



Masonic Times

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

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The Real Deal at Wakan-Hubbard ... Looking to the Future

By V.:W.: Hugh Woodside,
Financial Trustee

If you have been at virtually any event in Monroe District over the past six months, someone has been wondering out loud about what's going on with Wakan-Hubbard Lodge. Quiet, and not-so-quiet, conversations are happening everywhere.

Lots of Brothers have seen the "For Sale" and "For Lease" signs on the building as they drive through the Four Corners of Penfield.

Brothers know we are doing joint Degrees and other activities with ERAC Lodge.

This combination of observations is sometimes followed by theories of pending doom, ranging from "Wakan-Hubbard Lodge can no longer support the building because they are broke," or "Wakan-Hubbard Lodge is falling apart and needs to merge with someone." I've heard several versions of this storyline and thought it would be helpful to everyone to share the real story – not just because it is important to me that everyone understands the facts, but

because I think our situation is not all that uncommon. Sharing our experience may be helpful to others.

Like most of the Lodges in Monroe District, Wakan-Hubbard has a rich history and, in its current form, is the result of the consolidation of multiple Lodges.

Penfield Union Lodge No. 154, one of our predecessor Lodges, built our Lodge Building in 1904. While we benefited for decades by having stable commercial tenants on the first floor, which covered the costs of building ownership, there was never much left over to pay for maintenance.

Certainly, the Lodge did not have the funds that would be needed to restore the building to its historical beauty, or to make the necessary upgrades that would allow it to become a gathering place for multiple Lodges.

Unfortunately, the Optician who had occupied the corner unit on the first floor for nearly 40 years retired in 2005. He sold the business to another Optician, but it flopped. This began

Continued on Page 19

2016-2017 Grand Lodge Officers Announced for Monroe District Wayne District Announcement, Page 5

Two well-known Masons have been selected to serve Monroe District as Grand Lodge Officers for the 2016-2017 Masonic Year. R.:W.: Stephan P. Michener has been appointed District Deputy Grand Master for the ensuing year. Appointed Grand Lodge Staff Officer is R.:W.: Joseph E. Bourcy, III, whose title will be Grand Director of Ceremonies.

R.:W.: Stephan P. Michener

Right Worshipful Michener has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for 31 years, operating a private practice in Fairport. He founded and manages Associates in Employee Assistance, an Employee Assistance Program providing counseling for Company Employees and is the author of a self-help book, *Four Bitter Pills For Feeling Better Fast*.

During the past two years, Brother Steve has served as the Grand Lodge Staff Officer, conducting and coordinating Masonic education in the Monroe District. Prior to that, he was Master of Northfield Lodge in Pittsford, and served as President and Secretary of the Masters and Wardens Association of Monroe District.

Right Worshipful Stephan Michener is also an active member of the Valley of Rochester, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite; Hiram Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Doric Council, Cryptic Masons; Cyrene-Monroe Commandery; and Damascus Shriners.



File Photo

R.:W.:
Stephan P. Michener



File Photo

R.:W.:
Joseph E. Bourcy, III

He and wife, Regina, are the parents of three children. Together they have supported and hosted guests through the Irish Children's Program. For recreation, Brother Steve enjoys historical reading, hiking, golfing, skiing, playing guitar and photography.

R.:W.: Joseph E. Bourcy III

An Electrical Contractor, R.:W.: Bourcy was employed at Eastman Kodak Company for 29 years following service with the United States Navy. A Rochester native, he is a graduate of Penfield High School and attended Monroe Community College and Rochester Institute of Technology.

Continued on Page 2

What's Inside?

Brotherhood Fund, Area 15	4
Damascus News	9-12
Ecclesia Lodge	2
Editor's Corner	2
Fidelity Triangle	13
Genesee-Wyoming District	13
Lalla Rookh Caldron	17
Lalla Rookh Grotto	17
Livingston District	4
Looking Ahead	15
Masonic War Veterans	13
Memorials	17
Monroe District	5-8, 13
Ontario/Seneca/Yates District	3
Order of the Eastern Star	18
Scottish Rite News	14-15
Tall Cedars of Lebanon	3
Wayne District	5
York Rite News	16

St. John's Day 2016 at MCC

By Kathy Contino-Turner, Director of Communications and
Marketing for the Masonic Care Community

We have about two months before the Annual St. John's Day Program at your Masonic Care Community in Utica. This event is a wonderful way to reconnect with your Brothers from all over the State, and a nice way to spend a Summer day.

Events begin on **Friday, June 24th**, and run through **Sunday, June 26th**. You can come for a day or make it a weekend! Here is some of what we have planned this year.

The Grand Master and his Lady are scheduled to host a Country Bar-B-Que on the Great Lawn on Friday night, **June 24th**. This event is open to all Masons who are attending the weekend festivities. There will be a live country band and a dance floor to let everyone "kick up their heels."

At that event, the Masonic Care Community will be selling luminaries and, new this year, sky lanterns to honor or remember special individuals. You can purchase a luminary for \$5.00 or a sky lantern for \$20.00 in honor or memory of someone. All proceeds from this event will benefit senior services on the Utica Campus.

You can also enjoy our Dunking Booth that will feature a variety of individuals who will get in the tank to raise money for our Seniors. The Grand Master and his lady have designated Wiley Hall as their charity for this year, and we believe the Most Worshipful himself will participate at the Dunking Booth. We will be dunking people **Friday, June 24th**, from Noon 'til 8 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. 'til 2:30 p.m.

On Saturday, there will be a variety of vendors on the Great Lawn, as well as tours of our wonderful facilities and perhaps a few surprises. We invite Lodges and Districts to join us.

Contact Kayla at (315) 798-4881 for information on setting up a pop-up tent to talk about what you are doing in Masonry! There is plenty of on-campus parking.

If you would like more information on the Luminaries/Sky Lanterns, displaying on the Great Lawn on Saturday or are looking for the most up-to-the-minute information on St. John's Day, go to our website at:

www.mccny.com

You can also call my office at (315) 798-4768. We hope to see you in June!

Let there be LIGHT!

By John Truebger

And there is Light in Rochester ... where once there was darkness for years.

Congratulations ... Rochester Chapter is back ... and back strong! DeMolays from all over New York State converged and Initiated new boys. Congratulations to the diligent and dedicated advisors.

Rochester Chapter Order of DeMolay

Rochester Chapter held it's first Initiation in hopes of re-starting the Chapter.

On March 12th, the Chapter opened DeMolay Week by Initiating five young men into the Chapter. We welcome to the Chapter Cameron Clarke, Justin Lunn, Paul Granata, Chris Russo and Jack Truebger.

We had a Degree Team made up of members of the New York State Officers and the attendance was great.

This is a marvelous start to rebuilding the Chapter; however, we need more members. If you

Continued on Page 3



New members of Rochester Chapter, Order of DeMolay with Chapter Dad, John Truebger

Dated Material

Damascus News see page 9

DeMolay

Continued from Page 1

know of a young man between the ages of 12 and 21, please contact the Scottish Rite or John Truebger at (585) 732-8330.

The Chapter was scheduled to serve lunch for the Scottish Rite Reunion on April 16th. Installation of Officers was scheduled for Sunday, April 24th, with Brother David Locke installed as Master Councilor.

Calendar of Events

- May 2nd** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.
- May 7th** - Open Camp DeMolay, 9 a.m.
- May 16th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.
- May 21st** - Rock Climbing, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- June 6th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.
- June 11th** - Cosmic Bowling, 9:30 p.m.
- June 20th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.



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Rochester Forest No. 133



Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America

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1822-A Penfield Rd, Penfield 14526

Rob Russo, GTC
261-8545

robrusso3@gmail.com
Donald C. Bell, Scribe
334-7768
don_bell@hotmail.com

By Don Brugger, PDDSTC

History Continued

As we left the narrative last time, it was about 1901 with the establishment of a National Organization called the Tall Cedars of the United States of America. We will return to an earlier point in 1879 when the Ritual was solidified, including the scripture information about the completion of the building of Solomon's Temple (First Kings 5: 1-10); the shortage of

timber for scaffolding and the roofing for the Temple.

We find a referral to a copy of the latest manuscript, written by William S. Adams, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, recording the Secret Work and description of the Degree, submitted to the Archives in 1864.

It is believed the bulk of this work was the product of Rev. George S. Gassner, who was instrumental in its development, including the Prologue and Royal Court Degrees. It is said, by some, that the Prologue and Royal Court are some of the most beautiful Rituals in Freemasonry today. (*Hence Came We, A Tall Cedar History*, J. Edward Bullen, Officers Manual pp.41-42).

About Our Philanthropy

Over the years, there was a search for a suitable philanthropy for the Tall Cedars, as the then Grand Master, M.: W.: Harry Cambell said in 1933, that "no organization could con-

tinue to prosper unless it had a definite uplifting objective for the benefit of humanity."

In 1951, a worthy cause was found and for the next 20 years, the Tall Cedars supported the Metabolism Unit on the 10th floor of the Research Center in New York City.

In 1972, the Metabolism Unit had to be closed and again the Cedars renewed their search.

The Supreme Forest was advised at that time the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Muscular Dystrophy Association of America were in dire need of assistance. It was decided that the Tall Cedars would become part of this project with the existing Tall Cedar, Jerry Lewis, and created a Muscular Dystrophy Foundation to finance funding research to find a cure for this dreaded disease.

Telethon

At about the same time, the MDA asked Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin to host this kick-off effort (1952). The Labor

Day Telethon went on for the next 61 years (1952-2012), together with the participation of the Tall Cedar MD Foundation.

The Jerry Lewis Telethon was discontinued just recently by the MDA because of a decline in donations. The MDA has gone on to try other formats that they feel will appeal to a more diverse donor population. The Tall Cedars, however, still continue to support the MDA Research Fund as their chief philanthropy.

Membership Program

We continue to look for new ways to support our Membership Program. This effort includes a possible "Woodsmen

Bring-a-Brother Night," and a telephone survey of the members to establish an asset base. If you have any ideas for attracting new members or are willing to participate in this membership effort, please call, email, snail-mail or otherwise, let us know your thoughts.

Sickness and Distress

We have no reports of Woodsmen in distress at this time, but, If you hear of a fellow Woodsmen in need of assistance, please let the Scribe or GTC know.

Next Meeting, **May 25th**, 7:30 p.m. at Pittsford Masonic Hall. Call for dinner reservation, location and time. □

Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

JUNE

- 16** Masonic Service Bureau Awards Night, *Damascus Shrine Center*
- 30** Monroe Masters & Wardens Election

JULY

- 16** Valley of Rochester Clambake, *Wayland*

AUGUST

- 13** Scottish Rite Day at Darien Lake

SEPTEMBER

- 15** OES Monroe Past Matrons, *Spencerport*

NOVEMBER

- 12** Scottish Rite Day

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Area 15 Brotherhood Fund



Chairman
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mhussey486@
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(315) 904-4048

The Party's Over (almost)

Here we are in May once more. The Brotherhood Fund Drive runs from June 1st through May 31st; therefore, the 2015/16 Brotherhood Fund Year is coming to an end so the party's over (almost).

I am the Brotherhood Fund Chair for Area 15 - Livingston, Wayne and Monroe Districts.

How Did We Do?

The results are in for District participation through January 31st. Out of 65 Districts in New

York State reporting in percentile giving, Wayne ranks 3rd with 26.73%; Livingston is 7th with 18.13%; and Monroe is 38th with 11.46%.

Brotherhood Fund participation is a dichotomy. In my Lodge, Wayne Lodge No. 416 (Wayne District), I have Entered Apprentices who, within the month that they were Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, participated in the Brotherhood Fund.

On the other end of the spectrum I have Past Masters, who have heard me ask at least 10 times for participation AND received not one. Also mailed two requests for the same, but still no response.

If you were at the beach and heard cries for 'help,' would you wait for ten cries for help and two requests by mail before responding?

It seems to me that Brotherhood Fund participants are in a minority these days and I think our unsung heroes deserve recognition.

Since it is the practice of the Fraternity to acknowledge Brothers who have made the extra effort in certain things, certificates for *Road to the East, Masonic Development Courses*, etc., I'm suggesting a Brotherhood Fund 'Hall of Fame' Award listing all Brothers who have participated in the Brotherhood Fund, and the award hung in the Lodge meeting room in a conspicuous place. This 'prestigious award' needs to be made up by each Lodge's Brotherhood Fund Chairman and perhaps with their own award symbol ideas.

Don't be bashful on the size of this 'Hall of Fame' Award. I'm using three horizontal sheets - the first of which contains the title, 'Hall of Fame Award;' the

second - all the names of participating Brothers; and lastly the third with your own name and contact information. Each sheet should have maximum size print and be prominently displayed in your Lodge. For more information, contact me by email:

mhussey486@aol.com

My heartfelt thanks to those who have seen fit to reach down, open your wallet and freely donate!!! Places like the Masonic Care Community in Utica or Camp Turk really benefit from our help!

Knowing the needs of our charities and especially with the low overhead cost within which our organization operates, I cannot say enough or sing praises enough for those who generously gave of their own free will ... some more than once.

Let's Change the Subject

It is Spring, and grey squir-

rel season time again ... and I don't mean hunting. Did you ever wonder how to miss hitting grey squirrels as they dart out in front of you? The answer is so simple you won't believe it. I received this information from a friend who spent a lot of time with wildlife. I don't think you'll find this instruction in a book anywhere. It has proven out for me even on four lanes with their 65 mph limits. One crossed from the median at that speed, thought he was goner for sure, but using this method, I looked back and sure enough, he made it!!

If you ever see a gray squirrel dart out in front of you, do not swerve or change speed. Keep going straight as if the squirrel was not there. You'll never hit it! You can take that to the bank, my friend.

Enjoy your Summer and see you in September, Mel. ☐

Livingston District

Grand Steward



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

Looking back as another busy year winds down, I have visited all of the Lodges in the District. We have offered all the classes that Grand Lodge recommends. I have met many Brothers in my travels and seen some slightly different ways of doing things. Almost every Lodge does a few small things a little bit different than at my Lodge.

The *Master's Chair Class* has been offered before the Lodges have their first Meeting of the year. The *Masonic Development Class (MDC)* is a great class for new and not-so-new Masons.

The *Road to the East* is a class that Grand Lodge feels is mandatory training for each Master of a Lodge so their year as Master goes smoothly and successfully.

Many thanks to R.:W.: John Gallant and R.:W.: Michael Grady for being there for the training, which we have held jointly with Genesee-Wyoming District for the past two years. This has been a great opportunity for us to forge our relationship with those Brothers and move forward to our District Consolidation.

Looking forward, the Reading Program, offered by the Chancellor Robert Livingston Library, is a great way to continue to build our knowledge of Masonry and it

is all done on your own schedule. My Brothers, you have all heard it before ... the more effort you put into Masonry, the more you will take away from it in friendships, knowledge and personal growth. Have fun my Brothers. ☐



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

Greetings Brethren, I am writing this article at the same time as I am preparing Hot Dogs for our start of the Baseball Season Potluck Dinner we are having tonight at the Lodge. Hopefully, all goes well and there are plenty of good things to eat!

I find that these informal Potluck Dinners are a great way to add some fun to our meetings without worrying about formal dinner logistics. I highly encourage other Lodges to have some of these Potluck Dinners as well.

In other news, I am looking forward to attending my first Grand Lodge Meeting and then coming back to conduct a successful Election and Installation of Officers!

Take care, my Brothers. ☐

Ontario/ Seneca/ Yates District

Grand Director of Ceremonies



R.:W.:
Thomas C.
Abraham

526-5308

abrahamtk@roadrunner.com

It has been an honor to serve the Most Worshipful William J. Thomas, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, as the Grand Lodge Staff Officer for O/S/Y District the past two years. The fellowship and cooperation of the Brothers has been outstanding. The education has been a success thanks to the willingness of the Brothers to participate in the educational opportunities offered by the District. The entire O/S/Y "TEAM" thanks each Lodge and Brother for a successful and rewarding experience.

Personally, I thank DDGM, R.:W.: John Hubbard for his

leadership and valued friendship. We had many conversations during our travels. Our friendship will continue far beyond our two years of serving the O/S/Y. Thank you Brother John for your wisdom and wise counsel.

Changing of the Guard

With the Election and Installation of the new Grand Master and Grand Line, the O/S/Y District stands ready to continue the work of Freemasonry and to implement the programs of the Grand Master.

The DDGM for 2016-2018 will be R.:W.: Thomas Abraham and the Grand Sword Bearer will be R.:W.: John McCormick. We hope to continue the programs initiated by DDGM R.:W.: John Hubbard who has challenged each Lodge to prepare a Five-Year Plan in an attempt to get each Lodge to evaluate where it currently stands and how the Lodges will continue to succeed and thrive in the future.

