



Masonic Times

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Volume 44 Number 19 USPS 0359-540

Rochester, New York

Circulation 4580 December 2006

47th Distinguished Community Service Award goes to Rich Funke



Rich Funke accepts Distinguished Community Service Award plaque from M. Donald Darrohn, Vice-President of the Masonic Service Bureau. Executive Director, Charles Waterstreet, observes.

By Skip Waterstreet

At the 65th Annual Interfaith Service and Brunch, sponsored by the Masonic Service Bureau, Mr. Richard Funke was presented the Distinguished Community Service Award, recog-

nizing the many projects and hours he has devoted to benefit the people of Rochester and Monroe County. His list of accomplishments is long.

For more than twenty years, Rich has been involved with such organizations as Cancer

Action, the Ronald McDonald House, the Eddie Meath Penny Fund, the Eddie Meath Senior All-Star Football Game, Camp Good Days and Special Times, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Press Radio Club,

Continued on Page 23

Lilac Star Chapter No. 57, OES, Celebrates First Anniversary



(Left to right) - Marcia Morrison, Cecil Losinger, Betty Nohle, Linda Zahn, Sylvia Wolfe, Lilac Star Matron.

Submitted by Mark Fenton

In October 2005, the members of Henrietta Chapter No. 475, Monroe Chapter No. 57 and Webster Chapter No. 171, anxious to strengthen their commitment to the Order of the Eastern Star, agreed to consolidate their Chapters, now known as Lilac Star Chapter No. 57. On October 3, the members met for dinner at the Green Lantern Inn in Fairport to celebrate their first birthday by honoring long-service members:

70 Years - Lucille Bane

60 Years - Lorraine Burke and Betty Stepenback

50 Years - Vivian Brewer, Barbara Goodrich, Hilda Horeth, Jean Leiske, Cecil Losinger, Betty Nohle and Linda Zahn

25 Years - Marcia Morrison and Theodore Theodor

Those attending, totaling over 1,250 years of service, enjoyed a wonderful meal and fellowship. All agreed that the consolidation has resulted in a much stronger Chapter that's able to do more for the community and the Order of the Eastern Star.

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Grand Lecturer's Convention



Fairport/Flower City Lodge



R.:W.: G. Thomas Grape
R.:W.: James E. Sullivan
R.:W.: Gary Sanford
R.:W.: Derek VanHouten



R.:W.: James E. Sullivan
Grand Lecturer



Over one hundred Brothers gathered in a circle at the request of Grand Lecturer, R.:W.: James E. Sullivan, at the conclusion of the Grand Lecturer's Convention in Fairport in October.

Damascus News see page 11

Dated Material



Editor's Corner

How Long Is Your Cabletow?

Recently a family requested a Masonic Funeral service for their deceased loved one. The deceased Brother belonged to a Lodge in another county within the Grand Lodge of the State of New York and was a fifty-one year member of the Fraternity.

A particular tie in your obligation states that you will answer all due signs and regular summonses sent to you from a Lodge, health and business permitting. This means if you are healthy enough to go to work or to entertainment activities, and you are currently not at work, then you should have answered the email sent to you from the Lodge Secretary and been at the funeral service.

The family had never seen a Masonic funeral service before. One of the sons was thinking of joining a local Lodge. My guess is that it won't be ours, since we can't muster a few guys for a funeral service.

I want to thank the only member of the Fraternity who had the guts to answer this latest summons. Maybe the next time we will have to offer food for you to show up.

I didn't write the above, but I did start the ball rolling to provide the service for the departed. I couldn't have said this better, so I asked for permission to print it. I've been in that situation as the officiant! Not only is it embarrassing, but it is disheartening that in this Fraternity of Brotherly Love, some compassion could not be mustered to aid a family in distress.

I hope you will take this to heart and attend the next time your presence is requested.

Thanks for reading.

Masonic Service Bureau of Greater Rochester, NY Inc. 979 Bay Road, Suite 2 Webster, NY 14580-1736

As we come to the close of another year, I express my appreciation to all who have participated in the activities of the Service Bureau in 2006 and trust that you and your families will have an enjoyable and safe Holiday Season.

As I look back on 2006, some of the highlights include the Widows Luncheon, the Scholarship and Charities Awards, the Masonic Times and the Interfaith Service and Brunch.

In addition, the Officers and Directors became more familiar with our respective governance roles in a not-for-profit organization, as provided by A Charities Symposium sponsored by the New York Attorney General's Office on May 9th at Genesee Community College.

As a result of our participation in that symposium, we are better informed about the responsibilities of the Officers and Directors of this organization. We followed up on some of the suggestions from the symposium - especially the Officers and Directors "get-away" to discuss the activities of the Service Bureau, which was held at Camp DeMolay on September 30th.

The Auditor's Report of our 2005 Financial Statement indicated some reportable conditions that we have been addressing and will continue to address in the coming year. None of the conditions was classified as a "material weakness." However, as we move forward, we anticipate that all issues will be resolved, in accordance with the Auditor's findings.

We are a volunteer organization. As such, we are sustained by the efforts and contributions of volunteers such as you. We are in need of additional volunteers to participate in the contributions that the Service Bureau makes to the community. Please consider joining the ranks of Service Bureau Volunteers. Your Community and this organization NEED YOU.

Periodical postage PAID at Webster, NY and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER Send address changes to: Masonic Times 979 Bay Road, Suite 2 Webster, NY 14580-1736

Published Monthly except July and August. Closing Date for Articles is usually the 2nd Monday of the Month preceding the Month of publication.

James Ghent President M. Donald Darrohn Vice-President Barbara Goodrich Secretary William R. Lindsay Treasurer Charles Waterstreet Executive Director

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Lalla Rookh Grotto Damascus Shrine Valley of Rochester and York Rite Bodies present 4th Annual All Masonic Bodies CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY WITH SANTA Saturday, December 9th 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Damascus Shrine Center 979 Bay Road SIGN UP TODAY Call the Masonic Service Bureau 671-9730



MSAT Masonic Student Assistance Training Program

Submitted by Tim McMullin, MSAT Chairman

We recently completed another Masonic Student Assistance Training Program in Utica. The three-day training for educators was held on the campus of the Masonic Care Community, and all expenses were paid by the Masonic Fraternity. Fifty-eight educators from eleven schools attended, bringing the total number of teachers trained since our start in October 2001 to more than 1200 educators from more than 200 schools! Once again, each educator left better prepared to deal with children at risk. How do we know?

Let me explain. Each person in attendance was part of a team from a high school, a middle school, or an elementary building. In the first hour of the workshop, each educator identified a child at risk, a child who they, as teachers or nurses or social workers or counselors, actually saw every day. Then on a sheet of paper, they described, specifically, the behavior the child at risk exhibited. Not a subjective description, such as "He is mean," but specifics - "He called others names during class," or "He started fights on playground once a week." When the educators were done writing (most could fill a sheet of paper!), these caring teachers were given the MSAT Promise - "By the time you leave this workshop, you will have a written plan to help that young person you just described."

Over the three days, the teams of educators learned many concepts that helped them develop The Plan. They learned about life skills. These are skills many of us take for granted. "Asking for Help" is a life skill, one of 50 such skills that have been shown to work. The child who has that skill, and uses it, can deal with a "life crisis" more effectively than a child who does not.

The teachers who attended learned about life skills, and life crises, and how to describe specific, observable behavior, and how these three are related. They learned that the young person's behavior results from having something go wrong, perhaps a "life crisis." The difference between accepted healthy behavior, and destructive behavior depends on the life skills a person, young or old, has learned.

During the workshop, teachers learned to work together as they developed individual plans for students at risk, plans that would work in helping the young person get the help needed, plans that included parents, the student, others in the school, and even agencies outside the school. The teachers gained knowledge and skills and a determination to make a difference. They successfully worked together to develop plans for young people. They would return to their schools ready to systematically help young people.

More information

To learn more about young people at risk and the training program, be sure to visit:

http://www.johnsonrauhoff.com/msap/mmsap_video.html and view the six minute video.

Schedule

Remaining MSAT Workshop dates for the balance of this school year are scheduled for January 30th-February 1st, and March 27th-29th, 2007. For more information, including a registration form, visit:

www.nymasons.org/cms/msat.

Questions??? Please email Tim at: MSAT@nymasons.org, or call (888) 694-0511. Thank you for all that you do to make this world a better place.

Local school teams attending and their comments...



Canandaigua Middle School. (From left) Maureen Houlihan, Lisa Kay and Celeste Trickler.

Dear New York Masons,
We cannot express enough our gratitude for your support, kindness and pampering! Thom and Gary's presentation was very structured and thought provoking. Our students, faculty and families will benefit greatly from these three days. We return to our district focused, invigorated and five pounds heavier (great food)!
Thank you!
Canandaigua Middle School
Lisa Kay, Paul Estabrooks, Maureen Houlihan, Celeste Trickler

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GRATITUDE!!!

From Edison Tech "A" Team
Rochester City School District



Edison Tech (A Team), Rochester. (From left) Tanya Wilson, Chas Devries, Denise Daly and Melanie Mc Elroye.



Jefferson Avenue Elementary School, Fairport. (Front) Barb Gonyeo, Erin Driscoll; (back) Terrie Clarke and Steve Ryan.

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The JA Team
Steve Ryan, Erin Driscoll, Barb Gonyeo, Terrie Clarke

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District Deputy Grand Master Livingston District



R. W. Richard
Trescott
226-9042

rtrescot@frontiernet.net

Brothers, we are done with our Official Visits and the reception has been great. Union Lodge was the last one and it was an honor to see the Monroe District Deputy Grand Master R. W. Gary Sanford, and his Staff Officers, R. W. Derek VanHouten and R. W. Thomas Grape. We appreciate their support. Union Lodge had a great Table Lodge and R. W. Dennis Breheny, Senior Grand Warden was entertaining and informative as well. It is always nice to have him visit. We all had a great time as usual.

We have completed the *Masonic Development Course* and R. W. Rick Howe, Brother Mike Grady and W. John Gallant are to be commended on their work. As always, they did a great job.

Thanks to R. W. James Sullivan and his wife, Gail, for coming to our District Apron Presentation on November 4th. They have supported our District every time we have asked. R. W. Charles Roberts and his wife, Leslie, were present. He surprised us with a great Charge; thank you, Brother Chuck.

A warm thank you to all the visiting Brothers: R. W. Don Tubman, R. W. Gary Sanford, R. W. Harry Tyson, R. W. Marty Krause, R. W. Herb Goodman and all the Brothers from our District who always support us. A special thanks to Carol Howlett for a great job with the flowers for our ladies; R. W. Robert Ossont and his wife, Sheri, and R. W. Roy Moses and his wife, Sue, for putting this program together.

I had a great time at the Genesee Museum on Sunday, November 5th. I was asked to say a little about Grand Master Brodie who's Liberty Trowel was unveiled there on long-term loan from Genesee Lodge.

R. W. Roy Moses, W. John Gallant, his wife, Debbie, R. W. Joe Shanks, his wife Audrey, and my wife, Vilma and I went to Red Jacket Lodge in Lockport to see R. W. James Sullivan receive his new Apron as Grand Lecturer. Almost the whole Grand Line was there with their wives. We all

had a good time and were glad to show R. W. Jim our support.

On November 2nd, I joined a few Brothers from Genesee Lodge, Nunda Station Lodge and the Genesee VFW Post No. 5005 on a trip to the Eldred WW-II Museum in Eldred, Pennsylvania. We all had a good time. We also stopped at Sprague's Maple Farms and enjoyed a fine meal.

Don't forget the School of Ritual on December 11th at Eunice Lodge; Union Lodge will be doing the work. *

Grand Steward

Livingston



R. W. K. Rick
Howe
395-9233

krhowe@frontiernet.net

The last couple of months have been exciting. I've had many positive comments about the Symbolic Lodge Awards. It was gratifying to look out over that sea of faces and see so many from the Livingston District. I commend all of you as every Lodge in our District was represented.

The Grand Lecturer's Convention likewise was well attended. Union Lodge won the coveted attendance award for the Convention and Nunda Station Lodge won the attendance award for Schools of Ritual. Congratulations, Brothers, and to the several Lodges that won the Howard Potts Award. Again, kudos.

The month of November began with a nice party at The River Hotel in Mount Morris and the presentation of Aprons for the Grand Lodge team. Thanks to R. W. Jim Sullivan, for being our guest speaker, and to R. W. Charles Roberts for his lighthearted, albeit poignant, Charge. Thanks to W. John Gallant for doing his, as usual, great job as Emcee and a special thanks to R. W. Bob Ossont and R. W. Roy Moses for all their efforts in putting it all together. It was especially gratifying to see many special friends from the surrounding Districts who made the trek to lend their support. Thanks again, Brothers.

On November 5th, I attended the Livingston County Museum in Genesee to observe the Brody Trowel being presented to the museum, as a long-term loan. The trowel was presented to Museum president, Brother

David Parish, and Brother Paul Schmied of Genesee Lodge. Brother Parish said a few words about M. W. William A. Brody and DDGM R. W. Richard Trescott added a few words on behalf of the District. I highly recommend a visit to the Museum. There is a wealth of historical artifacts repositied there. On November 9th, the team attended Union Lodge for the District Deputy's Official Visit. It was great to see visiting dignitaries from other Districts. The pre-meeting pizza and wings were a nice touch. My white shirt, however, suffered.

Union Lodge also played host to their Annual Table Lodge on November 16th with Grand Senior Warden Dennis Breheny as guest speaker. Great job, Brothers.

November 12th, found many of us in Nunda's "State Street Station" for our annual brunch to benefit the Theresa House (a hospice in Genesee). It was a great time of work and fellowship.

The following Sunday, November 19th, the Grand Lodge Officers and their ladies met at the National Hotel in Cuylerville. The election of Officers was the order of business for the evening. It included more fun, frivolity and fellowship. The Masonic Development Course is behind us and now we must focus our attention on getting the Brothers out for the *Road to the East* course, which will be held in February. R. W. Marty Krause and I have been discussing the possibility of Genesee-Wyoming and Livingston Districts getting together on this. Let's get working so we may have a great class once again this year. Also, on the education front, let us not forget the School of Ritual scheduled for December 11th at Eunice Lodge. Let's give our new AGL a lot of support and a great turnout. Thank you. *

Union Lodge

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

No. 45

Master
W. Joseph
Shanks
582-1028



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

Lima Masonic Temple
1891 Rochester Street, Lima 14485

On November 9th, Monroe District Grand Lodge Officers District Deputy Grand Master Gary Sanford, Tom Grape, Grand Director of Ceremonies and Derek Van Houten, Grand Sword Bearer attended our Official Visit, which went very well.

Union Lodge Table Lodge was a big success again this year. We had 40 Brothers attending. R. W. Dennis Breheny, Senior Grand Warden, made an excellent speech.

December 14th will be our Annual meeting. On January 11th, we will have the 2nd Degree. I will open Lodge at 6 p.m. with our famous "hemorrhoid stew" for supper. January 25th I would like to have a Brother Bring-a-Friend Night.

It becomes my sad duty to report W. Harry Barnes passed away November 10th. Union Lodge performed a Masonic funeral for his family at Tuller Funeral Home in Canandaigua. Harry was a Mason for 46 years. Many thanks to the Brother who helped me with the arrangements.

Let's not forget our widows during the Holidays....
Happy Holidays! *

Eunice Lodge No. 830

1st Thursdays
7:30 p.m.



Master
W. David
Howlett
dhowlett@aol.com

Secretary ProTem
W. Lynn Pease

3141 State Street, Caledonia 14423

We've had a busy Fall and much is still to be done. I thank every one of you who has taken your time to help out. I know it is difficult to leave your families and budget your time, so please know I truly appreciate what you do.

We had our Official Visit from the District Deputy, R. W. Richard Trescott. Thank you, Rick Lafave, for taking over the East because I could not be there due to family business. There was an enjoyable dinner beforehand and a Temple Club meeting afterwards. We have changed the Temple Club meetings to immediately after the regular Communication so it is easier for those of you who want to know what is going on with the building. Having the meeting on a separate night, especially with so many of our members not living in the immediate area, was becoming difficult. Thank you to Brother President Brian Pease and the newly appointed Vice-President W. Floyd Manley for having such foresight.

Congratulations go out to W. Manley, as he was our representative at the Scottish Rite's Symbolic Lodge Awards at the Shrine Center. There isn't anything that happens at Lodge that doesn't have Floyd's mark on it. He has been a dependable workhorse. He was a deserving recipient for the time and devotion he has given to the Craft and the Lodge in Caledonia.

Our Veterans Night at the Lodge was a success. The dinner and short program was well attended by local Veterans as well as our current Brothers. It was nice to see Brothers Hugh Outterson and Jack Sims among the Veterans who came to the program, as well as our R. W. Roy Moses, AGL and R. W. Richard Trescott, DDGM (both Veterans as well). Each individual told us what branch they served, when they served and any story they wanted to tell about their service. I then read a short report about the Fraternity and the Civil War, that gave several examples of Masonic Brotherhood amongst enemies in the conflict; and how Freemasonry was able to bridge such a terrible struggle.

I think the men were appreciative of the recognition, and would like to continue our newfound relationship as the year goes on.

Our 2nd Degree was on November 16th. We will be having the 3rd Degree on January 18th. We will open Lodge at 6 p.m. and break for dinner at 6:30 p.m. The Degree will commence at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in having a part in the Degree there will be three rehearsals (January 7th, 14th and 17th). Please feel free to stop by. The Sunday rehearsals will be at 2 p.m. and the Wednesday rehearsal will be at 6 p.m. I will be providing dinner for anyone who attends.

We are planning a Holiday Dinner again this year. The date is Sunday, December 10th, at 1 p.m. at the Lodge. All are welcome and we are planning to have a "Santa" stop by like last year. So we can be prepared for an accurate number of people, contact W. Derek Howlett (dhowlett@bcs1.org or phone him at 395-1912) by December 8th to make reservations.

Eunice will be hosting the School of Ritual on Monday, December 11th and Union Lodge will be doing the work. They always put on a great Degree so it should be a great night.

If I don't see you before the Holidays, have a wonderful time with your family. Remember, they are the reason we are Freemasons. Not only because they allow us to do it, but because it is making us better people and hopefully, making the world a better place. I hope to see you along the way! *

Empire State Weeklies, Inc. Webster Printing Corporation

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Bill Wright, Master of Nunda Station Lodge presenting a \$250 check to Kasey Schrier for the Keshequa Senior/Middle High School (Nunda) Junior Class-sponsored project. This project was a 5-Mile Walk-a-Thon for Walk For the Cure (of Cancer). (Front row L-R:) Ed Dickson, Master Bill Wright, Junior Class Representatives Kasey Schrier and Ashley Cassidy, Principal Doris Marsh, Gerald Hussong. (Back row:) District Deputy Grand Master Richard Trescott, Bob Cox and Bob Martin.

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R.: W.: David W. Locke
(315) 585-6360
dwlocke@rochester.rr.com

It is hard to believe that you are reading the December issue of *Masonic Times*. Brothers, this year is almost over with Christmas just around the corner. Have you given your Christmas present to Grand Lodge yet? By this, I mean have you made your annual contribution to the Brotherhood fund? Every year at Christmastime, many people's thoughts turn to charity and as this is one of our cherished virtues, please do not forget the Brotherhood Fund.

The O/S/Y Masonic Charities met at the Sons of Italy Club in Geneva on November 3rd for the monthly dinner meeting. We tried a new venue for this monthly meeting with the dinner and meeting room proving most enjoyable. Brothers, this is one of the easiest events to attend with your wives, "significant others," or non-Mason friends. This is a Friday night dinner out that many people do anyway - why not come out for dinner and fellowship with your Brothers? The business portion of this dinner meeting is typically very brief.

Convention

The Grand Lecturer's Convention that was held November 2nd at the Masonic Hall in Seneca Falls was well attended and considered a resounding success. The Brothers from various Lodges in the District who sat in the chairs for the opening Ritual performed well and are to be commended. Congratulations to Eagle Lodge and Geneva Lodge for qualifying for the Howard Potts Award. It was my sincere pleasure to open the Convention for our Grand Lecturer, R.: W.: James E. Sullivan, who received something from the O/S/Y District - Classic Coke!

Table Lodge

Milnor Lodge held a Table Lodge on November 9th; it turned out to be most enjoyable and interesting. This program is heavily steeped in Masonic tradition as cannons (drinking glasses) are "charged" with wine and many toasts are made. The dinner was delicious and well attended by Brothers from Milnor and guests. The Officers of Milnor Lodge worked hard and rehearsed the program, which was obviously necessary, as various parts require participation by the rest of the Brothers and guests.

