



Masonic Times

FINAL ISSUE

Serving the Masonic Community Since 1963

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Union Lodge's 200th Celebrated with Re-dedication Ceremony

By R.:W.: Mike Grady

On October 29th, Union Lodge No. 45, in Lima, had the pleasure of celebrating an important milestone – one that remained unbroken for 200 years. It is a story of fortitude, determination and focus. Maybe even a dash of stubbornness.

Yes, it was a 200-Year Celebration ... or, as we called it, a "Jollification." *More on that later.*

Two Hundred Years ... A long time indeed. We had a 200-Year Bicentennial Celebration in this Country in 1976. Now that has eclipsed 240 years.

Much planning goes into such an event. The 200-Year Celebration Committee at Union Lodge provided great wisdom and ideas - all coming together to make the day very special. The day started with a Re-dedication Ceremony in the 3rd Floor Lodge Room where the Grand Master and his Grand Line were in attendance. They beautifully performed the Re-dedication Ceremony – all walking on that Union Lodge famous carpet that was put in place in 1865. Yes, right after the end of the Civil War.

The Ceremony was followed by Years of Service Awards. This included a 50-year Apron for Union Lodge's long-time Treasurer, W.: Bruce Whitmore. Congratulations!

At the conclusion of the Re-dedication Ceremony, everyone headed to the Lima Country Club.

Such a grand celebration is worth a party ... or



M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, presents ceremonial booklet to W.: Corey VanBlarcom, Master.

a "Jollification," as we called it.

Jollification (Origin) 1800-1810

Noun – jolly merrymaking; jolly festivity.

My Father actually discovered this word a few years ago in an old newspaper. Since it originated around the time of Union Lodge, it seemed to fit.

Continued on Page 4

R.:W.: William R. Lindsay 1941 - 2016

Past District Deputy Grand Master Monroe District

By Skip Waterstreet, Editor

It pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to call our Brother, Right Worshipful William R. Lindsay on November 8th. Brother Bill had been suffering from COPD for several years.



File photo R.:W.: William R. Lindsay

Raised in Zetland Lodge No. 951 in 1986, Right Worshipful Lindsay progressed through mergers with Yonondio and Genesee Falls Lodges to form Towpath Lodge and then a further consolidation with East Rochester Ancient Craft Lodge to form ERAC Lodge No. 163.

He served as Master of Towpath Lodge in 1991. In subsequent years, he assisted Masters with the preparation of their Trestleboards and served the Lodge as a Trustee.

Worshipful Lindsay received the Grand Master's Award of Appreciation for his efforts in assisting Grand Lodge when the Sessions were held in Rochester in 1993, Brother Bill received his Commission as District Deputy Grand Master of the Monroe District at the St. Johns' Day festivities in Utica on June 24th, 2000.

As a retired Administrator and Educator from the Greece Central School District, he used his developed skills to assist Grand Lodge and the District in many capacities. He was Area 15 Chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee

for Education and Leadership Services, which included training Grand Lodge Officers, and he worked to revise the Leadership Development Course.

Active in Concordant Bodies as well, he held memberships in Hiram Chapter No. 62, RAM; Doric Council No. 19; Genesee Council No. 51, AMD; the Philaethes Society, American Legion of Research; Western New York Lodge of Research; and Rochester Chapter No. 314, Order of the Eastern Star.

Distinguished Brother Lindsay, 32° MSA, received the Meritorious Service Award in 2007 from the Council of Deliberation, State of New York, for his dedication to the Valley of Rochester, which he had served as Secretary.

Personally, Brother Bill was available to whisper wise counsel in my ear both as Editor of the **Masonic Times**, where he had served on the Editorial Board, and as the Executive Director of the Masonic Service Bureau, as he was the elected Treasurer.

He retired to his home in the Southern Tier several years ago, dimitted from ERAC Lodge and Affiliated with Nunda Station Lodge. A Masonic Memorial Service was held on November 15th in Nunda. We extend our sincere sympathy to his family. Rest in peace, Brother Bill. ☐

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All-Masonic Groups Children's Holiday Party
at Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster

Saturday, December 10th
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Open to children and grandchildren (and their friends) of all Masonic Families
Bring a wrapped gift for each child.
Be sure to mark with child's full name.

Activities will include ...
Cookie Decorating Pine Cone Bird feeder Games
Coloring Snacks Drinks

Special visit with Santa

Co-sponsored by AASR-Valley of Rochester, Masonic Service Bureau and Damascus Shrine.

Have-a-Heart Campaign February 2nd - 18th, 2017

By R.:W.: George Foehner

My last article for the **Masonic Times**, wow how the time does fly. The *Have-a-Heart* Campaign and I will miss the paper, as it was one of the biggest reasons for our success.

