way of Masonic life? Do we stand shoulder to shoulder for the high road of life, or do we take the medium road of indifference to our Masonic Craft? Do we enrich all those we touch and see, or do we just wander and drift away or don't come to Lodge? We cannot determine background, personality or the character of every Brother, or the society in which he lives. But, we can exert a positive influence to mold a newly-made Brother into a real Master Mason who loves his Lodge and his Fraternity.

The greatest depression of our time is not financial or economic, but one of ideals and integrity to stand up for what is fine and so true. Even if the rest of the world abandons them, we Master Masons must challenge and be responsible to our Masonic ideals and goals. They cannot be avoided or can they be ignored.

We at Ark Lodge must be dedicated to a great and wonderful 200th anniversary celebration! We must be dedicated, each and every one of us, unselfish to our new and elderly Brothers, whom we see and touch, and truly committed to a clearer future vision of our Masonic Fraternity. This is what I think a real Master Mason should stand for. The choice rests with each and every one of us to do our very best for Ark Lodge. Thank you so very much.

April has proven to be another very busy month in the OSY District; several Lodges are busy with Degree work. This is keeping our AGLs hopping; with practices, and helping Masters fill rolls as needed.

The 2nd of April we completely filled a 53-passenger bus for a trip to the Masonic Care Community in Utica. Brother Carl Fenner, a former "Masonic Home Kid" accompanied us to Utica. He gave a very interesting account of life at the Masonic Home for orphaned children of Masons. His recollections were of great fondness for his life there. Brother Rob Lauducci and Cindy Dardano were very competent and interesting tour guides. We all came away with much greater knowledge of our Masonic Care Community, from the Research Laboratory, Acacia Village, the Health Pavilion, Tompkins Chapel to the Museum. It was a great day.

On April 30th, 34 people boarded the bus for New York City, 12 of our 15 Lodges were represented at the Grand Lodge Communication. While the business of Grand Lodge comes first, we also take this trip as an opportunity for good fun and fellowship. Many of us went to a ballgame, shopping, sightseeing or a Broadway show. On a personal note, Denise and I celebrated our 37th wedding anniversary. We will return May 4th and this gives us ample time to truly enjoy the "Big Apple".

May 9th our bimonthly OSY Association will be held at 8:00 a.m. at Garoga/Sincerity Lodge in Phelps. We have many important issues that will be covered. Each Lodge should have at least one representative in attendance.

The 48th Annual District Memorial Service will take place at the Farmington Methodist Church on May 15th at 2:00 p.m. R.: W.: and Rev. Charles Roberts is our speaker. He always gives an inspirational and insightful message. The OSY District is fortunate to have Council No. 40 of Allied Masonic Degrees provide this moving ceremony to honor our fallen Brothers. The Lodge Master, or a family member, will light a candle for every Brother who died in 2004.

All Past Masters are invited to the annual combined Investiture Service at Garoga/Sincerity Lodge, Monday, May 23rd at 7:30 p.m. It will be preceded by a dinner at 6:30 p.m. Our guest speaker is our Senior Grand Warden, R.: W.: James Sullivan. It is important that all current Masters and Masters-elect attend, even if they have served as Master before.

The District will again be marching as a unit in the Memorial Day Parade in Waterloo, home of Memorial Day. Time and place to report information to come.

Welcome back to all of our Brothers who were down South. We missed you over the past Winter.

On April 2nd, the OSY District had 53 people travel by bus to the Masonic Care Community in Utica. This was one of the largest touring groups they have had. The weather was rainy, windy and cold, but our guided tour of the campus was fantastic. I can't say enough about the place. If you haven't been there, you should go.

On Sunday, May 15th at 2:00 p.m., at the Farmington United Methodist Church in Farmington, the Ontario/Seneca/Yates District will hold a Masonic Memorial Service for those Brothers who have gone to the Great Architect of the Universe. Family members may light a candle for those Masonic members who have passed on. After the service, there will be refreshments.

I have some bad news for the Car Show fans. This year the Finger Lakes Racetrack will not hold a Car Show. I only hope its not too late to relocate someplace near Farmington or Victor.

**In short**

May 12th - Annual Election of Officers. Dinner is yet unknown.

May 19th - 3rd Degree - The Eastern Star will provide a dinner for the Masons.

May 26th - Installation of Officers.

May 30th - Memorial Day Parade at Waterloo. We need to show our support, not only for our fallen service men and women, but all our service personnel. We, as Masons, need to make a good showing, and we, as Milnor Lodge Masons, need your help.

My God be with us all - and keep our servicemen in our prayers.

**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

First, we welcome a new member to our Lodge, Brother Ralph Adams.

A program on Flag Etiquette was presented by Past Master Bill Peterson, from which we all came away more well-informed and knowledgeable. He mentioned the many dos and don'ts of displaying the flag and disposing of one. Bill's enthusiasm and excitement, while presenting the program, proved it to be, as he calls it,

**Ark Lodge**

Continued from Page 5

**Masons meet, act and part**

1. R.: W.: Eldon White, DD-GM of the OSY District, would like a list of names of Brothers of Ark Lodge who are proficient in the various parts of the three Degrees. Please inform me of parts in which you are proficient and willing to perform, and I will send the list to the DDGM.

2. Ark Lodge is committed to do the 2nd Degree this year in its entirety. I have forms to give the Assistant Grand Lecturer. Who is to do it and when?

3. The 48th Annual OSY District Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, May 15th at 2 p.m. in the Farmington United Methodist Church, 2925 County No. 41 Road, Farmington. The host Pastor is Rev. Jeffery Long and the Memorial Address will be given by Rev. Charles Roberts. As I said before, 2004 was the first year in my 51 years as a Mason that we did not have a deceased Brother. Thank God!

4. Ark Lodge History Masonic Award (\$100) will be given by me to a Geneva High School student at Ceremony on Tuesday, May 31st at 7 p.m. at Geneva High School.

5. Geneva Masonic Lodge invites all Masons and wives to a 7 day Canadian - New England Cruise from September 10 - 17th. They will visit Boston; Portland, Maine; Sydney and Halifax, Nova Scotia and back to New York City. If you are interested in going, contact

Jack Wright or me as soon as possible.

6. Please put the following Brothers in your prayers: Ray Smith, Bill Kashouty, Robert Inscho, Harry George, Max Kaufman, Lloyd Hillimire, Horace Riddle and Ramon Baroody.

7. Had a nice, long talk with Yolanda Schofield, who lives in Florida. She related to me various things Brother Arnold had written down about the 200th Ark Lodge Anniversary. Keep Yolanda in your prayers, also.

8. The Nobles of Damascus Shrine will have their Noble Bring-a-Brother Night on Saturday, May 7th at the Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster. I have the necessary forms which need to be filled out.

9. Please send in your dues for 2005 (\$57 + \$9.50 Grand Lodge assessment). Some Brothers have not paid 2004 dues and a few have not paid for 2003.

10. The Brotherhood Fund Campaign is coming to an end soon. Please send your donations to Brother Thomas Abraham, PO Box 32, Bellona, NY 14415-0032.

11. Ark Lodge will, in the near future, present the DeWitt Clinton Award to Pastor James Adams and his spouse, Susan. A motion was made and passed by the Lodge.

12. Four Lodges of the OSY District have participated in the Masonic School ID Program. Would anyone in Ark Lodge want to chair a team of Brothers and conduct this pro-

gram in the Geneva School District? Call me at 789-6420.

13. The 200th Anniversary team and spouses met to discuss the coming anniversary celebration.

14. I would like someone to chair a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night. This is a good way to bring your friends into Ark Lodge.

**Dates to remember**

May 15th - OSY Memorial Service

May 18th - Election of Officers

May 23rd - Investiture Service at Garoga/Sincerity Lodge in Phelps. Dinner at 6 p.m.

May 30th - Memorial Day - Parade of Masons at Waterloo.

**Master's thoughts**

It seems to me that many Brothers expect to find pearls of wisdom in every newsletter. The real benefits of Masonic membership are usually intangible, they are not easily seen or measured by the average Brother. Some old-time Masons say it takes up to 25 years to develop Masonic maturity and really learn the meaning of our Masonic Fraternity. I can list at least 30 Brothers in my 51 years of Masonry who have greatly influenced my life and my thinking. Now is the time to begin your search for a good meaningful Brother in our Lodge, give him a big smile and hello and grow with him to the future growth of Ark Lodge. You and Ark Lodge will be glad you did it. \*



**Assistant Grand Lecturer Wayne District**



V.: W.:  
David R.  
Rising

(315) 331-7337  
drising3@msn.com

Welcome to Spring, my Brothers! Hopefully it is here to stay. During the month of April two Lodges exemplified their edict Degrees. Clyde conferred a 3rd Degree on Monday the 11th and Pultneyville on Monday the 18th. The District has now completed its requirement for the year 2004-2005. I am very proud of

Wayne District and have seen much improvement over last year. If reappointed as your AGL to another term, I hope to see even more improvement next year.

On May 26th the Investiture Service for new Masters-elect will be held at the Masters and Wardens meeting at Marion Lodge. The Service will be preceded by a dinner at 6:45 p.m., with the Service of Investiture beginning at 7:30 p.m. All new Masters-elect are to bring a small set of the Three Great Lights on which to be obligated and an escort from their Lodge.

Next month's column will be the last until September. Right now, June looks to be a quiet month, but more later. Until then, may the Great Architect of the Universe keep watch over you and yours. \*

**Busy month**

May 2nd will be the opening day of the 224th Communication of Grand Lodge in New York City. I will be in attendance and will be returning on Wednesday, May 4th. I will be attending Lodge that evening and giving a report on the proceedings. The May 4th meeting is also Election Night. It will be a busy evening.

The next meeting, May 18th, is Installation of Officers and I hope to make this a public Installation, along with the presentation of any awards that may be forthcoming.

I left for Florida on vacation on April 22nd and will be returning on Sunday, May 1st. I will then be flying out early Monday morning for New York City and Grand Lodge.

I hope you all have an enjoyable Spring.

Remember the Brotherhood Fund and may the Great Architect of the Universe be with you all. \*

**Drumlin Square Lodge No. 1180**

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Master

V.: W.:

David R.

Rising

(315) 331-7337

Secretary

R.: W.:

William

C. Jones

(315) 986-9150



161 East Main Street  
Palmyra, New York 14522

My Brothers, the Brother Bring-a-Friend Night was held on April 21st and seven letters were sent to prospects. As of this writing, one prospect has confirmed his attendance. The deadline for this letter is ten days before the night of the festivities. I am unable to report at this time how the evening went or how many of our prospects came to the dinner and program. I really and truly hope we are able to pick up some candidates for Degrees out of this endeavor.

*Fraternal fellowship.*



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**Monroe  
District**

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

lperna@peoplepc.com

Last night I completed my last Official Visit, which was at Union Star Lodge. I left Union Star reassured of a strong commitment to Masonry by the broad shouldered Brothers of this Lodge. I found my Brothers to be warm and friendly. I observed a well-organized Lodge in action, able to perform solid Masonic Ritual while maintaining the integrity of current Masonic goals and objectives. I left believing that hard work and commitment are vital components to the future success of our Fraternity. W.: Terry Whilen, Jr., stated it well in his reign as Master of ERAC Lodge. "We need to return to the basics." What W.: Terry meant, was that the building blocks of the Lodge needed to be solid before taking on any more additional stress. So should it be with all of our Lodges. Develop your organization, improve your Ritual, and provide community service a manner that fits your Lodge.

Last month I challenged each Lodge to begin taking a serious look at its future. Was this a good read and inspiration? Have you begun thinking and planning on how to accomplish this? As a follow up, I took this issue to the Purple Club, a highly distinguished group of Masons who continue to provide leadership in the District. Many of these Brothers are members in your Lodges. They have the experience and success to guide and/or assist you in improving yourself in Masonry. I am assured that this group will provide any support you need to accomplish any goals you may develop. You just need to reach out and ask.

**The Future**

Your Master, or designee, is now getting ready to leave for Grand Lodge, and will return having had the honor to represent your Lodge. Soon after, many of you will hold your Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. Are you fully aware of the condition of your Lodge? Do you know who will be assuming the reins of leadership? It is my fullest belief that the condition of your Lodge is everyone's responsibility. Temples were built by men who could only carry the smallest of stones. Perhaps these men were not the strongest, but by doing what they could, they effectively lightened the load of others. So it is for us. By going to the Annual Meeting you may discover an ongoing problem. You may be able to do something to correct it. Supporting the newly elected Officers is analogous to supporting the walls of the temple. Without supports, the walls will fall. Without support of the Officers, their work will be daunting, and the integrity of their efforts will be compro-

mised. Support your Lodge and insure its continued success.

**Child ID**

I would like to remind you all of Grand Master Trosin's commitment to CHIP, the Child ID Program. Grand Master Trosin has again committed the Craft to participate in National Child ID Program, in honor of National Missing Children's Day. Saturday, May 21, 2005 is the scheduled date. Planning has already begun, but the options are limitless. Your Lodge can hold its own Child ID program. I am assured that there will also be a District event under the leadership of Brother Harrison Parson, Jr. He will be assuming responsibility for this important District Program as V.:W.: John Dyer relinquishes this duty to pursue other worthwhile Masonic endeavors. I want to publicly acknowledge the hard work of Brother Dyer, who has been instrumental in the development of this program, and who has provided hands-on support to many Lodges and this District Deputy in the past year. Well done, Brother John. Thank you for all that you have done.

I leave you with a promise to continue to represent Masonry with the enthusiasm and commitment with which I began. I look forward to beginning my second year with a new set of Lodge leaders, while depending on those whom I have come to know and respect. Let us continue to move along the level of time, while maintaining and improving all of our efforts.

**Grand  
Sword Bearer  
Monroe**



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

datubman@yahoo.com

I have drawn my heavy sword this last month. We conducted our last Official Visit at Union Star.

**RTTE 2005 Class  
Certificates**

I presented three Certificates at Clio Lodge with the help of the Brethren in attendance. Their BEEF Roast is May 7th. at the Lodge.

Grand Lodge has met at this writing and I look forward to the Dedication of Unity Lodge May 15th. I look forward to working with the new Masters and the Lodges.

The Grand Lodge Scholarship presentations are July 10th at the Damascus Shrine. Please check this website: [www.nymasons.org/index.php?c=forms](http://www.nymasons.org/index.php?c=forms), as it lists the several programs for Youth and Scholarship and Community Service Awards available.

**The Grand Sword Bearer**  
Taken from the *Short Talk Bulletin*, Vol. VIII January, 1930 No.1

**The Sword in the Craft**  
Before the door of all Lodges stands a Tiler "with a drawn sword in his hand." Customarily it is a straight blade; such a shining shaft of steel as was carried by Knights of olden

times. According to the *Masonic Historian*, it should have a snake-like shape. Formerly such swords were the badge of office of the Tiler, so made in allusion to the "Flaming Sword" which was placed at the East of the Garden of Eden which turned every way to keep the way of the tree of life."

Properly no Tiler's sword is ever carried in a scabbard; its symbolism requires it to be ever ready at hand to "keep off cowans and eavesdroppers."

Our lectures refer to the sword but twice; we are taught of *The Book of Constitutions Guarded by the Tiler's Sword*, and we learn also of the "Sword Pointing to a Naked Heart."

*The Book of Constitutions, Guarded by the Tiler's Sword*, is a comparatively modern symbol; its introduction has been traced to the other Masonic Historian, Webb, about 1800. Its symbolism is rather obscure, the more so that it seems so obvious. We are told that it "Admonishes us to be ever watchful and guarded in our words and actions, particularly before the enemies of Masonry, ever bearing in remembrance those truly Masonic virtues, silence and circumspection." But the *Book of Constitutions* is not, in any sense of the word, a secret work. It was first ordered printed by the Mother Grand Lodge, and a few original copies as well as uncounted reprints of the Old Charges and the General Regulations of 1723 are in existence, to be seen by Mason and profane alike.

Obviously, then, it is not the secrecy of the *Book of Constitutions* which the Tiler's sword guards; neither silence nor circumspection regarding that particular Masonic volume is necessary.

Some have read into Webb's symbol the thought that it was intended to express the guardianship of civil liberties (a constitutional government) by the Masonic Fraternity, but this seems rather far fetched. It is a principle of science never to formulate a difficult hypothesis when a simple one explains the facts. Surely it is easier to think that the Tiler's sword admonishes us to brook no changes in our Ancient Landmarks, to be guarded lest our words and actions bring the foundation book of *Masonic Law* into disrepute before the enemies of Masonry, applying the *Book of Constitutions* as well as to the secrets of Freemasonry "those truly Masonic virtues, silence and circumspection."

"The sword pointing to the naked heart" is a symbolical adaptation of an old ceremony not peculiar to Masonry, but used by many orders and secret societies, in which the initiate taking his vows is surrounded by swords with their points resting against his body, ready to pierce him upon the instant if he refuses obedience.

The sword is so used at the present time in some of the "higher Degrees" of Freemasonry and contemporary engravings of the eighteenth century show swords were once used in some English and many Continental Lodges. How this comparatively modern symbol became associated with the "All-Seeing Eye" - which is one of the most ancient sym-

bols known to man, and borrowed by Freemasonry from ancient Egyptian ceremonies - is too long and difficult a study for any but the Masonic student with plenty of time and Masonic sources at hand.

The sword appears in the Grand Lodge as the implement of the Grand Sword Bearer, an Officer found in most, if not all, Grand Lodges. It comes, undoubtedly from the ancient "Sword of State," which seems to have begun in Rome when the lictor carried - as a symbol of authority and power to punish the evil doer - his bundle of rods with an axe inserted. In the middle ages the rods and axe metamorphosed into the naked sword, carried in ceremonial processions before the sovereign as a symbol of his authority and his power over life and death; and his dispensation of swift justice. The custom in England was known at least as early as 1236 when a pointless sword (emblematical of mercy) was carried at the coronation of Henry III.

The second edition of *Anderson's Constitutions* sets forth that, in 1731 the Grand Master, the Duke of Norfolk, presented to the Grand Lodge of England "The Old Trusty Sword of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, that was worn next by his successor in war, the brave Bernard, Duke of Saxe-Weimar, with both their names on the blade, which the Grand Master had ordered Brother George Moody (The King's sword cutler) to adorn richly with the arms of Norfolk in silver on the scabbard, in order to be the Grand Master's sword of state in the future."

Brother Moody was later appointed Grand Sword Bearer, so the office has the respectability of an antiquity almost coincident with the formation of the Mother Grand Lodge.

