



# Masonic Times

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

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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## “Have-a-Heart”

### Campaign now underway

#### Benefits the Rochester Ronald McDonald Houses

#### Not scheduled to staff a booth?

Call these Mall Chairmen to inquire about volunteering some time!

Eastview Mall - **John Dudley** (734-3220), Chairman

The Mall at Greece Ridge - **Eugene Crews** (317-9946), Chairman

Marketplace Mall - **Mark Hutton** (705-1914), Chairman

## Widows Luncheon, Saturday, April 30th

The Burgundy Basin, 1361 Marsh Road in Pittsford, will once again be the venue for the Annual Widows Luncheon on Saturday, April 30th, with doors opening at 11 a.m. and lunch served promptly at 12 noon.

The cost for the sit-down luncheon is \$20.

Each Master is asked to appoint a Brother to coordinate the involvement of his Lodge Brothers and Widows.

#### No Tickets Will Be Mailed

Letters will be sent to all Secretaries of the Monroe District Lodges with a form to return to the Masonic Service Bureau. It requires:

- The name of each person attending
- Their choice of Entree - Sliced Sirloin of Beef or Stuffed Chicken Breast
- A check for the full amount.

### Sponsored by the Masonic Service Bureau

Please send in your names with meal choice by April 21st. Burgundy Basin would like the count a week in advance.

Should you have any questions, contact Garry Cranker, Committee Chair, at 260-4546. You may also contact the Masonic Service Bureau Office at 671-9730.



Why were members of the Burke family all dressed up? It was the All Masonic Bodies Children's Holiday Party! (From left) Elissa, Santa Claus, Maisie, Heather and Joshua. See story and photos on Page 2.



## The real “A-B-Cs” of Masonry

By Art Mason

In my 30+ years in the Craft, I have heard members talk about many wonderful groups and organizations we have supported. However, the true meaning of Freemasonry was shown to me in the actions taken by individual Brothers, Lodges and Concordant Bodies when an older couple was the victim of elder abuse/financial exploitation.

I am a Social Worker, by profession, and my job is to aid and assist victims living in the community (not nursing homes). Approximately two years ago, I met Jack and Mary (not their real names) after a referral from the police. As I walked into their home, it was clear from the certificates on their walls to the decorations on their tables that both had been longtime members of several Masonic organizations. Jack had physical disabilities and Mary was his caregiver.

They had been befriended by an individual claiming to be a contractor. This man had convinced them that their home was in such disrepair that the town was going to condemn it. He

befriended them and offered to help. Over the next two years, through deception and manipulation, he took their entire life savings yet did not repair their roof, chimney, water heater or gutters as promised.

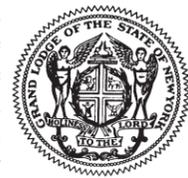
#### Call for Assistance

Although I am familiar with the limited resources available to older crime victims, I reached out to the Masonic Fraternity and the support was overwhelming! They took Action by having Brothers come to the house and replace the couples' water heater; they showed Brotherly Love by visiting them and reaching out to other Concordant Bodies to help; and they provided Charity by providing them with money so they could pay their bills and stay in their home.

Although the perpetrator has been arrested, his fate has not yet been determined. He spent all of the money on gambling and has no resources to pay them back. It is clear to me that, if it were not for the shining Light of Masonry, this couple would have nothing. I am truly proud to call myself a Mason. □

## 235th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York May 2nd and 3rd, 2016

The 235th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York will be held at Masonic Hall, in New York City



On May 2nd and 3rd. Your Lodge Master or Representative will exercise voting rights to elect a new Grand Master and Officers for the Grand Line for 2016. As part of his preparation, he is now able to obtain information on the Brothers running for each Office. Up until a few years ago, this data was not available to Delegates until they arrived at

the Hall. Now you can check out all the Candidates by going online to the Grand Lodge website. All Brothers are able to see the bio-

graphical information posted, can make their selection and participate more actively in the discussion in their Lodge on whom their Delegate should cast their vote for each Office.

Of course, with multiple Candidates running, names could change at the meeting, but he would know where to start. Check out the site below and be a knowledgeable participant. □

<http://nymasons.org/2015/2016-candidates-2/>

### Eastern Star Chapter Helps Fund Van for Volunteer



Lilac Star Chapter, OES, supported Hegedorn Supermarket's fundraiser for Carol Ortis who is a quadriplegic in need of refurbishing a “close-to-new” wheelchair van. Carol is an ultimate volunteer and an inspiration to all. She surmounts her life challenges every day with determined optimism and incredible courage. Joy Woodley, Matron of Lilac Star Chapter, (right) presented a check to Noreen Roesser, operations Manager at Hegedorn's Market.

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# Damascus News see page 9



671-9730

## Editor's Corner

It was one of those days! One of those days when I was envious of my Brothers and Sisters who do not own a computer, don't want to own a computer and never used a computer. (If you are tired of my "crying" over some of the problems we encounter in producing the **Masonic Times**, stop reading now.) This one has further ramifications.

In producing the paper, final copy is sent electronically to the printer in Portable Document Format (PDF). They use this to produce the printing plates. (In the "old" days we pasted paper prints in position on a master board and sent those to the printer, who then photographed them and made the printing plates from those negatives.) In this new approach I am not required to hand deliver production materials anymore.

In this new approach, I also have the ready-made document to post on our website, [www.monroemasonic.com](http://www.monroemasonic.com).

If you have looked for the January issue on that site, it isn't there ... yet! I couldn't produce a single file to do the job

Unbeknownst to me, an upgrade to the application I used to create this PDF shut off access to the operation. Now, for \$9 a month or \$100 a year (don't quote me on the figures), I can buy a subscription to continue that service. A subscription? Yes, a subscription.

That is the way a bunch of Companies who produce software are going. You see, they need to keep their people employed and updating and improving their product. If we buy it once and use it for several years, they get no income.

In my research thus far since that undesirable experience, I have found it will add almost \$1,400 per year for us to obtain the subscriptions for the programs we use now to produce the paper. Having just increased the newspaper price by a buck a year, I don't believe I have that option open for 2017. I will be attempting to find alternative applications or a different approach. Stay tuned!

### Widows Luncheon

On the front page of this issue is the notice of the Annual Widows Luncheon. This year it is on Saturday, April 30th, and will be held at the Burgundy Basin again. The price is the same as last year, \$20 per person. Most Lodges pick up this fee to honor the woman who supported their Brother during the time of his Masonic affiliation.

If you, or someone you know, is not contacted about this event, please feel free to call the Masonic Service Bureau - 671-9730. We can help put you in touch with the Officers of your husband's Lodge to enable you to attend. Hope to see you there.

Thanks for reading. □

## Masonic Bureau Installs New President for 2016, James De Lorenzo

R.: W.: James De Lorenzo, Past Grand Steward, was formally installed as President of the Masonic Service Bureau of Greater Rochester, NY, Inc., at the January meeting of the Board of Directors. Past President of the Bureau, W.: Angelo DiCataldo performed the Installation Service.

Other Officers installed were: Garry Cranker, Vice-President; Roy Moses, Treasurer; Elaine Milner, Secretary; and Charles Waterstreet, Executive Director. Elected for three-year terms as Directors were John Lemke, Nancy Lynch and Cynthia Whited. Terry Wihlen, Sr., was re-elected to a three-year term as a Trustee.

Elections were held at the Annual Meeting in December, at which time the budget for 2016 was passed. We will again be awarding \$15,000 in Education Assistance Grants and \$15,000 to Charitable Organizations assisting Youth, Needy and Elderly members of our Community.

Applications are available from the Masonic Service Bureau Office, need to be filled out completely and must be post-marked by March 31, 2016, to be considered for a Grant. Call the Bureau (585-671-9730) or send an email message to: [bmasonic@rochester.rr.com](mailto:bmasonic@rochester.rr.com), if you want to apply.

After review by the respective Committees, the Board will receive their selections and, if approved, successful applicants will be notified. Awards will be presented on Thursday, June 16, 2016. The recipient, or a repre-



President James De Lorenzo (left) presented a Service Award Plaque to outgoing President Garry Cranker, to thank him for his diligence as the Chief Executive Officer for the past two years.

sentative, must be present to receive the Award

Other details are available by contacting the Bureau Office.

The Masonic Service Bureau is the charitable arm of the Fraternity, serving the Central/Western New York area. With roots going back to 1817 in association with Wells Lodge, according to our historical documents, we have been in the service business for 199 years.

While no longer directly involved in assisting indigent Masons, we do step in where we can. Our greatest impact on the community is our Loan Closet of medical equipment. Anyone is eligible to borrow,

at no charge, a large selection of items they need to help them heal or become mobile, as they recover from illness or injury. The volume of business is staggering and some days completely overwhelms the staff.

Organizations in our immediate service area are welcome to appoint a Representative to the Bureau. That individual is most welcome at our monthly Board meetings, which are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June. While Representatives have no vote on matters before the Board, they are eligible to speak on subjects and present issues for the Board to consider.

## Another Great Party!

The appearance of Santa and Mrs. Claus sent nearly three dozen youngsters into a frenzy, rushing to greet the couple. Any other events were temporarily put on hold while the children exchanged hugs and shrieks of excitement and glee.

In addition to the procurement of materials and supplies, the volunteers (pictured below) showed up on Friday night to decorate and set up the Dining Room at the Shrine Center. Final preparations were handled early Saturday before the guests arrived. Then the fun and games began.

Joy Woodley had the frostings, sugars and sprinkles all

set for the cookies, which were eaten by their decorators almost as fast as they were created.

H e a t h e r Colburn and

Jessica Kerr, from Queen Christina Court, Order of the Amaranth, in Palmyra, had a table to make unique Christmas Ornaments. There were pinecone bird feeders slathered with peanut butter and birdseed, a bean bag toss and the golf ball roll. But, the Unicorn Piñata was the highlight of the party as, once



again, it took several whacks to break it open. Kids scurried quickly to scoop up the candy that fell out onto the floor when it did. What fun!

Special thanks go to Smirky, the Clown, who has faithfully entertained the children with his balloon animals, hearts, swords and other creations □



Santa posed with all his helpers for the All Masonic Bodies Children's Holiday Party at the Shrine Center. (Front, from left) Julius Toth; his daughter, Trisha; Janine Lubberts; Eric Lubberts, co-chair; and, Smirky. (Second row, from left) Heather Colburn; Jessica Kerr; Santa (aka Greg Ludwig); Joy Woodley; Mrs. Claus (aka Judy Ludwig) and Dan Cholatch. Standing, rear, Skip Waterstreet, co-chair; and Mike Cholatch. Absent when the photo was taken were Eli Lubberts and Phil Hurwitz.

For that matter, anyone may attend the meetings. We purchase sandwiches for lunch at nominal costs. If you would like that feature, please call the Office before 1:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before our meeting to place your order. Meetings generally last less than an hour and you will learn of all the activities of MSB, which you will be able to share with your Brothers and Sisters at your meetings. □

## Masonic Service Bureau

of Greater Rochester, NY, Inc.

979 Bay Road, Suite 2  
Webster, NY 14580-1736  
Tel: 671-9730

Email: [bmasonic@rochester.rr.com](mailto:bmasonic@rochester.rr.com)

President

**James De Lorenzo**

Vice-President

**Garry Cranker**

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979 Bay Road, Suite 2  
Webster, NY 14580-1736  
Phone: 671-9730

Submit articles & photos to:  
[masonictimes@gmail.com](mailto:masonictimes@gmail.com)

Business email:

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

Website

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Staff

Editor

**Skip Waterstreet**

Composer

**Jan Porter**

Computer Graphics

**Mike Bocklage**

Production Assistants

**Garry Cranker** **Barb Goodrich**

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### 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

### 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

### 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

**Support the  
Ronald McDonald  
Houses of Rochester**



**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**

*By Vance Collom, Adjutant,  
for Cmdr. Jay McCullough*

The James A. Hard/Wayne Charter Post No. 12 had a busy month at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center in December. We hosted a Birthday Party on December 16th and led a Christmas Carol sing-along for the Veterans in Building 7A. We also presented the Veterans with a pen and flag desk set or a baseball cap with Veteran printed across the front. The Post also stuffed 20 Holiday Stockings for the VA Medical Center to give to some of the Veterans who commute for different services.

A big thank you to Donald Osborne who coordinated the purchase of supplies, construction and assembly of fifty desk sets as well as the 20 stockings.

Six Masonic War Veterans also participated in the VA gift distribution in Building 3 on December 23rd.

Also, many thanks to Greg Ludwig who was a big hit in his red and white Santa suit. The VA Management said they never knew that Santa was a Mason. We all helped distribute gifts such as sweatshirts, warm hats and stockings stuffed with many items that the Veterans use daily. We distributed cookies and egg nog and spent an enjoyable afternoon visiting with many Veterans.

**February 17th** is our next VA Birthday Party at 2:30 p.m. in Building 7A. Please call the Commander or Adjutant to coordinate transportation.

**Thursday, February 25th** - Our next Post No. 12 meeting will be a Lodge of Remembrance, Webster Masonic Hall at 1:30 p.m. Come for lunch at 12 Noon at the Golden Boy's Restaurant, 26 West Main Street, Webster. Please call if you have any questions (217-9817). □



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## Area 15 Brotherhood Fund



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

### Passion

Brothers, it is now February and it is my hope that most have participated in the Brotherhood Fund. This is truly a charity of Passion and one that has the lowest overhead cost. To the Brothers who have already participated, my heartfelt thanks. In my eyes you are true Brothers. Your participation really is part of your Annual Dues as a Master Mason.

As Area Brotherhood Chair, my "area" covers Wayne, Monroe and Livingston Districts. Last year, 2014, Wayne and Monroe Districts tied at 18% giving. Translated, that means for every Brother who participated, four did not see fit to do so. Livingston beat out both Wayne and Monroe with 33% giving! Still, for every Brother who gave, two saw fit not to give.

I moved from Livingston District to Wayne District in 2014 and have offered to represent Grand Lodge in area giving. From my vantage point, it's real easy to pit one District against the other. I'm not going to do that. Instead, I'm applying to your heart to take a second look at the listings below:

1. Military Outreach Programs
2. Masonic Care Community (MCC) Utica, NY
3. Camp Turk
4. Masonic Medical Research Laboratory (MMRL) Utica
5. Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Library of Grand Lodge
6. Masonic Youth Programs
7. Masonic Benevolence (distressed worthy Brothers and their families)

## Scouting Outreach Committee

By W.: Bruce Katz,  
Monroe District Chair

There will be a gathering of Masonic Scouters on March 5th at Leadership University at St. John Fisher College. There will be a course offered on "Scouting and Freemasonry," discussing the aligned history of these two fine organizations. This session is appropriate for Masons and curious non-Masons.

Also, at "Leadership University," will be a "midway" of

8. MSAT - Drug & Alcohol Programs
  9. MSID Masonic Safety ID Program (Child Safety ID)
  10. Grand Master's Allocation
- Year 2000, I had a successful quadruple heart surgery at Rochester General. The operation took place Thursday night. I was sent home Monday morning. Six weeks later, I was cleared to return to work with no restriction in duties. Nobody's going to convince me that the Masonic Medical Research Lab (MMRL) didn't have something to do with it. (You now have an idea where my participation is going.)

