



Masonic Times

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

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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2016 Have-a-Heart Campaign for Local Ronald McDonald House Charities Begins January 30th

Don't Miss Your Opportunity to Volunteer ... see schedules, Page 19

It's that time of year again ... our chance to build community awareness while working for a great cause. It also offers an opportunity to talk about our organizations with potential members.

How Did it Get Started?

The Masons have been involved with this Charity since 1988 – even before the House was built. It's no wonder we refer to it as, "The House that Love Built" because lots of love and dedication raised funds to build this haven for more than 10,000 families traveling to Rochester for their child's specialized medical care.

The University of Rochester donated the building site, local Ronald McDonald owner/operators and many others in the Rochester area stepped up to provide the \$1.3 million and the volunteer support needed to open the doors to the 128th

"Home Away From Home" in February 1990. The Monroe District Masons were part of the initial fundraisers; thus, an Annual *Have-a-Heart* Event was born. It has since expanded to Concordant Bodies and neighboring Districts – the reason we sponsor this function as the Freemasons of the Genesee.

Bring Your Family, Friends

Bring your family with you. It can be a teaching tool to familiarize them with the spirit of volunteerism. Teaching by example is a way of involving children as they grow and develop their principles. Friends are welcome to help, too

The Word is Out!

The Ronald McDonald House Charities of Rochester recognizes our donations each year with awards and appreciation; volunteers from Masonic groups have

also increased as we realize the good we can do at the House. Some Masonic Groups go to the House and prepare a dinner for the families, some collect items from the "Wish List," and some make monetary donations from special projects.

It All Adds Up ...

For those who enjoy numbers, we have a complete 27-year rundown on the amount of money collected for each *Have-a-Heart* Campaign. The total to date, is just shy of \$360,000! We can be very proud of this accomplishment.

Offer Your Help Anytime

If you cannot attend with your group, contact another to see if they can use your help. Make it a point to get on the schedule and staff at a convenient time. Be a part of the effort ... let's show the community who the Freemasons of the Genesee are!

Board made up of professionally minded people.

An Opportunity to Serve —

Currently, the Board, of which I am a member, is expanding the number of Chairs available. If you enjoy working in a collegial atmosphere, have a talent or skill in helping guide a charitable institution and want to make a difference in the lives of children, then please send an email to me, R.: W.: Phil Hurwitz at: phurwitz@frontiernet.net or call me at 720-6019.

Twin brother Brothers Naturalized Citizens



W.: Paul McLaughlin, Master of Fairport Flower City Lodge, W.: Bernie Lazerson and Ill.: Jack VanElzakker witnessed the Ceremony.

December 10th was a great day for Oneil and Osmany Perez-Fernandez, twin brothers. They appeared at the United States District Court-house on State Street in Rochester and took the Naturalization Oath, before District Judge Charles J. Siragusa, to become citizens of the United States.



The Honorable Charles J. Siragusa, United States District Judge, is flanked by Oneil Perez-Fernandez and Osmany Perez-Fernandez following the ceremony.

Natives of Cuba, they emigrated to Rochester after working in Venezuela for a couple of years. Oniel was Initiated a Mason in Cuba. He contacted Ill.: Jack VanElzakker, 33°, Secretary of the Valley of Rochester, AASR, who put him in touch with the Secretary of Fairport-Flower City Lodge at that time, W.: Bernie Lazerson. Shortly thereafter, Osmany was Initiated and both Brothers were Passed and Raised together.

er. They subsequently became Sublime Princes in the Valley of Rochester.

Several Lodge Brothers have been instrumental in assisting them with their adjustment to Rochester, especially W.: Andy Woeppel who did a great job in translating and bringing them along in the Ritual.

The Perez-Fernandez twins live in Rochester and work in Environmental Services. Congratulations on your new status.

Education Assistance, Charity Grants Expense Budget Approved for 2016

The Board of Directors of the Masonic Service Bureau approved the 2016 budget at their December 9th meeting. Included again this year is \$15,000 for Education Assistance Grants and \$15,000 to support the programs of Charitable Organizations. These funds are made possible by the continued appreciation of the Investment Portfolio, despite the volatile market.

Applications for either of these programs are now available from the Bureau Office and may received by email or the United States Postal Service. Send your request to bmasonic@rochester.rr.com or call 671-9730. The Office hours are 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please leave a message if you call after hours; we will return the call or send the forms to you.

Education Assistance
High School Seniors, or cur-

rent (non-recipient) College Students who will be attending an institution of higher learning full-time in the Fall of 2016, are eligible.

Other criteria, which must be met for these **one-time-only** awards, include member of a Masonic Youth Organization or sponsored by a member of a Masonic Lodge or Related Body.

Each application must be completely filled out and accompanied by: 1) a letter "bragging" about the student's accomplishments in school, religious and civic environments; 2) a transcript of current grades; 3) a letter of recommendation from a school guidance counselor or advisor; 4) a letter of recommendation from the Masonic Organization's advisor or your Masonic affiliated sponsor.

Deadline is March 31st
Mailed documents must be postmarked by March 31st.

Children's Dyslexia Center - In Honor of Frank & Bette Paul

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." Brother Winston Churchill

Dyslexia is a neurological condition that affects a person's ability to read and write. Through tutoring, it is treatable. Children with Dyslexia need

professional help and the earlier they receive it, the greater their chances of achieving normal, productive lives.

Your Valley has supported the local Children's Dyslexia Learning Center since its inception. Tutoring is provided free-of-charge. The success of the Center is due in-large-part to a

What's Inside?

Brotherhood Fund, Area 15	5
Damascus News	9-12
Editor's Corner	2
Fidelity Triangle No. 4	13
Genesee-Wyoming	13
<i>Have-a-Heart</i> Mall Schedules	19
Lalla Rookh Grotto	18
Looking Ahead	3
Masonic War Veterans	13
Memorials	3
Monroe District	5-8, 13
Order of the Eastern Star	18
Ontario/Seneca/Yates	4
Scottish Rite News	14-16
Tall Cedars of Lebanon	18
Wayne District	4-5
York Rite News	17

Symbolic Lodge Awards January 9th Deputy Grand Master Featured Speaker

Join the Valley of Rochester, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, as they honor Master Masons for the support of their Lodge on Saturday, January 9th, at the Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road in Webster.

Guest speaker for the evening



R.: W.: Jeffrey M. Williamson

will be the Deputy Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, R.: W.: Jeffrey M. Williamson. Also a member of the Scottish Rite, he will assist in the presentation of the Certificates, which will be followed by refreshments of Pizza and Wings. Festivities begin at 4 p.m. with a Social Hour. Then at 5 p.m., guests will move into the meeting room for the Program.

Please make your reservations with the Valley Office - (585) 425-0033 - and join us to support all the Brothers who work so diligently behind the scenes to keep our Lodges functioning. This is a public event, so invite your family members and friends to join in congratulations to the recipients.

Masters, this is the chance to recognize a Brother who has performed diligent and long-term service to your Lodge and who might not otherwise have public recognition.

Dated Material

Damascus News see page 9



Editor's Corner

Well, I'm still in business, at least for another year. The Masonic Service Bureau's Board of Directors approved the 2016 budget and, while not specifically allocating funds, understands that the possibility exists of having to provide some funding in order to cover the expenses of the paper.

A major concern is the loss of subscribers due to the declining membership in the Fraternity. In my visits to the Lodges in the Monroe District, I mentioned that since I began as editor, we have lost over 1900 subscribers. This averages over 150 fewer people receiving the **Masonic Times** every year. We have already lost more than that, as a Lodge has been forced to drop from subscribing as their budget can no longer handle the cost.

The invoices for 2016 should be in the hands of your Secretary as you read this. We send them out in January, so corrections may be made to their mailing lists ... especially as regards to members being dropped for non-payment of Dues. There could be other changes that, for one reason or another, were not brought to our attention.

Any issue that is unable to be delivered as addressed is supposed to be returned to us, with a new address for the recipient if one is available. It is one of the ways we can be of service to the Organization Secretary, as we pass that information along.

There are times, however, when the recipient lives with a relative who continues to accept the paper even though he is no longer alive. We have been notified YEARS after the death of a member to stop sending him the newspaper. This is particularly true for out of town Masons, as we have no way of checking local newspapers for obituaries.

Paper on Website

I'm informing, or reminding, you that you may now read the **Masonic Times** on electronic devices. Go to our website: www.monroemasonic.com and click on the image of the **Masonic Times** halfway down the home page. That will take you to another page with lists of the various years and months that I have been able to upload. I will do my best to add the current issue as quickly as I can, when the production is finished. There are occasions when this might occur prior to the printed version arriving in the mail, but I'm not promising anything.

While we will be tightening our controls endeavoring to have the paper in your hands prior to the first of the month, we are still at the mercy of each little branch Postal facility and the personnel in charge there. We ask that you complain to them, if you don't get the service you want or expect.

Have a great 2016 and thanks for reading. ☐



DeMolay on the Move

By Gary Burke
Chairman,
Advisory Council

As Rochester Chapter DeMolay continues to move forward to re-establish itself in the Monroe District, they participated in activities that involve members from around Central and Western New York.

On December 5th, members from Triangle, DeMolay and Rainbow Chapters from around New York gathered in three locations for New York DeMolay's "Strike It Up" Bowling Tournament.

The bowling locations included alleys in Baldwin, Latham and Rochester where members and prospective members could enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship together. Regardless of the scores, the day provided the youth and adults the opportunity to gather together with one another and enjoy bowling, pizza and soda under the shadow of fellowship.

The photograph below shows those individuals who attended the event held at Domm's Bowling Center in Rochester. Mem-



DeMolay members Justin Lunn and David Locke presented then Chief Rabban of Damascus Shriners, Kevin Faro, with a Certificate of Appreciation for the support the Chapter has received from the Shriners.

bers from the respective youth groups included Chapters from Buffalo and Syracuse, as well as Rochester.

Mark Your Calendar

Rochester Chapter is planning Induction Ceremonies to be held at the Damascus Shrine Center on **Saturday, January 23rd**, beginning at 10 a.m. Assisting in the ceremonies will be DeMolays from around Central and Western New York. If you're reading this article, you're welcome to come and witness the ceremonies and learn what DeMolay teaches as it inducts its newest members. ☐



Triangle, Rainbow and DeMolay members who participated in New York DeMolay's "Strike It Up" Bowling Tournament in Rochester.



Attending a Rochester Americans Hockey Game was another event sponsored by the Rochester Chapter. Shown in this photo are (front, left to right): Steven Lunn, Justin Lunn, David Locke and Doug Locke; (behind, left to right): Franklin Granata, Paul Granata, Jack Truebger and John Truebger.



Cleaning up the gardens in front of the Shrine Center and spreading mulch were (left to right): John Hellaby, Michael Hueston, Doug Locke, John Truebger, David Locke and Jack Truebger.

Scouting Outreach Committee

By W.: Bruce Katz,
District Chair

Do you have a hobby or career you would enjoy teaching to the next generation? If so, there is an opportunity to be a Merit Badge Counselor for Boy Scouts. Merit Badges expose Scouts to hobbies, careers and life skills and give them the opportunity to work with caring adults who are often strangers to them (another important life skill). There are more than 120 Merit Badges available. This opportunity serves the double-purpose of helping youth in our communities and as they get to know a little about you (and mentioning your Fraternal connection) it can serve to increase the awareness of our Brotherhood in the local community. Because of our shared values - Scouts and Scouters - we will encounter as Merit Badge Counselors are an excellent potential pool of future Brothers.

Training for Merit Badge Counselors will be held at Scouting's Leadership University on **March 5th** at St. John Fisher College. This will teach the mechanics of being a Merit Badge Counselor. There is some paperwork to do (including authorizing a background check), a brief additional training for Youth Protection, and a little homework to learn the specific information that the Scout is expected to demonstrate proficiency.

Also, at Leadership University will be a "midway" of Scouting displays, including information about the National Association of Masonic Scouters.

In addition to teaching Merit Badge information, your skills may also be of interest to local Cub Scout and Girl Scout Troops in our area. Serving our communities by helping our youth develop into inquisitive, educated adults is a high calling for which local Masons are clearly able to support.

A listing of the current Merit Badges can be found at: scouting.org/meritbadges

If your Cabletow allows, please consider this investment in America's youth.

Please contact me if you are interested in participating in a Masonic Scouting program in our area, including helping with Merit Badges, supporting the "Midway" Booth at Leadership University or other activities. ☐



Support the Have-a-Heart Campaign
for the Ronald McDonald Houses
January 30th through February 14th
Don't Miss Your Opportunity to Volunteer

Organization schedules are listed on Page 19, but offer to help whenever you are able.

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In Memoriam

Arnold, Gordon R.

On September 20th, Gordon Arnold, 77, laid down his Working Tools leaving his life partner, Dianna; 3 children and 5 grandchildren to remember him. He was a member of Drumlin Square Lodge. A memory is a keepsake of time that lives forever in the heart.

Comstock, James E.

James Comstock, 90, found loving peace in the arms of the Lord on December 9th. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Ruth; 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. James was a US Army Veteran of World War II and recipient of a Bronze Star. He was a very active 52-year Life Member of Fairport-Flower City and a Past Grand Officer of the Eastern Star. May the joy of the Lord be your strength.

Fox, Donald P.

On November 11th, Don Fox, 95, went to the waiting arms of his wife. He will be remembered by 2 daughters, a son-in-law, 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. He was a World War II Veteran of the US Coast Guard. Don was a Mason for more than 65 years – a member of Unity and Northfield Lodges, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shriners. Your gentle spirit will live on in our hearts forever.

Reigelsperger, Warren "Mickey"

On December 9th, Warren Reigelsperger, 93, was embraced by those who walked before him in faith, leaving extended family and friends to share his memory. Mickey was a US Army Air Corp Veteran of World War II and a member of Fairport-Flower City Lodge. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.

Russell, F. Murray

On April 17th, Murray Russell, 93, departed from a lively life of accomplishments and he will always be cherished by his wife of 63 years, Linda; 2 sons and 2 grandsons. He was a World War II Veteran and member of Fairport-Flower City Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shriners. When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

Sheldon, Floyd A.

On November 24th, Floyd Sheldon, 93, said goodbye to his Earthly home. He is survived by 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Floyd was a member of Drumlin Square Lodge. Memories are like threads of gold, they never tarnish or grow old.

Widows to be Remembered

Bernice Cornell, 97, widow of Maurice Cornell (Fairport-Flower City Lodge), passed away December 10th.

Suzanne M. Lawrence, 75, widow of Leon Lawrence (Wakan-Hubbard Lodge), passed away November 23rd.



For Interested Master Masons ONLY of Monroe Ontario-Seneca-Yates, Wayne and Livingston Districts

Monroe and Western Finger Lakes Region

Saturday, January 23, 2016

Held at Pittsford Masonic Hall, 17 Church St., Pittsford, NY

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Lunch at Noon for \$10

Reservation Deadline is Tuesday, January 19

RSVP to W. Bruce Katz – Monroe District Membership Development Chairman, 585-729-6657 or brucek8189@aol.com. (Please provide your contact information, District, Lodge, and any questions)

District "TEAM" Grand Lodge Officers, AGLs, and at least one Brother from each Lodge in each District from the Region are cordially invited. Dress for the day will be business attire. No Aprons.

NorthStar Vision: It is a new day for Freemasonry in New York. Membership is something that is on every Lodge's mind. We know men are joining the Craft, but are leaving soon after. *The NorthStar Project* addresses these concerns and provides the tools, not only to help build better men, but also to help keep them active for life.

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Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

FEBRUARY

- 4 OES Line Officers, Spencerport
- 13 Scottish Rite, Valley of Rochester, Sweetheart Event, Red Fedele's Brook House
- 20 MONROE District - Road to the East, Pittsford
- 20 LIV & GEN-WYM Districts - Road to the East, Le Roy

February 12th through March 25th
Olive Branch Lenten Fish Frys, Le Roy

MARCH

- 5 OES Line Officers, Spencerport
- 5 Scouting Leadership University, St. John Fisher College
- 5 MONROE District - Road to the East, Pittsford
- 12 OES District School of Instruction, Spencerport
- 13 OES District Winter Wonderland Day
- 13 Scottish Rite Feast of the Paschal Lamb, Shrine Center
- 17 Olive Branch St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Le Roy
- 25 MONROE Masters & Wardens, Shrine Center-Grotto Room

APRIL

- 30 MONROE Widows Luncheon, Burgundy Basin

MAY

- 2-3 Grand Lodge of New York Annual Communication, New York City
- 28 MONROE District - Joint Investiture Service, Fairport

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Ontario/Seneca/Yates

District Deputy Grand Master - R.:W.: John C. Hubbard (607) 351-3222

District Deputy Grand Master Ontario/Seneca/Yates District

R.:W.:
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Time marches on and we are just six months to the changing of the guard at Grand Lodge. I have enjoyed serving the Grand Master over the last 18 months and have received a tremendous amount of Light in Masonry while doing so.