The Table Lodge could be a most worthwhile program in any Lodge. If any Lodge is interested, contact W.: Norm Smith, Worshipful Master of Milnor Lodge, who can help you with the program guide and some tips for success.

Immediately following the Table Lodge on November 9th, Milnor Lodge also hosted a Child ID system demonstration. R.: W.: William Jones of the Wayne District demonstrated the new computer-based Child ID equipment.

Brother Jones ran me through the process, gathering my identifying information, fingerprints, and picture. The Child ID system then generated a report as well as making a CD. This system is available for any Lodge in O/S/Y to do a Child ID session. Please contact myself or the Child ID Committee Chair, R.: W.: Don Dill or Co-Chairs, R.: W.: Clayton Ruggles, or R.: W.: Herb Goodman.

Bring-a-Friend

Many Brother Bring-a-Friend (BBF) Programs are scheduled around the District; Milo Lodge, January 3rd; Ark Lodge, January 10th; and Geneva Lodge, January 4th. Garoga-Sincerity, Milnor, and Pocahontas each have BBF Programs about to be scheduled. I hope more Lodges will soon be adding BBF events to their Trestleboard. Your Membership committee chair, R.: W.: Eldon White, has asked that you notify him (and the DDGM) as soon as you have a firm date.

Aside from the fact that our Grand Master has asked that every Lodge in New York hold at least one BBF Program this year, these programs have been shown "to work." "To work" means that in almost all cases, Lodges that properly present the BBF Program end up with Petitions to vote on at subsequent Communications. For those BBF Programs that do not result in Petitions, those Brothers who get involved gain Masonic education, whether they are newly raised or have many years in the Craft.

Some of the Lodges that have given BBF Programs are now in the "Degree cycle" and are planning for a 1st Degree or doing a 1st, 2nd or 3rd Degree. Remember, the Edict Degree requirement is still in effect, which means each Lodge in New York State must give one of the three Degrees each year. Rather than confer a Degree on a proxy to fulfill the Edict Degree requirement, Lodges should be planning BBF Programs so the Edict Degree could be conferred on an actual candidate for Masonry.

Lodges in the O/S/Y District are in various stages of the In-Lodge Re-Dedication Program. Some Lodges have completed the re-dedication; some have it scheduled. If you have not already done so, I ask for your cooperation in communicating to me, your progress on completing the In-Lodge Rededication. I must report our progress to R.: W.: James E. Sullivan, as soon as possible.

Association

The O/S/Y District Association met at Canandaigua Lodge on November 11th. Many Districts in our jurisdiction (and elsewhere) call this the "Masters and Wardens" Association. Brothers, attendance by the Masters and Wardens of every Lodge in the District is requested. If you cannot attend, please appoint at least one Brother from your Lodge to attend in your place. Many issues affecting our District are discussed at these meetings and we need your input. The next meeting will be at Garoga-Sincerity Lodge in Phelps on January 13th. Breakfast will be at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant (Routes 96 & 88) at 8 a.m. - please make every effort to attend.

One issue confronting the O/S/Y District, as well as each Lodge, is fundraising. The version of the new O/S/Y logo has been settled and will be sent out

via email for final review. The new logo will be used to imprint shirts and jackets that will be made available to all Brothers in the District. If you have any ideas for fundraising, please contact me.

The *Road to the East (RTTE)* will be held March 3rd, 17th and 24th. Wardens and prospective Masters should attend. Registration is open to any Brother.

The 5th Annual Surviving Spouses Luncheon will be held April 21st at the Ramada Inn in Geneva. Even if your Lodge holds their own Widows Program, it would be greatly appreciated if you could support your District and notify me of the widows from your Lodge.

Another event that needs your early support is the annual O/S/Y Golf Tournament scheduled for August 19th at the Seneca Lake Country Club.

For more information about Grand Lodge, O/S/Y District, and Lodge news, events and schedules visit our website: <http://OSYDistrict.org>.

Once again, to be added to the O/S/Y District email list, contact: dwlocke@rochester.rr.com.

My Official Visit schedule is nearing an end with Rushville, Pocahontas and Geneva Lodge yet to go. Starting in January, I will be accompanying R.: W.: Ed Carris on his visits. I look forward to meeting you at visits, BBF programs and Degrees. *

Spaghetti Dinner

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Eagle Lodge No. 619

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7:30 p.m.



Master
W.: Gary
Warren
425-3285

Secretary
Paul Farnung
473-0958

4994 County Road 36
Honeoye 14471

I had the honor and pleasure of escorting Brother Leland Durkee as he was presented the Valley of Rochester Symbolic Lodge Award on October 19th. Brother Leland has been Eagle Lodge's Treasurer for many years but, equally significant, is Leland's contribution of his time and skills to our many facility projects.

Our Grand Master, M.: W.: Neal I. Bidnick presented the Symbolic Lodge Awards and later delivered a very inspirational message on the positive future of Masonry and our roles in attaining that future.

The Masonic Compact was discussed during our recent visit by the District Deputy and at the Grand Lecturer's Convention and all Lodges have been encouraged to look at ways of incorporating the sharing of this document into Lodge events.

To try something different, on November 15th, the Trestleboard for our regular Communication was "Movie Night," the History Channel's *Mysteries of the Freemasons, the Beginning / America*. After the film we had a discussion in the context of the first two sections of the Masonic Compact.

The film depicts how our Founding Fathers gave great emphasis on freedom of religion and religious tolerance. Many, being Freemasons, tried to stay consistent with their Masonic beliefs to maintain an indifferentism view, that held all religions are equally legitimate attempts to explain the truth about God. The film also infers that these 18th Century individual's interest in enlightenment views and ideas were drawn to the Fraternity as a means to discuss and debate these thoughts and theories free from church reprisals.

Our discussions looked at our Founding Fathers and modern Freemasonry in terms of the first two sections of the Masonic Compact and where time has taken Masonry from its early days in America to Modern Freemasonry. We focused on how best to look at these ideals again and make sure we are still true to the original concepts and teachings.

The exchange of ideas was "lively" and I thank the Brothers for participating. In my mind this is an important part of Masonry, that the exchange of ideas and the education of Brothers don't take a supporting role to the everyday requirements of meetings, membership and budgets.

Reminder ...

Ark Lodge's Brother Bring-a-Friend Night is on January 10th from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Relevant informational parts of this movie will be shown again and this is an excellent opportunity to introduce a worthy Candidate to Freemasonry and Ark Lodge.

December Birthdays

Thomas Lowell Fountain
William H. Dobbin III
Thomas J. Douglas
Thomas W. Ess
Sandy Wagner
Frederick L. Warder II

Upcoming Events

December 6 - Ring Bells for Salvation Army at Big Lots; 5 p.m.-9 p.m.
January 10 - Brother Bring-a-Friend Night; 5 p.m.-7 p.m. *

December 13th at 6 p.m.
Ark Lodge #33 Holiday Party
St. Michael's on Genesee Street
Club 86 Catering
Come Celebrate the Holidays!

Cabbage Harvest Update

Harry Dainty has reported that Eagle Lodge and the local Boy Scout Troop harvested 18,541 pounds of cabbage for FOODLINK this year. Once again, our thanks to White Farms (located in Bloomfield) for their support which has directly benefited the needy of our area. FOODLINK delivers food to local and surrounding counties food pantries.

Currently, we have our Citrus Fruit and Entertainment Book fundraiser in full swing. All Citrus orders were due on November 14th; citrus fruit pick-up and delivery is tentatively scheduled for the 9th and 10th of December. All Entertainment Book sales must be in by December 31st.

On November 2nd, Eagle Lodge was awarded the Howard

Continued on Page 6



W.: Gary Warren, Master, (left) escorted Brother Leland Durkee to the Scottish Rite ceremony where he was presented the Symbolic Blue Lodge Award by M.: W.: Neal I. Bidnick, Grand Master. III.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, Deputy for the State of New York, was the Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Eagle Lodge

Continued from Page 5

Potts Award at the O/S/Y District Grand Lecturer's Convention. I deeply appreciate all the effort that the Lodge Officers made to clear their calendars for that evening to make this award possible. Our Grand Lecturer, R.: W.: James E. Sullivan, presided over a very informative and interesting Convention.

Canandaigua Lodge No. 294



1st & 3rd Mondays

Master
W.: David
Mason
981-9340

Secretary

R.: W.: George N. Stanton, Jr.
394-6829

Shortsville 14548

Another Holiday Season is upon us and I cannot believe that Christmas is less than a month away. I'll keep this brief as we all have things to do. We were visited by R.: W.: Jim Rice from Rushville Lodge and his son, W.: Jim Rice, the current Master. It was good to see them again and we all look forward to seeing them more often as the consolidation of our two Lodges progresses.

The following are some dates to keep in mind; you should have received a letter from Brother Secretary on this:

December 9th — Breakfast with Santa

January 15th — Brother Bring-a-Friend

February 19th — Table Lodge

I look forward to seeing you at Lodge to help prepare for these. Brother Simmons received the care package that we sent him and was very surprised. He really appreciated the items we sent. Good snacks are hard to find over there. He anticipates that he will be around for the Holidays and we all hope he will be.

I wish everyone the happiest and safest Holiday Season. See you in Lodge.

Drumlin Square Lodge No. 1180

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Master
William C.
Jones
315-986-9150
wjones@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: David W. Taber
388-0629
dwtaber@frontiernet.net

Palmyra Masonic Hall
161 East Main Street 14522

Having already conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on our newest Candidate at the November 15th Communication, the Lodge will confer the second part of the Degree on December 6th. After opening the Lodge in due form, we will open for work and instruction on the 1st Degree, to allow our new Brother to observe the business and workings of a Lodge. Upon completion of the business portion of the evening, we will continue with the Whys and Wherefores to be done by Brother Patrick J. Mulrooney of ERAC Lodge, followed by R.: W.: William J. Youngman presenting the Historical Lec-

Grand Lecturer's Convention for Wayne District

This year's Wayne District Grand Lecturer's Convention was held at Marion Lodge. Forty-two Brothers were present, representing Lodges around the District, as well as some visitors from other Districts. Grand Lecturer James R. Sullivan held an open question and answer period where several nuances of our Ritual were discussed. We enjoyed fellowship around the dinner table savoring a wonderful Beef Stew Dinner put on by the Eastern Star Chapter in Marion. After dinner the Brothers gathered in the Lodge room for the Convention. The work of the evening was the Opening and Closing Ritual and the first section of the 1st degree. AGL Robert E. Bittner gave a short talk on the significance of the 133rd Psalm and how it relates to Masonry.

(Photos and story submitted by V.: W.: Robert Bittner, AGL)



ture. All other work will have been done at the previous meeting.

December 20th, the Lodge will host an open meeting for the purpose of resurrecting the Christmas Auction to support the Widows program that is held in the Spring. The night will be open for all members, their wives or significant others; also to be invited are OES Tri-Star Chapter members, along with their husbands.

We'll start with a potluck dinner, followed by the Auction. Bring your favorite dish-to-pass and enjoy a good meal. We ask all attending to please bring a wrapped gift, not to exceed \$10, labeled for either man or woman. The gifts are then auctioned off, with the proceeds earmarked for the support of defraying expenses for the Widows Program. It is hoped that some of our members could solicit some of the local merchants to contribute a gift to help in this worthy cause.

A few years ago, when this event was first held, the Lodge appreciated over \$400, which was a great asset for this program. Most importantly, you will be in for an evening of camaraderie, fellowship and fun. Being just 5 days before Christmas, why not come, relax and enjoy yourself, plus support the Lodge and our Widows; the ladies who attend will receive a floral piece.

The Fellowcraft Degree will be conferred in its entirety on January 3rd. To comply with a Grand Master's edict, the 2nd Degree will be observed by our AGL, V.: W.: Robert Bittner. The Master Mason Degree will be conferred on March 7th. More details to follow as casts are finalized. The Lodge and our new Brother hope as many as possible will come and help us to turn this Lodge around.

Visit a Masonic War Veteran

District Deputy Grand Master



Monroe District

R.: W.:
Gary
Sanford
425-4240

ggsanford@aol.com

Thank You. As I write the article for this month, I have to attempt to express my thanks to the many Brothers and ladies who were there for my father, R.: W.: Robert Sanford. As words cannot come close to my feelings on the passing of my father, it was with extreme pride that I had for the Craft at his Masonic Service.

The tremendous turnout by the Brothers was overwhelming — not only for the Service, but by those who paid their respects earlier that day, as well. The number of you who said that he provided you guidance as you traveled through the Craft was overwhelming. The memory of your kindness will always remain with us. He would have been proud of all of you and said another job well done by the Masonic Fraternity.

Congratulations to the five Lodges which qualified for the Howard Potts Award at the Grand Lecturer's Convention on October 24th. Thanks to the Fairport/Flower City Lodge for hosting this event and providing us with a fine steak dinner.

I had the pleasure of attending the Apron Presentations to the newly appointed Officers of the Livingston District who are R.: W.: Richard Trescott, DDGM, R.: W.: Rick Howe, Grand Steward, and R.: W.: Roy Moses, AGL. This presentation took place at the Genesee River Hotel in Mount Morris on Saturday, November 4th. The guest speaker for the evening

was the R.: W.: James Sullivan, Grand Lecturer. This was an opportunity to see a presentation, as I was sick and unable to attend our District's.

We have had the opportunity to attend a couple of the Chapter Receptions this month as well. We now look forward to having more time to be able to attend the different Lodge activities in the coming months.

By the time this article is published, we will have only a couple of Official Visits to complete. I thank all of the Lodges for the hospitality and courtesies they have shown us. I have enjoyed renewing old acquaintances and meeting many new Brothers as we have traveled throughout the District.

The weather is turning, as most of the leaves have fallen and it's getting cooler. That is good news for the hunters, though. I hope you were able to enjoy Thanksgiving with family and friends. If we may be of assistance please call on us.

Grand Sword Bearer



Monroe District

R.: W.:
Derek E.
VanHouten
247-2920

hooter95@rochester.rr.com

As we approach the Winter season, our journey will be adding a few more cars to the train — one of which is an Observation car. Occasionally, we will use this along the way to deviate from the normal message and make constructive suggestions for adding interest to your meetings. In addition, the Observation car is a place to relax and enjoy each other's company as we travel through the realm.

Before we step into this car, we need to announce our Offi-

cial Visits are over, with the exceptions of Webster Lodge, which we will visit on December 7th, and Craftsman Robertson on December 19th. We have enjoyed bringing you the Grand Master's Message over the last few months and breaking bread with many of you.

Every so often we will have a guest Engineer to help us get through to the next destination. This month R.: W.: and Noble Fritz Friedrich is at the controls of this night train speeding through the countryside. I guess he looks a little like Santa Claus; hey, you never know! It's not the Polar Express, but it's beginning to look like it with the snow falling and deep snow in the mountains. I do believe we'll have to pull onto a siding and install a big rotary plow so Fritz can keep this 4-6-2 engine rolling. In talking to Fritz the other day, as his engine waited for him to return, he talked about the time he took the 'Flying Scotsman' during WWII. He's come a long way since then, so we all should feel in capable hands during this leg of the trip.

As we settle into comfortable chairs in the Observation car, let's talk about the Senior Deacon's responsibilities at the Altar during the Opening and Closing of the Lodge. To many of us, the proper decorum of the whole evening is created by how the Senior Deacon attends the Opening of the Great Light and lighting of the Tapers. We have all seen work that has not been the best. Sometimes it seems like the Senior Deacon is in too much of a hurry to set the pace for the evening.

I would strongly suggest that the Senior Deacons take their time in addressing the Altar. Treat the ceremony with the proper reverence that is due when you open and close the Great Lights. Remember you are setting the pace for the meeting. Step to each taper in almost a military style. Remem-

ber this is your show and the Brothers on the sideline will respect your work more than if it is done in a hurry. The page marker can be placed at the top or alongside the Great Light, but neatly smooth out the markers before leaving. I am always impressed with this part of the evening program and will offer my assistance if any of you request it. Also, it's a good practice for the outgoing Officer to properly instruct the new Senior Deacon coming in how to carry on the work that you have completed.

Well, the plow has been attached and, as we move back onto the main line, we start to see Holiday lights in the houses that we pass. As we pause to enjoy the festivities of the Christmas Season, let us reflect on all blessings that we enjoy and pray that the Great Architect of the Universe watch over all who are in distant lands fighting for the freedoms that we enjoy everyday. May God bless you all.

Monroe District Masters & Wardens Assoc.



President
W.: Richard Greenaway
527-8802
rgreena@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
W.: Scott May
624-3959
smay@unionstarmasons.org

By R.: W.: Derek VanHouten

A plug for those who are considering taking the *Road To The East* Educational Program on January 13th, 20th and 27th, at the Shrine Center. At the October meeting of the Masters and Wardens Association a motion was made that upon completion of the Course those Brothers who had signed up would receive a copy of the *Complete Master*. Normally this would be a \$12.50 item, plus shipping. As you know the *Complete Master* is a collection of lectures that can be used in Lodge for the required Educational part of your Lodge Program. The M & W's felt it was important enough to offer this to those Brothers who desire to work their way to seats in the East. Please avail yourselves of all the educational programs that are offered.

President, W.: Richard Greenaway presented the idea of bringing the Past Masters Supper Club back. We need input from any Past Master who remembers when they met, the possible agenda for the "club" or any remembrances from those meetings. We have a lot of Brothers who have been to the East and there really isn't an organized group where they can get together for socializing and remembering the 'good old days'. If anyone has information about this proposal, please contact:
R.: W.: Derek VanHouten at Hooter95@rochester.rr.com Phone: 247-2920, or
W.: Richard Greenaway at rgreena2@rochester.rr.com Phone: 527-8802 or
Vice-President Brother George Todd at 964-5809.
Thank you for any input.

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

I was visiting Bob Sanford in the hospital one day. His son, Gary, was there. When a technician came in to change the IV, Bob introduced me as one of his sons. She looked at me and said, "He looks like you." We all got a pretty good laugh.

As some of you know, during our days as Grand Lodge Officers, Bob and I were known as "Sanford and Son." We worked well with each other. Bob, Louie DiJames and the other Staff Officers, did a great job performing our duties together.

That's the way Bob Sanford was. When given a task, he worked to get it done. He was a team concept man. He saw a situation and worked with others to resolve it. Yes, he was blunt, a to-the-point kind of man, but what he said was the truth and most times the truth hits home. He did not hold back his comments. We were on a team and spoke plainly with each other. To me he was an advisor, a mentor, a friend and, most of all, he treated me like a son. I will miss him.

Communications

A few years ago, Grand Lodge approved sending Summoned Communications notices via email. Now, Lodges send many of their communications by email. It's fast, easy and saves the cost of postage. However, sometimes we forget that there are Brothers who do not have a computer. Other than attending meetings, they have no idea what is on the Trestleboard. Lodges should be mailing this information to those Brothers who are not on their email lists.

Masonic Education

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

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

Please remember our house bound and ill Brothers during the coming holiday season.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all! I Hope to see you in a Lodge.

Give to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund Campaign



The great support of the Interfaith Service and Brunch by the Brothers of Craftsman Robertson Lodge and their ladies overflowed to a second table. They shared both tables with Brothers and guests from Haggai Chapter (PHA), Unity Lodge and Northfield Lodge.



Craftsman Robertson Lodge No. 969
3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Joseph Steffen
(315) 524-9175
empirewrecking@aol.com

Secretary
W.: Kenneth Schumacher
436-2076; cell: 224-6129
coolbluschu@aol.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580



Angie Suss Paul speaking to those attending the November dinner meeting.


Convention

Since I have been known to be critical of some things in Lodge, I believe it is only fitting that I extend heartiest congratulations to all the Officers, and the Brothers who showed up to support them, for winning the coveted Attendance Banner at the Grand Lecturer's Convention. For the next year, we are able to display it at our Lodge meetings.

V.: W.: John Dyer, one of the Assistant Grand Lecturers for the Monroe District, commented that recently it has gone to Lodges with much larger memberships. Brothers, we bucked the trend and, while it may not happen again, you can be proud you did it this year. The fact that we had a part in the event, I'm sure, is the reason we had such high participation.