R.:W.: John McCormick and I have had our Training Sessions and have put together our Trestleboard for our first year. We are prepared to support the programs of the Grand Master and to serve the O/S/Y District.

The most recent undertaking of the O/S/Y District is the establishment of the R.:W.: James H. Rice Memorial Scholarship Program for schools in the O/S/Y District. This will honor our beloved Brother and Grand Lodge Historian who

died in January, 2016. The goal for 2016 is to promote the program and to raise the funds necessary to make the Scholarship Program perpetual to honor the legacy of our departed Brother. The O/S/Y Charities Corporation will be the recipient of donations to the program until the O/S/Y District can establish the Scholarship Fund Account.

Contributions

Anyone who would like to contribute to this Scholarship Fund in memory of R.:W.: James H. Rice, should

Make checks payable to:
"O/S/Y Charities Corporation"

and mail to:

R.:W.: Bruce Huie
3060 Johnson Road
Geneva, NY 14456

Memo: *JHR Scholarship Fund*
There will be more information about the Scholarship Fund as we move forward with the program.

Mark Your Calendar

May 15th - O/S/Y Memorial Service, 3 p.m., at the Interlaken Reformed Church, 8315 Main Street to honor Brothers who have passed away in 2015.

May 30th - O/S/Y will march in the Memorial Day Parade in Waterloo. ☐

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Wayne District

District Deputy Grand Master
Wayne District

R.:W.:
John P. Krest
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District Officers will have been officially announced at the Convention of Grand Lodge in New York City by the time you read this. R.:W.: Jeffrey Gagnon is your new District Deputy Grand Master and R.:W.: Michael Cholach is your new Staff Officer. It is anticipated that V.:W.: James Champagne will be announced as the new AGL. Support them well!

Lodge Committees will be seeking Candidates for Elected Offices for the 2016-2017 Masonic Year. Elections will be held and new faces and some old

New Wayne District Grand Lodge Officers



R.:W.: Jeffrey Gagnon
District Deputy Grand Master



R.:W.: Michael Cholach
Grand Lodge Staff Officer



V.:W.: James Champagne
Assistant Grand Lecturer

faces will be preparing for their Installation in June. Out with the old and in with the new!

Many of us will be breathing a sigh of relief and many of us will be wondering if we are up to the coming year ahead.

I thank those who are leaving and congratulate and offer my help to all who have stepped up to do this worthwhile "Labor in the Quarries." There are no sufficient words for me to say THANK YOU for your support these last two years. It has been an honor and a privilege for me and I only hope I have not screwed up too much. Start off the new year right! □

Grand Director of Ceremonies



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

May is upon us and the process of "passing the torch" begins. At

the individual Lodge level, most Lodges in Wayne District have already begun this months ago.

For my Home Lodge, there really is no Election of Officers. The Brothers toss around names over coffee from January to May and then have a secret ballot for the single Brother we agree to nominate for each elected position, excluding our Brother Secretary.

(The election of Secretaries in all Lodges falls under an unwritten law within the Constitutions. If he survives his first year of accepting the position he becomes irreplaceable and, in time a Pillar of the Lodge, more priceless than the Master or Wardens).

Basically, the same process happens for Appointed Officers. When the Master-Elect realizes he is moving to the East, he asks a Brother if he wants to take a Chair. Sometimes it's "Sure. Okay. I'll do it." Sometimes it's "Heck No!!" That's kinda the process until May for each of the Appointed Chairs and sometimes Elected positions.

Somewhere between January and May, a Brother agrees to fill each of the Chairs and we have an Election. I've been to several Lodge Elections around the District and it appears everyone uses a similar system.

On the note of "passing the torch," the Purple Club has proudly submitted R.:W.: Jeff Gagnon's name to Grand Lodge for Deputy Deputy Grand Master of Wayne District and R.:W.: Mike Cholach for Wayne District Staff Officer for

the 2016-2018 Term.

R.:W.: John Krest, DDGM, has announced submission of V.:W.: Jim Champagne's name as Assistant Grand Lecturer for Wayne District.

Brothers Jeff and Mike traveled to Utica for training sessions last month. I received an interesting text message from Jeff while he was there asking me what days Savannah Lodge met. I replied the 1st and 3rd Mondays. A second text asked when North Rose-Wolcott Lodge met, to which I again replied the 1st and 3rd Mondays. Another text asked when Newark Lodge met and I responded the 1st and 3rd Mondays.

About a five-minute pause and Jeff texted back, "And your Lodge meets 1st and 3rd Mondays. Are you telling me half the Lodges in the District meet on the same night, at the same time, and no one can figure out why each Lodge can't get help from others with Degree work? OMG!! All of you are doing Degrees the same night."

I never realized it, but he's right.

No doubt, May is one of the busiest and most difficult Masonic months for scheduling on the Trestleboard. Grand Lodge meets for their Annual Communication the first Monday and Tuesday of May. This year ends the two-year term for most Grand Lodge Officers; out with the old, in with the new.

Some place between the Elections and Installations, the AGL tries to schedule the Investiture Ceremony. □

Monroe District

District Deputy Grand Master
Monroe District

R.:W.:
George Foehner
704-6128
georgefoehner@gmail.com



In keeping with my motto "less is more," I write my last article as your DDGM and will try to keep it short.

Thanks to all the dedicated Masons of Monroe District who made these last two years very enjoyable and educational. It was an honor and privilege to serve as your DDGM. The interaction with many old and new friends at all events made every visit special. I believe the experience gained has made me a much better man and Mason. However, it didn't change my personality; I still managed to have a lot of fun.

But being DDGM is only one part of the District Team. As I stated in the Annual Report to

Grand Lodge, the Teams' "out of the box" thinking was terrific.

Our leader for that kind of thinking was Assistant Grand Lecturer, Roy Moses. He was out almost every night making our District a better place in the Ritual Department. Thanks, Roy; you're a class act and I appreciate your hard work and dedication to the Craft.

The consensus of the District was that we were "A breath of fresh air," and we tried hard to be just that. We have tried to serve you, our Brothers and Sisters, to the best of our abilities. Leadership and Fellowship were the key words in the administration.

My name is George Foehner; I was the District Deputy Grand Master and I approved this message!

A Proud Mason □

Grand Steward

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



My Brothers, as I sit down to write my last article as Grand Lodge Staff Officer for the Monroe District, I am filled with many pleasant memories from the past two years. I have enjoyed visiting all the Lodges during the Official Visits with DDGM, R.:W.: George Foehner, and AGL, R.:W.: Roy Moses. I have enjoyed

coordinating and participating in the Masonic Education Programs for newly Raised Brothers (*Masonic Development Class*), classes for Lodge Leaders (*Road to The East*) and classes for incoming Masters (*The Master's Chair*).

I have learned a lot through being given this wonderful opportunity of being able to serve Grand Lodge and our District in this capacity. I thank each and every one of you for having gotten to know you and I look forward as we travel into the future together. If I haven't had a chance to meet you yet, then I certainly hope our paths will cross in the future.

Special Thoughts

I want to use this article to discuss something I haven't talked about yet. It is the most significant Masonic experience I have had yet. I doubt I will have another experience as significant as this one. At least not while I'm alive.

What I'm talking about is the incredibly supportive experience I have had after my Dad passed on December 28, 2015.

Although his Lodge (Apollo No. 386) was in Philadelphia and he was a member of the Valley of Allentown, he was a 50-plus year member of Damascus Shrine. He had been fairly active in the 1960s, 70s and early 80s. He was a regular attendee of the Legion of Honor until his death. He never joined a local Lodge due to his strong emotional connection to his Mother Lodge, where he was Raised by a close family friend, Mor-

ris May, 33°, who had worked at my grandfather's Summer Camp for boys in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania.

Yet, despite his not being a member of a local Lodge, I am greatly appreciative of the show of support for myself and my family by all the Brothers who attended his Masonic Service in early January. It was a great comfort to be surrounded by my Brothers and I thank you.

Like many of you, I came to our Craft through my Dad. He was very "old school" in that he never even so much as hinted at my joining our Fraternity. I know that the day I asked him about how I go about becoming a Mason, he was very pleased. My intent on joining the Craft was to learn if there was something about Masonry that made

Continued on Page 6

Monroe District
Apron Presentation Dinner
Honoring the Incoming Grand Officers
Thanking Retiring Grand Officers

June 22, 2016
at Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster

Social – 6 p.m. (Cash Bar)
Buffet Dinner – 7 p.m. ~ Followed by Program
Cost - \$15 per person*