R.:W.: Abraham and I have enjoyed the Degrees we have attended this Fall. The Brothers have been very proficient in the Ritual, therefore giving the new Candidates the best experience possible. By the middle of December, all of our twelve Official Visits had been made and Grand Master Thomas' message has been well-received everywhere we have traveled.

I believe that my job serving the Grand Master is to also examine the business trends within our District and stimulate discussion about the future of Masonry in the Ontario/Seneca/Yates District. After discussing the Grand Lodge potential of Districts consolidating, I began to form a discussion of my own along those lines. Our District, as so many others, has lost many Brothers over the years, while

the cost of doing our Masonic business has gone up.

One of our District Lodges, with 70 Brothers and no rental income, calculated that the cost of each Brother's Dues would need to be \$250.00 in order to break even. I don't believe there are any Lodges in our District charging that much. The costs of maintaining a Lodge today are becoming monumental.

At this time, the Ontario/Seneca/Yates District has twelve Lodges. If things go unchanged, I would anticipate there being only perhaps three or four Lodges still in operation in five years.

I have asked each Lodge to consider the future and think about consolidating Lodge locations for the sake of survival. The Grand Master's theme, "Together Everyone Achieves More," is so appropriate in this case.

Along those same lines, I have asked each Lodge to put together a five-year business plan. That plan should project enrollment, cost of doing business, methods of recruitment and what we expect to be doing as Masons for the community. Many times we get so caught up in financial and property issues, we lose sight of what we are obligated to do as Masons.

Have-a-Heart Campaign

We look forward to participating in the *Have-a-Heart* Program, which supports the Ronald McDonald Houses. The Campaign runs from **January 30th**

through February 14th. The Ontario/Seneca/Yates District is scheduled to staff at the Eastview Mall in Victor on **February 11th, 12th and 13th**. R.:W.: Jed K. Brandow has done a great job of heading up this most important program. Make plans with him to assist in participating. □

Grand Director of Ceremonies



R.:W.:
Thomas C.
Abraham
526-5308

abrahamtk@roadrunner.com

It is hard to believe that 2015 has come and gone so quickly. The DDGM and Staff Officer thank the Brothers of the O/S/Y District for their continued support as we move forward in 2016.

R.:W.: John Hubbard, DDGM, and I have completed Official Visits. Twelve Lodges of the District greeted us warmly and in true Masonic Brotherhood and fellowship. We have been able to meet and greet many Brothers in the District.

Our Terms of Office will be coming to an end soon and we have enjoyed the experience of serving the O/S/Y District. The DDGM has delivered the Grand Master's message and challenged each Lodge to consider making a five-year plan to allow them to look ahead and make such decisions as to allow each Lodge to continue to function into the future.

The Staff Officer has given a quiz on Masonic Etiquette and Protocol at each Visit. There have been twelve different quizzes, which will be given to each Lodge in the District.

We have the rest of our Term to help the District continue to do the work of Freemasonry. There are several Degrees scheduled in January and the new Entered Apprentices and Fellowcraft Candidates will be offered the *Masonic Development Course* to help them adjust and integrate into the Fraternity.

The DDGM and the Staff Officer have stressed the importance of the interview of a potential Candidate, the mentoring of the Candidate and the retention of members. We are looking forward to the rest of our Term in Office in order to serve the O/S/Y District. □

Wayne District

District Deputy Grand Master - R.:W.: John P. Krest (315) 597-5060

District Deputy Grand Master Wayne District

R.:W.:
John P.
Krest
(315)
597-5060



kremac7@gmail.com

The Selection Process for District Deputy and Staff Officer for 2016-2018 is in the final Stages and required District Official Visits are complete. Not a bad way to come to the end of 2015.

The Masonic Year 2015-2016 still has a ways to go and I encourage you to continue the great work you have all accomplished these past months. Ritual Work has really improved and so has the up-keep on the facilities during the year.

The Brotherhood Fund Drive has had a slow start, but is coming along a little better than last year.

We have seen the largest turnout for the Grand Lecturer's Convention in quite some time and our Monthly Masters and Wardens Meetings are moving in the right direction. Your continued support of each other and enthusiasm for the Craft has been like a needed "shot in the arm" for the District and Masonry. YOU are the GREATEST!!!!

With 2015 behind us, we now have to look ahead. End-of-Year Reports need to be filed. Per Capita Tax to Grand Lodge needs to be submitted. Degree Work has to exist completed. Consider the upcoming Grand Lodge Communication in May and discuss Consolidation and Minimum Age Requirements so your Representative can vote according to your wishes. Who will be your Representative? Will you send the Master or a Proxy? Will your Lodge be represented or not. You know it should.

Don't forget ... Wayne District is scheduled to participate in the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign for the Ronald McDonald Houses on Monday, February 8th, at Eastview Mall. See the schedules inside the back page of this issue.

There's much to do, my Brothers, and time really does fly by. If you are asked to help, jump right in. If no one asks, YOU jump in and ask, "What can I do?" Your Master has set work upon the Trestleboard to be done. He needs YOU to help in getting the work done. Our Masonic Home and Brotherhood Fund need your support! □

Grand Director of Ceremonies



R.:W.:
Allan "Joe" Green
690-0326
adoniram32@
yahoo.com

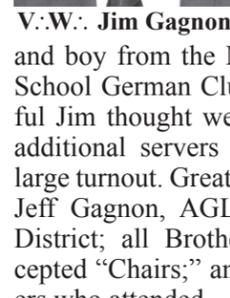
Happy New Year!! The turnout for Wayne District Grand Lecturer's Convention held in November was fantastic. The headcount for dinner was 38, with another 10 showing up for the floor work. Kudos to Worshipful Master, V.:W.: Jim Gagnon, and DDGM, R.:W.: John Krest, on all the fore-

thought in making preparations and reservations. John hit the headcount right on the money so there was plenty of food. The Stuffed Pork Chops turned out great!! *Muchas gracias* for the complements on my cooking ... and no cheese or hot sauce was needed.

Many Brothers asked me who the serving team was that did such a great job with a full house of hungry Brothers? These were



R.:W.: John Krest



V.:W.: Jim Gagnon the girls and boy from the Marion High School German Club. Worshipful Jim thought we might need additional servers with such a large turnout. Great job V.:W.: Jeff Gagnon, AGL for Wayne District; all Brothers who accepted "Chairs;" and the Brothers who attended.

Masonic Education

With all Official Visits now completed; Hunting Season, Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays behind us, one would think scheduling of Masonic Courses wouldn't be much of a problem; however, someone informed me Football and Basketball Seasons have started.

I will be available on Saturdays and Sundays for any Brother within or without Wayne District who wishes to complete any of the Courses. I still have several *Master's Chair* and *Masonic Development Course* manuals available at no charge for any Brother wishing to take these two Courses.



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Brothers who waited after Convention to be in photo with R.: W.: Richard J. Kessler

A Brother needs a copy of *24-Inch Gauge* and the *Masonic Law of New York* including the *Constitutions* to complete the *Road to the East*. These can be borrowed or purchased from Lodge Services (cost is \$45 for *24-Inch Gauge* and \$50 for the *Constitutions*).

Throughout the Official Visits, our District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: John Krest, has been implementing a very tasteful parable of a Brother in need of a cup of coffee and could a Brother spare that dollar-and-a-half for the Masonic Brotherhood Fund. If you missed your Lodge's Official Visit, Worshipful Mel Hussey submitted the story in its entirety in the December Issue of the **Masonic Times**. Hopefully, at the conclusion of John's Term of Office, Brother Mel will be re-appointed Area Chairman by Grand Lodge and the story continues on.

Happy New Year to all!! ☐



Members of Marion High School German Club were servers.



These Brothers participated in Convention by filling Chairs.



Sodus Lodge Brothers scheduled to receive Henry G. Meacham Award for Outstanding Ritual performance.

**Area 15
Brotherhood
Fund**



**Chairman
W.: Melvin
Hussey**
mhussey486@aol.com
(315) 904-4048

The Wheel That Squeaks the Loudest gets the Grease

The wheel that squeaks the loudest gets the grease. Where have we heard that before? This saying has been around longer than I have and I'm 78!! Unfortunately, that problem happened not once, but twice to me with cars I've owned. Heard that awful growling then straight to the repair shop to have the wheel bearings replaced.

It also alludes to those annoyances that pop up in our everyday lives. One day my foot started hurting real bad; went to the doctor, took my shoes off and she started laughing. Inside I felt better that she knew what it was, but the pain from my swollen foot was killing me so I re-

plied, "I don't think it's funny!" Her reply? "You've got Gout."

Bottom line ... in life, things happen that get our attention, then we act on them.

YOU are Important!

Brotherhood Fund Chairmen, you are the key to your Lodge's success in making this Brotherhood Fund work! It is up to you to see to it that your Lodge's Brotherhood Fund is the "Wheel That Squeaks the Loudest" in your Lodge. I do this by:

1. Being put on the list of reports each Communication. No matter what, always have something to say about our beloved Brotherhood Fund.
2. Posting a "goal thermometer" in percent of giving.
3. Making a list of those who've responded and posting it near your "goal thermometer" with updates, of course.

It is January. Hopefully, you have your requests for Brotherhood contributions already sent out in the mail with the Secretary's Lodge Dues request. Perhaps you can send out a second mailing in March to those who have yet to respond. Hopefully, the Lodge will assist you in the cost. Remember, "We're all in this together and I'm pulling for you." ☐



**Monroe and Western Finger Lakes Region
Saturday, January 23, 2016
Pittsford Masonic Hall
17 Church St., Pittsford
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Lunch at 12 noon - cost \$10
Reservation Deadline-Tuesday, January 19**

Monroe District
District Deputy Grand Master - R.: W.: **George Fohner 704-6128**

**District Deputy
Grand Master**
Monroe District



**R.: W.:
George
Fohner
704-6128**
georgefohner@gmail.com

All Official Visits are over; our last one at Wakan-Hubbard was a grand affair. It started with a banquet fit for a king, and the well-attended meeting was filled with enthusiastic dialogue on our two opinion polls. Or, maybe it was a celebration, as this would be the last Official Visit in that grand old Lodge Room. Whatever the reason, we wish the best to Wakan-Hubbard Lodge as they move to a new location and new future for the Lodge.

We thank all the Lodges in the District for their hospitality and respect accorded us during our Visits. We made many new friends and look forward to continuing those friendships. A shout out to the N.F.L. Lodge ... you know who you are and hope you had as much fun as I did.

Now with the Holidays over, it is time to go back to work with Degrees, schools and Dis-

trict Meetings. Let's support our Masters and Wardens and, personally, I need your support for the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign starting January 30th and ending February 14th.

Please check the schedules inside the back page to learn when your Lodge will be on duty at the Mall.

A Proud Mason ☐

Grand Steward



**R.: W.:
Stephan Michener
387-9487
smichene@
rochester.rr.com**

**!!!Travel Advisory
for Those Headed East!!!**

Are you considering traveling further East and hoping to arrive at The Master's Chair? Do you know what to pack and what resources you should have when you reach your destination? Do you have any clue about the perils and pitfalls that could make your journey less than smooth?

The Office of the Grand Lodge Staff Officer, Grand Steward of the Monroe District,

has just issued a Travel Advisory for anyone who is planning on traveling East to the Master's Chair. This is especially directed at all Senior and Junior Wardens who must take the *Road to the East (RTTE)* Class before being elected to the Office of Master, as per the Directive of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

The *RTTE* Class will assure that you are equipped with all the information and resources necessary to have an enjoyable and productive year for yourself as Master and for your Lodge Brethren as well. While you may encounter some exhilarating turbulence and a little windage, I assure you there will be no hot air in this class. You can expect useful knowledge, clear direction and some stimulating travel conversation as you map out your course and begin to plan your Trestleboard.

Road to the East

The Class will be held over two Saturdays, **February 20th** and **March 5th** from 8 a.m. until approximately 2 p.m. Both sessions will be held at Pittsford Masonic Hall. Cost for the class will be \$35 to cover Grand Lodge processing and food. RESERVATIONS must be made to Steve Michener at:

746-3960 or email:
smichene@rochester.rr.com
Please make your reservation
by Friday, February 13th!
A Masonic Map

We are men and there is truth

in the joke that we don't like to ask for directions when we are traveling. Frequently, when we have to put something together, we don't look at the directions that come in the package. We just look at the picture and start joining parts together ... oftentimes, only to find out that we used the wrong part or left something out. You don't want to do this when you're sitting in the East and you are the point person for the health and vitality of your Lodge.

It can be argued that our Craft is in the state of decline that it is, because our Lodge leadership has not always been as good as it can be. A good and solid Trestleboard begins to be prepared at least a year before the Master arrives in the East. Mapping out the course of where he wants to go assures that the band

of travelers, led by the Master, will not get lost, and waste precious time. EVERY MEETING MATTERS!

Boy Scouts use the hiking/camping analogy of leaving the wood pile at a camp site, a little higher than you found it. Likewise every Master of his Lodge should strive to leave his Lodge a little healthier than he found it. For instance, if the average attendance of your Lodge is X when you assume the Master's Chair, what can you do to leave it X + 1 or 3 when your year is done? What specific steps will you implement towards this goal?

All Brothers should be consciously considering these and other questions as they begin to approach the East. The *Road to the East* is a great way to get you started. See you there! ☐



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MONROE DISTRICT**

**R. W. :
Roy Moses
346-2117**



roymoses46@gmail.com

Did everyone have a Merry Christmas and Joyous New Year? Doesn't seem possible that 2015 is at an end. It has been a fantastic start for all the Lodges; most are in Degree work and doing very well. I have finished five Edict Degrees, almost half of the District so far. Six Lodges have invited me for rehearsals and I have more on the calendar. This has been a great start for me because I have been involved with the Official Visits. Now I have some more time to conduct my business as the AGL.

Please, Masters or Secretaries, let me know when your rehearsals are and also your Degrees. If I am not busy I would love to come support you at your Degrees.

I am very pleased with the Official Visits. The Grand Master's Order to discuss the 18-year-olds was very interesting. I believe this discussion started the Lodges on a new path that has been forgotten over the years.

Investigating and Mentoring
We must investigate new Candidates more thoroughly to find out if the Candidate really wants to be a Mason and conform to our Laws and Constitutions. We are learning that quality is more important than just raising our numbers.

We pushed Mentoring all last year and I am pleased some Lodges are starting Mentoring Classes for the Candidates, but also for the Mentors themselves. This can only help to insure that we can have a Brother Raised who will stick around for life.

I am pleased to see this opening of the eyes of the Lodges and Brothers through the simple discussion of allowing 18-year-olds into the Craft. I am encouraging all the Masters to pick topics for discussion on anything Masonic for a program in the Lodge. We have to start thinking Masonry to be a Mason.

Things to Remember!

1. Let me know dates of your rehearsals.
 2. The dates of your Degrees.
- See you in January. □

**MONROE DISTRICT
MEMBERSHIP
DEVELOPMENT**

By W. : Bruce Katz, District Chair

"Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it."

— Brother Samuel Langhorne Clemens
(Mark Twain)

For many years, the old saw above described a situation for which we are all familiar. The classic "small talk" of weather, for which Upstate New York is particularly well-suited, was a

frequently-employed innocuous icebreaker for conversations.

Then something happened ... weather - more specifically, "Climate Change" - became THE hot topic of political and scientific debate and dialogue. People started "doing something about it."

What does the change in attitude towards "the weather" have in common with Membership Development? People are starting to do something about it.

As I write these words, a Global Environmental Conference of world leaders, scientists, environmental activists and industry representatives is underway in Paris. Like the question of Climate Change, there isn't one common view with easy answers. Engaging in open dialogue is the first step. The next step is planning a course of action, and acting upon it.

Freemasonry survives and will be able to flourish if each generation prepares our Lodges and our work to be succeeded by the following generation. The failure of our predecessors to welcome the post-Vietnam generation has resulted in the closing of many Lodges. Peter Drucker reminded us that "It is not necessary to change. Survival is not mandatory."

Millennials

Every generation is marked by a different set of forming circumstances than their predecessors. The newest generation knocking at our doors is the Millennials who are typically considered those who were born in the first years of this century up to those about twenty years old on 9/11/2001. While there is not yet a single clear set of defining characteristics about the Millennials, and this column is not the forum for a sociological discussion, there is some broad-stroke generalizing.

"Wikipedia" offers some characteristics:

"In March 2014, the Pew Research Center issued a report about how 'Millennials in adulthood' are 'detached from institutions and networked with friends and are somewhat more upbeat than older adults about America's future.'

"In 2008, author Ron Alsop called the Millennials 'Trophy Kids,' ...where mere participation is frequently enough for a reward...Some employers are concerned that Millennials have too great expectations from the workplace. Some studies predict that Millennials will switch jobs frequently, holding many more jobs than Gen Xers due to their great expectations. Newer research shows that Millennials change jobs for the same reasons as other generations—namely, more money and a more innovative work environment. Millennials look for versatility and flexibility in the workplace, and strive for a strong work-life balance in their jobs. Millennials also have similar career aspirations to other generations, valuing financial security and a diverse workplace just as much as their older colleagues. Educational sociologist Andy Furlong described Millennials as optimistic, engaged, and team players."