Now is a good time to thank the Service Bureau, under the professional leadership of Skip, Jan and their volunteers for a job well done. The *Have-a-Heart* Campaign would not have made it all these years had it not been for the generosity of the Service Bureau. It was only fitting that

on October 25th at the Ronald McDonald House's Annual Award Night at the George Eastman House, the Bureau was awarded a Pillar Society Award for its contribution to the Ronald McDonald Houses.

This year's *Have-a-Heart* Campaign will communicate through three major sources, email, phone and the Masonic Service Bureau's Website. The website can be found at: www.monroemasonic.com Schedules for all three Malls with dates, times, participants



Pillar Society Awards were presented to R.:W.: George Foehner and R.:W.: Charles "Skip" Waterstreet at Eastman House event.

and much more will be posted. Tentative Schedules are on page 19 of this issue. Tear off the page and save it.

We welcome Brothers of the Genesee-Wyoming District to

Mall Chairmen:

Eastview Mall
John Dudley (734-3220)

Marketplace Mall
Mark Hutton (705-1914)

The Mall at Greece Ridge
Eugene Crews
(225-7949 or 317-9946)

the fold. They joined up with our friends in Livingston District to form the new Letchworth District. They will reinforce the Greece Ridge Mall location. Let's have a big turnout for the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign.

The Freemasons of the Genesee Region wish everyone Happy Holidays. See you in February.

A Proud Mason ☐

Dated Material

Damascus News see page 9



671-9730

Editor's Corner

Well, this is it! Many Sisters and Brothers have expressed their thanks to me for the time and effort expended to publish this paper ten months a year, attempting to keep members of the Craft in touch and informed.

This is a heartfelt thank you to all of them and to those of you who, over the years, have submitted articles on behalf of your Sisters and Brothers. I have commented before that I know what a chore this is, and has been, and I have been very grateful that you would take the time to keep us all informed. We couldn't have done it without you!

When we don't receive any information on a subscribing organization's members - its Degrees, Social Events, important meetings or Activities - it is impossible to publish anything for that organization. That has always disturbed me, but we go with the flow. Some issues have had a lot more details than others; some more photos than others. We relied heavily on correspondents to provide these articles and images, as it was physically impossible to be at every meeting or event. So, THANK YOU, again.

I tried to get to many functions. In fact, one of my goals was to visit every subscribing organization at some point. That didn't happen. Six months into my stint as Editor, the Great Architect called home the Executive Director of the Masonic Service Bureau. That forced a change in my plans and duties, which further resulted in my being elected his successor as the Executive Director.

Being your own boss can be a great experience. Being your own boss can make you miserable at times. There were many days over the past thirteen years I wished I wasn't in that circumstance. On the other hand, if I had to work for someone with whom I didn't feel comfortable or understand his agenda, I might not have lasted this long.

For the most part, this has been a labor of love. I am proud to be a Mason! I am proud of my efforts in serving the Craft, which I believe overall have been positive and beneficial.

That said, the massive reductions in membership in the Fraternity, the changing demographics, the reduction of corporations and jobs, the schedules of activities of today's families and the progress in electronics and digital media have contributed to the decay of printed newspapers in general and the **Masonic Times** in particular. I can't change that!

History

When I began, Dave King was Assistant Editor. A craftsman in the printing industry, but with limited computer experience, he taught himself how to use an application to enhance

supplied images so we could publish them in the paper. A whiz with a knife and waxed proofs, he could revise the layout of a page in a few minutes. It takes me half an hour to do this on the computer.

Mat Gingold was the major paste-up individual. Dedicated is too soft a word to use. He was almost offended if I told him he didn't have to come in on a particular day as we didn't have enough articles completed to keep him busy. I was the one who was uncomfortable when he was sitting around idle.

I've missed both of these Brothers terribly since they joined the Celestial Lodge a few years ago. We would share knowledge of the different groups to which we belonged and discuss whether some articles or information should be published. Neither was afraid to voice an opinion and always accepted my decisions, even if they were not to their liking.

These two fellows could not do much until Barbara Goodrich completed the formatting and Norm Austin, Vern Goodrich, Mat and me finished proofing the articles. Later, it was Jan Porter proofing and formatting and Barb, Bev VanHuben, Herb Spencer, Garry Cranker, Doreen Rhodes and Richard Smith joining the proofreaders ranks. Without their faithful support over the years, this publication would not have been as successful as we believe it was.

Another individual I need to mention and thank is John Dudley. The only man I know who shows up at events with a camera more often than me! Brother John has shared many photographs over the years and too many times I neglected to put the tag line in print.