Think of Camp Turk and those days when you were young and when camping meant everything to you. Those memories last a lifetime! I still remember a sponsored teen's enthusiasm with her presentation at Lodge.

The point of this exercise is to draw attention to the realities of YOUR Brotherhood Fund gift. *So Mote It Be.* May it be so.

### Today's Chuckle

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal with his son, "You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little and get your hair cut, then we'll talk about the car."

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks, his father said, "Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut."

The boy said, "You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair, and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair."

(*love the Dad's reply!*) "Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?" □

Scouting displays, including information about the National Association of Masonic Scouters.

If you are a Mason (or women's group member) with a background/interest in Girl Scouting, please contact me to help with this outreach effort.

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. I am particularly looking for assistance in helping develop Scouting in the urban Rochester Area. We can help assure the future of Freemasonry by establishing positive connections with today's youth. □

# Wayne District

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

## Grand Director of Ceremonies



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

The weather has been kind to those of us who dread seeing the usual Winter electric bill or heating fuel bill in the mailbox, or cringe at the thought of driving to work, Lodge and Masonic events on slippery icy roads. It has been very unkind to skiers, snowmobilers, ice fisherman and those who make a living plowing snow.

R.:W.: Richard Brewer has been a godsend - helping with training courses. My term as Staff Officer will end in May. A new District Team is presently formed and, if all goes well, will be duly appointed by the new Grand Master in May. Hopefully, I will be able to do the same for the new Staff Officer during his term as Brother Richard has done for me.

### Getting Out and About

There have been a number of Brothers around Wayne District getting together and car pooling to Brother Lodges within and without the District just

for something to do ... maybe see what programs or Degrees other Lodges have on their Trestleboards.

I've listened to several of our senior Brothers reminisce fondly of years past when three or four would get together to do this - especially when the gas wars jumped gas prices from \$.29 a gallon to \$.31 a gallon, then \$.33 to an outrageous \$.39. I wasn't a Mason at the time, but I can remember driving to Featherly's in Alton where gas was \$.35 at the pump so as not to get it stuck to me by the gas stations in Sodus charging \$.39.

**All Brothers ... Mark Your Calendar for Visiting Lodges Tuesday, February 2nd** - Sodus Lodge will be conferring the 1st Degree for one Candidate. Dinner 6:45 p.m.

**Saturday, February 6th** - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Wayne Lodge in Ontario will host the *Masonic Development Course*. Give me a holler if you want more information.

**Wednesday, February 10th** - 6:30 p.m.; Valentine's Dinner at Wayne Lodge. Bring your Lady.

**Wayne Lodge Lenten Fish Frys Friday, February 12th through Friday, March 25th** -

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



By Kristina Brandt

### Fidelity Triangle Looks to Raise Funds for MS Society

February is a month mostly associated with Valentine's Day, with love. For Fidelity Triangle and the Organization of Triangles, Inc., love is something we teach year-round. Our organization's three duties, Duty to God, Duty to Others and Duty to Yourself, embody this. Love of a Supreme Being, friends and our community, and ourselves help shape our members into wonderfully well-rounded young women by the time they reach their majority and enter adulthood.

The members of Fidelity Triangle have been great examples of our organization's teachings, especially when it comes to the charity selected for this Term - the National Multiple Sclerosis

Society. MS affects the nervous system affecting the function of the brain and body. Over 2.3 million people around the world are estimated to have MS.

Suggested by Beloved Queen Kalli, the Triangle is working this term to raise funds and awareness for this important cause. By visiting [www.fidelitytriangle.weebly.com](http://www.fidelitytriangle.weebly.com), visiting our Facebook page "Fidelity Triangle # 4," or by joining our group "Friends of Fidelity Triangle," you can see what our girls are doing and discover ways you can help them in their efforts.

In addition to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society being the Term's charity, the Beloved Queen's chosen color for the term is pink. Pink is known

5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.; eat in or take out.

**Wednesday February 24th** - Wayne Lodge Program will be "Freemasonry in the 21st Century - How They Communicate"

**Monday, February 15th** - Pultneyville Lodge will confer the 1st Degree; they have a dinner the 1st Monday of every month. *Note a Time Change* - Pultneyville Lodge voted and passed a time change. Their new Stated Communication time is 7:00 p.m.; dinners are served at 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 17th** - Drumlin Square Lodge will be conferring the 1st Degree

Due to heating costs and anticipated hazardous weather conditions, Marion, Newark and Savannah Lodges will be dark during the month of February. North Rose - Wolcott Lodge will have a Regular Communication on **Monday, February 1st**, but will be dark **February 15th**.

**February 8th** - Wayne District is scheduled to volunteer Brothers to staff at Eastview Mall for the *Have-a-Heart* Program, benefitting the local Ronald McDonald Houses. Brothers, have a heart and volunteer a couple hours - even your family can help. It's easy and fun time passing out stickers to kids and adults at the Mall. (**Note: Our timeslot falls on Masters and Wardens Night; we may be meeting at a temporary new location February 8th for Masters and Wardens.**) □

to be representative of love, caring, tenderness, acceptance and calm. This color has also been used to raise awareness of breast cancer, particularly in October.

As we continue along Fidelity Triangle's Term, we have two more Open Meetings coming up. The first is **February 13th** and the second is **February 27th**.

As with our January meetings, all are welcome - especially young ladies between the ages of 10 and 21 who are interested in becoming members. We look forward to having Initiation in March and seeing our Triangle grow.

This February, as we share our love for the special people in our lives, let's also show love for those who are in need. Reach out to Fidelity Triangle if you are interested in helping with our Term charity by emailing Junior Deputy, Jeannine Parks, at: [j9parks@aol.com](mailto:j9parks@aol.com). □



## 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.

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By e-mail at [mycare@mccny.com](mailto:mycare@mccny.com)

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# Monroe District

District Deputy Grand Master - R.:W.: George Foechner 704-6128

**District Deputy Grand Master**  
 Monroe District

R.:W.:  
**George Foechner**  
 704-6128  
[georgefoechner@gmail.com](mailto:georgefoechner@gmail.com)



December for the District was very quiet. Most everyone was caught up in the Holiday festivities ... to be with family and friends, as it should be. How about keeping that feeling all year long? Make it your New Year's Resolution!

My direction is toward the upcoming *Have-a-Heart* Campaign. The Committee is working hard so we can have a smooth Campaign. Let's hope the weather will cooperate and lend a hand in making our 2016 Campaign a huge success.

As I've said in the past, less is more, so that's it for this article.

I wish you and yours a great 2016; I am proud of you all.

*A Proud Mason* ☐

**Grand Steward**

R.:W.:  
**Stephan Michener**  
 387-9487  
[smichene@rochester.rr.com](mailto:smichene@rochester.rr.com)



Have you ever had one of those experiences, where suddenly you realize you are in way over your head? You know what I'm talking about. All of a sudden you recognize you are just way out of your league and you don't have a clue about what you should do. Maybe you thought it would be easier than it looks and then it's your turn and you're ready to throw in the towel just after you got started.

I have known and heard of Worshipful Masters who have assumed the East and found that it wasn't as easy as they thought it would be. The guy before them made it look fairly easy and things went smoothly for them. But now, you're the guy sitting in the East and already your Brothers are starting to complain. The Past Masters are telling you "that's not the way we did it in my year." You have no idea how you are going to turn this around and make the situation work for your Lodge. It's September and next June can't come soon enough.

**Road to the East**

No one wants to have this kind of experience. Fortunately the Grand Lodge of the State of New York has something for you. It's called the *Road to the East (RTTE)* and it is designed to give you the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed when you are in the East.

The Class will be offered on **February 20th** and **March 5th**

at Pittsford Masonic Hall from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. If you intend to take it, you must **pre-register with me by February 13th**. Send an email to: [smichene@rochester.rr.com](mailto:smichene@rochester.rr.com)

**Now, About "How We Did It In My Year"**

Every Past Master will be glad to tell you how you should be conducting your year. Some of the advice you will hear will be helpful and genuinely in your best interest to follow. Some of it you might want to thank the Brother offering it and then just do it your way. Any organization that is going to thrive and grow must experience change. Masonry, itself, has evolved and changed over the years and will, no doubt, continue to change in the future. Do not be afraid of change.

**The Thing About "Should"**

People love to tell each other what you should've or shouldn't have done. This is especially true of well-meaning Past Masters. "You should've planned this event a little earlier." ... "You shouldn't have allowed that Brother to say that in Lodge." ... "You should've asked me to do that for you."

These are all examples of a past tense should, meaning a "should" or "shouldn't" statement that refers to the past. In essence, what a person is saying by using a past tense "should" is that "reality shouldn't have been as reality actually was," or "reality should have been different than it actually is." This can create an emotional response of frustration, dejection and maybe even anger. In the immortal words of Cognitive Psychologist, Albert Ellis, "should-hood equals sh#t-hood."

So here's the takeaway from this. Whether you are on the giving or receiving end of giving well-intentioned advice, try to avoid telling someone what they should've done or shouldn't have done. If you are receiving advice telling what you should've done or shouldn't have done, ignore it. The best advice is usually given in the form of what you might do, in the FUTURE. You can't do anything about what you "should have" or "should not have" done. You can only control and change what you are doing NOW and in the FUTURE.

So here's some advice from me. If you intend on being the Master of your Lodge you SHOULD plan to take the Road to the East on **February 20th** and **March 5th**. You SHOULD also register with me at: [smichene@rochester.rr.com](mailto:smichene@rochester.rr.com) **by February 13th**. Have no regrets. ☐

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



[roymoses46@gmail.com](mailto:roymoses46@gmail.com)

Already a month into the new year; it sure went by quickly. The Degree work is progressing well and improvement is much better overall than the first of the Degrees. I am also seeing a greater interest in the mentoring of Candidates.

I think the Lodges are finally seeing that great mentoring is the most important factor of doing Degree Work. Good job Brothers, we are on the right track. One word of caution, my Brothers, good mentoring starts with GOOD investigating. Only Candidates who want to be Masons, will be good Masons. I believe that the better the investigation, the better the Candidates will be. We are starting on the right track, but we are not there YET. Remember: It might be better to not recommend a Candidate who is bad or not ready.

The rehearsals are coming along really well. Attendance is increasing, but overall, not where I would like it to be. I am looking for 20 Brothers to be at a rehearsal by the end of the year. I have had 10, 11, 12, 15, and 16, but only one in the 20s. This is a goal for the Masters. If one Lodge can get 20 Brothers to a rehearsal and others can get 15 - 18, then every Lodge can get these Brothers out for a practice.

One last thing I would like to bring up is I would like every Lodge to finish the Degree they are conferring. I realize that sometimes things happen and some key players can't show up. Every Master should do everything in his power to finish the Degree that night. This is most important in the 3rd Degree because if that Degree is not finished, the Candidate cannot sign the By-Laws until it has been completed.

Keep up the good work, Brothers. ☐

**Monroe District Masters and Wardens Association**

W.: **Kenneth Hecker**  
 President  
 420-8852  
 Email: [kennethhecker@gmail.com](mailto:kennethhecker@gmail.com)

Those of us who are not Snowbirds, have been laboring in the District Lodge quarries with many Degrees being conferred all around the District. Reports are that it has been a fine season of labor for the Craft.

**February 25th** - Masters and Wardens meeting will again be held at 7 p.m. in the Grotto Room at the Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster.

Please ask your Lodge's Grand Lodge Representative for the

**Are You Traveling East?**  
**Then You Need to Take the Road to the East**  
**For Senior & Junior Wardens**

**February 20th & March 5th**  
**8 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**at Northfield & Wayne Lodge Halls**

**Cost: \$35**  
**Reservations Required by February 13th to:**  
 R.:W.: *Steve Michener*  
 (585) 746-3960 or  
[smichene@rochester.rr.com](mailto:smichene@rochester.rr.com)



**May 2nd and 3rd** Grand Lodge trip to attend the upcoming Masters and Wardens meetings. Our Grand Lodge Convention Committee Chairman and members will be talking about planning options for travel, housing and other topics.

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings as there are only three meetings left until the Monroe District Masters and Wardens Association Elections. They will be held on **June 30th** at 7 p.m. in the Grotto Room at the Shrine Center. ☐

**MONROE DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

By *Bruce Katz*,  
 Monroe District Chair

Several of our local Brothers are now certified as Success Coaches for the *NorthStar* Program. Congratulations to the Brothers who completed this training and for your demonstration of devotion to the future of our Fraternity! Special thanks to the Training Team for conducting it and for Northfield Lodge for hosting the event.



The *NorthStar* Project has three key objectives:

1. Membership Acquisition
2. Development
3. Retention

For Freemasonry to survive and thrive, we need to retain our members. This can be done



by developing our members to be successful in their Masonic labors. To have the best opportunity for success in developing our members, we need to improve how men who consider our Fraternity make the decision to knock on our West Gate, and how we receive them.

There is an excellent article over-viewing this initiative in the recent *Empire State Mason* (Winter 2015). Please see this article for further information and keep on the lookout for future offerings of the training. A key feature of this program is the ability to adapt it to the individual Lodge's needs and situation.

The *NorthStar* Project is an effort to improve our future; what other ideas are being used locally to help assure the future of our Fraternity? ☐

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

**Master**  
 W.: **Erik P. Crandall**  
 766-8035  
[epc\\_productions@yahoo.com](mailto:epc_productions@yahoo.com)

**Secretary**  
 W.: **Timothy P. White**  
 615-2327  
[imp@gmail.com](mailto:imp@gmail.com)

5 Browns Ave, Scottsville 14546

By W.: *Mark Arlauckas*  
**Symbolic Lodge Award**  
 On January 9th, we convened at the Damascus Shrine Center to honor Brother Evar Miller,

Oatka Lodge's Recipient of the Symbolic Lodge Award. This gave us the perfect opportunity to recognize Evar for his diligent and long-term service to our Lodge. Program and Award presentation was followed by pizza and wings. Guest speaker for the evening was the Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Jeffrey M. Williamson.

**Welcome Back Mack**

It was good to see Senior Warden, Mack Thompson, back among our ranks after a brief hiatus, which included a hospital stay.

*Continued on Page 6*



**Ongoing construction of Fellowcraft room (needs YOUR help!)**

**Oatka Lodge**

*Continued from Page 5*

**Have-a-Heart Campaign at Marketplace Mall**

Our annual *Have-a-Heart* Campaign assignments are:

**Monday, February 1st and Thursday, February 4th Shifts are 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. both days**

Please volunteer to cover one or more of these time slots. Signups began at our January meetings. The booth is located near Starbucks. Enter conveniently at the East Mall doors.

**February Calendar**

Plans are underway for a "Sweetheart Brunch" to be held on **Sunday, February 14th**. Restaurant location has yet to be determined.

**Mark Your Calendar**

Our Regular Communication nights are still the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month and begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

**February 10th** - Our first meeting will feature a presentation by Brother Don Tubman who will share his experience in collaborating on the true crime novel, *The Devil at Genesee Junction*, by author Michael Benson. The book is about the unsolved murders of two local young women during the Summer of 1966.