Brother Sam Friedman, of ERAC Lodge, is of the Millennial Generation. A new Mason, he has applied his academic training in the publication of a small book, *Millennial Apprentices: The Next Revolution in Freemasonry*.

"At the end of the day, millennials believe they can change the world, but they need an avenue that they can trust in order to do so. In this way our decline from the popular imagination is a benefit. Freemasonry has not betrayed millennial trust yet. Within Freemasonry, millennials will find an organization of older mentors who can guide them regardless of race or religion through a lifetime of spiritual education and personal growth. The only thing that is missing from the modern Craft is a mechanism whereby millennials can begin to change the world. As Joseph Fort Newton once so eloquently wrote: Freemasonry should act as a "ministry to the individual, and through the individual to society and the state."

"Luckily, Freemasonry has a rich tradition of revolutionary action and thought. And while that tradition has faded from American Freemasonry, it is still very much relevant in global Freemasonry. Perhaps it is time for us to learn from our overseas brethren and restore this ancient paradigm to our Craft in America. This may be the most effective strategy for attracting and most importantly retaining this new breed of American men into our ranks."

Millennial Apprentices is an interesting and thought-provoking read and, hopefully, will be the basis of many interesting conversations. *Millennial Apprentices* is available on:

Amazon.com □

Monroe District Masters and Wardens Association

W. : Kenneth Hecker

President
420-8852

Email:
kennethhecker@gmail.com

Happy New Year to all! This New Year signals that the Monroe District Masters and Wardens Association only has four meetings left for this Administration before the Annual Meeting and Elections. This event will take place on **June 30th** at 7 p.m. at the Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster, in the Grotto Room.

Mark Your Calendar

The next meeting is:

Thursday, February 25th,

at the Damascus Shrine Center, in the Grotto Room. Please mark this on your calendar. We hope to see all Lodge Masters, Wardens and Senior Deacons present to give input to the District's direction and learn what the committees have been laboring to provide for the District.

We look forward to seeing and hearing from all of you. Safe travels, Brethren. □



Veterans acknowledged by Unity Lodge Brothers are (front, left to right): R. W. : Joe Privitera, Brothers Fred Palmeroni, Scott Corey, Jose Peo, Ralph Pate and Brother Orlo Noxon; (back row): Tyler Ekwell, Byron Barnes and W. : Patrick Schwartz, Master.

UNITY

Lodge No. 479

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

Master

W. : Patrick Schwartz
395-0874; c) 329-2374
partsguy1@rochester.rr.com

Secretary

R. W. : Clifford Short
225-0464
short4us@rochester.rr.com

133 South Union Street
Spencerport 14559



Happy New Year!! I hope everybody had a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season. I hope everybody received and read the **Masonic Times** last month, Unity had a very nice picture on the inside of the front page showing us with the earned and well-deserved School of Ritual banner. Many thanks to all of you who participated in our rehearsal to earn it and also to those who shared your Friday evening for the Grand Lecturer's Convention to receive it.

Looking Back

November was a very enjoyable month. We started our November 9th by recognizing our Brothers who have served in our Military, and invited all Veterans who were present to the East for a photo. Thank you to all who have served, or are currently serving, we are eternally grateful. The program for the evening was called "The History of Us, Part 1." As Grand Lodge has electronically scanned all of the historical archives that have been submitted by all of the individual Lodges, we had the opportunity to retrieve the archives that we have sent over the years. We asked for and received all of the archives for Corinthian Temple, Charlotte, Churchville, Etolian and Monroe Lodges.

"The History of Us, Part 1" explored the archives of Corinthian Temple and Churchville Lodges. Part 2 was the program for November 23rd, and we explored Churchville, Etolian, and Monroe Lodges. The amount of information was amazing! I had a great time preparing for these programs, and recommend to anyone interested to take a close look at all of those documents and photos. The couple of hours we spent doesn't even scratch the surface.

Looking Forward

Looking ahead for this month, our first meeting on **January 11th** will be for our Annual Reports. Make sure to show support for all our Brothers who work so hard behind the scenes by attending to hear their reports.

January 25th we will confer the 3rd Degree. As always, we

will be scheduling a rehearsal about a week beforehand to make sure that our work is as sharp as our new Brothers deserve.

Also, in January, we will schedule a work day to get the front stairway and foyer painted. Stay tuned, the date will be set very soon. Just like our alley cleanout project, many hands make light work.

January Birthdays

Leslie Armstrong, Ron Arndt, Harold Boughner, Charles Cork, Charles Markham, Robert Schaeffer and James Whipple (all on the 1st); Ernest Kirkpatrick (5th); Ralph Maibohm and Allen Widrick (11th); Dave Fairley and Bruce Palmer (12th); Karl Janson (13th); Ferman Bailey (14th); Gordon Williams (15th); Cliff Short (18th); Dayle Martin (26th); Warren Dewitt (28th); Sal Augello and Matt Pentycote (30th); and James Bauer (31st). Happy Birthday to all! □

Union Star Lodge No. 320

Website: www.unionstarmasons.org
2nd Mondays, 7:30 p.m.



Master

W. : Kenneth J. Hecker
760-9395

kennethhecker@gmail.com

Secretary - 425-4240

R. W. : Gary R. Sanford
27 Freshfield Rise, Fairport 14450
ggsanford@aol.com

3 North Main Street
Honeoye Falls 14472-1013

Hello and Happy New Year to all! 2016 is here and our Lodge Brothers are very busy in the Quarries.

January 11th - we have an Annual Summoned Communication to review the results of the Union Star Lodge Audit and Budget Meeting that was scheduled to be held on December 19th. It should be obvious I cannot place the results here, but all Brothers of Union Star Lodge who have not been updated, please feel free to contact our Secretary, Gary Sanford, at ggsanford@aol.com if you wish to learn more of the report.

Monday, January 25th, there will be a Fellowcraft Meeting on the 2nd floor in the Fellowcraft Room. Much of our business for the following Lodge meeting will be discussed and flushed out here so please attend.

On **Monday, February 8th**, the Mendon Boy Scout Troop and the Honeoye Falls Boy Scout Troop have agreed to put on a presentation for the Brothers in the Lodge Room. Please attend. These Scouts are tomorrow's community leaders and they are a great bunch of young men.

AGAIN, please check the Lodge website for updates: www.unionstarmasons.org and click on the Google Calendar Icon. Our Social Media Committee Chairman, Brother Kenneth Samarra, labored to bring this calendar Icon and link to the Lodge Website for the Craft to use for information regarding our Trestleboard.

Have-a-Heart Campaign
Have-a-Heart staffing for Union Star Lodge Brothers,

Fairport-Flower City Lodge No. 476
2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Paul McLaughlin
415-4549
pmclaughlin2000@gmail.com
Secretary
Scott W. Gonyeo
415-2702
sgonyeo@gmail.com
Fairport Masonic Hall
87 South Main Street

We welcome in the New Year ... looking at both the past and the future. I say "Thank you," to those Lodge Brothers who helped deliver Poinsettias to our widows during the Holidays.

Mark Your Calendar
On **January 9th**, Brother Bob Shaff will be presented the Symbolic Lodge Award by the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Brother Bob is a Lodge Trustee and currently Senior Master of Ceremony. Next time you meet him, be sure to thank him for his dedication and support.

So as not to forget those who have traveled this way before us, our first meeting of the year,



Fairport Flower City Lodge Official Visit. (Left to right) Grand Steward, R.: W.: Stephan P. Michener; W.: Paul McLaughlin; District Deputy Grand Master, R.: W.: George A. Foehner; Chaplain, Brother Ron Weber; R.: W.: Roy Moses, Assistant Grand Lecturer.

Inspiration Lodge No. 109
website: www.inspiration109.org
2nd & 4th Tuesdays - 7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Todd L. Colburn
739-6947
colburntodd1@gmail.com
Secretary
R.: W.:
Derek VanHouten
247-2920
derekhouten1@mac.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

Happy New Year, everyone. Last month I said there would be a second meeting in December. The Worshipful Master decided otherwise, so there was a little less pressure on Christmas week. I hope everyone got the message and no one showed up only to be disappointed.

Brotherhood Fund
R.: W.: Mike Hueston mentioned the Annual Brotherhood Fund Campaign, asking Brothers to contribute, as they were able, to this charity fund of the Grand Lodge of New York. As the Lodge and District Chair-

LAST CALL, WORSHIPFUL MASTERS:
Have you submitted your nomination to the Scottish Rite Office for the Symbolic Lodge Award?
Join the Celebration at the Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Rd, Saturday, January 9th, at 4:00 p.m.

family and friends is scheduled at Marketplace Mall for the hours of **11 a.m. – 5 p.m.** on the following dates:

- **Sunday, January 31st**
- **Saturday, February 6th**
- **Sunday, February 7th**
- **Sunday, February 14th** ☐

on **January 11th**, is a Lodge of Remembrance.

For a brief look forward ... **February 6th** – Save the date and bring your Sweetheart to the Lodge's Sweetheart Dinner at The Porterhouse, 400 Packetts Landing, Fairport (overlooking the Canal). Mark your calendar and make your reservation with the Senior Warden, Bernie Lazerson, or Secretary, Scott Gonyeo.

February 22nd – Brother Bring-a-Brother to the Lodge for some serious fun with Masonic Jeopardy.

50+-Year Master Masons
One more thought, while the year is young, I would like to pay recognition and appreciation to the 50+-year Master Masons of the Lodge. It has been my pleasure and good fortune to speak with a number of them and/or their caregivers this past year. They are an inspiration! The newest members of this amazing group in 2016 are Brothers Martin Lukacher, Bruce F. Budd and Murray L. Kellog.

Have a great 2016! ☐

(14th); Royden Guess (15th); Christopher Ridsdale (16th); James Clark (20th); Jim Greene (21st); Joseph Holt, Jr., Aaron Hughes and Charles McDonald (25th); Robert Bishop and Joseph Mariano (26th); Mario Pontarelli (27th); William Wimberly (28th); and Matthew Austin (30th).

January Events

We begin the new calendar year with an opportunity to honor a Brother who has devoted a great deal of time and energy to Inspiration Lodge and the Fraternity. Brother Ryan Ramplin, our Senior Warden, will receive the Scottish Rite Symbolic Blue Lodge Award on **Saturday, January 9th**. The festivities begin at 4 p.m. at the Damascus Shrine Center. Come and help pay tribute to this Brother for his dedication to the Craft. Then stay around for a Pizza supper following the ceremony. No Charge!

The Lodge meetings resume on **Tuesday, January 12th**, with a regular Communication; the Program is to be announced.

Then through the next couple of weeks we will be rehearsing for the Fellowcraft Degree, which is scheduled to be conferred on **Tuesday, January 26th**. Please attend all the rehearsals within the length of your Cabletow and the meeting to support our new Brothers and those participating in the Degree.

Social hour is at 5:30 p.m.; Dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Communications. Reservations are needed for the dinners, so please contact our Junior Warden, Brother Bill Grishaber. He will be sending email messages with the menu and his contact information. You may also contact him to sign up as a permanent member of the Reservation List.

February Events

... will be here before you know it, so mark your calendar now for the Sweetheart's Night Party scheduled for **Tuesday, February 9th**. I hope to have more details to report next issue.

Here's to a happy, healthy and prosperous 2016. See you in Lodge! ☐

Wakan-Hubbard Lodge No. 154
2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Donald C. Bell
334-7768
don_bell@hotmail.com
Secretary
R.: W.: John Zabel
223-3228
zabelj@mindspring.com
1822-A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

By R.: W.: John Zabel

November proved to be an interesting month. Along with our District Deputy's Official Visit and its message, a lot of other things are happening.

Sale of Lodge Building

As most of our Brothers are aware, we have had the Lodge Building up for sale, since we have had little in the way of action in getting new tenants. We received an offer on the building and have the paperwork in place to sell the building. The buyer is going to use the entire building so we will need to move our meeting place.

At our Annual Financial Meeting, our Brothers have been summoned to vote on the removal of the Lodge meeting place from Penfield. We have worked out an agreement with Webster Lodge to rent their building on our normal meeting nights. We will be moving sometime in January, but that depends on the closing date for the building sale, which is not known as of this writing.

We will keep the Brethren informed of our needs when it comes to moving our property to some storage space, or what-

ever we decide to do with some of our stuff.

It should be remembered that one of the constituents of our current Lodge, Penfield Union No. 154, has been meeting in Penfield since 1849. It was the successor to Union Lodge No. 335 that was founded in 1824 and went dark due to the Morgan Incident. Our current building was built in 1904 so there has been a Lodge in the building for 111 years. As we are all aware, things change and the moving of the Lodge is probably good for our Brethren and the Lodge finances. We will no longer be supporting and maintaining a building.

If we agree to move our meeting place to Webster Masonic Hall, our members will have a different route to take to meetings. From the West side, Brothers can take Ridge Road and the 104 expressway to the Webster (Route 250) Exit. The exit is approximately half a mile from Webster Masonic Hall. The parking at the Lodge is right next to the building and there are few stairsteps to take for either the Fellowcraft Room or the Lodge Room ... each level is accessible with a chairlift.

On January 25th, we will be conferring the Fellowcraft Degree along with ERAC Lodge on our newly made Entered Apprentice. This should be a great Degree. We have not set the location of the conferral as of this writing. It may be the last Degree conferred in our building, but it might not be depending on when we move our property out of the building. We will keep our email-active Breth-



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Brothers from two Lodges invaded the Pittsford Masonic Hall last month to obtain the Traveling Gavel from Northfield Lodge. The Brothers from Wakan-Hubbard Lodge eeked out the victory by a narrow margin over the Brothers from ERAC Lodge and accepted the trophy.

ren informed of the date and place.

We have the opportunity to have a very interesting, but not anticipated, ending to our Masonic Year. We will have interesting programs and functions as

we go forward, so plan to attend a meeting in the near future.

We hope everyone had a great time celebrating the Christmas Season. Winter is upon us, but Spring is on the way. For our

Snowbird Brothers, we hope you are enjoying warmer and nicer weather, but there may be a few of our Brothers who like Winter activities, as long as the weather lets them enjoy them. □

ERAC
Lodge No. 163
website: www.eraclodge163.org
2nd & 4th Mondays
7:30 p.m.
Master
W.: Bruce I. Katz
227-5553; c) 729-6657
brucek8189@aol.com

Secretary
W.: David G. Upham
(315) 524-2610
dgupham@gmail.com
979 Bay Road, Webster 14580

Happy New Year! The change of the calendar is a natural time of reflection about the experiences of the past twelve months and holds the promise of unbounded opportunity for the future. Every year is filled with many occasions of joy and life's share of sorrows. May this be a year of great joy for you and your family and may you find comfort in the assurance that our Brotherhood is always here for support for those sorrows which may befall you.

Late-breaking News

As this article is submitted for publication ... Congratulations to the Brothers of Wakan-Hubbard Lodge for out-manning us and taking the Masters and Wardens "Traveling Gavel Award" from Northfield Lodge on December 3rd.

In November, we recognized Brothers for Long Service, Veterans and our new Brothers. Following dinner, W.: Chad Crawford gave a brief talk on "The Green Light Movement" to show support for Veterans. By replacing an outside bulb with a green light is to remind all Veterans that their service is

remembered.

W.: Chad brought some compact fluorescent bulbs and, from the donations, a \$300 check was sent to the Wounded Warrior Project and 20 more green lights are glowing in our area. Before moving to the Lodge Room (and through the miracle of technology), Brother Red Skelton led us in the Pledge of Allegiance with his touching explanation of the true meaning of this Ritual.

Brother Kristian Reninger spoke on parallels between Military Service and Freemasonry; Brother Sherm Safford (who was also recognized for 55 years in the Craft) spoke on Brotherhood. A touching message was the importance to him of the three rings he wears: his wedding ring, his Service ring and his Masonic ring. Brothers (and Guests) from the various services were recognized.

Long-Service Honorees included the following Brothers:

70 years	Alvin Boss
68 years	Thomas McKnight
67 years	Jack Michie
66 years	Alexander Arthur, Jr.
	Gordon Bennett
	Jay Riggs
65 years	Leland Comstock
	George Partis
60 years	Andrew Carafos
	Wesley Hyde
55 years	Charles Bearse, Jr.
	Sherman Safford
50 years	Charles Cummings
	Edwin Wicks
	Mark Wishman
45 years	Thomas Formicola
35 years	Richard Griswold
	Howard Travis
30 years	Joe Cook

Richard Friedman
Andrew Paterson
Andrae' Evans
Scott Gould
Robert Israel

Timothy McNelly, Patrick Mulrooney, Jr., Richard Schmanke, Terry Wihlen, Jr., Byron Rose

Albert Broccolo
Roy T. Bruno
Geoffrey Buell
David Ferguson, Tony Ghaemi, Timothy Slater

Justin Bailey
Scott Lasky
James Perry, Jr.
Jared Triggs, Rodney Williams

November 23rd was Past Masters' Night. Worshipful Franklin Granata II was in the East, R.:W.: Rich Friedman in the West and W.: Patrick Nicholson in the South. Other Officers included R.:W.: Frank Granata, Tiler; V.:W.: Patrick Mulrooney, Chaplain; and W.: David Upham, Secretary. W.: Art Mason and W.: Joe Bogmis were also with us.