The idea the Grand Sword Bearer carries his implement to protect the Grand Master from enemies seems entirely fanciful; the sword is merely the emblem of his power, the evidence that he is supreme within the Masonic state over which he rules.

Early prints of Lodge meetings on the Continent show the sword in use in the ceremonies; in this country the sword was never brought into the Lodge room even during that era when a sword was as much a necessary article of a gentleman's dress as shoes or gloves. It was then deemed, as now, incompatible with that "Meeting Upon the Level" which is so integral a part of all Lodge communications;

the sword, either as a weapon, which made its possessor stronger than he who was unarmed, or as a badge of rank or distinction; was held to have no place in the Lodge. From this development the almost universal custom of the Tiler requesting all military men in uniform to leave their swords without the Lodge before entering. This rule, or custom, comparatively little known in this country because few military men in times of peace go to Lodge in full uniform, was often broken during the recent war when soldiers clanked up and down Lodge rooms with the arms of their profession at their sides. But it is as Masonically inconsistent to wear a sword in Lodge as to appear therein without an Apron.

It goes without saying that the Tiler's Sword is wholly symbolic; whether it was always so or not is a matter lost in the mists which shroud ancient history. In the operative days of Masonry the workmen upon a Cathedral held meetings in the house erected for their convenience - the Lodge. Operative masons possessed secrets of real value to the craftsmen; the Master knew the geometrical method of "trying the square;" all those who had submitted their Master's Pieces and satisfied the Master's of the Craft as to their proficiency received the "Mason's Word," which enabled them to satisfy others, in "foreign countries" (which might be the next town, as well as the adjacent nation) of their proficiency as builders.

When the beginnings of Speculative Masonry made their appearance, they added those secrets which only Masons possessed.

Naturally, many desired to obtain those secrets. These were divided into two classes; the "eavesdropper," who listened under the eaves of a building and therefore received the droppings from the roof, and the "cowan," or, partially instructed Mason. As early as 1589 (Schaw Manuscript) appears this passage: "That no Master or Fellow of the Craft shall receive any cowans to work in his society or company, nor send none of his servants to work with cowans."

Mackey traces the word to Scotland. In Scott's *Rob Roy*, Allan Inverach says: "She does not value a Cawmil mair as a cowan."

Scottish usage of "cowan," a term of contempt, an unin-

Continued on Page 8

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structed mason; a mason who builds dry walls, without mortar, a "dry-diker." But there are other possible derivations of the word; for instance, it may have come from an old Swedish word "kujon", meaning a silly fellow, or the French, "conyon," meaning a coward, a base man.

The Tiler of the operative Lodge may well have been armed with a sword for actual defense of himself, or the Lodge in which his fellows were meeting, from the encroachment of the cowans who wanted the word and the secret of the square without the necessity of serving a long period as an apprentice and of laboring to produce a satisfactory Master's Piece.

The modern tiler keeps off the cowan and eavesdropper by the simple process of refusing to admit those he does not know; if they still desire to enter the tiled door, they must either be vouched for or request a committee. The Tiler's sword is but the emblem of his authority, as the Gavel is the symbol of that possessed by the Master.

Occasionally a Lodge member is a little hurt, perhaps offended, if the Tiler does not know him and demands that someone vouch for him before he is permitted to enter.

"Why, I've been a member of this Lodge for fifteen years!" he may say. "Here's my good standing card. You ought to know me!"

It is possible that the Tiler "ought to know him." But Tilers - even the very best and most experienced Tilers - are just human beings with all the faults of memory which beset us all. Many of us are sure that we know a face and are yet unable to say that we have seen it in a Lodge. How much more true this may be of the Tiler, who must see and memorize so many faces!

To be offended or hurt because a Tiler does his duty is merely to say, in effect, "I'd rather you didn't do what you are supposed to than hurt my vanity by failing to remember me!"

Not very long ago a Grand Master paid a surprise visit, all unaccompanied, to a small Lodge. Their Tiler did not know him. The Master, sent for to vouch for the distinguished visitor, was highly mortified and said so in Lodge. The Grand Master stopped him. "You must not be mortified, my Brother," he said. "You are to be congratulated on having a Tiler who knows his duty and does it so well. I commend him to the Brethren."

All of which was a graceful little speech, which carried a wholesome lesson on the real-

ity of the authority and the duty represented by the shining blade which no Tiler is supposed to put down while on duty.

No symbol in all Freemasonry but is less than the idea symbolized.

The Volume of the Sacred Law, the letter "G," the Square, the Compasses; all symbolize ideas infinitely greater than paper and ink, a letter formed of electric lights, or carved from wood, a working tool of metal. Consequently the Tiler's sword (like the sword of state of the Grand Sword Bearer) has a much greater significance, not only to the Tiler but to all Masons, than its use as a tool of defense against an invasion of privacy. As not all cowans which may beset a Lodge come through the Tiler's door, every Master Mason should be, to some extent, a Tiler of his Lodge and wear a symbolic Tiler's Sword when on the important task assigned to the committee on petitions.

Some "cowans" slip through the West Gate, are duly and truly prepared, properly initiated, passed and raised; yet, never become real Master Masons. This happens when members of the committee have not heeded the symbolism of the Tiler's sword.

All of us know of some members who might better have been left among the profane.

They represent the mistaken judgment, first of the committee, then the Lodge. Had all used their symbolic Tiler's sword - made as accurate an investigation of the petitioner as the Tiler makes of the would-be entrant through his door - these real "cowans" would not be a drag upon the Lodge and the Fraternity.

The "eavesdropper" from without is no longer feared. Our Lodge rooms are seldom built so that anyone may listen to what goes on within. The real "eavesdropper" is the innocent profane who is told more than he should hear, by the too enthusiastic Mason.

In the monitorial charge to the entered Apprentice we hear: "Neither are you to suffer your zeal for the institution to lead you into argument with those who, through ignorance, may ridicule it." The admonition of the emblem of the *Book of Constitutions Guarded by the Tiler's Sword* applies here - we must "be ever watchful and guarded of our words and actions, particularly before the enemies of Masonry."

Constructively, if not actively, every profane who learns more than he should of esoteric Masonic work is a possible enemy.

Let us all wear a Tiler's sword in our hearts; let us set the zeal of silence and circumspection upon our tongues; let us guard the West Gate from the cowan

as loyally as the Tiler guards his door.

Only by doing so may the integrity of our beloved Order be preserved, and "the honor, glory and reputation of the Fraternity may be firmly established and the world at large convinced of its good effects." For only by such use of the sword do we carry out its Masonic symbolism. To Masonry, the sword is an emblem of power and authority; never of blood or wounds or battle or death.

Only when thought of in this way is it consistent with the rest of the symbols of our gentle Craft and wins obedience to the mandates of the Tiler by brotherly love, an infinitely stronger power than strength of arm, point of weapon or bright and glittering steel! x

### Grand Director of Ceremonies

Monroe

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

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### Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.



President  
W.: George S. Nasra  
377-2832  
gnasra@rochester.rr.com  
Secretary  
Steven Lysenko  
671-2606

By Hugh Woodside, Vice-President

#### The Choice Is Yours

Long ago, near a small rural town, a wise old hermit lived up in cave. All of the people in the town knew of him, but he'd lived in the cave so long that no one even knew his age. But a wise man, he was always able to offer the appropriate guidance to anyone who sought it. Those who followed his advice found that he was always right—always.

One day two boys hatched a plan to trick the hermit. One

said to the other, "We'll catch a small bird, and go up to seek the hermit with the bird behind our backs. I'll call out 'Hermit! I have a bird behind my back. Is it dead, or is it alive?' If the hermit says the bird is alive, I will squeeze it, and kill it. If the hermit says the bird is dead, I will open my hands and let it fly. There is no way he can have the right answer!"

Satisfied with their plan, the boys set out. They caught a small bird, and sought out the hermit. "Hermit," the elder boy cried out, "I have a bird behind my back. Is it dead, or is it alive?"

The hermit looked at them, and thought a long while about this important question. Finally, looking down at the boys, he said softly, "Young men, the choice is yours."

As it is with many things in life, the choice is yours in Masonry. When you joined the Fraternity, consciously or unconsciously, you made a choice to strive to become a better man and Mason. When you first accepted an appointment to a Lodge Office, you made a similar choice to make your Lodge a better place. Underlying the oath of office you took if installed as a Warden or Master of your Lodge, your choice to make the Lodge a better place was replaced with a commitment to do so, to use your inner strength to see that the Lodge would thrive not only during your tenure in office, but also beyond.

We have all learned that our inner strength alone a strong Lodge does not make. We need the assistance of many to bring our ideas to fruition, and to truly make a lasting, positive impact on our respective Lodges. However, all too often I feel that we look to our individual Lodge's membership alone to provide the many hands that make light work, and to generate the ideas that result in the designs upon the trestleboard. We need to reach out to each other, both in bonds of fellowship and mutual support, if we are to truly draw upon the strength of Masonry in Monroe Country. Only by doing so can we grow.

However, it is difficult to reach out if you don't know whom to reach for. It sometimes takes courage to visit another Lodge if you don't expect to find a familiar face. This isn't because any of us are afraid of being unwelcome, but simply because we're moving out of our comfort zone. It's human nature.

The Masters and Wardens Association provides us with an opportunity to get to know one another, to support one another, and to join together in fellowship. It provides us with a forum to share ideas, and to find ways to draw upon one another's strength. As a Senior Warden, it has proved to be an invaluable resource. If I am given the opportunity to serve in the East during the coming year, the relationships I have developed this year through the Masters and Wardens Association will continue to strengthen, and I feel that both my Lodge and others in the District will benefit.

If you will be a Master or Warden during the upcoming Masonic year, I encourage you to join us once a month. A letter was recently sent out with a survey, which we hope

to use to find a meeting time and place that is suitable for most. If you have received it, please take the time to fill it out and return it. There are a number of us who will be returning next year, and it is our goal to see the Masters and Wardens Association continue to grow and become more vibrant. This is an important key to strengthening Masonry in Monroe County, and your participation will benefit us all.

We can all go through the motions during our years in the line, and many will leave their years in the South, West and East with their Lodge no stronger than it was when they found it. If you're committed to making a difference during those years, you'll need to go the extra mile. Actively participating in the Masters and Wardens Association is an important first step, and you'll find that we'll help lighten your load and make your travels easier. Will you go the extra mile? The choice is yours. x

## News from the Purple Club of the Monroe District

### The Purple

By R.: W.: Clifford Short

Some surveys say that membership in Masonry, and fraternal organizations in general, are on a never-ending decline, and eventually will cease to exist. In many areas, including some Lodges in the Monroe District, there has actually been an increase in membership numbers, and Lodges are thriving. Are we, as individual Lodges, or as a District, or as a Fraternity, ready for the increasing number of members? We lay the cornerstones by putting new Brothers through our three Degrees, but that should only be the beginning. We should be helping them build their Masonic edifice, one of Masonic character and Masonic ideals.

Leadership is the key. Every family, community, State, or country cannot, and will not, survive without wise leadership. The Masonic Fraternity has that leadership base. It is called the Purple Club. This is a group of Brothers who were not asked to lead. They sought out leadership roles, because they had a vision of what Masonry could and should be within our District and State.

If you believe that you have the desire to increase your Masonic knowledge, travel to many different Lodges, meet many more Brothers with the same ideals and principles as you and help increase their knowledge and understanding of what Masonry really is, then you should consider strapping on one of these Purple Aprons. But how do you go about becoming a leader of the Craft?

#### Grand Representatives

M.: W.: Carl Fitje, when he was Grand Master, issued an edict that in order to become a Grand Representative of Grand Lodge, a Brother needs to have served as a DDGM or



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Staff Officer in the past. That may no longer be true. If you believe that you have contributed to the Craft at a District Level, and would like to serve in that capacity in the future, I encourage you to consider applying for one of these positions. The Grand Master can appoint a Grand Rep at any time. Grand Representatives serve at the Grand Master's discretion, and for a length of time that he desires.

If you are interested there is, in every Lodge, a Brother who has served as a Purple in the past. He should be able to give you guidance as to how to apply. An application can be obtained from the Lodge Secretary. Within the application, a complete Masonic resume should be included, detailing all of the work you have done within your Lodge and District. The application then should be submitted to the Purple Club for review. The reviewing committee will then make recommendations to the Purple Club as a group, and names are then submitted to Grand Lodge for the Grand Master's consideration.

**District Deputy**

**Grand Master (DDGM)**

The District Deputy Grand Master is probably the most recognized position within any given Masonic District in New York State. He is the Brother who has been designated by the Grand Master to act in his behalf for his respective District. The DDGM works for, and reports directly to, the Grand Master. It is his responsibility to see that the Grand Master's plan is implemented within his District. The DDGM coordinates the different Grand Lodge Committee Chairmen within the District. He is obligated to visit each Lodge within his assigned District at least once each year to convey the Grand Master's message to the Lodges. The District Deputy can also issue certain dispensations to Lodges for various reasons on behalf of the Grand Master.

**Staff Officer**

The Grand Lodge Staff Officers carry different responsibilities than the DDGM. They are also appointed by, and work directly for, the Grand Master. Their primary responsibility within their Districts is Masonic Education. They coordinate District Training, such as the *Road to the East* and Masonic Development Courses. In the Monroe District, the Staff Officers work with the AGLs to coordinate their respective activities, so that there are no conflicts between dates. The Staff Officers are also required to visit each Lodge within their District at least once each calendar year. These dates may or may not coincide with the DDGM visit. It is the hope that the District Deputy Grand Master and Staff Officers work closely together, as a team, to coordinate and administer all Grand Lodge programs during their terms in office.

**Applications**


The process for becoming a District Deputy Grand Master or Staff Officer is the same. The only requirement for applying for one of these positions is that a Brother needs to be a Past Master of a Lodge before being appointed, which happens on St. John's Day each year in Utica. Each position

serves a two-year term, which coincides with the term of a Grand Master.

By the end of June, Grand Lodge will send each Lodge Secretary several applications for these positions. If interested, a Brother can fill one of these applications out, and submit it to the Purple Club for consideration. It is the duty of the Vice-President of the Purple Club to choose an interviewing committee to review all applications. After the interviews are concluded, this committee will address the Purple Club members, and after discussion, a ballot of the potential candidates is taken. The Purple Club then makes a recommendation of whom they believe will best fulfill these positions to Grand Lodge for the Grand Master's consideration.

If you are considering undertaking one of these positions, I can assure you that if you ask any Brother who is a "Purple," he will inform you that he found his term to be a learning, busy, and enjoyable experience, and one that he will cherish for the rest of his life.

**Union Star Lodge No. 320**  
3 North Main Street  
Honeoye Falls 14472  
2nd Mondays  
7:30 p.m.



Secretary  
Robert Sweeney  
(h) 381-5286; (w) 464-6316  
38 Cullens Run, Pittsford 14534  
rsweeney@rochester.rr.com

By W.: Gary Sanford

The weather has made forward strides so that the Winter's garments are now put away and the Spring activities have started. The snowbirds are back in town or on their way. At our April 11th meeting, we had the honor of the District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: Lewis Perna, presenting to us the Grand Master's Message. The Grand Sword Bearer, R.: W.: Donald Tubman, and the Grand Director of Ceremonies, R.: W.: William Kuehne, were in attendance as well. Thanks to Brother Rob Sweeney for putting on a fine Sausage and Sauerkraut Dinner.

I know that each month I remind you to contribute to the Brotherhood Fund. The majority of us do not directly benefit from these programs; however, they are there to provide for those less fortunate than us. We have reached a return of 37% so far this year. Please help us reach a rate of at least 50% by returning your dona-



W.: Gary Sanford, Master, with Brother Brian J. Miller, the newest Lodge member. Brian was raised by the Shrine Degree Team, under the direction of Noble John Faro, on February 28th in an excellent conferral of the 3rd Degree.

tion through Brother William Nersinger.


**May**

Our schedule for May will consist of the following events: we will have an Anniversary Night and Election of Officers on May 9th. On Saturday, May 21st at 7 p.m., there will be a social night at the Lodge. Please bring a dish to pass. We will be conferring another 1st Degree on May 23rd for a candidate, with dinner prior to the Degree. Please contact me at 425-4240 if you missed signing up for dinner.

**June**

Our yearly fundraiser, Festival on the Green, is scheduled this year for June 18th and 19th. Please keep this important date on your schedule, as this is what funds our Lodge for the ensuing year. \*

**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

Spaghetti - Spaghetti - Spaghetti. Fourteen Spaghetti Dinners this year made think of four "F's" - Food, Fun, Fellowship and Funds. Food we serve; Fun we have; Fellowship we share; Funds we raise. Since our Lodge can benefit from each of the "F's", I am taking time to write about our Spaghetti Dinners and those who help.

The first thing when preparing the dinners is the purchasing of food and supplies. This task is primarily done by Steven Mitchell. With the able assistance of Gerry Jones, Steve starts making meat balls around 9:00 a.m. the day of the dinners. Around the same time, Stu Brickman, Ross Wayne, Troy Mitchell (not a Mason) and I start setting the tables and dishing up ice cream. Sometimes Charlie Tucker stops in to kibitz before he goes to work at Brother Burger's Funeral Home. When these tasks are complete it's break time until 3 p.m. Steve and Gerry return to start cooking spaghetti and doing other kitchen chores.

A little later Dick Caupp arrives (Maitre'D) to check the table settings and work in the kitchen as needed, such as making salads. Others begin to arrive. Frank Sasson dishes up spaghetti; Harry DeHollander is the dish washer and bread cutter; Sean Noonan and Dana Daniels will fill in where needed. Waiters are Gordy Smith, Frank Celona and Stu Brickman. Our cashiers are Gus Neidrich III, Ross Wayne and Carol Brickman (Stu's wife). The ice cream server is Gus Neidrich II. The above are the Brothers who regularly help.

Brothers who help when the length of their cabledow allows are: George Todd, Bill Hunn, Don Cambisi and Dave Benoit. I am relying upon my memory; I hope that I have not missed anyone. My apologies if I have.

One can not express enough thanks to those Brothers; with-

**Clio Lodge**  
40th Annual  
**Ox Roast Dinner**  
Saturday, May 7th  
Masonic Temple  
287 East Avenue, Hilton  
Serving 4 p.m. 'til 7:30 p.m.  
Adults \$9.00 Seniors \$8.00 Children \$5.00

out them the Lodge would not have the needed funds to keep Clio alive and provide for our charitable projects. When you see these Brothers, give them a sincere "thank you." Also, thanks to the Brothers who support the dinners by their patronage.