One reason I stopped that practice was because many people sent in images, but I was never sure they were the person who took the photo or someone else had taken it and given it to them to have published. Another reason was, with the onslaught of cell phone cameras, we received many images that I couldn't publish and some I shouldn't have. I didn't want to name names and, possibly, embarrass someone. But here I will thank you all for your support.

Statistics

Elsewhere you will read of the passing of Brother Bill Lindsay, a friend and confidant. In my efforts to obtain information for that article, I researched the May, 2000, issue of the **Masonic Times**, which had the announcement of his appointment as District Deputy Grand Master of the Monroe District.

On the same page as was the conclusion of that story was another article with the headline, "Masonic Plague." Intrigued, I read further.

"During the ten years from 1978 through 1987, 254 Lodges merged into 123 Lodges.

"During the next ten years, 1988 through 1997, 235 Lodges merged into 115 Lodges.

"In a span of 20 years, 489 Lodges merged into 240 Lodges, and an additional 16 Lodges simply surrendered their Char-

ters. During the same 20 years individual membership dropped from nearly 180,000 in 1978 to a reported membership count of 60,000 in 1997. And this 60,000 figure includes double counting of many members who belong to more than one Lodge."

In the *List of Lodges* booklet for 2015, New York has 513 total Lodges. I know that currently there are fewer than that since there have been further mergers since that issue was published. I recently was told that there are fewer than 35,000 Masons in New York State.

The circulation of the *Monroe Masonic News* in 1978 was 9,000 and there were two Monroe Districts. For this issue, we will print 2,800 copies for one Monroe District and, supposedly, include articles from Letchworth District, Ontario/Seneca/Yates District and Wayne District. It will also be 20 pages again, but not due to the volume of text. Several big Masonic functions are mentioned - Union Lodge's 200th Anniversary and New York State DeMolay's Legion of Honor Investiture Service - as well as the regular Lodge news.

With the history of Masonry in New York State, being able to survive for 200 years is a remarkable achievement. As an Honorary DeMolay Legionnaire, I can tell you it is an Award you can't buy. You earn it. Our small town didn't have a DeMolay Chapter when I was a youth or I'm sure my father would have persuaded my brother and me to join. So to learn I was receiving the Honorary Legion of Honor was stunning to me, as I didn't even know I was eligible.

I have tried to promote any significant presentation to a Sister or Brother, if it was brought to my attention. Even Lodge Service Awards photos are published if they are provided to us.

Maybe this coverage is a little more extensive than it should be or needed to be, but I have to print in four-page signatures so sometimes it is easier to go long than cram into smaller space.

The comment has returned to me that the main reason for the printed **Masonic Times** coming to an end is financial. This is not true. It is a consideration, but not the main reason. The truth of the matter is, I'm tired and worn out (and old!). I no longer take well to long days and weekends in the Office.

While not every phrase is apropos to my situation, the words (and I've heard several variations) of the song, *Get Up and Go*, sung by Pete Seeger (30 years ago!), seem to say it best:

How do I know my youth is all spent:
My get-up-and-go, got up and went
But in spite of it all, I'm able to grin
And think of the places my get-up-and-go has been

Old age is golden, so I've heard said,
But sometimes I wonder as I crawl into bed
With my ears in a drawer, and my teeth in a cup,
My eyes on the table until I wake up

As sleep dims my vision, I say to myself
Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf
But Nations are warring and business is vexed
I'll stick around to see what happens next

When I was young my slippers were red
I could kick my heels right over my head
When I got older my slippers were blue
But I could still dance the whole night thru

Now that I am old my slippers are black
I huff to the store and puff my way back
But never you laugh, I don't mind at all
I'd rather be huffing than not puff at all

I get up each morning and dust off my wits
Open the paper and read the "orbits"
If I'm not there, I know I'm not dead
So I eat a good breakfast and go back to bed

Anonymous

I'm looking forward to, occasionally, going back to bed! I think I've rambled on long enough. Thanks again for your support and ... Thanks for reading. ☐

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Happy Birthday, MSB, 200 years plus

By R.:W.: Charles Waterstreet
Executive Director

I'll bet you didn't know the Masonic Service Bureau is starting its third century of service to the Craft and Masons, their Widows and Orphans, in the immediate vicinity of Rochester. That's because we've never made it a point to seek headlines or recognition for what we have done or do. Yes, we have been recipients of Awards, but that has never been the goal of the Organization. We try to stay quietly behind the scenes.

Early documents tell me that Wells Lodge Brothers determined, in 1817, that indigent Brothers should be cared for as part of fulfilling our obligations as Masons. They established a Committee of Relief, which led to what you know today as the Masonic Service Bureau. We still have a section in Mt. Hope Cemetery with several open gravesites, purchased decades ago, available to accommodate needy Brothers.