**February 24th** - This meeting will feature a program just as interesting. All Lodge programs will be open to the public. As always, family and friends of Oatka are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments are available after all Communications and programs.

**Pardon Our Mess**

Solid work continues on our Fellowcraft Room remodeling project. Recent efforts by Brothers Leandro DaSilva, Terry Wright, Larry Blazey, Don Tubman, Mark Arlauckas and others have really moved the project closer to completion. More participation is needed over the next few months. Please spare some time to help out.

**Upcoming Events**

We plan on using *The Short Talk Bulletin*® on a regular basis to help accomplish our goals to educate and inform current and future Brethren. 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. □

seen any people in attendance before, yet are treated like the oldest of friends, is something every Brother should experience.

I resolve to further my Masonic Education. I am going to continue to take courses through the Livingston Library and there are tons of other opportunities ... improving our Ritual, Schools of Ritual and the *Masonic Development Course* to name a few. If you're not getting anything out of Masonry, you may not be putting anything into it? Take courses or read up on topics that interest you. If you do this you will see the value in Masonry!

I resolve to learn to subdue my passions better, lose some weight and keep it off!!! Don't need to lose any weight? Great! Learn to subdue a different passion. We hear those words all the time in our Ritual and I resolve to put them into practice this year.

I resolve to be more involved in the Concordant Bodies. There are some incredible Bodies in our District that are sure to impart Further Light in Masonry. Go out and see what these different Bodies are all about and have to offer and join one or more! One of the best things from the Concordant Bodies is getting to meet Brothers from other Lodges.

I also resolve to attend Masonic Funeral Services more often. Our Brothers who have been called Home deserve our attendance at their services. Please join me in trying to get out to every service that you possibly can.

On this topic, a large number of Northfield Brothers were in attendance on January 3rd for the Masonic funeral service of Brother William A. Michener

(father of R.:W.: Stephan P. Michener). There was a wonderful service that was largely attended. R.:W.: Steve also gave a heart-touching eulogy for his father and our Brother. Bill was a great long-time Mason, Shriner and Scottish Rite Member. You will be sorely missed my Brother.

December 17th's Fellowship Meeting saw a change in plans. We were able to make some last-minute arrangements and got to bring a new Brother into the Lodge! A large number of Brothers traveled to Webster Lodge to join in on their 1st Degree and welcome a new Brother to our Lodge!!! A huge thank you to Webster Lodge for being so accommodating. They did an incredible job putting on this Degree. □

this and were missed this year, please give me a call.

One of our Senior members moved Downstate. WAY Downstate. Far beyond commuting distance. This newspaper was still going to a former address in the area, so we didn't know he had left town! Sometimes people move in with children; sometimes into assisted living facilities, but the children continue to get the mail at their address; sometimes they pass away but nobody lets us know! There is a possibility that one of the widows on our list passed away, but we have not been able to confirm that.

We try very hard to keep in touch, so if you were overlooked, call and tell me what your address is (which may be new to me) and a telephone number where you can be reached. You may call the Masonic Service Bureau at 671-9730 and leave a message on our machine, if we are away from the Office, or call my cell phone, 455-4795. Thank you.

**Busy Month**

Once again the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign is under way. The Masons in our area, with assistance from family and friends, have helped raise over \$360,000 since the project began in 1988. With our outstanding record for support over the years and the declining number of Lodges available, Inspiration has three dates assigned this year. The full schedule was published last month, but we are scheduled for:

**The Mall at Greece Ridge  
Sunday, January 31st  
11 a.m. until 5 p.m.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Saturday, February 6th**

**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




By R.:W.: Skip Waterstreet

The Nutcracker Family Restaurant was the gathering place for several Brothers on December 12th. Following a breakfast of their choice and a trip over to the Shrine Center to pick up plants, Poinsettias were delivered to over three dozen widows and shut-ins. We had a few plants that were undeliverable, so Ladies if you are reading

**NORTHFIELD**  
Lodge No. 426  
www.northfieldlodge.org  
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 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



I resolve to get out to Lodge events more. This includes my Lodge and every other Lodge in the District and State. If you're not getting out to your Lodge, do that more. If you're going to your Lodge but not others, resolve to do that more. That special welcome feeling of walking into a Lodge where you have never



As I write this article all of us who have made New Year's Resolutions are hopefully still keeping them. Come on, it's just February!!! I reflected this year on some Masonic Resolutions I am setting for myself. I hope this gets all the Brothers thinking about making some Masonic Resolutions of your own. It's never too late!

Fidelity Triangle and Members of the Friend's of Pittsford Village used Masonic Hall for Annual Candlelight Night festivities in December (above and below).




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Friday, February 12th

Noon until 9 p.m.

Please let Worshipful Master, Todd Colburn (739-6947), know when you can help. If none of those times are convenient, you might still help at times assigned to other organizations.

**Tuesday, February 9th** is our Sweethearts Ladies Night. Worshipful Todd Colburn was working on entertainment for the evening the last I knew and Brother Bill Grishaber had to confirm a caterer. Sorry, but as I wrote this I had no information on menu or price. I do know that Ladies are invited (including Widows), the permanent reservation list does not apply to this evening and the festivities will begin with a Social Hour at 5:30 p.m. Call Brother Bill (370-5802) to make your reservations or for more details. You may also watch for his email messages, which may already be in your hands, and reply to them.

**Tuesday, February 23rd** is scheduled to be a regular Communication, preceded by the usual Social time and followed by the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**February Birthdays**

"February's child loves to work." So said a needlepoint my oldest sister had at one time. Don't know why I never forgot the slogan, but I can vouch for several of our birthday celebrants this month: Richard Giedd (3rd); Gary Lind (5th); Gerald Merzke and Juan Gonzalez (6th); Donald Brown and Kenneth Godrich (9th); Herbert Spencer (10th); Ronald Hibbard (18th); Bryan Anderson and Scott Herzog (19th); Jack Palmer (20th); David Dahrsnin (24th); Scott Rice (27th); and Stephen Moore (28th). Happy Birthday!

See you in Lodge.

□

**UNITY**  
Lodge No. 479  
2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

**Master**  
W.: Patrick Schwartz  
395-0874; c) 329-2374  
[partsguy1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:partsguy1@rochester.rr.com)

**Secretary**  
R.: W.: Clifford Short  
225-0464  
[short4us@rochester.rr.com](mailto:short4us@rochester.rr.com)

133 South Union Street  
Spencerport 14559




Now that it is February and we are probably hunkering down for Winter that has finally arrived, I would like to recall a topic I talked about in my December article. Our Masonic schedules are sometimes demanding between our regular meetings and our other duties that arise, such as memorials, work parties, committee meetings, etc.

If Mother Nature conspires against us and it is really easy to say "maybe next time," remember to call a Brother who would be very willing and able to pick you up and give a comfortable, safe ride. We are Brothers, and would rather go a couple of minutes out of our way to give a ride, than to miss out on spending an evening together. If you need a ride to attend a meeting, a function, a fundraiser, etc., please call our Secretary, me or



Brothers and their family members who attended the Annual Unity Lodge Christmas Party pose with Santa Claus. Below, just the children had their photo op.

a close Brother and we WILL find a way to help you attend.

**Looking Back**

We began December by conferring our 2nd Degree. W.: Bob Songin did an amazing job in the East for the First Section, and an equally great Middle Chamber Lecture. Many thanks to all Brothers who worked so hard to assure that our freshly minted Fellowcrafts experienced an evening they deserve.

Our next evening together was December 21st for our Annual Christmas Party. I thank everybody for their wonderful contributions to a great meal! After our feast, we were visited by Santa, who had some surprises for all of the young ones present.

After a well-deserved break, we were back at work on January 2nd. Our entry stairway and the stairway going to the 3rd floor Recreation Room received some badly needed TLC with a new coat of paint. Also, to see some new paint that morning was the main hallway in our office rental section on the first floor. We had many hands to help and it surely made for quick work.

**Looking Forward**

As we enter February, we have some events to truly look forward to! Our first meeting on **February 8th** will be our Annual Table Lodge. This will be the official first meeting of our new Brothers as Master Masons, so it will be a celebration as well. Communication will be out soon as to when to make your reservations. This is always an enjoyable meeting; I am very much looking forward to it!

**Have-a-Heart Staffing**

Unity Lodge is responsible for staffing the Annual *Have-a-Heart* Booth:

**The Mall at Greece Ridge**

**Friday, February 5th**

**12 Noon – 9 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 11th**

**3 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

**Saturday, February 13th**

**12 Noon – 9 p.m.**

I will be splitting these shifts into 3-hour blocks, with hopefully three or more Brothers each block. This is a public event, so if you have Spouses or other family members who would like to help, the more the merrier! Please email or call me to schedule, so we can plan accordingly.

We will be finishing February with a *Walk-About* Program. I know this program has been done in the past, but has not been done within the last several years. It is a great educational night for our new Brothers and also for some of our not-so-new Brothers who haven't seen it in



a while, or not at all.

**February Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to our Brothers who have birthdays in February ... Matthew Love (2nd), Douglas Godard (3rd), Rudolph Youngman (7th), John Little (8th), Ronald Hamman (9th), Frank Gordnier and Jay McCullough (10th), Alex Robb (12th), Septimus DiLauro, Dominic Palmeroni and James Toogood (13th), Don Walzer (14th), Ed Gillott (15th), Jeffrey Smith (17th), Arthur Bruening (19th) and Charles Rettig (24th). Happy Birthday!!!

We are off to a great start to 2016; I hope to see you in Lodge!

□

**ERAC**  
Lodge No. 163  
website: [www.eralodge163.org](http://www.eralodge163.org)  
2nd & 4th Mondays  
7:30 p.m.

**Master**  
W.: Bruce I. Katz  
227-5553; c) 729-6657  
[brucek8189@aol.com](mailto:brucek8189@aol.com)

**Secretary**  
W.: David G. Upham  
(315) 524-2610  
[dgupham@gmail.com](mailto:dgupham@gmail.com)

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580




Although we had only one meeting in December (in which we initiated five new Brothers), it was an extra-ordinarily busy month. Several Brothers visited Webster Lodge on December 17th to see a new Brother initiated; thanks to the Brothers of Webster Lodge for their courtesy and hospitality.

Our Annual Holiday Visitations and Salvation Army Bell Ringing both occurred on December 19th. This year marked the "about 10th Anniversary" of Christmas Eve Dinners at Ronald McDonald House. Thirteen families were served by Brothers Knolla, Greenaway, Muller, Schmanke, Hurwitz, Lunn, Fingado, Hellaby and Plenge along with their children, parents and a girlfriend. A special thanks to Kelly Weber who also

donated stuffed animals for the use of RMH guests.

R.: W.: Rich Friedman again coordinated the bell ringing for the Salvation Army at Eastview Mall. Thanks to Brothers Friedman, Schmanke, Johnville, Upham, Simonetti, Ricci, Pettinato, Bailey, Vanas, Plenge and Crawford for their work. The last shift of the day was staffed by the boys and advisors of the now-forming DeMolay Chapter with Brothers Granata and Lunn.

Nearly 20 Brothers visited over a dozen of our older Brothers and Widows. We began the day at Wakan-Hubbard Lodge for breakfast with the W-H Brothers. Four of our Entered Apprentices also had the opportunity to meet some of our most-experienced Brothers.

These new Brothers had the experience to practice their Questions and Answers in the beautiful Wakan-Hubbard Lodge Room. Thanks to the Brothers of Wakan-Hubbard for their hospitality and to W.: Terry Wihlen, Jr., for again coordinating this annual event.

**Have-a-Heart Campaign**  
Note times and dates for *Have-a-Heart* Campaign to benefit Ronald McDonald Houses. ERAC shifts are:

**EASTVIEW MALL**  
**Monday, February 1st**  
**3 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

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**Sunday, February 7th**  
**11 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
**MARKETPLACE MALL**  
**Friday, February 5th**  
**Noon – 9 p.m.**

Suggested attire is jacket and tie (preferred) or business casual. Families are also invited to participate in the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign.

Please email W.: Rich Greenaway:  
[greenaw1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:greenaw1@rochester.rr.com)  
or call/text 409-0015, or sign up at a Lodge meeting.

A special invitation to the Widows of our Lodge ... you are also cordially invited to join us for these events.

**February 8th** is Ladies' Night for 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. The planned dinner is Chicken French, at a cost of only \$25 per couple, \$15 single. This promises to be a fun event for the Brothers and Ladies.

Our **February 22nd** Table Lodge is a celebration of the birthday of Brother George Washington and is an opportunity to pay homage to the traditional "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 (EAs and FCs are especially welcome). Dinner cost is \$20, which includes a souvenir cannon.

Dinner reservations for both events are due the Saturday before the meeting to our Junior Warden, Brother Jim MacDuff, at:

[bricklayer.jsm@gmail.com](mailto:bricklayer.jsm@gmail.com)  
or 298-0890 (voice or text).

Our Secretary provided some good news regarding membership. Only one Brother was lost due to NPD this year. While even the loss of "one" Brother should be regarded as too many, it is a reversal from recent years in this (and virtually EVERY) Lodge. We have also been able to honor all requests for Dues reductions or waivers by Brothers as a result of the generous donations from other Brothers. Going into December, there

*Continued on Page 8*

**ERAC Lodge**  
*Continued from Page 7*

were several Brothers at risk of being dropped, but follow-ups by several Brothers helped avoid NPDs. Thank you for the generosity for the donations to help some of our Brothers and thank you to the Brothers who made the follow-up calls.

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. □

**Union Star Lodge No. 320**  
Website: www.unionstarmasons.org  
2nd Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

**Master**  
W.: **Kenneth J. Hecker**  
760-9395  
kennethecker@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

The Lodge has had more Petitions brought in and, due to the good tidings, the Lodge has had to adjust our Trestleboard to accommodate these Petitioners. In doing so, we have also pushed the date for the 2nd Degree back to allow time for the new Brothers to work on proficiency.

These changes can also be found on the Google Calendar link located on our website: www.unionstarmasons.org

**Mark Your Calendar**

**February Events**  
**Have-a-Heart Staffing Schedule**  
**Marketplace Mall**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, January 31st**  
**11 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, February 6th**  
**Noon - 9 p.m.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, February 7th**  
**11 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

**This Month's Other Plans**

**February 8th** - Regular Communication, Boy Scout Troop Visit. Pizza will be served at 6:15 p.m. The Boy Scout Program will begin in the Lodge Room promptly at 6:50 p.m. Brothers are asked to be seated in the Lodge at 6:45 p.m. Union Star Lodge Regular Communication will open at its regular time at 7:30 p.m.

**February 21st** - 1st Degree Rehearsal at 7 p.m.

**February 22nd** - Special Communication, 1st Degree at 7:30 p.m. Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. Reservations for dinner can be directed to W.: Kenneth Hecker, at 420-8852.