**Condolences**

A Masonic Service was held for 65 year member, Brother Martin B. Wright, at Burger's Funeral Home on March 19th. I am grateful to those who were able to attend and participate in the Masonic Service. Thanks to Gordy Smith (Chaplain), Gerry Jones, Sean Noonan, Steve Mitchell, Frank Sasson and Dick Caupp.

**Good news**

Congratulations to Brother Robert F. Fisher a member since 1947 (58 years). Since he never received a 55-year Certificate, arrangements have been made to formally present one to him at our June 21st communication. Remember the date; it's also our Steak Roast.

On March 15th we held our 2nd Degree with W.: Scott Brickman in the East. He did outstanding work. We were privileged to have the services of Brother Mike Grady from the Lima Lodge, who presented the Middle Chamber Lecture. What an outstanding job he did.

The 3rd Degree will be presented on April 19th with W.: Sean Noonan in the East. I am urging all Brothers to attend. Lodge opens at 6:00 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Remember, our Ox Roast is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th. I request all Brothers to sell tickets and to help with this important event. Your presence and help will be needed.

Three of our Brothers: Frank Sasson, Harry DeHollander and Steve Mitchell successfully completed *The Road to the East* Course. On April 5th R.: W.: Donald Tubman, Grand Sword Bearer, pre-

sented these Brothers with their Certificates and Pins.

The program on April 5th was provided by W.: Robert Pedersen, 33 Degree. It was an excellent presentation on the Scottish Rite. He also shared with those present a paper written by R.: W.: and Rev. Paul Gleason, Grand Chaplain, Grand Lodge of New York entitled "Freemasonry and the Church."

Remember Brother Lt. Nathan Thompson and our other Brothers serving in Iraq. \*

**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



May 10th will be the Election of Officers. There will be a Stuffed Chicken catered dinner at a cost of \$8.00 at 6:30 p.m. Please make your reservations. The Lodge meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. There are some important Lodge issues to be discussed during the business meeting.

Our second meeting for May will be on the 24th. There will be NO DINNER at the Lodge that evening. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m.

In your prayers, please remember our Brothers and their families who find themselves in sickness or distress.

Happy Birthday to all of you with May Birthdays. \*

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# Unity Lodge No. 479

## DEDICATION CEREMONY

### CHARTER PRESENTATION DINNER

**Sunday, May 15**

**3:00 p.m. at the Lodge  
5:00 p.m. at The Party House**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

**M.:W.: EDWARD R. TROSIN, JR.  
GRAND MASTER**

found so much support and dedication from so many Brothers and, without naming them individually, I would like to tell each of them how much I appreciate the help I have received so far. Of course there have been many frustrations and disappointments; so many projects that I found myself unable to see through fruition. I guess this is part of the learning experience. It is indeed a humbling experience when you realize your weaknesses and your limitations.

This month, ERAC Lodge accomplished one of the most important tasks for a Masonic Lodge; eight Brothers were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. Although I consider this a great accomplishment, it certainly is not the end of the road for these newly raised Brothers, and our responsibility toward our newest members is not yet fully discharged.

The 3rd Degree of Masonry is the climax of accomplishments of a Mason during his journey of knowledge. Our eight Brothers, who were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, received their Degree surrounded by their Brothers. They are now ready to spend a lifetime of learning to understand the meaning of the symbolism of Freemasonry.

Our Lodge program in April was entitled "Medicine and Masonry." This title is appropriate in this context as it reminds us that Freemasonry and medicine are both applied sciences. Medicine uses biology, chemistry, physics, pharmacology, pathology, physiology, and psychology as its basic sciences, with the purpose of curing disease, and relieving the suffering of patients. Freemasonry uses the seven liberal arts: grammar, rhetoric, logic, arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy; as well as the five senses of human nature: hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling and tasting, and the tools it borrowed from our operative brothers.

Freemasonry's purpose is to make good men better. The 3rd Degree of Masonry teaches us our duty to ourselves. We need to show these Brothers the meaning behind that Ritual. We need to take them under our wings and ensure that we are raising active members who will help our Lodge and our Fraternity to flourish for years to come. We need to show them our own dedication and excitement. I fear that apathy and fatigue is too often competing with our dedication and our involvement in the Lodge and its pro-

grams. I read a few days ago Brother Steve Lysenko's trestleboard and vision for next year as Master of ERAC Lodge. I was encouraged to see that the themes of dedication, long range planning and involvement in the community are an integral part of his trestleboard. I would like to commend Brother Lysenko for the hard work he has obviously put into this document. I am sure that he will do a great job.

In addition, I have seen our Junior Warden and so many other Officers work hard and grow Masonically during this year. I have also seen Brothers who seemed to have lost their zest and their enthusiasm for the Craft, so they are not coming to meetings anymore. I consider it our challenge to rekindle this enthusiasm in each and every member of ERAC Lodge.

There will be new faces in the Lodge room from now on, and this should stimulate us all to put our best foot forward and find this renewed vitality and love for our Craft. Isn't that the real meaning of the 3rd Degree? Isn't the message that of renewal, and rising above one's challenges?

Those eight newly raised Brothers were told in the Lodge that they are entitled to receive all the light that can be conferred upon or communicated to them in a Lodge room. Let us then mean what we say, my Brothers. The Ritual of our Degrees is beautiful and we certainly do a great job with it. But do not let what we say in the Lodge room be merely empty words and recitations of lines which have no real meaning.

At the risk of repeating myself, let me say again that Freemasonry, just like medicine, is an applied science. What good is a physician who can recite from memory long lists of names of body parts, diseases and medications, if that physician is unable to apply this knowledge in his treatment of a patient? What good is a Master Mason who can memorize the whole cipher book, but does not apply any of the teaching of Masonry in his daily life? Our Ritual remains empty words written in an old English which no one even uses until it is really and truly "deciphered." The words we say in Lodge remain as dead as the old language they were written in, until we give them life. When the Ritual is applied, it rises like our Grand Master Hiram Abif and lives in our deeds and actions. Freemasonry should be made to rise and live through our actions, otherwise it dies like the language of its Ritual, and our cipher books would be forever shelved in the historical section of old bookstores.

My charge to you, my Brothers, is that the next time you read the Ritual in your cipher book, or you are asked to memorize a part for a Degree, take a moment to reflect on the meaning of the symbolism you are reading and memorizing. Most importantly, reflect on how you could apply its lessons in your daily life.

May the Great Architect of the Universe bless you and your families. x

# Valley-Simes Lodge No. 109

2nd Tuesdays  
7:30 p.m.



R.: W.:  
Richard Snyder  
342-2419  
e7afrol@aol.com

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

### Summoned Communication

The May Communication is a Summoned Communication. Your attendance is required for the reading of your Lodge Officers' and Committees' annual reports. The Budget for the ensuing year will also be presented and voted upon.

The Nominating Committee will present its selection of Officers for election. Your attendance, while required, is very important, as the decisions made will determine the future of your Lodge.

**Motions Tabled for Vote**  
A motion was made and tabled at our last Communication that the Lodge Trustees give to the Damascus Shrine Degree Team our Ritual costumes. This motion was made upon recommendation of your Lodge Officers. The costumes have not been used in several years and the likelihood of future use is remote.

The second tabled motion is for the Lodge to use the final settlement from the Temple Civic Center dissolution to fund a fancy catered dinner for the June Installation and Awards Night with the remainder to be used in August, for perhaps a play at the Auditorium or a Paddle Boat Cruise on the lake.

**Past Masters' Night**  
Past Masters' Night and Roll Call was great. Twenty Past Masters were in attendance and enjoyed a presentation by Brother Hugh Woodside, Senior Warden of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge. It was on the life of Brother Imre Farkass, who began his Masonic life in Budapest, Hungary, during the German and Communist occupations, when discovered Freemasons were slain. The highlight was Brother Hugh has in his possession this man's Masonic mementoes and apron.

**Important stuff**  
Reservations for dinners are getting better, Brothers, but please try harder. If you need to cancel, we need to be notified. Gathering time is 6:00 p.m., dinner is 6:30 and Lodge opens at 7:30. "The Past Masters Dining Out" was at Froggy's on the Bay on April 27th. More on this next month.

**Dues are due**  
Forty-four Brothers owe dues. We know who and so do you. Let's get them in so the Secretary can close the books for this and last year.

Thanks to W.: Mike McBride and his team who manned booths at the Shrine Circus. x

**UNITY**  
Lodge No. 479

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

Senior Warden  
David Sylvester  
594-9779  
davidcsylvester@hotmail.com

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

**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. Wihlen, Sr.  
346-4380  
ddgmmost@netzero.net  
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580  
website: www.eraclodge163.org

### Eagle Scout Award

By R.: W.: Clifford Short  
Recognition is in order for Jason Esposito for achieving the level of Eagle Scout. Jason is the son of John and Ann Esposito. John is a Brother of Unity Lodge in Spencerport.

Jason's Eagle Scout project was to build an interactive electronic display for the New York Museum of Transportation, located at 6393 East River Road. After touring the museum, people can test their observational skills by answering questions proposed by Jason's interactive display. The display will indicate whether the answer is correct or incorrect, then direct them to where they can find the correct answer.



Eagle Scout Award recipient Jason Esposito with his father, Brother John Esposito, of Unity Lodge.

Becoming an Eagle Scout is a huge accomplishment, which many Scouts never attain. It means setting a goal for oneself, and then never wavering until the goal is achieved. We offer our heartfelt congratulations to Jason for seeing his journey to this end. x

March was a wonderful month. I thank the Brothers of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge for hosting a great Table Lodge. The Masonry and Medicine Program was a great success.

Our meeting of April 25th was a "Walk around the Lodge" and a talk on the 3rd Degree of Masonry delivered by Brother Richard Friedman.

### May events

May 9th - Annual Elections and Lodge of Remembrance. This will be an evening dedicated to honor our departed Brethren.

May 23rd - Lodge Appreciation Night. The program of the evening will be to honor those Masons and members of ERAC Lodge who have exemplified the spirit of Masonry and dedication to their Lodge and their Craft. We will recognize all the Brothers who assisted me in making my year as Master successful; recognition will also be given to the families of our Brothers. This will be an open meeting where special recognition will be conferred upon Brother David Crawford, who will receive his Dedicated Service Award and Apron. Please join us with your families.

### Master's Message

Being Master of a Lodge is a humbling experience. This is a lesson I learned this year as Master of ERAC. The year is not yet over and we still have much to do, but already I have



W.: George Nasra, Master (front), poses for a picture with his class of eight new Master Masons. In alphabetical order: Albert Broccolo, Geoffrey Buell, David Ferguson, Tony Ghaemi, Jeffery Parker, Timothy Slater, Joseph Spinell and Robert Stump, Jr.

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**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  
ted3076@aol.com

Assistant Secretary  
W.: Donald C. Bell, 334-7768

1822A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

It becomes time for me to thank all of you who have been present, served in an office or have assisted in some capacity in the Lodge in the past year. There was some good work done, Brothers, but there is yet so much more to do. The Lodge continues in its course to another year, another Worshipful Master, another challenge, etc.

I have succeeded in providing the Lodge my legacy of education, as per my speech at the Installation in June of last year. The programs slated were for the benefit and edification of the Lodge members. They were of value and provided some enlightenment to those present or receptive. Even though only three programs were slated, four were provided, all of them having valuable informational and education nutrient. You, the Brothers of this Lodge, along

with the Brothers of other Lodges, made this possible and gleaned something golden out of it all.

It has been an experience to serve the Lodge in this capacity, albeit there are challenges that this Lodge faces in many regards. The Lodge has been able to work in directions that it has been seeking to do in previous years, with your support. May this direction continue for the benefit of the Lodge. Our building and property have many improvements and repairs that are needed and the talent and help to make this possible only can come, ultimately, from our Lodge members.

I ask each of you Brothers to give your utmost support to this Lodge Officers' line in the year to come. They need your utmost and devout support, as it is within the length of each of your cabletows. Brothers, the Lodge Officers are a core of organization to the Lodge's operation but not the entire heartbeat; each of you have the lifeblood of the Craft. We need not only to look for new Brothers to come into our ranks, but to activate ourself, each of us, within the proper and most effective manner of our talents.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon, socially or Fraternally. Take care, and may God Bless You!

**Triluminar**  
Lodge No. 543

2nd & 4th  
Wednesdays

Master  
R.: W.: Keith Granger  
493-2908

Secretary  
W.: Richard Anderson  
493-2203

Main Street, Pike 14130

By R.: W.: Steven L. Wing

In spite of your Master's lack of articles, Triluminar will have one in this year.

**Installation**

The consolidation with Eagle Valley is proceeding, and we hope to have it finalized by May, so we will only have one installation. This will be on May 25th, at 8 p.m.; we will have our usual strawberry shortcake after a public Installation, conducted by the Genesee/Wyoming Purple Apron Club. We will also have our usual pancake breakfast on the third Sunday of May, the 15th, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

**Golf!**

Our Annual Golf Tournament is planned for June 4th at Rolling Acres Golf Course, Pike. This will be a Four-Person Scrambles Tournament. Call Rolling Acres to register and set a tee time.

Hope you all have a good Summer.

**District Deputy Grand Master**  
Genesee/Wyoming District

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

normann@pcom.net

**Grand Lodge**  
Well, it looks like Spring has sprung, and with it comes a very busy time for Masonry. The 224th Communication of Grand Lodge of the State of New York is May 2nd and 3rd. This is the opportunity for all the Lodge representatives to vote the memberships' wishes on the proposals before Grand Lodge. This is important because it affects our future.

**Elections**

Election of Lodge Officers is the FIRST Stated Communication of the Lodge in the month of May, following the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge. While some Lodges will have veterans returning to office, many Lodges will elect first-time Masters. Whatever the case, YOUR Lodge Officers need YOUR support and attendance in YOUR Lodge so they know the time and effort they are putting in is worthwhile.

**Installations**

Installations are next on the agenda and whether tiled or open, the Officers of the Lodge are to be installed no later than June 30, 2005. Attendance at installation to congratulate YOUR Lodge Officers and offer assistance is an excellent way to show support. Help is always needed and can be anything from an idea for a program to helping in the kitchen or just sitting on the sideline. Many hands make light work.

The Grand Lodge Communication, Lodge elections and installations require our support and attendance over the next month. In addition, there are many other ongoing Lodge programs. For a listing of what is happening, consult YOUR Lodge's *Masonic Times* article.

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

1st Wednesdays  
7:30 p.m.

Master  
W.: Nevin A. Brick  
768-6473

Secretary  
W.: Douglas S. Poole  
584-3601  
dspooled@frontiernet.net

8 West Main Street, LeRoy 14482

Isn't it great to have flowers and green grass instead of the white stuff? Spring is a time of rebirth, even in the Lodge. A time for renewal and a changing of the Guard.

It is our sincere hope to have new Officers this year. Your Master and Treasurer have well earned a time to reflect upon their accomplishments.

As Secretary, I harbor no such hopes. I can see myself like my grandfather, who spent 55 years as Secretary of the Castile Fire Department.

Personally I do owe many thanks for those who fill in for me. Doctors do seem to rule my life lately. So my thanks to the Lodge and LeRoy Royal Arch members. You guys are great!

**Change in By-Laws**

We will be meeting the first Wednesday only, due to a recent change in the By-Laws.

Election of Officers is on May 4th. The next event for Lodge is, of course, Installation of Officers on June 1st. Then we will be planning for our Awards/Widow/Family Night during the Summer. Hope to have more details soon. Enjoy!

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

1st & 3rd  
Mondays

Master  
W.: Paul Baetzold  
535-7533

W.: Kenneth Kohlhagen  
Secretary, 591-9598

2473 Route 20A, Varysburg 14167

I'm writing this communication today, April 10, 2005. This has been one of the most beautiful weekends we have had in a long, long time. Sunshine and warm weather both days. As I traveled through the neighborhood, all of the neighbors were putting away their snow blowers and getting out their lawn mowers. It is amazing when you think about it, last weekend, Western New York had 6 to 12 inches of snow, power was out and many schools were closed. One week later, birds are singing and the sun is shining.

**More good news**

At our last two meetings there were no reports under sickness and distress. It's good news when our Brothers are feeling well.

**Secretary's Desk**

There are no petitions or reports on petitions on the Secretary's desk. As Master this year, I had hoped to bring in some new members. We don't have much time left. We still have just enough time to do a 1st Degree. So, if you know someone who would be interested in Masonry, don't be afraid to mention it to him.

**Old Business**

We had some electrical repairs done to our building. We needed some new lines run and some old wires replaced. Also, under old business, on April 4th we had our Uniform Night. There were seven Brothers present, in uniform.

Each Brother told about his uniform and it was very interesting. Doc Benn wore his army uniform jacket and buttoned it up. I wish I still could get into my Navy dress blues. I would need more than 13 buttons to get those bell bottoms on today!

**Upcoming dates**

On May 2nd I will be at Grand Lodge, so it will be Move-Up Night.

On May 16th it will be my report on Grand Lodge and Election of Officers.

**Something new**

Also, on May 16, W.: Neil Parmerter and W.: Dennis Parmerter are going to run West Star's first Antler Contest. Bring your largest antlers to Lodge and enter them into the contest. We are looking for the largest shed antlers found in the woods. Bring your "Big Rack" and enter it into the contest! We don't have all the rules worked out yet, but I'm sure it will be a good time. Bring in any unwanted antlers, too. There will be a small entry fee and all proceeds will be donated to Cross Roads House in Batavia. Cross Roads House is a home for the terminally ill, with room for 2 families to stay with their loved ones. They operate by donations and we are always glad to help. For more information, call Neil, Dennis or myself.

**Brotherhood Fund**

We have one month left to get our donations in for the Brotherhood Fund. Our numbers are down, so your help will be appreciated.

Stay well and we will look for you on the 1st and 3rd Mondays, at 7:30 p.m.

**Batavia**  
Lodge No. 475

2nd & 4th  
Tuesdays

Master  
R.: W.: Vernon G. Rupert  
344-8443  
vgrupert@geneseeit.com

Sec. R.: W.: Robert F. Dagen  
548-7148  
rdagen@rochester.rr.com

200 East Main Street  
Batavia 14020

Election of Officers for the coming year will take place at the communication to be held May 10th. A change in the By-Laws relative to the dues structure will be voted upon. This change is necessary because of an increase in the per capita to Grand Lodge. The vote of all members is important in this matter.