It was not always called that, but I don't think it is relevant to research the various names under which it operated. Also, it may have been dormant for a period of time during the Morgan episode, when Masons were meeting infrequently or not at all and tried to keep their identities under wraps.

In our files are copies of a Certificate of Incorporation for Masonic Service Bureau of Rochester, New York, Inc. The Certificate is dated April 30, 1927. There are additional papers indicating requests were made for changes of purpose and the number of Directors. We filed to change our name to Masonic Service Bureau of Greater Rochester, New York, Inc. and that we were now doing business in Webster. The State of New York Department of State said that change was not significant to warrant a change in our Certificate of Incorporation.

Over the years, many programs have been held, which have been hosted by, or sponsored by, the Masonic Service Bureau. We have provided for visitations and gifts to VA Hospitals; Supported drives for Ronald McDonald Charities Home-Away-from-Home Program, specifically through the *Have-a-Heart* Campaign for the past thirty years; Assisted in providing support personnel and materials for other charitable organizations; provided financial support for Hospice Care facilities, Food Cupboards, Soup Kitchens, programs for the Elderly and disadvantaged Youth; and many others.

We own and operate Camp DeMolay. This 16-acre facility, in a rustic setting on the shore of Lake Ontario in Sodus Point, is available for use by youth groups and adult organizations on a first come, first served basis from May through October.

We have an Endowment Investment Portfolio, now called

the General Fund, from which we are able to provide money for these Grants and for the Education Assistance Grant Program for qualified Students. During my tenure, these figures have run between \$20,000 and \$30,000 per year. It has been my privilege to pass along over one-third of a million dollars in these Programs. My guess is over half a million has been contributed since the program's inception.

There is another Endowment Investment Portfolio for the property in the Village of Sodus Point, Camp DeMolay. Twenty-plus years ago, this property was donated to the Bureau and a fundraiser was created to establish the Endowment Fund. The increases in value have been used for capital projects. There is a protected principal amount, to assure that the fund is not depleted. Otherwise, it can be used to pay Camp bills.

In the recent past, we have sponsored an award to an individual for Distinguished Community Service. This was usually presented at an Interfaith Service and Brunch. Due to lack of support, these two projects have been discontinued.

We still sponsor an Annual Widows Luncheon, where we pay tribute to the Ladies who supported our departed Brothers in their Masonic obligations. We also sponsor an Apron Presentation Dinner every other year to thank those outgoing Grand Lodge District Officers and welcome the new Appointees.

Library

We have a fairly large collection of Masonic books and pamphlets in our *Herman A. Sarachan Memorial Library*. Housed in the lounge of the Damascus Shrine Center, arrangements can be made for Brothers and Sisters to view or, in some cases, borrow these volumes to further their Masonic education.

Community Service

The single largest task we perform is the operation of the Loan Closet of durable Medical Equipment. Since the closing of the Webster Community Chest equipment loan area, our volume has at least tripled and seems to be increasing every month. We have constant shortages of equipment due to the demand and are forced to turn down requests.

Much of our hardware has been donated by individuals who no longer need the item(s). We have purchased some of the less expensive items using money from donations from grateful users of the Loan Closet. Still, we cannot buy new items every time we need them. If everything outstanding as I write this column were to come back, we would have insufficient storage space for it.

We tell people they may keep some items as long as they need them. We have over five hundred items that have been out for more than three years. It is our belief that some of these pieces of equipment will never

be returned, but we have kept the records just in case.

Three years ago we undertook the procurement and installation of a medical equipment washing machine. It was an expensive task. As the volume of equipment used increased, the need for volunteers to clean and maintain the equipment also increased. Unfortunately, it was more and more difficult to find the Brothers and Sisters available, able and willing to become involved in this sometimes unpleasant task. The machine solved the worst part of that problem and sanitizes as well as cleans the items.

Organization Assistance

Service is our middle name. We maintain a small inventory of items from Grand Lodge Sales to help our Lodges, Secretaries in particular, procure Degree booklets, Masonic Memorial Service booklets and other items for which they may be temporarily out of stock.

We have assisted groups in making major purchases of equipment and sponsored functions, using our tax exempt status, which helps reduce costs. While this can't cover everything, we try to help when asked. I chose not to include the names of the specific projects, programs or fundraisers, so as not to embarrass or offend anyone.