Salad, Baked Chicken, Italian Sausage w/Peppers, Baked Ziti, Salt Potatoes, Rolls & Butter, Coffee, Tea and Dessert
~~~~~  
**\*Pre-paid reservation required ... NO EXCEPTIONS**  
**NO TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR!**

\*\*\*\*\* **Reservation Deadline: June 16th** \*\*\*\*\*

Make check payable to: **Phillip R. Hurwitz** and send to:  
**Phillip R. Hurwitz; 72 Long Pond Road; Rochester, NY 14612**

----- *Clip and return with payment* -----

**Reservation Form**  
Make check payable to: **Phillip R. Hurwitz**  
and send to: **Phillip R. Hurwitz; 72 Long Pond Road; Rochester, NY 14612**  
**Reservation deadline: June 16th**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Grand Steward

Continued from Page 5

him the kind, generous, patient and likeable guy that he was.

I remember after each of my Degrees, like a smart-aleck son, I would ask him some of the Q&As to see if he knew the answers. He did. I especially liked to ask him the question "Where did you first become a Mason?" I love the answer to that question. He knew it. This was a man who had been Raised about 60 years previously at the time, and had his journey through the Chairs interrupted after his Senior Warden Year, because his job had transferred him to Rochester from Philadelphia. His being at each of my Degrees and Raising me in the Northeast Corner of Northfield Lodge will forever be a memory I will cherish.

Our Craft teaches us beautiful lessons which each of us would do well to take to heart. The symbolism and allegory of our Degrees provide a lifetime of meaningfulness to contemplate as we experience life's unfolding.

However, being a regular attendee at Lodge or a member of every Masonic Body one can join, does not necessarily make one a good Mason. There are no doubt Brothers who haven't been to Lodge in many years, yet who are phenomenal Masons because they live Masonry in the manner in which they conduct their lives outside of the Lodge Room.

They practice the four Cardinal Virtues and the three principal Tenets of our profession. They live daily with a deep understanding of the teachings of our Craft, which are witnessed in the way they treat their fellow man. This is the lesson I learned from my Dad. These are the Masonic gifts my father has given to me and my connection to him will be eternal through our mystic Brotherhood. So mote it be!!!



**ASSISTANT  
GRAND  
LECTURER  
MONROE DISTRICT**

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



roymoses46@gmail.com

I had this article by Jim Kershaw sent to me. I shortened it a bit to fit this paper and I think you will enjoy it.

### Who needs the Ritual?

"We Do."

To explain why it takes a little longer, in a real sense, it is the Ritual of Masonry which makes Masonry WORK. Ritual is the channel through which Masonry teaches. But it is more than that. Because Ritual is so important to Masonry, it's worth taking a little time to talk about the nature of the ritual itself and why it is central to the Masonic experience.

All of us engage in ritual all the time ... we just don't recognize it. Most of us have a morning routine; for example, some of us shave before showering,

some of us shave after we shower, and some while we shower. Most of us shake hands when we are introduced; or recognize the Pledging Allegiance to the Flag is a ritual; and bowing the head during prayer is a ritual.

### Why is This?

Ritual gives us a framework to organize events. We don't deal with chaos. We make lists of things to do, to buy, to read. Ritual does the same thing for us. By doing things in a given order (which is the essence of ritual), we make sure everything gets done.

Ritual helps us in our relationship to others; ritual is a powerful teaching tool; ritual gives us a sense of identity; ritual helps us prepare, helps us "get in the mood," for what is to follow.

The Ritual of Masonry involves all the above points and more; the Opening and Closing, the Degrees, even the Ritual of voting organizes the events and makes sure that everything happens that is supposed to. It helps us define ourselves as Masons and strengthens the Fraternal ties which bind us together as Brothers. That effect is international and cross-cultural. We know when we have shared experiences with Masons from all over the world.

Masonic Ritual gives full range to Masons to explore their own interests. Masonic Ritual is large enough and complex enough to accommodate all those interests - and many more.

So, again, "Who needs Ritual anyway?"

"We all do." The Ritual of Masonry meets many needs and many interests. It is a primary way we teach and learn. It is the GLUE which holds us together. It is important. It makes us, US. □

## Monroe District Masters and Wardens Association

W. : Kenneth Hecker

President  
420-8852

Email:  
kennethhecker@gmail.com

A Rochester Spring is here, and our District Masters and Wardens have had a busy few weeks leading up to the Annual Grand Lodge Trip this year.

Your Masters and Representatives will be bringing back information and stories from the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York Annual Communication. Ask those travelers how it went, who they met, what they thought of their experience.

One day you may be traveling to Grand Lodge to represent your Lodge and the District. Their experience and counsel may help guide you on your journey to a future Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York.

Brothers, mark down on your Trestleboards the date of June 30th at 7 p.m. This is the date of the Annual June Elections

for the District Leadership of Monroe Masters and Wardens. Elections will be held after the opening of the meeting at 7 p.m. at 979 Bay Road, Webster, in the Grotto Room.

At this time, I say thank you to the Officers and engaged Masters and Wardens of Monroe District for their brotherhood and fruitful labors of the past Masonic Year.

You have made great strides and done fine labor for Monroe District and I am very proud to have had the opportunity to serve the Craft as President of your Masters and Wardens for the 2015-2016 Masonic Year.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the Craft, the committees you served on and thank you for making this year one of which all of Monroe District can be proud.

It was my honor and pleasure to serve you, the Craft of Monroe District, □

## MONROE DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

By Bruce Katz, District Chair

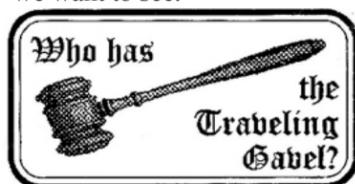
This month's edition is arriving at your home a few days before the Election of Officers for your Lodge. This is an opportunity for reflection on the past year. As most endeavors, it was probably a mixed bag of some good results and some "opportunities for improvement."

What were some of the successes this year? Where could things have been done better? How could you have contributed more to the success of the Lodge? There are more than enough opportunities for you to contribute, and (I now know from personal experience) that among the sweetest words to a Master is a Brother asking "How can I help?"

There were some Brothers who never made it to Lodge this year ... did someone make a phone call to see how they are doing? If not you, then who?

Why are some Lodges thriving and others in danger of collapse? There are many resources available to Lodges. For example, participation in Masters and Wardens, as well as the educational opportunities in *The Master's Chair* and *Road to the East* Programs can help prepare Lodge leadership. Guiding new Brothers in mentorship programs and educational opportunities such as the *Masonic Development Course* and the LSOME (Lodge System of Masonic Education videos and booklets) can help make these men lifelong Masons.

Brothers, we can do better. Our best days are ahead of us, and we can create a better future. Take some time to honestly reflect about what could have been better, then let's resume our labors and help make the changes we want to see. □



## Union Star Lodge No. 320

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



Master  
W. : Kenneth J.  
Hecker  
760-9395

kennethhecker@gmail.com

Secretary - 425-4240  
R. W. : Gary R. Sanford  
27 Freshfield Rise, Fairport 14450  
ggsanford@aol.com

3 North Main Street  
Honeoye Falls 14472-1013

May 2016 has arrived, and we take a moment to view what Spring has sprung here in Honeoye Falls. We are reminded of fresh new days ahead, with strengthening growth, strongly rooted in the time honored landmarks of the Craft of Freemasonry.

This past Masonic Year has been an incredible experience. I have seen our new Brothers find a place in the Craft, our Officers learn, grow and interact as a team, even when the well-planned Trestleboard evolved and again, took a new strong path.

The Lodge Events and Activities Committee, where Brothers and Past Masters came together to create a winning team for the Girl Scouts Pumpkin Festival, to the Festival on the Green, and even to the travel to the Erie County Fair to generate funds for our various community contributions, and our other events have kept our Brothers occupied.

The Lodge Scouting Outreach Committee made a big hit in the surrounding communities and has left a positive impression on all who were a part. Scouts and Parents alike gave some great feedback to the Brothers and Officers of our Lodge, and the Brethren could not be more happy than to reach out and open our doors to those in the community.

This year was the first year Union Star Lodge assigned a Social Media Committee, which did some fine-quality labor and brought the Lodge onto the pages of Facebook for those in our communities who use social media to find things, catch up with what friends are doing, or connect to others of like minds.

The Trestleboard was implemented on the Google Calendar System to make adjustments and changes nearly instantaneously, and availability to view it online easier from nearly anywhere where internet access is available. It includes the ability to download and run it on ones smart phone.

Temple Building Projects this year were many and many are still underway as well.

To say thank you to the Officers, Committee Chairmen, and all Brothers of Honeoye Falls Lodge for their dedication, labors and Brotherhood, seems like not enough.

Yet, I am very much so truly thankful to all the Craft for their good work in the Quarries and the finely finished fruits of their labor that all Brethren can gaze upon with satisfaction.

The Community is very fortunate to have these men and leaders in their midst.

Thank you, Brothers. I see

a strong future for Union Star Lodge and the community in which you serve.

I have been deeply honored to serve the Craft of Union Star Lodge as Master for the 2015-2016 Masonic Year. □

**ERAC**  
Lodge No. 163  
website: www.eraclodge163.org  
2nd & 4th Mondays  
7:30 p.m.



Master  
W. : Bruce I. Katz  
227-5553; c) 729-6657  
brucek8189@aol.com

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

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580



Our March 14th meeting presented "Reflections on the Second Degree," with short talks by Brothers Dave Fingado and James Wright. In addition, one of our Fellowcrafts spoke on his recollection of the sense of "overwhelming thankfulness" for the opportunity and the work which goes into conveying the Degree. He spoke of the complexity of the Degree, but that its grandeur was in its simplicity. He also recognized that it's not the tools, but what we do with them.

Brother Dave spoke about the symbols and the sense of balance ... good versus evil, the celestial and the terrestrial, outer and inner doors. Brother James Wright spoke about the columns, and interestingly alluded to the supportive role of the "sideline" Brothers being as important to the Degree as the flying buttresses are to the Gothic Cathedrals.

At our March 28th meeting, we discussed "The Future of Freemasonry," in alignment with our theme for this year of "Building our Future on a Solid Foundation." Brother Michael Pettinato provided some examples and insights from our archives, which were recently returned from Grand Lodge after being digitized.

A key message is that our past has determined our present. We, alone, can still write our future. Brother Sam Friedman recently published his thoughts in a book (available on Amazon) *Millennial Apprentices: The Next Revolution in Freemasonry* and discussed aspects on the importance of Masonry in the future. He discussed his visit to Lebanon. Being a Mason in Lebanon carries risks; why can't we hold our Fraternity as dearly?

May 9th will be our Summoned Meeting and will provide a review of Grand Lodge, a Lodge of Remembrance and the Election of the Officers and new Trustees for the 2016-2017 year. Brothers, please make every effort to attend this important meeting. As always, please make your reservations for dinner with our Junior Warden, Brother James MacDuff:

bricklayer.jsm@gmail.com  
or Phone 298-0890.

### Attention all Brothers and Widows of our Brothers

ERAC is again providing Educational Grants, renewable up to four years. This is funded from an endowment created by

a generous donation; only the investment returns can be used for these Grants. The amount of each Grant will be determined by the number of applications. W.: Craig Covert is again serving as the Educational Grant Chair and has contacted all previous sponsors whose students have scholarship eligibility remaining.

As a reminder, there is no "needs" test for these Grants; our website ([erac163.org](http://erac163.org)) has the 2016 Educational Grant Application and further information. If you have a child or grandchild who is a first-time applicant to the Scholarship Program, download the Application from the website or contact W.: Craig:

[ccover@rochester.rr.com](mailto:ccover@rochester.rr.com) or by telephone at 227-3461. Also contact W.: Craig if there has been a change in your student's status. The Grants will be presented at our Lodge Picnic which will be held this Summer (date to be determined).

**NORTHFIELD**  
Lodge No. 426  
[www.northfieldlodge.org](http://www.northfieldlodge.org)  
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

**Master**  
W.: Lance J. Daul  
319-6796  
[lance.daul@gmail.com](mailto:lance.daul@gmail.com)

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

Our March 17th Fellowship Meeting had our Junior Warden, Larry Stavalone, make us another wonderful meal! Larry made us all a St. Patrick's Day Feast with Corned Beef and Cabbage, Potatoes, Carrots and, of course, Irish Soda Bread. We all love you, Larry; our belts hate you, but we all love you!

We then reviewed the Hiram Legend, which is the heart of the 3rd Degree and, in my opinion, some of the most impactful of all our Ritual. H A is one of the brightest characters in all of Freemasonry and an example for every Mason to emulate.

Where did this legend that is so important to us come from? No one is certain although much speculation exists. To me the importance of this legend lies in it's timeless message: one of the conflict of a man with other men; of an individual fighting against the evil embodied in men. In this we can learn from our Ritual as we all face conflict with our fellow man every day.

My Brothers, take the time to really understand our Ritual and then you will be able to use it to better yourself in your daily activities. The true beauty of this legend is that it shows us that integrity will triumph over dishonesty and is a lesson I hope we all take with us.

The April 7th meeting featured a program entitled *Paul Revere's Life*. On April 7th, 1775, when British Army activity suggested the possibility of troop movements, Brother Joseph Warren would send Brother Paul Revere to warn the Massachusetts congress in Concord. Exactly 240 years later from this troop activity I held a presentation on Brother

Paul Revere including his midnight ride! Brother Revere was an important figure in our Revolutionary history and an even more important figure to early Masonry in Massachusetts. We discussed some historical facts regarding Brother Revere but focused mainly on his importance to Masonry. One of M.: W.: Revere's closest-held beliefs was the importance of ensuring worthy Candidates enter our Fraternity. Something that we all should be strongly considering today. Yes, we all would like more Brothers in Lodge but let's all ensure we have quality, not just quantity. Brother Revere's message is still relevant today.

As always we hope to see you in Lodge or at an event in the near future!

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

**Master**  
W.: Donald C. Bell  
334-7768  
[don\\_bell@hotmail.com](mailto:don_bell@hotmail.com)

**Secretary**  
R.: W.: John Zabel  
223-3228  
[zabelj@mindspring.com](mailto:zabelj@mindspring.com)

1822-A Penfield Road, Penfield 14526

By R.: W.: John Zabel

In our last article we indicated that the closing of the sale of our building would be in March. Well, that did not happen for various technical reasons. However, by the time you read this our building will be sold as the closing is scheduled for early April.

Now, what did we do with our furniture and other properties? The stuff that was needed to run the Lodge was transferred to our storage space in the Webster Masonic Hall. The columns were given to Wayne Lodge in Ontario, NY, for which they donated money back. The desks of the Secretary and Treasurer were given to Fairport-Flower City Lodge. The theater seats were donated to the Downtown Cabaret and we believe they did come and pick them up. W.: Tom Ward had unscrewed them from their installed position.

The interesting part of our furniture is the Officers' chairs and the Master and Wardens' gavel stands. The gavel stands were asked for by Webster Lodge, where they are. When we were completing the cleanout of the Lodge Building, several members of Webster Lodge arrived to help. When they saw the Officers' chairs, they requested them. The chairs were transported to Webster Masonic Hall along with our Altar. Webster Masonic Hall's Lodge Room was rearranged with the additional furniture. It is a great looking Lodge Room now. Webster Lodge's Altar was moved to the East where our virgin-weeping statue was placed under a light.

We had our first official meeting in Webster Masonic Hall on March 14th and our second meeting on March 28th. After some rearrangement of our storage space, we will be in great shape to hold our meeting in Webster. If you haven't been to Webster Lodge Hall in a while, come to a meeting to see the new meeting place.

On April 2nd, we started with the Brothers performing a Masonic Funeral Service for a Brother of Deposit Lodge who was living in Penfield when he died. The family of the Brother really appreciated the Service.

We worked with ERAC Lodge on April 11th to confer the 3rd Degree on our Candidate and their Candidates. Members of both Lodges took part in the Degree work and the presentation was excellent.

We are working to build great Fraternal relationships with ERAC, Webster, Seneca and Inspiration Lodges, who all meet in Webster.

**Upcoming Events**

What is coming in May and beyond? We are planning a Ladies Dinner on **May 21st** at Lilian's Restaurant in Penfield. This is the same location where our last Ladies Dinner was held when we presented a DeWitt Clinton Award. It should be a very good evening as the food is very good there. Watch your email or mail for final details and reservation information.

Our first meeting, May 9th, will be the Summoned Meeting for the Election of Officers and a report of the Proceedings of Grand Lodge. Please plan to attend so you have a say in the future leadership of our Lodge.

Since Memorial Day this year is on the fifth Monday of May, we will hold a meeting on **May 23rd** and there will be an interesting program; what the program will be is in the works. Plan to attend as you will have a great time that evening.

Our Annual Picnic will be on **August 13th**, so save the date. It is too early to know the location, etc., but we are inviting ERAC Brothers to join us for the event. We may also invite other Lodges, but that is for discussion during one of our Lodge meetings.

On a final note, your correspondent is running for the position of Junior Grand Warden at the Grand Lodge Session. By the time you read this the voting will probably be completed and the Grand Lodge Officers for the coming two years elected and installed. We will keep you informed of the results as soon as we know via email.

The Officers of the Lodge are looking to invigorate the Lodge and its meeting at our new meeting location.