We balloted on six Candidates for membership. My thanks to the Brothers who served on the Investigation Committees. We have an excellent group of men joining our Fraternity this year. There are additional potential Candidates beginning their journey in Masonry through the *NorthStar* Program; this will allow them to get a better idea of Masonry and establish mentoring relationships before submitting their application.

Brothers David Upham, James Wright, Matt Muller, Jim MacDuff, Edd Taylor, Sam Friedman and Rich Friedman each discussed elements of Tra-

ditional Observance. Traditional Observance Masonry seeks to recreate "the atmosphere of an early Lodge, with its emphasis on elegance, education and striving for excellence in all things." There is a Traditional Observance Lodge being formed in Monroe District. This new Lodge, when Chartered, will meet a few times during the year in addition to "primary" Lodge Membership. Further information about Traditional Observance can be found at the Grand Lodge website under:

nymasons.org/2015/masters-projects-programs/observant-masonry/

We also discussed and passed a resolution to approve the appointment by the Master of a committee to begin negotiations with a Lodge which approached us about a potential merger. Activities are underway to get to know each other better. There will be additional ongoing communication about this potential merger. Updates on this will be regularly reported in Lodge.

Congratulations to Brother Sam Friedman for the publication of a book, *Millennial Apprentices: The Next Revolution in Freemasonry*. Please see the "Membership Development" article in this issue for further information.

January Look-Ahead

Our **January 11th** Communication will be the continuation and completion of the 1st Degree from December 14th, to include the Historical Lecture and Whys and Wherefores. It will also include Reflections on the 1st Degree.

Dinner will be, Stir-fried Sliced Steak in soy sauce with garlic, over green beans, carrots and mushrooms (\$11). Dinner Reservations are due to Brother Jim MacDuff, Junior Warden.

January 25th – 2nd Degree, which will be joint with Wakan-Hubbard. Note that we will open Lodge at 7 p.m. to have the Degree begin at 7:30 p.m. Dinner Reservations are due to Brother Jim MacDuff, Junior Warden, **by Noon on January 23rd**. The Fellowcraft Degree Dinner will be catered by Dinosaur Bar-B-Que (\$12).

Please contact Brother Jim at 298-0890 (text or phone), or email:

bricklayer.jsm@gmail.com

February Plans

Have-a-Heart Support

Our Lodge is currently scheduled for three shifts for *Have-a-Heart* to benefit Ronald McDonald Houses. ERAC shifts are:

Eastview Mall

Monday, February 1st

3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday, February 7th

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Marketplace Mall

Thursday, February 11th

3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Suggested attire is jacket and tie (preferred) or business casual. Families are invited to participate in the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign. A special invitation to the Widows of our Lodge ... you are also cordially invited to join us for these events. Please email:

brucek8189@aol.com

or call 729-6657 or sign up at a Lodge meeting.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for our February meetings.

February 8th - Ladies' Night (Brothers and their Ladies) Suggested Dress is tux or dark suit for Brothers; long or short dresses for the Ladies.

We will be working together to solve a "crime" as the ERAC Players present a Who-Dun-It Mystery Dinner. This promises to be a fun event for the Brothers and Ladies.

February 22nd - is the birthday of Brother George Washington, which we will celebrate at our Annual Table Lodge. Falling on a full moon, this will also memorialize the practice of the "Moon Lodge."

At the beginning of the 20th Century, more than 3,000 Lodges in America met, based on the full moon (such as "the first Monday after the full moon") to enable easier travel home after Lodge. Today, there are a few hundred still following this tradition. Aspects of Brother George Washington's legacy will also be discussed.

Although this dinner will not be Tiled, it will be Masons-only (Entered Apprentices and Fellowcraft members are especially welcome).

Dues

Dues Notices were sent in November. We have had an increase of members requesting waiver of Dues, and more Brothers at the "80+" reduced-Dues. Although there was no increase in Dues, if your means allow, please donate (or increase your donations) for the payment of Dues of Brothers requesting assistance.

When our Lodge increased the Dues structure three years ago to head off a cash drain, it was decided to minimize the effect on the long-time Brothers and rely on incremental donations. This has worked for the last two years, but the need for incremental donations has increased.

If there is a financial hardship, please contact our Secretary as soon as possible.

Brothers, this is your Lodge. Please let me know if you have comments or concerns about our Lodge. Again, best wishes for the New Year. □



MY CARE CONNECTION

The Masonic Care Community is available to assist any New York State Mason navigate through the maze of health care options for seniors. Whether you are interested in accessing the exceptional services of the Masonic Care Community or you need help finding the best care in your hometown.

My Care Connection can assist you.

This is a free service to Masons.

CONTACT US

By phone @ 844-2ASK-MCC (844-227-5622)

On the web www.mccny.com/mycare

By e-mail at mycare@mccny.com



Brothers Rick Schmanke, Sherm Safford, Tim McNelly, W. George Partis, Bob Israel and Nick Anastas attended the Awards Ceremony.



Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

January 2016

Shrine Meetings
Dinner Reservations Required
Call: (585) 671-7701 or (585) 671-3565

Shrine Office Hours
Monday — Friday
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Website: www.damascusshrinemasons.org



KEVIN FARO POTENTATE-ELECT



First off, I thank you for having the confidence in me to lead this great organization of dedicated men into the future.

Last year we experienced great challenges, not only to the Divan, but to the Temple as a whole. As we continue to resolve those issues we also have new hurdles and challenges facing us in 2016. The number one challenge facing us is our financial well-being. Frankly, we can't help our kids if we don't exist and, if we don't get our financial issues under control, we will cease to exist.

We are paying nearly \$150 a day in property taxes to the Town alone - that's \$1,050 a week before we even walk in and turn on the lights or heat. That adds up pretty quickly.

The Dues we collect, after the per capita figures we have to pay to Tampa, do not cover half the current tax bill and that's, of course, only a portion of our annual expenses. We are diligently working on this to try and come up with a solution to benefit the Town, the Shrine and our community as well, so we can again concentrate on our Hospitals and kids.

The second challenge facing our Shrine is having more fun and less work. As you are aware, Shrinedom was formed to be the "Playground of Masonry." Its roots are to have fun with men that are your Brothers because we are all Masons. It seems like you are constantly being asked to work. It doesn't matter if you are employed or are retired. We all have very busy lives that take up valuable time and putting in 4 - 8 more hours at the Shrine is hard, if not impossible, and our resources are limited. So my second challenge is to make our efforts more fun so we can all benefit from these efforts and feel good about having a hand in helping your Shrine, your Hospitals, our children and the fellowship and the accomplishment that comes with it, which is the best feeling of all.

Our theme for 2016 is "Let's Fire It

Up and Have Some Fun." You will be seeing this saying around a lot and the Divan plans on having some fun with it.

At the December meeting, we voted and approved to give up to \$15,000 to the Global Medical Relief Fund, for kids from the Dominican Republic to get to Shriners Hospital for Children® - Springfield. That money came from the Transportation Fund, which fortunately had an excess. The Nobility overwhelmingly voted to make this donation versus using it for obligations mentioned above and that shows where our hearts really are.

I am sad to report to you that we are smaller by one Club in 2016. The Canandaigua Shrine Club turned in its Charter and turned over all its assets, which totaled about \$1,800, to Damascus Shrine. At the request of George and Rosamond Hornung, the last two members, and approved by the Divan, the money will be split between Springfield and Erie Hospitals with Erie's part going towards a C-Arm radiology machine. THANK YOU, George and Rosamond, for thinking of our kids.

Of course, our January meeting is the "Shell-a-Buck Steak Dinner." Our February dinner is the Mardi Gras theme and on the menu is Chicken and Ribs with festive sides.

In an effort to help our Clubs and Units, we would like to offer the following: if any Club or Unit would like to prepare a dinner for a Shrine meeting to generate money for your treasury, get hold of me or call the Office for details ASAP. You need to be put on the calendar.

Update ... Damascus isn't immune to escalating pricing and therefore will have to raise the pricing for the meeting dinners. The new price for dinner (and still a deal) is \$15.00. The bar prices have remained the same at \$1, \$2 and \$3 at Shrine meetings.

So buckle up and get ready for a great ride! "Let's fire it up and have some fun!!!"

CHUCK MC DONALD CHIEF RABBAN-ELECT



Greetings, Nobles. It is with my heartfelt thanks that I thank all of you for electing me as your Chief Rabban for the 2016 Year. I promise I will live up to your expectations and work to the best of my ability to make sure the Shrine and the Potentate have the best possible year.

I pledge my loyalty to all of you and will work very closely with the Potentate and Divan so that Damascus can move forward with all its programs for the year. I know that the Illustrious (Skins) Kevin

Faro has a lot in store for the New Year, which he will be sharing with you soon.

I thank Illustrious Wayne McCrossen for all the hard work he put in this year and working with the Divan. Thank you, Wayne, and all members of the Divan - Elected and Appointed. Without your hard work, we wouldn't have had as successful a year as we had. I also thank the Past Potentates and Nobles for your support.

God bless all and have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Wayne McCrossen presented Norris Shapiro with a "Chief Aide Emeritus" band for his Fez at the last Shrine meeting.

AUBURN SHRINE CLUB

By David Bowman

First and foremost, we thank our President, John Ehrlich, for his years of service to the Club. John has led us meeting after meeting, worked with the Officers to present interesting speakers, meals and venues. It is going to be difficult to try to fill his shoes as he says it is time to "pass the torch."

By the time this hits the presses, a schedule of dates, times, speakers and venues for the coming year will be available to all. We are always interested in speakers you know of, so don't hesitate to give us those needed suggestions. To keep vibrant, we need to constantly find subjects that are interesting to our members.

Looking Back

As we look back over the year, we had a tour of our jail facility (what an eyeopener), a Valentine Bash, learned about Radon, had solar power explained to us, took our wives to a Mother's Day Celebration, enjoyed our Annual Steak Roast, had a research specialist in brain disease speak to us, had our eyes opened as to the prison system in NY (thanks to our own Club Member, Mark Gould, and finished with medical information to a sellout crowd.

(All of you English Majors....yes I know about all the commas!)

Looking Ahead

Looking to the future, let's not forget the past. Let's remember those who have passed and still look to the future of more good men like them. Let's say a prayer for our loved ones, our children we support in our Hospitals and why we are proud of being able to be Ambassadors of Shrinedom.

To repeat a story I received, a young man looking forward to his 21st birthday was told that on his father's, his grandfather's and his great-grandfather's 21st birthdays, they were able to walk on water to the nearby bar to celebrate. When his 21st birthday arrived he tried the same, only to become soaked to the skin. He inquired of his Mom why didn't it happen for him? His mom replied that those three were born in January ... and he was born in June!

PERRY SHRINE CLUB



By Edgar Hollwedel

The November meeting was very well-attended and much was accomplished. The Nominations Committee presented a Slate of Officers and it was voted in. The Officers for 2016 will be:

President **Robert Cox**
 Vice-President **Neil Bedford**
 Treasurer **Kenneth Buckley**
 Corresponding and Social Secretary **Sharon Buckley**

Ken Buckley will be taking on the responsibility of the Mini-Cars, which includes scheduling and maintenance of the cars.

The group also decided to make a size-able donation to the Shriners Hospital for Children® - Erie at their December Meeting.

The program was presented by Howard Wood and enjoyed by all.

The Perry Shrine Club is always looking for new members. If you may be interested in joining, please, just attend a meeting. We are the Mini-Car Professionals.

I look forward to seeing you all. As always, thanks for your constant support. ☐

2016 Perry Shrine Club Dates

Please clip and keep

January 28th	Lumberyard
February 25th	Hole-in-the-Wall
March 24th	Lumberyard
April 28th	Hole-in-the-Wall
May 26th	Lumberyard
June 23rd	Ladies Night Silver Lake Country Club
August 7th	Breakfast Buffet Lumberyard
September 22nd	Lumberyard
October 27th	Hole-in-the-Wall
November 16th	Lumberyard
December 14th	Christmas Party at National Hotel Restaurant



Open Installation

Wednesday, January 6th
\$1 if Dues for 2016 are Paid by
January 6th
\$12 if Dues Not Paid by Dinner

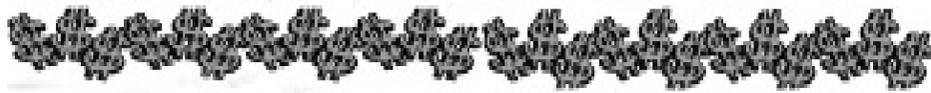
**Dedicated to
 the Memory
 of Nobles**

Donald P. Fox
 November 11, 2015

David A. Leschorn
 November 23, 2015

F. Murray Russell
 April 17, 2015





“Shell-a-Buck” Steak Dinner ... Wednesday, January 6th Open Installation

Oasis Opens – 5 p.m. ~ Dinner – 6 p.m. ~ Program – 7 p.m.

Reservations: office@DamascusShriners.org

or Call (585) 671-3565

Dinner reservations are due by Noon, Monday, January 4th

Cost is \$1 with your current 2016 Paid Dues Card; otherwise \$12



Damascus Legion of Honor Election & Installation of Officers Wednesday, January 13th

Damascus Shrine Center; 979 Bay Road, Webster

Social Hour - 5:30 p.m.

(Hors d'oeuvres and Cash Bar)

Dinner - 6:30 p.m. ~ Meeting - 7:15 p.m.

Salad * Meatloaf

Mashed Potatoes * Green Beans

Rolls & Butter * Coffee or Tea * Dessert

\$12 per person

RSVP no later than noon on **Saturday, January 9th**
at (585) 436-8216 or email: cylegalrx@hotmail.com

Attire: Suit, Tie and Fez

Wheeler's Unit Installation of Officers

at Shrine Center

Open to all ... Friends and Family

Saturday, January 16th

Steak Dinner with all the Trimmings

\$15.00 per person

Social - 5 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6 p.m.

Installation - 7 p.m.

Bar open after
ceremony

Call the Shriners
reservation line
at 671-3565



Directors Staff Dinner Meeting Wednesday, January 27th

Yellow Mills Diner

2534 Route 31, Palmyra

Order off the Menu

Social Time - 5:00 p.m. ~ Dinner - 5:30 p.m.

Ladies and Guests Invited
Casual Attire

RSVP and questions to
Vance Collom (585) 217-9817
vcollom1@rochester.rr.com

Official Publication of Damascus Shrine A.A.O.N.M.S.

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January Birthdays



Patrick Andrews
Culver K. Barr
Donald R. Baylor
Ronald E. Baylor
Neil R. Bedford
Robert E. Cameron
Michael Cholach
Thomas S. Clark
A. Roger Clarke
Robert E. Coleman
Thomas S. Collier
Craig J. Connelly
Christian Cordts
Charles Crawford
Jason J. Crevelling
Millard A. Fairley, Jr.
Charles A. Feller
Robert F. Fisher
Larry P. Francis
Ronald M. Freeling
Samuel A. Friedman
Leonard E. Fulmer
Manhal A. Ghanma

Russell E. Gillett
Thomas M. Green
Royden F. Guess
Willard C. Harris
James A. Helfer, Jr.
Anthony R. Henderson
Edward Hopkins
Kenneth R. Howe, Jr.
William Jaranowski
Wesley H. Kline, Jr.
David A. Leschorn
Bryan A. Ladner
Harold E. Litz
Eric J. Lubberts
Dorian C. Maracle
Charles I. McDonald
Michael A. Miller
James R. Moorhouse
Jason Morrisette
Guy Morse
Roy W. Moses
Victor C. Nelson
Robert N. Ossont

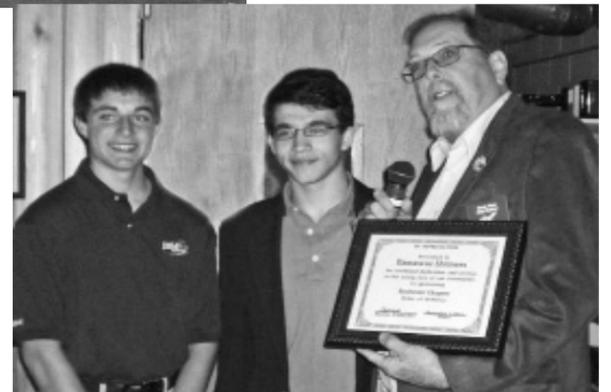
Timothy D. Piper
Mario Pontarelli
David R. Porter
Kenneth W. Reuter
William C. Sawyer
Matthew T. Scheffer
Douglas Seeber
Clifford Short
Randal A. Simonetti
Norman A. Snow
Gerald F. Stanton
Zacharey A. Taylor
Morey H. Waltuck
Mark H. Ward
Ronald L. Weber
Edward V. Wihlen
Gordon H. Williams
Ronald E. Wilson
Howard C. Wood
Jeffrey C. Wright
John G. Wright



Shrine Center Fall Cleanup

The newly activated Rochester Chapter of DeMolay donned work clothes and manned tools to cleanup the gardens in front of the Shrine Center. They raked leaves, trimmed, weeded and mulched in preparation for the winter. Pictured (l-r) John Hellaby, Jr., Shrine Work Party Coordinator; Mike Hueston, AC Chairman; Doug Lock, Advisor; John Truebger, Chapter Dad; David Locke and Jack Truebger.