Continued on Page 8

Grand Director of Ceremonies
Monroe



R.: W.:
G. Thomas Grape
621-5282
ggrape@rochester.rr.com

Brothers, The Masonic Development Course has concluded and the 10 participants are now awaiting their Pins and Certificates from Grand Lodge. The class met at Unity Lodge for three consecutive Wednesdays in October. We had inspiring leadership for all three sessions: Bill Jones led us through the 1st Degree work; John Zabel the 2nd Degree and Bill Lindsay the 3rd Degree. The class voted these Brothers a round of applause for their efforts and skill in keeping us on track.

For those aspiring to be Masters of their Lodge, save the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Saturdays in January, (January 13th, January 20th and January 27th). The *Road to the East* Course will be taught at the Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. - PROVIDED I GET MORE PARTICIPANTS TO SIGN UP! At this writing I have only ONE BROTHER committed to the class. The Brothers from all surrounding Districts are welcome to join us. You cannot advance to the Master's Chair if you do not take this Course. Sign up ASAP please!



Participants in the *Masonic Development Course* were (from left): Andrew Tascione III, Unity; Rich Greenaway, ERAC; David Olsen, Unity; Tom Perrone, Unity; G. Thomas Grape (Grand Director of Ceremonies), Joseph A. Picioli, Unity; George Fochner, Union Star; William H. Schenk, Unity; Scott May, Union Star; and Derek VanHouten (Grand Sword Bearer). James Jay Powell, Unity, is absent from photo.

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Craftsman Robertson

Continued from Page 7

tion. Still, everyone made a great effort to be there, which is very gratifying to me.

The top seven Officers were also present, so we were one of the Lodges who will receive the Howard Potts Award in Grand Lodge next May.



W.: Joseph Steffen poses with Attendance Award Banner, which the Lodge received at the Grand Lecturer's Convention in October.

We have a lot of young Masons in Line who are trying to maintain the high standards for which Craftsman and John A. Robertson Lodges historically were known. With only one Tiled meeting per month, the Ritual does not get the repetition needed to maintain proficiency. This makes it extra difficult on them, but they are putting forth a good effort.

I served as Tiler for the Convention, so I did not have the opportunity to witness the proceedings. I understand our Officers took a bit of a beating at the hands of their peers. That, in my opinion, is regrettable. That whole forum is designed to be educational. Not everyone is a great orator or public speaker. You do the best you can and, many times, just hope you can get through it. My concern is the rebuffs may turn off any prospective Officer candidate for our Lodge or another's. As we struggle now to fill chairs, we need a more positive approach than, apparently, was rendered that night in Fairport Masonic Hall.

December Events

December 5th will be our next gathering at The Nutcracker Restaurant, with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Our program will be those fantastic entertainers we have enjoyed the past few years, Denny and Her Escorts. You should be called for a dinner reservation, but feel free to call W.: Bill Shelby (244-6495) yourself if you are not contacted and would like to attend. It is a very light-hearted evening.

Those of you who have attended in the past are reminded of the All Masonic Bodies Children's Christmas Party. It will be held once again at the Shrine Center, on Saturday, December 9th, beginning at 11:00 a.m. It is geared for the 10 and under crowd, but siblings are invited. Anyone attending should provide a "gift from Santa" of nominal value for each child coming with them. Please be

sure to put the child's full name on the tag, so the gift for Elizabeth or Sam doesn't go to the wrong person! As usual, there will be games, entertainment and snacks for all ages. Bring your children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even the neighbor's children, if you'd like. It would be helpful, but not required, if you could let me know how many will be attending by December 5th (at the dinner?).

R.: W.: Gary Sanford, District Deputy Grand Master, will make his Official Visit to Craftsman Robertson Lodge on December 19th. It is anticipated his Staff Officers, R.: W.: Derek VanHouten, Grand Sword Bearer and a Past Master of Craftsman Robertson Lodge, and R.: W.: G. Thomas Grape, Grand Director of Ceremonies, will attend, as well. Please join us in welcoming these Brothers and listening to them deliver the message of the Grand Master. Lodge will open at the usual time, 7:30 p.m.

Sickness and Distress

Sue Kendig, mother-in-law of W.: Joe Steffen and widow of W.: Tom Kendig, continues to make great progress following her liver transplant surgery. We expect to see her at some of our events in the near future. Connie Siverd, wife of W.: Clyde, is over (we think and hope!) her bouts with pneumonia and was able to attend the November dinner. Dottie Frankel, wife of W.: and Chaplain Volney, has experienced respiratory difficulties and has avoided social engagements and crowds.

Craftsman Robertson Lodge was well represented at the Interfaith Service and Brunch and, as Executive Director of the Service Bureau, I thank you for your support. Our overall attendance at this event has been declining over the past few years, and we know we are losing members to the Celestial Lodge. Are there other reasons why some of you do not attend? I know, for example, as an officer of my church, it was not always convenient for me to attend. Now, I make other arrangements, although my term and limit expire this year and it will no longer be a consideration. If you care to express your interests or thoughts, I'm open to hear them. We will be looking into a new venue for 2007, as Logan's Party House is closing its doors forever in June. It may be time to make other changes as well.

On behalf of the Officers, I extend Holiday Greetings to all of you. May the Great Architect of the Universe provide peace and comfort to you during this joyous season.

WEBSTER
LODGE NO. 538

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

Master
W.: Ronald
Bryant
670-0699

Secretary
W.: Bernard Russell
872-1353

30 Orchard Street
Webster 14580

As I stated in the last article, we are having success in drawing new Candidates to Webster Lodge. As of this writing we have six new Candidates who have been voted on favorably

and will have become Entered Apprentices on November 16th. I am sure they were enlightened by the Degree as I know the Officers were practicing very diligently, especially our Senior Warden, Ed Malchoff. We have assigned mentors to each of the Candidates and it is our intent to work with these new Brothers so they become completely proficient in the 1st Degree before being passed to the 2nd Degree. If you have read the "Masonic Compact" on the back page of the *Empire State Mason* magazine you will recognize this paragraph:

"I know that the rich tradition of Freemasonry and its framework of Ritual are important platforms for the growth of learning; therefore, I vow to stand upon these platforms to improve myself as a human being, and I vow to help in the mission of the Craft to provide tools, atmosphere, challenges and motivation to help each Brother do the same."

That paragraph means to me that I have the responsibility as a Mason to make sure our new Brothers are afforded the opportunity to share all the Light that we are allowed to give them as they begin their wonderful life long journey in Masonry.

We have experienced some events that have made me very proud as the Master of Webster Lodge. I had the honor to accompany our very own W.: Warren Patterson as he received the Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Award. Warren was Master of this Lodge in 1986 and has been active ever since. He is the type of Mason who is the backbone of a Lodge and it gives me great pleasure to be able to recognize him for his efforts and his love for the Craft.

We then went to the Grand Lecturer's Convention where 13 Webster Lodge Brothers were in attendance, including the top seven Officers who are required to receive the very prestigious Howard Potts Award. I'm sure it will be a very memorable experience when I am called upon at the Grand Lodge Sessions in May to receive that award on behalf of Webster Lodge. I thank everyone for attending that event.

Upcoming Events

We have quite a few good events coming up. I do not have a date at this minute, but I'm sure we will activate the calling list as well as the email list as it is my desire to "sneak" over to Fairport/Flower City Lodge for the purpose of taking the Traveling Gavel Webster style. Webster style means with far more than the six required to do so, I hope to get three times that number. Stand ready for the call to action, Brothers!!!

On December 7th, we will be treated to our Official Visit by R.: W.: Gary Sanford, R.: W.: Thomas Grape and R.: W.: Derek VanHouten. These Brothers come to us to share the Grand Master's message, as well as bring us other inspirational messages. I am requesting all Officers dress in tuxedos and I would ask the Brethren to come to Lodge and pay the homage these hard-working Brothers deserve. They have taken these positions because they truly care and we should thank them by showing a good attendance for their Official Visit.

December 21st will be an open event for the whole family. We will have that very fa-

mous Mason, Paul Stillman, who will portray another famous Mason, Benjamin Franklin. This will be an event you will NOT want to miss, so mark the date in your calendar and come out for a fun, educational, Masonic evening. Masonry is something you can only get in a Masonic Lodge, so please plan on attending.

December 23rd is the date of the Poinsettia delivery this year. It was with much thought that I changed the tradition of having this program on Christmas Eve Day, but that day being a Sunday may cause some Brothers conflicts. I do not want to be the Master who scheduled something when our Brethren are supposed to be in church, so I decided to take the easy way out and hold the event on a Saturday morning. The Master next year can change back to the 24th.

As in the past, we will have a breakfast and break into small groups around 9 a.m. to deliver Poinsettia's to Brethren who have been previously called to make sure they would be home and willing to have us drop by. R.: W.: Bruce Chilton has, again, agreed to set up the deliveries and has asked me to remind everyone reading this NOT to take offense if you are called. This program is not just for those who are shut-in. We call Brothers we haven't seen in a while, and your health is not the sole criteria for a phone call.

That my Brothers, takes us to the end of December and to the end of this article. Until we meet in the Quarries of Masonry, I wish you and your family well and I hope to see you soon.

FAME
Lodge No. 722

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

Master
V.: W.: Daniel
Walker
429-6572
optidan@frontiernet.net

Secretary
W.: David Foster
244-0194
dnfveg@rochester.rr.com
979 Bay Road, Webster

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all Brothers and Families over this Holiday Sea-



Members of Fame Lodge who attended the Interfaith Brunch.

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UNITY
Lodge No. 479

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

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

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

R.: W.: Cliff Short, R.: W.: Jim De Lorenzo, W.: Mike Schwartz and Andy Tascione, who performed the associated lectures. The 3rd Degree will be conferred at our first meeting in December. Please contact R.: W.: Joe Privitera if you would like to perform a part in the Dramatic Section.

Congratulations to R.: W.: Jim Powell who was recognized by the Town of Spencerport for Community Pride and Civic Beauty. Jim has been instrumental in organizing the Monroe County in Bloom Program on Route 531. He will be honored at a Town Dinner.

Our Bi-Annual Blood Drive at the Odgen Town Hall was a great success. Thank you to our Deacons Chad Kyler and Andy Tascione for organizing the event and thanks to all the Brothers who came out to help.

At our second meeting in November we hosted our District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: Gary Sanford, who communicated the Grand Master's Vision for the ensuing year. He was accompanied by R.: W.: G. Thomas Grape, Grand Director of Ceremonies and R.: W.: Derek Van Houten, Grand Sword Bearer. We had a wonderful turnout.

The Annual Holiday Party will be on Monday, December 18th, at 6 p.m. Meat and drink are provided. This is a family event, so bring the kids. Also, please bring a dish-to-pass. Contact Junior Warden John Jamele with any questions.



W.: David Sylvester with School of Ritual Attendance Award Banner, presented at Grand Lecturer's Convention.



The Interfaith Service and Brunch had good representation from the Brothers of Unity Lodge and their ladies, which required two tables to accommodate them.



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President

Valley-Simes
Lodge No. 109

2nd Tuesdays
7:30 p.m.

Master
W.: Richard
DeCroce
426-3725
rad1134@frontiernet.net

Secretary
R.: W.: Herbert Spencer
334-7493
hspence1@rochester.rr.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

Last month, my Brothers, I mentioned that it had snowed just a little here and today as I write this the sun is out and the temperature is about 65 degrees! What gives? I don't know, but I will keep it.

The Christmas Season is upon us and as we celebrate the times whether it's Chanukah or Merry Christmas, I am looking forward to the Celebration of the Holidays.

As the year winds down, let us reflect on the positive happenings at Valley-Simes — first and foremost, the Grand Lecturer's Convention at Fairport/Flower City Lodge. With your support, we were successful in winning the Howard Potts Award! From what I understand, it was the first time for Valley-Simes Lodge. Without your total support it would not have happened. Thank you, Brothers!

As we look forward to the New Year, I know that we are progressing in the right direction to do bigger and better things.

It's been my personal pleasure in 2006 to sit in the East and to serve you, my Brethren. We look forward to 2007 and, with your help, Valley-Simes will be successful. I am open to any constructive ideas or thoughts; please pass them along so we may move forward and grow to the great Lodge that Valley-Simes is.

From Your Secretary

By now you should have received the packet containing your 2007 Dues Notice. You are probably saying "Why so many pages? Is he nuts!" Let me explain. I am trying to get all YOUR Masonic data in the Lodge's database up-to-date, so when I relinquish my position as Secretary ALL the Lodge records for which I am responsible, will be current.

In the packet you will find your Dues Notice for 2007, your Masonic Profile and a questionnaire and information sheet. On these two pages, kindly make all the necessary corrections, additions or deletions. Check your birthday, name of spouse, address, phone numbers, etc. You may tell me about any of your Masonic affiliations and positions.

If I can get that into your history I will have accomplished my work. These pages are stapled together and are to be returned to me, in the envelope provided, along with the check for your dues.

Next you will see a page that tells you what else is enclosed. There is the annual message/letter from the Master, W.: Richard A. DeCroce. Then you will see a two-sided page, which advises you of the Lodge Trestleboard on one side, and the Lodge Contact Data on the other. You will also see a Petition for Membership.

My Brothers, we need new members. Our Membership is



Valley-Simes Lodge was well represented at the Interfaith Service and Brunch, including Service participants R.: W.: Paul Gleason and R.: W.: Herbert Spencer, who were on the dais.

dwindling. Today we have a membership of only 134. This is down from 289 only 15 years ago.

Lastly, there is a page requesting an email address from you, should you have one available. This is how we will communicate to you any current news pertaining to the Lodge so you won't have to wait until next month to read about it. How is that for an explanation?

By the way, if you didn't read my articles in the past, we still have 11 Brothers who have not paid their 2006 dues.

EMAIL — lately I am getting rejections on some email addresses for our Members. If you are not getting my emails and want to hear from me, send your current email address to: hspence1@rochester.rr.com.

December Birthdays

David Long (1st); Richard Lippincott (8th); James Moore (10th); David Mura (14th); Fred Stahl (24th); William Metcalf (26th) and Joseph Gingold (31st).

When you see these Brothers, don't forget to wish them a Happy Birthday! We wish you a Great Day, Good Health and Lots of Happiness.

Sickness and Distress

The only one I know of is Marcia Caswell, wife of W.: Gary Caswell, who had knee replacement surgery last month. Why not call them at 594-4160 and see how they are doing.

Upcoming Trestleboard

December 5th is an Officers' Meeting, December 12th is

Lodge Night—Program is "Amber Alert System" and December 19th is our Annual Holiday get-together at Glenn and Carol Stahl's.

Prior to each official Lodge meeting, there is always a dinner and there is always refreshments after the meeting. The cost to members of the Lodge for this is only \$5 per person. Dinner is always at 6:30 p.m. and Lodge starts at 7:30 p.m. On special occasions, we will charge differently, but you will be advised of such.

However, in order to make sure there is always enough food, we need a reservation from you. You can always send an email or call the Worshipful Master or Secretary. Their numbers are in the Valley-Simes logo box at the head of this column. Dress code for all meetings is Business Attire (jacket, shirt and tie).

To the widows of Valley-Simes Lodge, if you are getting the *Masonic Times* and no longer wish to receive it, please let us know. Contact either the Master or Secretary whose phone numbers are at the top of this article, or write to the address shown. However, if you are not getting your own copy and wish to receive it, let us know.

Trusting that you and your families had a most Happy Thanksgiving. I wish all my Brothers and their families a most Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

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

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


This year our Annual Ecumenical Candle Lighting Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday, December 3, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. in the Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church, 1200 Winton Road South. Call 482-0400 to reserve a place for you and your family. Seating is limited.

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 3 North Main Street
 Honeoye Falls 14472
 2nd Mondays
 7:30 p.m.

Master
 W.: Scott May
 624-3959
scott.may@frontiernet.net

Secretary
 Robert Sweeney, 381-5286
 38 Cullens Run, Pittsford 14634
rsweeney@rochester.rr.com



This past month has been very trying for our Lodge. Our Lodge suffered a very large loss with the passing of R.: W.: Robert Sanford. He was very active and involved with many functional parts of our Lodge. As a newer Brother, I could not do justice to list his accomplishments during his dedicated service to the Craft. His presence will be sadly missed.

Brother Harold Wagner's wife passed away last month. They were married for 61 years. May we all be as lucky to spend most of our lives with someone we love. Brother Mark Hutton's mother also passed away. We offer our condolences to all our Brothers for their losses.

On December 11th we will be conferring the 1st Degree. I'm happy to report that we have received three Petitions for investigation. The AGLs will be present to observe our Degree as required by the Grand Master's Edict. The Degree will start at 7:30 p.m. with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. If you did not sign up for dinner, please contact Scott May at 624-3959 to make reservations before December 8th.

Please save the date of December 18th for our Fellowcraft Christmas Party. This is not our usual meeting night because of the Holiday. Happy Holidays to all!

CLIO
LODGE No. 779

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

Master
 W.: Stephen Mitchell
 964-8747
silmil60@yahoo.com

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



The Brothers of Clio Lodge express our sympathy to the District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: Gary Sanford, and his family on the loss of his father. Our prayers go out to you and yours.

We were very pleased that R.: W.: Don Darrohn attended our meeting and gave a short talk about the Interfaith Service and Brunch that was held on October 29th. He extended an invitation for us to attend and four Brothers, W.: Sean Noon, W.: Jeffrey Ross, W.: Steve Mitchell and Brother Frank Sassone went and enjoyed the Service, along with witnessing Rich Funke receive the Distinguished Community Service Award.

Back at the ranch, we had W.: Brother Dave Goodrich, DSA, give an informative talk on the Salvation Army and their contributions to the community in times of need. W.: Dave is very active in the organization

and has coordinated the Red Kettle Campaign for many years.

We recently had our rehearsal for the 2nd Degree and, at this time, we are waiting to present it to our new Brother. I will give more details of the Degree in the next issue.

The girls of Fidelity Triangle No. 4 presented a dinner and Public Installation on Saturday, November 11th. In attendance were W.: Steve Mitchell, W.: Dave Goodrich, DSA, W.: Sean Noonan, and Brother Frank Sassone.

It is our pleasure to welcome a new Brother Affiliate, John Dianni, and extend our hands in Friendship and Brotherly Love.

Sickness and Distress
 I talked with Brother Charlie Tucker, DSA, and learned that he not only had a pacemaker installed but also received a defibrillator. He is home, but has to stay on oxygen 100% of the time. He would like some Brothers to give him a call. He also said his wife was improving, which is always good news.

W.: Gerry Jones is coming along and found enough strength to go bowling, but still has to have 7 or 8 more treatments that leave him exhausted.

Brother Denny Wright, DSA, and his wife have moved to their new home in Spencerport. Our Secretary has his new address and phone number. He has had a couple of bouts with trips to the hospital, but I believe he is home now. He is also on oxygen.

Please find a few minutes in your day to call our ailing Brothers and share the good times we have had in and out of Lodge, Brother-to-Brother.




Seneca Lodge recipient of the Symbolic Lodge Award was Brother Dana Cline (center), escorted by W.: Robert Kimmel. The presentation was made by (left) Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, Deputy for the State of New York and M.: W.: Neal I. Bidnick (right), Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York.

Seneca Lodge
No. 797

2nd Tuesday
 7:30 p.m.

Master
 W.: Robert Kimmel
 544-5964
us@thekimmels.net

Secretary
 Frederic Nortor
 22 Red Barn Circle, Pittsford 14534-3721
 248-5902
fnortor@rochester.rr.com
 30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580



Christmas Holiday Party

'Tis the season to enjoy an evening with Seneca Lodge! Come on out this evening and bring your lady for an adults only evening. This evening has been such a success since it was started by Dick and Wendy Shellman that we would like it to continue for many years to come. Come along dressed in your best; gentlemen in your tux or a dark suit. You can expect a wonderful dinner with hors d'oeuvres, a warmed-up atmosphere and a delightful crowd! Ladies dine compliments of the Lodge and Members are \$10 each.

Breakfast with Santa

Please join us on December 16th for the annual Breakfast with Santa! This year's event will be at the Lodge and begin at 9 a.m. with a visit from Santa (W.: Ray Glegg) around 10 a.m. Please bring a gift with your child's name marked clearly on the package for Santa to give to your child. This year's event looks to be the biggest ever as we will be joining with Brothers from Webster Lodge. This special event is open to all Seneca Lodge Mem-

bers children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, as well as prospective members and their families. This breakfast is fully sponsored by the Lodge so come on out for the best Breakfast with Santa event in town!