Also, with the proceeds of the sale of our Penfield Building, we will invest the money to build an income stream that will help fund future programs and activities of the Lodge. It is an exciting time of change and we are looking forward to seeing all our Brethren at a Lodge meeting for them to hear and see our plans for the future.

**Empire State Weeklies, Inc.**  
**Webster Printing Corporation**  
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**O-At-Ka**  
Lodge No. 759  
7:30 p.m., 2nd & 4th Wednesdays

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[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

As I write this during the first week of April, there is about four inches of snow on my car. Snow in April?!?!? How cruel of Mother Nature to deliver a perfect Easter Sunday and then turn around and dump this slop on us. Actually, snow in April is pretty common. There are only two Aprils in the past 100 years when it didn't snow. Hopefully, when you read this in print we will be basking in warm, more Spring-like weather.

**Regular Communications**

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Mark your calendars for **May 11th** and **May 25th**. We would sincerely enjoy seeing you!

**Blue Moon Table Lodge Saturday, July 16th**

Back By Popular Demand! Save The Date! "Once in a Blue Moon" is Back! Our highly enjoyable Full Moon Outdoor Table Lodge returns this Summer - bigger and better than last.

More table space is being added to prevent the disappointment of those who missed it last Summer. Pre-registration is a must and now being accepted through July 1st.

Join our Facebook Page for the most up-to-date information: [facebook.com/groups/oatka759](https://facebook.com/groups/oatka759)

Email your ticket request and interest to Terrance Wright: [wright8way@hotmail.com](mailto:wright8way@hotmail.com)

**PLEASE Pay Your Dues!**

By now second Notices have been mailed. URGENT Need! We have property taxes, heating/electric bills, and Lodge expenses due now. We are really in need for all Brothers of Oatka to make payment of their 2016 dues and all arrears. Please mail your check today, or better yet, deliver it in person. We would sincerely enjoy seeing you at our next communication.

**Coming in May**

Please join us for a Reception on **Wednesday, May 11th**, as we welcome our newest Entered Apprentice to Oatka Lodge. On the same night we will hold our Line Officer Nominations and Elections.

We have a special Scotch Tasting/Food Pairing Event planned for **Friday, May 13th**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowcraft Room.

Scotch Connoisseur, Thomas Gamer, will guide us through the six distinctive Spirit-producing Regions of Scotland. This private event is open to all Monroe Masons. Space is limited and pre-registration is a must. There will be a nominal fee for food and expenses. Contact us by phone or email.

Once again, Oatka Lodge will participate in the Village of Scottsville Memorial Day Parade on **Monday, May 30th**. Parade begins at 10:00 a.m. Gather in tuxedos, white gloves and aprons by 9:00 a.m. at T.J. Connor Elementary School, Beckwith Avenue. Parade concludes with a service at the Smith-Warren American Legion Post on Main Street.

**May Birthdays**

Join us in wishing the following Brothers another happy trip around the Sun: Gary Trescott (6th), Donald McPherson (18th), Mark Zajonczkoski (18th), John Georges (19th) and Don Tubman (19th)

**Fellowcraft Room Update**

Genuine work continues on the renovation of the Fellowcraft Room. Latest progress included improving the delivery of hot water to the second floor, including the men's room. Brother Leandro DaSilva helped clear the chase way of old and obsolete plumbing to make room for the new PEX system by Brother Terry Wright. Additional work included insulating and closing up unneeded windows to make more usable wall space. Stop by and see our improvements on any regular meeting night.

Workdays are on most weekends and selected weeknights. Stay in touch through Lodge emails and Facebook updates.

[facebook.com/groups/oatka759](https://facebook.com/groups/oatka759)

More participation is needed over the next few months. Please spare some time to help out. If, in lieu of labor, you would rather make a donation to "Oatka Lodge No. 759," please earmark your check on the memo line as "Fellowcraft Room" and mail to our Lodge Treasurer:

Mr. Evar Miller  
PO Box 92565  
Rochester, NY 14692-0565

Any size donation will be documented in future editions of the **Masonic Times**. We wish to thank the following for their contributions: Larry Blazey, Leandro DaSilva, Terrance Wright, and Mark Arlauckas.

**Regretful News**

Brother John B. "Bib" Henderson of Pittsford was called home to the Celestial Lodge on March 23rd. Predeceased by his daughter, Kathleen and grandson Alex. Survived by his wife, Mary

*Continued on Page 8*



Brother Tim White addresses 2015 Blue Moon Revelers as Emcee; Terry Wright looks on.

## Oatka Lodge

Continued from Page 7

Jane Whitney; children, Michael (Colleen), David (Elizabeth) and Gary (Chris); 5 grandchildren; Brother, Richard (Fran); sister, Heather Rusaw; nieces, nephews and many friends.

John was a kind and gentle man with a devoted and loving wife, Mary Jane. John was very proud of his three sons. He worked for Rochester Gas & Electric for 36 years. John was a Scotsman who played the bagpipes for 47 years with the City of Rochester Pipe Band. He was a Master Mason with Oatka Lodge and a member of the Damascus Shrine Temple. **Until Next Time . . .**

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. ☐

**CLIO**  
**LODGE No. 779**  
 www.cliolodge.org  
 1st & 3rd Tuesdays  
 7:30 p.m.  
**Master**  
 W.: **Michael J. Postilli**  
 305-3533  
 mpostilli@gmail.com  
  
**Secretary**  
 W.: **Sean Noonan**  
 261-6311  
 recorder@damausshriner.org  
 287 East Avenue, Hilton 14468

By W.: Pete Matthews, Past Master

Despite what the lack of articles this year may cause one to think, Clio Lodge is still standing and going strong. In fact, on March 15th, we welcomed a new Master Mason into the fold, Brother Brian McVaugh. Brother Brian was quite impressive in his Ritual proficiency leading up to the Degree and has already expressed interest in doing Ritual in future Degrees. Brother Brian, we welcome you (and your enthusiasm) to our Lodge and our Craft! Now start brushing up on those Questions and Answers — you're up there for our next Degree!

**CLIO**  
**LODGE'S**  
**CHICKEN**  
**BBQ**

JUST 10  
 BUC BUC BUCKS!



**Saturday**  
**May 21st**  
**Serving 12 Noon 'til Gone**  
**\$10 Dinner includes:**  
**Half-Chicken, Roll & 2 Sides**  
**At Hilton Masonic Hall**  
**287 East Ave, Hilton NY**

Brother Brian was also the guest of honor at our first ever — and now to be a Clio tradition — New Brother Night.

At our first meeting in April, we had an excellent Meatloaf Dinner prepared by Brother Bill "The Ox" Hunn, in an event for us to get to know our newest Brother. After dinner, we went to the Lodge Room where W.: Mike Postilli took Brother Brian for a "Walk About the Lodge," a program to educate and also make our newly Raised Brother more at ease with the customs and workings of the Lodge.

Kudos to Brother Brian's Mentor, Brother Jeremy Mensing, for the time and effort spent guiding our newest Brother and the fantastic job he did. The Degree was conferred upon Brian by W.: Michael Postilli, Clio's sitting Master. It's been three years since W.: Mike sat in the East for the Master Mason Degree and he has not lost his touch.

Back when I was Master and a regular author of these articles, I always bragged a bit about Clio's Degree work, and this past Degree was another one of which to be proud. Thank you,



W.: Mike Postilli welcomes newly Raised Brother, Brian McVaugh.



Newly raised Brother Brian McVaugh on New Brother Night. (Cake provided by Brother Larry Vaccarelli.)

my Lodge Brothers, for your excellent work and also a special thanks to Brother Ryan Ramplin and R.: W.: John Gallant who were kind enough, once again, to travel to Hilton and help us out.

While I'm in a thanking mood, I tip my hat to W.: Jeffrey Ross who headed up our *Have-a-Heart* Committee. W.: Jeff was not only working the Malls all day and every day of Clio's assigned dates, but was there doing it for the Grotto as well. It's something for which he feels passionate and we appreciate his efforts. (Although for some reason, the Great Architect of the Universe deemed that Tom Wahl's should run out of burgers on Valentine's Day, forcing Jeff and me to eat Burger King while raising money for Ronald McDonald. Oh, the



Clio Brothers (l-r) Brett DeHollander, Bill Hunn, Jeff Ross and Pete Matthews cook a Ziti Dinner for the Ronald McDonald House.

**RL**  
**ROCHESTER LUMBER COMPANY**  
 103 N. Washington Street, East Rochester  
 (585) 586-0909  
 Over 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

irony.) W.: Jeff is also getting the ball rolling on our marching in the Hilton Firemen's Parade this Summer.

By the time this article will see print, we will have completed all of our monthly Euchre Tournaments for the year (usually the 4th Sunday of the month from September through April, unless otherwise noted.) Thanks to all Brothers who either worked the Tournaments or made donations for the door prize raffles (or both), and to all the Brothers who showed up to play.

These Tournaments have replaced our Spaghetti Dinners as our regular fundraiser and are vital to the Lodge in that they give us the means to do things such as cook dinners for the families at the Ronald McDonald House as well as keep the lights on in the building!

Again, thank you to all who have supported us throughout the year; we look forward to your help next year as well as increased participation from our Lodge Brothers. Clio also gives a special thank you to the Hilton Bowling Alley, Pleasure Lanes, for allowing us to run our Tournaments there each month.

### May Events and Chicken BBQ

Spring is in the air and our not-quite Spring Chicken, Brother Bill Hunn (sorry Bill, couldn't help myself), will be manning the grill once more for our annual Chicken Bar-B-Que on **Saturday, May 21st**. Dinners will cost \$10 and consist of a half-chicken and 2 sides; if we can talk Brother Larry Vaccarelli and his lovely wife, Jessie, into baking, you'll have a chicken-shaped cookie for dessert! Dinners will be ready for sale about 12 noon and we'll be there until sold out (usually by 4 p.m.) Hope to see you there!

Not all has been perfect in Clio this year and we'd like to apologize for the lateness of the Dues Notices. We were without a Secretary for quite some time, but our former Secretary, W.: Sean Noonan, has stepped in to save the day. Thank you, Brother Sean. It's great to see you back in that Chair and I hope the last couple of guys didn't mess up your butt imprint!

### This Month in Clio History

In May of 1957, Rev. L.V. Lloyd, Past Master and 32nd Degree Mason was appointed Grand Chaplain by then Grand Master, Nathan Turk. In 1937, Clio Past Master J. Harlan Cooper was appointed District Deputy Grand Master of the First Monroe District.

### May Birthdays

Lighting their birthday candles or tapers in this merry month of May are Brothers Larry Britt, Lew Steinman, John Dianni, Kenneth Mullen, Andy Paddyfoote and our Senior Warden Matt Reiter. Happy Birthday, Brothers, on behalf of all of us at Clio.

In July, our own Clio Lodge will be turning 139!

Well, I think I've sufficiently prattled enough to make up for our lack of articles this year! Friends and Brothers, enjoy your Spring and the coming Summer! ☐

*Seneca Lodge*  
  
 No. 797  
 2nd Tuesdays  
 7:30 p.m.  
**Master**  
 W.: **Jeffrey R. Quartley**  
 202-1524  
 jeff.quartley@gmail.com  
**Secretary**  
 W.: **Raymond Glegg**  
 750-0865  
 secy@seneca797.com  
 30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580

We have a new Brother who recently relocated to Rochester and joined our Lodge. For those who might not know, Jason Bortle is fighting with some significant health issues recently. Some of you may have even seen the news clips a few weeks ago where Greece Volunteer Ambulance was holding a fundraiser to help Jason with some of the expenses associated with his health care. I would like to let you know that Seneca Lodge was able to donate generously to this cause and help Jason. Brothers helping Brothers . . . just one facet of our Fraternity.

### Mark Your Calendar

On **May 10th**, we will be holding our Annual Business Meeting and Election of new Officers as per usual. This Lodge Meeting will be back to our usual 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Our new neighbors are fully moved into the Webster facility and have brought with them some of the vintage Lodge Room furniture from Penfield. I have heard that these new additions have changed the look of our Lodge Room. I can't wait to see the new enhancements. Please welcome our new Brothers from Wakan-Hubbard Lodge when you see them.

Stay warm Brothers and see you all soon. Cheers! ☐

**Lodge News continues on Page 13**

## Monroe District Apron Presentation Dinner

Honoring the Incoming Grand Officers  
 Thanking Retiring Grand Officers

**June 22, 2016**

at *Damascus Shrine Center*  
 979 Bay Road, Webster

**Social - 6 p.m. (Cash Bar)**

**Buffet Dinner - 7 p.m. ~ Followed by Program**

**Cost - \$15 per person\***

Salad, Baked Chicken, Italian Sausage w/Peppers, Baked Ziti, Salt Potatoes, Rolls & Butter, Coffee, Tea and Dessert

\*Pre-paid reservation required ... **NO EXCEPTIONS**

**NO TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR!**

\*\*\*\*\* **Reservation Deadline: June 16th** \*\*\*\*\*

Make check payable to: **Phillip R. Hurwitz** and send to:

**Phillip R. Hurwitz; 72 Long Pond Road; Rochester, NY 14612**

Clip and return with payment

### Reservation Form

Make check payable to: **Phillip R. Hurwitz**

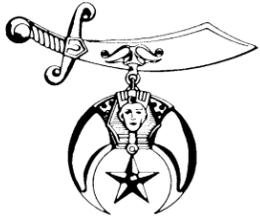
and send to: **Phillip R. Hurwitz; 72 Long Pond Road; Rochester, NY 14612**

**Reservation deadline: June 16th**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_



# Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

May 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 FARO POTENTATE



Spring has sprung and, like the weather, things are really heating up at Damascus.

### Sportsman Raffles

Last month I neglected to mention the hard work the Nobles put into the Spring Sportsman Raffle, but their efforts are appreciated and we reaped the harvest. Here is a huge "Thank You" to all the Nobles, Ladies and friends who helped make the Spring Sportsman Raffle such a huge success. The fellowship and camaraderie were outstanding, and everyone had a great time. If you've been thinking of helping out I hope you can make it to the **October 8th** Fall Sportsman Raffle.

### Just a Note About the Raffles

All the proceeds from this event go to the Temple. It helps support the Clubs, Units, repairs on the building and grounds as well as numerous other things not covered by Dues. With that being said we need everyone to sell tickets.

Many Units need assistance ... the Building and Grounds are in desperate need of upgrades and repairs. By selling tickets, we can help in the needed areas.

On **July 23rd**, Damascus will be holding a Screening Clinic with the Finger Lakes Health System to evaluate patients who may be eligible for our help. It will be held at Geneva General Hospital from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. This is being headed up by Illustrious Sir Lance Ward. This would be a great opportunity for our Clowns to show up also and help entertain the kids.

If you would like to assist, contact the Damascus Office to get in touch with Lance ASAP.

### Nobles Fireball

**Friday, May 20th – Sunday, May 22nd**  
The Nobles Fireball is fast approaching. It runs from.

Friday will be set up and hospitality in the Seneca Room of the Ramada Geneva Lakefront, stop in after the Car Cruz Night. On **Saturday, May 21st**, things get really heated up with the Hospitality Room opening at 11 a.m. and a 1-½ hour boat cruise on Seneca Lake for \$20 with boarding at 1 p.m.

There is a full-service cash bar on board this brand new tour boat. Join us

for a look at the scenic shoreline of Seneca Lake and a lot of good times with your Fellow Nobles.

Dinner is at 6 p.m., followed by a comedy show performed by Randy Riddle who wrote for Jay Leno and is currently performing in Las Vegas. Randy is also a Mason and Shriner.

**Sunday morning** we end the weekend with an All-American Breakfast Buffet at 9 a.m. Rooms are going fast so call the hotel and make your reservations.

### Noble Bring-a-Brother Night

Your Oriental Guide, Mike Pavone, and Chief of Staff, Rodney "Rockin" Williams, put on an outstanding Noble Bring-a-Brother Program early in April.

Not only will we be receiving some new Nobles, but we may also be getting new Masons from this event as well. When you meet new Nobles, welcome them into our fold; they will appreciate it and I will also.

### Bottled Water

Damascus has its own bottled water! Custom labels have been made and we found a bottler to fill our order. By the time you read this we should have cases of 16-oz. bottled water for sale.

The Damascus Shrine labels contain Shriners Hospitals for Children® contact information as well as how to become a member of Damascus. Pick up a case or two ... it's great for picnics, camping, work or home. You can get these at the Damascus Office or Oasis during regular times and at meetings.

The **May 4th** meeting will, hopefully, be our Spring Ceremonial and Business Meeting. Dinner will be Cinco De Mayo Theme.

### Cruz Nights Begin

Also, Cruz Nights begin on Friday, May 20th. Volunteers are needed to help. It would be nice to see the Clubs and Units come out and take a night to help the regular volunteers who show up every week.

As always, if your Divan or I can do anything to help you, your Club or Unit, please feel free to reach out to any of us. We are here to serve you.

Until we meet, "Lets Fire It Up." ☐

## I Love the Parades!

Tim Driscoll, Colonel of the Units

The Potentate has requested your participation in Call-out Parades of 2016.

### What is a Call-out Parade?

This term is used by the Potentate to request all Clubs and Units to participate in the parades to the best of their ability. Marching or sitting - if your legs are not as young as you are, we have fire trucks on which you can join the parade!

### Mark Your Calendar

**Saturday, May 7th** - Lilac Festival Parade

**Monday, May 30th** - Webster Memorial Day Parade ☐

### 2016 Damascus News Boosters

Kevin & Deb Faro  
Skip & Diane Waterstreet  
Cy & Olga White

### Action Required!!!

If you are interested in being a 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). ☐

## PERRY SHRINE CLUB

By Sharon Buckley

The March meeting was held at The Lumber Yard Restaurant. Karen Ward gave a talk on shipwrecks of the Great Lakes.

The May meeting will be **May 26th** at The Lumber Yard Restaurant.

Hope to see you there. ☐



Shriners Hospitals  
for Children®  
Love to the rescue!™

### Drivers Needed

### for Hospital Transportation

We are looking for drivers to take children to the Hospitals – primarily Springfield, MA, and Erie, PA. We have a core group and need additional drivers with the pending screening clinics to be held in Geneva early this Summer. We might be called on to provide transportation for kids going to the clinics in addition to our current schedule. We are busy, averaging one Hospital trip per week since December, 2015.

- Drivers do not use their personal vehicles. We rent vans from Enterprise, have an EZPass® and GPS.
- All expenses are put on issued credit cards.
- Both Springfield and Erie Hospitals have full-service cafeterias. Meals are covered.
- We will be ordering jackets and hats for our drivers.

Get on the list by calling the Shrine Office at (585) 671-7701. ☐



Noble Stu Brickman, Illustrious Sir Lance Ward, PP, and Noble Sean Noonan at Springfield Hospital on March 17th. Lance for a Board of Directors Meeting, Stu and Sean transported an infant from Tyre, NY for treatment.

**Damascus Shrine  
Ceremonial  
Wednesday, May 4th  
5 p.m. - Oasis Opens &  
Candidates Register  
6 p.m. - Dinner ...  
Cinco de Mayo Theme  
7 p.m. - Ceremonial**

### DAMASCUS TRESTLEBOARD 2016 MAY

2nd Divan Meeting  
4th Shriners Meeting, Cinco de Mayo; Ceremonial  
31st Divan Meeting  
20th – 22nd Nobles Fireball, Geneva

May 20th and 27th - Cruz Nights

### JUNE

1st Shriners Meeting; Wild Shirt Night; Special Speaker

June 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th - Cruz Nights

### Dedicated to the Memory of Nobles

Harold W. Davis  
March 21, 2016

John B. Henderson  
March 23, 2016

Harold R. Herman  
February 9, 2016

Alfred J. Hermenet, Jr.  
April 10, 2016

Lloyd C. Verbridge  
March 17, 2016

Alan S. Weinberg  
April 7, 2016



Don't Miss Shriners Classic Car "Cruz Nights" ...