The Masonic Family Dinner will take place on Sunday, May 22nd at Bohn's Restaurant. We will be arriving at 2 p.m. with dinner being served at 2:30 p.m. At this event we will be honoring the widows of members who have passed on and will also be presenting longevity awards to Brothers who have served the Lodge for various periods of time. The program will be a "Black Tie Affair" (a Sinatra rendition).

**May Masonic Anniversaries**

Robert C. Mansfield 65 years  
Clarence E. Greene 57 years



R.: W.: Vernon G. Rupert was presented his 50-year Anniversary Pin on March 22, 2005, exactly fifty years after his raising on March 22, 1955.

Beryl E. McGuire	45 years
Rodney F. Winkstern	43 years
Charles M. Harrison	42 years
Kenneth A. Rupert	41 years
Jackson J. Burling	40 years
Cuneyt V. Okay	35 years
Lawrence S. Ingram	24 years
James Rosenbeck	1 year

**Happy Birthday**

Donald N. Boyce	May 4th
Jackson J. Burling	May 5th
Paul R. Bartholf	May 23rd
Beryl E. McGuire	May 25th
David W. Fetzer	May 27th

We hope you enjoy your special day.

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

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

Master  
W.: Henry Robinson  
322-7545

Secretary  
W.: Richard L. Smith  
493-5408

174 South Main Street, Castile 14427

Spring at last, Spring at last; thank God it's Spring at last. It just doesn't feel right that I'm sitting down to compose this masterpiece and it's not snowing outside. Hopefully, we won't see any of that white stuff in the air for quite some time.

The thoughts of Spring and Summer in the mind means that the Masonic year is starting to creep to an end, but there is still a lot of work to be done. The next couple of months will be busy with the Election and Installation of Officers. All members are invited to attend these communications to offer their thoughts and opinions toward the Officers of Oakland Lodge for the ensuing year.

We will also be traveling to the Batavia VA Hospital to play Bingo with our Veterans. This is truly an enjoyable time for all and a great way to say thank you for those who have fought for our country. The date and time for this is still to be determined. As you can see, Oakland Lodge has a lot of work to accomplish before our Summer hiatus, and this can only be accomplished with the help of all Brethren.

**Sickness and distress**

Brother Richard Smith was suffering some discomfort and numbness in his left arm which was diagnosed as shingles. Though in pain, Brother Smith has been taking it easy and should be fully recovered before this article is published.

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E. Rochester, NY 14445 586-5948

**Dues**

I would hope that by now all the members have submitted their dues to the Secretary. If you have not, I would encourage you to do so at this time or as soon as possible. This will prevent you from falling behind a year and having to double up next year.

**Welcome back**

I welcome Brother Tom Kemp back as an active member. The Lodge received a letter from Brother Kemp at our last communication on his aspirations to become re-affiliated with Oakland Lodge. A favorable vote was taken by the Officers and members who were present to accept Brother Kemp's letter of re-affiliation. We all welcome you back and hope to see you in Lodge soon.

Here's hoping this article finds all Masons and their families experiencing a happy and healthy start to Spring. 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 where ever they are throughout the world.

**HESPERUS**  
**Lodge No. 837**

1st and 3rd  
Thursdays



Master  
W.: Harry  
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Secretary  
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vainio@localnet.com

12 Lake Avenue, Bergen 14416

It was great to see so many of our Brothers in attendance at our last meeting in March. It was either the Irish Stew or the yearly financial reports that brought them out. Either way, both were easy to swallow. Brother Dick Sands prepared an excellent detailed financial report. His report cleared any of the mysteries as to where our funds are located and to what our expected earnings will be for the year. Brother Jim MacConnell prepared the Stew and it was superb. Many thanks Jim, for taking time out of your busy Masonic schedule as Eminent Grand Sword Bearer, Knights Templar. Just saying thanks to this Brother doesn't cut it. We

all have busy schedules in our lives and can't always make it to the next Lodge meeting, but Jim is one of the exceptions in our Lodge. As the Eminent Grand Sword Bearer, Jim is expected to travel throughout the State to perform the Commandery scheduled Inspections. He is also active in all the Concordant Bodies of the York Rite and is Deputy Governor of the York Rite College. So, to this Brother who still finds time to support his home Lodge and volunteers for dinners and charity projects, I say THANKS.

Our program for the first meeting in April was Masonic History presented by R.: W.: William Jones. The topic was Masonry and the Klan during the Civil War period. I am not going to tell you the details of the program, but everyone in attendance was on the edge of his seat throughout the program. It was a fantastic presentation, which was filled with interesting tidbits of Civil War history.

The last meeting in April was our Widows' and Awards Night. There was a dinner at the Viking Valhalla Restaurant prior to the evening's open meeting. We honored those

Master Masons of Hesperus Lodge with twenty or more years in the Fraternity.

The May 5th meeting will be Cheeseburger Night. These burgers will be prepared with our secret recipe and served with a big slice of onion. I can almost taste them now. We will also have the report on Grand Lodge from our Officers. I am very pleased to report at this time that the Master and both Wardens, along with several other Brothers, will be attending Grand Lodge this year.

Most importantly at this meeting will be the ELECTION OF OFFICERS for the ensuing year. Hesperus Lodge has never in its history had a repeat Master. Will this be the year the chain is broken? You must be at this meeting to have your voice heard and your vote counted.

**Upcoming dates**

May 7th - Chicken Barbeque at the Lodge, starting at 4 p.m.

May 9th - 7:30 p.m. Master Mason recognition night at Hesperus OES Chapter No. 823. I have been told the Worthy Matron expects all Master Masons to be present and accounted for.

May 14th - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wild Game Night, limited

to 70 tickets. Lots of food (Venison). Lots of prizes. Lots of Euchre. Lots of FUN!

May 19th - Regular meeting 7:30 p.m.

June 2nd - Meeting at 7:30 p.m., followed by fellowship and Pizza. All past Masters and Wardens and newly elected Masters and Wardens of Genesee-Wyoming District are invited for this time of fellowship.

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 thank everyone who gave his or her time on Sunday, April 10th, to support the Benefit Jamboree for Laurie Fink. The benefit was to help find a kidney donor and to raise funds to defray the medical expenses. Laurie is a member of Hesperus Chapter and the daughter of our Lodge Secretary. I was so proud to see so many from Hesperus Lodge step forward when the call came asking to help one of our own members in need. We wish the best for Laurie and pray that a kidney will soon be made available.

**Rochester Forest**  
**No. 133**

Tall Cedars  
of Lebanon  
of North America

3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Penfield, NY 14526

Norman P. Austin, GTC  
494-2223  
Donald C. Bell, Scribe  
334-7768

By Don Brugger, PGTC

Two more candidates were obligated in short form at our March meeting. Our new member total for this year is up to four, a truly historical landmark. The newest Tall Cedars are Joe Oelgoetz, III and George Springett. Joe is immediate Past Master of Wakan/Hubbard Lodge and George is a member of Hesperus Lodge. The Brothers obligated at our February meeting were Cyril White and Stuart Smith, both from Drumlin Square Lodge.

**Pot Luck Dinner**

Our April 27th Pot Luck Dinner with the ladies, has not transpired as of this writing. If

you receive this article before that date, by all means, come out and join us. It would be an opportunity to meet our new members and their wives.

**Coming events**

The Degrees will tentatively be conferred at our last Spring meeting on May 25th. I encourage all Brothers who are able to join us for this event. Its been a long time since we had a class of four to witness our Degrees. Come out and support your Forest and the Officers.

Preparations are in motion for our Annual Sausage Roast on June 22nd. It will be held at the same location as last year; the Kiwanis Park at the end of Shangrila Lane, in Webster. The liquid refreshments and sausage will be supplied. Bring your own table setting, tablecloths and a dish to pass. If you need directions, please call me or one of the Officers.

**Membership**

Since our Degrees are still a month away, you still have time to add some new names to our roster. The only way to

Newest members of Rochester Forest No. 133 are (from left to right) Woodsmen: Cyril White, Stuart Smith, George Springett and Joseph Oelgoetz III. They were initiated in the Spring Class.

(Photo courtesy of Donald Brugger)



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. If you would like to participate, please let me know. This is your Forest. If you want it to survive, we need candidates.

**Sickness and distress**

Don Freeman's condition still remains about the same. Paul Kober is slowly, but

surely, getting back on his feet. These Brothers would like to hear from you, please send a card or call. Please call me (458-6125), if you know of a Woodsmen with any health related problems.

**Hint, hint**

Remember, we still need help in contacting our members regularly. It will involve making only three or four calls once a month. Join our Calling Committee and get back in the mainstream. If you have rummaged around in your old Cedar stuff and found a Ritual Book or any other Cedar paraphernalia, please let me know and I will pick it up.

**Special donation**

Our new GTC recently re-

ceived a call from Kel Kelsey, a member of Fairport Lodge, concerning a piece of Cedar wood that he obtained many years ago when he was living in Lebanon. He said it was from the "Grove." To make a long story short, he offered it to Rochester Forest and I picked it up in late March. The plan is to work the piece into lumber that could be fashioned into a Bible stand for our Altar. Angelo DiCataldo has already worked it into manageable size and the project is progressing. When completed, the plan is to dedicate the stand, suitably inscribed, at an open meeting and publicly thank Brother Kelsey for the donation. Stay tuned.

# Grand Lodge Library

The Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library of Grand Lodge is pleased to announce that Masons across the State and browsers across the world may now access our Library catalogue and view artifacts from the museum collection through our website at [www.nymasoniclibrary.org](http://www.nymasoniclibrary.org). This announcement represents the completion of several years of work in preparing the Library catalogue for public access, and the acquisition of hardware and software to begin the digital conversion of the museum collection.

Online users should go to our home page, where a banner link will take them to the entry page for both the book catalog and the artifact catalog. Clicking on the book catalog link will connect you to the search page for the Ath-

ena=A9 database. You may enter a keyword, author's name, or title term into the search window, and search our catalogue of over 16,000 Masonic and related titles. Results of your search will be displayed on your screen; clicking on individual results will display complete records for the title selected.

Distance is no longer an obstacle to researchers and patrons who want to know what books we have in our collection. You now have the same access to our catalogue as if you were standing in our Manhattan branch, paging through cards in our old card catalogue. Members of Lodges in Buffalo, Rochester, Watertown, Plattsburgh, and all points from Montauk to Medina can now see the records

for every book we have catalogued. Brothers in good standing of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York can now borrow books outside our Reading Courses, simply by emailing the Library with the call numbers of the books they'd like to borrow.

Please note that circulation is limited to New York Masons, and that circulating books (books which can be borrowed) are limited to books published after 1920, and those titles of which the Library has two or more copies. Any questions regarding borrowing of books may be sent to: [info@nymasoniclibrary.org](mailto:info@nymasoniclibrary.org)

Browsers wishing to view our Virtual Museum can click on the link to our Artifact Collection. This link will take you to the search page of our ContentDM=A9 Archival Software, where you have the op-

tions of browsing or searching the artifacts in our Virtual Museum. We have opened the museum with a small sampling of high-interest artifacts, including the George Washington letter, a memorial trowel which belonged to Benjamin Franklin, and an apron and collar worn by Simon Bolivar. Images of these artifacts are accompanied by cataloging information, describing the physical make-up and historical significance of the items.

Artifacts will be added to the Virtual Museum on a weekly basis, so keep visiting to see more and more of the treasures in our care.

Once again, DISTANCE IS NO LONGER AN OBSTACLE. The Trustees and Staff of the Library are working hard to bring your Masonic heritage to you. As non-Masonic browsers visit our website, we look forward to expanding public understanding of the Freemasons and our history.

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# Scottish Rite NEWS

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

**Commander-in-Chief**



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

**Solemn Feast of the Pascal Lamb**

What a glorious event this was. The Feast of the Pascal Lamb, our annual celebration to acknowledge our departed Brothers, was performed with distinction. The Chapter Rose Croix took the occasion at The Party House and exemplified this program beautifully! Many thanks to the Rose Croix line; the Hilton Baptist Choir, guest speaker, Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33° Active and Deputy for New York, substituting for our Sovereign Grand Commander Ill.: Walter E. Webber, 33°. Our prayers and best wishes to our Sovereign Grand Commander for a speedy recovery from a recent medical condition. Those wishing to send a note, can do so to his residence: 63 Marrett Road, Lexington, MA 02421.

The evening was also special due to other dignitaries: R.: E.: George Knorr, Grand Commander, Knights Templar; M.: E.: Walter Hilsenbeck, Grand High Priest, Grand Chapter of New York, Royal Arch Masons; Ill. Robert Anderson, Potentate of Damascus Shrine, and M.: W.: and Ill.: Edward R. Trosin, Grand Master of Masons, New York.

The evening was also highlighted by the presentation of a personal donation to our flagship charity; 32° Masonic Learning Center, from Ill. Robert Anderson, and his Lady, Alice. Also, with assistance from one of our Learning Center students, Patrick Tyndall, the Valley of Rochester presented a check to Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, to be used for the Sponsor-a-Child Fund. This check will provide the necessary tutoring for four (4) students in the next year to conquer Dyslexia.



**Learning Center Contributions**

For any contributions to be credited to the New York State Learning Centers, located in Rochester and/or Oriskany, New York, please follow these simple guidelines.

## Rite Events Calendar

(when, where, what) see article for details

**Saturday, May 7th**  
Annual Banquet, Burgundy Basin Inn  
Social hour/Dinner (Black Tie)

**Thursday, May 19th**  
Damascus Shrine Center  
Social hour 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Meeting begins promptly at 7:30 p.m.  
Annual Budget review, Nominations, Elections,  
Installation of Lodge, Council, Chapter Officers

Please note: the Valley calendar distributed in the Fall is incorrect in some dates/programs. Please refer to the above information, or call the Office for details.



The cast for the Feast of the Pascal Lamb program were (left to right): G. Michael Morris; Rev. Charles Roberts, Most Wise Master; Richard K. Howe; Michael Knolla; Charles Spiegel, 32° MSA; Keith Banister; Seymour Kopen; Donald Rose, 32° MSA. (Photo by Jack VanElzakker)

- On a cover letter, or memo area of the check, please specify which Learning Center is to be credited with this donation. If you do not specify, the contribution will be split between the two.

- Make checks payable to: 32° Learning Centers for Children
- Send to: P. Michael Nielsen, Secretary, NYS Council of Deliberation, 570 Kiantone Road, Jamestown, NY 14702-9334.

**Boston Marathon**  
We must thank the Valley's local runner, Kate Zabel, for her hard work, as she completed the running of the Boston Marathon. The Valley of Rochester sponsored Kate, and we have led the pack in donations for the Learning Center runners. The runners were required to secure \$5,000 in donations/contributions in order to be entered in the marathon. I personally thank each and every one who contributed to this worthy cause. Congratulations, Kate, on your success.

**The Ill.: Robert P. Zabel Class Reunion**

The Valley of Rochester has completed the Spring Reunion, and welcomes eight new Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret. I thank each and every member for his support and dedication, whether working on-stage, back-stage, directing or supporting this Reunion. As they say "...many hands make light work," and it truly showed.

I also welcomed the assistance of the Valley of Buffalo in presenting the 28°, Knight of the Sun, to the class and our Valley. I also would like to

thank the members of the Valley of Buffalo; Frank Gaskill, who participated as MC in the 18°; and Ill.: Curtiss Montgomery, 33° Deputy's Representative, Buffalo, on taking part in the 32°. It is certainly a pleasure to work with the Valley of Buffalo. Many thanks to King Mix, Valley of Buffalo Commander-in-Chief, for the pleasure to work with him, and his teammates.

**Upcoming Programs**

May 7th - Annual Banquet - Haven't made reservations? It is NOT too late. You have received the flyer. This event will again be held at the Burgundy Basin Inn. See the article/flyer in this issue of the *Masonic Times* for details, or call the office for information and/or your reservations.

We will have the privilege to hear from our class sponsor, the Ill.: Robert P. Zabel, 33°, and also one our Learning Center students, Patrick Tyndall, an enthusiastic young lad, who is in his second year and doing great.

May 19th - Budget approval, nominations, Elections and Installation. It is time to approve the 2005-2006 operating budget, as required by our By-Laws, prior to the nomination, election and installation of Officers. Upon ratification, we then listen to the Nominating Committee, as they present for nomination and election your Lodge, Council, and Chapter Officers for the ensuing year.

Please join us as we welcome these Officers, and offer a warm thanks for the job well done, to the outgoing 2004-2005 presiding Officers.

**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**

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**Thrice Potent Master**

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**Sovereign Prince**

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**Most Wise Master**

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**Deputy's Representative**

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New York State Council of Deliberation  
Frank & Bette Paul 32° 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°, 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:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Sovereign Grand Commander</b><br>Ill.: Walter E. Webber, 33°      | <b>Grand Lieutenant Commander</b><br>Ill.: Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°      |
| <b>Grand Minister of State</b><br>Ill.: Norman L. Christensen, 33°   | <b>Deputy for the State of New York</b><br>Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33° |
| <b>Active Members for New York</b><br>Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33° | Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°  |
| Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°  |   |
| <b>Active Emeriti Members</b><br>Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°       | Ill.: James F. Niehoff, 33°   |
| Ill.: Carlton A. Winchester, 33°                                     | Ill.: Bruce Widger, 33°   |
| <b>Past Deputy for New York</b><br>Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°     | <b>Past Deputy for New York</b>   |

**Thank you**

As the year approaches a climactic closure for many Officers and committee members, I offer a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of our members, spouses and families. I thank you for your time...time spent away from your family and your effort to make our life a healthier place. As each of you need to know, our Valley is guided by many individuals who are committed to making this world a better place to live, work and enjoy the freedom we know today, those who strive to make our world a better place. I thank you, for it is the Rite thing to do.

So Mote It Be. ✕

**2nd Lt. Commander**

By Joseph F. Oelgoetz III

**Walk for Dyslexia**

Set aside Saturday, October 1, 2005. On this date the Valley of Rochester will be having the second annual Walk for Dyslexia to benefit the 32° Masonic Learning Centers for Dyslexic Children. Rochester has its own Center located on Monroe Avenue in Pittsford. The Center is known as The Frank & Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center, Inc. The Center currently is at capacity with approximately 30 children being tutored in tools that combat Dyslexia. The waiting list has about an additional 40 children.

The cost to tutor one child for two years (the typical length of time of the course) is \$10,000. By participating in the Walk for Dyslexia on October 1st, you will be helping to fund the continuation of this most needed service. The event is planned to be one for the whole family. The location will be along the Erie Canal - beginning and ending at the Perinton Park in Fairport.