Congratulations! Dana Cline is this year's recipient of the Scottish Rite Symbolic Blue Lodge Award. Each year Seneca chooses one of its Members who has shown exemplary service to the Lodge and Dana has lead the Lodge in promoting the Child ID program each year. Dana has also been the backbone of many other successful events and activities. Thank you, Dana!

Attention Past Masters

In honor of your service to Seneca Lodge we are planning on a Past Masters' Night. We are planning the event to occur at some point in early 2007, so keep an eye on your Trestleboard. Thank you for your dedicated service.

Seneca Lodge Shirts

Come to the December meeting to see a sample of the Seneca Lodge shirts with an embroidered logo. The logo is full-color and represents the logo on the front of our Trestleboard. Order your shirt and show your Seneca pride for only \$17. If you are unable to attend and would like more information, please contact me at my home.

School is Back in Session!


If you have questions about the Seneca Lodge \$1,000 scholarship or would like to receive an application, visit our website www.seneca797.com and click on "Scholarship" or contact our Scholarship Director, Rob Kost, directly.

See you in Lodge!

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

Master
 W.: William D. Spillane
 334-6596

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



When this article gets to you, Thanksgiving will have passed and Christmas will be only three weeks away.

On October 19th the Lodge held a 1st Degree with the help of the Brothers of Union Lodge

in Lima. A special thank you to those Brothers for an excellent Degree and congratulations to our three new Brothers.

The Lodge had its Official Visit on November 2nd. Special thanks go to Joy Woodley for an excellent meal and to R.: W.: Gary Sanford, DDGM, R.: W.: Thomas Grape, GDC, and R.: W.: Derek VanHouten, GSB, for a fine program that was enjoyed by all.

The 2nd Degree, with Senior Warden Dave Adams in the East, and doing a great job, was conferred on November 16th. Also to be commended for their work are Brothers Jim Deasey III, Pierre Dube, Dan Taylor, Randy Griswold, Clark Panzer and Raymond Beardsley. A special thank you to Brothers Dave

Lathers and Dan Walker for their help.

Recently the Lodge "adopted a highway" and on November 12th fourteen of us (Lodge and family members) braved the weather and cleaned up East Avenue in Pittsford. Those who helped are: Dave and Patty Adams and their children, Britany and Jenna; Clark Panzer, James Deasey and his children, Aprylle and Jamie; Randy Griswold; John Dudley; Debbie Harris; and myself. One of our new 2nd Degree Brothers and his wife also participated. My thanks to all.

Upcoming dates are December 7th, 3rd Degree - I'll be calling for help. December 21st is our Holiday Party. Please come. See you in Lodge.


Northfield Lodge #426
Adopt-A-Highway
 November 12, 2006

ERAC
Lodge No. 163

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

Master
 W.: Richard P. Greenaway
 527-8802
rgreena@rochester.rr.com

Secretary
 R.: W.: Terry W. Whilen, Sr.
 346-4380
twihlen@rochester.rr.com
 979 Bay Road, Webster 14580
[website: www.eraclodge163.org](http://www.eraclodge163.org)



Once again I'm burning the midnight oil trying to think of a topic for my column and attempting to find something profound to say. Then I remembered the two most significant things that happened to me, Masonically, in the last month.

I had the pleasure to drive to Union Lodge in Lima with Brother David Olsen, a newer Brother from Unity Lodge. Once again, I was struck by how similar the men are who come

to our Fraternity, despite our varied backgrounds. The fact that good and decent men continue to seek each other out to search for personal betterment restores my faith in humanity when it sometimes lags.

To stand in a Lodge that is almost 200 years old, with pictures that allow it to trace its history was as significant to me as the lessons learned that evening during the Masonic Development Course. As an immigrant with a history in this country of just over 40 years, the ability to stand in a Lodge over a hundred years old is still awe-inspiring to me. I look forward to a time when I have the opportunity to go and sit in open Lodge with these Brothers and soak in the fellowship shared in such an awesome room.

The second event was going to the interview of a gentleman I hope to raise this year. I met him for the first time at Brother Bring-a-Friend Night and felt I saw something in him that



Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

December 2006



LANCE WARD, POTENTATE

Lynn and I had the pleasure and company of 26 Nobles and their Ladies on a great trip to the North Country. Although cold and sometimes a little snowy, we toured the Fulton Chain of Lakes through winding narrow channels opening up to beautiful and scenic lakes, surrounded by snow-capped mountains. The town of Old Forge received an economic boost as we made our way through the famous hardware store and many unique gift shops. We rode the Adirondack Railroad Train from Thendara to Utica through the mountains, small towns and villages. Even though the leaves had already fallen, we invoked the Shriner's philosophy of having fun, with great fellowship and good food.

Once again, the Wheelers put on a great Halloween party for the little people. It was well-attended in spite of the inclement weather. President Andy Rueby and his team get a well-deserved tip of the fez.

I cannot thank everyone enough for working at this year's Circus. It was great to see so many Nobles, their Ladies, young people and guests, volunteering their time to make the Circus a success. Our Chairman, Pete Yendell, and Co-Chairman, Erwin Newell, did a fantastic job of coordinating all the different operations needed. Everyone did their job and did it well. I wish I could mention each one of you individually, but this article would then take up the whole newspaper. Thank you for the airplane tribute; it was great to see the center ring filled with airplanes. Lynn and I felt the warmth and camaraderie of everyone working together for a worthy cause. It was a job well done.



Ted & Bonnie Tennant, Alice Anderson and Lance & Lynn Ward posed with the Moose.



Members of Damascus Shrine posed for group photo at the train they took to scenic Old Forge. Included were: Bob & Alice Anderson, Bob & Marilyn Coleman, Vance & Judy Collum, Richard & Jeanne DeCroce, Henry & Shirley Funk, Joe Gilotte and his Lady Loretta, Arthur Hill, Joe & Barbara Minas, Jim & Lois Pray, Joe & Laura Rosica, Norris & Annette Shapiro, Jim & Beverly Slocum, Ted & Bonnie Tennant, Lance & Lynn Ward and Carolyn Warder.



At one of the many picturesque stops, this group took the opportunity to be recorded for posterity. (From left) Bob Coleman, Alice Anderson, Marilyn Coleman and Bob Anderson.

The December 6th meeting will be our Cold Sands Ceremonial. This year we again have a chance of turning the tide on membership and make this a positive year. We, the Officers, cannot do this alone. It takes the effort of every Damascus Noble to find a worthy Brother and bring him into our great organization. Please help make this the year we start on the path of positive gains in membership, so that we can continue to do the great job of helping children through our hospitals.

It is important that you attend the December 6th meeting for the Election of Officers. The Elected Divan is your Board of Directors and is empowered to lead and guide all aspects of the Temple for the ensuing year. The incumbent Divan Officers need your support and vote. The position of Oriental Guide will be open for nominations from the floor.

Our December 6th meeting will be preceded by a Ham Steak dinner at 6 p.m. for only \$9. Reservations are a must. Call the Temple Office at 671-3565. The formal meeting starts at 7 p.m.



JIM SLOCUM FROM THE RECORDER'S DESK

After all the careful planning and hard work to make sure all the details were covered, we had a successful Circus again. All who attended said the Circus acts were some of the better ones. The 11 a.m. performance on Friday for the school kids and the handicapped went off without a hitch. A few of the schools didn't show for whatever reason and they didn't call and let us know, but we still had close to 7,000 kids. Ill.: Ken Buckland and I helped pass out food. I give Nicole credit for doing a lot of the paperwork for us. The attendance at the balance of the shows was not as good as last year, but we will know how we made out as soon as we have all of the bills.

Working with the Blue Cross Arena personnel went really well, as anything we asked for we got with very little time between request and delivery. Ill.: Lance Ward was a real pleasure to work

with as well as Pete Yendell. A real big thank you for everybody who worked. I hope everybody enjoyed the Circus workers' party on Friday. Thanks to Boss Hog for getting the job done as far as getting the food and feeding everybody.

The first of the wall caps have been installed and look great. I am still taking orders for them and, even though the price of the engraving has gone up, we are still holding the original price (\$100 each, includes engraving). This could be a very unique gift or memorial idea! As you enter the Shrine Center, look at the caps and then share your comments with me.

Several of our members traveled to Arlington for the Laying of the Wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns for Veterans Day. Several of our LOH members and some of Ismalia LOH members enjoyed the tour of the Pentagon, which was very interesting.

I am getting ready to send out the 2007 Dues Notices and would like to remind those who are behind to try and get caught up. If there is a problem of which I am not aware, please call the office and let me know. There might be a way to help anyone who has a hardship. It is easier to assist somebody now than to suspend them and later reinstate them. We do not want to drop anybody if it can be prevented.

All of the new members who have joined since the Hot Sands in June — be sure you are here for the December meeting for two reasons: No. 1 - it is the Cold Sands which is the second part of your installation, and No. 2 - it is the Election of Officers of your Shrine. Being new, it's an opportunity for you to learn how the system works and gives you a say in who runs the Temple.

Shrine Annual Meeting December 6th

7:00 p.m.

Election of Officers and Ceremonial
Ham Steak Dinner, 6:00 p.m., \$9.00

Call the Reservation Line - 671-3565

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

By Pete Yendell

Just a quick note to let you all know that Erwin and I appreciated all the help and cooperation we received from all of you. I know the counts for attendance were down. There is not much we can do about that.

I have been in contact with Jeff Calkins and they are working feverishly to get the final dollar numbers to us so we can see how much we made. Even if we don't do well, it was not for lack of effort on everyone's part, including Jeff Calkins and his employ-

ees. The advertising was more than I remember seeing on TV or hearing on the radio in past years, but I am thinking with all the POLITICAL ads people may not have been listening with an attentive ear.

I also know that the time change from Spring to Fall may not have helped. However, in talking with others like Jim Hamid and Jeff, it may take time for people to get used to a Fall circus, should we continue with the circus as our major fundraiser. Thanks again for all your help.

Happy December Birthday, Robles:

Gordon J. Ball	James S. Harding	Robert William Selbert
David Benda	Harold R. Herman	George Simon
Hartley A. Bither	Hoffman M. Lantum	Timothy Alvah Slater
L. Kenneth Bliss	Daniel C. Lewis	Fred B. Smith
Clarence Edward Bogardus	Henry D. Libera	Howard J. Smith
Mark K. Broyles	Richard B. Lippincott	Dean L. Smith
Geoffrey Scott Buell	David W. Locke	Frederick A. Stahl
Russell L. Bunger	Frederick W. Ludwig	Stanley Steinberg
Gerald M. Cooper	Robert Mattick	Jay B. Stubbings
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Robert P. Cox	Charles G. Montondo	John A. Thompson
Allan O. Cragg	G. Michael Morris	David G. Upham
M. Donald Darrohn	Harold J. Mueller	Thomas H. Vasile
Harold W. Davis	Robert B. Nephew	Robert A. Verbridge
Daniel R. Emerson	Earl G. Pearce	Lance R. Ward
Dr. Delbert D. Fix	Charles Anthony Piazza	Joseph W. Watson
Eugene E. Flint	Kenneth E. Pollard	Edwin S. Wiitala
Bryan Duane Gordon	Alan P. Pundt	William R. Williamson
Harry A. Gorman	Gary Albert Richardson	Leroy Wilson
Earl F. Gorton	F. Murray Russell	G. Robert Witmer
Richard D. Green	Mark L. Scher	J. Peter Yendell

By Derek VanHouten, PP

DONOR RELATIONS

Twenty-five dollars a second should wake everyone up! At the moment, this is how much we spend at Shriners Hospitals for Children on a yearly basis. Historically we have raised between \$250 and \$260 million each year in new monies, which is an awesome amount of money. However we need to do more! It is anticipated that we need to increase our Endowment Fund for the Hospitals to the level of \$12-\$14 billion from the current \$7-\$8 billion to guaran-

tee that our beloved hospital system will flourish in the years to come.

I had the opportunity to attend the Donor Relations Seminar in Tampa a few weeks ago and am passing along to you, the Nobles and Ladies of Damascus Shrine, the important information we obtained during the two days of instruction from our leaders.

The question that arises is: *Why increase our Endowment Fund?* To answer that, let's look at the following chart:

Marketable Securities (As of December 31, 2005)	\$7,430,285,000.
Revenues for 2005 were:	
Investment Yield	\$ 204,774,000.
Gifts and Bequests	\$256,150,000.
Assessments	\$3,625,000.
Realized gains	\$230,746,000.
Total	\$695,295,000.
Expenses	
SHC Operating Expenses	\$575,054,000.
SHC Capital Expenses	\$33,816,000.
Total	\$608,870,000.

The total revenues of \$695,000,000 minus the total expenses of \$609,000,000, equals a surplus of \$84,000,000. The total realized gains used in 2005 were \$318,621,000 and the Total Realized gains in 2005 were \$237,746,000 for a deficit of \$80,875,000. Our Goal is to increase our total fund balance to \$12.2 billion by 2014. The BIG question is HOW?

More income

The leaders suggested the following: On the REVENUE SIDE, a 2% increase in annual bequests; 2% increase in annual beneficial interest in trusts; 10% annual increase in (live) gifts; 7.5% annual return on securities; 5% annual return on real estate (including appreciation) and miscellaneous assets.

On the EXPENSE SIDE, 5% annual hospital operations expense increase; 4% annual Corporate and Board expense increase; 10.75% annual increase re-

search and outcomes; 125% annual capital expenditure target.

We also have the talents of our Directors of Development; the goal is to have one for each Hospital area. Their goal is to search out and encourage "Foundations" and other like-minded organizations to contribute to SHC.

Researchers at Boston College have projected that at least \$41 trillion will pass from one generation to the next in the coming fifty years. An estimate of \$6 trillion in bequests to non-profits - dollar amount of bequests, nationally, increased by over 50% from 1998 to 2004 (bequest revenue at SHC did not increase). We clearly have a "window of opportunity" in the next ten years and the development program we build will truly determine the capabilities of Shriners Hospitals for decades to come.

To be continued ...

Geneva Shrine Club 2006 Christmas Party

Wayne County Shrine Club 🦄 Wheelers
Directors Staff 🦄 Auburn Shrine Club
Penn Yan Shrine Club 🦄 Hillbillies

Saturday, December 16th
Club 86 - Avenue E. - Geneva

5:30 p.m. Hors D'oeuvres & Personality Adjustment

7:00 P.M. - Dinner

Prime Rib, Baked Chicken, Broiled White Fish

9:00 p.m. - 12 midnight - Music and Dancing

10:30 p.m. Venetian Table

\$70.00 per couple

Reservations by Monday, December 11th
with dinner choices, please

Check to Geneva Shrine Club, PO Box 188, Geneva, 14456



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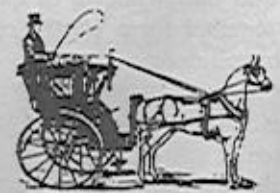
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Damascus Shrine Clowns and Friends make Shrine History at the 2006 Circus

DIRECTORS STAFF

By Vance Collum

The Directors Staff members have had a great Fall and enjoyed many good meals together. We especially liked the Seafood Buffet at DiPacific's Restaurant at our October gathering.

The Cold Sands will be coming up on December 6th. Director Lee Collier has requested that the Club members come early to greet new candidates and answer a few questions about the evening activities and Shrine Center. The new members will welcome your help as there is a lot for them to do from filling out paperwork to getting to the right places on time. This will be a busy night for everyone. The Directors Staff will not put on any skits until next Spring.

There will be no meeting at DiPacific's Restaurant during December. We will be attending the Geneva Shrine Club Christmas Party in Geneva at Club 86 on December 16th. Please get your reservations in to the Shrine Center early. We will donate a small money tree to be raffled off at the Christmas Party. See Joanie and Carl Mason if you would like to help with this gift to support the Geneva Shrine Club.

I hope everyone enjoyed watching the Lotto Calendar numbers this year and that you won at least one time. The Club members should be congratulated for their great support of the calendar program that helps our treasury with \$1 for each calendar sold. Don't forget to contact Joe Nye for your calendars.

Wishing everyone a great Holiday Season and until next time, God Bless.

DAMASCUS LEGION OF HONOR

By Sy Kopen

My thanks go out to the Members of the Legion of Honor and their Ladies who worked at our Circus November 3rd - 5th. The November meeting was our Annual Necrology Service, which we held at the Shrine Center. It was nice to see the fine turnout, even after everything had to be changed a few days before the meeting. I am sure those who attended enjoyed the sit-down steak dinner by The Catering Company.

December 13th, will be the Damascus Legion of Honor Holiday Party. This will be with our Ladies to be held at the Shrine Center. All the Ladies will receive a gift that evening. Please call your reservation in to the Shrine Reservation Line, 671-3565, or our Recorder Jim Slocum.



Fred Fez stands alongside the Shriners of North America display, from Imperial Headquarters in Tampa, which was used to help Shrine Circus Patrons learn about the Organization. Also in the photo are Erwin Newell, PP and Circus Co-Chairman (left); Peter Yendell, Circus Co-Chairman, kneeling with Illustrious Lance Ward, Potentate and many of the Clowns who entertained the kids.

By Boxman the Clown, President
Damascus Clown Unit

It gives me great pride to write about a historic happening in the Damascus Shrine Clown Unit that will surely become a part of the legacy of Lance R Ward, 2006 Potentate. When asked if "family" could participate with the Shrine Clowns this year at the Circus, there wasn't a moment's hesitation, he said, "Yes."

While it was known and understood that those who are not Nobles cannot attend Shrine meetings or participate in Shrine parades, our "friends" are able to do most other things with us. We were fortunate to have with us six Clowns from Utica who expressed to me their jealousy. They stated that the vision of our Illustrious Sir, by simply saying yes to this request, has strengthened our Clown Unit five-fold and has solidified a much brighter future for us. They did not see that ability in their Unit in the near future, but would certainly use our Temple's vision as a tool to accomplish their task. We thank them for their support at our Circus.

We had three family members participate in all activities and also "star"

in the skit that was designed by our very own professional Clown, Rosco.

Those three were Donna Herman, who has not established a Clown name yet. Donna is the wife of Noble Mark Herman, a relatively new Noble from Wayne Lodge. Mark was active with the Wheelers for most of the show. As we were meeting and greeting Circus-goers, it was very easy to see that the kids who weren't quite sure about Clowns, were much more comfortable with a "Lady" Clown than they were with the guys and it really rounds out the Unit.

We also had Ashley Burke who is a part of the Masonic Burke family. The parents Debi and Gary were also there for all the shows and son Josh was in a booth upstairs. I told numerous people that to me, we have accomplished the essence of the Shrine when you look and see a father and daughter side-by-side with similar Clown outfits and the names to match. Gary is "Smirky" and Ashley is "Smirkett."

And finally we had a very young Clown named Robert Wihlen, who is the son of Noble Ed Wihlen. Ed himself is new to the Clowns. His Clown name is "Suds" and Rob's name is "Bubbles." Bubbles stole the show as the kids were

able to identify with him. Ed's whole family, wife Jackie and daughters Cassie and Rachel, also were at the Circus for most of the shows helping in many ways and supporting Ed and Rob.

I look forward to "Clowning Around" with Ashley, Rob, Donna and Debbie Balcom, who wasn't able to be there this year due to a scheduling conflict. I know this day has been one she and Dave have looked forward to.

We had numerous requests from other family members to become Clowns and we will therefore hold an informational meeting on January 4, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Shrine Center for the purpose of introducing the art of Clowning to those who wish to pursue this. The introduction will be followed by Clown classes that will help you pick out a costume, apply makeup, and teach balloon twisting and many other aspects of Clowning around. If you have any interest please email me and let me know at boxman@rochester.rr.com.

Thanks to all the other Damascus Clowns for all their hard work and dedication to their art and their Temple. I personally thank each and every one of you: Chooch, Haji, Rosco, Ponti, Kopper, Firecracker, Smirky, Hoomie, Alfie, Ah Ha, Kiddo and Loopy.

PERRY SHRINE CLUB

By Ed Hollwedel

We had a great turnout to hear Don Read, the Genesee County Clerk, at our meeting on October 26th. He was so interesting that the attendees had many questions. He brought many old papers from the Holland Land Office Museum. The new location for dinner in Pavilion worked out well.

All are looking forward to the Christmas Dinner on December 13th at the National Hotel in Cuylerville on Route 20A. Please look for the postcards that will be sent out with additional information.



Immediate Past Potentate
Robert L. Anderson II
with Lady Alice



Perry Shrine Club President,
Edgar Hollwedel,
and his Lady Mary Louise



Speaker of the evening, Don Read,
Genesee County Clerk.