Every Friday Night - May 20th thru September 9th



# AUBURN SHRINE CLUB

How can we be this deep into 2016? It seems I just put away my 2015 calendar and put up the 2016, now I'm turning pages already. Are you putting on activities for the Summer, too?

Here is some good news. I saw Gerry and Heidi Stanton at the Union Springs Musical Production. He is looking great, but of course, with a wife like Heidi, how could he not? By the way, Craig Coleman's daughter (and Bob Coleman's granddaughter) was outstanding in the Production. It is great to see such a talented bunch of young people.

Our Club has lost a great supporter of the Shriners Hospitals for Children®. Sprague Wheeler laid down his Working Tools recently. His work for the kids cannot be given enough credit with simple words of, "well done, good and faithful servant." Sprague was a Member's member.

Dr. Banker's wife has also passed. Peg set an example for all of us to show compassion for all and to be the first to help. She welcomed new neighbors to the community. She will be missed by all. Condolences to Bob and his family.

I received communication from Ken Pollard that he has heard that the ice has melted on the lake and he is now willing to return to the North.

I've heard that Larry Pritchard will also

be returning now that Florida has been fished out. That is good news for us Northerners as he is such an asset to the community and especially to our Shrine Club.

If you missed our March meeting, you missed the return of Harv and Ruth Harding. They had just returned from Arizona and both had healthy glows. Joe and Wilda Marshall were at that dinner and sat with John Roden.

We were enlightened with a presentation by Steve Zabriskie. His column, perspectives, in *The Word* is always great. Just imagine how much fun it was to have him "in person" at our meeting.

Jack Erhlich wasn't able to make the dinner as he was helping with a 1st Degree at his Lodge, but he left us bags of tabs!

I was reading our local newspaper and found articles entitled "Looking Back." I DO read this column every day because I never know what I might learn about the past.

From March 18, 1961, it seems the Sherwood Central School Science Club shared their expertise with the elementary students. Our own Edward Kabelac brought "Ernest," the model man into the 5th grade classes of Mrs. Burns and Mr. Bradley. Way to go Ed. Next month's column will have another tidbit that I found. □



## Daughters of the Nile Zama Temple No. 14

Meets 2nd Saturday at 10 a.m.  
30 Orchard Street, Webster

**Jaime Gardner, Queen**

Written by Ellie Canfield

Where oh where did Spring go? As I sit and write this article there is snow outside, wind blowing at 40 miles an hour, the Lake roaring with huge white-caps ... sort of looks cold and nasty. But Zama Temple No. 14 is warm and excited for a new year and a new Queen and Officers. All this happened on Saturday, March 26th at Webster Masonic Hall.

Our new Queen, Jaime Gardner Henderson, was very excited and looked absolutely beautiful in her silver beaded dress. Her husband Ryan and daughter, Sidalee, presented her with a lovely bouquet, as did her father and her sister's twin children. Daughter Sidalee walked with her Mom to the throne. It was an honor for Ellie Canfield to crown Jaime and for the installing attendants to escort Jaime.

Betty Nohle, PSQ, was the Installing Officer; Ellie Canfield, PQ, was Installing Marshal; Pr. Sula Baxter was Installing Chaplain; Sharon Baldwin, PQ, and Debi Burke, PQ, were Installing Attendants.

Jaime introduced her family and other visitors; she gave her welcome to all in attendance. Queen Jaime was escorted to the altar where she signed the Bible for the ensuing year. Barbara Jean Smith, PQ, was given her Life Membership. Illustrious Sir Kevin Faro, Potentate of Damascus, gave a very informative speech about the hospitals and thanked the Daughters of the Nile for all their support to the Shriners Hospitals for Children. Zama Temple's Funsters performed a very different and expiring skit.

### 2016 Elected Officers

|                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Queen                          | <b>Jaime G. Henderson</b> |
| Jr. P.Q.                       | <b>Rhonda Shaffer</b>     |
| Pr. Royal                      | <b>Diane Muck</b>         |
| Pr. Tirzah                     | <b>Angela Pate</b>        |
| Pr. Recorder                   | <b>Lori Gilley</b>        |
| Pr. Banker                     | <b>Judy VanHouten</b>     |
| <b>2016 Appointed Officers</b> |                           |
| Pr. Marshal                    | <b>Ellie Canfield</b>     |

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Pr. Chaplain      | <b>Vicky Ball</b>         |
| Lady of the Keys  | <b>Rosamund Hornung</b>   |
| Lady of the Gates | <b>Nancy Lynch</b>        |
| Pr. Nydia         | <b>Robin Locke</b>        |
| Pr. Zulioka       | <b>Diane Romanyshyn</b>   |
| Pr. Zenobia       | <b>Jean Gardner</b>       |
| Pr. Zora          | <b>Barbara Jean Smith</b> |
| Pr. Zuliema       | <b>Delores Curtis</b>     |
| Pr. Musician      | <b>Gloria Gonyeo</b>      |
| Attendants        | <b>Karin Staples</b>      |
|                   | <b>Gail Sanford</b>       |

After all Officers were installed, we went downstairs for a wonderful dinner, catered by Forest Hill Catering.

Ladies, these are Zama Temple's Officers for 2016. I ask you PLEASE come out to Sessions and support our new Queen and her Officers.

### Fundraisers

#### UNO Pizzeria & Grill

Again this year, we will be having fundraisers. The first will be Sunday, May 15th at UNO Pizzeria & Grill, 931 Holt Road, Webster. This is an Eat, Drink and Raise Money opportunity to help support the Convalescent Endowment Fund for Shriners Hospitals. This applies to Dine-In or Takeout Service.

All you have to do is present a certificate which, when presented at the time you pay your bill, will donate up to 20% of your check (excluding tax and tip) to the organization - Convalescent Endowment Fund for Shriners Hospitals.

In order to participate, get these certificates from any Daughter of the Nile, pick up at the Damascus Office, or contact Rhonda Shaffer - Phone: (585) 704-8424 or email:

rhondash43@gmail.com

### Card Party

Zama Temple will be hosting a Card Party on Monday, May 16th starting at 10 a.m. - 'til at Webster Masonic Hall, 30 Orchard Street. A hot lunch will be served and there will be Door Prizes, Table Prizes and a 50/50 Raffle. Cost is

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

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(585) 671-7701 Fax - (585) 671-7702  
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**Vance R. Collom, Jr.**  
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## May Birthdays



Peter Bowers  
David Bowman  
Robert Breen  
Gregory Brown  
Kenneth Buckland  
Gary Burke  
Howard Combs  
George Corbett  
Ralph Cox  
Roger Cox  
Harry Dainty  
Donald Dill  
Myron Dox  
John Dudley  
William Edwards  
Clark Engelsen  
Charles Frear  
Richard Friedman  
Mike Grady

Charles Grimm  
Kenneth Hall  
Roy Harriger  
Roger Hawkins  
Edgar Hollwedel  
Michael Hueston  
Jefferson Huff  
Paul Humphrey  
Phillip Hurwitz  
James Kahn  
Gordon Kotzin  
David Larson  
Joe Lewis  
Dean Locke  
Lyle Maldoon  
Roland Maracle  
John McCall  
Timothy McNelly  
Donald Munger

Gary Orbaker  
Michael Patrick  
Warren Patterson  
Michael Pavone  
John Polandick  
Michael Pollock  
Gary Rathbun  
David Retchless  
Jay Riggs  
Donald Ross  
Andrew Rueby  
Robert Schwarting  
William Snyder  
Michael Sukhenko  
Donald Tubman  
Harry Tyson  
Robert Wharmby

## Damascus Legion of Honor

# Wednesday, May 11th

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 \* Roasted Turkey \* Mashed Potato \* Vegetable  
Rolls & Butter \* Coffee or Tea \* Dessert  
\$12 per person**

RSVP no later than noon on **Saturday, May 7th**  
at (585) 436-8216 or email: cylegalrx@hotmail.com  
A reservation made is a reservation paid.

**Attire: Suit, Tie and Fez**

\$36 per table of four, or \$9 per person. Start getting your table of four ready or come alone and meet new ladies.

Also, if you do not play cards but would like to join us (which we hope you do), bring games and have fun. Reservations are required; therefore, PLEASE call Betty Nohle at (585) 787-4365 or (585) 794-1774. If no answer, leave a detailed message and she will respond back to you. Reservation deadline is **Monday, May 9th.**

Just a reminder to all Zama Members ... we meet the 2nd Saturday of the month at 10 a.m., Webster Masonic Hall. We have social and a lunch following the

Session. We would love to see you.

On another note, we are always looking for new members as well as new ideas from everyone. Should you know of anyone who would like to be a part of our organization, call any Zama Member and we will be glad to provide further information.

Until next month, let us all hope we will be well into Spring's warmer weather. Happy Mother's Day, **Sunday, May 8th.**

### My Closing Thought

Anyone who succeeds is helping people. The secret to success is find a need and fill it; find a hurt and heal it; find a problem and solve it. □



## What's New in Erie ...

### Ron Seggi - One-Night Only

Shriners Hospitals for Children® – Erie and The Everyone Loves Kids (ELK) Charity Challenge, a National Auto Rally, are proud to present Erie Native Ron Seggi and his Orchestra at the beautiful Warner Theater, for one-night-only, **Monday, May 23rd**.



Former Erie Disc Jockey, Ronnie G, will return to Erie for the first time in 25 years as singer, for this important charity event. Ron was the original owner of

WSEG-FM Erie and WIPC Florida; an Entertainer, President of World Broadcasting, Inc. and, for the past 25 years, the host of his own Nationally Syndicated Entertainment Talk Show on the USA Radio Network.

“Flashback - A Night of Musical Memories,” starring two-time Grammy Nominee, Ron Seggi and his Orchestra and back-up Singers. The show begins at 7:30 p.m.

All proceeds will benefit Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie. “It truly is an honor to work with a wonderful organization like the ELK Charity Challenge and a performer the caliber of Ron Seggi to raise money for all the children we serve in Erie and the surrounding region,” said Greg Hall, Director of Business Development, Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie.

Tickets are \$25 and \$35 and available through the Warner Theater Box Office (814) 452-4857 or online at:

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

### Save the Date

**Monday, May 23rd.** Showtime is 7:30 p.m. at the beautiful Warner Theater. Welcome the Everyone Loves Kids Charity Challenge and Ron Seggi back to Erie with this huge evening benefit of great music and memories.

### Shrine Apparel Site Live

A new website to order approved Shriners Hospitals for Children® branded apparel and promotional products is now live. This site is also available for friends and family to order Shriners gear.

Apparel items come in a variety of colors and sizes and can be personalized with a pre-approved Shriners Logo with a tagline for each location. Also, there are no minimum quantity restrictions on apparel items.

To access the online store, please log onto:

[www.asbaces.com/newaces/default.aspx?UID=shriners](http://www.asbaces.com/newaces/default.aspx?UID=shriners)

### Thank You

To Everyone at Shriners Hospital, Thank you so much for the wonderful experience you

provided when we visited your Hospital to have our son's arm casted. Everyone we met showed such kindness and patience.

A special thank you to the nurses and Miss Michelle who provided such great distractions. You all made the trip so calming. I have done nothing but sing your praises to all who ask about our Miles.

Miles is loving the truck! Looking forward to seeing you at the end of the month.

The Woomers ☐



## News from Shriners Hospital for Children® - Springfield

### Early Intervention Services An Important Support for Children with Special Needs

By Lawrence Kaplan, M.D., ScM, FAAP

Among the services available to children with delayed development, Early Intervention (EI) remains among the most important and the most accessible to families.

Early Intervention is an integrated developmental resource for children up to three years of age, which serves children who have either identified departures from normal development or whose development is considered to be at risk due to certain birth or environmental influences. This is often the simplest and most efficient way to enter a world of support services that can help a child for the first three years of his or her life.



Because these services can be accessed for a child as young as one day of age, families are assured that not only will their own medical home/primary care provider monitor their progress, but direct services – including speech, physical and occupational therapy, as well as nursing, social work and developmental psychology – can follow the child until he or she transitions to pre-Kindergarten. It is also a program which has repeatedly been shown to improve outcomes in measurable ways for a variety of conditions.

Key to the Program's design is the provision that children are seen regularly in their own "natural settings;" i.e., at home, in childcare centers and community play groups. The EI workers are partners in a child's care and may often accompany them to various medical clinic visits. Most important, the EI Team will take the lead in every case to help the child and family make an informed transition to school, participating in the development of the child's Individual Educational Plan (IEP).

Referrals to the EI Program can be made by anyone – a parent, doctor, caregiver, teacher or friend – by calling a central referral line at 1-800-905-8437. From there, it follows a set of assessments in the child's home, including basic developmental screening with testing tools that are validated and State-approved, along with clinical evaluation to determine if and how services can be arranged.

Additional information can be obtained via the phone number above, or

by visiting: [ectcenter.org/contact/ptccoord.asp](http://ectcenter.org/contact/ptccoord.asp)

### About Dr. Kaplan

Dr. Kaplan leads the Pediatric Consultation Clinic at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield, which provides evaluation and ongoing care of children with a range of disabilities served by the hospital. Dr. Kaplan's major focus is caring for children with complex multi-system disorders, in particular those conditions that have an impact on overall development and result in difficulties with movement, balance, coordination, muscle tone/weakness or delayed developmental milestones. Among other responsibilities, he helps children and families navigate an array of medical and community services - including early intervention discussed above - and helps medical home/primary care providers follow these patients and stay informed of their progress.

### The Kollect System A Customizable Video-Gaming Experience

Maggie O'Neill, PT, PhD, MPH, along with colleagues at Drexel University, has created enAble games - Kollect Active Video Games which promote physical activity in youth with disabilities.

Children with Cerebral Palsy (CP) encounter personal, social, environmental and program-related barriers that limit their ability to be involved in organized physical activities in the school and community. The Kollect System is intended to offer active video gaming to persons with physical disabilities, such as CP, to promote fitness, functional mobility and confidence. Because Kollect uses, the Xbox 360 Kinect System, it uses a basic motion-capture camera to drive motion in the game using body movements without a controller.

Commercial active video gaming devices are not currently customizable to direct therapeutic goals or patient abilities. They are typically much too challenging. This system allows therapists to determine whether one or both hands, feet, or hands and feet are used to interact with the game and to control the extent of reach needed and speed with which objects and hazards appear.

The theme of the games, with a variety of scenarios, is also customizable. "Cosmic Kitties" is one of the most popular.

Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield is currently using this advanced technology as one of many exercise stations during its after-school B-fit Program for children with developmental disabilities.

### Anti-Bullying Campaign

Children with developmental disabilities are twice as likely to be bullied. To learn more about how award-winning actor and former Shriners Hospitals for Children® patient, R.J. Mitte, have teamed up to put an end to bullying and to read one patient's personal story, please view our Spring Edition of *Leaders in Care* Magazine, by scrolling down to bottom of this page.

### About Shriners Hospitals for Children

Shriners Hospitals for Children® is changing lives every day through innovative pediatric specialty care, world-class research and outstanding medical education. Our 22 facilities, located in the United States, Canada and Mexico, provide advanced care for children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries and cleft lip and palate.

### Shriners Hospitals for Children:

- Accepts all medical insurance
- Does not cancel appointments pending pre-authorization
- Does not require pre-payment on or before date of service. If a co-pay, deductible or co-insurance obligation is required by the health insurance plan and applies to the visit or procedure, a statement will be sent to the family after the insurance is billed.
- Provides care without regard for patient or family inability to pay.
- Works with the family where financial assistance is needed. We are able to do that thanks to the generous philanthropic support from Shriners International and the community at-large.
- Does not turn past-due accounts over to collections.

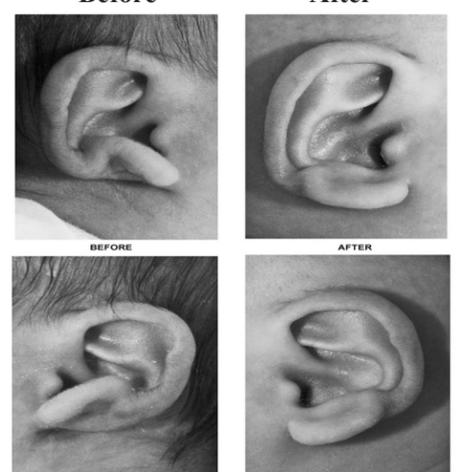
### EarWells Used to Correct Developmental Abnormality

By Philip Stoddard, M.D.  
Director of Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield

About 30 percent of newborn babies may have a developmental abnormality of the shaping of their ears. Fortunately, in many cases this can be corrected if treatment is started within the first month of life. This is because a newborn continues to carry its mother's estrogen for about three months. After this time, the estrogen is gone and cartilage becomes stiff and not amenable to change.

At Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield, our non-surgical approach to correct this condition is to mold the patient's ear with an EarWell. The EarWell is worn for five to six weeks and gradually changes the shape of the ear. The process is tolerated well by young patients and has a good success rate. The

### Before After



types of abnormalities treated in this way include:

- Protruding ear (more than 10 mm from scalp)
- Lack of an antihelix rim
- Folding of the helix rim (lidding or cup ear)
- Conchal crus

### Meet Hayron Santana

Hayron Santana was first evaluated at 8 years of age at a Shriners Hospitals for Children® Outreach Clinic in the Dominican Republic. He was diagnosed with Arthrogryposis, having congenital joint contractures in two or more areas of the body. Brave Hayron, now at age 15 and 11 surgeries made great his improve-



later, has strides in ment.



As he finally return end of Janu- members and celebrated

Hayron's successes with a team farewell in the Hospital's Cafeteria. Many memories were shared, photos were taken, staff



members and volunteers signed a banner for his family. *Continued on page 12*



## Mark Your Calendar & Join Upcoming Events ...

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



### The Nobles Fireball 2016

Acknowledging the Nobles of Damascus Shrine  
Open to All (friends and family)

**May 20th – May 22nd**

at the Ramada Geneva Lakefront  
41 Lake Front Blvd, Geneva

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**Friday, May 20th**

Hospitality 1 p.m. – 'til ??

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**Saturday, May 21st**

Hospitality 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and 10 p.m. – 'til ??  
(Closed during dinner)

1 p.m. ~ 1-½-hour Boat Cruise around Seneca Lake

\$20 per person ~ Full Cash Bar on Board  
5:30 p.m. ~ Social Hour ...

Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar before Dinner

6:30 p.m. ~ Dinner and Introductions

\$60.00 PP - Includes Dinner and Show

8 p.m. ~ Entertainment by

National Comedian and Fellow Shriner, Randy Riddle

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**Sunday, May 22nd**

9 a.m. ~ All-American Breakfast ... \$10 PP