(l-r) DeMolay Chapter members Justin Lunn and David Locke presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Potentate-elect, Kevin Faro, for Damascus Shriners' support to Rochester Chapter DeMolay.





What's New in Erie ...

Once Again, Erie is on the Move!

On behalf of the Board of Governors, Administrative Staff and everyone at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie thank you for your wonderful donations and support in 2015. As we find ourselves near the end of the year, our charitable giving for 2015 is the best in our history, but we are still in need of your support. We were able to secure several Grant increases in 2015 including: The Glenn and Ruth Mengle Foundation, Palumbo Charitable Trust, Larry and Gloria New Foundation, The Erie Community Foundation - Herb Sweny Fund, and The Great Expectations Foundation.

In addition, we held our second successful telethon in collaboration with JET 24 (ABC) and FOX 66. In 2015 we launched a special project to replace our C-arm and ultrasound equipment with new state-of-the-art equipment. The cost of this project is well over \$350,000.

Our Gentle Imaging Pediatric Radiography Campaign was extremely successful and we succeeded in reaching the goal of \$750,000, thanks to all of the generous donors and sponsors. The first x-ray room was remodeled in September and the second room was finished in October. Thank you to everyone who made this a huge success.

There were several successful third party fundraisers which included the Howard Hanna Chow Chow events, Bids for Kids and Victory Motorcycle Poker Run. Our third annual Toast and Taste event was held in November and it was our best yet! Toast and Taste is rapidly becoming a favorite regional event. Our Bi-annual Shredding for Shriners event has really taken off over the last few years. The general public now looks forward to April and September so they can dispose of their important papers safely. We were so thankful to the Cathedral Prep football players who helped us unload cars and look forward to seeing

them again in April.

We also welcomed Tina Espin to the development department, who has a great background in event planning and fundraising. Welcome to Tina. The development department continues to reach out within the footprint of the Erie Shriners Medical Center by making presentations to the Shrine Temples, area Rotary Clubs and other organizations. We continue to have success with local businesses and corporations making generous donations, such as Hampco Machine Company, A. Reynolds Ceramics Company, Shred-X, Northwest Savings Bank, Erie Insurance Group, GE Transportation and Cummings Inc.

We have several changes coming in 2016. First, is a local advisory committee comprised of business leaders, government officials and donors. This committee will help Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie with fundraising and establishing relationships in the community. This committee has the opportunity to become a huge asset to the Erie Shriners Medical Center. In November 2016, we will host a "Giving Thanks" reception for our donors. This reception will be tailored as a thank you for all your support.

We continue to cultivate our donors and attract new donors to Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie and we expect to continue our growth in 2016.

Again, thank you for your continued support for the Erie Shriners Medical Center and we look forward to working with you in 2016.

ASC Receives Accreditation

Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) has earned The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval for Ambulatory Health Care Accreditation by demonstrating continuous compliance with its nationally recognized standards.

The Gold Seal of Approval is a symbol of quality that reflects an organiza-

tion's commitment to providing safe and effective patient care. The Erie Shriners ASC underwent a rigorous, unannounced on-site survey in September. During the survey, a team of Joint Commission expert surveyors evaluated compliance with ambulatory care standards related to a variety of areas, including coordination of care, monitoring for procedures that involve use of anesthesia, infection prevention and control, medication management, and patient education. "The Erie Shriners Ambulatory Surgery Cen-



ter is pleased to receive accreditation from The Joint Commission, the premier health care quality improvement and accrediting body in the nation," said Mary Jane Antoon, MSN, RN, FACHE, Administrator, Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie. "Our staff continues to work together to develop and implement approaches and strategies that have the potential to improve care for the children we serve."

Just Keep Swimming

The "Just Keep Swimming" tree from the Festival of Trees arrived on December 4th. The display was graciously donated by the Wells Family (Jim, Maria, Domi-



nic, Mia and Harrison), Patty Figurski and the tree sponsor, Millennia Housing Development, Ltd. In addition to the tree and display Maria organized a toy drive for the children of Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie. She collected toys, games and clothing. Everyone at SHC-Erie extends a very heartfelt thank you to the Wells Family, Patty Figurski, and Millennia Housing Development, Ltd.

Santa's Elves Stop By

On November 24th, Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie received visitors from the North; Buffalo! Members of the Daughters of the Nile, Athor Temple No. 19, visited the medical center dressed



as Santa's elves. They spent the day in the outpatient waiting room bringing joy and cheer to many of the children and families.

Thank you to all of the elves from everyone at SHC-Erie! For additional information, contact: Greg Hall (814) 875-8782. ☐

Shriners Hospital for Children® - Springfield's 90th Anniversary

By Kristen O'Shepa
Public Relations Assistant

For 90 years, Shriners Hospitals for Children® has been a beacon of hope for families in the Springfield community and beyond. On November 7th, the Pediatric Specialty Hospital celebrated this milestone anniversary with a homecoming celebration attended by former and current patients/staff, as well as Shriners, volunteers and friends of the Hospital.

This event was truly a special day for everyone in attendance, as it was a time to share stories and fond memories among friends. Many heartwarming moments and messages of gratitude were expressed by patients who attribute their successes in life to Shriners Hospital and the excellent care they received. Other activities for attendees included interactive hospital tours, food and entertainment in celebration of 90 amazing years of caring for kids. ☐



The Lobby filled with a local Piper Band.



Springfield Mayor, Domenic Sarno, presented the Hospital with a Proclamation recognizing Shriners Hospital for its contribution to pediatric healthcare and declared November 7th as Shriners Hospitals for Children® Day.



A Barbershop Quartet serenading a Staff Member.



One of the "Kids" signing a memory quilt wallhanging.



Mark Your Calendar & Join Upcoming Events ...

Damascus Shrine Center; 979 Bay Road; Webster, NY ~ Reservation Line: (585) 671-3565



DAMASCUS SHRINERS SPRING SPORTSMAN'S RAFFLE

Saturday, March 19th ~ 1 - 5 p.m.

Ticket Information:
Call 585-671-7701

at Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Rd, Webster
Donation: \$20

www.DamascusShrineMasons.org

Ticket includes Hots, Burgers, Sausage, Salad, Soda and Beer ... Available all Day!
All proceeds to benefit Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster

* Proceeds for this event are not tax-deductible *

1. Ruger® 10/22 Camo 22 LR
2. Stoeger® Coach Gun 20-Gauge
3. Tikka T3 Lite 300 Win Mag
4. Browning® BPS Hunter, 12-Gauge 26"
5. CZ 455 Lux .22 Mag Bolt Action
6. Beretta Outlander, 12-Gauge 28"
7. Savage™ Model 64 .22 LR Semi-Auto

8. Beretta Outlander, 12-Gauge 28"
9. Henry® Survival Rifle 22 LR Camo
10. Remington™ 870 Express 12/26" Syn
11. Ruger® 10/22 Take-Down 22 LR
12. Savage® B-Mag 17 WSM Bolt Action
13. Remington™ 870 Express® Camo Turkey Hi-Viz

14. Ruger® American 22LR Bolt Action
15. Browning® A-Bolt III 270 w/ 3x9 Red Field
16. Savage™ Model 212 12-Gauge Bolt Action Camo
17. Savage™ Axis 308 w/ 3x9 Scope
18. Browning® BPS Hunter 20-Gauge 26"
19. Savage™ Model III Trophy 270 Win/3x9 Scope
20. Benelli® Nova® 20-Gauge 26" Camo

20 Guns in All!

2016 Shriners Charity Fishing Event proceeds to benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children®

**Wednesday,
June 29th**

at Reel Excitement Charters, Point Breeze
Cost - \$130 per person, Includes ...



- 5-Hour Fishing Trip
- 4 people per boat - get a group together or come by yourself and join a group
- Lunch at the famous Black North Inn (BNI)

All participants meet at the BNI Parking lot by 6:15 a.m., 14352 Ontario Street; Kent

Leaving the parking lot at 6:30 a.m. promptly.

Reservations due by May 1st

Book early to reserve your favorite boat/captain!

Please make all reservations through the Damascus Shriners Office at (585) 671-3565 or email: office@damascusshriners.org

Mail payment (Payable to Damascus Shriners) to:

Damascus Shriners

Attn: Fishing Derby

979 Bay Road, Webster, NY 14580-1736

For further information, including lodging,

contact Bob Songin at

reelxite@rochester.rr.com or Phone (585) 733-5829

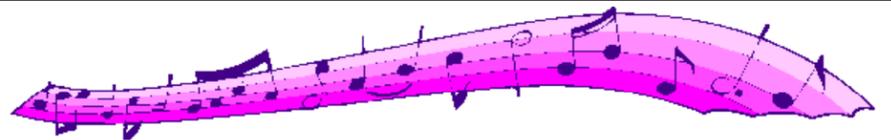
91st East-West Shrine Game January 23rd

Will be televised on
NFL Network at 4 p.m. EST



MORE THAN JUST A GAME

Since 1925, the East-West Shrine Game® has been more than just a football game. It's been a showcase for the next generation of NFL greats and a priceless benefit event for Shriners Hospitals for Children®. Become a part of the tradition. If you're in Florida, see the game in-person at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg.



The Damascus Shrine Band

By Frank Russell, Band Director

The Damascus Shrine was known for many years throughout the Country for having an outstanding band. About 1994 it underwent a hiatus that lasted 16 years.

In mid 2009, then Potentate, Bruce Chilton, asked Noble Frank Russell to put together a band for our Temple. Frank undertook the project and today has a nucleus of 26 experienced bandmen.

Are You Interested?

The band continues to look for additional musicians. Frank urges all of you to contact any Shriner Mason or Blue Lodge Mason who might be a potential member.

If you know someone who would be an asset to the band and is not yet a Mason, encourage him to apply to his local Lodge and become a Brother.

The bandmen provide their own instrument, except for sousaphones and percussion.

The band plays for formal and informal events at the Temple. For some of the informal events, the band invites family members of the musicians as well as the Ladies of our sister Masonic orga-

nizations to play with the band.

Frank is aware that bandmen have family and employment concerns that have to be considered. Plans are in the works for the band to present a program, to include the Shrine Clowns, several times a year throughout our area as a fundraiser for the Shriner Hospitals for Children®.

From a time standpoint, the band tries to maintain a schedule that averages about once a month for a commitment.

The Boys in the Band

While the band plays some standard marches, it also plays patriotic songs, songs of our military services and some standard old time familiar songs. The band is there to support the Damascus Temple and for its members to have fun and be there to play what it plays well. It has even been known to play "The First Noel" in the off-season.

Anyone interested in joining the band should contact Noble Frank Russell (315-331-7621) or call the Damascus Shrine Center (585-671-7701).



Bob Anderson, Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie, presents two checks totaling \$5575.59, on behalf of the Canadaigua Shrine Club and Damascus Shriners, to Bob Lee, P.P., Chairman of the Board of Governors. These donations are to be applied to the purchase of a new mobile C-Arm.



O-At-Ka
Lodge No. 759
 7:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

Master
 W.: Erik P. Crandall
 766-8035
epc_productions@yahoo.com

Secretary
 W.: Timothy P. White
 615-2327
imp@gmail.com

5 Browns Ave, Scottsville 14546

By W.: Mark Arlauckas

Another wonderful Christmas Holiday Season has come and gone. I hope everyone had an opportunity to spend quality time with family, friends and neighbors. Welcome, 2016!

November Activity Re-cap

In case you missed it, Oatka Lodge hosted a visit from a Representative of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. EC Officer, Gary Wilson, gave a detailed talk of the work and responsibilities of the NYS DEC which included a fascinating slide show followed by a lengthy Q & A. This was a perfect primer for those headed out to the woods in search of deer.

December Lodge Activity

During the recent official key three visits, R.:W.: Stephan Michener astutely reminded us more can be done to expand our Masonic knowledge and foster

active participation through both meaningful and entertaining programs. He impressed upon us to work harder and he shared methods with us on how to do so. Those in attendance that night took his message to heart.

There is a welcomed pressure among Oatkan Brethren for us to share more Masonic information and gain further Light. This reflects an immediate urgency to improve the frequency and quality of our programs.

With this in mind, Brother Terrance Wright (subbing for our W.: Erik Crandall) delivered one of the most enlightening and entertaining evenings in recent memory. The theme for the evening focused on Degree Ritual. He first delivered a *Short Talk Bulletin*® topic entitled, "The Learning and Delivery of Ritual." He reiterated how important the proper understanding of the Craft can only come from a knowledge of our Ritual. He went on to describe and expand on the key issues of thoroughly learning the Ritual. Points included reading and learning carefully with exactness one's part in the Degree, memorization, and concentration. He added simple things like posture, eye contact, gesturing, voice/speech clarity, breathing and careful pronunciation of

difficult words are valued when aptly demonstrated. Awareness and practice of basic mechanics, proficiency, precise floor work, and performance can only result in successfully delivering the Ritual with its spirit being impressed on our Candidates in a most meaningful manner.

We took a short break from labor and returned to play "Three-Degree Jeopardy" which dovetailed perfectly with the above presentation. Brother Wright emceed a game of his own invention. The "answers" were drawn from parts of all three Degrees and were very cleverly thought out. Those in attendance had a great time asking the "questions." It turned out to be a very fun and effective way to test our Degree knowledge in a fun and competitive way. Each contestant learned where their strengths and weaknesses of the Ritual lies.

With this and other activities, we expect improvement in our Degree work when we begin the next cycle in March.

January Lodge Activity

Our first Communication of 2016 will be on **Wednesday, January 13th**. We encourage all members and cordially invite Masonic friends of Oatka to join us. Past Master, Mark Arlauckas, will be sitting in the East to

cover for the planned absence of our Worshipful Master. Brother Mark will deliver a *Short Talk Bulletin*® Brother Bring-a-Friend Night, which outlines proven methods and an action plan to successfully expose qualified men to our Craft. It will be followed by a short discussion and an event-planning workshop. We'll also review the results of the letters of invitation we sent out to prospective applicants.

Our October Brother Bring-a-Friend Night didn't quite yield the interest we were expecting so we decided to put forth a more concerted effort.

Wednesday January 20th Brother Bring-a-Friend Night

We will use our "off night" so as to focus our attentions on prospective Candidates. Please contact your invitees prior to this date and confirm their attendance. Reception will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Presentations will conclude with dessert and fellowship.

Our Regular Communication on **Wednesday, January 27th**, will include a brief review of the aforementioned event and "The Investigating Committee" *Short Talk Bulletin*® to properly prepare ourselves on how to conduct an interview with an applicant for Masonic membership.

Afterward we'll clear the dust off the too-long stagnant pile of poker chips in the Fellowcraft Room and get down to some serious card playing. Don't know how to play? No problem! We will show you.

Tenant Updates

We continue to enjoy a harmonious relationship with the Wheatland Community Gospel Church.

A formal lease agreement for use of rooms in our building has been proposed between the Lodge and a co-ed service Fraternity from the Rochester Institute of Technology. We look forward to putting the ink on a long term relationship

Upcoming Events

We plan on using *The Short Talk Bulletin*® on a more regular basis to help accomplish our goals to educate and inform current and future Brethren. A chock full of Masonic enlightenment combined with entertaining programs are planned for the upcoming months. Please prepare yourselves to share program goals, fundraising suggestions and event ideas.

Please join us as we re-ignite the spirit of Oatka Lodge. Any event hosted by Oatka is guaranteed to be a good time. Miss it at your own peril and disappointment. □

Genesee-Wyoming District
 District Deputy Grand Master - Henry Robinson 322-3654

Olive Branch
 Lodge No. 39, F. & A.M.
 1st Wednesdays
 7:30 p.m.

Master
 W.: John F. Flint
 768-6988

Secretary
 R.: W.: Neil R. Bedford
 H) 768-8293; C) 202-4571
nbedford67@gmail.com

12 Bank Street, Le Roy 14482

By R.:W.: Neil Bedford

A belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all Brothers and their families of Olive Branch Lodge. Our Master, John Flint, and I wish everyone a Happy, Healthy Prosperous, New Year.

At this writing I am about to start the process of mailing out your Dues Notices. To explain the \$2 raise in your Dues from \$69.00 to \$71.00, this is the third year of the Grand Lodges increase in Assessment for each Brother in the Lodge. There will be another \$2.00 increase in 2017 and 2018 to complete their \$10.00 increase in Assessment over a five-year period.

District Consolidation

The Genesee-Wyoming and Livingston Districts Lodges are presently in the process of voting to consolidate the two Districts and re-naming it the Letchworth District. This information was sent to you in the Summons a few weeks ago.

Olive Branch Lodge voted on December 2nd at a special Summation Communication and were unanimously in favor of the Consolidation. I personally believe

this move is going to benefit both Districts and make us stronger. At this point, it looks like both Districts will vote in favor of the Consolidation.