We plan to begin registration at 9:30 a.m. and the at Walk approximately 10:30 a.m. The walk will take place along the

beautiful Erie Canal for approximately three miles. An ideal location for Masons, in that it was a Mason who not only pushed for the funding and construction of the Canal but, as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, dedicated the Canal in the early 1800s. This Mason was none other than Governor DeWitt Clinton.

After the Walk, we will be planning a family style picnic at one of the pavilions at the park. The picnic will have hots, hamburgers, cheeseburgers and all the trimmings. We hope to also have some entertainment. So, please mark your calendars for this important event on October 1, 2005. Come on out to Walk for a very good cause and enjoy Masonic fellowship and fun.

**Annual Banquet**

The Valley of Rochester's Annual Banquet to honor the Ill.: Robert P. Zabel, 33°, Class will take place on Saturday, May 7th at the Burgundy Basin Inn. The address is 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford. The cost of your meal is either \$15.00 single or \$25.00 per couple. The available meals for the evening will be Prime Rib of Beef, Chicken Wellington or Poached Salmon.

Paid reservations are a must and need to be sent to the Valley office no later than noon on Thursday, May 5th. Please come out to pay tribute to not only the new 32° Brethren, but also to our beloved Ill.: Robert P. Zabel, 33°. Questions on this event can be directed to the Valley office at 264-1160. Have a great May! ✕

**Sovereign Prince**

By Norman Austin

The Feast of the Pascal Lamb last month was very impressive, and Most Wise Master, Reverend Charles Roberts and his line Officers, as well as the other participants, did a stellar job portraying this meaningful ceremony. Like-

wise, the Spring Reunion has come to a successful close, and all involved in any way therein, also deserve to be commended for their time and effort. I am sure our new Sublime Princes were very taken by the Degree presentations. This means we have arrived at the month of May, very nearly bringing the Masonic Year to a close.

My articles in the past few issues of this publication have focused upon the importance of recruiting new candidates for the Spring Reunion. With that event having taken place, I would like to resume discussing some aspects of the Scottish Rite which may be unknown to Brethren and/or indeed, even Sublime Princes, specifically, the significance of the Double-Headed Eagle.

Last fall, Miss Linda surprised me with a beautiful gift of a 32nd Degree Scottish Rite ring, with the Double Eagle on it. I have received many positive comments on this ring, along with some questions, primarily regarding the Double Eagles, and what they represent. Lest I appear ignorant, or relay inaccurate information to those eager to learn, I decided to do a bit of research on the subject, and will herein, impart the same to you.

The Double-Headed Eagle of Lagash is the oldest royal crest in the world. It was a symbol of power more than two thousand years before the building of King Solomon's Temple. No other heraldic bearing, no other emblematic device of today can boast such antiquity. It was in use a thousand years before the exodus from Egypt, and has been a symbol for over fifty centuries.

That being so, how did it come into possession of the Scottish Rite? Why was it adopted as a symbol of the Rite, and by what authority do we use it? What is the significance of it?

Well, the Eagle was an ensign of the ancient kings of Persia. In Egypt and Greece, it was a bird sacred to the sun. It was an emblem of Jupiter, and with the Druids a symbol of the Supreme God. Marius, Consul of Rome in 102 B.C., ordained that the eagle should be the only designation as the ensign of the legions, and the single-headed eagle thereby became the emblem of the imperial power of Rome, and remained so ever after. After the division of the Roman Empire into the East and West, the Emperors of the West used a black eagle; those of the East, a golden one. Since that period, Austria, Prussia, Greece and Poland, when they were individual nations, used the eagle as their royal emblem.

**Origin of the Symbol**

The double-headed eagle first originated in the mighty Samarian city of Lagash. From cylinders taken from the ruins of the ancient city, the double eagle seems to have been known to the kings of that time as the Storm Bird. From the Samaritans this symbol passed to the men of Akhad; from them to the Hittites; from Asia Minor to the Seljukian Sultans, from whom it was brought to the Emperors of the East and West by the Crusaders.

The eagle of the Eastern Empire, united with that of the Western, typified the Holy Ro-

man Empire when ancient Byzantine, or Constantinople, shared with Rome the honor of being the capital of the Empire. Charlemagne first made use of the double-headed eagle when he became head of the German Empire, by adding the second head, thereby denoting the union of Rome and Germany in A.D. 802.

There seems to be some who believe that the double-headed eagle may have been a Masonic symbol as early as the beginning of the twelfth century, at the time of the second crusade, but it probably was first known to Freemasonry in 1758, upon the establishment of the Council of Emperors of the East and West, in Paris, in that year. This was a part of the Rite of Perfection, a rite of twenty-five Degrees, from which was evolved a large part of the present system of the Scottish Rite. The successor today of the Council of Emperors of the East and West is the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree which has inherited the insignia of the double-headed eagle.

The double-headed eagle of Kadosh is a white and black eagle. The head, neck, legs and tips of the wings are white feathers, while the body and wings are black. Its wings are extended, yet drooping; in its claws is a naked sword, one talon of the right claw clutching the hilt of the steel blade of serpentine shape, the left claw grasping the blade. The ribboned motto pendant from the hilt to the point of the sword contains the words: "Spec Mea In Deo Est," in black.

**The 33° Ring**

While this discussion has heretofore focused upon the 32nd Degree ring, those individuals who have been elected to receive the 33rd Degree have their own ring, which you may also have seen. The 33rd Degree ring consists of three plain, half-round gold rings united into one, not exceeding five-sixteenths of an inch in width, and having on the outside an equilateral triangular shaped plate with the number 33 in Arabic characters. The emblematic eagle of an Inspector General of the Thirty-third Degree is similar to that of the Kadosh, except that gold takes the place of the white and the ducal coronet surmounts the heads of the eagle, again supporting a small delta of gold, base downward, containing the initial letter "Jod."

The fillet of the crown of a 33rd Degree is crimson, while that of an Active is purple. The wings of the 33rd Degree eagle are sometimes represented in a rising position to designate Active Membership. Engraved on the inside of the ring is the Motto: "Deus Meumque Jus," the name of the member and the date on which he received the Thirty-third Degree.

**Forms of Identification**

To denote affiliation with the Rite, you will find that many Sublime Princes wear rings, lapel pins and other jewelry containing the Double-Headed Eagle of Lagash, all symbolic of the Thirty-second Degree.

The next time you see a fellow Sublime Prince wearing his ring or other symbolic jewelry, ask to take a closer look. He will be most proud to show you, and you have gained a valuable Masonic learning experience. ✕

**Why Enroll Now in the College of Freemasonry?**  
By Mike Knolla

Hopefully everyone, current and prospective members, have read my previous two columns on what the Scottish Rite, through the College of Freemasonry, has to offer them and the greater Masonic community. Hopefully, prospective members now have a better idea of why they should join, and existing members remember why they joined. But I am sure, given how busy we all are, some of you are rightfully asking, "Why Now?" Sure, you think, all those things sound good but you've got so many other things on your plate that maybe you'll just push it off for another year. You'll get back to it eventually.

So, WHY NOW? Because the 2005-06 "Academic Year" is shaping up to have the best "course offerings" in recent memory and you're not going to want to miss them. I've already discussed our newly inaugurated "AP" course offering where we will be bringing the 26th Degree to the Blue Lodges and there is always the Annual Reunion with its Degree program. Then there are our four annual dinner programs: The Solemn Feast of the Paschal Lamb, the Day of Tishri, the Day of Adar, and the Day of Tebeth. These dinner programs combine good food, unique Ritual and toasts and interesting speakers. The Feast of the Paschal Lamb is even open to the public and an excellent opportunity to show your friends and family why Masonry has so much importance in your life.

Next Year we're expanding two programs initiated in 2004-05. Hopefully many of you are planning to attend the inaugural Masonic Book Club meeting at 10:00 a.m. on May 14th at the Scottish Rite Office on Monroe Avenue. We will be discussing Dan Brown's *Angels and Demons*. With current events, it ended up being a very timely selection. As I read, I found myself highlighting many sections.

In 2005-06 we will expand this to four books:

- In September, we will discuss Peter L. Bernstein's new book, *Wedding of the Waters: The Erie Canal and the Making of a Great Nation* for our first non-fiction selection. This book combines local history with a prominent Freemason as a leading character in DeWitt Clinton.

- In November, we will be reading John J. Robinson's, *Born in Blood: the Lost Secrets of Freemasonry* as our second non-fiction selection. As "Speculative Masons" it is both fun and educational to engage in some speculation about our Fraternity's history.

- We hold off our next meeting until February to give you time to read Umberto Eco's, *Focault's Pendulum*. I believe this is one of the most rewarding reads I have ever experienced. This fictional story revolves around an "intellectual joke" trying to link the Knights Templar to every secret society and conspiracy theory that takes on a life of its own.

- We finish the year with Allan Moore's graphic novel, *From Hell*, in April. This speculative theory on the Jack the Ripper murders has certainly been one of the Fraternity's re-

cent public image issues. By having a greater understanding of the work of our detractors, we not only are better prepared to respond but also have the opportunity to better understand ourselves.

Many of you attended the *National Treasure* trip to the movies. The Scottish Rite has invested in a projector and speakers so we can make films a regular activity of the Fraternity. We have selected four movies, which both complement and go beyond our Masonic Book Club offerings:

- We begin the year in August with *The Man Who Would Be King*, starring Sean Connery and Michael Caine and based on Rudyard Kipling's book, (a famous Freemason). This could be set up in "drive-in" format, weather permitting...

- For those of you who missed it the first time, or who want to see it again, we will follow up *Born in Blood* with the similarly themed *National Treasure* in January.

- Our March selection, *Inspector Morse - Masonic Mysteries*, revolves around the music from Freemason Mozart's opera, *The Magic Flute*. This was also the first of two Morse films directed by Danny Boyle, who went on to direct *Trainspotting* and *28 Days Later*, two important films in the Gen X cannon, so his interpretation of a traditional character should prove very interesting.

- We finish the movie season with the film version of *From Hell*, starring Johnny Depp, allowing us to compare and contrast the depiction of our Fraternity in each medium.

Each film will be followed by a brief presentation and an open discussion.

What would college be like without athletics? (Okay, don't

answer that question, but you know what I mean.) In charge of the Family Life program in 2005, Reggie Reed is trying to line up two events for us right off the bat. In August we hope to go out to watch some of the old ballgame and have a picnic lunch with the Rochester Red Wings. Then in September we're looking to turn to old world football, I mean soccer, with a picnic and a Rochester Rhinos match.

Reggie is also working on a "CoEd" evening in October at Casa Larga (open to the ladies) where we will learn about wine tasting and pairing. We're trying to arrange for an evening at Rohrbachs (potentially a Brother Bring-a-Brother and/or "Day of ..." night). Reggie's only worked on the first three months of the Masonic calendar, and I think he's already set up a stellar year. He's also hinted that a day at the Zoo for the entire family is in the works.

The Children's Theatre will return as part of a coordinated Masonic Holiday celebration in December. This will, again, consist of original work (written by yours truly) dealing with Masonic themes and lessons. This play will be performed by children of the Valley of Rochester. All this is on deck for next year.

So, WHY NOW? Because you don't want to miss out on all the "further light" educational and extracurricular activities the College of Freemasonry has planned for its 2005-06 "Academic Year."

Keep reading the Scottish Rite section of the *Masonic Times* for more information on the above. If you have any questions, or are interested in joining the College of Freemasonry, please call the Scottish Rite office at 264-1160 or 1-800-858-2320. ✕

**Membership Rewards and Marketplace Provides Discounts to Scottish Rite Members**

By Dave Olmstead  
PR and Marketing Manager, Supreme Council

Who has time to go to the mall anymore? According to the Department of Commerce 4th Quarter E-Commerce Sales Report, in 2004 Americans spent \$69.2 billion shopping on the Internet, an increase of 23.5% from 2003. Because of this growing trend, your Member Service Team has been working to make your next Internet shopping trip more lucrative for you. Discounts and special offers for Scottish Rite Masons and their families can be found at [www.supremecouncil.org](http://www.supremecouncil.org). Click on the Member Services link. Use your Scottish Rite Visa while you save money by shopping online, and you'll provide additional funds to the Scottish Rite Charities.

At the Membership Rewards and Marketplace, you'll find national department stores like Wal-Mart and Target, travel discounts at Cheaptickets.com and Orbitz, and even theme park discounts for Universal Orlando and Paramount Parks.

Our spotlight offer to kick-off this new resource is our new membership with Working Advantage providing members and families access to exclusive discounts for movie theatres, movie rentals, theme parks, ski tickets, Broadway theatre, special

family events, online shopping and much more.

Registering is easy. Simply go to the Working Advantage website at: [www.workingadvantage.com](http://www.workingadvantage.com) and click on "Register." Using your Member ID (221346685), you may complete your one-time registration for free and create your own personal account with a password of your choice. Once you have registered, you can order either online or by phone at 1-800-565-3712 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., or Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

We hope you will take advantage of their discount offers so you can save up to 50% on popular attractions such as Sea World, Loews Cineplex Theatres, AMC Theatres, BLOCKBUSTER®, sporting events and some of the hottest shows on Broadway! If you have any questions about any discounts, please call Working Advantage.

You'll also want to bookmark the Membership Rewards and Marketplace as new partnerships are being formed regularly. For more information about becoming an affiliate partner with your business, please contact David Olmstead at: [dolmstead@supremecouncil.org](mailto:dolmstead@supremecouncil.org) or by phone at (781) 726-3550. ✕





**Ark of the Covenant**

The Ark of the Covenant was a kind of chest, measuring two cubits and a half in length, a cubit and a half in breadth and a cubit and a half in height. A cubit is a linear measure from ones elbow to ones fingertips – approximately 18 inches. Therefore the measurement of the Ark of the Covenant in US measurement is approximately 45 inches in length, 27 inches in breadth and 27 inches in height.

The Ark of the Covenant was made with setim wood (an incorruptible acacia wood). It was overlaid within and without with the purest gold, and a golden crown or rim ran around it. At the four corners, very likely towards the upper part, four golden rings had been cast; through them passed two bars of setim wood overlaid with gold, to carry the Ark. These two bars were to always remain in the rings, even when the Ark had been placed in the Temple of Solomon.

The cover of the Ark (known as the propitiatory – the corresponding Hebrew word means both “cover” and that which makes “propitious”). The word propitious, when looked up in both *Webster* and the *Encyclopedia Britannica* is defined as: favorably disposed or benevolent; being of good omen or auspicious; tending to favor or advantageous; a place of worship or prayer.

The propitiatory, then, is the seat, or footstool whereupon God had placed his feet. It was the holiest part of the Ark. Some describe this part of the Ark as the Oracle. That is to say where God made his prescriptions to Israel. “Thence,” the Lord had said to Moses, “Will I give orders, and will speak to thee over the propitiatory, and from the midst of these two cherubim, which shall be upon the Ark of the testimony, all things which I command the children of Israel by thee” (Exodus 25, vs. 22). And indeed we read in Numbers 7, vs. 89 – that when Moses “entered into the tabernacle of the covenant to consult the oracle, he heard the voice of one speaking to him from the propitiatory, that was over the Ark between the two cherubim”.

God speaks to his servants in a cloud over the oracle (Leviticus 16, vs. 2). This was, very likely, also the way in which he communicated to Joshua after the death of

Moses (Joshua 7, vs. 6). The oracle was, so to say, the very heart of the sanctuary, the dwelling place of God; hence we read scores of passages of the Old Testament that God “sitteth on the cherubim.”

Just mentioned was the word Cherubim. Upon the propitiatory of the Ark were placed two Cherubim of beaten gold, looking towards each other, and spreading their wings so that both sides of the propitiatory were covered. How exactly these Cherubim were sculpted is impossible to determine; however from the analogy with Egyptian religious art, it may well be supposed that they were images, kneeling or standing, of winged beings.

What are Cherubim? Cherubim are Angelic beings or symbolic representations thereof. The word Cherub (cherubim is the Hebrew masculine plural) is a word borrowed from the Assyrian meaning of “to be near.” Hence it means near ones, familiars, personal servants, bodyguards, courtiers. It was commonly used to refer to those heavenly spirits, who closely surround the Majesty of God and paid Him intimate service. As God was surrounded by figures of cherubim in His Sanctuary on Earth, so He is, according to Scripture, surrounded in reality by cherubim in His Court above. The function ascribed by these heavenly servants of God’s Majesty is that of throne-bearers, or “carriers” of His Divine Majesty. Hence it came to mean as much “Angelic Spirits” conceived to be in a state of perfection, wisdom, sinlessness and nearness to God and His Holy Majesty.

We get our visual ideas of cherubim from art. Most often referred in the Bible via sculptured, engraved and embroidered figures used in the furniture and ornamentation of the Jewish Sanctuary. In Egyptian art, figures with a human face and two outstretched wings attached to arms are exceedingly common. In Assyrian art, also, winged human figures on either side of a palm tree are very often used in decoration. They are sometimes hawk-headed, but more usually possess men’s faces. However, even the Jews at the time of Christ (according to Josephus) had completely forgotten the appearance of the Temple cherubim. Josephus stated “that no one knows or even can guess what form they had.” The very fact, however,

that the Bible nowhere gives a word of explanation, but always presupposes them well-known, makes us believe that they were among the most common figures in the time of the Old Testament. It is important to note that this is the only exception to the law forbidding the Israelites to make carved images, an exception so much the more harmless to the faith of the Israelites in a spiritual God because the Ark was regularly to be kept behind the veil in the Sanctuary and away from the people.

Given the fact that the people of Israel were in captivity in Egypt for more than four hundred years leads to many scholars on the subject to speculate that the Cherubim took on an Egyptian motif. In fact, the entire form of the Ark of the Covenant was probably inspired by some of the articles of the furniture of Egyptian temples.

The Ark was first destined to contain the testimony, that is to say the tables of the Law (Exodus 11, vs. 18 and Deuteronomy 10, vs. 5). Later, Moses was commanded to put into the Ark a golden vessel holding a gomar of manna (Exodus 16, vs. 34), and the rod of Aaron, which had blossomed (Numbers 17, vs. 10).

**Brief history**

According to the sacred narrative recorded in Exodus 25 vs. 10-22, God Himself had given the description of the Ark of the Covenant, as well as that of the tabernacle, and all of its appointments. God’s command was fulfilled to the letter. And on that day God showed His pleasure by filling the Ark of the Testimony with His Glory, and covering it with a cloud that henceforth would be to His people a guiding sign during their journey. This sacred chest was a visible sign of God’s presence and protection.