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
Rooms Available at \$129 per night; going fast.

Reservations a must. Call Ramada Geneva Lakefront (315) 789-0400

FIREBALL Reservations, call Shrine Office at 585-671-7701

**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

## Attention Shriners!

### Join the Celebration at Our Community Open House!

Shriners Hospital for Children® - Erie

~ Ambulatory Surgery Center ~

~ Outpatient Specialty Care Center ~

**Sunday, June 5th**  
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

\* Self-Guided Tours of the Facility \*

\* Car Seat Safety Program \*

\* Entertainment \* Driver Recognition \*



Shriners Hospitals  
for Children®  
Love to the rescue.™

### From Springfield News

Continued from page 11

The Rehabilitation Department gave Hayron ankle weights to take back with him so he can continue to do his exercises at home. Hayron leaves us with the following sentiment, which was translated into English by Luz Garcia, a Staff Member at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield:

*Hi, I am Hayron Santana and I am 15 years old and have been in this program since I was 8 years old. I want to thank God for putting this organization in my path, and next thank Shriners Hospitals for Children® for offering me the opportunity to better my life.*

*Thank you Shriners for offering this help to us children from the Dominican Republic. Although the process has been very difficult here, I feel like I am with family and, because of the treatment that has been offered to me and the personnel in this Hospital, I don't feel alone.*

*I've had a year-and-a-half of surgery-after-surgery (11 in total) and I want to give thanks to the whole Team for having patience and dedication. If it wasn't for you, I would not be where I am today. I am very fortunate to have two excellent doc-*

*tors, Dr. DeWeese and Dr. Drvaric. I give you many thanks because I know you gave that extra mile for me. I give thanks to everyone at Shriners Hospitals for Children® for the work that you do so other children, like me, can see their dreams come true.☺*

### Directors Staff Dinner Meeting

**Wednesday  
May 25th**

Yellow Mills Diner

2534 Route 31, Palmyra

Order off the Menu  
**Social Time - 5:00 p.m.**  
**Dinner - 6:00 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)

Plan to attend ... Bring your Family, Friends & Neighbors ...

## Cruz Nights at the Shrine Center

FISH FRYS \* HOTS, BURGERS & MORE \* CAR SHOW  
\* CRAFT VENDORS \* BEVERAGES \* DJ MUSIC



**God Bless  
Our Troops**

*Freedom is Not Free.*

**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




I begin by welcoming the Brothers of Wakan-Hubbard Lodge to Webster Lodge's facility. They had their first official meeting March 14th. I had the pleasure of joining them, accompanied by R.:W.: David Allen and Brother Christopher Loftus. They seemed very comfortable in their new home, with a combination of their Lodge furnishings, along with ours.

The Lodge Room looks great! I know some of us had some objections (including myself) on removing any of Webster's furniture to accommodate that of Wakan-Hubbard's. I'm pleased to announce that we were able to compromise. The Lodge room looks amazing. If you have not been out to see it, please come!

March 17th was our 2nd Degree. We had a great night with V.:W.: Bill Edwards in the East. R.:W.: Mike Nohle did an outstanding job with the Middle Chamber Lecture, and Brother Al Mose, Senior Master of Ceremony, did another excellent job with the Q&A. I look forward to watching his progression to the East.

**Upcoming Events**

**May 5th** - 3rd Degree

**May 6th** - Spaghetti Dinner

**May 12th** - Webster Lodge Past Master Association's Annual meeting and dinner \*Past Masters only

**May 19th** - Annual Meeting/ Summoned Communication

The year is coming quickly to an end. These final events take a lot of participation from the Brothers. If you have the time, please join us. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

**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




By the time you are reading this in May, we will have completed a full circle and the Lodge will be electing new Officers for the upcoming year. The Summons went out for the Election of 2016-2017 Officers to be held on **May 9th**.

Installation of Officers will be on **June 13th**.

Although we traditionally only hold one meeting in May, we have an Awards and Recognition Night that is scheduled for **Monday, May 23rd**.

In April, we Raised four Brothers to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason and had the pleasure of hosting our Widows to the Wid-

ows Luncheon. Look for pictures in next month's article.

**June 3rd, 4th, 5th** - Fairport Canal Days. We again need Brothers to volunteer to man the Lodge's Food Stand. When the sign-up list is sent out, please answer the call - volunteer!

Finally, I express my gratitude to my Lodge Brothers for giving me the opportunity to serve them as Master this past year. I thank my Fellow Officers for their support both to me and to the Lodge. Looking back at the past year, it has been fun, hard work and, at times, challenging, but it has been a privilege and an honor always.

**Inspiration**  
**Lodge No. 109**  
 website: [www.inspiration109.org](http://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

I have often explained to Brothers that the Trestleboard is like a budget...it is meant as a guide and subject to change without notice. That is by way of me telling you the information I passed along last month is not totally accurate. We WILL be having a meeting in June, and just when I had cleared my calendar for the month!

In anticipation of his Election as Worshipful Master, Brother Ryan Ramplin held a meeting to discuss his plans, informing us at the same time that the month of June was stuffed. In spite of those circumstances, including travel out of the Country, he is still planning to hold a Special Open Communication for his Public Installation on May 17th. This will follow the Annual Meeting on May 10th, where we will read reports for the year and conduct the Election of Officers.

Then on the 24th, we will have the Master's message including his Trestleboard for the year. Moving into June, we will have our wrap-up meeting on June 14th before we break for the Summer. While we will be dark for two months, here's advance notice of the Annual Clambake/Picnic. It is tentatively scheduled for August 20th, as I write this column, but remember...

Our Junior Warden will be in touch with you regarding Dinners for these occasions. Reservations will be required especially for the Open Installation and the Picnic. Brother Bill may keep the permanent list for the Tiled Communications.

**Birthdays**

Once again we send congratulations and best wishes to our Brothers who celebrate this month: Raul Fernandez (3rd); David Leisten (10th); Brandon Young (12th); Gordon Kotzin (14th); John Steinkamp (18th); Terry Ramsey (21st); Robert Knyrim (22nd); Michael Hueston (23rd); Timothy Babcock (24th) and Gary Burke (26th). Enjoy your day!

See you in Lodge.

**Genesee-Wyoming**  
**District**

**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 R. Bedford

Sitting here on the 5th of April writing this article, Winter is still holding on with snow on the ground.

**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



We have submitted a one-page Post 12 ad to be published in this month's *Grand Post Souvenir Journal*. Members of Post 12 are invited to the Grand Post Annual Convention scheduled for **May 13 - 15** at Salvatore's Grand Hotel in Buffalo's suburbs.

Grand Post Officers will be installed at 10 a.m. on **Saturday, May 14th**. Post 12 Officers plan to attend the Installation

**Fidelity**  
**Triangle**  
**No. 4**  
 By Kristina Brandt  
 Fidelity Triangle will be holding an Open Meeting on **Saturday, May 14th** at Pittsford Masonic Hall to show the Masonic Family and other supporters what the Organization of Triangles, Inc. is like. Its membership is open to any young lady between the ages of 10 and 21 and focuses on promoting leadership skills, community service and friendship. All are welcome to attend.



The organization is also preparing for its biennial Leadership Weekend which will be held July 8-10. Members will go camping and together learn how they can help grow their Triangles and be more successful leaders within their organization and the community.

For more information on the Organization of Triangles, visit our website at [www.oootny.org](http://www.oootny.org) or contact Jr. Deputy Mrs. Jeanine Parks at:

[j9parks@aol.com](mailto:j9parks@aol.com)

**Fundraising Dinners**

The Annual Joint St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, with Eunice Lodge, was a success. It is so rewarding to work with another group of Brothers and getting to know them. We served over 100 Dinners. Thank you to Brothers from both Lodges for their help in making this fundraiser a success.

Olive Branch's Annual Lenten Fish Frys were, again, a big success. Every year it seems to grow bigger and more popular, with people from outside the LeRoy Area coming to enjoy our Fish Frys, and the socializing.

Our Master, Worshipful Jack Flint, thanks everyone who helped on the dinners. Please put the 2017 Lenten Season on your calendar and plan on coming and helping us continue the tradition of meeting and working with our Brothers.

The Summonses for our Annual Election of Officers for Olive Branch Lodge were sent out on April 4th.

The Installation of Officers is scheduled for **May 18th**, and it will be done for the last time by the Genesee-Wyoming Purple Apron Club.

Starting next year, it will be performed by the *new Letchworth District College of Masonic Grand Lodge Officers* (the Purple Apron Club's new name).

**About the New District**

The first reading of the Consolidation of Genesee-Wyoming and Livingston Districts is scheduled to be at Grand Lodge on **May 3rd**. This means that, after it is announced, we will be known as the **Letchworth District**. For the next two years we will have two District Deputies, Staff Officers and Assistant Grand Lecturers. The way their duties will be separated is yet to be decided.

As of **May 3rd**, we expect to be meeting and doing everything as one District.

As always, please try to attend Lodge and support your Elected and Appointed Officers.

Ceremonies and any others who would care to attend should contact our Adjutant Vance Collom as soon as possible to join a car pool. Uniforms for those who have them, including red, blue or white overseas caps will be expected to be worn.

Our monthly VA Birthday Party in Canandaigua for the Medical Center residents is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on **May 18th**, following the usual noontime luncheon at the Villager Restaurant.

Post 12 Officers chosen by the Post Executive Committee and elected in April will be installed following the Grand Post 3 day event in Western New York.

Our Installation is scheduled to take place at our monthly business meeting at Webster Lodge on **May 26th** at 1:00 p.m. Lunch will precede this activity at 11:30 a.m. at the Golden Boys Restaurant on Main Street in the Village.

The **May 22nd** Community Memorial Day Service will be held at the Rochester War Memorial Atrium at 3 p.m. sharp!

On **May 30th**, the Webster Memorial Day Parade takes place. Assembly will be at Spry Middle School at 119 South Avenue in Webster at 9 a.m. and we will march or ride to the Webster Cemetery to present the annual wreath.

Finally, on **May 31st**, the VAMC Memorial Day Service will take place in Bldg. 5 at 2 p.m. Principal Post activity will be the activity of the Color Guard, the "Missing Man Ceremony" and the "Flag Folding Service."

We are looking forward to a June Picnic and Strawberry Social to conclude this half of the year of Post 12 activities! Expect details to come in the usual email and telephone call manner from the Adjutant.

**Remember the Brotherhood Fund**

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## From the Secretary's Desk

By Ill. : Jack VanElzakker, 33°

Happy Birthday to the following Brothers who are celebrating in May: Howard Combs (1st); Gary Orbaker (2nd); Joe Lewis and Douglas Varnum (3rd); Charles Frear, Norman Hann and Jefferson Huff (4th); William Edwards and Paul D Humphrey (5th); Gary Valerio (6th); Robert Wharmby (7th);

Thomson Chew, Frank Gray and Roger Hawkins (9th); David Leisten (10th); Donald Miller and Alan Weinberg (11th); Robert Grant (13th); Floyd English, Jr., Markus Hugi and Gordon L Kotzin (14th); Asaf Durakovic, Eric McQuiston, Michael Pollock and Gary Rathbun (16th);

Robert Breen, Richard Friedman and Harold

Hager (17th); Byron Barnes (18th); Charles Col-lie and Donald Tubman (19th); William Dunn, Donald Ross, John Ward and L. John Webster (20th); Ernest Ouellette and William A Valois (21st); Phillip Hurwitz, Willard Simons and Harry Tyson (22nd);

Michael Hueston, Gary Hutchison, Daniel Palermo and Barry Swan (23rd); Richard Lafever, Lyle Maldoon and John Purdy (24th); Harry Dainty, Robert Fisher, James Holzgartner, James Kahn, Jay Riggs and Lewis Steinman, II (25th); Gary Burke and Roland Maracle (26th); Thomas Riddle (27th); Peter Cormack, Joseph Kellner and Jay Raymond (29th) and John Dudley (31st). □

## Are We Too Busy?

### Don't be a "Just Belong" 32° Mason

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

Unfortunately for themselves and our Scottish Rite Bodies, many members are just too busy to be active and enthusiastic Scottish Rite Masons.

These members receive their Degrees in Masonry, go home, buy a ring, perhaps a pin and on occasion do a bit of boasting about being a 32° Mason. But they seldom, if ever, return to their Lodge or Consistory to witness the conferring of the various Degrees. They join but take little time, if any, to do more than just that. They "just belong."

There is no question that these same Masons are justly proud of their affiliation and no doubt have the best intentions of someday giving more time and thought to their Lodge and Scottish Rite Masonry. For the meantime, however, they are content to "just belong."

Few Masonic organizations, if any, however can enjoy reasonable growth, nor can they enjoy reasonable activity enabling them to serve Freemasonry in general, if too many of the members are content to "just belong." This is the price we pay for the lack of enthusiasm and participation within the membership.

Our Scottish Rite Masonry has a proud background of history and tradition. The inspiring lessons and the Masonic information revealed in the various Degrees can hardly be comprehended in the first and only setting. The busy age in which we live leaves little time to follow an extensive course of reading. Perhaps the easiest and most satisfying method of obtaining the vast amount of knowledge revealed in Scottish Rite Degrees is to attend the meetings when the Degrees are being conferred. Besides the benefit derived from attending these meetings, the member will also be an inspiration to the active members who are giving endless hours directing and conferring the Degrees.

Blue Lodges and Scottish Rite Masonry need members who are enthusiastic and loyal and not content to "just belong." There is a vast difference between "just belonging" and being an active Mason.

Our Scottish Rite Bodies and local Lodges could experience a real Masonic revival if many of our members were not too busy to be active Masons. □

## Valley of Rochester Members ... This Is It – The One You've Been Waiting For (again)

### 11th Annual Clambake and Steak Roast

Saturday, July 16th  
11 a.m. – 'til ... Rain or Shine!

Spend the Day!

Lunch – Noon ~  
Clams – 2 p.m. ~  
Steaks – 5 p.m.

at Camp Morris  
8321 Peckins Road; Wayland

Adults - \$25 per person; Youth - \$15 / Under 12 free

Extra Clams: \$5 per dozen –  
steamed or "you-shuck-em" raw

Includes ... A Dozen Clams, Delicious Grilled Steaks, Food-a-Plenty, Snacks, Open Bar, Beautiful Scenery, A Great Group for Socializing, Fishing, Hiking, Laid-Back Living, Lobster Lotto and then some.

What more could you ask for? No one leaves still hungry!!

Bring your favorite dish-to-pass ...  
an hors d'oeuvre, salad, side-dish, dessert

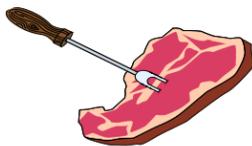
Also, bring your own steak knife, a light jacket and comfortable chair!

Call or email your reservation and extra clam order to  
the Valley Office by Noon on Monday, July 11th.

Come early ... enjoy the fellowship ... stay for the day!

This one will be a sellout!

A Summer Treat for Valley of Rochester Families!



## Valley of Rochester AASR Spring/Summer – 2016

MAY

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

May 19th - Election Meeting & Installation  
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (\*\*)  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

Menu: Grilled Steak, Baked Potato

JULY

July 16th - Clambake/Steak Roast at Camp Morris  
Arrival 11 a.m.

Lunch ~ Clams ~ Steak Dinner ~ Open Bar  
Lobster Lotto ~ Rain or Shine

AUGUST

August 13th - Scottish Rite Day at Darien Lake  
Gates Open - 10:30 a.m. ~ Lunch and Parking Included

SEPTEMBER

September 16th - Annual Meeting at Shrine Center  
Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (\*\*)  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

Council of Deliberation Meeting in Syracuse  
Contact the Office if you are interested in attending.

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!



## Summer is Coming ...

and so is  
Scottish Rite Day  
at Darien Lake  
Theme Park Resort



### Saturday, August 13th

Rides, Slides and Fun Galore ... Family Fun for All!  
Treat the Kids and Grandkids to a pre-school fun day.  
Lunch and Parking Included.



Watch your mail for details and  
discounted ticket prices for  
Valley Members.

Gates open at 10:30 a.m.  
Arrive early and enjoy a full day!

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# 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

The Chapter conferred the Holy Royal Arch Degree on our Candidates at our regular meeting on April 14th. The Cast was mostly Companions of the Chapter, but we had help from other Companions, namely Companion Jim MacConnell, who was the Principal Sojourner for the Degree. We hope our new Royal Arch Companions enjoyed the presentation of the Degree and learned a little more about the York Rite and its teachings.

The visit of our District Deputy Grand High Priest, R.:E.:

Fred Newton was scheduled for our April 28th meeting. We hope our Companions came out to hear R.:E.: Newton deliver the Grand High Priest's Message for the year.

Our meetings on **May 12th and 26th** will include portions of the Grand Chapter's Courses on the Degrees. We feel that our Companions will gain more knowledge of the Degrees and their meanings through directed discussion and information delivered through the course material.

Your High Priest was unable to attend the Capstone Course presented by V.:E.: Jamie Kaim, our Assistant Grand Lecturer, on April 11th due to other Masonic commitments. We are confident that V.:E.: Jamie presented the Course well and the attendees learned much about how to evaluate and run a Chapter and more.

The Capstone Course is similar to the Grand Lodge *Road to the East* Course, covering some of the same topics, but has more emphasis on Chapter workings and how to determine the state of

a Chapter and methodology for improving a Chapter.

Coming this Summer will be our Annual York Rite Picnic. This year we have decided not to hold it in June as we usually do because there are too many Masonic and other conflicts. Therefore, we have scheduled the picnic for **Thursday, July 7th** at Kings Bend Park. Details will be given in the June **Masonic Times** article and communicated to the Companions by email and PhoneVite.

Oh, speaking of our use of the PhoneVite System, it appears to be working well in keeping the Companions informed of Convocation Programs and other events. It is a good system of getting the word out to our Companions. If a Companion has not received the phone calls, please contact the High Priest or Secretary and verify that we have a valid phone number, cell or land line.

### Musings

It is interesting to note that the Chapter Degrees are very closely aligned with the Lodge Degrees.

The Degrees contain a ceremonial section and an allegorical section, just like the Lodge Degrees. The wording of some parts of the Ceremonial Section of the Degrees is very close and, in some cases, identical to the wording used in the Lodge Degrees.