W.: Bill, the Brothers and their Ladies put on a successful Breakfast for the Annual Winter Fest in LeRoy, Saturday, December 5th.

Special Trip

Members of Olive Branch Lodge and Genesee-Wyoming and Livingston Districts will be attending a 100th Anniversary Celebration of Canada Lodge No. 532 on **January 5th** in Pickering Village, Ajax, Ontario Canada. About ten members from Canada Lodge have been attending Olive Branch Lodge's Annual Table Lodge since it began a few years ago.

Some Upcoming Events

Mark your Calendar

- Annual Lenten Fish Frys - **February 12th through March 25th**
- **March 17th** - Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner with Eunice Lodge

We are asking all our Brothers who live locally to please put these dates on your calendar. These are our major fundraisers to keep our Lodge operating. Please do not assume that someone else will help!! We need the help of all Brothers. This is your Lodge and do not assume that the few who have been doing all the work can continue by themselves. We cannot; we are getting old and tired.

As always, please try to attend Lodge to help it grow and prosper. □

Fidelity Triangle No. 4
 The Organization of Triangles, Inc.

By Kristina Brandt

Happy New Year from Fidelity Triangle! The members and Supervisors have certainly been busy over the Holiday Season. In November, Beloved Queen, Kalli, and Senior Lady, Hannah, went to play laser tag and had a lot of fun.

But Triangle isn't just about having fun; it's also about getting involved in the community and helping others. Fidelity Triangle did just that this past December when they partnered up with Northfield Lodge during their Annual Candlelight Night in Pittsford. Hannah was able to show visiting kids from the neighborhood how to make ribbon ornaments they could take home. The members enjoy the



Senior Lady, Hannah, working on craft project.

opportunity to work with the other Masonic Bodies and we look forward to seeing more of that in 2016.

With the New Year, come new opportunities to share what the Organization of Triangles is all about. Both January meetings - January 9th and 23rd - will be

Open to the Public, starting at 7:30 p.m. at Pittsford Masonic Hall. While membership is open to all young ladies between the ages of 10 and 21, those both younger and older are also welcome to attend. These meetings provide a glimpse into what our members do to improve themselves and their communities. You won't want to miss it!

We ask everyone to please help spread the word about our Organization. Those who are interested in learning more about membership or about Fidelity Triangle, in general, are welcome to contact Junior Deputy, Mrs. Jeannine Parks, at:

j9parks@aol.com

or call (315) 481-3664. Please check our website at:

www.fidelitytriangle.weebly.com for updates to Term plans and possible changes in cases of inclement weather. □

MASONIC WAR VETERANS
 NEW YORK

**James A. Hard/
 Wayne Charter**
 Post No. 12

Commander
 F. Jay McCullough
 352-1061
fmccullough2@rochester.rr.com

Adjutant
 Vance Collom
 217-9817
vcollom1@rochester.rr.com

Correction to Last Article

In the December 2015 column it was printed that "Newly elected Officers would be installed for the year 2016 ... at the December 7th Meeting." The Election was declared null and void, since it was learned that Grand Post requires the formal Election and Installation of Post Officers to occur in April

and May of each year. That would be concurrent with Grand Post Elections and Installation of Officers and these are in line with Grand Lodge of New York Installations.

So, those who had been "elected in November" in Post 12 will not be Installed or assume Post Offices, but will be eligible to be voted on in April. We thank the Veterans who agreed to serve in Officer positions and would hope they will seek Election in the Spring!

So we can go forward with

less controversial topics, let's look at military history for the month of January. Did you know? ...

January 17, 1991, was the beginning of the Persian Gulf War?

January 23, 1973, was when Peace in Vietnam was announced?

January 27, 1973, was when the Vietnam Peace Accord was signed?

January 30, 1968, the Viet Cong launched the Tet Offensive ends? □

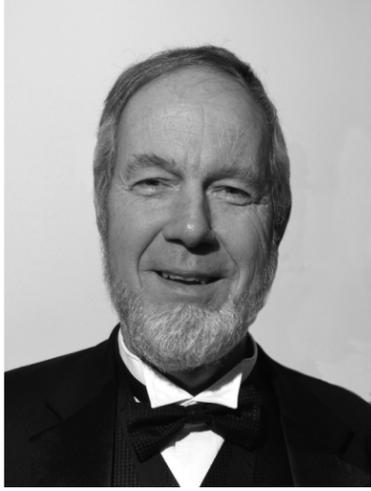
DON'T OUTLIVE
YOUR RETIREMENT INCOME!
GUARANTEED!
 Call Bernie Lazerson
 (585) 242-9720
 for safety and security----

An independent Broker/Agent with over twenty-five years experience

Service which is joy. Indeed so. Our just-completed Reunion in December was joyful. In attendance were Brothers from several surrounding States as well as our Candidates. It was wonderful and joyous to be in such a crowd of Masons. Members of the Valley of Rochester served all in attendance with their Degree work and the shepherding of the candidates through the process. This was an example of service, and serving was a joy.

Our class sponsor, Illustrious Stephen Whittaker, 33°, spoke of a Brother who recently received the sad news that his two-year-old grandson, Noah, has cancer and will require expensive surgery. The Scottish Rite, as a Fraternity that strives to fulfill its Masonic obligation to care for its members, was endeavoring to raise \$50,000 to go toward the expected large medical expenses. To date, the Scottish Rite had raised \$43,000. The next day Steve informed me that Brothers, in attendance at the Reunion, raised another \$85. Steve told me he sent in \$200 for Noah. There is love in this true story, and love crowns our labor with eternal life. It is a blessing and joy to serve.

The Sunday after the Reunion found me at a funeral wake at the Bill Gray's Tap Room in Brockport. A man walked up to me and said, "Hi, Brother." I didn't really recognize him even though he was from my high school class. He said his name was Craig. I was curious how he knew I was a Brother because I didn't think I had met him in Masonry. I might have, though. I think he knew me from my picture in the **Masonic Times**. In talking to Craig I found out he was in Wakan-Hubbard Lodge, hadn't been to Lodge in about a year and was thinking of not continuing in Masonry. Craig said he had been in Masonry about three years. I asked if he had relatives who had been Masons.



John Lemke, 32°, DSA
Commander-in-Chief

Craig said no. He had heard of Masonry probably from some of the history shows. I proceeded to talk with Craig about Masonry and the Scottish Rite and try to understand.

In the "Great Light in Masonry," there is the story of Jesus walking with two disciples to Emmaus. The disciples were discouraged and they were not walking in the right direction. They were walking away from the "upper room" where others were to meet. These disciples, chosen by Jesus, seemingly were not to continue on in pursuit of light. They didn't even recognize Jesus. The disciples required help to find their way. Jesus walked with them along the wrong road for a ways and through conversation helped them see more light. No matter how much we try to screen candidates and question them and who they are, we cannot give up on Brothers who may need us to walk with them a while, maybe even in the wrong direction, and through understanding and loving conversation help them to see how they can take a road that leads to further light.

We need Brothers in our Scottish Rite Fraternity who would like to be involved in communicating with members. The service you would give would be a joy to you as well as the Brother you would communicate with. There are many ways to participate in the Scottish Rite. In this area of "communication service" I would be looking for a few Brothers to contact me and volunteer for this needed work.

We embark on a new year full of promise. Beginnings are always full of promise. There is usually a letdown at some point. So whether you run into discouragement in Masonry, your life, or the outlook of our community or country, trust that it is better to have Brothers, and that hope is always right. This will be a year of great challenge. Be resolute and continue forward in love and service. □



Rochester Chapter of Knights of Rose Croix

By Stephan Michener, 32°
Most Wise Master
Membership Chairman

If our beloved Craft of Freemasonry is indeed an educational institution, then each man who has joined its ranks, has willingly agreed to become a student. Every Brother has stated his desire to seek further enlightenment and has been admitted to a glorious institution of higher learning. No, it's not Harvard or Yale or even the University of Rochester, St. John Fisher or even Monroe Community College. It's teachings are more profound than any of those institutions could possibly offer, and the course work will take far longer than four years. And even then you will not have obtained a Bachelor's or Master's Degree, or even a Doctorate. But you will have come through many, many Degrees as you continue the learning of a lifetime.

Unfortunately, many Brothers do not take advantage of the opportunity to advance their Masonic education. While it is true that the three Degrees of the symbolic Lodge do contain a wealth of information to be digested, many will be content with just a surface level understanding of their teachings. To more deeply comprehend their significance, a study guide is needed. That's what the Concordant Bodies are: a study guide to the three Degrees of the Master Mason Lodge.

One of the most significant steps a Brother can take to further his Masonic education is to become a member of one of the Concordant Bodies; the Scottish Rite or the York Rite. Some would say that the Shrine is another Concordant Body, and it is a fine one. It's purpose though is fun and charity, and not necessarily education.

However, for pure Masonic enlightenment you can't do better than either the Scottish or York Rites. Here is where you will be immersed in more Masonic philosophy and teaching than you can imagine.

Scottish Rite Masonry offers 29 additional lessons (Degrees) to expand on what you have learned in the first three Degrees of Masonry. There is also an honorary 33rd Degree beyond the 32nd Degree.

Now for some good news/bad news

First, the Bad News

If you are not a member of the Scottish Rite,

you just missed a fantastic presentation of five Degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Rochester, which was held on Saturday, December 5th, at the Shrine Center. It was a spiritually uplifting day of learning and Brotherhood!

The Good News

The Good News is that on Saturday, April 16th, you will have another chance to join Scottish Rite Masonry, at our next Reunion. Since this is the New Year, won't you give serious consideration to taking that next step and seeing what Scottish Rite Masonry has to offer? Will you renew your curiosity and delve deeper into what Masonry has to offer? Will you enroll? Those of us who already have, know that you will be generously rewarded.

All it takes to register for more learning is to call the Valley of Rochester Office at (585) 425-0033 and ask for a Petition. You can also contact me at: smichene@rochester.rr.com

with any questions and I can get you a Petition. Then it's just a matter of showing up on Saturday, April 16th, where you will get your first taste of what Scottish Rite Masonry has to offer. □



Rochester Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Bruce Katz, 32°, Sovereign Prince

It is just a few weeks until the Ladies' Night Event on **February 13th** at Red Fedele's Brook House in Greece. Master Magician, Brian Greer, will entertain us for the evening. **Reservations are due by February 6th**, but seating is limited so send your reservation today to:

Valley of Rochester
811 Ayrault Road, Suite 3
Fairport, NY 14450

The cost is \$25/person, or \$40 per couple. Social time begins 5:30 p.m. (cash bar), Dinner at 6:30 p.m. - Prime Rib/Chicken French Buffet Don't miss this one! My thanks to High Priest James Robb for his work to arrange this event.

The 16th Degree, "Prince of Jerusalem," is planned for the April 16th Spring Reunion, together with the 15th Degree. The allegory features the example of Zerubbabel for the lessons of conviction, fidelity to duty and devotion to truth. □

Our Mission:
We will strive
to be a fraternity
that fulfills our
Masonic obligation
to care for
our members.

AASR Valley of Rochester 2015-2016 Officers

Rochester Lodge of Perfection
Thrice Potent Master Neil Bedford, 32°

Rochester Council of the
Princes of Jerusalem
Sovereign Prince Bruce Katz, 32°

Rochester Chapter of
Knights of Rose Croix
Most Wise Master Stephan Michener, 32°

Rochester Consistory
Commander-in-Chief John Lemke, 32°, DSA

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:

III.: John William McNaughton, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander

III.: Gail N. Kemp, 33°
Grand Lieutenant Commander

III.: Robert F. Ogg, Jr., 33°
Grand Minister of State

III.: David P. Spencer, 33°
Deputy for New York State

Active Members for New York

III.: Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Grand Almoner
Past Deputy for New York

III.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°
Grand Master General of Ceremonies

III.: P. Michael Nielsen, 33°

III.: G. Michael Morris, 33°

Active Emeritus Members for New York

III.: James F. Niehoff, 33°

III.: Bruce Widger, 33°, Past Deputy/New York

III.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°

III.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°

III.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°

III.: Edward R. Trosin, 33°

III.: Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Past Grand Minister of State, Past Deputy for New York

Deputy's Representative - III.: Charles O. Hancock, 33°

Assigned Active - III.: G. Michael Morris, 33°

Secretary

III.: Jack VanElzakker, 33°

Treasurer

III.: Robert L. Anderson II, 33°

Trustees

M. Donald Darrohn, 32° (2018)

Gary L. Burke, 32° MSA (2016)

III.: Glenn A. Stahl, 33° (2017)

III.: Charles R. Frear, 33° (Emeritus)

811 Ayrault Road, Suite 3, Fairport, NY 14450-8965
Office (585) 425-0033; (800) 858-2320
Email: secretary@valleyofrochester.org

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Websites:

Valley of Rochester, AASR
www.valleyofrochester.org

New York State Council of Deliberation
www.nyscottishritemasons.org

Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
www.scottishritenmj.org

Children's Dyslexia Center - In Honor of Frank & Bette Paul

144 Metro Park, Suite 1, Rochester, NY 14623

Office (585) 424-5390; Fax (585) 282-0978; Email: dyslexia.center.rochester.ny@gmail.com

Ann Kaczka, Learning Center Director - - - John W. Paul, Chair, Board of Governors

Have-a-Heart

2016 Scottish Rite Schedule

By Charles Rettig, Scottish Rite Have-a-Heart Chair
Sublime Princes ... The Have-a-Heart Schedule has been announced. The Valley of Rochester will be volunteering at:

Marketplace Mall
on Thursday, February 11th
from 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Brothers, this is a wonderful opportunity to spend time together outside of our meetings as well as be seen in the community. Please plan on serving one or more shifts. For questions, please contact Charles Rettig at 247 0046 or nny4050whr@yahoo.com □

Children's Dyslexia Center - In Honor of Frank & Bette Paul

An Opportunity to Serve -

Children's Dyslexia Center - In Honor of Frank & Bette Paul

By Distinguished Brother Phillip Hurwitz, 32° MSA

"We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

Brother Winston Churchill

Dyslexia is a neurological condition that affects a person's ability to read and write. Through tutoring, it is treatable. Children with Dyslexia need professional help and the earlier they receive it, the greater their chances of achieving normal, productive lives.

Your Valley has supported the local Children's Dyslexia Learning Center since its inception. Tutoring is provided free-of-charge. The success of the Center is due in-large-part to a Board made up of professionally minded people.

Currently, the Board, of which I am a member, is expanding the number of Chairs available. If you enjoy working in a collegial atmosphere, have a talent or skill in helping guide a charitable institution and want to make a difference in the lives of children, then please send an email to R.: W.: Phil Hurwitz at:

phurwitz@frontiernet.net

or call me at 720-6019. □

Masonry in the Corning Area

By Distinguished Brother Frank Hamm, 32° MSA, Valley of Corning

Due to our frozen burst waterlines last January, much of our historic records had to be moved and put in storage. Getting them back in order has given me the opportunity to read about our amazing Masonic Heritage.

The Valley of Chemung owes its introduction to organized Masonry to Gen. John Sullivan and the Sullivan Expedition sent to the area in 1779 by Gen. George Washington, also a leading Brother in Freemasonry. The expedition, one of the greatest campaigns of the Revolutionary War, broke the power of the Iroquois and destroyed their growing crops to prevent them from falling into the hands of the British.

Many of the Officers and men of Washington's Army were Masons. They obtained a dispensation for a "Traveling Lodge" to move with the army wherever it went. Lodge was held every few days.

By 1793 this area, now Elmira, had its first Chartered Masonic Lodge, Union No. 30. Thus this is old Masonic territory. It was introduced to Masonry 236 years ago and the first Lodge in the Valley of Corning goes back 222 years, just a few years after the beginning of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Masonry enjoyed a steady growth in the area. On September 23, 1806, Steuben Lodge of Mark Masters was formed. Painted Post at the time covered a wide area of Steuben County.

The first meeting was held at the home of Neamiah Hubbell. No records show what became of the original Lodge. Painted Post Lodge No. 203 applied for a dispensation on Dec 28, 1807 and it was granted by Grand Lodge. John Knox, who came to this area in 1795, was the first

Master. Benjamin Patterson, frontier hunter, guide and Indian fighter, was the first Senior Warden. A Corning bridge bears his name. The Lodge met regularly on the second floor of a tavern on what now is the Benjamin Patterson Inn Museum Complex on Pulteney Street in Corning.

Later the Lodge, its number changed to 117, leased offices and the hall on the third floor of the Concert Block on Market Street. The Lodge grew apace.

Lodge No. 117 is my home Lodge and is going strong. It is now Corning-Painted Post Lodge No. 168, meeting only a few blocks from its beginning at Benjamin Patterson Tavern.

Next month I will review the history of the Valley of Corning AASR. □



The Valley of Corning was represented at the Fall Reunion by (front row, left to right): Harold Hager, Rob Scoggan (new Sublime Prince) and Frank Hamm. (Back row, left to right): Don Farrand, Bob Swithers and Don MacNaughton.