Once the people of Israel were in the Promised Land, across the river Jordon, the Ark was used as a visible sign of God’s power over the enemies of Israel. For example, when Israel was besieging Jericho, at God’s command, the Ark was carried in procession around the city for seven days, until the walls crumbled at the sound of trumpets and the shouts of the people, thus giving the army an open place in the walls to attack. (Joshua 7, vs. 6-21).

The first semi-permanent place for the Ark was at Shiloh of the territory of Ephraim. In a war with the Philistines, in

**WNY PAST HIGH PRIEST ASSOCIATION**

**30th Annual Royal Arch Scholarship Dinner**

**Saturday, May 21st**

**Old Red Mill Banquet Complex**  
8326 Main Street  
Williamsville, New York

Cash Bar - 5:30 p.m. - Dinner - 6:30 p.m.



**Dinner Music by**  
**R.:E.: Karl Heinz Reich**

**\$25.00 per person**

*Paid Reservations by May 15 to:*  
Paul Czubaj, 1378 Independence Drive, Derby, NY 14047-9550  
Phone: (716) 947-4519; Email: CzubajPaul@aol.com  
Make checks payable to: "Royal Arch Scholarship Fund"



which God did not ordain, it was lost to the Philistines. But God proved so powerful over Dagon – the God of the Philistines – that after plagues and invasions of mice, the Philistines returned the Ark to Israel, where it found a resting place in Jerusalem during the reign of David. The tabernacle, which David had pitched to receive the Ark, was not, however, to be its last dwelling place. The King indeed had thought of a temple more worthy of the glory of God. However, the building of this edifice was to be the work of David’s successor. From the beginning of Solomon’s reign, this prince showed the greatest reverence to the Ark, especially after the mysterious dream in which God answered his request for wisdom by promising wisdom, riches and honor. When the temple and all of its appointments were completed, Solomon, before the dedication, assembled the elders of Israel, that they might solemnly convey the Ark from the place where David had set it up to the Holy of Holies of the Temple. Thence it was, most likely, taken out, either to accompany military expeditions or to enhance the splendor of religious celebrations.

**Where is it now?**

As to what became of the Ark at the fall of Jerusalem, in 587 B.C., there exist several traditions. The tradition of Jeremiah – in a letter of the Jews of Jerusalem to them that were in Egypt, the following details are given as copied from a writing of Jeremiah: “The

prophet, being warned by God, commanded that the tabernacle and the Ark should accompany him, till he came forth to the mountain where Moses went up and saw the inheritance of God. And when Jeremias came thither he found a hollow cave and he carried in it the tabernacle and the Ark and the altar of incense, and so stopped the door...”

The victorious Babylonian Army that ransacked Jerusalem after having taken it in battle is another tradition known as The Apocalypse of Esdras. This is certainly viable since as we learn in Kings 25 that the Babylonian troops carried away from the temple whatever brass, silver, and gold they could lay their hands upon.

The Talmud – Another tradition tells us that the Ark was hidden away by King Josias in a most secret place prepared by Solomon in case the Temple might be taken and set on fire.

For those who are Council members, does this sound familiar? And if this tradition is true, does this support the myth surrounding the finding of the Ark by the Knights Templar during their time in Jerusalem? These questions are for a different discussion.

**Bibliography**

1. *The Holy Bible*
2. *The Catholic Encyclopedia*: Ark of the Covenant; Cherubim.
3. *Webster Dictionary*: Propitious
4. *Encyclopedia Britannica*: Propitiatory

**Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!**  
By Tom Michielsen

Whew!! The Tax Season rush is over. Now we can relax and turn our thoughts to Spring and Summer activities. Let us all enjoy the good and endure the bad; change what we can and let what we can’t change pass as quickly as possible.

Mistakes! Who makes mistakes? Everyone makes mistakes occasionally! If you filed your tax return before April 3rd and have not received your refund check yet, you may have made one or more of the following common mistakes made by individuals this year:

1) Choosing the wrong filing status. For example, taxpay-

ers often incorrectly claim the “head of household” filing status without meeting the requirements for that status.

2) Failing to include or using incorrect social security numbers. As stated in an earlier article, the names and social security numbers included on a return must agree exactly with your social security cards.

3) Failing to put your information on the correct line of the return. Some list their taxable pension income on the line for Schedule E income and then on the New York State return try to deduct that pension on the line for federal adjustments. This frequently generates letters from both governments which upsets and scares the individual.

4) Did you sign and date

your return? If not, it will not be accepted until it is.

5) Did you claim a dependent who either does not qualify or claimed themselves on their own return? College students file returns without talking to their parents and can cause problems for them and their parents.

6) Failing to check if you are liable for the Alternative Minimum Tax. More taxpayers are becoming liable for the AMT because of changing tax laws.

Two enhancements to the IRS feature, “Where’s My Refund?” now allow taxpayers to safely and easily trace their lost refund checks and update their mailing address online from the convenience of their own home or office.

Taxpayers can securely access their personal refund in-

formation by entering their social security numbers, filing status, and the exact amounts of their refunds. These “shared secrets” data, known only to the taxpayer and IRS, verify the person is authorized to access that account. Simple instructions guide taxpayers through the steps needed to begin the trace action.

The enhanced features also allow them to change or correct their mailing addresses when their refund checks have been returned to the IRS as undeliverable. When they make the address change online, it automatically updates the IRS database and advises them of the dates they should receive their refund checks.

The IRS has posted the new Form 8891, U.S. Information Return for Beneficiaries of Cer-

tain Canadian Registered Retirement Plans, on their website: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). The new form replaces the requirement to file Form 3520. Certain taxpayers who hold interests in Canadian registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs) or registered retirement income funds (RRIFs) must use Form 8891 to report contributions or distributions from the plans.

**Upcoming dates**

- May 15 - April Payroll Taxes
- May 31 - Exemption Organization Returns

If you have any tax questions, please forward them to [tmichie1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:tmichie1@rochester.rr.com).

**Returning Snowbirds**

**Do we have your correct address?**



# Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Legion  
Clowns  
Caldron  
Historian

Ken Rhodes, Monarch

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



**Kenneth Rhodes  
Monarch  
621-6051**

### Fellowship

Monday, May 2nd, is the date of our Board meeting at the Shrine Center, Bay Road, Webster, at 7:00 p.m.. Norm Austin, Chief Justice, will preside, as I will be in Canada with our family.

The Ceremonial for May 18th has been rescheduled to October 19th. We will have a regular meeting in May, beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be no dinner before the meeting, but refreshments afterwards.

The 137th Annual Memorial Service will be held at the Rochester War Memorial, on Sunday, May 29th at 3:00 p.m. Lalla Rookh Grotto, along with the Masonic War Veterans, has been requested to escort the groups presenting the wreaths.

The Memorial Day Parade in the Town of Greece will take place on Monday, May 30th. Lalla Rookh Grotto will, once again, join forces with the James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post No. 12. The time of the parade is 2:00 p.m., and we will meet at James and Long Pond Roads. The Ceremony at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center will follow the parade. Please do your best to attend these two events. x

### Master of Ceremonies By Michael Bell, PM

of the Rock of Gibraltar."

The next full-form Ceremonial will be held in October, so please start to review your respective parts. I will be sending postcards regarding roles and rehearsals. No, Ron, you will not get a letter sealed with a kiss. x

## Secretary's Column By Kenneth Hutchinson, PM

On April 20th, we were pleased to recognize the following Prophets for their continued membership in Lalla Rookh Grotto:

**65 years**  
Edward Dreier  
**55 years**  
Les Moore, Frank Murrer, Jr., Fred Ogborne and Jay Riggs

**50 years**  
Wayne Slack  
**45 years**  
Ken Milner, PM  
**35 years**  
Fred Cornell, Caryl Eckert and Robert Young

**25 years**  
Robert Uderitz  
**15 years**  
Mike Eeckhout, Joseph Minus, PM, and Ron Morthorst, PM

**10 years**  
James Pray  
**5 years**  
Glen Campbell, Frank Chinnetski, Dave Edmonds, Charles Hartwell, Thomas McCulloch, Kenneth Rhodes, James Slocum, Richard Vaughan and Nelson Wolford. x



Prophet Wayne H. Slack receiving 50-Year Award from Monarch Ken Rhodes. His son, Wayne W. Slack, looks on.

Once again nobody won the trivia contest. This was likely due to Gremlin activity in the press room. Gazebo should have been Zamboni and furlongs should have been Vursts. The contest awards all remain the same. First prize is a dinner with Ken Hutchinson. Second prize is three dinners with Ken Hutchinson. This month's trivia question is: "to the nearest gram, estimate the weight

## Grand Historian



Home phone  
(315) 589-9021  
Grotto office  
671-6320

**Kenneth Hutchinson, PM**  
hutchkv@yahoo.com



Prophet Ed Dreier receiving 65-Year Award from Monarch Ken Rhodes, as Ed's sister, Evelyn Taillie looks on.

On April 20th, Lalla Rookh paid tribute to our Prophets with long-time membership. While not the oldest, Prophet Edward Dreier has been a member the longest. The Order was conferred on him 65 years ago, May 18, 1940.

It was a grand day. There were eleven Past Monarchs present and five Grottoes represented among the 27 visitors. Al Sirat Grotto of Cleveland, came the furthest; their "Big Six" were in the line of

## May 1940 Ceremonial Five Grottoes Represented



(Left to right) Monarch Harold Calkins, Wargo, Oswego; Monarch Archie Middlemost, Hindo Koosh, Hamilton; Secretary William B. Weir, Wargo, Oswego; Past Monarch, Edward Sweeting, Lalla Rookh; Charles P. Johnson, President, Ohio Grotto Association; Monarch Fred B. Snyder, Al Sirat, Cleveland and Monarch Norman J. Felger, Zulicka, Buffalo. (Photos submitted by Ken Hutchinson, PM, Grand Historian)

march. The candidates numbered 158. Besides Ed, Sheriff Albert Skinner and Gordon Howe also joined that day.

The day's events included registration at 2 p.m., and a large parade at 4 p.m. A Roast Beef Dinner was at 6 p.m. in the Masonic Temple's lower dining rooms A and B. It was free for candidates and their recommenders. Others paid 60 cents. The Ceremonial started at 7:30 p.m. followed by the Revel Degree.

Ed joined the Order of DeMolay at the age of 16. He served with the Navy in World War II. He became a member

of Germania Lodge, as well as a member of Consistory, Damascus Shrine, their Legion of Honor and the Jesters, along with the James A. Hard Post No. 12, Masonic War Veterans. In 1940 he joined our Grotto, attending many Grotto functions through the years.

In 1933 he became a Licensed Funeral Director, owning his own funeral home at 1717 Portland Avenue, until he sold it and retired. It still bears his name. His wife, Marion, passed away and Ed resides with his sister, Evelyn Taillie on Park Road, near Fame Lodge. x

## Attend Grotto Meetings

Mon., May 2nd -  
Board of Governors  
Meeting, Shrine  
Center, 7:00 p.m.

Wed., May 18th -  
Meeting - Shrine  
Center 7:30 p.m.

Sun., May 29th -  
Memorial Service  
Blue Cross  
Arena at War  
Memorial 3 p.m.

Mon., May 30th -  
Memorial Day  
Parade Greece  
2 p.m.

Enjoy the  
Fellowship

## Support Grotto Charities

Dentistry  
for the  
Handicapped  
and  
Cerebral  
Palsy

## THE DIET



"Al, BOTH feet on the scale."

## Lalla Rookh Grotto

Saturday  
June 25th

LET'S PLAY



GOLF!

Old Hickory G.C.  
6655 Big Tree Road  
Livonia, NY

Open to all Masons  
and their Friends!

\$40.00 per person  
18 Holes of Golf  
Cart • Prizes  
Steak Dinner  
TEE TIME 9:30 a.m.

Limit: 40 reservations  
Deadline: June 18th

GOLF HOT LINE  
CALL DICK (585) 663-2547

Make checks payable to & send with reservation form to:  
Dick Topel, 949 Bennington Drive, Rochester, NY 14616  
Please list complete names of players on separate sheet.

Number in party \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Old Hickory Golf Club, Livonia, Saturday, June 25th - Tee Time 9:30 a.m.

Still time to get in your entry with your foursome! Yes, you can enter by yourself or with a partner. 18 holes, cart, Steak Dinner, refreshments on the Course. Drawing for prizes, plus closest to the pin, longest drive, scores, etc. See the ad in this paper. The entry fee is only \$40 per person. Send your entries to: Dick Topel, 949 Bennington Drive, Rochester, NY 14616. The deadline is June 18th. The golf hotline is 663-2547. x

### Chief Justice

By Norman Austin

The Chief Justice Conclave in Fredonia proved to be a very informative and enjoyable event. Those Prophets and their Ladies from Sharif and Kharram Grottoes, who combined efforts to make this event the success it was, certainly deserve kudos for their efforts. Miss Linda and I extend our thanks to Mike and Doris Bell for kindly supplying transportation to and from Fredonia.

At our last meeting, several Prophets received well-deserved Awards for years of service to the Grotto. Our congratulations and best wishes go out to these individuals. We also had a wonderful time at the Caldron's fabulous Smorgasbord—delicious food and great camaraderie, what more

could one ask? These Ladies do a wonderful job and our thanks go out to MCO, Sue Wilson and her Officers and Ladies for all they do.

The Grotto office has a new look lately, thanks to the efforts of Prophet Greg Ludwig and his dedicated crew, who installed shelving to hold and display the many treasured trophies awarded to the Lalla Rookh Grotto for competition in various events throughout its illustrious history.

Although our Spring Ceremonial has been canceled, we will still be busy with activities this month, including participation in the Memorial Day Parade in Greece, on the 30th of this month. Come on out and support us as we pay tribute to those who sacrificed so much for us!

This month, we keep in our thoughts and prayers, Jay Riggs and his Lady Harriett, as

he continues his recovery; Charlie White, who is also recovering; Ken Rhodes and Lady Doreen, as they travel to Canada for their grandson's surgery; Joann Swan and Prophet Ernie as she undergoes surgery and Prophet Keith Banister as he also has some surgery performed.

We are, hopefully, in the midst of nicer weather, and on that note, Happy Spring and Happy Mother's Day from all of us in Lalla Rookh Grotto! ✕

### Legion of Honor

By Brian Bills, Commander

It was wonderful to see so many of you and your ladies come to dinner at the Nutcracker for our meeting on March 21st. It was especially nice to see both Frank Murrer and Leon Van Huben in attendance and doing as well as they are. For those who were

unable to attend, I think you missed a good time. Hopefully, you will all be able to make it to our next meeting. I look forward to seeing the Monarch at the next meeting, too.

As promised, Bernie Lazer-son from Senior Outreach Solutions, was our guest speaker and shared a lot of great information with us about Social Security concerns and how each of us might be impacted.

Our next meeting was at the Nutcracker Restaurant in Webster Monday, April 18th. This was a regular meeting and, at the end, we saw a short video about Identity Theft and Work-at-Home Scams. If anyone is interested in showing it at home, please let me know and I will let you borrow my copies. The videos are presented by the US Postal Inspection Service and are very worthwhile topics.

Sometime in June I would like to set up a day trip but

need some input. I am looking for your ideas as to what you would like to do along with our ladies, friends and Brother Prophets. A trip on the Ferry has been suggested, with a day in Toronto; a day at the casino (not Turningstone), perhaps the Seneca Niagara is another option. It's a nice facility and I would like them to return my money to me. They took a little over one weekend (I had to research the place for you).

Good friends, good food, good information sharing and a good time; what more can you ask for? Hope to see you there. Let's fill up the meeting room at the Nutcracker!!!

The Old Country Buffet has been suggested as an alternative meeting place. It's in the Ridge Culver shopping plaza across from Wegmans on Ridge Road East. Please let me know your thoughts. Drop me a line or email me at: [BBills@Rochester.rr.com](mailto:BBills@Rochester.rr.com)

## Publications & Public Relations Committees April Seminar in Utica



Jerry Cooper addresses committee members attending seminar.

By Skip Waterstreet

Another interesting and informative session was held last month at the Masonic Care Community in Utica. Most of the scheduled speakers attended and provided updates on their specific programs.

#### Trustees update

Gilbert Adams, Trustee of the Masonic Hall & Home, spoke on the continuing improvements to the campus. The steel skeleton of the new Wiley Hall was virtually completed, with the modern facility expected to open a year from now. Even now, the physical facility is top shelf, noted Gil. Their primary concern is care of the patient. As a result, there is an annual

deficit, currently in the \$11 million range, which is covered by the Fraternity. Ira Cooperman, Director of Development, added that 87% of the residents of Wiley Hall are Masons or widows of Masons.

#### Camp Turk

Gil also pointed out that the Trustees support Camp Turk to the tune of \$500,000 per year. The Grand Master's Day at the Camp is August 6th. It was mentioned that the girls' sessions were nearly filled and there were about 40 openings remaining for boys at the Camp.

The *Empire State Mason* magazine, with a circulation of about 62,000, is published by the Trustees.

#### Child ID

Clarence Eckhoff, Chair of the Child ID Program, reported on the continued success of this undertaking. CHIP received more publicity in the first quarter of 2005 than it did all of last year. He particularly pointed out the event held in Rochester to record the hearing impaired community, with its newspaper and television coverage. Two other Districts had news coverage of their videotaping sessions, which were shown to those in attendance.

May 21st is the National Child ID Day. The Grand Master, M.: W.: Edward R. Trosin, is solidly behind this Program, and has named that entire weekend for New York State Masons to become involved.

#### Brotherhood Fund

The Brotherhood Fund is the only 501(c)3 tax deductible fund within Grand Lodge, reported R.: W.: Robert Stack. This year, the contributions are considerably less than in previous years. Part of that is attributed to the requests for support for the Florida Hurricanes and flood damage, and Tsunami relief. Funds are still required to maintain our programs.

He commented that not every issue has articles from Brotherhood Fund Chairmen, and the reason for the Grand Lodge Brotherhood Fund solicitation

mailing is it reaches many out-of-state Brothers and widows, who might never hear from their respective Lodge.

#### Educational Assistance

Nearly 1000 applications have been submitted in 2005, about 100 more than last year. The Educational Assistance Awards to qualified students would be presented across the State during July and August, according to Jerry Cooper.