Donald Rose
Chief Rabban



Past Potentate, Kenneth Buckland,
and his Lady Mary.

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December Shriner and Shrine Center Scheduled Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Daughters of the Nile Holiday Tea	4 Divan' Lalla Rookh Grotto	5 Clown Unit	6 6:00 p.m. Shrine Meeting	7	8	9 All Masonic Bodies Children's Christmas Party
10	11 <i>ERAC Lodge</i>	12 <i>Valley-Simes Lodge</i>	13 Legion of Honor Perry Shrine Club'	14 <i>Fame Lodge</i>	15	16 Geneva Shrine Club' Christmas Party
17	18 Shrine Lunch Club Ladies Day Auburn Shrine Club'	19 <i>Craftsman Robertson Lodge</i>	20 <i>Lalla Rookh Grotto</i>	21 <i>Valley of Rochester Wayne Shrine Club'</i>	22	23
24 Private Party ----- 31	25	26	27 Directors Staff	28 <i>Fame Lodge</i>	29	30

† - Off-site event; *Italics* - non-Shrine event

Data current as of November 17, 2006

Damascus Shrine Winter Picnic

February 6th, 2007
10:30 a.m.

Dinner at 1:00 p.m.

Punta Gorda Elks Club
Punta Gorda, Florida

Menu

- Hors d'oeuvres
- New York Strip Steak
- Baked Potato
- Beans, Corn, Cole Slaw
- Rolls
- Coffee, Tea, Dessert

Music by "MC Squared"

\$17.00 per person

Advance reservations
and payment
no later than

January 30th, 2007

to: **McKinley Gath**

5061 San Rocco Ct.

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

email: gathmd@aol.com

advance registration
payments may be made
by Credit Card at the
Damascus Shrine Office
(585) 671-7701

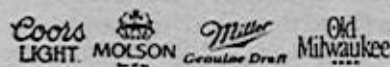
At the November meeting, Ill. Erwin Newell, PP, and Noble Peter Yendell, Circus Co-Chairmen, explained the parking and admission policies for those Nobles planning to work the Circus.

Noble Ron Edwards presented Ill. Lance Ward, Potentate, a check from the Directors Staff earmarked for the Transportation Fund.

The history of the Auburn Shrine Club was presented by Noble Robert Coleman. Auburn is the oldest Shrine Club in Damascus Shriners.



Erwin Newell and Pete Yendell



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Lance Ward and Ron Edwards

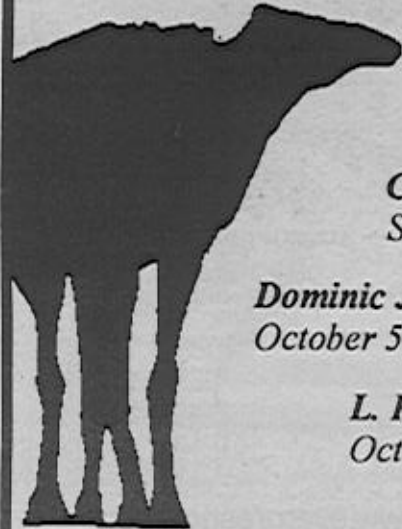


Bob Coleman

Calendar Winners for October

DAY	NO.	WINNER
10/1	894	Daniel Wasson
10/2	835	Alex Komara
10/3	807	Kenneth Wells
10/4	854	Dean Smith Jr
10/5	110	Damascus Shrine Center
10/6	443	Cindy Pileski
10/7	937	Melanie Funk
10/8	525	Melody Coller
10/9	319	James Kahn
10/10	473	Nona Lucas
10/11	514	Richard Day Sr
10/12	12	Russ Gillett
10/13	240	William Tennant
10/14	460	Paul Smith
10/15	449	Helen Cousincau
10/16	691	Gabrielle Wells
10/17	223	Matthew Collom
10/18	644	John Dendis
10/19	363	Clarence Bogardus
10/20	55	David "Moose" Balcom
10/21	843	Michael Moran
10/22	583	Bernard Carroll
10/23	670	Ron Galens
10/24	604	Richard Dickinson
10/25	935	Bev Slocum
10/26	475	Ryan Steele
10/27	776	Delores Curtis
10/28	397	Mickey Worden
10/29	630	Gerakd Schaertl
10/30	754	Stephanie Wawrzaszek
10/31	188	Damascus Shrine Center

Dedicated to the Memory of Nobles:



Leonard L. Rothschild
September 21, 2006

Charles S. Walker
September 22, 2006

Dominic J. Dostilio
October 5, 2006

Edgar K. Arndt
October 15, 2006

L. Russell VanDeGriff
October 18, 2006

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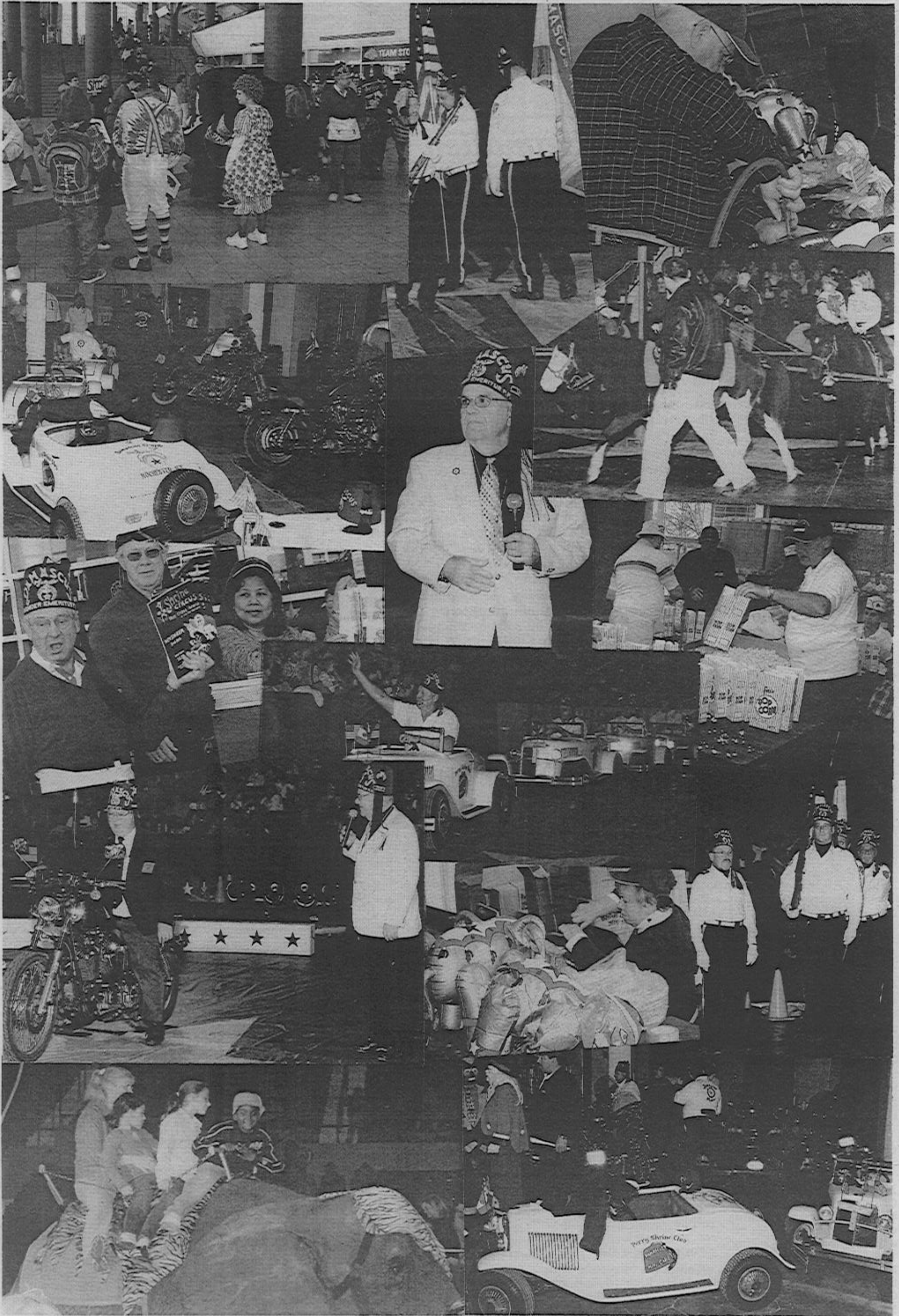
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| <i>Virtual Discount Shopping Mall</i> | <i>Worldwide Condo Rentals</i> | |
| <i>Hotel Discounts</i> | <i>Monthly Specials</i> | <i>Vision, Lab & Xray Discounts</i> |

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Circus Scenes - Up Front...and Behind





Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Monarch
Norman Austin

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian



Secretary's Column

By Kenneth Hutchinson, PM

The next meeting of the Grotto, to be held December 20th, will be our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. It is the duty of the Membership to come out and cast your vote for the nominated Candidates listed below with their respective office. This year, the election will be followed by a closed installation on the same night.

Monarch Kenneth R. Milner, PM
Chief Justice

Ronald J. Morthorst, PM
Master of Ceremonies

Richard W. Topel, PM
Secretary

Kenneth V. Hutchinson, PM
Treasurer

Brian J. Bills
Venerable Prophet

Joseph Minas, PM
Trustee (3 Years)

Ernest L. Swan
Trustee (1 Year)

Norman P. Austin, PM
Board of Governors (3 Years)

Richard D. Bull
Bernard Lazerson
Greg W. Ludwig

Election

The traditional Free Turkey Dinner, with a reservation and 2007 Dues Card, will precede the December 20th Election Meeting at 6:30 p.m. The 2007 Monarch-elect will announce the Appointed Officers immediately after the Election. ESGA President Robert Chaplin will install our Officers.

Announcements

December 7th - Pearl Harbor Day Service at 7:15 a.m. at Charlotte Pier, opposite the Coast Guard Station

December 9th - Annual Children's Christmas Party at Damascus Shrine Center; 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

December 10th - Old Fashioned Christmas, East Shelby Church; 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

December 18th - Legion of Honor Dinner/Meeting; 5:30 p.m., Nutcracker Restaurant

Proclamation

To all Prophets - Greetings!
Whereas, human nature is fond of novelty and whereas Veiled Prophets particularly enjoy novelty, and in order that they may have proper opportunity and occasion to do:

Therefore, pursuant to powers vested in me, I hereby decree and set aside Wednesday evening, December 20, 2006 as an evening of rest and recreation.

It is further declared that all Prophets in good and regular standing in the Mystic Order of Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm at Lalla Rookh Grotto Number Three, located at 979 Bay Road, Webster, NY, at 7:30 p.m. on the evening of that day for purpose thereof to meet, greet, elect and install Officers for the coming year.

It is further decreed that during the evening aforesaid, the traditional turkey banquet be observed; that all Prophets be present, at or before 6:30 p.m. Admission is by reservation and showing his 2007 Dues Card.

It is further decreed, that all Prophets on the evening of the day aforesaid and, in proper observance of such occasion, lay aside all secular pursuits and appear promptly at the hour before stated.

Norman P. Austin
Monarch

dent. Fred Wagner was Secretary and Treasurer.

The Greeters were organized primarily as a marching unit under the regime of Monarch Frank Buchman, it being his idea to carry out the thought the name implied; i.e., to attend all the functions of the Grotto and assist in every possible way at the request of the Monarch. The unit comprised of eleven charter members.

The unit greeted everyone entering a Grotto function. In parades, marching in one line, the sweaters they wore spelled out "Greeters." They became so popular, many wanted to join their ranks. On April 11, 1938, it was voted to double the membership adding a second line to form the word "Rochester, NY Greeters."

The Greeters were commended for the fine appearance they always made in various functions sponsored by the Grotto. It was self-supporting, raising its own funds for entertainment and its many social activities.

Today we have but two, Prophets Richard Bull and Charles White, who greet members at our meetings.

Brass Band

The Brass Band was organized on October 20, 1936, under Past Monarch Bryant G. Parsons. At the same time Prophets Albert Stillson, Samuel Markus and J. Robinson Smith were endeavoring to organize an orchestra or band to play at Grotto meetings and other functions. Monarch Parsons called a meeting on October 20th to decide upon one or the other. The organization of the band was the outcome of this meeting. Officers were elected and rehearsal nights were set.

The Grotto Brass Band, under the direction of Alfred Tubbs and Nerle G. Peck, won prizes in band contests at conventions. The Band was a real asset to the Grotto at meetings, functions and parades. Some of the trophies that they won are on permanent display in the Grotto Office. Band Member Bob Bueg tells many tails of their activities at conventions. The band continued to play before Grotto meetings until the mid-1990s.

Last month, Prophet Fred Kinney, our dual member from Selama Grotto, phoned and said his father was in the

Caldron News

By Beverly Murray, MCO

Where did the time go?
Once again it's time to let you know,
What's going on in Caldron land,
As in Friendship, we reach out a helping hand.

December 14th at 6 p.m., there will be a dinner for all of you, If you plan to attend, please let me know, For there is no need to prepare more than we need, But, I also need to enough for all of you to feed.
(Cost is \$5; Call Bev with Reservations 865-8507)

The Executive Council and Drill Team is off and on its way, With high expectations and wonder - who can say, All we can do is try, And hope that some fun and laughter will stop by.

To Lalla Rookh Grotto,
We extend our congratulations to the upcoming Monarch and Officers. May you have a successful year in all ways possible! Please remember that we are here to help in any way.

Just want to give you a date,
Around February 10th we hope to celebrate,
Our 58th Anniversary is on this year's slate,
In the next newsletter will hope to have a firmed-up date.

Any of our members who have not been able to attend,
Our meeting in a while - to you we send,
A special "Hello just to you,"
We hope that some day soon we'll see you at our meetings, too.

I know it is four months away,
I hope you will save the day,
April 28th, 2 p.m. we will honor all Prophets and Master Masons,
At a public meeting - All ladies are invited too,
4 p.m. will be a SPAGHETTI DINNER
Proceeds going to Dentistry for the Handicapped
And yes - you will be seeing this in the future.
They say it "Pays" to advertise - so we will find out if that is so.

Any Daughter who is under the weather - please let us know,
For we do care about you and can't send cards or visit - so,
Please call Bev - 865-8507.

To Sula Baxter - we extend A Special Thank you,
For your willingness to serve as Rodeval for the Caldron crew,
Any and all correspondence along with dues - Send straight to Sula.

To Daughter Helen Francis -
For over 15 years she has served as our Chaplain,
We miss you Helen - and wish you well.
May you find happiness and comfort in your new home,
We also hope that once in awhile you get to a meeting or two.

To those who may be ill -
May the Lord bless you with his healing touch,
And comfort you until you are feeling much better.

As we celebrate this special Holiday Season,
May we all find Hope and Love for any reason,
Remember there is more than Santa to keep in mind,
For the real reason for the Season, often gets left behind.

May God's greatest blessing be given to you,
May He be your guide in all that you do,
Remembering that He will always see you through,
Merry Christmas and love to each of you.

May each one of you find good health and happiness each and every day. God Bless You!

Looking forward to seeing "YOU" at our next meeting -
December 14th. Dinner at 6:00 p.m.; Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Grotto Band in the 70s and he grandson in Texas would probably carry on the family tradition of becoming a Mason and mentioned his newly born Grotto member in 21 years.

Remember the Brotherhood Fund

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Grand Historian



Kenneth Hutchinson, PM

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Grotto office
671-6320

hutchkv@yahoo.com

This month is a salute to our Greeters and the Brass Band.

Greeters

About April 1937, several members of the Lalla Rookh Grotto Patrol conceived the idea of forming a marching unit, one that would not require too much time drilling. Through the efforts of H. B. Malley, a unit was organized - to be known as the Lalla Rookh Grotto Greeters - headed by Malley as Captain and Presi-

Legion of Honor

By Brian Bills, Commander

What a wonderful time we all had at the Fall Harvest Dinner. The ladies from the Fairport Eastern Star did their usual magic and made a very nice dinner for us.

The Lalla Rookh Legion of Honor will be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army on Thursday, November 30th. We will be at the usual location at the Mall at Greece Ridge Center and we will be manning the doors at the Food Court Entrance. We will begin at 4:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 pm. We need as many Brothers as possible to make this a resounding success. Please let me know if you will be able to assist.

On Thursday, December 7th, the Memorial to Pearl Harbor Day will be held at the Charlotte Peer. The Service will begin at 7:40 in the morning and we should muster around 7:30. This year all groups have been asked to create an honor guard line for the activities. It would

be nice to have as many members there to make an impressive showing. Dress Warm. Immediately following the ceremony there will be a breakfast at the Dorsey Road VFW. Cost will be minimal.

Sunday, December 10th

Come join us at the Old Fashion Christmas at East Shelby, NY. You can bring your family and enjoy the old fashioned festivities. Call Norm Austin at 585-234-0296 for details.

The December meeting will be at the Nutcracker Restaurant, Empire Boulevard in Webster on Monday, December 18th. We will celebrate the holiday season with our ladies and friends.

Let's get together for an outing to the Blue Cross Arena on Sunday, March 11, 2007. The Rochester Americans will play the Wilkes-Barre Penguins at 6:05 p.m. Tickets are normally \$15, but we can get a special price of \$5 and reservations are a must. Contact Brian Bills for those reservations. Wives and friends are also welcome.

We haven't seen Frank Murrer or Howard Topel around for a while. Let's give them a call and let them know we miss them. *



James A. Hard/
Wayne Charter
Post No. 12

Commander
Brian Bills
388-0913
Adjutant
Vance R. Collom, Jr.
217-9817

Where does it go? Another month has passed us by.

Events in Review

Our hats are off to Paula Bills who made up 29 baskets to raffle off at our October roast beef dinner. They were full of goodies and everyone had a real good time getting in on the action.

The Colorguard of the James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Ma-

sonic War Veterans consisting of Greg Ludwig, Bill Fredenburg, John Ponshock Jr. and Heinz Gunkel did the Post proud in their flawless execution of posting the colors at the Masonic Service Bureau's Interfaith Service and Brunch. Rich Funke was honored for his work and dedication to community service. Congratulations to Skip Waterstreet and the crew who made the program a resounding success.

At the November 11th Veterans Service, held in the War Memorial at the Blue Cross Arena, 11 Brothers participated in the Wreath Presentation in honor of the Masonic War Veterans. Thank you to the following members for joining me in representing the War Veterans: Lugi Campiello, Ken Hutchinson, Moe Schirano, Dennis Gellasch, Don McDill, Vance Collom, Greg Ludwig, Dennis Finucane, John Ponshock and Alfred Pulcino III.

Coming Events

We will have our Annual Christmas Party at Fairport Lodge on Saturday, December

16th. The Fairport Eastern Star will be preparing a nice chicken and biscuit dinner. As usual, the ladies are invited. If each person could please bring a \$5 gift we will have our Annual Raffle. Social Hour to begin at 5:30 p.m.; dinner to follow around 6:30 p.m. Cost will be \$8 per person. Call Brian Bills for Reservations at 388-0913.

On December 7th, the memorial to Pearl Harbor Day will be held at the Charlotte Pier. Since the service will begin at 7:40 a.m., we should muster around 7:30 a.m. This year all groups have been asked to create an honor guard line for the activities. It would be nice to have as many members there to make an impressive showing. Dress warm. Immediately following the ceremony there will be a breakfast at the Dorsey Road VFW Post. Cost will be minimal.

Remember ...

There is no meeting in November or December.

Our next meeting will be at Fairport Lodge on Thursday, January 25th. *

"THE SMELLS AND TASTES OF CHRISTMAS PAST"

December 10, 2006, 3 to 7 p.m.

West Jackson Corners

(Across from the East Shelby Community Bible Church)

CAROLING - COUNTRY DANCES
HOLIDAY FOODS - HOT CHOCOLATE
SANTA CLAUS - SLEIGH RIDES

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

Attention!

Lodges, Chapters, Concordant Bodies!

Have-a-Heart Campaign

By George Foeher, Chairman

It's never too soon to get the word out. We'll be back in the Malls again from Thursday, February 1st, through Wednesday, February 14th, for our annual fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House. Again, we need your help and support to man the booths as you have in the past.

Your help has raised over \$200,000 for this worthy cause. The Have-a-Heart Campaign is one of the largest fundraisers supported by Masons and their Concordant Bodies in Western New York.