**March Events**

**March 13th** - 2nd Degree Rehearsal at 7 p.m.

**March 14th** - Regular Communication at 7:30 p.m. Program to be announced - Check the Trestleboard for updates.

**March 21st** - 2nd Degree Rehearsal at 7 p.m.

**March 24th** - 2nd Degree Rehearsal at 7 p.m.

**March 28th** - Special Communication, 2nd Degree at 7:30 p.m. Junior Warden in the East. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Reservations for dinner can be directed to W.: Kenneth Hecker, at 420-8852. □

**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 rang out the old year with our Annual Holiday Party. As promised, the evening was filled with fun, food and fellowship for all!

January was filled with some special events. On January 9th, Brother Bob Shaff was presented the Symbolic Lodge Award by the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. On January 11th, we held a Lodge of Remem-



Fairport Flower City Lodge Annual Holiday Party with Santa Claus visiting (left-center background) to add ambiance to the occasion.

**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**

We had a great breakfast with ERAC Lodge members on December 19th. The breakfast was the start of a day of visiting shut-ins and, for ERAC, getting ready to ring the bells for the Salvation Army. Good fellowship and a good time was had by all. Breakfast included scrambled eggs, bacon and sausage, pancakes, bagels, etc. We thank the Brothers of ERAC Lodge who stayed to help clean up after breakfast. This may start a new tradition for the Lodge at Christmas time.

**Sale of Building**

By the time you read this we may have closed on the sale of our building, but the final closing date has not been set when this was written.

**Historical Review**

If we look at the history of the Lodges that consolidated to form Wakan-Hubbard Lodge, we will see that Warren C. Hubbard Lodge was a part-owner of the former Downtown Temple Building prior to their consolidating with Wakan Lodge in 1986. Wakan Lodge was formed in Irondequoit and was a part-owner of the Masonic Temple Building that was built in the late 1920s and sold in the mid 1950s. That building was torn down in the 1960s, I believe, and a house was built there.

Penfield Union, from its founding until 1904, met in the upper level of a local tavern, which is now gone. In fact, the

branch to honor ten Brothers who passed away.

**February Events**  
**Have-a-Heart Schedule**  
**Eastview Mall**  
**Sunday, January 31st**  
**11 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, February 9th**  
**3 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

February is continuing on pace with the Lodge's Sweet-heart Dinner on **February 6th**, Brother Bring-a-Brother to Lodge on **February 22nd**, and the Annual Pub Crawl on Saturday, **February 27th**. Details on these activities will be communicated in advance by our Lodge Secretary or Master.

**Mark Your Calendar**

In closing, please mark **March 14th** on your calendars for the Fellowcraft Degree. I hope you will be in attendance! □

prior Lodge in Penfield, Union Lodge No. 335, also met in a tavern and never built a building. So, a Lodge does need a place to meet, but it doesn't necessarily need a building of its own.

The health and welfare of our Lodge is up to the Brothers of the Lodge. We encourage the Brethren to put forward ideas on the future path of our Lodge. The future will bring changes and challenges and we will need to be prepared to accept change and meet the challenges.

Since the sale of the building has not been finalized, our **February 8th** meeting is scheduled to be held in our existing Penfield location. We hope to see a good number of Brothers there and be able to provide you with updated details. □

**WEBSTER LODGE No. 538**

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

Master  
W.: **Jeremy Knox**  
671-3242  
mona.bike@yahoo.com

Secretary  
**James F. Clancy**  
738-2742  
jclancy2@rochester.rr.com

30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580

Greetings, Brothers, and Happy New Year. I apologize for missing last month's dead-



V.: W.: Willam Edwards (left) with son, Michael, and W.: Jeremy Knox, Master, following presentation of a Commendation Certificate from Grand Lodge.

line and not having an article for you. We all know how busy the Holiday Season can be but that's still no excuse. I will do my best to keep you all informed of the happenings in your Lodge. Again my sincere apologies.

A lot has happened, so let's get you caught up. On November 5th we had our Annual Brother Bring-a-Friend Program. I was very pleased to see it was well attended. The speakers for the evening started with V.: W.: Bill Edwards. He spoke to the history and philosophy of Masonry.

Junior Warden, Dave Aleksandrowicz, gave a very informative talk on the community service we, as Masons, provide to the community.

Next, one of our newest members and Senior Master of Ceremony, Al Moses, gave an insightful look at Masonry from the fresh eyes of a new Brother.

To close the program, R.: W.: Rich Friedman spoke on the Initiation process and the dedication it takes to be a Mason. Overall, it was a great night. We received a few Petitions that evening and some good men moved on to be Initiated at our 1st Degree later in December.

On November 14th I had the honor of presenting Michael Edwards with the Grand Lodge Eagle Scout Award. The son of Webster's very own V.: W.: Bill Edwards, Michael was awarded his Eagle Scout Rank at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor. He is a member of Boy Scout Troop #942, which is sponsored by the Cottrell-Warner American Legion Post #942 in Webster.

The Eagle Scout Rank is the highest rank awarded to a Boy Scout and is nationally recognized. A Scout is required to complete 21 Merit Badges, serve in a position of leadership in their Troop and also complete

a service project benefiting the community. Michael led a project to create an outdoor learning classroom at State Road Elementary School in Webster, where he attended Elementary school when he was younger.

Many letters of congratulations were presented to Michael at the ceremony, including the presentation of the Grand Lodge Eagle Scout Award. The Award includes a certificate, signed by the Grand Master, and a special Masonic Eagle Scout pin.

Brother Bill Edwards has continued to be a tremendous asset to Webster Lodge and close friend and mentor to myself. I was very proud to be a part of his family's special day.

November 19th, at a Regular Communication, we had a Masonic Trivial Pursuit Night. This is a great way to keep our memories of the Craft sharp, as well as have some fun with the Brothers. The game was hosted by W.: Allyn Borrino. For those who don't know ... Brother Al can be a very comical guy and he makes this program one I look forward to each year.

On December 3rd, at a regular communication, Brother Paul Dill delivered an amazing speech on the history of Joseph Brant, a Revolutionary Mohawk and Mason. The program was very educational and, from what I'm told, he has an even longer and more in-depth version of this program with visuals and props. Something for us all to look forward to.

On December 11th, the Fellowcraft Club held its Annual Meeting/Christmas Party. There were ten Brothers, along with their spouses, present. It was a festive evening with great food and even better company. This year's Fellowcraft Officers were voted upon and the results

*Continued on Page 13*



Webster Lodge Brothers and family members participating in the Annual Poinsettia Delivery project.



# Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

February 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](http://www.damascusshrinemasons.org)



## KEVIN "SKINS" FARO POTENTATE



Well Nobles, we're off and running! Nearly 100 attended the Shell-a-Buck Dinner and Installation Meeting and things are definitely getting FIRED UP! I send out a twist of the throttle to Illustrious Lance Ward, Terry Whilen and "Rockin" Rodney Williams for an outstanding Installation. Thanks to all who helped put it on.

### Upcoming Events Super Bowl Party

The Super Bowl Party is **Sunday, February 7th**. Last year we had 70 attend and we expect to top that this year. It's still \$10 per person for the food and a cash bar with bar specials all afternoon. It is open to the public, so come on down, bring your friends and have some of our world-famous wings. Reservations are needed and we kick off the party at 4 p.m.

You may have noticed a new scrolling LED sign up in the middle of the bar. It has all the upcoming events listed on it and if your Club or Unit would like something added, just let the Office know and we will do our best to get it on there for you.

The Car Cruz Committee is in full swing – getting ready for the upcoming season. I understand things are going quite well and we can expect record crowds again this year. Come on down and lend a hand or just cruise the cars. Either way, you'll have the time of your life.

ther way, you'll have the time of your life.

Damascus is working on getting outfits for our transportation drivers so they are recognized and known. If you would like to be part of the Team who takes our kids to either Springfield or Erie Hospitals, please contact our Recorder, Sean Noonan, with your information and we will get you on the Team.

The **February 3rd** meeting is a Mardi Gras Theme with the Louisiana fare of Chicken and Ribs and some New Orleans Jazz music. The Ladies are invited and this will be just a fun-night-out meeting.

**March 2nd** brings us the traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner. The Irish Dancers and an Irish folk singer will be there for your enjoyment. The Ladies are invited to this event and encouraged to attend.

**Saturday, April 2nd** is our Noble Bring-a-Brother Program and is going to be a fun event, centering on the Shrine as the Playground of Masonry. Dinner is free if you bring a prospective Candidate and free for the Candidate and his significant other. Either way, if you come with or without a Candidate, come and enjoy the fellowship and show others how much fun it is to be around the Shrine.

LET'S FIRE IT UP AND HAVE SOME FUN!

## Damascus Shriners Installation



Illustrious Kevin "Skins" Faro taking the Oath as the new Potentate of Damascus Shriners.



Rodney Williams in charge of the Hard Hats!



Hard Hats on and Ready for Teamwork!

The Installation of the new Potentate, Illustrious Kevin "Skins" Faro, was filled with goodwill, emotion and lots of fun. Congratulations to the 2016 Officers and Divan (*bottom photo*). They are ready to have a memorable and productive year.

Plan to participate in their programs and help Damascus Shriners thrive. Watch for upcoming events as they are announced.



Presentation from Wayne McCrossen, P.P., to Cy Kloner.



(left) Lance Ward, Terry Whilen and Kevin Faro sharing some ideas.



Farewell gifts to Wayne McCrossen, P.P.



Welcoming words from Lance Ward to the new Potentate, "Skins" Faro.



(Above and right) Deb presenting the Fez, followed by a kiss from the new First Lady.



(left) The Official Lineup of Damascus Officers, taking the Oath to serve for all the Nobles. Thank you for stepping up.



## CHUCK MC DONALD CHIEF RABBAN



I trust your New Year will be filled with Good Health and Happiness. It is with deep appreciation that I thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your Chief Rabban.

We have a full schedule of events for the year, but I will start with February and keep you posted as things come closer.

### Super Bowl Party

First thing on my agenda is the Big Super Bowl. **February 7th**, we will be hosting another Super Bowl Party. I have been appointed the Chairman and am happy to take this on. Reservations are a must and will be \$10.00 per person. We will have plenty of food and a cash bar. I can be contacted by phone at 585-509-1315 or by email:

[alpha6437@gmail.com](mailto:alpha6437@gmail.com)

If you call and reach my voice mail, it will say "you reached Alpha Fence." Just leave your name and the number of people attending. I look forward to seeing you here at the Shrine for our Biggest and Best Super Bowl Party ever.

### Cruz Nights

Our Famous Cruz Nights will begin again at the end of May and run through until just after Labor Day. Invite all your friends and family and anyone who has a car or motorcycle they want to show off. There have been rumors go-

ing around that last year's Cruz Nights were our last. NOT TRUE. We are here and will be for many years to come. Great cars, motorcycles, delicious food and drinks. What better way to spend an evening with your friends and some of the nicest people on earth. Come and join in on the fun and food.

### Mark Your Calendar

Don't forget to be at the next Shriners meeting on **February 3rd**. We have a wonderful meal before the meeting so make your reservations with the Office in time.

Also, a little reminder that many of our Nobles haven't paid their 2016 Dues as of yet. We can only survive if you help by paying your fair share. I know we all have many financial responsibilities, but if you think about it, your Dues only amount to less than \$6.00 a month. Not bad for all the fun that being a Shriner offers you. Don't forget, we are the playground of Masonry but, more importantly, think of all that the Shriners Hospitals for Children® do for the Kids.

Speaking of the children, if you know of anyone who has a child in need of medical treatment that we are able to provide, contact Sean Noonan at the Shrine Office and he will put them in contact with the right people.

Until next month, God bless all. ☐

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

979 Bay Road, Webster, NY 14580  
(585) 671-7701 Fax - (585) 671-7702  
[office@damascusshriners.org](mailto:office@damascusshriners.org)

**Kevin Faro**  
POTENTATE  
[skins6603@aol.com](mailto:skins6603@aol.com)

**Chuck McDonald**  
CHIEF RABBAN  
[alpha925@aol.com](mailto:alpha925@aol.com)

**James R. Ryan**  
ASSISTANT RABBAN  
[jryan91458@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jryan91458@rochester.rr.com)

**Jerry W. Lack**  
HIGH PRIEST & PROPHET  
[jwlack@aol.com](mailto:jwlack@aol.com)

**Mike Pavone**  
ORIENTAL GUIDE  
[mikedpavone@gmail.com](mailto:mikedpavone@gmail.com)

**Michael P. Hueston**  
TREASURER  
[mph0523@frontiernet.net](mailto:mph0523@frontiernet.net)

**Sean Noonan**  
RECORDER  
[recorder@damascusshriners.org](mailto:recorder@damascusshriners.org)

**Skip Waterstreet, EDITOR**  
*Damascus News*  
(585) 671-9730  
[masonictimes@gmail.com](mailto:masonictimes@gmail.com)

**Dan Burkhart**  
1st CEREMONIAL MASTER  
[dburk6t9ss@yahoo.com](mailto:dburk6t9ss@yahoo.com)

**Jason Simmons**  
2nd CEREMONIAL MASTER  
[hagar129@gmail.com](mailto:hagar129@gmail.com)

**Mike Roberts**  
MARSHAL  
[mroberts11@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mroberts11@rochester.rr.com)

**George Corbett**  
CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD  
[gcorbett@penfield.edu](mailto:gcorbett@penfield.edu)

**Rob Russo**  
OUTER GUARD  
[robrusso3@gmail.com](mailto:robrusso3@gmail.com)

**Vance R. Collom, Jr.**  
DIRECTOR STAFF  
[vcollom1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:vcollom1@rochester.rr.com)

## PERRY SHRINE CLUB



By Edgar Hollwedel

The Perry Shrine Club had great attendance at the Christmas Party. The weather cooperated and everyone was in the mood for a good time. It is not very often that more than 30 members, spouses and friends gather and it was very beneficial for the Shriners Hospital for Children® - Erie. The grand total was \$750.00.

The **February 25th** Meeting will be held at the Hole in the Wall Restaurant in Perry. It will start at 6 p.m. and all will order off of the menu at 6:45 p.m.

We are 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

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



**God  
Bless  
Our  
Troops &  
Safe Return**

By David Bowman



I'm starting with some news you probably heard, but if you didn't, here it is:

Boston - The story of a New York girl who asked for Christmas cards after being severely burned in a fatal fire has gone viral and now she has a special connection to Boston.

Safyre Terry suffered severe burns after someone set fire to her home in Schenectady. Her father and three siblings were killed in that fire. She was the only survivor.

At Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Boston, where she's receiving treatment, the nurses call her Spitfire. "She's an engaging kid," Dr. Rob Sheridan said. "She wants to know who you are. She wants to know what's going on, she's not afraid to ask questions and she's not afraid to be engaged."

She has a long road to recovery ahead, but the team at Shriners Hospital said they are amazed at how far she's come.

Next, my wife and I were watching the Christmas Light contest on ABC one Monday night and there was a family from Arizona. A three-year-old boy, born with a cleft palate, had been treated by the Shriners Hospital. It was amazing to see the results. You could never have picked him out of a crowd. We really hoped his family would win, and wouldn't you know it ... they did! The prize was \$50,000. When asked what their plans were, it was to donate to the Shriners Hospitals. That is paying it back big time. Needless to say, we were both teary-eyed after that. I hope you were able to see that as well.