Valley of Rochester AASR Winter – 2016

JANUARY

January 9th - Symbolic Lodge Awards at Shrine Center
Social - 4 p.m. ~ Program - 5 p.m.
Pizza & Wings following Program
Lodge participation encouraged to support their Nominee
Speaker - R.: W.: Jeffrey Williamson,
Deputy Grand Master

January 21st - Meeting and Program at Shrine Center
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (**)
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Program - Phil Hurwitz presents PowerPoint Program
on President, M.: W.: and Ill.: Harry S. Truman, 33°
Menu: Salad, Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Peas & Corn, Cheesecake

FEBRUARY

February 11th - 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. - Scottish Rite
Staffing *Have-a-Heart* at Marketplace Mall
Volunteers needed for 2-hour shifts (3-5, 5-7 & 7-9)

February 13th - Valley Sweetheart Event
Red Fedele's Brook House, 920 Elmridge Center Drive
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Buffet Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (**)
\$25 per person/\$40 per couple
Evening of surprise and amazement by
Master Magician Brian Geer
Your check mailed to the Office is your reservation.

February 18th - Meeting and Program at Shrine Center
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (**)
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Menu: Lasagna, Meatballs, Minestrone Soup & Italian Cookies
Program - Brother Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
and "The Magic Flute"

MARCH

March 13th - Feast of the Paschal Lamb
Social - 3 p.m. ~ Program - 4 p.m. ~ Dinner following (**)
Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, Carrot Cake
This is a special Program of Remembrance
for our Departed Brothers

March 17th - Meeting and Program at Shrine Center
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (**)
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
Menu: Irish Stew with Biscuits, Salad and Ice Cream
Program - Lodge Room Surprise Skit - "You Can't Do It"

APRIL

April 8th - 10th - Bus Trip to Valley of Boston
Valley Presentation of 5° ... View Degrees 4° through 14°

April 16th - Reunion at Shrine Center
4°, 5°, 16° and a Video Degree (TBA)
Coffee & Donuts - 8 a.m. ~ Degrees - 9:30 a.m. ~ Lunch

** Reservations Required! Don't be Late!
Due by Noon on Mondays (585) 425-0033
or Email: secretary@valleyofrochester.org
Go to Valley Calendar for more details:
www.valleyofrochester.org

Our permanent meal reservation list is available
for your monthly meeting convenience. Just ask!

Scottish Rite Ambassador Program

By Bruce Katz, Valley Ambassador Chair

The vision of the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction is that we will strive to be a Fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members. The Valley Ambassadors Program embodies this vision. Lodge Ambassadors represent the Valley of Rochester in the various Lodges in our multi-District Region.

A key role is to maintain contact with Valley Members in his Lodge (or assigned Lodges). In case of illness, need of assistance or death of an immediate family member to notify the Valley Secretary. In addition to Communications, the Lodge Ambassador serves as a liaison for program and membership information.

A toolkit is being developed, and (hopefully by the time this article appears) will be available on the Valley website.

A network of District Ambassadors is being formed. These Brothers will help identify and work with the Lodge Ambassadors.

The 2015-2016 District Ambassadors are:

Genesee/Wyoming and Livingston

Neil Bedford
nbedford67@gmail.com
(585) 202-4571

Monroe
Bruce Katz
brucek8189@aol.com
(585) 729-6657

Orleans
Garry Cranker
gcranker@icloud.com
(585) 260-4546

Steuben
Mike Koval
mpksek@gmail.com
(607) 329-4458

Wayne
Joe Green
adoniram32@yahoo.com
(585) 690-0326

Districts Ambassadors will soon be announced for Ontario/Seneca/Yates and Allegany Districts and Chemung, Tompkins and Schuyler Counties.

The District Ambassadors are in the process of contacting Brothers to serve as Lodge Ambassadors. The Ambassador Program has the opportunity to help the Valley support the vision of Scottish Rite Freemasonry. □

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Lodge of Perfection
Council of Princes of Jerusalem

Chapter Rose Croix
Consistory

MONROE MASONRY



Rochester Lodge of Perfection

By Neal Bedford, 32°
Thrice Potent Master

I hope all Brothers had a wonderful Holiday Season. I also wish everyone a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2016.

My articles for the next two or three months will be about our trip to the Valley of Boston's Lodge of Perfection Reunion on April 8th and 9th. The Degrees start at 5:00 p.m. on Friday night with three or four Degrees being presented. The remainder will be presented on Saturday with a banquet at the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts that evening. This will be a great opportunity to get all the Lodge of Perfection

Degrees filled in your Passport at one time.

As I stated last month, they will be presenting the 4th through the 14th Degrees. The Valley of Rochester has been asked to exemplify the 5th Degree. The Executive Board has agreed to pay for the transportation cost by chartering a bus to transport us to Boston on Friday morning and transport us back to Rochester on Sunday.

The main focus of this article is to generate interest in the once-in-a-lifetime trip to the Valley of Boston with your Brothers and Ladies. I am also requesting your participation in exemplifying the 5th Degree. III.: Joe Bourcy will be directing the Degree.

There are nine (9) speaking parts and 10 - 15 non-speaking parts. We would like to start the group read through and rehearsals in early January so we can present the best Degree possible. This is

a chance for the Valley of Rochester to shine in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. Please contact Joe Bourcy or me if you are interested in participating in the 5th Degree.

I will try to address the questions regarding cost of the trip. The bus transportation is going to be covered by the Valley of Rochester. As in my December article the Thrice Potent Master of the Valley of Boston will have the costs for the rooms and banquet to me soon. I will prepare a flyer when I receive this information and ask Jack to do a mailing of the information to all the Brothers in the Valley of Rochester.

Please consider participating in our trip to the Valley of Boston. If you are not comfortable participating in the Degree consider joining us as a sidliner to represent the Valley of Rochester in this great event. □

AASR Scholarships Available From the Secretary's Desk

By Ill.: Jack VanElzakker, 33°

AASR Scholarships are available now as described on the following website:

www.nyscottishritemasons.org

On this website, there is one Application Form to be used for both Scholarships. Please discard all old Applications. Applications submitted on previously issued forms will be returned to the Valley submitting them.

High School seniors enrolled or planning to en-

roll with an accredited college or university can apply.

Abbott Scholarship

Eligibility criteria for applying are listed as follows:

- A Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
- For a **child** of a Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, who is a high school senior or currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- A member of DeMolay, Rain-

bow, Triangle, Constellation of Junior Stars or Jobs Daughters in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who is a high school senior or currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

New York State

Council of Deliberation Scholarships (NYS COD)

Eligibility criteria for applying are listed as follows:

- A Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
- For a **grandchild** of a Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, who is a high school senior or currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale
- A member of DeMolay, Rainbow, Triangle, Constellation of Junior Stars or Jobs Daughters in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who is a high school senior or currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

IMPORTANT!

Be certain to follow the guidelines on the applications and adhere to all deadlines. We do not want to see qualified candidates' applications rejected due to clerical errors or incomplete documentation.

Applications should be mailed to the Valley to which the sponsoring father or grandfather belongs and must be **received at that Office by April 1, 2016**. The mailing address for the Valley of Rochester is:

Valley of Rochester, AASR
Attn: Scholarship Chairman
811 Ayrault Road, Ste. 3, Fairport, NY 14450-8964.

Veterans Recognition Program The Toast



Introduction of Colonel Nafus by Warren Jordans
Marines ↗
Navy ↓



John Lemke, CiC presented Colonel Matthew Nafus a Veterans Recognition Certificate



Army ↓



← Air Force



Valley of Rochester, AASR, Fall Reunion

Ralph Pate stamps Passport of Bryant Dunham. Below, members of the Valley who performed in the cast of the 32nd Degree. Photos by Steve Michener



III.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33° Active, 2015 Class



Distinguished Brother Gordon Hubbell, 32° MSA, enjoyed the breakfast.



York Rite NEWS

Hiram Chapter No. 62



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

R.: E.: John Zabel, High Priest
H) 223-3228
zabelj@mindspring.com

R.: E.: Charles M. Roberts, Secretary
225-6533
cholyone@rochester.rr.com

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

What's Happening

Well, we did have a visit from R.:E.: Larry Barnard, the Grand Master of the First Veil. Several of us had good conversation and a great dinner with him at the Coal Tower Restaurant. Companion Barnard was visiting us as part of his position to get to know the Chapters in various Districts.

I believe he said he is from the Bronx and has been much involved in Masonry since becoming a member. He was originally Raised in a Prince Hall Lodge prior to our recognition of Prince Hall Freemasonry and needed to go through the healing process to join a Lodge un-

der our Grand Lodge. He has been active in the York Rite for years and was the Companion who watched over one of our Past Grand High Priests until his death. If you missed the meeting, you missed a good time.

As of this writing, our Election of Officers has not been held, but there will be changes and additions to the Officer Line this year. We hope you were at the meeting to express your opinion on the coming Line.

Our DDGHP, R.:E.: Rick Howe, is working to find a way to have the final two Degrees conferred on our Candidates. As a Chapter we will need to step up in the future for Degree work so any Candidate we get can get their Degrees in an orderly and timely fashion.

Most of our Companions received a call from the Phonevite System we are implementing for Chapter communication. The first call was for our only November meeting. Companions are allowed to refuse future calls, but then they would not be apprised of future programs and activities. We plan to keep using the System for each of our meetings so everyone is aware

of what is planned.

The System is very cost-effective for the Chapter and is used by some Lodges in our area, also. The best thing is that you don't need to answer the phone as the message will be recorded on your answering machine/service in any case. The number it displays on caller ID is the home number of the High Priest, 223-3228, which should help you identify the call and listen to the message. It will be short, but informative of Chapter activities.

We should also note that the District will have a new DDGHP next year from one of the other Chapters in the District. This should be good for both us and the District.

Musings

As this is being written during the start of the Holiday Season, let us reflect on some of the Masonic significance of this time of year. The early stone masons selected Saint John the Baptist and Saint John the Evangelist as the crafts patron saints. This was a good choice as one has a feast day in June and the other in December.

The December 29th feast day

Holiday Season. Please do not think of Winter just as a cold season. Think of it as an opportunity to embrace and enjoy the warmth and fellowship of a Council Meeting.

On the evening of November 18th, before our meeting, several members of the Council gathered for dinner at the Pittsford Coal Tower Restaurant where Shrimp-in-the-Basket seemed to be the meal of choice!

M.:I.: Whittaker provided an escort to the East for our honored guest, R.:I.: Stephen Rubinstein, Grand Steward of the

Grand Council Cryptic Masons of NY. He was introduced, accorded Grand Honors and then spoke to those present on the level.

He introduced himself to members with a brief biography. He noted that he now lives in Massachusetts and his Mother Lodge is in Massachusetts. He mentioned that the Long Lost Master's Word is really "No." He spoke upon being proud of our local history. He was impressed with development of our area and the impact that the Erie Canal had. Keeping in mind to safeguard our history,

is for Saint John the Evangelist. On that day, take some time to reflect on our Masonic principles and how they are being applied to our daily lives.

The Royal Arch Degrees build on the first three Degrees conferred in a Lodge of Freemasons. Why do we need to build on the first three Degrees? Well it is simply because the first three Degrees do not confer all the information that is needed to build a good life. Oh yes, there is a significant portion of information hidden in the first three Degrees and many Brothers spend a lifetime searching them out. No man will find all the information they seek in the teaching of the first three Degrees.

The Chapter Degrees add more information that can be used to study and learn more about yourself and how to build a good and righteous life. Is the information easy to find? Well, I don't think that it is easily found, but through thought and reflection, much can be found. That is the true use of Freemasonry, to get the Brother/Companion to start thinking about his life differently and find answers for himself in our Rituals and their lessons.

he emphasized that recruitment and education of new members needed to be a priority.

He is looking forward to his journey through the Grand Line of Grand Council and extended his thanks to the Council for the hospitality and courtesy extended to him this evening, including the dinner.

Don't forget to visit the Grand Council's website at: www.nycryptic.org/ and take advantage of the Education and Information section!

Sickness and Distress

It was noted that R.:I.: Gar-

Freemasonry never gives a full answer, but through symbols, allegory and Ritual spreads forth areas to think about and contemplate. For example, what does the parable of the vineyard owner of his workmen, exemplified in the Mark Master Mason Degree, really trying to tell us about our lives? I don't have the answer for everyone and am working on the answer for myself. This is what our ritual is built to do, encourage us to use its parables and stories as starting points for building a better self.

There is much more that could be discussed about our Ritual and its lessons, but we will keep those for another day.

We hope our Companions and their families had a great Christmas Season, regardless of how they celebrated or observed it. We also hope that the New Year will bring happiness to our Companions. If not, we hope that our Ritual and its lessons will help our Companions find peace and solace in their lives. We also hope that the Companions of Hiram Chapter will help, aid and assist each other in any way needed in the coming year. □

Doric Council No. 19 Cryptic Masons



(Chartered 1861)
3rd Wednesday

Illustrious Master
III.: Donald Kunego

John A. Dudley, Recorder
586-6426

jdudley1@rochester.rr.com

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

Cooler/colder weather has arrived and has ushered in the

Cyrene-Monroe Commandery No. 12

Chartered 1993
Commander

SK Benedetto Vitullo

259-5164

bbvusa@rochester.rr.com

Recorder-259-3796

SK Charles M. Roberts
cholyone@rochester.rr.com

3rd Monday

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534

In December, a Christmas Toast was held at all three Commanderies in Zone 8 ... at DeMolay Commandery in South Dansville, Sagoyewatha Commandery in Phelps and Cyrene-Monroe Commandery in Pittsford. A great time was had by all.

With messages from the Most Eminent Grand Master, SK Duane Lee Vaught; our Right Excellent Grand Prelate, Rev. and SK William D. Hartman; Rev. and SK Jose L. Valencia; and our Grand Commander, SK Fred Beitter, we toasted the season, the marvels and the blessings we received from our Lord Jesus Christ. We hope all our Knights and Masonic Brethren enjoyed the Christmas Season and the company of family and friends. The History of the Knights Templar in Portugal: Part IV

There are some who say that

in 1522 the Order was divided into branches – one religious under the Pope and one civil under the King, as they remain today – however, there is lack of evidence regarding this. In 1523, John III held a Chapter of the Order giving Brother Antonius of Lisbon, a Spanish-born Jerome Friar, the authority and responsibility to reform the Order. The scope of the reform was to bring the annihilation to the religious life among the Knights of the Order. The new statutes were approved in 1529 by Friars.

The Grand Prior was removed from Office and all the priests and religious of the Order were required to resume conventional life at Tomar and to wear the habit and Cross of the Order. Several religious friars were persuaded to abandon the Order and others were expelled. Dom Antonio obtained the position of Prior.

It is also attributed to Antonio the violation of the Tombs of the Templar Masters and the destruction and burning of documents of the Order. Years later, Antonio of Lisbon was also charged with forcibly imposing the dictates of the Council of Trent to the Order of Christ,

and later, for two "autos-da-fe," the first and only ones held in Tomar (involving four people executed and several penance, especially New Christians, and also allegedly burning of papers and books). The establishment of the Inquisition in Portugal in 1536-40, was made possible by the action, on behalf of the King, of the diplomatic mission to the Holy See led by Baltazar de Faria, an ally and friend of Antonius, who after his death, would be buried in the Convent of Christ, in Tomar, by Fra Antonio himself. In 1567, Antonio persuaded Pope Pius V to give him the control of all convents of the Order.

Between 1580 and 1640, there was another attempt to reform the Order: the new statutes enacted by the general chapter at Tomar 1619 and promulgated by Philip III of Portugal in 1627. The conditions for admission to the Order were noble birth and either two years service in Africa or three years with the fleet.

Pope Pius VI (1789) and Queen Mary I made the last attempt to reform the Order. This reform made the convent of Tomar once again the headquarters of the whole Order. The sover-

eign still remained Grand Master, but instead of the conventional Prior, there was a Grand Prior of the Order. In 1789, the Portuguese Order lost its religious character, being secularized by Queen Mary. Since 1789, the members consisted (besides the Grand Master and Great Commander) of six Knights of the Grand Cross, four hundred and fifty Commanders, and an unlimited number of Knights. Foreigners were exempt from the rules, but, at the same time, were excluded from the participation in the revenues of the Order. Only Catholics of noble descent could be admitted to the Order. The Order of Christ also survived in Brazil until the end of the Monarchic period in 1889.

In 1834, when the civil government of Portugal became anti-Catholic, after the defeat of King Miguel in the Civil War, under the constitutional monarchy the Order lost its properties. The ancient Military Orders were transformed by the liberal constitution and subsequent legislation into mere Orders of Merit. The privileges which once had been an essential part of the membership of the old military Orders were also

ceased.

In 1910, when Portuguese monarchy ended, the Republic of Portugal abolished all the Orders except the Order of the Tower and Sword. However, in 1917, at the end of the Great War, some of these Orders were re-established as mere Orders of Merit to reward outstanding services to the state, the office of Grand Master belonging to the Head of State – the President of the Republic. The Military Order of Christ, together with the other Portuguese Orders of Merit, had its Statutes revised in several occasions, during the First Republic (1910-1926), then in 1962, and again in 1986.