It is especially significant, as it falls in line with the Grand Master's Masonic Compact of Charity and Community Service. The Co-Chairs and I are preparing for this special event and will be contacting all Lodges, Concordant Bodies and other volunteer organizations for date and time assignments. Please contact me at 586-5255 with offers of assistance, questions, input, complaints or comments. *

MMRL Scientists Make Presentation at AHA Meeting

Dr. Charles Antzelevitch, Executive Director and Director of Research of the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory and members of the scientific staff will be announced a landmark discovery at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association in Chicago.

Dr. Antzelevitch presented a talk regarding a new clinical entity responsible for Sudden Cardiac Death at the "Late Breaking Abstract Session." The syndrome is caused by mutations in the cardiac calcium channels of the heart. The malfunctioning genes called CACNA1C and CACNB2b are responsible for an electrical imbalance that results in a potentially fatal heart rhythm.

The new clinical entity is a combination of two distinct clinical sudden death syndromes, Brugada and Short QT syndromes, whose genetic basis was previously identified at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory. The mutations in the two calcium channel genes lead to a high risk of sudden cardiac death due to recalculating electrical activity within the heart.

Dr. Antzelevitch described the ion channel defects produced by three different mutations in these genes found in three families with a family history of sudden cardiac death.

Dr. Guido Pollevick presented a poster at the AHA meeting regarding additional aspects of this exciting discovery. *

Monroe District OES HiLights

DDGM
Rt. Wthy.
Nancy Venette
425-9590

DGL
Rt. Wthy.
George Bundoc
368-0111

The 137th Grand Chapter Session was called to order in Saratoga Springs and the following District Officers were installed for 2007:

Rt. Wthy. Raymond Di James, Associate Grand Sentinel; Rt. Wthy. Joy Woodley, Necrology Committee; Rt. Wthy. Sylvia Wolfe, District Deputy Grand Matron; Rt. Wthy. William Mattern, District Grand Lecturer, and Rt.

Wthy. Janice Smith, Grand Representative of Arizona. The new Grand Officers are very excited about the activities for the upcoming year.

The Monroe District Banquet was held on November 9th where Rt. Wthy. Sylvia and Rt. Wthy. Bill announced some of their plans. They have chosen Cameron Ministries for their Special Project for the coming year. The theme for this year is Service. Hopefully, OES of Monroe District will be able to provide not only financial assistance to Cameron, but some volunteer hours as well.

On November 12th, the District held its combined Reception for the new Grand Officers. It was a wonderful afternoon enjoyed by all who attended. Rt. Wthy. Sylvia's symbol this year is the lighted candle and Rt. Wthy. Bill's is the Southwestern Roadrunner. It seems their year is already off and running.

On November 11th, many attended the Installation of Officers for the newly chartered Chapter - Starlight. Two Chapters merged to form the new

Chapter and it looks as if they are off to a good start. Most Worthy Neil Laundry, Past Grand Patron, was the Installing Officer. The installation was followed by a Dedication of Paraphernalia, narrated by Most Worthy Wanda Williams, Past Grand Matron.

On Sunday, December 10th, the District Christmas Party will be held at Hilton Masonic Hall at 3 p.m. Bring a dish-to-pass, table service and a non-perishable food item (for a local food cupboard). All members are welcomed.

The District All-Stars meeting will be Wednesday, December 13th at 7:30 p.m. at Hilton Masonic Hall. That same evening, Clio Lodge is having a Spaghetti Dinner, serving from 5-7 p.m. If you're planning on attending the All-Stars meeting, you might want to go early and have dinner.

Rt. Wthy. Sylvia and Rt. Wthy. Bill wish everyone a wonderful and happy Holiday Season! May everyone's travels be safe and may God bless each one of you and His light shine through you to others. *

Antzelevitch Delivers Keynote Lecture

Dr. Charles Antzelevitch, Executive Director at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, delivered the 17th Annual Keynote Gordon K. Moe Lecture at the International Cardiac Electrophysiology Society Annual Meeting in Chicago last month. His topic was *Heterogeneity and Cardiac Arrhythmias: An Overview*.

Dr. Antzelevitch has earned international recognition for his research into cardiac arrhythmias (irregular heartbeats) and the electrical heterogeneity within the heart. It wasn't long ago that scientists everywhere regarded the ventricular myocardium (muscle of the main pumping chambers of the heart) as homogeneous both with respect to electrical activity and contractility. Antzelevitch's research was the first to show that ventricular myocardium was not homogeneous, but consisted of three principal cell types, known as epicardium, endocardium and a un-

ique population of cells in the interior of the ventricular wall that he discovered and named M cells. This novel finding has led to the understanding of the various waves in the electrocardiogram (ECG) as well as to an understanding of the mechanisms responsible for life-threatening abnormal heart rhythms. These findings have also been instrumental in identifying drugs that can prevent arrhythmias as well as drugs that can cause them and lead to sudden cardiac death.

The retrospect of groundbreaking cardiac electrophysiology research will cover the many scientific developments and discoveries made over the last fifteen years that Dr. Antzelevitch's team has pioneered.

The Cardiac Electrophysiology Society (CES) is an international society of basic and clinical scientists and physicians interested in cardiac electrophysiology and arrhythmias. The society meets once a year on the day preceding the Annual Scientific Sessions of the American Heart Association. The day is devoted to presentations by leading experts in areas of research representing the cutting edge of new developments. *

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Scottish Rite NEWS

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Chapter Rose Croix
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Lodge of Perfection

Commander-in-Chief



John E. Zabel, 33°
223-3228
zabelj@mindspring.com

Happenings

The Valley had a great Symbolic Lodge Awards program with 31 Lodges represented from six Districts. The Grand Master and the Deputy for New York were excellent in their presentation of the awards. The Grand Master then presented each recipient with the Wages of a Fellowcraft. It was a great evening for all.

Musings

Recently, a Brother mentioned to me that he was still learning the meanings of the first three Degrees of Masonry. I will admit that the first three Degrees are not easily understood. Their meanings are veiled in symbols and allegory, as they were intended. I do believe, however, that the Degrees of the Scottish Rite can help a Mason learn the lessons of the first three Degrees and add much. I have spent the last 20 years attempting to understand the lessons of the 18th Degree as they relate to the Degree of Master Mason.

Rite Events Calendar

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

December 7th - 4th and 7th Degrees

December 9th - Toys for Tots, Holiday Party

January 4th - 14th Degree

January 18th - 18th Degree

January 30th - Rite Nite at the Movies

Please call in your reservations
at least one week prior to event.

Master Masons who become 32° Scottish Rite Masons and are moderately active in the Rite are usually active in their Lodge as well. Look at the membership of your Lodge and assess those who are active in Lodge functions and meetings. You may find that they belong to one or more of the Concordant Rites. They have found that the Rites, especially the Scottish Rite, adds to their enjoyment of the Craft and encourages activity in their Lodge.

New Class

For those who are interested, there is still time to submit a petition for the Degrees of the Scottish Rite this Fall. Our first presentation of Initiation Degrees is scheduled for Thursday, December 7th. This evening will be the conferral of the 4th and 7th Degrees of the Lodge of Perfection.

This is the start of the jour-

ney to the 32nd Degree. These two Degrees teach very different lessons, but I'm not going to tell you what they are; you must learn the lessons yourself by witnessing the Degrees.

I am writing prior to many of our events in November. Our Veterans Program was scheduled for November 16th. The next evening was our trip to Buffalo to assist in the Conferral of the 27th Degree. Brothers Craig Mollon and Michael Fazio took major parts in the Degree.

The 27th Degree conferral completes our first cycle of Conferral of all 29 Degrees of the Rite. We have already started our next cycle of Lodge of Perfection Degrees and will now start a new cycle of Consistory Degrees.

Happy Holidays! We wish all our Masonic Brethren the best of the Season and hope they find joy in all the celebrations. *

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

Website: www.valleyofrochester.com

Email: wrl@rochester.rr.com

Commander-in-Chief

Ill.: John E. Zabel, 33°
(h) 223-3228, (w) 269-7788
cincvroc@mindspring.com
john.zabel@ITT.com

Sovereign Prince

Michael McBride, 32°
(h) (315) 904-4024, (w) 722-7714
michael_mcbride@nexpress.com
mcbride1@rochester.rr.com

Secretary

William R. Lindsay, 32° DGA
(h) 388-8769, (w) 264-1160
Fax 264-1161
wrl@rochester.rr.com

Thrice Potent Master

Alfred Pulino III, 32°
(h) 747-1116
unclealf@rochester.rr.com

Most Wise Master

Kenneth R. Howe
(h) 395-9233
KRHOWE@frontiernet.net

Deputy's Representative

Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
(h) 223-7630, (w) 399-3332
cincstephen33@aol.com

Frank & Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children
3300 Monroe Avenue, Suite 330, Rochester, NY 14618

Office (585) 264-1690; Fax (585) 264-1692; Email: rochoent@rochester.rr.com

Ms. Ann Kaczka, Learning Center Director

Ill.: G. Michael Morris, 33°, Chair, Board of Governors

Allegiance

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

Ill.: John William McNaughton, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill.: Norman L. Christensen, 33°

Grand Minister of State

Active Members for New York

Ill.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°

Ill.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°

Active Emeriti Members for New York

Ill.: James F. Nichoff, 33°

Ill.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°

Ill.: Jim Scott Deyo, 33°

Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°

Deputy for the State of New York

Active Members for New York

Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°

Ill.: Edward R. Trostin, 33°

Active Emeriti Members for New York

Ill.: Bruce Widger, 33°, Past Deputy

Ill.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°

Blue Caps

By Jerold J. Gilmore

Greetings, fellow Caps! This is a brief message based upon the urging of our Bill Lindsay.

On December 27th at 11:45 a.m., we will be holding our Blue Caps meeting at Roncone's on East Avenue (across from Wegman's). Mark your calendar and call in your reservation to Jim Slocum between 9 a.m.

and Noon, weekdays. Jim's phone number is 671-7701 or his cell phone, 721-8808.

Also, Bill has requested that we save February 13th for manning the "Have a Heart" Campaign booth at Marketplace Mall. The Blue Cap assignment is scheduled from Noon 'til 3 p.m. Please call the Consistory and give Bill your name.

May the Great Architect keep us safe for the Holidays! *

College of Freemasonry Dates, Program Announced

By George Nasra

The Valley of Rochester Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry invites you to join us for our College of Freemasonry Program which is planned for March 30th and 31st, 2007, at the Damascus Shrine Center.

The College of Freemasonry is an Annual Education Program targeting all members of our community and surrounding areas, Freemasons and non-Masons alike. It is sponsored by the Valley of Rochester for the purpose of educating our members and promoting Masonry in our community.

This year's program featured Dr. Kathleen Kutolowski, Nelson King of the Philalethes Society, Mark Tabbert from the GWMNM, and Thomas Jackson from the *The Northern Light* magazine. Our theme then was "Masonry: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." We had more than 100 participants in the Spring and we expect at least the same number next year.

The new program hopes to link the "It's About Time" report from the Masonic Information Center with "The Masonic Compact" from our Grand Lodge. Our guests will include the Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, M.: W.: Neal Bidnick; Ill.: John W. McNaughton,

33°, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Masonry of the Northern Jurisdiction; Dr. William Cook, Department of History at SUNY Geneseo; Ill.: Richard Curtis, 33°, Editor of *The Northern Light* magazine; and Ill.: Richard Fletcher, 33°, Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association.

Our program will have the same format as last year with a Scottish Rite evening on Friday, March 30th, followed by a whole day of Masonic Education on Saturday, March 31st. We are also planning on having a silent auction featuring Masonic items, as well as an award ceremony.

Tickets are available through the Scottish Rite Office. Please call the Office, 264-1160, for further information. *



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Camper relates experiences at 2006 Camp Turk Session

By: Justin Mulrooney

Camp Turk exceeded all of my greatest expectations that I had about it before I attended. I had my own room, my own bed, and it was not uncomfortable, which made me very happy. I soon learned that the reason for this is because I was in the oldest cabin called "Topping;" all the other cabins had uncomfortable bunk beds and multiple people in the one room. In my cabin there were two bathrooms, four toilets and four showers, but only two of the showers had hot water, so you used them instead of the other two.

The counselors were extremely nice and loved telling us about themselves — where they grew up and what it was like. I thought all of the counselors were going to be from the United States, but I was wrong. Some of them came from places like Poland, Ireland, Scotland, England and more. The counselors who were assigned to my cabin were from England, Poland, Scotland, and the United States.

The first few days went by slowly because they had to go over the rules and what happens in what area. For example, the waterfront, which is the swimming part of the Camp, had plenty to offer. You could go tubing, wakeboarding, kneeboarding, waterskiing, swimming, kayaking, canoeing, sail-

ing, windsurfing and paddle-boarding. All of those activities were so much fun, but my favorites were kneeboarding, tubing and kayaking. Another area of the Camp was the field. In this area you could play softball, volleyball, tennis, soccer, rugby, archery, dodgeball, and even learn self-defense from a Kung Fu black belt. As you can see it is difficult to be bored with all these activities at your fingertips.

The days were pre-scheduled before we even got there, and the schedules were followed very strictly. We would wake up at 7:30 a.m. and get ready for the day. At 8:15 a.m. we would go to flag raising, 8:30-9:30 was breakfast, 9:45-10:15 was cabin cleanup, 10:15-11:15 was the first activity, which could be one of the many listed above.

From 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. was second activity, 12:30-1:30 was lunch, 2:00-3:00 was general swim (where you could only swim and not do anything else), from 3:00-5:00 was open activity (you could do anything you wanted except hang out in your cabin), 5:30-6:30 was dinner, 7:00-8:00 was field activity (where you did any activity that was available on the field that night, from 8:30-9:30 was evening activity which was whatever the Camp planned for that night. That is a full day's schedule for Camp Turk.

Every Sunday night the whole Camp would gather in the Chapel and have an activity called *Rockin' the Chapel*. This is when people from the Camp would go up to the front of the chapel and sing a pre-planned song in front of the entire Camp. Ninety percent of the time, people would clap to the song or stand up and dance (especially the younger kids); this was lots of fun. On the last *Rockin' the Chapel*, I went on-stage and sang a song from *10 Years* called *Wasteland*.

Every Sunday morning for first activity we would have something called *Chapel in the Pines*. We went into the woods and heard counselors sing inspirational songs and read inspirational stories. It is not supposed to be religious, but sometimes it was.

In the second week of Camp, everyone went to the *Enchanted Forest Water Safari*. This is an amazing water park where we stayed all day long. It was a little "get-away" from Camp because we would walk around in groups and just chill and go on water-slides and just have a ball. I would love to go back to this water park one day.

Since I was in the oldest group, we had an extra field trip where my whole cabin went to the Utica Mall for the day. It was so much fun because we

Continued on Page 19

"WALK to Help Dyslexic Children" – A Success!

By G. Michael Morris, 33°
Chairman, Board of Governors
Frank and Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children

Despite the obstacles Mother Nature hurled at the Scottish Rite WALK for Dyslexia – rain, wind, cold temperatures and a record snowstorm in Buffalo that limited the attendance at the WALK held in Perinton Park on Saturday, October 14th – the fundraising event was a resounding success due, in part, to the large number of mail-in contributions to the Learning Center and significant corporate contributions that were received. The event generated over \$10,000 in revenues for the Learning Center!

This year the WALK Organizing Committee made a concerted effort to reach out to the community to let them know about the wonderful work that the Learning Center is doing and the positive impact that Masonry is having in our community.

Over 5,000 mailings and emails were sent to Public Officials in the Greater Rochester Area – Mayors, Town Supervisors, State and National Legislators; to Educators – School Board Presidents, Principals, Reading Teachers and school resource rooms; to local businesses; to newspapers, radios, and television stations; to current and former tutors and students from the Learning Center, and to members of the Regional Masonic Fraternity – the Masters and Wardens Association, Masters and Secretaries of the

Blue Lodges, and Concordant and Appendant Bodies.

Though the attendance at the WALK this year was less than we had hoped for, everyone, young and old, had a great time. The Mayor of Fairport, Clark King, was there with words of support to start the WALK, Channel 10 News was there to record and report on the event, and Mayor Duffy and County Executive Maggie Brooks issued a Proclamation making Saturday, October 14th "WALK to Help Dyslexic Children" Day.

"ROZ" the Clown had the kids mesmerized with his fantastic balloon creations. Artful face-painting for the kids and adults was provided by Allyson Jefferis. K. Rick Howe provided the music and vocals – he loves to sing and he is good at it! Head Chef John Wihlen and his family cooked up the hotdogs and made the arrangements for the picnic lunch, Brothers from the Fairport/Flower City Lodge, Greece Police Officer Greg Whitney, Sy Kopen and George Bracht had a Child ID station up and running, and two Officers and their trusty steeds from the Monroe County Mounted Sheriff's Patrol were also in attendance. It was a wonderful family-life event!

On behalf of the Board of Governors and the children at the Learning Center, I say THANK YOU. Thank you for your gen-

erous donations to the Learning Center. Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors– Wegman's, Frontier, Monroe Litho, Charles O. Hancock Associates, Apollo Optical Systems, Evergreen Car Wash, Property Maintenance Co., Zweigles, Tim Horton's and Wright-Wisner – for their generous support. Thanks to Fairport/Flower City Lodge for providing the Child ID Program. Thanks to ROZ, the Clown, for putting a smile on everyone's face, and thanks to Allyson Jefferis for painting everyone's face! Thanks to the entire Wihlen family for their help in the setup and operation of the event that day. And a special note of thanks to the members of the WALK Organizing Committee – Chairman John Wihlen, Janet Porter at the Masonic Service Bureau, Ed Wihlen, Rod Rittenhouse, Bob Hartnett, Bill Lindsay and Mike Morris for all of the time and effort you put into making the event a success. We could not have done it without you!

Lastly, the Organizing Committee is currently seeking nominations/applications for someone to Chair the Weather Subcommittee for next year's WALK event! Please forward their/your resume, which includes their/your past experience, references and connections with the "Powers That Be" to the Learning Center for our consideration.

Corrections!

Two captions on the Front Page of the November issue mis-identified individuals. The handsome police officer (right), I have now been informed, is Brother Rick Downs, a member of Fairport-Flower City Lodge and Greece Police Department.

The leader of the pack was G. Michael Morris, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Frank and Bette Paul 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children. Rodney Rittenhouse was, in fact, behind Mr. Morris (photo, lower right). This is why we need to have correct information supplied to us. Editor



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Camper

Continued from Page 18

could get out of Camp, be ourselves for the day and eat "real" food. Everyone in my cabin had a blast, some bought games, others bought clothes and some bought movies. Overall, it was a great time.

On the day before leaving, we had an award ceremony. Depending on voting results, you could get an award for certain areas. There were some for the waterfront, others for field, music, theatre, etc. I got three awards – most enthusiastic in the theatre show, best rocker in music and Camper Of The Year (best one you can get, but you have to be a first-year camper). I was so happy that I could win these awards.

The last day of Camp was sad because you had to leave all your new friends. Some of the girl counselors cried because they will miss us so much. Everyone exchanged screen names and email addresses so we can all keep in touch with each other, whether it be across the United States or across the Atlantic Ocean.

We woke up at the normal time (or earlier if you were tak-

ing a train or plane), packed everything we had, then went to breakfast and waited for our parents to show up to bring us home. If I was to have met all these people in Webster I wouldn't have gotten as close to them as I did. Since we were living in close quarters, I consider everyone like a distant family member who I will see again in the future.

I am so happy that I went to this Camp! I believe it was the best way I could have spent this Summer. Since I am only 15, I can go back next year as a camper again, and when I turn 17 I can go back as a C.I.T. (counselor in training).

I had many likes and dislikes about the Camp. Some of my dislikes were that the food was not the best, and the fact that we had to wake up so early, but we all learned to deal with it. Some of my likes were going to the water park and having so much to do, and being able to go to the mall for the whole day.

In the end, going to this Camp was more than worth it and I would love to be able to go again. I thank all of you from the Valley of Rochester Scottish Rite for the opportunity to go to this Camp.

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York Rite NEWS

York Rite College
Judas Maccabeus

District Deputy Grand High Priest

24th
District
RAM



R. E. Ted Powley
(315) 483-2746
soduspowleys@msn.com

Companions, I hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends as much as I did. The Pilgrims did all right choosing turkey for the main course! I thank whoever added the apple and pumpkin pies along the way. Turning back to the month of October, we certainly learned a lot while entertaining our Grand Companions, R. E.: Alan Lewis, V. E.: Gene Ellis and R. E.: Jeffrey Williamson. Each provided a wealth of capitular information while we broke bread together. I thank everyone who made the time to be with us for those visits.