### Sportsman's Raffle

Hey, did you know that the Damascus Shriners are holding a Sportsman's Raffle on **Saturday, March 19th**? My friend, Bob, always gets me to buy a ticket. It's not that I'm a hunter, or a fisherman for that matter. I wanted to be a fisherman when I was a kid. I wasn't keen on putting the worm on the hook, or taking the fish off, or gutting the fish, and I WASN'T going to EAT it. So that ended my fishing. Hunting I never tried. I liked shooting at the Scout Jamboree, but my parents didn't reply when I mentioned a gun.

Anyway, I buy a ticket, it's for a good cause, and when (please read, if) I win, Bob will win also. Call the Shrine Center and buy a ticket or two, then Bob can be really happy. ☐



**Shriners Hospitals  
for Children®**  
Love to the rescue.™

**Get Involved in 2016 ... There are many opportunities for you to volunteer and/or participate in your Shrinedom!**



## What's New in Erie ...

### May the Force Be With You

Shriners Hospitals for Children® (SHC) patient Olivia Hill and her big sister Rachel share a moment with members of the 501st Legion just before



watching Star Wars: The Force Awakens. The event was attended by SHC families, local Rameses Shriners and more than 200 friends, family and supporters of kids living with Scoliosis.

The event highlighted a three-week awareness and fundraising campaign in the South Etobicoke area of Toronto that included a school fundraiser, awareness assembly and movie night that raised more than \$4,000 to help support the SHC-Erie C-Arm Project. It also built awareness of Scoliosis and Shriners with more than 1,600 families.

### Lego® Travis Returns

Travis Turner, the young man who created the Lego® clownish artwork in

the Outpatient Waiting Area, returned to Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie on December 21st. Travis continued his generosity by purchasing Lego® Sets for the children served at Erie Shriners Medical Center.



From pirates to princesses, there are Lego® Sets that will appeal to all construction tastes. From the staff, board and children at the Erie Medical Center, thank you Travis!

## SHRINEABILIA



By Derek VanHouten, P.P.

Seeing that our new Potentate, Kevin Faro, has begun his watch at the helm of Damascus Shriners, I felt we should present a view from the past. In 1936, the new Potentate was A. Elmer Raithel and his opening remarks are presented for your reflection...

... "The impelling thought in writing my first communication to you is to express the gratitude of the entire Divan, both Elected and Appointed, for the confidence placed in us in your choice for our various Stations. We fully appreciate the honor and our responsibility to Damascus Temple and to each of its members.

"We shall endeavor to do our part, to the very utmost, but it will be very necessary that each Noble, every Unit and every Officer, who owes to his Temple a definite obligation of service - namely, that of attendance - plays a very important part in the proper functioning of the Temple. This is your Temple ... let's make it the same DAMASCUS of old. It is one of the oldest in Shrinedom and is highly regarded by the Imperial Council, as one of the most progressive Shrines in North America.

"It is with deep regret, that we note the names of Nobles being dropped from our Damascus Active List. Every effort will be made to contact these Nobles and, if possible, to seek out their problems and assist in holding them. Every effort will be made to make personal contact, that we may assist Nobles now on our Inactive List, in bringing them back to Damascus.

"Entertainment will be furnished for the Ladies and kiddies as well as the Nobility during the coming year and every effort will be made to make 1936 an enjoyable year. The Recorder's Office is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the Potentate's Office each Friday evening from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. to discuss the problems that confront us all. Again, let me express my gratitude to you, for the confidence you have passed to me."

Reading the above, one can see that nothing really changes even though 79 years have passed.

As a footnote, the worldwide Shrine membership in 1936 was 364,774; now, after 79 years, it's 269,585. □

Happy Valentine's Day!

## Damascus Legion of Honor Executive Committee meet at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 10th

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 \* Beef Stew  
Buttered Noodles \* Green Beans  
Rolls & Butter \* Coffee or Tea \* Dessert  
\$12 per person

RSVP no later than noon on Monday, February 8th  
at (585) 436-8216 or email: [cylegalrx@hotmail.com](mailto:cylegalrx@hotmail.com)

Attire: Suit, Tie and Fez

## DAMASCUS LEGION OF HONOR

By Derek VanHouten, Commander

At the next Legion of Honor meeting, which will be held at the Shrine Center on February 10th, we will be celebrating the 207th Birthday of President Lincoln who was born on February 12, 1809.

President Lincoln (aka John Lemke) will be joining us for dinner and a presentation around the Gettysburg Address

and Civil War. Why not make a reservation and join us for a night of good fellowship and re-living history. Dinner is \$12 per person. Reservations can be made with the Office at 671-7701 or Cy Kloner at:

[cylegalrx@hotmail.com](mailto:cylegalrx@hotmail.com)

Dress code is suit and tie along with your Fez. We look forward to seeing you, along with Mr. Lincoln. □



## February Birthdays



Bryan Anderson  
William Boyd  
George Bracht  
Richard Brown  
Richard Budgeon  
Charles Buisch  
John Cambareri  
Richard Chapple  
Howard Colegrove  
Louis Cook  
Charles Cutler  
Wallace Farnsworth  
George Foehner  
George Fogarassy  
Christopher Fox  
William Gilley  
Juan Gonzalez

Franklin Granata  
Maurice Guinup  
Robert Helmes  
Richard Henderson  
Scott Herzog  
James Hess  
Richard Hodges  
Robert Hunt  
Douglas Jones  
Ben Keel  
Robert Lasky  
Joseph Lorah  
James Miller  
John Miller  
John Mosher  
Michael Nohle  
Richard Pierce

Michael Postilli  
Ryan Reese  
Rodney Rittenhouse  
Rob Russo  
Matthew Sansone  
Richard Schmanke  
Dale Shatzer  
Herbert Spencer  
Dayne Tharrett  
James Toogood  
James VanHouten  
James VanSickle  
Wayne Wagner  
Donald Walzer  
Charles White  
Mark Wishman



Get Your Irish On at Damascus  
Wednesday, March 2nd

Open Shriners Meeting  
Ladies Invited

5 p.m. - Oasis Opens ~ 6 p.m. - Dinner ~ 7 p.m. - Meeting

Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Entertainment ... Irish Dancers & Folk Singer

### Holiday Photo Finish

During the Holiday Season, Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie was overwhelmed by the kindness of the community. From a book drive that collected more than 1,600 books to AT&T Regional stores donating 200 toys, the number of donations received was staggering.

For additional information, contact: Greg Hall (814) 875-8782. □

Dedicated to the Memory of Nobles

Robert Ferguson  
January 9, 2016

Dean J. Fero  
January 11, 2016

William A. Michener  
December 28, 2015

Earl G. Pearce  
December 20, 2015



### Engraved Wall Caps

Ever notice the engraved names on the Wall coming into the Shrine Center?

You can have a name engraved on a Wall Cap to remember or honor someone of your choosing. Orders, with payment, can be placed in the Shrine Office.

The cap can contain up to 4 lines, and up to 15 letters per line. Cost is \$140 per Cap.

It's a nice gesture for gift-giving, honorariums, memoriams, etc. Holidays are coming ... what to give to that person who has everything?

Act soon ... number of Caps available is limited!

Directors Staff  
NO MEETING  
in FEBRUARY

\*\*\*\*\*

Next  
Directors Staff  
Dinner Meeting:

Wednesday  
March 23rd  
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](mailto:vcollom1@rochester.rr.com)

Super Bowl  
Party  
Sunday  
February 7th  
4 p.m. - 'Til  
Don't Miss It!



# 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](http://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](mailto: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,

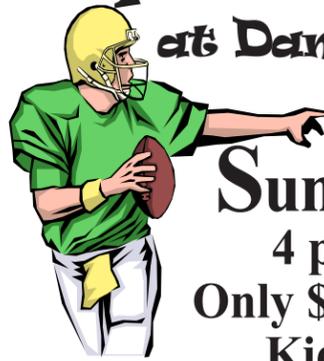
contact Bob Songin at

[reelxite@rochester.rr.com](mailto:reelxite@rochester.rr.com) or Phone (585) 733-5829

## Super Bowl Sunday

at Damascus Shrine Center

979 Bay Rd, Webster



### Sunday, February 7th

4 p.m. - until game is over

Only \$10 - Reservation Required  
Kids 12 and under Free!

This will include food and snacks!

Cash Bar at the Oasis!

\$2 Draft Beers

Come enjoy our full-wall TV!

*No being cramped here ...*

*there are plenty of tables and chairs to spread out; we even have 2 great couches!*

Reservations by February 4th (Noon): (585) 671-3565 or  
email: [office@damascusshriners.org](mailto:office@damascusshriners.org)

Questions? Contact Chuck McDonald (585) 509-1315 or  
email: [alpha6437@gmail.com](mailto:alpha6437@gmail.com)



### DAMASCUS TRESTLEBOARD 2016

#### FEBRUARY

1st Divan Meeting

3rd Shriners Meeting; Mardi Gras Theme; Chicken & Ribs Dinner; Ladies invited.

7th Super Bowl Party; 4 p.m. - 'til

10th Legion of Honor

29th Divan Meeting

#### MARCH

2nd Shriners Meeting; Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner; Ladies invited.

9th Legion of Honor

19th Spring Sportsman's Raffle at Shrine Center; 1-5 p.m.

23rd Directors Staff Dinner Meeting

#### APRIL

2nd Brother Bring-a-Brother Event

4th Divan Meeting

6th Shriners Meeting

### Damascus News Boosters

#### Action Required!!!

If you are interested in being a 2016 Booster, please send \$15 to the Damascus Shrine Office. Anyone interested in advertising their business in this *Damascus News* pullout section, please contact the Shrine Office (671-7701).

George & Lula Simon  
Dean & JoAnn Smith  
Skip & Diane Waterstreet  
Chuck & Marlene White  
John & Sandra Wihlen  
In Memory of Carol Brickman  
Lance & Lynn Ward

**Webster Lodge**

*Continued from Page 7*

are as follows:

President **Dave Aleksandrowicz**  
 Secretary **Warren Patterson**  
 Treasurer **Hank Libera**

Congratulations to our Fellowcraft Club Officers.

On December 17th, we conferred a 1st Degree. The Lodge was packed and Junior Warden, Dave Aleksandrowicz, did an outstanding job orchestrating yet another flawless Degree.

Webster was fortunate to Initiate three new Brothers as well as having the pleasure in assisting Northfield Lodge and ERAC Lodge in Initiating a new Brother to each of their Lodges. Senior Master of Ceremony, Al Moses, and Junior Master of Ceremony, Dave Palumbo, did an excellent job with the Q&A.

As Master I was very proud of these Brothers who are quite new to the Craft. They proved they have what it takes as Ritualists and I look forward to their progression in the upcoming years. It was a great Degree and a proud night for all the Officers.

Christmas Eve morning was our Annual Poinsettia Delivery and Brethren visit. There were 20 Brothers in attendance, along with Michael Borrino (son of W.: Al Borrino), Gregory Aleksandrowicz (son of Junior Warden, Dave Aleksandrowicz), and Jillian Knox (daughter of W.: Jeremy Knox). Thanks again to you and your families for making this such a special event. At this time of year it's very important to remind our shut-in Brothers, and those Brothers seldom seen, that they have not been forgotten.

January 7th was our Lodge of Remembrance. The evening's program was dedicated to Brothers Edward S. Wood, Norman Eugene Bresson, Thomas Welch, and W.: William E. Guthrie. As these Brothers laid down their Working Tools, we sent them off in true Masonic fashion. A great way to honor the memories and everything these Brothers did to support the Craft.

January 9th was the Scottish Right Symbolic Awards. This year's recipient was Brother David Wissick. Brother Dave is a

true asset to Webster Lodge. He attends every community service in which Webster is involved – from Spaghetti Dinners to Highway Cleanups – and is always there to lend a helping hand. Masonic Lodges would not exist without the help of Brother Dave and others like him. Congratulations, Brother Dave. It is an honor and privilege to have you as a member of Webster Lodge.

**Mark Your Calendar**

At our **February 4th** Regular Communication, the program will be the History of Washington Lodge No.1.

**Friday, February 5th** will be the Monthly Community Service Spaghetti Dinner, serving 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. Come eat or come help. All are welcome.

On **February 18th** we will hold our 2nd Degree. Hope to see many Brothers at Lodge to support our efforts at "making good men better."

Lastly, at our **March 3rd** Communication, R.: W.: Stephan Michener will present his program, "Brother Mozart and His Magic Flute."

**Have-a-Heart Campaign**

Webster Lodge is scheduled to staff:

**Eastview Mall**

**Saturday, January 30th**

**Noon - 9:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, February 14th**

**11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Please keep a lookout for the email announcing our request for sign-ups concerning the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign. It takes a good number of Brothers (families can also participate) to make this a successful event and we need your help. A couple hours on a weekend night is all it takes. Please join us. Every little bit of time you can spare will make a difference.

Also, please use the Trestleboard on:

[webster538.org](http://webster538.org)

to stay current with upcoming events and regular communication. So far we are having a great year at Webster Lodge. The meetings have been held to a timely constraint along with being educational and entertaining. Don't miss out! I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year. □

**Genesee-Wyoming District**

District Deputy Grand Master - Henry Robinson 322-3654

**Fridays from February 12th - March 25th  
 Fish Frys During Lent**

**Fresh Haddock  
 Cole Slaw  
 French Fries or  
 Baked Potato**

Take-out & Advanced Eat-in Orders  
 Starts at 4:30 p.m. ... Call (585) 502-5155  
 Eat-in Starts 5:00 p.m. 'til Sold Out  
 at Masonic Community Center, 12 Bank Street, LeRoy

Sponsored by Olive Branch Lodge

**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

Our Lenten Friday Fish Frys start on **Friday, February 12th** and run until **March 25th**. We need our local Brothers to become involved, by working on these events to lighten the load on the Brothers who have been working on the fundraiser from the outset.

On **March 17th**, we will be holding our Second Annual St.

Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner with Eunice Lodge from Caledonia at our Masonic Community Center. This is being held on the Thursday before our Friday Fish Fry that week. We will need help preparing and serving this dinner.

**Canada Visit**

On January 5th, seven Brothers traveled to Canada to help celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Canadian Lodge No. 532. We stayed overnight and returned in time to attend Lodge that night. Canadian Lodge No. 532 and Olive Branch Lodge used to visit each other back in the 70s and 80s.

**New Boundaries**

The voting for the consolidation of Genesee-Wyoming and Livingston Districts is going smoothly. All Lodges in both Districts should have voted. The results were to be sent to Grand Lodge. The two DDGMs are forming the required committees from each District to start the consolidation of the committees of both Districts.

As always, please attend Lodge and support your Lodge Officers. There are going to be many exciting things happening in the next couple of years. Come to Lodge and be part of them. □

**Livingston District**

District Deputy Grand Master - Douglas Stanley 245-4395

**Grand Steward**  
  
 R.: W.: Robert Cox  
 468-5066  
 robertcox56@aol.com

February 20th, again in the Warsaw Lodge Hall. Many thanks to R.: W.: Michael Grady and R.: W.: John Gallant who have put together great Training Programs for us.