Why is this? My thinking is that the Royal Arch Degrees were developed as an extension to the Lodge Master Mason Degree and as such used the same formula. As these Degrees were developed when the Lodge Ritual was being firmed up by the Grand Lodges in England and then carried over here, it makes sense that the formula and wording would match where similar portions of the work were being done. Our Rituals for the Lodge and Chapter were developed by Masons who had a great understanding of language and how compact the language can be when presenting information.

Our Ritual still uses the Standard Bible version of King James, in its work. The passages use the language of the time of King James in England. Now, is this language still understandable by the 21st Century Mason? It

can be, but it takes careful listening and personal interpretation to grasp the full meaning of the passages used in the Degrees. This can lead to the Companion learning some very important moral lessons.

Should the Ritual use more modern Bible translations in its work? It could, but it would take a group of very well-read and knowledgeable Companions to pick the translation that would cause the general Companions to understand the lesson the way it was originally intended.

Oh, and there are many modern English versions of the Bible that are translations from original sources and picking one is not a simple task; ask any Pastor. When our Rituals were being developed the King James Version was the only standard English Version that was translated from the known originals at the time. Therefore, it made sense to use that version in our Ritual.

Well, we have given you something to think about as we proceed into Summer, even though there is snow on the ground as I write this and the temperature is more like January than April. □

## 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

### Annual Commandery Inspections

All Sir Knights were encouraged by the attendance of Sir Knights at each others' Inspections both to help practice their Inspection and to support their Sister Commanderies. All Commanderies did very well and another successful year is nearly over.

If any Mason is interested in joining any of these Commanderies in the York Rite, please contact anyone in these Commanderies for information.

### Part IV

#### Admission to the Order

Before one could be considered for admission into the Order, he had to meet a number of preconditions. Among them, a man had to be in good health, not married or indebted, without any obligations and not bound by any other Order, and willing to accept becoming a slave and servant of the Order.

The Initiation Ceremony was held in a domed chamber resembling the "church of the Holy Sepulchre" and was to be conducted in absolute secrecy. Just as in Freemasonry centuries later, esoteric Rituals had to be performed during this Ceremony.

In the Order's rule of 1128 about the Initiation Ceremony, the Master would address the congregated Brothers of the Order with: "Dear Brothers, some of you have proposed that Mr. X may be admitted to the Order; if any of you know any reason to oppose his Initiation, say so now."

If no word of opposition is spoken, the Candidate will be led to the adjoining chamber of the Temple. In this chamber, the Candidate is visited by three of the

most senior Brothers, told of the difficulties and hardship awaiting him if he is admitted to the Order and then asked whether he still wishes to be admitted. If his answer is affirmative, he is asked whether he is married or engaged to be married, has links to other Orders, is indebted to anyone, is of good health and whether or not he is a slave.

If his answer to these questions complied with the requirements of the Order, the senior Brothers would return to the Temple and say, "We told the Candidate of all the hardships awaiting him and our conditions of admission, but he is insistent on becoming a slave of the Order."

Before being re-admitted into the Temple, the Candidate is again asked whether he still insists on being admitted. If he still answers yes, the Grand Master addresses the Candidate, "Brother, you are asking much of us. You have seen only the façade of the Order, and you hope to acquire pureblood horses, honorable neighbors, good food and nice garments. But are you aware of how hard our conditions really are?"

Proceeding to list the difficulties awaiting the Candidate, he continues: "You must not seek admittance for wealth, nor for status."

If the Candidate agrees, he is again led out of the Temple. The Grand Master then asks the Brothers whether they have anything to say about the Candidate. If there is nothing said against him, he is brought back, made to kneel down, and given the Bible. He is asked if he is married. If he answers no, the oldest or most senior in the congregation is asked, "Have any questions that need to be asked been forgotten?"

If the answer is no, the Candidate is asked to swear an oath that he will remain loyal to the Order and his Brothers until the day he dies, and that he will not reveal to the outside world a word that is spoken in the Temple. After he has sworn the oath, the Grand Master kisses the new Brother on the lips (from other sources,

on the neck and belly). He then is given a Templar mantle and a woven belt, which is never to be taken off.

### Templar as Financiers and Traders

Templars were expert financiers and using trading techniques quite unknown in the Europe of their day. They had clearly learned many of these skills from Jewish sources, but would have much more freedom to extend their financial empire, in a way that any Jewish financier of the period would have envied greatly.

Even though usury was forbidden, they weren't afraid to lend money on interest. The Templars had acquired such wealth – and the power that came with it – that nobody dared speak out against them or do anything about it.

This so went to their heads that they went out of control. They were disobedient to Kings and the Pope and, in some cases, even challenged their authority.

In 1303, for example, few years before their Order was liquidated, they refused a request for assistance from the French King Philip IV, as well as his later request in 1306 for the Templars' Order to merge with the Hospitalers.

Travel could be a hazardous enterprise in the 12th Century. En route, wayfarers could be

robbed by bandits anywhere and anytime. Transporting money, as well as other precious commodities essential for trade, was particularly risky.

Out of this situation, the Templars made a fortune by means of a fairly simple system of banking. For example, if a tradesman wanted to go from London to Paris, first he would go to the Templars' office in London and hand over his money. In return, he was given a paper with an encoded message written on it. On his arrival in Paris, he could hand in this note in exchange for the money he'd paid in London, minus a fee and interest. Thus the transaction was completed.

Along with traders, wealthy pilgrims, too, made use of this system. "Checks" issued by Templars in Europe could be cashed in on arrival in Palestine, minus a hefty interest charge for this service. In "The Temple and the Lodge," co-authors Michael Baigent and Richard Leigh explain the Templars' economic dimension, recording that the beginnings of modern banking can be traced back to them, and that no other organization contributed as much as the Templars to the rise of capitalism.

History records Florentine bankers as having invented

"checking accounts," yet the Templars were using this method of money transfer long before. It is generally accepted that capitalism first arose in the Jewish community of Amsterdam, but long before them, the Templars had established their own medieval capitalism, including banking based on interest. They lent money on interest rates of up to 60% and controlled a major proportion of capital flow and liquidity in the economy of Europe.

Using methods much like those of a modern private bank, they derived profits from both trade and banking, as well as from donations and armed conflict. They became as rich as the multi-national company that, in effect, they were. At one time, the finances of the English and French monarchies were controlled and run by the Templars' respective offices in London and Paris, and both the English and French Royal Families owed the Templars huge amounts of money. The Kings of Europe were literally at their mercy, hoping to borrow money, and most royal households had come to depend on the Order. This let them manipulate the Kings and their national polices for their own purposes. □



## MY CARE CONNECTION

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

My Care Connection can assist you.

**This is a free service to Masons.**

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On the web [www.mccny.com/mycare](http://www.mccny.com/mycare)

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



# 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)

Another month gone; where does the time go? This past meeting was, again, a wonderful time. We had a great guest speaker from the Mercy Flight

organization. It is amazing the cost to operate such an organization. It is truly a worthwhile effort to keep it going for the benefit of all of us. Some Prophets have heard this talk before but still gained a lot of information from this excellent speaker.

Also this last meeting we obligated two new Prophets; Prophet Lance Dual and Prophet Terrance Adams. Welcome Prophets to one of the best fun organizations in the Craft. It is a pleasure having you with us.

At the last couple of meetings, I have talked about Public Relations. I feel that this is one very important aspect that we should not ignore. This, of course, starts

with every Prophet. We must talk about the Grotto to friends, relatives and all our Brothers. Tell them who we are and what we do. It is not a big dark secret who we are. Get them interested, by letting them know what they are missing. Of course, the same applies to Masonry, so do not forget that public relations starts with us.

### May Birthdays

Happy Birthday to Prophets Theodore Theodor (5th), Jay Riggs (25th), Peter Cormack (29th) and John Dudley (31st).

Thank you, Prophets, for all the support you have shown me this year and we will see you at the next meetings. □

## Daughters of Mokanna



*Hilde DiJames*  
Mighty Chosen One

By Beverly Murray, Rodeval

On Saturday, May 7th, at 2 p.m., we will have our Supreme Inspection by SMCO Susan Benson, followed at 5 p.m. with a

Banquet. Cost of the Banquet is \$12; Monarch Roy Moses and his Lady, Susan, will be our guests.

On May 12th, Lalla Rookh Caldron will have a dinner for members of the Grotto and their Ladies, followed by an open meeting. This invitation to dinner and our open meeting is being extended to ALL MASONS and their Ladies.

Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. at the Unity Lodge Hall, 133 South Union Street, Spencerport.

Meeting will be at 7 p.m. It is our hope that the "hand of friendship" that has been extended to us, can be returned to you.

Please make your reservations with Bev by calling 865-8507 or via e-mail at:

[dofm2006@frontiernet.net](mailto:dofm2006@frontiernet.net)

We hope that YOU will be able to join us on May 7th and May 12th.

God Bless and May the peace of God abide with you. □

## In Memoriam

### Davis, Harold William

Harold Davis, 85, laid down his Working Tools on March 21st leaving his wife of 59 years, Roxanna; 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren to remember his life's story. Harry was a member of Fairport-Flower City Lodge, Scottish Rite, Damascus Shrine and Lalla Rookh Grotto. A memory is a keepsake of time that lives forever in the heart.

### Emery, R. Clinton

On March 13th, R. Clinton Emery, 86, departed from a lively life of accomplishments. His wife of 66 years, Barbara; 5 children, 14 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren will share his memories. Clint was a member of Fairport-Flower City Lodge. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.

### English, Floyd W., Jr.

Floyd English, 91, went Home to his Lord on December 28, 2015, leaving his wife, Carolyn; 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren to survive him. Floyd was a member of Scottish Rite. May the joy of the Lord be your strength.

### Gilmore, Richard A.

On March 31st, Richard Gilmore, 89, was received into Eternal Glory, leaving his wife, Marcie and 1 child to survive him. Richard was a US Navy Veteran of World War II and member of Seneca Lodge. Loving prayers are with you now and in the days to come.

### Henderson, John B.

John B. Henderson, 83, met his Maker on March 23rd. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane; 3 children and 5 grandchildren. John was a member of Oatka Lodge and Damascus Shrine. A page in our book of memories is gently turned today.

### Herman, Harold R.

Harold Herman, 78, went to the Celestial Lodge on February 9th. The Brothers of Drumlin Square Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shrine will keep his memory in their hearts. When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

### Hermenet, Alfred, Jr.

On April 10th, Alfred Hermenet, 82, was escorted by flights of angels to Heaven. He is survived by his wife, Sherry; 3 children and 3 grandchildren. He was a member of Sodus Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shrine. May he find peace with the Great Architect of the Universe.

### Jay, Dorothy

On March 12th, Dorothy Jay went to the waiting arms of her husband, leaving 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren to remember her. Dorothy was a member of Nolatka Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. May your tears become rainbows when you remember your loved one.

### Milonni, Gabriel

On January 20th, Gabriel Milonni, 79, departed his Earthly family leaving his wife of 56 years, Louise; 3 children and 2 grandchildren to survive him. He was a member of Inspiration Lodge. There are special people in our lives who never leave, even after they're gone.

### Pletcher, Harold E., Jr.

On March 6th, Harold Pletcher, 74, found peace in the arms of the Lord and he will be missed by his wife of 53 years, Joan; 1 child and 2 grandchildren. Harold was a member of Eunice Lodge. May His love see you gently through these difficult days.

### Schrader, George A.

The Brothers of Milnor Lodge will keep the memory of George Schrader, 95, who passed away April 3rd, forever in their hearts. May he find Peace with the Lord.

### Stark, William A., Jr.

On April 6th, the loving arms of the Lord embraced William Stark, 73, and he will be remembered by the Brothers of Inspiration Lodge. Your gentle spirit will live on in our hearts forever.

### Verbridge, Lloyd C.

On March 17th, Lloyd Verbridge, 91, went to the waiting arms of his wife; leaving 3 children, 6 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren to share the memory of his life. Lloyd was a member of Scottish Rite and Damascus Shrine. Remembrance is a golden chain that ties all the love and sorrows.

### Weinberg, Alan S.

Alan Weinberg, 83, passed away April 7th. His wife of 62 years, Irene; 2 children, 3 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren survive him. Celebrate the lives of your loved ones and hold their memories close.

The sun is shining, the white balls are flying and it's time to think GOLF!!!!

## Lalla Rookh Grotto



## Golf Tournament

## June 25th

Old Hickory Golf Course

6655 Big Tree Road, Livonia  
Starting Tee Time 9:30 a.m.

Join us for Coffee and Donuts at 8:30 a.m.

Entry fee is only \$50 per person  
Enjoy 18 holes of golf with a cart, refreshments on the course, lunch on the turn. Steak Dinner and prizes.  
We use the Callaway scoring system.



Entry Deadline is June 3rd  
To make your reservation or get more information, call George Fohner at 586-5255

### PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!

Make checks payable to & send with reservation form to:  
George Fohner, 10 Gladbrook Rd; Pittsford, NY 14534  
Please list complete names of players on separate sheet.

### LALLA ROOKH GROTTO GOLF TOURNAMENT JUNE 25th, 2016

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

## Widows to be Remembered

**Kathryn M. Bolton**, 90, widow of Harry Bolton (Wakan-Hubbard Lodge), passed away April 7th.  
**Gloria "Goldie" Sarachan**, 85, widow of Morton Sarachan (Fairport-Flower City Lodge), passed away March 30th.

**Cora B. (Paglia) Thrash**, 85, widow of Robert Thrash and Tom Paglia (Unity Lodge), passed away April 11th.  
**Catherine F. Wymar**, 96, widow of Thomas Wymar (Damascus Shrine), passed away March 20th. □

## Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

### JUNE

- 16 Masonic Service Bureau Awards Night, Damascus Shrine Center
- 30 Monroe Masters & Wardens Election

### JULY

- 16 Valley of Rochester Clambake, Wayland

### AUGUST

- 13 Scottish Rite Day at Darien Lake

### SEPTEMBER

- 15 OES Monroe Past Matrons, Spencerport

### NOVEMBER

- 12 Scottish Rite Day

Last Call to Support  
the 2015-16 Masonic  
Brotherhood Fund Campaign





# Order of the Eastern Star

## Monroe District OES HiLights

### DDGM

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

### DGL

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

### Community Project

The Tuna Trawl count is finally in and we delivered 207 cans of Tuna Fish to the Center of Youth. Many Thanks again.

### Recent Happenings

April 1st was the Square Dance and what a wonderful evening we had. The numbers were small, but everyone participated in the dancing. I express my thanks for the goodies that were donated. Mike Callahan, the Caller, was great and donated his time. The sum of \$240 was raised, which will go to the Veterans. Also, thank you to Unity Lodge Brothers for donating the room.

### Good Time

Many thanks to the Associate Matrons for the lovely time, at the West-East Luncheon on April 2nd. They sure kept our minds working with the Eastern Star Trivia. I know you are only few in number, but you did a great job.

### May Events

**May 3rd** - Official Visit at Starlight Chapter, 7:30 p.m., Spencerport

**May 4th** - Official Visit at Lilac Star Chapter, 7:30 p.m., Webster

**May 7th** - Line Officers Breakfast at my home. It's just a social gathering, so come as you are!! I would like a count who will be there so please call me 621-6051. This will be from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. only.

**May 16th** - Combined Official Visit of Nolatka and Etoleah Chapters, 7:30 p.m., Spencerport

### June Events

**June 9th** - The Lilac Luncheon in Oriskany. I will keep you posted for the rest of the information.

**June 11th** - This will be the Walk-a-thon and the Grand Matron's Homecoming. R.W. Beverly Thompson and I will be participating in the Walk-a-thon. We would both love sponsors. All monies to be turned into R.W. Beverly before this date.

**June 18th** - Monroe District Homecoming for R.W. Elaine Milner, M.W. Neil Laundry and R.W. Doreen Rhodes.

Until next time, keep well.



R.W. Doreen Rhodes, District Deputy Grand Matron; R.W. Joy Woodley; and District Grand Lecturer, M.W. Neil Laundry with donated cans of Tuna for the Center of Youth.

## Neil's Notes

### District Grand Lecturer

I returned home from Mexico to find District activities already at full speed. We flew into town around midnight on March 4th and arrived at Unity Lodge Hall the next morning for the Line Officers' Meeting.

I was very impressed with both the quality of the work being done and the amount of planning already accomplished. In addition to the several State and District projects introduced by R.W. Doreen Rhodes, DDGM, each of the groups have their own fundraisers and are working on their own projects for the Grand Matron's Official Visit.

On March 8th, R.W. Joy Woodley, Worthy Matron of Lilac Star, R.W. Doreen and I made a second delivery at the Center for Youth to drop off over 200 cans of tuna fish, hand bags, nail care kits, soap, purses, hair brushes and mittens. These items, donated by members of our Chapters, were in addition to the Winter clothing contributed by our members back in December.

The following Saturday, March 12th, we held the District School of Instruction in conjunction with a Special Membership Awareness Program, developed and presented by W. Erika Hanson. Both activities were well-attended and well-re-

ceived. Both Erika and I appreciated the excellent questions and suggestions.

The following day, March 13th, a good-sized group of Sisters, Brothers, friends and relatives gathered at Rand Lodge in Powder Mills Park for a super get-together, including Euchre, board games, Chess, hots and Chili. I had never heard of "Rummikub" (one of the board games), but I'm pretty sure that Bonnie Shaffer cheats.