Masonic Directory

For decades, the Masonic Service Bureau has published the *Directory of Officers*. Annually the data was gathered, assembled and printed into a booklet that was then made available to the primary Officers of every Organization. Back when there were three times the number of Lodges and Concordant Bodies, this publication was a handy quick reference for telephone numbers or address information. Remember, us old-timers were not able to speak into our wrist watches to contact the Master of the Lodge we wanted to visit tomorrow! We actually had to pick up a phone and dial a number!!! (In fact, I can remember having to tell an operator what number I wanted!) Enough humor. We expect that, despite the technological advantages today, this vehicle will still be maintained, produced and distributed by the Bureau.

Masonic Times

The distribution of the **Masonic Times** has provided feedback on members' mailing addresses, which has been passed along to the Secretary of the respective organization(s). Having this mailing ten times per year has helped keep tabs on moves and saved countless wasted postage dollars. We hope we will still be notified when new members are added, or of any changes that are brought to your attention.

We anticipate continuing to check, as best we can with our existing list, any notices of moving or deaths. We have no way of learning of Brothers suspended for non-payment of Dues unless you tell us. We

hope you will continue to do so.

Ceasing the publication of the newspaper should have no affect on the other operations of the Bureau. The Masonic Service Bureau was here for nearly 150 years before the idea of a District newspaper was proposed. It is our intent to keep providing the above mentioned services to the Fraternity and the General Public. Those of you who respond to our solicitation mailing request help us keep the operation going. We appreciate your vote of confidence and your financial support.

Our 2016-2017 mailing is out and we are receiving responses from our members and from those individuals who have utilized the Equipment Loan Closet. We added them to our mailing list a few years ago, hoping some would consider joining in to keep us going. I'm pleased to say, some of them do!

Each year we have published the names of the donors with our thanks for the contribution, generally in the June issue. That won't happen this year, so I thought I would print the names of those who have responded (through December 5th) in this issue. Many of you wait until the new year to send in your donation, so this list is far from complete. In every case, we hope we continue to earn your confidence. Our thanks to each and every one of you! (In alphabetical order):

Audrey Blase; Gary L. Burke; Joyce M. Calkins; David Crawford; Harry E. Dainty; Charles B. Daly II; M. Donald Darrohn III; Raymond DiJames; Ramona L. Dimino; Vincent DiSalvo; Warren G. Doerrer; Arlyss Domagala; Myron L. Dox; Leland B. Durkee; Christina Eeckhout; Etoileah Chapter #183, OES; William C. Ewert; Anna P. Farnsworth; Lydia L. Fischer; Joseph T. Fisher; Robert Franzen; Richard C. Friedman; Stanley M. Friedman.

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New-to-You ... Free!

Tuxedos, Shirts & Accessories



Thanks to the generosity of many Masons, we have an overflowing stock of "new-to-you" tuxedos, tuxedo shirts and accessories available for free!

There are Brothers - new and old - who may want a tuxedo for Lodge positions.

Anyone is invited to come to the Masonic Service Bureau to pick out a tuxedo that would accommodate their need. First come, first served!

There is no charge for any of the items and we need the storage space. Sizes vary and they are in good condition.

Please stop by during office hours ...

8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Monday through Friday
or call 671-9730 for an appointment



Grand Tiler leads entrance of Grand Line.

Union Lodge

Continued from Page 1

I like it. Maybe it will make a comeback.

The Jollification at the Lima Country Club was great. There were around 100 in attendance; the menu was a “Grand” Buffet; and we were entertained before dinner by “The Eastman Community Music School Honors Brass Quintet.” They did a terrific job. The dinner and after-dinner music was, as always, splendidly performed by R.:W.: Rick Howe.

Following dinner, the program started with the presentation and explanation of the Union Lodge No. 45 Commemorative Coin. It is a design reflecting 1816 (with horses) to 2016 (with a pickup truck). Further design elements incorporate patterns from the famous Lodge Carpet to the gold eagle stencils on the Lodge Room walls. These coins are available for purchase from Union Lodge.

The coin presentation was followed by a little history on Union Lodge. Hold on to your hat!

It is really hard to grasp 200 years. What was it like in 1816 when the Union Lodge Charter was granted and signed by Grand Master DeWitt Clinton? Yes, that same DeWitt Clinton who proposed the idea of the Erie Canal. The same person who would become Governor of New York State roughly 10 years later.

1816 was quite a year in world history. An Indonesian volcano by the name of Tambora erupted in the Spring of 1815, blowing 4,000 feet off the top of the volcano, and killing 70,000 people. This caused a global haze and cooling that resulted in

what was called the “The Year Without a Summer.”

Persistent frost and cold killed off most crops. It snowed in June and in July causing leaves to fall from the trees.

Around June 17th, 12–18 inches of snow fell in Schenectady. On Independence Day, in the area, ice formed as thick as window glass. And we complain about the Winter now!