I have been to many exciting events in the District ... from Table Lodge Meetings at Union Lodge, a Degree at Eunice and Oyster Stew Night at Nunda Station.

By the time you read this, most of the Lodges in the Livingston District will have already voted on consolidating with the Genesee-Wyoming District. This will be an exciting change to Masonry in our District when it happens. I look forward to travelling to visit the Lodges again this year. □

**Nunda Station**  
 Lodge No. 682  
 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
 Master  
 W.: Marcus A. Hugi  
 superman.mah@gmail.com  
 Secretary  
 W.: Robert Cox, 468-5066  
 robertcox56@aol.com

Nunda Station held its Annual Oyster Stew (and Chili) Night on December 15th. All the Brothers enjoyed another excellent social gathering and meal!

**Upcoming Events**

On **February 16th**, we're trying a new event this year – it will be our President's Day Cake Fest featuring Washington's Great Cake and Mary Todd Lincoln's Vanilla Almond Cake!

Remember, ALL Brethren are heartily invited to any of our events! Please don't be shy!

I wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2016! □

**Have-a-Heart Campaign**

**Now through February 14th**

**Crawford**  
 FUNERAL HOME INC.  
 Independently Owned And Operated



**Helping Families  
 Share Memories  
 since 1957**

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**David P. Crawford  
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495 N. Winton Road – Rochester, NY  
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**(585) 482-0400**

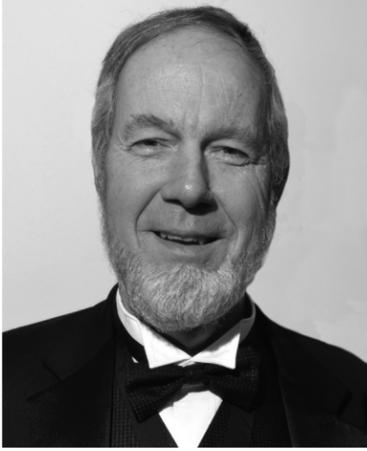
[www.CrawfordFuneralHome.com](http://www.CrawfordFuneralHome.com)

**SPAGHETTI DINNER**  
  
**Friday, February 5th**  
**5 p.m. – 7 p.m.**  
 at Webster Lodge Hall; 30 Orchard Street  
 Adults - \$9 Children - \$5  
 For Takeouts, Call 872-3500

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF SERVICING UPSTATE NEW YORK

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

I like beer. I like to drink it. I even like to talk about it. I pay attention to cycles. You may have heard me talk about the cycle of four score and seven years. The beer cycle, though, is great and I would even say inspirational. So I want to talk about beer, if that is alright.

In 1979 near the low point in number of breweries in America, there were 44 breweries. There were 42 industrial breweries and two craft breweries. Many of these large industrial breweries didn't have the most flavorful beer. The trend in the number of breweries had been going down for decades.

From that low point, though, things started moving in a different direction. Did men change? Did what they want out of life change? I doubt it. By last year though, 2015, the number of breweries had soared to 4,144 of which 20 were of the industrial type and the rest were craft breweries. We have over 100 breweries just in New York State. Men seem to like to have a choice and seem to like to have local availability. I know Brothers making their own beer as well.

So if craft breweries turn from a down to an up

cycle why can't Craft Lodges? The Scottish Rite needs to have Master Mason Lodges that do well and thrive. All of us should understand that our experience in Masonry should be a journey and not a destination. There is Light beyond the 3rd Degree. Some Brothers join the Scottish Rite, but really never bother to get anything out of it.

Maybe they joined because of my great persuasive ability or maybe they like the idea of being a 32nd Degree Mason. If all you did was join and attend one Reunion and then quit, or are thinking of quitting, I would ask you to reconsider.

Brothers in the Scottish Rite join for several reasons, but many, in large part, join to continue a journey in life of incremental improvement. At whatever your age and however busy you are, it is worthwhile to work on personal improvement. In the Scottish Rite you will be with Brothers who have decided they want to take the journey of improvement and how enjoyable it is to journey in life with a group with similar goals.

Don't sell yourself short. Decide that you are not too busy to have a purposeful life that strives for incremental improvement. We all make time for that which is important to us. We all have the same amount of time. We don't all have the same commitment. We don't all decide to take a particular journey.

This path has been trod by others. It has a record of success. There are no obstacles to taking this path other than those you put up yourself. If you are on the path, consider encouraging others of like mind to continue with you. We can do many things together. Sharing a beer together is enjoyable but sharing a life journey of improvement with Brothers is not only enjoyable but sublime. □



## Rochester Lodge of Perfection

By Neal Bedford, 32°  
Thrice Potent Master

As promised, I have more concrete information about our trip to the Valley of Boston on **April 8th thru the 10th** for their Lodge of Perfection Reunion.

The Valley of Boston meets at the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. There will be bus transportation provided by the Valley of Boston, between the hotel and the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the Brothers and their wives during our stay in Boston. There will be 11 Degrees presented - the 4th thru the 14th.

The Valley of Rochester will be presenting the 5th Degree - the Perfect Master - on Friday night April 8th. We are looking for Brothers to take parts in this Degree. We have nine speaking parts and ten to fifteen non-speaking parts and back stage help. Please contact Ill. Joe Bourcy or me if you are interested in being a part of the 5th Degree presentation or just wanting to attend the Reunion.

Remember, we will be representing the Valley of Rochester when we present the 5th Degree. There will be rehearsals running up until the Reunion.

The Valley of Boston will be providing a Buffet Dinner at 4 p.m. for the Brothers and wives on **April 8th**. The Valley of Boston will have scheduled events for the Ladies on **Saturday, April 9th**, during the Reunion. The Degrees will start at 5:45 p.m. The 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th Degrees, will be presented on Friday night, **April 8th**.

On Saturday, there will be breakfast a 6:30 a.m. with the Degrees starting at 7:45 a.m. The order of presentation will be 6th, 9th, 11th and 12th Degrees; Buffet Lunch at 12:15 p.m.; 13th, 10th and 14th Degrees resuming at 1:30 p.m.

After the Degrees, there will be libation and time for the Brother and Ladies to relax and meet new friends before dinner at the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. There will be breakfast provided for us on Sunday morning before we depart for the trip home.

We will not be the only Valley presenting Degrees at the Reunion. The Valleys presenting are: Valley of Boston Lodge of Perfection, Valley of Boston Rose Croix, Valley of Boston Consistory, Valley of Rochester, Valley of Portsmouth/Dover, Valley of Springfield, Valley of Lowell, Valley of Norwich King Solomon LOP and the Valley of Hudson. As you can see, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to receive all eleven Degrees of the LOP being presented by seven different Valleys in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.

I believe this is a very gracious gesture from the Valley of Boston to make this available to any Valley in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction at no cost to our Valley.

As previously stated in last month's article, the Valley of Rochester is chartering a bus to transport our members and wives to this Reunion. We will be leaving early Friday morning, **April 8th**, but the exact time and meeting place has not yet been determined. Please consider joining us on this once-in-a-lifetime experience. We would like to have a pretty accurate count of who is committed to go by the end of February. Any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at:

[nbedford67@gmail.com](mailto:nbedford67@gmail.com) □



## Rochester Chapter of Knights of Rose Croix

By Stephan Michener, 32°  
Most Wise Master  
Membership Chairman

*That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. ~ Exodus 12:27*

*Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the Passover, that we may eat. ~ Luke 22:7*

On **Sunday, March 13th**, the Valley of Rochester will hold The Feast of the Pascal Lamb. Social hour will begin at 3 p.m., with the program commencing at 4 p.m. and a dinner will follow. This will occur at the Damascus Shrine Center.

The significance of the Feast of the Pascal Lamb is to commemorate two historic events identified by Judaism and Christianity. It is at this season of Spring and renewal that we celebrate these events.

Passover commemorates the Jews flight from Egypt, led by Moses, where they were being held in bondage. God had visited ten plagues (the 10th being the death of a first-born) upon the Egyptians as punishment for the sin of slavery. As a form of protection, God had ordered captive Jews to sacrifice a lamb and its blood splashed upon the doorway of their dwellings.

Also during Passover, Matzah (which is unleavened bread) is eaten to commemorate the Jews hasty departure from Egypt. Since there was not time to wait for the yeast to cause the dough to rise, the flat Matzah produced had to suffice. It is at Passover when the Seder dinner ceremony takes place, which celebrates the Exodus, the re-birth of Freedom and the restoration of Israel.

Bible Historians quibble on whether Jesus' Last Supper was a Passover Seder or not. Even the four canonical Gospels offer slight variations regarding the timing. Setting that aside, we can agree that Christ's sacrifice as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world," has major significance

**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:

Ill. John William McNaughton, 33°  
Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill. Gail N. Kemp, 33°  
Grand Lieutenant Commander

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

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

### Active Members for New York

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

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

Ill. P. Michael Nielsen, 33°

Ill. G. Michael Morris, 33°

### Active Emeritus Members for New York

Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33°

Ill. Bruce Widger, 33°, Past Deputy/New York

Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33°

Ill. Gary A. Henningsen, 33°

Ill. Frederick D. Greene, 33°

Ill. Edward R. Trosin, 33°

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

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

Assigned Active - Ill. G. Michael Morris, 33°

Secretary  
Ill. Jack VanElzakker, 33°

Treasurer  
Ill. Robert L. Anderson II, 33°

### Trustees

M. Donald Darrohn, 32° (2018)  
Ill. Glenn A. Stahl, 33° (2017)

Gary L. Burke, 32° MSA (2016)  
Ill. 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](mailto:secretary@valleyofrochester.org)

### Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Websites:

Valley of Rochester, AASR  
[www.valleyofrochester.org](http://www.valleyofrochester.org)

New York State Council of Deliberation  
[www.nysscottishritemasons.org](http://www.nysscottishritemasons.org)

Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction  
[www.scottishritenmj.org](http://www.scottishritenmj.org)

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

144 Metro Park, Suite 1, Rochester, NY 14623  
Office (585) 424-5390; Fax (585) 282-0978; Email: [dyslexia.center.rochester.ny@gmail.com](mailto:dyslexia.center.rochester.ny@gmail.com)  
Ann Kaczka, Learning Center Director - - - John W. Paul, Chair, Board of Governors

among Christians. We can also agree that those events that occurred at The Last Supper (washing the feet, breaking the bread, drinking the wine) occurred about the time of Passover. This then led to the betrayal of Christ, his crucifixion, and then ascension and resurrection.

It is thus so, that these two major religious traditions come together at both this time of year, and in the Pascal Lamb Feast. The symbolism of each is complementary of the other and offers deep spiritual meaning. The feast of the Pascal Lamb alludes to these wonderful traditions and acknowledges most significantly those of our Brethren Knights of the Rose Croix who have departed earthly existence, and have gone to their eternal rest. It is a beautiful remembrance of them and an opportunity to renew our spiritual faith in the promises of our Creator.

Mark the date **March 13th** on your calendar and plan to attend and be deeply moved. □



## Rochester Council of Princes of Jerusalem

By Bruce Katz, 32°  
Sovereign Prince

Last call for reservations for the 2016 Ladies' Night Event! This will be held on **February 13th** at Red Fedele's Brook House in Greece. Come be amazed by Master Magician, Brian Greer. Reservations are due by February 6th, (Send to Valley of Rochester, Suite 3, 811 Ayrault Road, Fairport, NY 14450). The cost is \$25 per person, or \$40 per couple. Social time begins 5:30 p.m. (cash bar), with Prime Rib/Chicken French Buffet Dinner at 6:30 p.m. My thanks to High Priest James Robb for his work to arrange this event.

Together with the 15th Degree, the allegory features the example of Zerubbabel for the lessons of conviction, fidelity to duty and devotion to truth. The 16th Degree, "Prince of Jerusalem," is planned for the April 16th Spring Reunion. Rehearsals are underway for this cornerstone Degree.

Like many Masons, I attempted to read "Morals and Dogma" by Albert Pike. And, like most Masons who tried reading this to me, I didn't get too far. The language and phrasing - while still nominally "English" - is the complex structure of another era. These words, however, were intended to

as a thought-inspiring lecture rather than be read from the static page.

I recently found an excellent set of recordings, available at no charge, by searching "YouTube 16th Degree" and selecting the video posted by James Robert. Although it is synthetic speech, it is easy to use as a follow-along with the printed work by Brother Pike. Pike's writings on the other Scottish Rite Degrees and other interesting Masonic videos can also be found (along with some very weird stuff!) on "YouTube." □

## Have-a-Heart 2016 Scottish Rite Schedule

By Charles Rettig, 32°, High Priest  
Council of Princes of Jerusalem  
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](mailto:nny4050whr@yahoo.com) □

## Scottish Rite Ambassador Program

By Bruce Katz,  
Valley Ambassador Chairman

An Ambassador Handbook was approved by the Valley Officers on January 5th. This program will become more visible within our Valley and constituent Lodges in the coming months as we help fulfill the mission of the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction (NMJ) to strive to be a Fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.

The Valley Ambassadors Program Mission 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.

Many thanks to the new District Ambassadors. These Brothers will help identify and work with the Lodge Ambassadors.

## Once in a Lifetime

By James Robb, 32°, Senior Warden  
Council of Princes of Jerusalem

A man knows his moment. And that moment will be **February 13th**. On that date you will be able to treat your significant other to a night of fun, entertainment and dinner. Brian Geer will be your entertainment for the evening

Brian Geer has been studying magic since the age of 8. He has been a full time professional since 1989. He worked his way up the ranks; from performing for children's shows, home parties, and four restaurants a week for over seven years. Now he strictly performs for corporations, mainly trade shows and vip events.

This all takes place for Ladies Night, Saturday, **February 13th** at Red Fedele's Brook House, 920 Elmridge Center Drive, Rochester NY 14626 (across Ridge Rd. from Ridgmont Country Club just east of Elmgrove Rd.) \$25 per person; \$40 per couple for Scottish Rite members and their sweetheart 5:30 PM - Social (cash bar) with Hors d'oeuvres 6:30 PM – Prime Rib/Chicken French Buffet Style Dinner.

Send Reservation Check

**by February 6th to:**

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

No Phone Reservations ~ No Payments at the Door, Limited seating. □

The 2015-2016 District Ambassadors are:

**Genesee-Wyoming & Livingston**  
Neil Bedford - 585-202-4571  
[nbedford67@gmail.com](mailto:nbedford67@gmail.com)

**Monroe**

Bruce Katz - 585-729-6657  
[brucek8189@aol.com](mailto:brucek8189@aol.com)

**Orleans**

Garry Cranker - 585-260-4546  
[gcranker@icloud.com](mailto:gcranker@icloud.com)

**Steuben**

Mike Koval - 607-329-4458  
[mpkse@gmail.com](mailto:mpkse@gmail.com)

**Wayne**

Joe Green - 585-690-0326  
[adoniram32@yahoo.com](mailto:adoniram32@yahoo.com)

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

The new handbook is posted on the new Ambassador Program page on the Valley website. 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. Please help the Scottish Rite meet its mission to care for our members. □

## Valley of Rochester AASR More Winter – 2016

### 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

### MAY

**May 7th - Reunion Banquet**  
at Cobblestone Creek Country Club (\*\*)

*Please notify the Office if you have a special diet requirement.*  
*We will do our best to help so you can attend dinners.*

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

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

## 2016 Scottish Rite Scholarships Eligibility Requirements

- Abbott Scholarships are only for children of Scottish Rite Members of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction.
- NY COD Scholarships are only for grandchildren of Scottish Rite Members of one of the Valleys of New York State.