Thanks, Doreen, for the huge cake with really thick white frosting to celebrate my birthday. Samantha started at one corner of the frosting and worked all the way down the edge. No Doreen. Just because I got the first piece of cake doesn't mean that I have to start the Karaoke.

On March 29th, R.W. Doreen and I were given the opportunity to preside over the opening of this year's Tri-District Friendship Night in Batavia. This year we honored our Sideliners and had the pleasure of sharing the evening with our Grand Matron, M.W. Jacqueline Howlett and Grand Patron, M.W. Nathan Herendeen. Several Monroe members were there to enjoy the proceedings. Did I mention the fruit pies?

We were again lucky enough to have Mike Callahan serve as Caller for our April 1st Square Dance. The turnout was less than overwhelming, but thanks to all who did attend. It was a lot of fun. Thanks to Mike's generosity and that of the Brothers at Unity Lodge, we made \$240 toward our Honor Flight contributions.

I can't do justice to the many Sisters and Brothers who continue to bring honor to our District and our Order. I promise I will try to do a better job before the year is over. If I haven't mentioned you, it doesn't mean I haven't noticed.

**"Trip?" What "Trip?"**  
**Shhhh!! It's a**  
**"Mystery Trip!"**

When? **September 4th!**  
Deadline for signup?  
**August 1st.** Don't miss it!!

If you've missed a few of our Chapter Official Visits, District events or even our Grand Matron's Official Visit, check that calendar and get on out to support your Sisters and Brothers. We've been having a ball. Where have you been?

Before closing, I need to let you know about some really important information. Although we have a lot of District and Chapter activities taking place over the Summer and Fall, two State functions seem to stand out. They would be "Pilgrimage Day" Weekend in July and Grand Sessions in October. Check with your Matron or Chapter Secretary for details.

We will pass new information along as we get it. Housing Request Forms for Grand Sessions may be obtained from Neil Laundry and must be turned in to Neil by **June 15th**. All housing forms for the District will be sent in as a package by the District Grand Lecturer. □

## Past Matrons Association

**R.W. Mary Hall**

President

Our January meeting was canceled because, believe it or not, it was a super cold, snowy day. Our next meeting was March 17th, St. Patrick's Day. We had lovely decorations by R.W. Debbie Leipold who was the Refreshment Chairperson. For each person attending she made a bag of delicious homemade cookie pretzels with chocolate and walnuts on top. Attached to each bag was one of her handmade cards. We had a good turnout of Past Matrons. After lunch, we met in the Lodge Room where a Necrology was read for Beverly Van Huben.

My theme for my year as President is "Giving from the Heart." Twenty-six cans of soup were donated, some with little bunny ears and white tails with a note that said that they need to multiply, so they could all go to the Food Shelf. Other cans for the Food Shelf were Tuna Fish, Peanut Butter and Vegetables. Also donated was a quart bag of pull tabs for the Day Care Center and toiletries for the Battered Women's Shelter. Thank you to those who brought things. We will be collecting more at our next meeting. Keep up the great work.

Our next meeting is **May 19th** at 4:30 p.m. The dress is formal. We will be initiating our new members and also be doing a Memorial Service. A Ham Dinner by the Thom-Tom Club (Matrons, Patrons, and Grand Officers from 2014) will follow the meeting. Make your reservation for the dinner by telling your Chapter Secretary that you will be there. There will be something special at our next meeting, so come to see what it is. □



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**The Real Deal**

*Continued from Page 1*

a revolving door of tenants in that space, as we have had three separate businesses (and some temporary renters) in that space over the last decade. The photography studio in the other commercial space had been there since 1993, but was having difficulties.

By late 2012, the corner unit was empty once again and the dramatic changes in the photography business landscape put the photo studio out of business after two decades. We had no tenants, and the path forward was uncertain.

This combination of events finally galvanized the Brothers around the idea that we had to do something. The question was, what?

A good first step was that we agreed to hire a commercial real estate broker to find new tenants – ideally with better lease terms. But what if that didn't work?

We had our first discussion about selling the building. It was emotional and difficult, but we had to acknowledge the facts ... the Lodge only had so many resources to carry the costs of the building if we had no tenants. Brothers began to concede that they might be open to a sale of the building, but only as a LAST resort. Some of us were still willing to go down with the ship if necessary. After all, this was our home, and the thought of leaving it just wasn't acceptable at the time.

Mercifully, the broker worked its magic and we had new tenants with improved lease terms for the Lodge. We could breathe again. Maybe we didn't need to sell the building after all. Or did we?

We took it off the market and went back to business as usual. In hindsight, that could have turned out to be a big mistake, but we got lucky.

We didn't feel very lucky in the beginning of 2015. By March, both tenants advised us that they would not renew their leases, and we reached out to the broker again. Given the turnover that we had experienced in the commercial spaces since 2005, we were starting to feel like we were at a crossroads with the building. Again, we began talking about a potential sale. The conversation was easier this time, in part because we had the conversation already in 2012. Importantly, we were communicating with each other in a constructive way to get everyone on board for whatever path forward presented itself.

Separate from the concerns about the building, Wakan-Hubbard was experiencing some of the issues that plague Lodges around the State:

- 1) Declining membership, as more Brothers were called home by the Great Architect each year than we had joining the Lodge;
- 2) Sporadic participation, as Brothers increasingly began to choose other activities on Lodge nights; and
- 3) difficulty retaining young new members, whose family and career obligations made it difficult to come to Lodge.

Eventually, this can create

difficulties filling the Chairs when a Lodge doesn't have a deep bench of Brothers who are able to commit time to the organization. If the Ritual work begins to falter, this combination of factors can spell the beginning of the end for a Lodge that was once healthy.

The number of Lodges in our Jurisdiction that have succumbed to these pressures over the last many decades is probably too high to count. A large number of those Lodges waited until it was too late to act to salvage the situation. When that happens, although a merger often results, the damage can be so significant that only a few Brothers from the predecessor Lodge remain active. This is a tragic outcome.

Wakan-Hubbard clearly faces some of those challenges, as I know many other Lodges do. We have a full complement of Officers, although there are more than a few Past Masters in the Officers' Chairs now.

We still get Brothers out to meetings, but it is a challenge sometimes and we seem to be a stubborn adherent to the 10% rule – that 10% of the members of the organization are regularly at meetings (except, of course, for Degree nights when it can be 15% to 20%). We can still do our own Degrees fairly well, including all of the Lectures, but we are starting to see fewer and fewer new faces in those roles. Any Brother in the District who has visited our Lodge in the last several years knows these things to be true.

This confluence of events began a thoughtful conversation in early 2015. The solution was both simple, and complex, at the same time.

The simple part was that we acknowledged the need to find a constructive way forward with our Masonic Program and our building before it was "too late." The more difficult part was what exactly that meant. I applaud my Brothers for being willing to have that conversation, with an open mind to potential outcomes that may have been inconceivable just months before, and finding a constructive way forward.

As to the building, we all agreed that it could be advantageous to sell the building if the option presented itself at a reasonable price.

Given the recent history, this appeared to be preferable over finding new tenants. As building owners, we found that the Lodge spent an inordinate amount of meeting time dealing with issues related to the building. We asked ourselves some important questions:

Given the situation, wouldn't it be nice to just focus on Masonry, and not be building owners? Further, wouldn't it be great to have some more financial stability? It was still not a slam dunk decision, but consensus was gathering that a sale might be the best way forward. Our thought process had evolved significantly since 2012, when a sale was unthinkable to many Brothers.

As to the Masonic Program, we finally decided it was time to reach out to another Lodge. Again, this was a difficult deci-

sion. Some Brothers get twitchy when you use the "M" word, because everyone has heard stories (or experienced) mergers which have been challenging.

Even so, reaching out could be a big plus all around and, if nothing else, we might find help just to do things better. We decided there was no upside in waiting and reached out to ERAC Lodge.

Our Lodges are geographically close, and have the same meeting times. Some things they are good at overlap areas where we could use a hand up. We are currently doing some joint events together, and will have done two joint Degrees by the time this is published. The fellowship has been joyful, and invigorating for Wakan-Hubbard. We greatly appreciate their willingness to work with us. We look forward to continuing down the path, and will see where it goes.

Speaking of where it goes, where would we go if we found a buyer for the building? The Webster Masonic Temple was an obvious choice for a variety of reasons.

The Trustees of Webster Lodge were open to a dialogue, which was also made easier because we explored renting from Webster in 2012 when it was unclear whether or not we would find new tenants. Our constructive dialogue with Webster Lodge, and their willingness to work with us through this process to find solutions that benefitted everyone, is greatly appreciated. They made it much easier for us to make a decision concerning a potential sale of the building—we had a viable option for a new home.

As you know, we ultimately did find a buyer in November and the sale of the building closed on April 6, 2016.

What a busy few months! We rented a dumpster, and removed over three tons of stuff from the building in January over the course of two weekends. We also started packing in January, and our Regular Communication in early February turned into a work night also. A big thank you to all the Brothers at Wakan-Hubbard who helped out, including Don Bell, John Rees, John Zabel, Roger Lynch, Thomson Chew, Allen Heidrick, Tom Ward, Peter Derry, Rob Russo, Carey Hollis, Dean Sisson, John Parcon, Al Downs, Chris Fox, Mike DiCataldo, Scott Blystone and Eugene MacNeal. Apologies if I missed anyone!

A special thanks to Tom Ward, our Building Committee Chair, for facilitating all of this activity and the hard work he has done in that capacity to make this happen.

We moved out of the Lodge Building to Webster Lodge on Sunday, March 13, 2016. What a great day of fellowship and support! We reached out to ERAC and Webster Lodges for assistance and had a number of Brothers come out to help with the move in addition to most of the Brothers above from Wakan-Hubbard.

Brother Jim MacDuff joined us from ERAC. We had a number of Brothers join us from Webster Lodge, including Chris Loftus, Dave Aleksandrowicz, John Ross, Grant Kothiringer, Bill Gross, Jeremy Knox, Ron Sobtzick, Al Borrino, and Jim Clancy.

Please accept my sincerest apologies if I mistakenly left someone from the list – we had someone in charge of taking down everyone's names, and I really hope we didn't miss anyone.

We met at Wakan-Hubbard Lodge Hall at 9 a.m., packed up the U-Haul and had substantially everything unloaded at Webster by about 12:30 p.m. In all, about 25 Brothers from three Lodges made that move happen, and we had a great time doing it. We can't thank you all enough.

We had our first meeting at Webster the following Monday, March 14th. What a great night! We had guests from Webster Lodge and Seneca Lodge to welcome us to our new home. It was great seeing our Lodge furniture incorporated into Webster's Lodge Room.

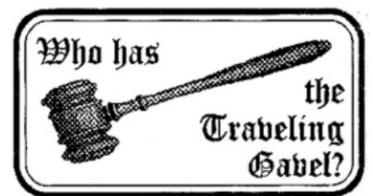
I always thought that was a great meeting place, but it's really cool having all of the furniture from two Lodges incorporated into the same Lodge Room! It really made the room feel like home for us. Even without the furniture, the "open arms" reception we have received from the Brothers of Webster Lodge really makes it feel like home, and that's great.

So that's where we are and the future is full of opportunity. It's been an emotional road for us, full of twists and turns that sometimes made our heads spin. We focused heavily on communication, recognizing the power of getting everyone to the table to be a part of the process.

I'm proud of the Brothers of Wakan-Hubbard Lodge for having the courage to make some tough decisions in the last 12 months, and approaching the process with an open mind.

The activity around the sale of the building, together with the excitement surrounding the move and the activities we are doing with ERAC, has really brought us closer together. It has made our Lodge stronger, and put us on firm footing for the future, whatever it holds. Equally important, all of this has brought the Brothers of ERAC, Wakan-Hubbard, Webster and Seneca Lodges a little closer together because we are sharing in fellowship in different ways.

Ultimately, that is good for Masonry in Monroe District, which is good for all of us. Be well, Brothers, and come visit us sometime! ☐



I would encourage everyone to visit sometime—if it's any incentive, we do have the Travelling Gavel. Any takers?

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**Apron Presentation Dinner**  
In Recognition of  
**Monroe District**  
**Grand Lodge Officers**

**R.:W.: Stephan P. Michener**  
**District Deputy Grand Master**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**R.:W.: Joseph E. Bourcy III**  
**Grand Director of Ceremonies**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**V.:W.: Lance J. Daul**  
**Assistant Grand Lecturer**

**Wednesday, June 22nd**

*Damascus Shrine Center*  
979 Bay Road, Webster  
Social - 6 p.m. (Cash Bar);  
Buffet Dinner - 7 p.m.  
Program Follows  
**\$15 per person**

**Pre-paid Reservations Required by June 16th**  
Make Check Payable to and send to:  
**Phillip R. Hurwitz**  
72 Long Pond Road; Rochester, NY 14612-1107  
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Rochester, NY 14612-1107

# Big Calendar for May 2016

| Sunday                                                                         | Monday                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Tuesday                                                                                                                | Wednesday                                                                                                                                                                                               | Thursday                                                                                                                                                                    | Friday                                                                                                                                                                           | Saturday                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b>                                                                       | <b>2</b><br>KT - Cyrene/Monroe, Pittsford - Open Meeting<br>Lalla Rookh Grotto - Board of Governors, Shrine Center<br>Shrine Lunch Club<br>Damascus Shrine Divan<br>~ Grand Lodge Communication, New York City ~ | <b>3</b><br>Clio, Hilton<br>Nunda Station<br>OES - Fairport and Starlight - OV<br>Shrine Clowns Meeting, Shrine Center | <b>4</b><br>Drumlin Square, Palmyra<br>Olive Branch, Le Roy<br>Damascus Shrine Ceremonial<br>OES - Lilac Star                                                                                           | <b>5</b><br>Northfield, Pittsford<br>Webster, 3°<br>Eunice, Caledonia                                                                                                       | <b>6</b><br><div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">Webster Lodge<br/>Spaghetti Dinner<br/>5-7 p.m.<br/>\$9 adult; \$5 Child</div> | <b>7</b><br>Lalla Rookh Caldron<br>Supreme Inspection, Spencerport                               |
| <b>8</b><br><br>Mother's Day                                                   | <b>9</b><br>ERAC, Shrine Center - E<br>Fairport-Flower City- E<br>Union Star, Honeoye Falls<br>Unity, Spencerport<br>Wakan-Hubbard - E, Webster<br>Shrine Lunch Club<br>DeMolay                                  | <b>10</b><br>Inspiration, Shrine Center - E<br>Seneca, Webster<br>OES - Mary Jane Holmes, Brockport                    | <b>11</b><br>Oatka - E, 1°, Scottsville<br>Masonic Service Bureau<br>Board Meeting, Shrine Center<br>Damascus Legion of Honor, Shrine Center                                                            | <b>12</b><br>Fame, Shrine Center<br>Milnor, Shortsville<br>Union, Lima<br>Webster - Past Masters<br>RAM - Hiram Chapter<br>Lalla Rookh Caldron - Open Meeting, Spencerport  | <b>13</b><br>Oatka - Scotch Tasting<br><br>~ ~ Grand Post Annual Convention, Buffalo ~ ~<br>May 13th - 15th                                                                      | <b>14</b><br>Daughters of the Nile, Webster<br>Fidelity Triangle - Open Meeting, Pittsford       |
| <b>15</b>                                                                      | <b>16</b><br>Cyrene/Monroe, Pittsford<br>OES - Etolah - OV, Spencerport<br>Shrine Lunch Club<br>Auburn Shrine Club<br>Nile Card Party, Webster                                                                   | <b>17</b><br>Clio, Hilton<br>Nunda Station<br>Inspiration - Open Installation, Shrine Center,<br>OES - Starlight       | <b>18</b><br>Ark, Phelps<br>Drumlin Square, Palmyra<br>Olive Branch, Le Roy<br>Masonic War Veterans<br>Birthday Party, Canandaigua<br>RSM-Doric Council, Pittsford<br>Lalla Rookh Grotto, Shrine Center | <b>19</b><br>Webster, E<br>Lalla Rookh Caldron<br>Executive Council<br>Scottish Rite, Shrine Center<br>Past Matrons Association, Spencerport                                | <b>20</b><br><br>Damascus Shrine<br>Cruz Night                                                                                                                                   | <b>21</b><br>Sagoyewatha, Phelps<br>Clio Lodge Chicken BBQ, Hilton<br>Wakan-Hubbard Ladies Night |
| <b>22</b><br>Community Memorial Day Service at Rochester War Memorial - 3 p.m. | <b>23</b><br>ERAC, Shrine Center<br>Fairport-Flower City<br>Unity, Spencerport<br>Wakan-Hubbard, Webster<br>Shrine Lunch Club<br>Geneva Lunch Club                                                               | <b>24</b><br>Inspiration, Shrine Center                                                                                | <b>25</b><br>Oatka, Scottsville - E<br>Tall Cedars, Pittsford<br>Masonic War Veterans, Spencerport                                                                                                      | <b>26</b><br>Milnor, Shortsville<br>Union, Lima<br>RAM - Hiram Chapter<br>Perry Shrine Club<br>Masonic War Veterans - I, Webster<br>Monroe Masters & Wardens, Shrine Center | <b>27</b><br><br>Damascus Shrine<br>Cruz Night                                                                                                                                   | <b>28</b>                                                                                        |
| <b>29</b>                                                                      | <b>30</b><br>Webster Memorial Day Parade<br><br>Memorial Day, Observed                                                                                                                                           | <b>31</b><br>Memorial Day Service at Canandaigua Veterans Facility                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                  |