From 1800–1850, life expectancy was 37 years! People had many children in the hopes that maybe a couple would live to adulthood.

In 1816, a pound of coffee was 40 cents. A gallon of whiskey was 62 cents, and 100 pounds of beef was \$4.00. The President was James Madison. The American Flag had 15 stars and stripes. Indiana was added as a State in December of 1816, making it our 19th State. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams were still very much alive, and would be for another 10 years!

The War of 1812 had just ended the year before in February of 1815. The British captured Washington, DC, in 1814 and burned the White House. We almost lost the Country!

In June of 1815, 22 Masons from the Lima Area Petitioned the Grand Lodge of New York for the formation of a new Lodge. The Charter was granted a year later on June 11, 1816, for Union Lodge.

Interestingly, in 1803, Nathaniel Rochester and two others purchased a 100-acre tract along the Genesee River. In 1811, with a population of 15, the three men surveyed the land and laid out streets. In 1817, other land owners joined that 100-acre tract to form the Village of Rochester-ville. Yes, Union Lodge pre-



Banquet arrangement at Lima Country Club.



M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson at podium.



R.:W.: Chris Hough, Senior Grand Warden, with R.:W.: Charles Catapano, Deputy Grand Master.



Two Grand Masters present - M.:W.: Jeffrey M. Williamson and M.:W.: James E. Sullivan.

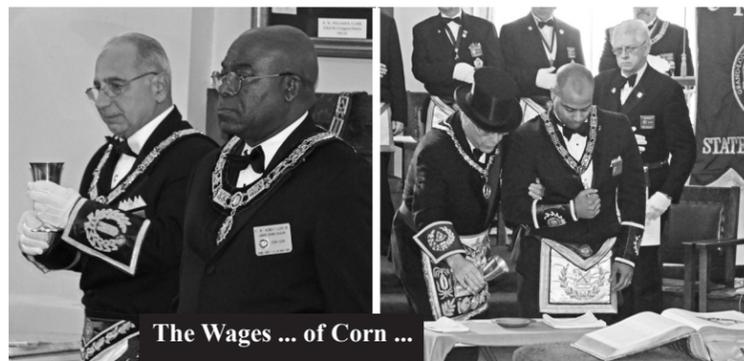
dates Rochester!

At the start of Union Lodge, the meetings were held in the attic of one of the founding members, Asahel Warner. This Attic Lodge Room still exists to this day. A real piece of history. Outgrowing the attic, the Lodge then moved to Sines Tavern in West Mendon, which is now Honeoye Falls. The tavern burned in 1834, and they moved back to Lima. First occupying the “Town House,” they then went to the Yellow Wasp Tavern just outside the Village. Their next home was the American Hotel which is still in business in the Village of Lima.

In 1853, they moved to the Godfrey Building on Rochester Street. That building burned in 1865. The newly replaced building along with that famous carpet installed in 1865, has been the Lodge home ever since.

In that 1865 fire, all records before 1849 were lost. In a stroke of great luck, the Secretary took with him the Minute Books from 1849 – December 1865 along with the By-laws (with signatures) at the last meeting before the fire, December 9th. He also accidentally wore his Secretary’s Apron home. These were the only mementos of the fire. The Apron is now displayed on the wall just outside the Lodge Room.

So, what was this early life like at Union Lodge? The first 10 years were just fine. Then, that unfortunate thing we call the “Morgan Affair” occurred in 1826. We all know about that, but what about how severely the



The Wages ... of Corn ...



Wine ...



and Oil

Masons of the time were treated.

During the period of the Morgan Affair, 1826-1850, most of the Lodges in the area turned in their Charters; but Lima kept theirs. Masons didn’t stop being Masons. Many met at other Lodges who gathered quietly, or with great persecution. Masons from as far away as Livonia, Geneseo, Honeoye and Avon attended Lodge in Lima.

In common with other Lodges in Western New York, Union Lodge suffered under the wild frenzy and bitter hostility to everything Masonic during that “Morgan Affair” time-frame. Persecution and the social ostracism of Freemasonry was rampant. Bitterness of those who were active in their hatred was so bad, that men known to be Masons were subjected to insults and threats out in the open; at one time, clergymen refused to officiate at funerals of those known to have Masonic affiliations.

Of course, we all know that the “Anti-Masonic Party” was born of this as a third political party - actually running a candidate for President of the United States.

As late as 1848 that feeling of Masonic hatred had not abated and clothing, infected with smallpox, was heaped against the door leading to the Lodge Room during a Lodge meeting, which at that time, was at the American Hotel. Every member in attendance, except one, suffered from the contamination!



Helen and W.: Corey VanBlarcom, Master of Union Lodge, with his mother and father, Laraine and Brother David VanBlarcom.