The Order is currently run by a Chancellor and a Council of eight members, appointed by the President of the Republic, to assist him as Grand Master in all matters concerning the administration of the Order. The Order, despite its name, can be conferred on civilians and on military, Portuguese and foreigners, for outstanding services to the Republic, in parliament, in the government, in the diplomatic service, in the Courts of Justice, on public authorities or the Civil Service. □



Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

George Foehner, Monarch

lallarookhgrotto.com

Legion
Clowns
Caldron
Historian

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



George Foehner
Monarch
586-5255
Cell: 704-6128
georgefoehner@gmail.com

Looking back at my year as Monarch, I can say with great pride that it was very successful, but I couldn't have done it without the help of all my Brother Prophets. Many thanks to the following ... Secretary/Treasurer, Ken Milner, who makes the Monarch's reign an easy one; Master of Ceremo-

nies, Frank Habitzreuther, who made our social events (including our \$5 meals with open bar) a huge success; and speaking of meals, hats off to Mike Edelman and daughters for a terrific meal every month.

As for programs and special events, thanks to Clio Lodge for two great DVD presentations, There is a lot of talent in that Lodge. Our appreciation to Don Darrohn for his program on the Masonic Hall and Home. Most of our normal yearly events went well ... even our Golf Tournament in June when Mother Nature decided all in attendance needed a bath and we sure did get one! We still had a great turnout and great Steak Dinner.

Some special events were important and special to me because they involved our Sister Organization - Lalla Rookh Caldron.

Last year at the *Have-a-Heart*

Booth, we joined together on a one-day event, instead of staffing individual days.

In the Spring, we had a special dinner meeting just for the Caldron. We enjoyed a delicious meal followed by live entertainment. A great time was had by all. For Monarch's Night in November, we again invited the Caldron Daughters to join us for Swing Night with the R.P.O. It was a fantastic night and the best event of the year. It is my hope this involvement with Lalla Rookh Caldron will continue.

There were so many great moments and good fellowship events that I can't mention them all, but again, my heartfelt thanks to all. It was indeed an honor to serve as your Monarch.

The good times will continue to roll with your new Monarch, Roy Moses. Just as his name indicates, he will lead us to bigger and better things.

Daughters of Mokanna



Hilde DiJames
Mighty Chosen One

On November 12th, Lalla Rookh Caldron, Daughters of Mokanna enjoyed a delicious Ham Dinner prior to Installation of 2016 Officers. The following new Officers are now at the helm:

MCO **Hilde DiJames**
Jr. Past MCO **Marcia Morrison**
Lalla **Janice Bueg**

Yusef
Namourna
Zulette
Rodeval
Zulaika
Ishta
Morgianna
Zeldina
Arrah
Marshal
American Flag Bearer

Sula Baxter
Nancy Lynch
Jan Porter
Beverly Murray
Donna Laundry
Carol Wynings
Pat Dalykas
Barbara Jean Smith
Marjorie Harding
Pat Pearson

Gail Sanford

At our December meeting, we shared a Chicken Cordon Bleu dinner with all the trimmings, exchanged Christmas cards and had a short meeting.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled year. ☐

January Birthdays

Don Freeman (3rd), Allen Widrich (11th), Don Brugger (14th), Ron Weber (16th), Jason Morrisett and Roy Moses (19th), Howard Travis (21st) and Wayne Slack (29th).

Looking Ahead

January 4th - Board of Governors, 7 p.m. in Grotto Office

January 20th - Open Installation Night - Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:30 p.m., Meeting 7:30 p.m. ☐



Order of the Eastern Star

Monroe District OES HiLights

DDGM

R.W. Doreen Rhodes
621-6051
busyrhodes1@hotmail.com

DGL

M.W. Neil Laundry
964-2135
neillaun@hotmail.com

Welcome to the New Year 2016! Now all the Festive Activities are over, we must get ready for our busy year.

Mittens, Hats and Scarves

A big Thank You to all who donated mittens, hats and scarves. At the time of writing this letter I do not have a count so will report in the February Issue of the **Masonic Times**.

Mark Your Calendar Line Officers Meetings

January 9th - 9:30 a.m. Organizational Meeting at Spencerport Masonic Hall. All Line Officers and Grand Officers are invited to be my Guest for Breakfast. Please bring a baby photo of yourself and after Breakfast we will have a Contest to see who guesses the

most correctly.

Work to be done? Yes; we will split into our groups for Election of Officers, writing By-Laws and making plans, etc.

February 4th - Coffee will be served at 9 a.m.; meeting to follow at 9:30 a.m. This meeting will be in preparation for the Grand Matron's and Grand Patron's Visit which is April 23rd. Please, I would like to see ALL Line Officers at this meeting. On the fun side please bring one of your favorite recipes.

March 5th - Coffee will be served at 9 a.m.; meeting to follow

at 9:30 a.m. Time is getting a little closer for the Grand Matron's and Grand Patron's Visit so we need to have everything in place.

March 12th - School of Instruction for ALL OES MEMBERS

Coffee at 9 a.m. This will put us all in the right direction for our School of Instruction for M.W. Neil, followed by a Program on Membership, developed by W. Erika Hansen. Please join us for another rewarding day of Fellowship.

Please note ... All Line Officers Meetings and School of Instruc-

tion will be held at Spencerport Masonic Hall.

March 13th

Winter Wonderland Day

I am hoping to reserve a cabin at Powder Mill Park, for a fun-filled day! Yes, bring the children, weather permitting, for sledding; Dish-to-pass for Dinner. The Cabins have a lovely open fireplace so with hot chocolate and fellowship, what more can you wish for?

That gives us three months of work and fun, so 'til February Issue of the **Masonic Times**, keep well. ☐

Rochester Forest No. 133



Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America

4th Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
1822-A Penfield Rd, Penfield 14526

Rob Russo, GTC
261-8545
robrusso3@gmail.com
Donald C. Bell, Scribe
334-7768
don_bell@hotmail.com

By Don Brugger, PDDSTC

What Should Have Happened

We hope that all had a blessed Christmas and will have a prosperous and Happy New Year. At this time there are no reports of serious distress in the membership except for the lack of increase. Check out your Brothers and acquaintances one more time and try to get a Petition in before our next meeting. If you need information or a Petition, just call; we'll get one to you.

What Is To Be

Our next meeting will be preceded by dinner at Hong

Wah Restaurant (6 p.m.) as usual, and any Petitioner will get a free meal on the Forest. A Petitioner vouched for, with an Initiation Fee paid, is a member gained.

In last month's article, we mentioned the possibility of our vacating the Masonic Hall in Penfield. Well, it has happened ... the Buyer submitted a bid that was accepted by Wakan-Hubbard Lodge. The formalities will, most likely, be completed by early February of 2016.

Annual Summoned Meeting

We will be having our last meeting there on **January 27th**, which will be our Annual Summoned Meeting. All members should be receiving a Summons. This will be a most important meeting and all members should make every effort to attend. Let us know if you need a ride and if you are coming to dinner. We must appoint and install all remaining Officers, pass a budget - including possible rental expenses and an expected increase in the **Masonic Times** subscrip-

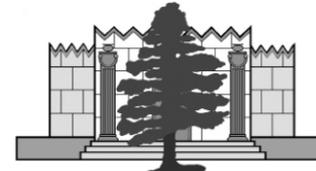
tion rate, and make decisions on where we could possibly meet.

There will be very few options for a meeting location and we will probably have to increase our Dues. We may have to meet at someone's home or other places, and they could change from month to month. We were lucky enough to piggyback on Wakan-Hubbard for many years, but that will probably not be possible in the future.

There is also the matter of storing our accumulated paraphernalia; we will certainly have to downsize our stuff. In the past, most of the necessary equipment for meetings (Bible, flags, etc.) could be carried in a single suitcase and transported to the meeting place by the GTC. Our other things such as costumes, trophies and archives, will need to be stored somewhere.

The survival of the Rochester Forest No.133 has always been in the hands of the membership; let's not let our fellow Woodsmen down. ☐

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



Looking for a few good Woodsmen Fun ~ Frolic ~ Fellowship

Philanthropy ... "Muscular Dystrophy Research Fund"

One Meeting a month - 4th Wednesday
January thru May; October and November

Annual Activities:

- Spring Sausage Roast • Fall Steak Roast
- Winter Holiday Party • Degrees at October Meeting!
- Short Form induction at any meeting!

For more Information, Call (585) 261-8545 or (585) 334-7768

RL

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Campaign Schedules

The Ronald McDonald House
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Marketplace Mall

Mall Chairman - Mark Hutton (705-1914)

Date	Time	Lodge
Sat., January 30th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Moose Lodge 2290
Sun., January 31st	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Union Star 320
Mon., February 1st	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Oatka 759
Tue., February 2nd	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Union 45
Wed., February 3rd	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Geneseo 214 and Mt. Morris 122
Thu., February 4th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Oatka 759
Fri., February 5th	Noon - 9 p.m.	ERAC 163
Sat., February 6th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Union Star 320
Sun., February 7th	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Union Star 320
Mon., February 8th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Northfield 426
Tue., February 9th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Moose Lodge 2290
Wed., February 10th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Northfield 426
Thu., February 11th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Scottish Rite
Fri., February 12th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Widows Sons
Sat., February 13th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Livingston District
Sun., February 14th	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	TBA

Masonry is a wonderful pursuit that is very fulfilling, however this article does bring sad tidings as well. On November 11th, after 95 years on this planet, the Great Architect of the Universe called home W.: Donald Fox.

R.: W.: Cliff Short lead a heart-touching Masonic Funeral Service on November 16th.

It was a pleasure and honor to be at Cliff's side with the Apron for this Service. Everyone who knew Don, loved Don.

I will always remember two things in particular about Don. First was that he lived several blocks over from our Lodge and ALWAYS walked to and from the meetings. Raining out? Don was still walking. Just got a foot of snow? Don was still walking. 90 degrees out? Don was still walking. We always would offer him a ride but he remained very active all his life.

The second thing was this Brother's commitment to our Ritual. It always amazed me that at any moment you could ask Don to fill in a Chair and he would have the ritual down, spot on. Just last year, at age 94, I remember him being asked to step into the West at the last minute and he did not miss a single word. This was clearly a Brother who loved Masonry and held our Ritual on a pedestal as it should be. The Great Architect of the Universe called home

NORTHFIELD

Lodge No. 426
www.northfieldlodge.org
1st Thursday, 7:30 p.m.



Master
W.: Lance J. Daul
319-6796
lance.daul@gmail.com

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

a great one indeed. You will be missed and always loved.

November 19th saw us using our Fellowship Night to visit the Scottish Rite and attend their Veterans event. We weren't able to attend in the numbers originally planned, but a great time was had by those who could attend!

On Tuesday, December 1st, the Town of Pittsford held it's Annual Candlelight Night! The Friends of Pittsford Village used our Hall, as they do every year, for this event. They had a number of great ornament-making stations for the kids and plenty of snacks and warm cider. Several Brothers from Northfield Lodge attended and were there to speak about our building and Masonry. A special thanks to W.: John Dudley and Brothers Francisco Cruz and Larry Stavalone; great job, Brothers!

Fidelity Triangle No. 4, who meets at our Masonic Hall, was also in attendance. They were able to meet some nice young ladies so, hopefully, the Triangle will be growing soon! This is a great organization, Brothers, so always be on the lookout for young ladies who may be interested in joining.

December 3rd saw us holding our meeting with a change as we did not host a Degree. I walked through some parts of the 1st Degree and got some great participation from everyone who

The Mall at Greece Ridge

Mall Chairman - Eugene Crews

(H: 225-7949 or C: 317-9946)

Date	Time	Lodge
Sat., January 30th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Clio 779
Sun., January 31st	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Inspiration 109
Mon., February 1st	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Fame 722
Tue., February 2nd	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Eureka 36, PHA
Wed., February 3rd	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Grotto & Caldron
Thu., February 4th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Eureka 36, PHA
Fri., February 5th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Unity 479
Sat., February 6th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Inspiration 109
Sun., February 7th	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Clio 779
Mon., February 8th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Eureka 36, PHA
Tue., February 9th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Eureka 36, PHA
Wed., February 10th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Starlight 507, OES
Thu., February 11th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Unity 479
Fri., February 12th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Inspiration 109
Sat., February 13th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Unity 479
Sun., February 14th	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Clio 779

Eastview Mall

Mall Chairman - John Dudley (734-3220)

Date	Time	Lodge
Sat., January 30th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Webster 538
Sun., January 31st	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Fairport-Flower City 476
Mon., February 1st	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	ERAC 163
Tue., February 2nd	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Seneca 797
Wed., February 3rd	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Wakan-Hubbard 154
Thu., February 4th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Eagle 619
Fri., February 5th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Widows Sons
Sat., February 6th	Noon - 9 p.m.	Seneca 797
Sun., February 7th	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	ERAC 163
Mon., February 8th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Wayne District
Tue., February 9th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Fairport-Flower City 476
Wed., February 10th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Fairport 444, OES
Thu., February 11th	3 p.m. - 9 p.m.	O/S/Y District
Fri., February 12th	Noon - 9 p.m.	O/S/Y District
Sat., February 13th	Noon - 9 p.m.	O/S/Y District
Sun., February 14th	11 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Webster 538

attended. Speaking of everyone who attended, we had a packed house as we were blessed by 5 Brothers from ERAC and 9 Brothers from Wakan-Hubbard! That's right, the Brothers from Wakan-Hubbard came out in force and now are the proud holders of the Traveling Gavel! It was an honor and

pleasure to have so many people in the meeting. Come on, Brothers, are you going to let the Traveling Gavel rest at Wakan-Hubbard? Get out there and meet some great new Brothers.

Brothers, I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas. Here is my hope ... have a happy and healthy New Year! ☺

Big Calendar for January 2016

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<div style="border: 2px dashed black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Deadline for the next issue of the Masonic Times is January 5th</p> </div>						
1	2					
3	<p>4 Canandaigua, Shortsville KT - Cyrene/Monroe, Pittsford - Open Meeting Masonic War Veterans, Webster Masonic Hall Grotto - Board of Govs, Shrine Center OES - Etoleah Chapter Shrine Lunch Club Damascus Shrine Divan</p>	<p>5 Clio, Hilton Nunda Station OES - Fairport & Starlight Shrine Clowns Meeting, Shrine Center</p>	<p>6 Drumlin Square, Palmyra Olive Branch, Le Roy Damascus Shrine OES - Lilac Star</p>	<p>7 Northfield, Pittsford Webster Eunice, Caledonia</p>	<p>8</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 p.m. \$9 adult; \$5 Child</p> </div>	<p>9 Sagoyewatha, Phelps Daughters of the Nile - Webster Scottish Rite - Symbolic Lodge Awards, Shrine Center OES - Line Officers, Spencerport Triangle Open Meeting, Pittsford</p>
10	<p>11 ERAC, 1°, Shrine Center Fairport-Flower City Union Star, Honeoye Falls Unity, Spencerport Wakan-Hubbard, Webster Shrine Lunch Club</p>	<p>12 Inspiration - Shrine Center Seneca, Webster OES - Mary Jane Holmes, Brockport</p>	<p>13 Oatka, Scottsville Damascus Legion of Honor, Shrine Center Masonic Service Bureau Board Meeting, Shrine Center</p>	<p>14 Fame - Shrine Center Milnor, Shortsville Union, Lima Webster - Fellowcraft RAM - Hiram Chapter Perry Shrine Club Lalla Rookh Caldron, Spencerport</p>	15	16
17	<p>18 Canandaigua, Shortsville Cyrene/Monroe, Pittsford Fairport-Flower City Shrine Lunch Club Auburn Shrine Club</p>	<p>19 Clio, Hilton Nunda Station OES - Starlight</p>	<p>20 Ark, Phelps Olive Branch, Le Roy Oatka BBF, Scottsville Drumlin Square, Palmyra Masonic War Vets Birthday Party, Canandaigua RSM - Doric Council, Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto, (I), Shrine Center Perry Shrine Club Damascus Directors Staff</p>	<p>21 Webster Northfield, Pittsford Union, Lima Lalla Rookh Caldron Executive Council Scottish Rite, Shrine Center</p>	22	<p>23 Triangle Open Meeting, Pittsford DeMolay Chapter Induction Ceremony, Shrine Center</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg); width: 50%; margin: auto;"> <p style="text-align: center;">31 Have-a-Heart through February 14th</p> </div>	<p>25 ERAC, 2°, Shrine Center Fairport-Flower City Unity, 3°, Spencerport Union Star - Fellowcraft Mtg, Honeoye Falls Wakan-Hubbard, Webster Shrine Lunch Club Geneva Lunch Club</p>	<p>26 Inspiration, 2° - Shrine Center</p>	<p>27 Oatka, Scottsville Tall Cedars, Penfield</p>	<p>28 Milnor, Shortsville Union, Lima Monroe District Masters & Wardens, Shrine RAM - Hiram Chapter Perry Shrine Club</p>	29	<p>30 Have-a-Heart through February 14th at Area Malls</p>