One of the observations made during R. E.: Williamson's visit was the fact that all three Chapters meet only once per month now. By visiting each other's meetings, we can re-

main proficient in our Ritual and help one another to open. Other Districts are adding new companions this year. A District to our West, added 30 Companions in the month of October.

I know that if we put our minds to it, the 24th District can add new Companions, too. We need to start asking Blue Lodge members to join. That is one reason why Blue Lodges are adding members again. Brothers are asking others to join. They are no longer sitting back, just waiting. We, too, need to take a pro-active approach. Ask others to join us.

Chapter elections are fast approaching. I hope you will consider taking a new office. Don't take the easy way out and stay where you are. Advance or recycle in the chairs; we need everyone to participate. Challenge yourself to do something a little different in 2007. Add some zest to your Chapter and try something new!

I have tickets for the Grand Chapter Convocation March 2nd and 3rd, 2007, in Albany. They are promoting that Districts book rooms together to be located together in the hotel. The banquet is on Friday night with beef or fish as the meal choices.

Marilyn and I wish you Happy Holidays and a prosperous 2007!

District Deputy Grand Master 8th Cryptic District



R. Ill.: Ruel R. Lovett
(585) 494-2546
or 880-4076

Companions, I'm off to a good start since my appointment. My visits so far include Doric on September 20th, NunDaWaga on September 25th, Skoi Yase on October 16th, Doric on October 18th, NunDaWaga on October 20th, and Bath on October 23rd. Bath and Skoi Yase were Official Visits. V. I.: Norman Austin, AGL of the 8th Cryptic District, accompanied me on several of the visits.

It was a lot of fun going to Doric. I was welcomed warmly by Ill.: Garry Hutchurson, R. Ill.: Donald Wright, M. I.: E. William Whittaker and others. E. M.: James MacConnell, Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York, was in attendance. Also, R. Ill.: John Dudley offered to lend me his Apron since I didn't have one. That was very generous and it was appreciated. It's always good to be in your home Council. On September 20th we had a dinner, business and a discussion of options for the location of the Council. At our October 18th Session, we voted to empower the elected representatives to explore the Council's options, and to act in the best interest of Doric Council.

On September 25th I had the honor of presenting the AGL Warrant to V. E.: Norman Austin at NunDaWaga in LeRoy. Norm and I have had many travels together. There's a lot more enjoyment than work in this job. At the October 20th meeting, the Council voted on new members. We enjoyed a snack afterwards. Ill.: Hutchurson, who was filling in for Ill.: Dennis Turton, extended courtesies.

My next visit was to Skoi Yase. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at Nana's Restaurant in Geneva. We had a good many Companions and had to add another table. We had a good time, and I didn't feel like leaving, but business couldn't be kept waiting.

Skoi Yase meets in a beautiful Lodge Room. It is a fine old building in the center of Geneva. The building is well taken care of. You would not be disappointed if you visited. Ill.: Bernard Deland, Ill.: Howard Colegrove, M. Ill.: E. William Whittaker and other Companions welcomed us and extended many courtesies. This didn't seem like work. It was most enjoyable with a strong cadre and in a fine setting, and I feel that Skoi Yase will be around for a long time.

My next visit was to Bath Council. M. Ill.: Douglas Swan made arrangements for dinner at the Chat-A-Whyle

Restaurant in Bath. Dinner was attended by three Bath members, V. Ill.: Norman Austin and myself. Both Norman and I thank the Companions for their generosity and courtesies. M. Ill.: Swan could not attend. He was with his wife, who was hospitalized. Our prayers go out to Mrs. Swan. May the Good Lord bless and heal her. Mrs. Swan will welcome cards.

We had an informal meeting and R. Ill.: Karl Ralston updated us on the status of Bath Council. The building has been sold and preparations are being made to move to another suitable location. Three options were considered, but as of now, it looks like they will move to Savona, which is a few miles Southeast of the present location. It is hoped that the Chapter will also join them in Savona.

After dinner, we toured the Masonic Hall. This is a magnificent old building and is still in very good condition. The Lodge Room is about the size of Cathedral Hall at the Masonic Temple in Rochester. Brothers and Companions, we need to do some soul searching and some real-time planning so that we can prevent the loss of any more of these magnificent structures.

On Saturday, October 8th, we processed 38 Royal Arch Candidates in a festival at LeRoy. Some of these will go on to join the Council and Commandery. Congratulations to all who worked on this program, especially James MacConnell.

On the same day, Grand Master Bidnick visited and had lunch at the Viking Valhalla Restaurant in Bergen. Pictures of both events will be forwarded to *The Empire State Mason* magazine. It might also be noted that several dignitaries were in attendance at the festival in LeRoy, including Grand Commander Louis Wunsch. This was a day to remember, and I challenge other Lodges, Chapters, Councils and Commanderies to try a program like this. It is all-positive. Congratulations to James MacConnell, Vern Rupert, Steven Wing, Ken Kohlhausen and the rest of the crew. Garry Hutchurson provided the lunch.

Doric Council No. 19 Cryptic Masons (Chartered 1861)

3rd Wednesday



Ill. Master
Garry
Hutchurson
494-1395
ghutchurson@yahoo.com
Donald W. Wright, Recorder
621-5764
dwright3@rochester.rr.com
17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

It is that time of year we all wait for, a time to remember the Birth of Christ and to reflect on the purpose for which he was sent. As Christians and Masons, we should take this time to be thankful for our blessings.

We are having a regular communication at our Christmas meeting, but we will have fellowship time afterwards.

Our January meeting will be our District Deputy's Official Visit; there will be a Roast Beef Dinner that I will prepare be-

fore this meeting. Ruel Lovett, of our own Council, is the District Deputy; we would like to have a nice turnout for him.

Merry Christmas to all and enjoy the Holidays!

Palmyra Council No. 26

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

Master
I.: George N. Stanton, Jr.
394-6829
gstanton@aol.com
Secretary
David W. Taber
388-0629

161 East Main Street
Palmyra, New York 14522

The next stated Assembly of Palmyra Council will be December 7th. R. Ill.: Companion Ruel Lovett, District Deputy Grand Master for the 8th Cryptic District, will make his Official Visit. Join George Stanton, Ill.: Master, as he and his Officers enjoy dinner at the Yellowmills Restaurant at 6 p.m. As usual, the meeting will start at 8 p.m.

A Director of the Palmyra Masonic Temple Association will be elected at the December meeting. All other Officers are elected in May. This is one Body where the dues are payable in May, not December.

We mourn the loss of Ill.: Companion Ellsworth H. Bedette. He had lived in Colorado the past few years. Our thoughts and prayers are with his widow, Joan, and family.

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery No. 12

Chartered 1993
3rd Monday

Commander
SK Donald
Wright
621-5764

Recorder
SK Lawrence W. Dunn
594-8035

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

This year's Annual Pilgrimage at Palmyra was a wonderful day for our Zone and for our own Commandery. When the Orders were put on this year not only was it a marvelous time of three Commanderies working together, but also it was a time of the Knighting of 14 Masons in one day. Seven of those Knightings were Candidates from Cyrene/Monroe!

Our new members are: Sir Knight Charles Hancock; Sir Knight Kenneth Howe; Sir Knight Robert D. Pedersen; Sir Knight Jeffrey Ross; Sir Knight George Todd; Sir Knight Steven Whittaker and Sir Knight John Zabel. When you see these men, please congratulate them.

That was not all that was special about this November day. After the Degree of the Knight of St. Paul (or the Mediterranean Pass) and the Order of Malta, one of our Past Grand Commanders of the Grand Commandery of State of New York, Sir Knight Steven Wing, made a special presentation. He

Palmyra/Eagle Chapter No. 79

1st Monday, 7:30 p.m.



High Priest
David R.
Rising
(315) 331-7337
drising3@msn.com

Secretary
David W.
Taber
388-0629

dwtaber@frontiernet.net

161 East Main Street, Palmyra 14522

It is hard to believe that December is upon us already. We have had quite a busy two months that included our District visitation at Palmyra Chapter with R. E.: Alan Lewis, Grand Captain of the Host. He gave a biography of himself and a short statement of Grand Chapter. We then traveled to Newark Chapter for the Grand Lecturer's Conven-

tion with R. E.: Eugene Ellis presiding and the 1st Section of the RAM Degree was exemplified. Then off to Sodus Chapter for the Official Visit of R. E.: Jeffrey Williamson, Grand Principal Sojourner, who gave an inspiring talk and message from Grand Chapter.

At our November meeting, we were unable to open, as there were only four Companions in attendance. I did appoint R. E.: Cy White as Acting Treasurer to replace Companion Jim Comstock, who resigned for personal reasons.

I am looking into putting on a Fervency and Zeal Program and will bring this up at our December meeting. Until then, Companions, I wish you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and may the Great Architect of the Universe keep us under his protective care. Pray for our servicemen and women everywhere.



A total of fourteen Companions (shown above) were made Sir Knights at the Pilgrimage in Palmyra on November 11th.

Purchase

Enjoy the CitySM

Coupon Books to support the *Masonic Times*



The Pilgrimage in Palmyra was a super success. Sir Knights David Lathers and William Jones worked tirelessly to assure the success of the event, with the assistance of many Sir Knights.

presented Sir Knight Raymond R. Beardsley with his Commission, granted by the Grand Commandery of Kentucky, as a Grand Representative.

Now we look towards the time of year when our hearts and minds are on the commemoration of that unique event of all time — that special point in all time when a matchless and seemingly paradoxical event took place. God became man and came down to live amongst us. Fully God and fully human. Yes, Christmas.

Each year our Commandery takes our December meeting night and sets it aside for nothing else except a time for having a special service to celebrate this joyful event in our Savior's life. We hold a Christmas Observance with singing of Christmas Carols, some short messages of joy sent to us to be read from the Grand Commandery leaders, Bible passage readings and special Christmas Toasts.

We open this night to share the wonder of the season with our spouses and friends and end the evening with a time of sharing the spirit of the season with snacks and fellowship. This is probably one of the most moving of the events you can find during a season that has mostly forgotten its reason for being in our secular world. Outside of your church there isn't much going on these days where Christ is the center of the season anymore. Here he is the Center of what we are doing and of our very beings.

Come out this year and be with us as we celebrate together

in our own special Christian and Masonic way on December 18th. We will gather at table for our service at 7:30 p.m. and when our official service is done we will remain together to spread out the snacks we each bring to share with each other. The time of fellowship and snacks will also be our way to celebrate and commemorate the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sagoyewatha
Commandery No. 17, R.T.
3rd Saturday, 9 a.m.

Commander
SK Cy White
(315) 597-9546
ukcy@juno.com

Recorder
SK David Taber
(585) 388-0629
dwtaber@frontiernet.net

67 Ontario Street, Phelps NY



The November 11th Pilgrimage in Palmyra was, again, a super success. A total of fourteen Companions were made Sir Knights. Many Sir Knights are needed to bring the Orders of our Order to fruition...far too many to mention in this newsletter. But I would be remiss if I did not mention Sir Knight David Lathers, Eminent Grand Generalissimo and Sir Knight William Jones, Zone 11 Commander, for their tireless efforts toward making this Pilgrimage a success.

Sagoyewatha Commandery will celebrate its 11th Annual Christmas Observance on Saturday, December 16th, at 10 a.m. It will be held at the

Phelps Masonic Hall, 67 Ontario Street, Phelps. Please note that the time for this special occasion is 10 a.m. This will allow our Sister Commanderies, and all attendees, to attend at this more convenient hour. All Sir Knights, their Ladies and the general public are invited to attend and join with Sagoyewatha Commandery in celebrating the Miracle of Christmas - our Saviour's Birth. Following the celebration, Lady Shirley Wells and Sir Knight L. Ronald Edwards will serve light refreshments.

As is our usual custom prior to the Christmas Observance, we will meet at the Blue Ribbon Smoke House and Restaurant for a "Dutch Treat" breakfast at 8:30 a.m. The restaurant is located on the corner of State Routes 88 and 96 in Phelps.

Our January 20th, February 17th and March 17th Conclaves will, in addition to the regular business, include rehearsals for our upcoming Inspection in April. There will be more information about the Inspection and reading assignments in the next newsletter.

For those of you who have a copy of the Roster of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar State of New York 2006-2007 edition better known as the "Red Book," please note that the Officers of Sagoyewatha Commandery are listed incorrectly. It should read:

Cy White, Commander
Ted Powley, Generalissimo
Ron Edwards, Captain General

I look forward to seeing you, and I do mean you, dear reader, around the Holy Altar of our Order.

ment to just replace themselves (one new member), we could really improve our efforts to support our charitable objective; finding a cure for Muscular Dystrophy.

Coming Up

Our Annual Christmas Party will be held at Valicia's Ristorante, Saturday, December 2nd. You should have been contacted for your reservation by the time you receive this communication. This event would be an excellent time to introduce any prospective members to the Forest. I'm sure there will be a supply of Petitions available that evening.

The Officers, elected and appointed for 2007, will be installed at our January meeting. The incoming GTC will let us in on his agenda for the coming year that evening and we will consider any Petitions at that time. We only hope the weather will cooperate.

All those who have participated in the Degrees, please study your parts for a Spring conferral. All those who would like to participate in the Degrees, please contact me or one of the Officers. We need backups for the principle parts. Any Woodsman who would volunteer for the Calling Committee, please contact me (458-6125 or djbrugger@juno.com).

Sickness and Distress
Larry Hood is recovering well from his knee replacement surgery and is getting around much better. By the time you read this, I will have undergone, hopefully successful, back surgery to ameliorate a herniated disk and relieve some pinched nerves.

If you know of a Woodsman or Cedarette who is ill or in need of our aid or sympathy, please call one of the Officers or me.

Enjoy the Citysm

Taxes! Taxes! Taxes!

By Tom Michielsen

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

The holidays are also a time for giving to charities. Deciding which charity to support can be a daunting task, especially when you consider that there are some 1.2 million non-profit organizations in the United States alone. Now may be a good time to start thinking about where you would like to spread your holiday cheer.

How do you determine which charity deserves your donation? In addition to supporting a cause that appeals to you, there are a few commonly accepted standards that may provide some guidance.

**Tax Exempt ...
Or Tax Deductible?**

Contrary to popular belief, not all contributions are tax deductible. If you would like to claim a deduction, be sure the organization has been granted 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service. All Masonic related bodies have 501(c)(10) statuses. (Editor's Note: The Masonic Service Bureau IS a 501(c)(3) Corporation and donations ARE tax deductible.)

Watch That Overhead

Since you want your money to be put to good use, make sure that at least 60% of all funds are spent directly on programs and services, as opposed to administration and fundraising.

Go With Groups You Know

While it's natural to want to help in the wake of a tragedy or natural disaster, it's usually best to do so by contributing to a charity with a familiar name.

One of the most significant changes coming out of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 is the one affecting charitable giving. The new record keeping requirements have the potential

to impact each and every one of us. The charitable contribution deduction will be disallowed for any monetary contribution unless the donor maintains a record of the contribution.

The record must be in the form of a bank record, cancelled check, or a written communication from the donee showing the name of the donee organization, date of the contribution, and the amount of the contribution. This provision applies to any monetary contribution regardless of amount and is effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

For individuals, partnerships, or S corporations, no charitable deduction is allowed for any contribution of clothing or a household item unless the item is in good used condition or better. For any contribution of a single item of clothing or household item for which a deduction of more than \$500 is claimed, the taxpayer must include with his return a qualified appraisal with respect to the property. These changes are effective for contributions made after August 17, 2006.

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 provides retroactive tax relief to military reservists activated after September 11, 2001, and before December 31, 2007. Military reservists called to active duty can receive payments from their individual retirement accounts, 401(k) plans and 403(b) tax-sheltered annuities without having to pay the 10% early-distribution tax.

Taxpayer due dates

Upcoming calendar year taxpayer due dates are:

- December 15 - November Payroll Taxes Due; 4th Quarter Corporate Taxes Due
- December 20 - September through November Sales Tax Due
- December 31 - NYS 4th Quarter Individual Taxes Due

If you have any tax questions, please forward them to tmichie1@rochester.rr.com.



EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

Free training in the Orton Gillingham Multisensory Approach to Reading

Training begins February 2007

Please call 264-1690 for informational brochure

Candidates welcome!!

Your Masonic Service Bureau is always looking for a few good Brothers and Sisters to fill seats on the Bureau's Council. Up to twelve members are elected annually. When there are vacancies on the Board of Directors, candidates may be chosen from the Council to occupy those seats, since they are more attuned to the business of the organization. There are no term limits on the Council and members stand for election or re-election each year.

Should you have an interest in serving in this volunteer manner, or need more information, please contact Executive Director Skip Waterstreet at the Service Bureau office at 671-9730, or Nominating Committee Chairman Jay McCullough at 352-1061. Elections for the 2007 term will be held at the December 13th monthly meeting of the Bureau Officers and Directors.

Rochester Forest
No. 133
Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America

4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
Penfield, NY 14526

Norman P. Austin, GTC
494-2223

Donald C. Bell, Scribe
334-7768

The October 25th Woodsman Bring-A-Brother Program produced no prospects for the Forest. Woodsmen, this is not a good sign. Rochester Forest has been around for 50 years. Our membership has fluctuated from 25 to 60. We are now down to about 37. Seven of these have joined within the last few years. This gain of around four percent looks good on paper. However, most of these were brought in through the efforts of only a few Brothers (about 1 in ten). If all the Woodsmen made a commit-

ERAC Lodge

Continued from Page 10

made me want to be a part of the Investigating Committee. I was not disappointed. I sat with him during the interview and a more sincere and humble man I could not have anticipated meeting. He and his fiancée made us welcome and engaged us in a wonderful conversation. It left me feeling that there are men out there who will uphold the values that we hold so dear into the future.

I want to remind the Brothers to keep Mike Kennerson, the Wihlen family, Bueg family, Perkins family, Crough family, Zufall family and the Mckennas in our prayers so that they may deal with their various health issues with the blessings of the Great Architect.

Our 1st Degree will be November 27th. December 11th we will be doing the Whys and Wherefores and Symbolism of the 1st Degree. Christmas visitation will be December 16th, starting with breakfast at the home of Terry Wihlen Jr.

Happy Holidays to all. ✕

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

On behalf of the Officers and Members of Olive Branch Lodge, we wish all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Sorry that we have been missing from the past couple of issues of the *Masonic Times*. I had to have surgery this Fall and, due to conflicts, it was re-scheduled several times. Glad to say all is going well and I am healing nicely.

Shortly you will be receiving your dues notices. Due to high operational costs, we have run a sizable deficit the past few years, so prompt payment is appreciated. Even with the increase in our *per capita* charges we are not increasing dues.

Here's hoping Santa is generous to you. I can remember as a child being told if you were bad you received coal. I don't have a coal stove, but we do heat with a wood pellet stove. I wonder how bad I would have to be to get Santa to bring me a load of them?

Just a reminder ... Unless we have a major event come up, the Lodge meets only once a month December thru March. When in doubt call the Master or Secretary. ✕

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

1st & 3rd
Mondays

Master
R.: W.: Kenneth Kohlhagen
591-9598

Secretary
W.: Steven M. Sharman

2473 Route 20A, Varysburg 14167

I'm not much of a professional sports fan, but the best way I can explain what's happening at West Star is "It's Pan-

demonium!" That's a big word, but it explains the big happenings that are going on in Varysburg. More than 20 Brothers have attended our first three meetings this year! It may not sound like a lot to the big Lodges, but West Star only has 50 members. That's a pretty good percentage. At our last meeting we had 16 Brothers sit down for an excellent meal at Durfee's Diner; then we went upstairs for our meeting with 20 Brothers present. We were all stuffed like Thanksgiving turkeys. Thank you, Barb, for the great meal.

The program for the evening was a movie about the questions asked when joining Masonry. The movie talked about Masonry and Religion. It was very interesting and we all learned something new. As usual, we had lots of laughs and enjoyed each other's company. R.: W.: Robert Strang was also present and, although it wasn't his Official Visit, he complimented us on our Opening and Closing. He knows he is always welcome at West Star.

At the present time, we are not sure if we will have a dinner before the first meeting in December. December is a hard month to make plans, because of the day-to-day weather. If you don't like the weather, you can wait a few minutes and it will change.