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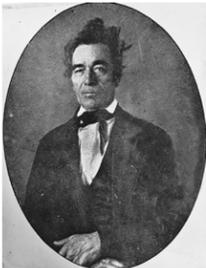


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What kept these Brothers going? How do you endure such loathing and such hatred for just belonging to something? It really must have something to do with "where each was first prepared to be made a Mason." After that, these Masonic Principles and ideals had to have been so ingrained, so much a deep part of their being. So much "A way of life."

It was important to keep things going at a time of darkness in the Craft. The dedication of a few individuals; their stubbornness not to cave to the pressure is amazing.

The very first man to be Initiated into Union Lodge was a man by the name of Alanson Brown, who became very



active in the Lodge. He first became Master in 1824 ... two years before the "Morgan Affair" hit. So dedicated was Alanson Brown, that he was Master of Union Lodge for 24 years! ... Refusing to give up. Never yielding to the pressure and ridicule. During this dark time, only one Initiation of a new Candidate took place from 1829 - 1837, and only one from 1837 - 1848. Just two in 19 years! Why did they continue? No one could fault them for throwing in the towel, but they didn't. It was important. It was a part of them. It was "A way of life."

Our great Country has grown at every turn through "inclusion" and not exclusion. It is probably no wonderment then, that a political party that starts with the word "Anti-," would ever really gain any ground. I think it was, and is, good for all of us that it did not.

From Union Lodge grew Geneseo Lodge No.214 in 1850; Union Star Lodge No. 320 in 1853; Avon Springs No 570 in 1866; Honeoye Eagle Lodge No. 619 in 1877; and Livonia Lodge No. 778 in 1877.

Difficult beginnings and survival of Freemasonry, to say the least. Union Lodge stuck with it. Endurance, dedication and love of something so important was a great historical start.

DeWitt Clinton, the great-grandson of the former Grand Master and Governor who signed the Union Lodge Charter, was the guest speaker at the 100-Year Celebration in 1916.

Fifty years later, came the 150-Year Anniversary event. We have three current members who were in attendance at that 150-Year Celebration in 1966: R.:W.: Tom Bennett, W.: Guy Ball, and W.: Bruce Whitmore, who has also been the Treasurer of Union Lodge since 1976. 40 years!



W.: Bruce Whitmore received his 50-year Certificate and Apron from M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson.

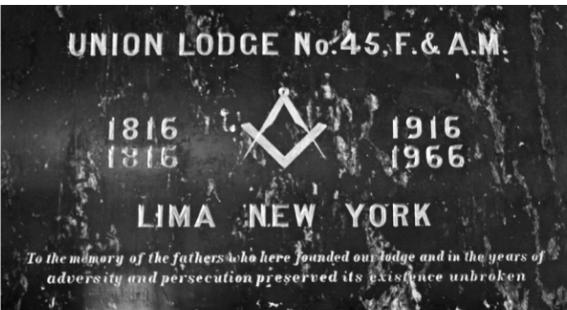
More Alanson Brown Dedication

There is a large marble plaque on the Lodge Room wall that commemorates the 100-Year Anniversary, the 150-Year Milestone, and soon will be engraved with this 200-Year Landmark.

At the end of the presentation of the Lodge History, following dinner, the room stood for a Toast. The words inscribed on that Marble plaque read:

"To the memory of the fathers who here founded our Lodge and in the years of adversity and persecution preserved its existence unbroken."

Following the Toast, we heard from each of our District Deputies - R.:W.: Mike



Grand Lodge Medallions presented to Union Lodge Brothers who were recipients of the Dedicated Service Award. (From left) Pete Yendell, Ron Manning, Jim Kirkwood, Jim Slocum and Ron Charron.

Rhodes and R.:W.: Rick Howe. Yes, we have two. As many of you know, Livingston District and Genesee-Wyoming Districts have merged to become one - The Letchworth District. Unity, strength and Brotherhood ... We couldn't ask for a better alliance.

Our Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Charles Catapano, spoke next with congratulations to Union Lodge with his words of wisdom. Our Grand Master, M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson was last ... delighted with participation in this momentous event. He shared the history of the division of Grand Lodge many, many decades ago, when New York City or "Downstate" as we call it, split with Upstate. The issues were later resolved, and the ultimate uni-



R.:W.: Charles Catapano, Deputy Grand Master, presented Brother James Dunne with his 45-year Service Award Certificate.



Wearing his 50-year Apron, R.:W.: Alan Ramsay, holds 50-year Certificate presented at a later date by W.: Corey VanBlarcom. Brother Ramsay was unable to attend the Anniversary Celebration to receive it.

fication was put in place for what we now have in our Grand Lodge. Very interesting.