**Refer to [www.nyscottishritemasons.org](http://www.nyscottishritemasons.org)  
for application forms and eligibility instructions.**

- Must be currently attending a recognized college or university and must submit a current transcript showing a 2.75 or better GPA plus at least one letter of recommendation and a recent FAFSA Form. High school Seniors are eligible.
- The appropriate application must be used, must be legible and fully completed. Incomplete applications will not be considered for a scholarship.
- 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**. Applications are online at the appropriate website.
- Applications for Valley of Rochester should be mailed to:

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

## Concerns about AASR/COD Financial Assistance Awards

By David E. Barnes, Chairman,  
NYSCOD Scholarship Committee

I have received the following update from the Deputy pertaining to the Abbott and NYSCOD Scholarship process for this year.

The Administrative Board recently passed the following resolution pertaining to the total number of Awards an Applicant can receive:

"To fund college scholarships and financial assistance for a maximum of four (4) years for students attending an accredited College or other Trade School ... School of choice must have a FAFSA School Code. This decision includes Supreme Council Abbott Scholarships and New York State Council of Deliberation Education Assistance Funding Grants."

This resolution was in response to repeated questions about the number of scholarship awards an Applicant can earn, as well as to address some concerns that come up about accredited institutions.

The Deputy has approved this updated form and it will be posted on the NYSCOD website: [www.nyscottishritemasons.org](http://www.nyscottishritemasons.org)

Select "Scholarship" menu at the top of the page. Please share this form with your Scholarship Chairman/Committee and refer to the resolution if asked any questions about these two topics. Also feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

As always, thank you for your support and efforts on behalf of the applicants. □

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

## From the Secretary's Desk

By Ill.: Jack VanElzakker, 33°  
February Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Ryan Reese (1st); William T. Boyd, Christopher P. Fox, William H. Gilley and Matthew R. Love (2nd); Terry M. Adams and Richard G. Giedd (3rd); Michael L. Nohle (6th); Joseph S. Gresko, Robert G. Helmes and James W. Hess (8th); Kenneth L. Goodrich and Keith W. Rumsey (9th); F. James McCullough, Jr., Michael Pettinato, Herbert Spencer and James C. White (10th); Eugene S. Dewey (11th); George R. Bracht (12th); H. Douglas Jones III, Rodney R. Rittenhouse and James E. Toogood (13th); Donald A. Walzer and Charles R. White (14th); Richard C. Budgeon (15th); George A. Foehner (16th); William T. Rupar (17th); Richard W. Chapple and Joseph D. Fore (18th); Tad P. Manske (20th); Robert P. Hunt (21st); Mark E. Roberts (22nd); Ralph S. Long, Jr., Joseph R. Lorah and James S. Miller (23rd); Charles C. Rettig and Eugene VanVoorhis (24th); Mark M. Wishman (25th); James H. Rice (27th) and Donald G. Farrand (28th). □

## Symbolic Lodge Awards Program Pays Tribute to 28

Lodges from throughout the Western and Central New York area submitted nominees for the 30th Annual Symbolic Lodge Awards Program, sponsored by the Valley of Rochester, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. Recipients represented Genesee-Wyoming, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario/Seneca/Yates, Niagara-Orleans, Steuben and Wayne Districts.

The Certificates were presented by R.:W.: Jeffrey M. Williamson, Deputy Grand Master, with assistance from Ill.: Stephen Whittaker, 33° Active, Ill.: G. Michael Morris, 33° Active, and Commander in Chief of the Valley of Rochester, John Lemke, 32°, DSA.

## Masonry in the Corning Area

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

### Forming the Valley of Corning

During the Spring of 1866, several Royal Arch Masons of Corning became desirous of obtaining the Scottish Rite Degrees. A letter was sent to Orrin Welch, 33°, District Deputy Inspector General for the State of New York requesting necessary power to proceed and what preliminary steps are necessary to commence.

The answer: Ten or more Master Masons in good standing desirous of petitioning for the establishment of a Lodge of Perfection in Corning.

Note that the original query

specified that Royal Arch Masons of the York Rite sought such a Dispensation. It was not until 1871 that the rule requiring membership in Royal Arch was suspended.

The Masons who signed the original Petition for the Degrees and the Dispensation were largely leaders in the community. Many have streets in Corning named after them.

On September 14, 1866, Brothers from New York City communicated the Degrees through the 32° to 32 masons. Five Brothers of the 32° brought a Candidate from Rochester

to receive the Degrees at the request of the Rochester Consistory, also in the process of formation. Dispensations were issued for all four Bodies of the Scottish Rite in the Valley of Corning and Charters granted on May 16, 1867. Thus our great Sesquicentennial to be celebrated next year.

Then came the need to find a meeting place. An agreement was made to rent the Masonic Hall at a rental fee of \$2.00 for each evening meeting. Furnishings were obtained by an assessment of \$15.00 placed against each member and money borrowed from members.

Apparently there were no Reunions, as such, in those early days. Instead, Degrees were

“communicated” whenever there were Applicants. It was not until some years later that, at the request of Corning, several of the Degrees were “worked” in New York City for their benefit. It was the first time local Brothers had actually seen the Degrees dramatized.

Thereafter, a few Degrees were “worked” in Corning, the balance conferred by communication. There were some two-day “Special Communications” beginning in 1871 that were much like the Reunions of today. By 1873, semi-annual Reunions had begun with a banquet to close each.

Next month, the matter of building a Masonic Temple in Corning. □

## Valley of Corning Lodge of Perfection Holds Annual Christmas Party



Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°, describing the plaque he presented to Distinguished Brother Frank J. Hamm, 32° MSA.



Members of the group, “First and Pine,” provided vocal entertainment. (Left to right) Kate Brucie, Jamie Smith (seated at keyboard), Alyson Sharman and Shari Koval, members of the choir at the First Presbyterian Church of Corning.



Brother Hamm is congratulated by Ill.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33° Active, Grand Master General of Ceremonies, and displays the Award received from Ill.: David P. Spencer, 33°, Deputy for New York.



lamation of damaged property during the Summer. To conclude the evening's festivities, “Santa Hamm” passed gifts to Ladies and Brothers present and wished all a Happy Holiday Season. □

## Recipients, Escorts and Dignitaries Present for the Symbolic Lodge Awards Ceremonies in January



Some of the 28 scheduled recipients posed with Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson, who made the presentations, members of the Grand Line, District Deputies from Monroe and three surrounding Districts, and Supreme Council Members and Officers of the Valley of Rochester, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.



# Order of the Eastern Star

## Monroe District OES HiLights

### DDGM

R.W. Doreen Rhodes  
621-6051  
[busyrhodes1@hotmail.com](mailto:busyrhodes1@hotmail.com)

### DGL

M.W. Neil Laundry  
964-2135  
[neillaun@hotmail.com](mailto:neillaun@hotmail.com)

On December 5th, R.W. Jan Porter, R.W. Joy Woodley, W. Joanne Petroske and I served a luncheon for over 70 Scottish Rite Masons. A donation was given to our District, which in turn was sent to our Home in Oriskany for the Residents to use for postage stamps. This was an item from their Wish List.

### Community Service

What a wonderful response for the mittens, hats and scarves project. On December 16th, M.W. Neil Laundry, R.W. Joy Woodley and I delivered 194 items to the Center for Youth. These items would be distributed to homeless and one-parent children. The Staff at the Center for Youth were very appreciative of our collection. We also had a tour of their Food Pantry; M.W. Neil, R.W. Joy and I expressed we would take on a Food Shelf for the Month of February and try to fill it with Tuna Fish. This particular item goes out as quick as it comes in. Remember, Charity and Loving Kindness.

The Food Cupboards are still an ongoing project. Each Chapter is taking non-perishable items to their Community Food Cupboard. I'm requesting



R.W. Doreen Rhodes, DDGM, M.W. Neil Laundry, DGL, and R.W. Joy Woodley, Worthy Matron of Lilac Star, presented children's winter clothing to Katy Cummings at the Center for Youth.

that each Matron keep a list of items so I may have a copy for my report.

Another "Thank You" is in order to R.W. Debbie and R.W. Karen Leipold for taking the time to make 57 Christmas Stockings for which I provided the fillings. These were taken to Penfield Nursing Home for the Residents to enjoy.

### Line Officers

The next Line Officers meeting is February 6th (not the 4th as mentioned in the January issue). All Line Officers Meetings (with the exception of May) will be held at the Spencerport Masonic Hall beginning at 9 a.m. Please remember to bring a recipe of your choice on a 3x6 card.

### Mark Your Calendar

**March 5th** – Line Officers Meeting; planning for the Grand Matron's and Grand Patron's Official Visit.

**March 12th** – School of Instruction; M.W. Neil Laundry presiding.

### Alta's Memorial Penny Fund

We still continue collecting pennies in memory of R.W. Alta Doty. The proceeds go to the Masonic Youth Organizations. R.W. Beverly Thompson is Chairperson (Phone: 392-7546).

### Neil's Notes District

#### Grand Lecturer

The "Holidays" are over and just when it looked like we were going to get a bit of

a breather, our calendars are filling up again. With the commencement of the 2016 Line Officers' Meetings, it's obvious that R.W. Doreen has a little something to keep each of us busy. Discover a few spare minutes? I'm sure there are some perfect projects to fill those slow days.

Here are some ideas to keep us going ...

- Each of us can keep an eye out for little projects that might help folks in our communities in need of seasonal clothing or necessary food products.
- Our Veterans, homeless, single parents, latchkey kids, etc. may need a little help and we can make a difference.
- Please make sure to keep our Vets at the top of the list!

• There are plenty of small charitable groups that could use our support right in our own neighborhoods.

• Maybe your Chapter could adopt a clothing or food shelf.

Your District Leaders will try to share ideas for a few small projects that might make a big difference in someone's life. Use your imagination and share the joy. Brochures describing several agencies are available from your Chapter and District Officers.

FoodLink suggested some local agencies for donations and we will followup with some of their "wish list" requests. The Center for Youth would appreciate canned tuna fish, which is in high-demand from their Food Pantry. During the Month of February, we will collect canned Tuna Fish to stock their Food Pantry.

Take time to squeeze in our **March 12th** School of Instruction. I'll be reviewing the Opening and Closing of Chapter and W. Sister Erika Hanson will be sharing some great ideas on building membership.

See you soon! □



By R.W. Beverly C. Thompson, Historian

The Past Matrons Association met in October to install their new President, Mary Hall. The installation was done by the Junior Past President, Merilyn Israel.

**Mark Your Calendar**  
The schedule for the group's meetings in 2016 is as follows:

**January 21st**

**March 17th**

**September 15th**

Bring your own brown bag lunch; a dessert will be provided by various Chapters.

**May 19th** - Memorial Service, Initiation of any new Past Matrons and a meeting at 4:30 p.m.; dinner follows.

**October 20th** - Installation of the 2017 Officers and meeting at 4:30 p.m., followed by a dinner.

R.W. Mary has chosen the theme "Giving from the Heart." Each time we meet, she would like members to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the Food Shelf.

Aluminum pull-tabs will be collected for a charity.

Small bottles of toiletries will be collected for Battered Women.

Donations of hats, scarves, mittens and gloves will be collected throughout her term to donate next Winter at the end of her term in Office.

In the month of February our thoughts are about hearts for Valentine's Day and for opening up our hearts for a good cause. It reminds us of the song from Damn Yankees:

"Mister you can be a hero,  
You can open any door,  
There's nothin' to it but to do it,  
You've gotta have heart,  
Miles and miles of heart."

If you are a Past Matron, we hope to see you at the meetings this year held at Spencerport Masonic Hall, and we hope you will participate in our year of "Giving from the Heart." □



## Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Roy Moses, Monarch

[lallarookhgrotto.com](http://lallarookhgrotto.com)

Legion  
Clowns  
Caldron  
Historian

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



Roy Moses  
Monarch  
346-2117  
[roymoses46@gmail.com](mailto:roymoses46@gmail.com)

Greetings, first I thank all the Prophets for their faith and trust in me to be the next Monarch of Lalla Rookh Grotto. It is an honor and privilege that I will take very seriously in the upcoming year. After 4-5 years of re-building the Grotto, I have some tough shoes to fill.

Each of the Past Monarchs had a PLAN to revive a segment of the lost fun the Grotto used to have. They achieved that goal and

I intend to expand those goals and add a couple to them. With your help we can achieve that.

At our next meeting in February, we will have Representatives from Camp Good Days and Special Times. I attended a picnic a couple of years at the Camp and, if you have never been there, I suggest you go. You will be very enlightened and amazed at what the Camp does. Don't miss this meeting as I know you will enjoy it.

In March or April, we will have our Brother-Bring-a-Brother Night. This is very important to all us Prophets. We all must bring at least ONE Brother to this event. The reason is two-fold ... of course, #1 is to introduce prospective Brothers for Membership and #2 is to introduce them to what the Grotto is. This is just as important because MOST Brothers don't know who we are.

We must get into the Fraternity and let them know what we

are. Then we will really start to grow. Be thinking of that Brother you want to bring or better yet Brothers who you can bring.

### February Birthdays

Brian Dickinson and Stephen Phillips (4th), Thomas McCulloch (6th), Robert Uderitz (12th), James Toogood (13th), Charles White (14th), George Foehner (16th), Masao Okita (21st) and Jeffery Ross (22nd).

### Looking Ahead

**February 1st** - Board of Governors Meeting, 7 p.m. in the Grotto Office.

**February 17th** - Meeting Night; Social at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m., Camp Good Days Program at 7:15 p.m. Short meeting after the Program.

I am looking forward to meeting all of you. If you haven't come to Grotto in a while, Please come and see what is happening. □



Hilde DiJames  
Mighty Chosen One

By Beverly Murray, Rodeval

We publicly thank the Monarch, George Foehner, and Grotto members for including us in your plans this past year. The RPO Concert, "Swing is the Thing," was a very special treat and enjoyed by all of us who got to attend. Thank You.

We look forward to working with you on the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign for the Rochester Ronald McDonald Houses. Your caring and sharing for others is very special.

I believe that is why Supreme Caldron voted to sup-

port the Enchanted Lantern Project; this way both of us are working for the same goals.

February is the month that we will have a banquet to celebrate our 68th Birthday. Plans are in progress and details will be announced soon.

Our Supreme Mighty Chosen One, Susan Benson, will visit us on **May 7th**. Susan is from Bendemeer Caldron in Little Rock, Arkansas.

As of yet, we do not know when Azim Caldron in New York City will have their Inspection, but we plan to attend, if possible. We wish their new MCO, Cynthia Jenkins, and her Officers a great year.

"God did not write solo parts for very many of us, He expects all of us to be participants in the great symphony of life."