Last night, called Brother Merle Robinson to tell him how great our year is going. It was great to hear his voice. Merle was Senior Deacon when I first entered the Lodge in 1983. It was his voice that made that first impression in my mind. Merle is doing fine living in Virginia; his health is back to almost normal and he is attending Lodge and Royal Arch there. He said it was raining but the weather is a lot warmer than here in New York. He said to say "Hi" to everyone.

Under sickness and distress, get-well wishes were sent to Brother Steve Licht who had a knee operation. He is doing well and will be on the go again soon. Send Steve a card or call on the phone when you have time. He would be glad to hear from you.

We have several Degrees going on in the District and are all joining in to help. Warsaw, Attica, and Castile all have Candidates.

I'm sure West Star will have a Brother Bring-a-Friend Program in the near future. If you have a good friend who you think would like to become a Mason, don't be afraid to ask him or tell him how much you enjoy Masonry.

Our Brothers, who joined last year, are attending meetings and studying to take parts in upcoming Degrees. They are showing a great interest in Masonry and this is what makes our work worthwhile.

On October 28th, my wife, Lorrie, and I drove to Pike in a snowstorm for their Annual Masonic Fundraising Auction. It snowed so hard we could hardly see to drive. We had a great time and a lot of fun. We bought everything — squash, potatoes, motor oil, 6 rolls of carpet, to name a few! The car was packed like sardines; I thought we were going to have to get the pickup truck. Don't miss next year's auction, even if just to see me pack the car.

Hope you have a nice Holiday! If you are traveling, please

drive carefully. We look forward to seeing you at Lodge. Good Luck until then. ✕

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

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

Master
W.: Kenneth E. Smith
768-7731

Secretary
W.: Richard L. Smith
493-5408

134 South Main Street, Castile 14427

May you and your families enjoy happy and healthy holidays. They're very special to my family because both of my daughters were born during the holiday season. The first being born the day after Thanksgiving and the second on Christmas Eve.

Official Visit

Oakland Lodge was honored with the presence of R.: W.: Harry Tyson, District Deputy Grand Master, and R.: W.: Marshall Krause, Grand Steward, at our November 7th Communication for an Official Visit. R.: W.: Krause outlined the Educational Programs for the Masonic year. The three main programs to be offered this year are: Individual Development Course (IDC), *Road to the East*, and the Masonic Development Course (MDC).

The IDC is already in session with participation of five Brothers from the Genesee-Wyoming District. The *Road to the East* will not be offered in the Genesee-Wyoming District this year, but it will be offered later in the year in Livingston District, for any Brother interested in attending. The Masonic Development Course is going to be offered in the Genesee-Wyoming District sometime in late January or early February. The main purpose of this Course is to help Brothers in learning and delivery of our Ritual.

R.: W.: Harry Tyson then presented the Grand Master's message. The number one goal, once again this year, is membership. The Grand Master stressed membership retention as well as new membership. We must take care of (and not forget) those who have already made the commitment to our Craft and not just worry about getting new members.

I thought I was back in algebra class when R.: W.: Tyson presented the following formula for membership: CCER=M. This formula spelled out is Communications, Community Involvement, Education and Ritual = Members.

Convention

The Grand Lecturer's Convention was held at Olive Branch Lodge, November 15th. I will give a full report on this Convention in the January *Masonic Times*. This Convention took place after the deadline for this issue. I'm hoping that I will be able to report that Oakland Lodge qualified for the Howard Potts Award.

Member passes

It saddens me to report that Brother Karl Chasey has passed to the Great Architect of the Universe. Brother Chasey was a Past Master of Oakland Lodge and a Member of the Craft for 45 years before his passing. I did not have the opportunity to ever meet Brother Chasey, but

have heard nothing but great opinions on him and how he was a benefit to Oakland Lodge and Masonry in general. Our thoughts and prayers are with Brother Chasey's family and friends as they cope with the loss of a loved one.

I congratulate the following Brothers of Oakland Lodge who were Raised in the months of November and December:

11/02/46—Donald G. Robinson
11/29/49—Frank A. Walkley
11/18/69—Donald G. Robinson Jr.
11/18/69—Robert D. Robinson
11/18/80—William J. Masset
11/18/95—Kenneth E. Smith
12/19/72—William E. Wallace
12/3/74—John C. Wahl
12/3/81—Donald I. Kemp

Your dedication to our Lodge and Masonry is greatly appreciated.

December Communication

Oakland Lodge will have only one Communication during the month of December. It will be Tuesday, December 5th and we will be requesting a Special Dispensation to open Lodge at 7 p.m. The purpose of opening early is get our business taken care of and close early enough to travel to Warsaw Lodge and assist them in conferring the 1st Degree.

Brotherhood Fund

The Brotherhood Fund Campaign is once again in full swing and Oakland Lodge has had a wonderful start. Thanks to all the Brothers for their generosity extended so far this year. The Brotherhood Fund Chairperson for Oakland Lodge this year is your Master, W.: Ken Smith. The best place to make your contributions to this campaign is at our monthly Communications. For those Brothers who are unable to attend, your donations can be sent to: Kenneth E. Smith, 137 Lake Street, LeRoy, NY 14482.

I take this opportunity to wish my fellow Brothers and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let us never forget those who have fought and are still fighting to keep our great Nation free and safe. Always remember that *Freedom Isn't Free*.

May the blessings of Heaven rest upon all Masons and their families wherever they are throughout the World. ✕

HESPERUS
Lodge No. 837

1st and 3rd
Thursdays

Master
W.: Cortney Gale
494-0165
cortney.gale@fnfg.com

Secretary
W.: Gary Hutcherson
494-1395
ghutcherson@yahoo.com

12 Lake Avenue, Bergen 14416

I feel as stuffed as the turkey was after eating so much for Thanksgiving. I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday and spent it with loved ones. Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those who are unable to be with their family and friends during the holidays, especially those in the armed forces.

Hesperus Lodge continues to be busy, both 2nd Degrees went well and we are looking forward to making all eight Brothers Master Masons on December 7th and 9th. Because of our busy schedule, a few dates have been changed.

On Friday, December 15th at 6:30 p.m., we will fill the Christmas baskets at the Bergen Fire Department and Saturday, the 16th at 8:30 a.m., they will be delivered. If you have any questions please contact W.: Dick Sands. Don't forget the Christmas Party is December 10th at 7 p.m.; be ready to be filled with Holiday Cheer!

We had a few special visitors on October 28th. M.: W.: Neal Bidnick and many of the Grand Line Officers with their wives stopped to have lunch with us at the Viking Valhalla. It was very informal and a great opportunity to talk and get to know everyone.

The Grand Master said he often uses Hesperus as an example of a Lodge that is strong and growing. It is a great testimony to our continual hard work and dedication. He was also impressed with our website. So impressed, he asked its creator, Brother Mike Sukhenko to be a Regional Webmaster for the Grand Lodge's website. If you haven't already done so, visit our website:

www.hesperuslodge.com.

This month I will, as I have in past articles, introduce you to a couple of Officers. W.: Garry Hutcherson and W.: Dick Sands really don't need an introduction, as they each are as well known a Mason as you will find. If I wrote everything I could about them, Masonically, this article would look more like a book.

W.: Richard Sands is the Treasurer and was Master of Hesperus in 1975. He was honored for his work with the Dedicated Service Award in 2002. W.: Dick lives in Bergen with his wife Joyce; they have five kids and ten grandkids. He is the Chairman of the Christmas Basket program and our Chicken Bar-B-Que.

W.: Garry Hutcherson is our Secretary and is involved in just about every Concordant Body. He is currently the Ill.: Master of Doric Council and Grand Representative of Saskatchewan for Royal Arch. Garry and wife, Wendy, are residents of Churchville. They have three daughters.

On a personal note, I want to tell everyone how proud I am of my brother, Stephen. He is a Sergeant in the Army's 10th Mountain Division, stationed at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan. This is his second tour and in his 17-year career he has been stationed all over the world.

This month he became a Brother of a different kind. In the middle of the desert, halfway around the world, he was made a Mason. He is now a member of Alpha Military Lodge No. 195, Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma, Prince Hall. Upon his return he will transfer his membership to Gouverneur Lodge, our Grandfather's Lodge, where, hopefully, we can attend a meeting together soon. Happy Holidays!! ✕

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In Memoriam

SEPTEMBER

Walker, Charles S.

On September 22nd, Charles S. Walker passed away at age 94. He was a member of Craftsman Robertson Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shrine. He is survived by a son, daughter-in-law, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was retired from Bausch & Lomb and was a World War II and Korean War Navy Veteran. Tenderly we treasure the past, with memories that will always last.

OCTOBER

Parmele, J. David

David Parmele, age 72, left our Earthly family to join his Heavenly family on October 17th. His wife, Vicki, four daughters and four grandchildren survive him. He was a member of Racket River Lodge in the 2nd St. Lawrence District and at the request of the family, a Masonic Service was provided by Brothers of Unity Lodge. Locally he was a member of John Knox Presbyterian Church, Past President of the JayCees of Rochester and volunteered with the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf and the Ronald McDonald House. You still live on in the hearts of the loving family you left behind.

Chasey, Karl D.

Karl Chasey, 70, entered Eternal Rest on October 18th. He was a 45-year member and Past Master of Oakland Lodge. Karl leaves his wife, children, grandchildren and a great-grandchild to remember his valued life.

Reynolds, Glynn I.

Glynn Reynolds passed away October 24th at age 94 and is survived by many nieces and nephews. He was a member of Wakan-Hubbard Lodge, Scottish Rite and Honesdale, PA Historical Society. May the Lord watch between thee and me, while we are absent one from the other.

Gazley, Herbert W.

On October 26th, Herbert Gazley met the Great Architect of the Universe. He was a member of Fairport/Flower City Lodge and is survived by his wife, Emily. May the trumpets of the Lord welcome Herbert home.

Widows to be Remembered

Thomas, Helen (97), widow of Donald Thomas (ERAC Lodge), passed away October 24th.

Weimer, Gertrude (91), widow of Harold Weimer (Fame Lodge) and member of O.E.S. Charlotte Chapter, passed away October 29th.

McNenny, Patrick J. Shelby

Patrick McNenny, age 75, met his Maker on October 29th leaving his wife, Grace, three children and many friends to survive him. He was a Past Commander-in-Chief of the Scottish Rite Valley of Rochester, a member of ERAC Lodge and a Grand Representative of Arizona. He was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and served in the U.S. Navy. His very active Masonic involvement throughout his years will long be remembered by those he touched during his service here on Earth. May Patrick find peace with the Great Architect of the Universe.

Dunk, William F.

William Dunk, age 85, went Home to his Lord on October 30th. He was a 50-year member of Drumlin Square Lodge and a World War II Navy Veteran. May he find peace with the Great Architect of the Universe.

NOVEMBER

Doescher, Edward Nelson

The loving arms of the Lord embraced Edward "Bud" Doescher, 78, on November 9th in Loveland, Colorado. He was a 50-year member of Unity Lodge and proud to be a Mason, following in the Fraternal footsteps of his family. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jean, three sons, ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. His sister and brother-in-law, Ellie and Doug Bell and sister-in-law, Mary Doescher will miss him with grieving hearts. He was a World War II and Korean Veteran of the U.S. Navy Submarine Service. Tenderly we treasure the past, with memories that will always last.

Barnes, Harry

On November 10th, Harry Barnes, 75, embraced the loving arms of the Lord. He was a member of Union Star Lodge, a proud Air Force Veteran and retiree of IBM. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jean, four daughters and three grandchildren. You still live on in the hearts and minds of the loving family you left behind.

Tozier, Robert E.

Robert Tozier, 75, died November 13th after a long illness. He was a member of Union Star Lodge, a proud Air Force Veteran and retiree of IBM. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jean, four daughters and three grandchildren. You still live on in the hearts and minds of the loving family you left behind.

Zona, Liane R. (67), widow of John Zona (Wakan-Hubbard Lodge), passed away October 23rd.

Jones, Mary Louise, widow of Daniel Jones (Wakan-Hubbard Lodge), passed away November 1st.

Dreisbach, Florence M., widow of Ivan "Mel" Dreisbach (Northfield Lodge), passed away November 6th.



Remarks from Rich Funke

Funke

Continued from Page 1

Cystic Fibrosis, and Special Olympics and hosted the Red Tie Gala for the Ronald McDonald House.

In addition to the plaque, Mr. Funke was presented a check to be contributed to a charity of his choice. He and his wife, Pat, chose Daystar, a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Inc.

Daystar opened its doors in Pittsford in 1988 as a certified foster home for any infant with special needs. It can accommodate up to 10 infants, age birth to 3 years for anything from respite care to full-time day-care.

Infants are referred to the Daystar Foster Care Program stay until they are stable enough to permit placement with their biological or adoptive families. The infants courageously live with serious complications from extreme prematurity, complex neurological disorders, feeding issues and complications of drug and alcohol addictions.

In July 2002, a daycare/respite program was opened, housed in the the lower level of Daystar's home on Lochnavar Parkway.

A 501(c)(3) charity, this program relies on tax-deductible public contributions and In-Kind donations. For information on how you can help, check out their web-site at:

www.daystarssj.org or call them at 385-6287.



Pat and Rich Funke



R.W.: Herb Spencer and Deacon Brian McNulty



Doug Emblidge, 13WHAM-TV, served as Master of Ceremonies for the Brunch.



Members of the James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post No. 12, Masonic War Veterans, presented and Posted the Colors.



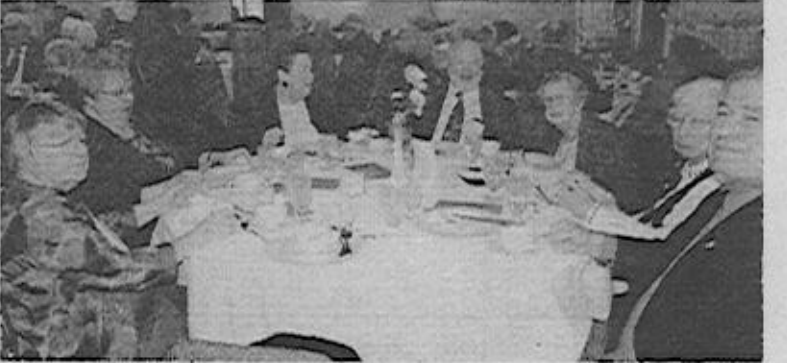
Wakan-Hubbard Lodge representation.



Combination table, Webster and Unity (plus Joy Woodley to brighten the scenery).



Our friends from Haggai Chapter No. 41, Royal Arch Masons, State of New York (PHA).



Masonic Service Bureau table.



Two tables were filled with representatives from Starlight Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star (above and below).



Check out our Website
www.monroemasonic.com
 A work in progress! Help us by keeping your information current.

E. David Martin Area 16 Historian

For 21 years, the *Niagara-Orleans District Masonic News*, has been a going concern, and now it is about to pass away. It will be an online paper from now on, according to the news that I have received.

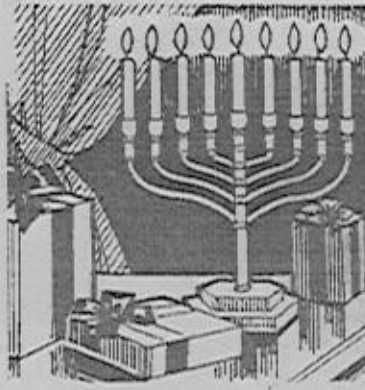
Over the years, I have put in articles describing those Brothers who were Masters of Niagara River Lodge and Niagara Frontier Lodge, here in Niagara Falls, plus others who may not have been Master of any Lodge. I was hoping at the time that others would use the paper to do the same thing.

Recently I loaned my small collection of these stories to our

most recent Brother to give him some idea why 785 came into existence. He now has a much better understanding of Masonry in the Niagara Falls area.

I was hoping that the paper would continue, as it was a way to bring the Niagara-Orleans District together as one source of all Trestleboards in one place for us to make plans for traveling about the District. All Concordant Bodies were represented, much like this paper.

My sincere thanks to Ron and Joan Bower for putting up with all of us who have been late with our articles. Our laziness has probably cost us our newspaper. So Ron and Joan, I hope you enjoy your retirement; no more last minute pressures of putting the paper out on time and reminding us to get our articles in on time.



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Rochester, New York 14612-1107
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Web: www.frontiernet.net/~phurwitz



Robert Francis Sanford, 1924-2006

Monroe District is mourning the loss of one of its active members of the Purple. R.: W.: Robert F. Sanford was called home by the Great Architect of the Universe on October 28th, after a brief illness.

Born in 1924, Mr. Sanford was a life-long resident of Henrietta. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps until 1945, as a pilot and instructor for the Consolidated B-24 Liberator.

Brother Bob was raised in Henrietta Lodge in 1947, serving as Master, Trustee, Treasurer and Secretary for many years. The Lodge proclaimed him "Master Mason of the Year 1973" and, in 1989, nominated him for the Scottish Rite Symbolic Blue Lodge Award.

A merger brought him to Union Star Lodge. He also had been active in Lalla Rookh Grotto, was a Life Member of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Rochester, A.A.S.R., and served as Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in the 1992-1993 term.

R.: W.: Sanford was elected President of the Monroe Districts Masters and Wardens As-



sociation in 1956. Joining the Past Masters' Supper Club in 1957, he remained active for many years. He served the Monroe Districts as President of the Masonic Secretary's Association, and was Secretary of the Western Region Grand Lodge Officers Association.

Survivors include sons Gary, who is the current Monroe District Deputy Grand Master, and Douglas, a daughter, Nancy, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

January, 2007

- 4 Scottish Rite, 14th Degree
- 13 Road to the East, Shrine Center
- 13 O/S/Y District Association Meeting
Garoga/Sincerity Lodge, Phelps
- 18 Scottish Rite, 18th Degree
- 20 Road to the East, Shrine Center
- 27 Road to the East, Shrine Center
- 29 School of Ritual, Shrine Center

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Masonic Times

BIG CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2006

Gem - Turquoise
Flower - Narcissus

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 p.m. \$7 adult; \$4 Child 30 Orchard Street	2 OES - Rochester Chapter Unity - Spencerport (I) Daughters of the Nile, Zama Temple - Fairport
3 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg RAM - Palmyra/Eagle KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford	4 Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Nunda Station Oakland - Castile OES - Fairport, Lilac Star, Nolatka, Starlight	5 Attica Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy Damascus Shrine - Ceremonial	6 Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen, 3* Northfield - Pittsford Webster, (OV) RSM - Palmyra Council	7 Fame - Shrine Center Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram Lalla Rookh Caldron	8 Hesperus - Bergen, 3*	9 KT - Sagoyewatha - Phelps
10 Clio Lodge Spaghetti Dinner Wednesday the 13th 287 East Avenue, Hilton	11 ERAC - Shrine Center Fairport/Flower City Union Star-Honeoye Falls, 1* Unity - Spencerport Wakan/Hubbard - Penfield RAM - Excelsior - Shortsville LIV - School of Ritual, Eunice Lodge, Caledonia	12 Arcade Eagle - Honeoye Seneca - Webster Valley-Simes - Shrine Center RAM - Dansville OES - Leah - Hilton, Mary Jane Holmes	13 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Masonic Service Bureau Monthly Luncheon Meeting OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	14 Eunice - Caledonia Hesperus - Bergen Northfield - Pittsford Webster Scottish Rite	15 First Day of Hanukkah	16 First Day of Hanukkah
17 Canandaigua - Shortsville West Star - Varysburg KT - Cyrene/Monroe - Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto Legion of Honor Shrine Lunch Club - Ladies Day - Fairport Village Inn	18 Clio - Hilton Craftsman Robertson (OV) Garoga/Sincerity - Phelps Nunda Station OES - Lilac Star, Nolatka, Starlight	19 Attica Ark - Geneva Drumlin Square - Palmyra Livonia Olive Branch - LeRoy RSM - Doric Council, Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto	20 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike Tall Cedars of Lebanon OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	21 Fame - Shrine Center Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post	22 First Day of Winter	23 First Day of Winter
24 New Year's Eve	25 Arcade Eagle - Honeoye RAM - Dansville, LeRoy OES - Leah - Hilton	26 Churchville Oatka - Scottsville Triluminar - Pike Tall Cedars of Lebanon OES - Canandaigua Fenogowone - Shortsville, Corinthian Fellowship	27 Fame - Shrine Center Milnor - Victor Union - Lima RAM - Hiram	28 James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post	29 Christmas	30 First Day of Kwanzaa
31 New Year's Eve	Christmas	First Day of Kwanzaa				