#### Masonic Medical Research

Only 11% of the Research Lab's budget is covered by the Fraternity, reported Ron Kamp, Director of Development. It used to be 50%. He commented that people give to causes because someone died from it; maybe we should make contributions because we DON'T have the disease.

Universal permission to reprint articles he supplies was granted, but he would like to be notified. Then he was whisked away to the MMRL Board Meeting by Dr. Charles Antzelevitch, world-renowned Executive Director of the MMRL, who was given a warm round of applause by seminar participants.

#### DeMolay

Mark Alvarado, Executive Secretary of DeMolay New York, outlined upcoming activities and invited everyone to promote the DeMolay website: [www.nydemolay.org](http://www.nydemolay.org).

Cary Cohn, Chairman, Committee on Youth, asked how many Lodges support youth organizations - DeMolay, Triangle, Constellation or Rainbow. He is encouraging Brothers to work with our young people to get them acquainted with our Masonic family.

#### MSAT

The Masonic Student Assistance Training Program is receiving more and more word-of-mouth publicity. For the first time ever, reported Tim McMullin, Chairman, there is a waiting list to participate. All levels - elementary, middle and high schools - can benefit from the program.

Watch for the date and the names of scheduled speakers in the *Empire State Mason* or *Masonic Times* for the next seminar, probably in the Fall. ✕

### Remember



The Brotherhood Fund

# Support your Community.

In order to provide the highest quality of care, the Masonic Care Community needs your support! Because of ever increasing costs and insurance reimbursements, the Masonic Care Community faces deficits each year. Won't you please help by sending a tax-deductible contribution? In exchange for your donation, several dedication opportunities (beginning at \$1000) are available. For more information or to make a donation, please call Brother Ira Cooperman, Director of Development, at 315-798-4703 (toll-free 800-593-3353) or mail the attached coupon. Please support *your* Community.



MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY of New York

ACACIA VILLAGE ~ WILEY HALL ~ HEALTH PAVILION & REHABILITATION CENTER ~ ACACIA HOME CARE

MAIL TO: MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY  
Attn: Ira Cooperman, Director of Development  
2150 Bleeker Street, Utica, NY 13501-1788

- Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ as a tax-deductible contribution, payable to the *Brotherhood Fund*.
- Please send me information about dedication opportunities.

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

In MEMORY/HONOR of \_\_\_\_\_

Mail ACKNOWLEDGEMENT to \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_



# Order of the Eastern Star

## NOLATKA Chapter No. 320

Order of the Eastern Star  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
**Matron**  
Wthy. Antoinette Jeerings  
345-1988  
**Patron**  
Rt. Wthy. William Baxter  
225-5284  
**Secretary**  
Rt. Wthy. Carol Wynings  
594-4692  
22 South Main Street  
Churchville 14428

By Kim Robinson

Please accept my humble apologies for missing the April Masonic Times deadline. I know how much we ALL look forward to it!

### Sickness and distress

1. Our meetings have been much too quiet without Betty Reisinger's beautiful music! Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time, dear! Do take care!

2. Brother Bill Hooker was hospitalized last month. Our thoughts and prayers are with you for a speedy recovery!

3. Carol Pickworth recently took a tumble; thank God she only suffered a few bruises here and there. Our prayers are with you dear.

4. Sula Baxter will have surgery on her knee on May 2nd.

### The good news!

I am pleased to announce that our Chapter has adopted a family in need. They have two young men within their fold. Theron is 13 years old and is very interested in space technology. His little brother is Alex and he is 8 years old. He is into art, such as painting and drawing. Please send them a card of encouragement, as it would really make their day! For address information see our Matron, Toni Jeerings.

### Something to sink your teeth into!

We have set a date for the next Progressive Dinner. It is September 18th. More information will follow! The big news, though, is that this year's dinner will include four or five Chapters! Everything is still tentative, but I will fill you in on the final news when I receive it!

### The big news!

We are in the process of planning a Keuka Lake Winery Tour. The date is October 15th and the cost is \$30 per person, excluding lunch. We will depart from Churchville by limousine. Please contact Carol Wynings for more information or tickets. Seating is limited, so reserve your spot early!

### Congratulations

Robert Crystal is graduating from Seminary on May 14th. Our hats are off to you, Robert, and much continued luck for your future.

### Florida

When Rt. Wthy. Barbara Bossert recently visited her son in St. Petersburg, Florida, Wthy. Alice Hasset and Rt. Wthy. Sue Goosens invited her to join them in Dunedin for lunch. Later, the three spent part of the afternoon browsing through antique shops in 82° weather.

Other Monroe District OES Sisters, Helen Barry and Vicki Ball (Charlotte Chapter) visited in the same condo association in Dunedin as Sue and Alice.

### A big thank you

Nolatka Chapter thanks all who sent in extra money with their dues. It is so appreciated.

### A look at our future

The Associate Matrons' Club has tickets for sale on a hot/cold Pyrex tote. Chances are \$.50 each or three for a dollar. Please see me or a member of the Associate Matrons' Club for your tickets. Drawing date will be announced later.

### June

June 2nd is Grands.

June 7th is our last meeting before the Summer. There will be more information later as to whether or not we will have a picnic.

In closing I quote: "Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive and go do that, because what the world needs is people who have come alive!"  
Howard Thurman

## Rochester Chapter No. 314

Order of the Eastern Star  
First Saturday, 8:00 p.m.

**Matron**  
Wthy. Deavera Bundec  
663-2949

**Patron**  
Wthy. George Bundec  
365-0111

**Secretary**  
Rt. Wthy. Barbara Spano  
244-1503

133 South Union Street  
Spencerport 14459-1337



As the saying goes, April showers bring May flowers. How right they were. What a glorious time of the year; everything is new and fresh. How quickly time seems to be flying by. Already it is time for our Official Visit, which will be held on May 7th at 7:30 p.m., at the Spencerport Masonic Temple. Rehearsal is on May 1st at 2 p.m. I hope to see you all there.

### Join us!

Rochester Chapter will be celebrating another birthday on May 22nd at the Avon Inn. We will gather at 4 p.m., with dinner at 5 p.m. The menu choices are: Roast Leg of Lamb \$22; Grilled Salmon \$22; and Prime Rib \$25.00.

Please make your reservation with Rt. Wthy. Barbara E. Spano at 244-1503 by May 10th. If transportation is an issue, please let her know and we will find you a ride.

Please continue to keep our Sisters and Brothers in your prayers: Rt. Wthys. Audrey Zufall, Barbara Mertens, Barbara Spano, Evelyn Ann Heller and Diana Woodruff; Wthys. Dianne Johnson, Susan Duff; Sisters Norma Gingold and Helen Hayes.

Condolences to Wthy. James Woodruff on the death of his brother. Cards and calls would be appreciated.

### Summer!

Our Bakeless Bake Sale will run from June thru August

15th; all recipes and monies need to be sent to Rt. Wthy. Barbara Spano.

Warm greetings to all who are unable to join us.

## Tri-Star Chapter No. 209 OES



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

**Matron**  
Rt. Wthy. Kay Wharmby  
223-3959

**Patron**  
Wthy. Norman Howard  
265-3374

**Secretary**  
Rt. Wthy. Helga Haak  
(315) 597-4105

161 East Main Street  
Palmyra, NY

The Chapter did not meet on the 5th of April, as planned, in order to attend the Humanity Chapter, Lyons, Official Meeting that evening.

The April 19th meeting was all about Spring. IT'S FINALLY HERE!! The Pot Luck Dinner with a German theme produced more good food. How lucky our Chapter is to have such good cooks!

The May 3rd meeting is an open meeting. Bring a friend! All of the mothers present will be recognized. This evening we will be wearing short colored dresses and hope to fill the room.

May 17th is Initiation. Long white will be the dress for the evening. This Ritual is always special to watch and has precious meaning for us all. Please plan to attend.

May 26th is the Official Visit of the Grand Matron at the Quality Inn in Newark. If you can't make the dinner, try to attend the meeting and support our District.

## 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

Well, Spring has come and I, for one, am glad. I am looking forward to seeing the flowers showing their heads and the grass turning green. I didn't say I wanted it to grow, as then you have to mow and mow and mow.

### Condolences

It saddens me to report that we have loss a very dear Sister. Eva Patterson passed away April 8th. She spent her last few days at the Serenity House in Victor, which is a Hospice House, a wonderful place and wonderful people with whom to spend your last days. For that reason, I am making the Serenity House a project for our Chapter. They gave me a wish list of what they could use. If anyone would like to donate to this cause, please let me know. If you are out of our

area, but know of a hospice in your area and would rather give to that one, please do.

### Thanks

I thank each and every one who helped with our Official Visit. It went well, for the first time when we had a combined one with another Chapter.

If you know of any of our Brothers or Sisters who are under the weather, please keep them in your prayers.

I want to leave you with this. The scent of lilacs fills the air, carried on a Spring-time breeze.

Flowers truly are nature's loveliest accessories.

## Wayne District Order of the Eastern Star

**DDGM** **DGL**  
Rt. Wthy. Rt. Wthy.  
Donna Hiller Craig Sewert  
315-986-7173 315-926-5956

Finally Spring is here and many activities have been taking place in Wayne District.

Our second Study Club will have been held on Saturday, April 23rd, at the Marion Masonic Temple with M.Wthy. Neil Laundry helping us go over the Initiation work. Hopefully, everyone learned something new. Lunch was served by Richards Chapter and we worked on the favors for the Grand Matron's Official Visit.

We had the Pizza Party at the VA Hospital on Saturday, April 2nd. There were only 3 of us, but it was really gratifying to see the smiles and to hear thank you for taking the time to come and spend some time with them. It really was great fun. The area that we visited has just been newly renovated and looks great. We will be back on Saturday, June 23rd to serve root beer floats. They look forward to our visits. Put the date on your calendar.

We had our second dinner of Spaghetti and Meatballs on Friday, April 8th. This was our first attempt as a District. It didn't have quite the turnout we had expected, but we had fun doing it and learned many things regarding what to do the next time. We haven't given up, and plan to try another one sometime in the future.

## Wayne District OES Roast Pork Dinner

Sunday, May 1st  
11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
\$7.00

Lyons Masonic  
Temple  
Route 14, Lyons

Call (315) 946-9031 or  
(315) 986-7173  
for information

We will be having a Roast Pork Dinner on Sunday, May 1st at the Lyons Masonic Temple on Route 14 from 11:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$7.00. All the money raised at these dinners goes to the Grand Matron's/Grand Patron's Projects. Come on out for fun, food and fellowship.

Wayne District Official Visits are as follows: Sodus Chapter had to reschedule to, Wednesday, May 4th; Amity Chapter, Newark, Wednesday, May 11th and Draper Chapter, Wolcott, Wednesday, May 18th. They start at 7:30 p.m.

It will be good to see our snowbirds back. Last, but not least, we are in full swing for the plans of the Official Visit of our Grand Matron, M.Wthy. Ruth Howe and our Grand Patron, M.Wthy. Ronald Charron on Thursday, May 26th at the Quality Inn in Newark. Rt. Wthy. Craig Sewert and I are really excited about all of the festivities. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m., entertainment at 7:30 p.m. and the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Invitations are out and we hope to see many of you there.

Don't forget the cancelled postage stamps, Campbell Soup Labels and Box Tops for Education. I'm still collecting items for the Domestic Violence Program that is the special project of the Grand Matron. This is a good time to notify me with everyone doing spring cleaning. I know that they appreciated the things that have been taken down after I did mine. I have a list if you would like to know what is needed. Give me a call and I would be glad to take the items off your hands.

## SPRING HAS ARRIVED!

MAKE PLANS WITH YOUR LODGE  
FOR A BUS TRIP TO  
THE NEW MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY

Tour the Campus and see:

Retirement Living at Acacia Village  
New Wiley Hall Construction - Residential Adult Care  
Long Term Nursing Care in the New Health Pavilion

Receive information about:

- ❖ Respite Care
- ❖ Short Term Rehabilitation Program
- ❖ Palliative Care



Call Angie Caiola

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

979 Bay Road  
Webster, NY  
14580-1736



Phone - 671-7701  
Fax - 671-7702



Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

# Shrine News

Website - [www.damascusshriners.org](http://www.damascusshriners.org)

Email addresses:  
[office@damascusshriners.org](mailto:office@damascusshriners.org)  
[recorder@damascusshriners.org](mailto:recorder@damascusshriners.org)  
[njackson@damascusshriners.org](mailto:njackson@damascusshriners.org)  
[plozon@damascusshriners.org](mailto:plozon@damascusshriners.org)

Potentate - Robert L. Anderson II

**From the Potentate**  
Shrine Office - 671-7701



Robert L. Anderson II

Nobles—as I write this article, we are in the middle of our successful, fun-filled 2005 Damascus Shrine Circus. The Blue Cross Arena is arrayed in its festive finery. The performers are giving their all. The clowns are having a ball. We are experiencing one of the greatest fun times of the entire Shrine year.

With all of this going on, however, we can't forget about membership. We are going to have a Noble Bring-a-Brother Night on May 7th. If you haven't made your reservations to bring your Masonic Brothers who aren't Shriners, you MUST make them now. Thanks to a generous scholarship, we are inviting the first 200 of them to join our activities and philanthropies at no cost. When we receive their petitions, we will vote on them and ask them to join in our activities over the Summer and to join in our public Ceremonial in the Fall.

May will be an active month. We are going to have our 3rd annual Duffers Golf Tournament to raise money for the Shriners Hospitals. This will help us raise the \$20,000 we have promised to them this year. We are nearly half-way there. We need your help to reach our goal.

The Annual Potentate's Ball at the Clarion Hotel will follow the next day, May 21st. We are expecting to have a fabulous time, culminating with a Chocolate Fountain. Make and pay for your reservation at the office now. There will not be any walk-ups allowed and we won't be collecting any money at the Clarion Hotel.

The Rochester Summer is arriving. We are planning to be busy all Summer. We will see you at those activities.

**From the Recorder**

Shrine Office  
671-7701



James Slocum  
367-2425

Shrine Reservation Line  
671-3565

Another successful Circus has come and gone and what a good time all of the kids had. I think the grown-ups had fun, too! It is a labor of love to see all the smiles on the faces of everybody and I hope all enjoyed it as much as I did.

The trip to Shreveport, LA, for the Recorder's Seminar, was a real educational experience. I enjoyed the tour of the Shriners Hospital for Children, which was the first hospital in the system. I was able to compare it with the Erie Hospital and they are both excellent in services and condition. They have a motion analysis lab there, plus a research lab. It is a 45-bed facility, whereas Erie has 35 beds.

The Membership Committee is hard at work to get new members and restore some of the Nobles who have left for one reason or another. Remember, all of the Nobles are recruiters and should try and replace themselves. The first 200 applications are free to join; I firmly believe that we can exceed the goal that Imperial has set. The petitions have started to come in and we have only just started. If everyone was to replace himself, we would be in excellent shape.

Spring is finally here and Summer is not far behind, so any new or prospective member can attend some of the Summer events. They could be part of the fun of the Shrine.

The first quarter of the year has gone by and it went really fast. I have been really busy with getting to know what the Recorder's job is all about. I sent out a reminder about the dues that, according to the computer, have not been paid. There could have been some mix-ups, but I hope no one gets upset with the reminder, as it is the only way that I can get things on track with the membership system. Remember guys, we are not perfect and we do make mistakes, but not intentionally.

Nobles, remember the date of May 7th, which is Noble

Bring-a-Brother Night. The speaker is PGM and PGS, Gary Henningsen, who is a dynamic speaker.

The Hospital Fund continues to grow and we now stand at \$6,640 toward our goal of \$20,000.

**Shrine Degree Team**  
John Faro, President

On March 17th, the Shrine Degree Team made history. For the first time the "Team" conferred the 2nd Degree on a Brother at Northfield Lodge. The unique part was not only the Team doing it for the first time, but the Brother received his Entered Apprentice Degree in his native Turkey. It was a very interesting evening for all. The Degree Team received a standing ovation for its work and I would like to thank Don Krech, Bill Jones, Kevin Faro, Glenn Hedges, Lee Collier, Richard Snyder and Joe Shanks. I would be remiss if I did not mention and laud Brother Mike Grady, who was the Senior Deacon and presented the Middle Chamber Lecture with such expertise that it will not be forgotten by those present. W.: Nelson Bertch and Brother Patrick Mulrooney from ERAC, assisted the team as Stewards and doing the Q & A. Yours truly was in the East.

In April we did a bit of traveling by going to Geneseo and conferring the 3rd Degree on five Brothers and back to Northfield for a 3rd Degree conferral on our Brother from Turkey.

On May 5th we will journey to Auburn for a 3rd Degree.

To the best of my knowledge, that will conclude our Degree work for the first half of the year.

The Shrine Degree Team is always available to assist Lodges in conferring all three Degrees. Look for our ad in this paper.

**Shrine Lunch Club**  
By James Powell, President

The Lunch Club was cancelled on April 11th due to the fact the cook did not have time to do the shopping because he was working at the Circus.

**Calendar dates**  
May 16th - Brother Larry Canfield will talk to us about the Shrine.

June 20th - Trip to the Masonic Care Community in Utica. Everything will be provided, but we must know how many people are planning to go. Please call the Shrine Office at 671-7701 to inform us. Remember, this is also for the ladies and friends, even if they

are not Masons. The trip, tour of the grounds, lunch and the trip back home all will be provided for free. The bus will leave the Shrine parking lot at 7:30 a.m. For additional information, please call the Office, me at 352-6358 or Jim Too-good at 594-2189.

We would like to increase the attendance at our weekly Lunch Club. If you know of anyone who would like to attend, please invite him. Everyone is welcome to join us.

If you have any questions concerning the Lunch Club, please contact Jim or me.

Don't forget, if you know of a child in need of our help, please contact us.

**Whealers**  
By Kevin (Skins) Faro, President

Well, RIDING WEATHER is almost here. We had a very

busy Winter and a busy Spring is ahead. First, let's recap the Winter. We started off with the January meeting at the Shrine with a Steak Dinner and roast of Past Potentate Bruce Chilton which was a huge success. We then had our Euchre Tournament, with a nice turnout February 19th. Next came our meeting with an excellent dinner at The Newport House on the Bay where we had over 60 in attendance. The March meeting, again, was attended by over 60 at Froggy's with a great Steak Dinner or Chicken French, and that brings us up to date.

Our April meeting was held at Sticky Lips Bar-B-Que.