May the peace of God abide with you. □



# 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

We are well into the Masonic Year and have started a New Year. There is much the Chapter needs to do this coming year. We worked during January to prepare for conferral of the last two Degrees on our Candidate-in-waiting. We will let you know next month how well we succeeded and future plans for Degree conferral.

It has been stated that the incoming Grand High Priest will not allow festivals for Degree work for less than 20 Candidates. So the coming challenge will be to find a number of Candidates and work with the other Chapters in our District to meet the minimum of 20 or, conversely, put together Degree Teams from our members, with possible assistance from other Chapters to confer the Degrees ourselves. These are challenging times, but we will be working to prevail.

We had a great meeting in December where we set up most of the Chapter Officers for the coming year. The Officers were installed at our first meeting in January. The coming months will see programs on the Constitution of Grand Chapter, the history of our Chapter and discussion of the symbolism and meaning of the different Degrees. We hope to educate our Companions of many facets of the Royal Arch so they can be spokesmen for the Royal Arch in their Lodges and with other Masonic Brothers.

Your High Priest is always looking for suggestions for programs and activities for both Chapter meetings and other types of events and activities. Oh, and this does not mean that because you put forth an idea that you will be asked to be the Chairman. Your High Priest will look for the best Chair for any event or program, regardless of who suggests it. Keep this in mind for the future.

### Musings

We have discussed many topics of the Royal Arch in this column over the years, but there is much more that can be learned and information conveyed to the Companions. It is suggested that our Companions make use of the Grand Lodge Chancellor Robert Livingston Library to find books on Royal Arch topics to research or just read about. Once you register as a user you can use the on-line catalog of the library to find books that meet your needs and check them out. The books are mailed to you and you have them for about a month, I believe. The only cost is the book rate mailing to return the book as long as you maintain the packaging so you can reuse it.

This is a great way of finding resources and reading more about the Royal Arch or the Craft in general. There are also reading programs and I believe there is one specifically for the Royal Arch. Upon completing a reading course, you receive a certificate stating that you did complete the course.

It is interesting to note that the York Rite Bodies use swords in many of their Ceremonies and Rituals, with the Commandery using swords the most. This sword is an ancient weapon that was only supplanted by the firearm in the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance Era. In our military, only the Marine Corp still has a sword as part of the dress uniform, I believe, and then not worn very often.

Why do we use swords? Well

it could be that we want our Veils, Royal Arch Captain and Captain of the Host to be armed to prevent the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, much like the Tiler of a Lodge. The arms are never used as fighting implements and are not even sharpened for use in this regard. It is the ceremony of saluting with a sword that we use the most. This is an ancient method of showing honor for superior officers and honor among similarly armed men meeting each other in friendship.

Proper sword work during the Opening of a Chapter does add to the impressiveness of the Ceremony and Ritual. Excellent sword work is a pleasure to watch. If you are appointed to a Chapter Office that uses sword work, it is to your best advantage to learn it well. Why? If you progress to the Commandery, having some knowledge of sword work will put you in a great position to learn the Knights Templar extended sword manual and give you pleasure in participation.

Well, that's all for now. We hope to see our Companions at future Convocations (meetings) where knowledge of our Rite will be conveyed to extend your pleasure of being a member of our great Chapter. □

## 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

The Christmas Toasts were held in all three Commanderies of Zone 8: This included Sagoyewatha 17, DeMolay 22, and Cyrene-Monroe 12 Commanderies. The gathering was well attended as we celebrated and commemorated the birth

and birthday of our Lord, Jesus the Christ. We hope that all our Templar Knights and Masonic Brothers enjoyed a peaceful and memorable season with their families and friends.

We will now embark on a multi-part history of the origins of the Order of the Temple-or "Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Christ and the Temple of Solomon."

### PART ONE

#### The Origin of the Templars: The First Crusade

We can trace the beginnings of the Crusades to November 1095, when Pope Urban II gathered the "Council Of Clermont." Three hundred members of the clergy convened under his chairmanship. The pacifist, peaceful policies that had dominated Christendom in the previous 1000 years, was abandoned, laying the foundations for the conquest. Pope Urban demanded that Christians stop the infighting and warring among themselves and unite under one banner and to free the holy land from the Muslim Turks and Arabs, and to liberate Christianity's sacred places that were being desecrated (of course none of this was true). Pope Urban also announced that those who participated in the crusades would have all sins forgiven. Thus, the exuberant crowd was distributed fabric crosses to emblazon their garments, and they dispersed to spread the word of the "holy war" and the creation of a massive crusader army.

In the summer of 1096, this mob of self appointed crusaders set off in three separate groups, each taking a different route to Constantinople, where they met up with one another. The Byzantine Emperor, Alexius I, did what he could to aid this force, comprising 4,000 mounted knights and 25,000 infantry troops.

Raymond IV of Saint-Gilles, Count of Toulouse; Bohemond, Duke of Taranto; Godfrey of Bouillon; Hugh, Count of Ver-

mandoes; and Robert, Duke of Normandy commanded this Army. Bishop Ademar of le Puy, the close friend of Urban II, was their Spiritual leader.

After ransacking and setting fire to many settlements and putting countless Muslims to the sword, eventually the crusaders reached Jerusalem in 1099. After a siege of approximately five weeks, the city fell. When the victors finally entered Jerusalem, according to one historian, "They killed all the Saracens and the Turks they found ... whether male or female".

Crusaders slaughtered everyone they met and looted everything they could get their hands on. They murdered indiscriminately those who had taken refuge in the mosques, whether young or old, and devastated the Muslim and Jewish holy sites and places of worship setting the city's synagogues aflame, burning alive Jews who had hidden inside. This slaughter continued until no longer could they find anyone to kill.

The first crusade ended with the fall of Jerusalem in 1099. After 460 years of Muslim rule, the Holy Land came under Christian control. The crusaders established a Latin kingdom that stretched from Palestine to Antioch and made Jerusalem its capital city.

Thereafter, the crusaders began struggling to establish themselves in the Middle East. But to sustain the state they had founded, they needed to organize themselves and to achieve this, they established unprecedented military orders. Members of these orders had emigrated from Europe and, in Palestine, lived a monastic life of sorts. At the same time, they trained for war against the Muslims. One of these orders went down a different route, undergoing a change that would significantly alter the course of history in Europe and, eventually, the world: the Knights Templar. □

## In Memoriam

### Ferguson, Robert "Scotty"

On January 9th, Robert Ferguson, 85, found peace in the arms of the Lord. Scotty is survived by 3 children, 9 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He was a 32° Mason ... a member of Scottish Rite and Damascus Shrine. May the joy of the Lord be your strength.

### Fero, Dean John

Dean Fero, 85, laid down his Working Tools January 11th, leaving his wife, Karolina; 2 children and 4 grandchildren to remember his legacy. Dean was a member of Union Star Lodge and Damascus Shriners. We wish you the gift of a memory whenever you need to know, the one you love still walks with you wherever you may go.

### Michener, William A.

On December 28th, William Michener, 89, went Home to his Lord. He will be forever cherished by his son, Steve (Regina); and 3 grandchildren. Bill was a US Navy Veteran of World War II and a member of Damascus Shriners. No length of time can take away our thoughts of you today.

### Pearce, Earl G.

On December 20th, Earl Pearce, 88, went to the Celestial Lodge, leaving his wife of 66 years, Rona; 2 children and 2 grandchildren to share his memory. Earl was a US Navy Veteran of World War II and Korea. He was a 46-year member of Unity Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shriners. Memories are like threads of gold; they never tarnish or grow old.

### Widows to be Remembered

**Audrey J. Nolan**, widow of Vincent Nolan (ERAC Lodge), passed away January 8th.

**Sandra F. Zutes**, 76, widow of George Zutes (Seneca Lodge), passed away December 14th. □

## Fish Fry

### Lenten Fish Frys!

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### Fero, Dean John

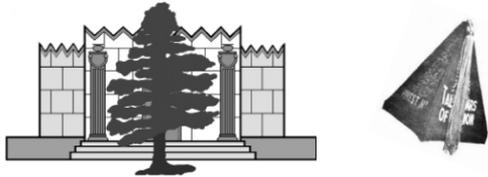
Dean Fero, 85, laid down his Working Tools January 11th, leaving his wife, Karolina; 2 children and 4 grandchildren to remember his legacy. Dean was a member of Union Star Lodge and Damascus Shriners. We wish you the gift of a memory whenever you need to know, the one you love still walks with you wherever you may go.

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**Philanthropy ... "Muscular Dystrophy Research Fund"**

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

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stitution should be changed to accommodate the reduced membership of the Forest. Minimum Constitutional numbers of the Executive Committee and other standing Committees should be reduced to reflect our current membership. The changes are long overdue and should have been instituted long ago.

This oversight came to light when re-examining the Constitution with respect to changing the place of meetings. With respect to the place of meeting, the current Constitution (approved by Supreme Forest, April 4, 1989) does not require approval of the DDSTC for a change of meeting location.

Next on the agenda should have been the completion of the Installation of Officers for 2016 and the passing of the budget, thereof. The budget will have to include an increase in Dues to cover the cost of an increase in the **Masonic Times** subscription and possible rental costs.

We are still looking for suggestions for a meeting place and for possible storage space for our paraphernalia. We hope a storage place will only be temporarily necessary. We are still looking for a few good men to swell our ranks and inject new blood into the Forest. If you know of a fellow Mason who fills the bill, please talk to him about the Tall Cedars, our Philanthropy, Muscular Dystrophy Research, and our social calendar.

Remember ... Fun, Frolic and Fellowship is our motto. If you need information, I'm always willing to promote our membership effort (458-6125). □

**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](mailto:robrusso3@gmail.com)

**Donald C. Bell, Scribe**

334-7768

[don\\_bell@hotmail.com](mailto:don_bell@hotmail.com)

By Don Brugger, PDDSTC

**What is Past**

Our Holiday Party was a huge success with 29 Members, Widows, Guests and Families in attendance. We were especially happy that the Ted Powley Family was able to join us for the festivities. Monroe's Restaurant

was an excellent choice; thanks to our GTC Rob Russo. The food was excellent and the service good; all had a great time.

At this writing we are experiencing our first significant snowfall of the season and with the accompanying cold weather (10 degrees this morning) it may stay for a day or two. As with the usual weather in Rochester, if you don't like it ... just wait a minute; it will change. There are no major developments in a home for the Forest; we will probably have met at Wakan Hubbard Lodge Hall for the last time by the time you get the **Masonic Times**.

**What Should Have Happened**

The agenda for the January meeting should have included selection of a By-laws Committee. Several Sections of our Con-

**Masonic Activities Looking Ahead**

**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, *LeRoy*
- 17 OES Monroe Past Matrons, *Spencerport*
- 23 Shrine Directors Staff
- 25 MONROE Masters & Wardens, *Shrine Center-Grotto Room*

**APRIL**

- 8-10 Scottish Rite *Valley of Boston Reunion*
- 16 Scottish Rite Reunion, *Shrine Center*
- 30 MONROE Widows Luncheon, *Burgundy Basin*

**MAY**

- 2-3 Grand Lodge of New York Annual Communication, *New York City*
- 7 Lalla Rookh Caldron Supreme Inspection, *Spencerport*
- 7 Scottish Rite Reunion Banquet
- 28 MONROE District - Joint Investiture Service, *Fairport*

**JUNE**

- 30 Monroe Masters & Wardens Election

**SEPTEMBER**

- 15 OES Monroe Past Matrons, *Spencerport*

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# Big Calendar for February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Canandaigua, Shortsville KT - Cyrene/Monroe, Pittsford - Open Meeting Grotto - Board of Gvs, Shrine Center  Shrine Lunch Club Damascus Shrine Divan  <i>Happy 39th, Jan</i>	<b>2</b> Clio, Hilton Nunda Station OES - Fairport & Starlight Shrine Clowns Meeting, Shrine Center	<b>3</b> Drumlin Square, Palmyra Olive Branch, Le Roy Damascus Shrine OES - Lilac Star	<b>4</b> Northfield, Pittsford Webster Eunice, Caledonia	<b>5</b> Lenten Fish Frys: • Olive Branch Lodge, LeRoy • Wayne Lodge, Ontario  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>Webster Lodge Spaghetti Dinner</b>                      5-7 p.m.                      \$9 adult; \$5 Child                 </div>	<b>6</b> Fairport-Flower City - Sweetheart Dinner
<b>8</b> Shriners Super Bowl Party	<b>8</b> ERAC, Shrine Center, Ladies Night Fairport-Flower City Union Star, Honeoye Falls Unity, Spencerport, Table Lodge Wakan-Hubbard, Penfield Shrine Lunch Club	<b>9</b> Inspiration, Shrine Center - Ladies Night Seneca, Webster  OES - Mary Jane Holmes, Brockport	<b>10</b> Oatka, Scottsville Masonic Service Bureau Board Meeting, Shrine Center Damascus Legion of Honor, Shrine Center	<b>11</b> Fame, Shrine Center Milnor, Shortsville Union, Lima Webster - Fellowcraft RAM - Hiram Chapter Lalla Rookh Caldron	<b>12</b> Lenten Fish Frys: • Olive Branch Lodge, LeRoy • Wayne Lodge, Ontario	<b>13</b> Scottish Rite Sweetheart Event Fidelity Triangle Open Meeting Daughters of the Nile, Webster
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Canandaigua, Shortsville Fairport-Flower City Cyrene/Monroe, Pittsford OES - Etoleah, Spencerport Shrine Lunch Club Auburn Shrine Club	<b>16</b> Clio, Hilton Nunda Station OES - Starlight	<b>17</b> Ark, Phelps Drumlin Square, Palmyra, 1° Olive Branch, Le Roy Masonic War Veterans Birthday Party, Canandaigua RSM-Doric Council, Pittsford Lalla Rookh Grotto, Shrine Center Perry Shrine Club	<b>18</b> Webster, 2° Lalla Rookh Caldron Executive Council  Scottish Rite, Shrine Center	<b>19</b> Lenten Fish Frys: • Olive Branch Lodge, LeRoy • Wayne Lodge, Ontario	<b>20</b> Sagoyewatha, Phelps  <i>Road to the East, Pittsford</i>
<b>21</b> Union Star - 1° Rehearsal, Honeoye Falls	<b>22</b> ERAC, Shrine Center, Table Lodge Fairport-Flower City, BBAB Union Star, Honeoye Falls, 1° Unity, Spencerport, 3° Wakan-Hubbard, Penfield Shrine Lunch Club Geneva Lunch Club	<b>23</b> Inspiration, Shrine Center	<b>24</b> Oatka, Scottsville  Tall Cedars	<b>25</b> Milnor, Shortsville Union, Lima RAM - Hiram Chapter Perry Shrine Club	<b>26</b> OES Deputies Club  Lenten Fish Frys: • Olive Branch Lodge, LeRoy • Wayne Lodge, Ontario	<b>27</b> Fidelity Triangle Open Meeting Fairport-Flower City - Pub Crawl
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<h2>Have-a-Heart Campaign ... January 30th – February 14th</h2> <h3>Volunteer to staff at any of three Malls:</h3> <h3>Eastview, Marketplace or The Mall at Greece Ridge</h3>				