This month's twist of the throttle goes to Chief Rabban Lance Ward, Oscar Wilson and our Treasurer, Rob Cowley,

Continued on Page 22

## 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



Come and Join us at the  
Damascus

Potentate's Reception

Honoring

Ill. Robert L. Anderson, II and Alice

Saturday May 21st, 2005 at

The Clarion Riverside Hotel

120 East Main Street, Rochester NY 14604

Dinner Choices: Chicken Breast Stuffed with Apple Herb, Salmon w/Vodka Dill, Rack of Lamb, Prime Rib or Pasta

\$35.00 per person

Dancing to the Music of Tom Passamonte

Social Hour (Cash Bar) 6:00 P.M. Dinner 7:00 P.M.

Sunday Breakfast Buffet \$ 15.00 per person

RSVP no later than May 16th, 2005

### 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

### 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](mailto:bud82034@aol.com)

[wjones@rochester.rr.com](mailto:wjones@rochester.rr.com)

for donating the tips they received while bartending for the Wheelers, to the Hospital fund, set up by the Illustrious Potentate Robert Anderson.

We need donations for door prizes for the "Ugly Run," so if you get any let me know. I have already received a few, but we have a long way to go.

I would like to have the Bike Blessing at the May meeting, so look for more on that coming up.

Don't forget to bring a new Wheeler to the Noble Bring-a-Brother Night on May 7th at the Shrine Center. Show others that the Wheelers are a real source of the playground of Masonry.

Until next month, hope to see ya on the road and RIDE SAFE.

**Zama Temple**  
**Daughters**  
*of the Nile*

By Corinne Routly, PQ

The 84th Annual Installation of the Daughters of the Nile was held on Saturday, April 2nd, at the Fairport Masonic Lodge. Queen-elect Virginia Gramse and all the Officers were installed.

After their entrance, a prayer was given by Doris Zabel, PQ, followed by the Obligation by Juanita Gorton, PQ.

Installation of Queen-elect Virginia Gramse was followed by the installation of the Elective and Appointive Officers.

The music by the organist, Isabel Keuther of Athor Temple, Buffalo, was inspiring and outstanding. A musical selection, *Love One Another*, was sung by Mary Harris.

Queen Virginia assumed her station and received the Charter, By-Laws of the Order and the Gavel. The Installing Marshal proclaimed the Officers duly installed.

Queen Virginia introduced Junior Past Queen, Sharon Spencer, who was escorted to the Altar to sign the Bible. Carol Colegrove, PQ, then presented her with the Past Queen's Jewel.

Queen Virginia greeted all who attended and introduced the Illustrious Potentate, Robert Anderson, and First Lady, Alice.

Princess Marshal conducted the Potentate to the throne where he congratulated the Queen and her Officers and wished them success in the ensuing year.

Queen Virginia introduced the retiring procession and we then went on to the Hospitality House for dinner.



**Damascus Shrine presents:  
 Noble Bring A Brother Night  
 Class of 2005 to be FREE of charge**

When: Saturday, May 7, 2005  
 Time: Program begins at 4:30 p.m. Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and Dinner at 7:00 p.m.  
 Where: Damascus Shrine Center  
 Who: Masons and non Masons and their spouses who may have an interest in joining the Craft and the Shrine.

Damascus Shrine needs every Noble to take new membership personally. All of us know one or more Masons who would make good Shriners and be supportive of our great philanthropy. You are also encouraged to bring non Masons who may join the craft and become Shriners down the road.

AS A ONE TIME EVENT EVERY PETITIONER FOR THE CLASS OF 2005 WILL BE BROUGHT IN WITHOUT ANY INITIATION FEE. THIS WILL ONLY APPLY TO THE FIRST 200 PETITIONERS.

Our keynote speaker will be Noble and Most Worshipful Gary A. Henningsen, Past Grand Master of the State of New York. Noble Henningsen is a dynamic and inspiring speaker who has not been in these parts for a while. One thing is for sure- you will be energized by his message. Noble Henningsen is an honorary member of every Lodge in the Monroe District as well as holding honorary memberships in many of the lodges in the Damascus area. You won't want to miss it!



Fill out the RSVP attached fully and send in your potential candidates name, address and email address to Rich Friedman, 16 Kerry Hill Fairport, NY 14450. You can call in the information to 585 377-6175 or email it to rich@dmn16.com. If their name is received in a timely manner, they will receive a personal invitation letter. Return the enclosed RSVP for dinner to the office. All guests and ladies of guests eat free.



**CIRCUS VIEWS: (lower left)**  
 Ill. Robert Anderson, greets Ill. Karl von Knoblauch, Potentate of Tigris Temple in Syracuse, and his Lady, Marge.  
**(Middle column top to bottom)**  
 Hillbillies and Yacht Club Units sold novelties and programs at the concession stand in the main lobby.  
 Hundreds of boxes of popcorn had to be filled, starting on Thursday.

The Legion of Honor crew, with some help, manning the food booth on Sunday.  
 Auburn Shrine Club members and their helpers at their food booth.  
 Karin and Chris sold tickets for the children's inflated slide attraction.  
**(Right column top to bottom)**  
 Many hands helped prepare the novelties for sale, install-

ing batteries and blowing up the inflatables.  
 Ladies Brenda, Patty, Carol and Lynn serving up lunch to the hungry circus workers.  
 The Finance Room prepares to count receipts.  
 Donna, Alice and Gene promote novelty sales on the arena's West side; Annette, Jim and company worked on arena East.  
 Friday's Provost Unit posed for a group picture.



# Masonic War Veterans



From Brother Nate Thompson  
Clio Lodge

It has been a while since I last saw and talked with you all. I am doing well since coming back from leave a few weeks ago. First of all, I am now back at the Company level. I am no longer the Liaison Officer for my Battalion. I am rather pleased to be working at something else, which would bring me closer to what I really have been trained to do. By being down at the Company level, I am now able to go out on patrols, as well. I am now working for B Co 1-69th IN. However, my mailing address will not change.

On Friday, April 15th, I went out on my first patrol ever, since being here in Iraq. It was a very unique experience for me. I got to see a lot of what every soldier who normally goes out on patrol sees every day. We patrolled up and down one of many highways in Western Baghdad during the day. Most attacks happen during the day, so I was a bit on edge from the time I left the gate back at Camp Liberty, not knowing what might happen throughout the rest of the day. We left the gate at 7:00 a.m. and proceeded to go out on the road. No significant events happened while I was out there. I did get to participate

on a raid in one of the districts in Baghdad. The districts are normally called mohallas here. It takes some time getting to use and accept that term while out on patrol. The raid went without incident as well. We found some things that related to terrorist activities but, overall, it was just business as usual.

I also got to see a lot of the other areas of these mohallas. Many of the areas in Baghdad are almost like slums. There is an excessive amount of trash that lies everywhere. Houses are not up to par in terms of the many services that we normally take for granted, such as running water or sewage treatment. I saw many Iraqi children become excited and wave their hands as they saw our patrol drive by. There are a lot of anti-American sentiments painted on walls and on banners, which are on display, as well. The feeling I got on my first patrol was a mix of both feelings from the Iraqi people.

I am in the process of going out on another patrol. I probably will not go for a while though, considering that I have not been able to take my day off so far. The day I went out was supposed to have been my day off. It was completely up to me whether to go or not; I decided to go regardless. \*

## Masonic Veterans Service



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

(From the  
VHA Office of  
Information,  
Department of  
Veterans  
Affairs, Fall,  
2003)

Submitted by R. W. Thomas Paglia

**What is My HealthVet?**  
Can you use the internet? Would you like to learn? Then you can use My HealthVet.

My HealthVet is an internet-based program that helps you work better with your health care providers and your family to achieve the best possible health. It will allow you to:

Get VA information and services online.

Enter your own health information in a personal and secure section that you control.

Record and track personal metrics such as blood pressure readings or blood sugar levels.

Research health care educational information.

View key portions of your VA health record.

### Features of My HealthVet

Using the My HealthVet internet portal is by choice and as easy as viewing any other website. I will allow you to:

Access a veterans' health library with medical conditions, medications, health news and preventive health.

View health information developed by VA specifically for veterans.

Use tools such as a prescription checker, health calculators and self-assessment tools.

Link easily to benefits and resources available in VA and other federal sources.

Future features will allow you to:

Read copies of key parts of your VA medical record from

any computer with internet access.

Add information about your medications, allergies, tests, medical history and visits to non-VA doctors to your personal section that you control.

Keep track of your health status by entering your personal health metrics, such as blood pressure readings or blood sugar levels.

Refill prescriptions online. View your next appointment date and time online.

View your total co-payment balance online.

Give access to all or some of your health information to others, such as VA doctors, other doctors, family and veteran advocates.

How can My HealthVet improve my health?

It will give veterans like you quick access to your health information. You will be able to use My HealthVet to take a more active role in managing your health care.

You will be able to:

Learn more about your health.

Find ways to improve your health and prevent health problems.

Read copies of key parts of your VA medical record from home and refresh your memory of doctor's instructions.

Keep all your health information in one place by entering it into your personally controlled account.

Avoid extra visits to the doctor by giving your doctors access to see the daily metrics, such as blood pressure, blood sugar, weight and pulse, that

you have measured at home and recorded in My HealthVet.

Avoid treatment delays if something is wrong. If the doctor sees anything worrisome in your self-entered metrics, he/she can ask you to come in without waiting until your scheduled appointment.

Improve your total care by sharing your record with all your doctors, both VA and non-VA.

Let veteran advocates, such as veteran service officers (VSOs), see your record in order to assist you in the VA compensation and pension claims process.

Who has access to my personal My HealthVet account?

Privacy and security are important parts of My HealthVet. You will have complete control over who can view or update what you have stored in your account. Only the people to whom you grant access (doctors, family, veteran advocates, etc.) will be able to look at what you have stored. You will be able to:

Give full or limited access to your my HealthVet account to someone else.

Share all or some of your information with any health care provider(s) within or outside the VA health care system.

Where can I see it?

The web portal is:  
[www.myhealth.va.gov/](http://www.myhealth.va.gov/)

Veterans will have one-stop-shopping for VA benefits, special programs, health information and services, as well as health assessment tools.

To see the electronic health record functionality, log in to the pilot as a demonstration patient: [www.health-evet.va.gov/](http://www.health-evet.va.gov/)

Username: demouserb

Password: password\_\$1

Veterans are currently participating at nine VA medical centers throughout the VA health care network. \*

## Masonic Student Assistance Training Program

By Tim McMullin

At the April 12-14th workshop, there were ninety (90) participants representing sixteen schools. In addition, there are three schools with sixteen educators on a waiting list! It seems there have been a series of incidents affecting young people that have caused school folks to be more concerned. They turn to MSAT because our program works.

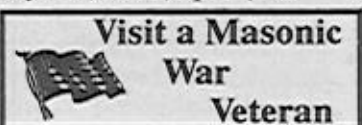
Thom Stecher, one of our trainers, was looking forward to April. Last February's training was one of our most successful.

If you have fewer than originally signed up, please tell me that so I can tell those schools on the waiting list.

Thanks for all you do for the kids and their teachers. Together we make a difference.

### MSAT dates

October 25 - 27; December 6 - 8; January 31st and February 1 - 2, 2006; April 4 - 6. \*



\*\*\*\*\*



**DON'T CLOWN AROUND...  
IT'S  
ST JOHN'S DAY!!!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR  
Saturday, June 25, 2005  
10:00AM - 5:00PM**

**At The Masonic Care Community  
2150 Blecker Street - Utica, NY**

**Tours - Parade - Arts & Crafts - Entertainment -  
Food - Games - See the New Health Pavilion**

If you are a Mason...  
You Should Plan To Be Here!

Call Angie Caiola at 800-322-8826

\*\*\*\*\*

**MASONIC FAMILY DAY  
AT WEST POINT!  
Saturday, October 1, 2005**

From 7:00 am - Masonic Parking at "K" Lot (\$5.00 per car in advance) Need a Lot Pass!

9:00 am Masonic Memorial Service at the George Washington Monument.

10:00 am - Parade of Cadets on the Plain.

LUNCH - Tailgate Party in "K". Parking Area (bring your own food and beverage) table, chairs, small grill allowed.

1:00 pm - Football Game: Army vs. University of Connecticut at Michie Stadium.

Shuttle Bus Service available to and from Masonic Parking Area ("K" Area) NO CHARGE. Give yourself extra time for security check.

**\$31.00 per ticket**

Please make check payable to Masonic Special Events and mail to: Louis H. Juers, State Chairman and Coordinator, Masonic Family Day at West Point, 58 Schofield Street, Bronx, NY 10464-1530. Tel: (718) 885-1865; Fax: (718) 885-1868 e-mail: [LOUTHEIMP@msn.com](mailto:LOUTHEIMP@msn.com)

**NO REFUNDS** on unused tickets after September 18<sup>th</sup>. No tickets may be returned to West Point. They forbid the sale of tickets at the Stadium gates. **Cut off Day, September 18, 2005.**

Amount: Ticket at \$31.00 each for football game  
Car Pass at \$5.00 per Car (one car pass for every 3 football tickets)  
Bus Pass \$30.00.

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION EARLY! THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS AVAILABLE.**

## Last Call for Contributions '04 Brotherhood Fund Campaign Please Help us Reach our Goal!

# In Memoriam

## April

### Russell, Fredrick S.

Fred entered into rest on April 2nd at his home in Sun City Center, Florida, after a short illness. He was 99 years old and a member of Seneca Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine. Survivors include his wife, Ann, and many family members.

### Wood, Howard L., Sr.

Death claimed Howard on April 3rd at the age of 81 years. He was a member of ERAC Lodge and leaves his wife, Mary, two sons, and six grandchildren.

### Wheeler, James E.

A 56-year member of ERAC Lodge and Rochester Consistory, James succumbed on April 4th at the age of 97 years. Survivors include his wife, Winifred, one son, four grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

### DeBrine, Harold J.

The Great Architect of the Universe embraced Harold on April 12th, at the age of 87 years. He was a 55-year Mason and served as Master of Hesperus Lodge in 1952. He leaves five children, ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

### Lennon, Charles F.

The Arms of the Lord embraced Charles on April 16th at the age of 91 years. He was a resident of the Masonic Care Community in Utica and a member of Valley-Simes Lodge, Rochester Consistory and Damascus Shrine. He leaves two children, four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

### Haak, Raymond E.

Raymond was called Home on April 17th at the age of 94 years. He was a 58-year member of Drumlin Square Lodge. His wife, Mary, three children, eleven grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren survive him.

### Young, Courtland W.

Courtland went to be with the Lord on April 20th. He was a member Valley-Simes Lodge, where he served as Master, and Rochester Consistory. He is survived by two sons and three grandchildren.

### ERRATUM

The death of Paul Richard Flint was erroneously reported in the last issue of the *Masonic Times*. A person with that name did pass away, but he was not the member of Triluminar Lodge. We sincerely regret the error and wish Paul R. Flint continued good health. x

# Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

## June

22 **Masonic Service Bureau's Scholarship and Charities Awards, Shrine Center**

25 **Lalla Rookh Grotto Golf Tournament Old Hickory Golf Club, Livonia**

## July

8-9 **New York State Mason's Golf Association Golf Tournament Farview Country Club, Avon**

## 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.

## Remember the Brotherhood Fund

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Masonic Jewelry

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phurwitz@frontiernet.net  
www.frontiernet.net/~phurwitz

### 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.

Deadline for the *Masonic Times*

# BIG CALENDAR FOR MAY 2005

Gem - Emerald  
Flower - Lily of the Valley

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Orthodox Easter	2 Grand Lodge	3 Grand Lodge	4 National Day of Prayer	5 Nurses Day	6 Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 p.m. \$6 adult; \$3 Child 30 Orchard Street	7 Clio Lodge Ox Roast 4:00-7:30 p.m. East Avenue, Hilton
8 Clio Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Weds. May 11th & 25th East Avenue, Hilton	9 ERAC - Shrine Center, E Fairport/Flower City, E Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls, E Unity - Spencerport Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RAM - Excelsior - Shortsville Shrine Lunch Club	10 Arcade Batavia, E Fame - Irondequoit, E Seneca - Webster Valley-Simes - Shrine Center, E RAM - Dansville, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton	11 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville, E & I Triluminar - Pike Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	12 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor, E Union - Lima, E RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery	13	14 York Rite College, E - Northfield Lodge, 3:00 p.m. Northfield Lodge, Dedicated Service Award, 7:00 p.m.
15 Triluminar - Pike, Pancake Breakfast Unity Lodge - Spencerport, 3:00 p.m., Dedication; 5:00 p.m., Charter Presentation Dinner OSY - Memorial Service at Farmington Methodist Church	16 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg, E KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford OES - Irondequoit Shrine Lunch Club - Ladies Day	17 Clio - Hilton, E Craftsman Robertson - Shrine Center, E Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps, E Oakland - Castile OES - Nolatka, Tri-Star - Palmyra	18 Attica Ark - Geneva Drumlin Square - Palmyra, I Livonia RSM - Doric Council - Pittsford, E Lalla Rookh Grotto OES - Leah Chapter - Hilton, Chicken & Biscuit Dinner	19 Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster Scottish Rite RAM - Western Star Lalla Rookh Caldron	20 MON - Joint Investiture Service at Fairport Masonic Temple	21 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps Armed Forces Day
22 Webster, Installation	23 ERAC - Shrine Center Mt. Vernon - Java Village Union Star - Honeoye Falls Unity - Spencerport Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RSM - Nundawaga Council OSY Investiture Service @ Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Shrine Lunch Club	24 Arcade Batavia Fame - Irondequoit RAM - Dansville, LeRoy, Wyoming OES - Leah - Hilton	25 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville, 3* Triluminar - Pike, I Tall Cedars of Lebanon OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	26 Eagle Valley - Bliss Milnor - Victor, I Union - Lima, I RAM - Hiram KT - Batavia Commandery James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post	27	28
29	30 OES - Leah Chapter - Hilton, Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. - Noon Memorial Day	31	<b>ELECTIONS</b> Ark, May 18th Batavia, May 10th Clio, May 17th Craftsman Robertson, May 17th Drumlin Square, May 4th ERAC, May 9th Eunice, May 5th Fairport/Flower City, May 9th Fame, May 10th Garoga-Sincerity, May 17th		<b>INSTALLATIONS</b> Clio, June 7th Craftsman Robertson, June 7th Drumlin Square, May 18th Hesperus, June 12th Milnor, May 26th Oatka, May 11th Olive Branch, June 1st Triluminar, May 25th Union, May 26th Webster, May 22nd	