After the Benediction by R.:W.: Charles Roberts, Grand Chaplain Emeritus, the socializing continued until we all said good night and parted. We all agreed we are looking forward to the 250th Anniversary! Well, some of our current members will be there, I'm sure of it.



M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson's Ceremony concluding remarks given on the Level.



Participants in the Re-Dedication Ceremony of Union Lodge No. 45.

Area 15 Brotherhood Fund

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

Getting Back to the Basics
This is December, a time when Brotherhood Fund ought to be in motion.
Your Lodge Brotherhood Fund Chairman should have received his annual supplies (new each year), the envelopes

containing Brotherhood Fund inserts sent out with your Lodge Secretary's request for this year's Dues complete with a label on the envelope with your own name and address. The recipient can make his check donation, drop it in the mail, and you record it on your reports to Grand Lodge in the yellow envelopes.

I like to make a second mailing in March. The Brotherhood Fund runs from **June 1st - May 31st**. On this mailing, I insert the Brotherhood Fund envelope, complete with insert, to each Brother of the Lodge. Order more if necessary. The Secretary is nice enough to make labels for this mailing,

aren't you Brother Secretary? I usually ask for reimbursement of postage from the Lodge. The second mailing is always worth the effort.

By the way, Brotherhood Fund Chairmen should always have something to say at each and every Lodge Communication. The Brothers should recognize your name as well as the Masters. That alone will produce cash/check contributions. And remember to write a dated receipt for each amount received for that donation. Remit that donation to Grand Lodge within the week on your report. A paper trail is absolutely necessary.

Grand Lodge Brotherhood Fund Contacts

R.:W.: Bruce Testut
State Chairman
brotherhoodw23@aol.com
R.:W.: Ralph Pfeiffer,
Vice Chairman
pfeifferr@schenectady.k12.ny.us
Office at Grand Lodge
brotherhoodfund@nymasons.org
1-212-337-6652
1-800-362-7664
Fax 1-212-463-7485
Lois A. Romano
1-212-337-6652
Mailing address:
Masonic Brotherhood Fund
Grand Lodge F.&A.M.
State of New York
71 West 23rd Street, Rm 1519

New York, NY 10010-4149
I now leave you with wishes for much success in your efforts as Lodge Brotherhood Fund Chair. It is not difficult and the rewards are many.
Little Larry from Lyons ...
Little Larry from Lyons was sitting in his third grade class when the teacher, Helga Buzzard-beak said, "Anyone who thinks he's stupid may stand up!"
No one stood up so she said, "I'm sure there are some stupid students in here!"
Little Larry stood up. And the teacher said, "Oh! Little Larry, so you think you're stupid?"
"No ma'am, I just feel bad that you're standing alone." ☐

Letchworth District

District Deputy Grand Master
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Assistant Grand Lecturer
R.:W.:

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District Deputy Grand Master
R.:W.:

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Grand Director of Ceremonies

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Assistant Grand Lecturer
R.:W.:

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By R.:W.: Kenneth Howe

All Official Visits have been completed. Now we must focus on our training programs.

Road to the East
December 10th and
December 17th

Road to the East will be held at Warsaw Lodge. Gathering begins at 8 a.m. Continental Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

NorthStar Program

We will be scheduling a NorthStar Program after the

first of the year. It is important that each Lodge has at least one Brother certified in this Program. More on this later.

Growing Membership

West Star Lodge, in Varysburg, Raised Zack Godell and Adam Luczak to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in September. This brings the total number of newly Raised Brothers in the District to twelve since July.

A 3rd Degree is scheduled at Attica Lodge on **December 3rd**.

There are about eight newly Initiated Brothers throughout the District waiting for the Fellowcraft Degree.

Our District Apron Presentation was held on November 19th at River Bridge Banquet room in Mount Morris. Our guest speaker was M.:W.: Carl Smith of Mount Vernon Lodge. A great time of fun and fellowship was had by all.

An appeal has been made to each of 17 Masters to appoint a Youth Chairman. It is special to our Grand Master that we might find worthy children and acknowledge their service.

A reminder that Constellation Lodge is hosting their Annual Table Lodge on **January 14th**. As all know, this will be the last report in this forum. The leadership of the District, in coordination with the Concordant Bodies, are working on establishing a Regional Website for the purpose of dispersing information and articles. More on this later.

Once again, I extend a heartfelt thanks to Skip, Jan and the gang for their hard work and dedication over these many years.

Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards Program Attention Lodge Masters!

This is a great opportunity to recognize a Brother who has performed diligent and long-term service to your Lodge and who might not otherwise have a public Masonic recognition. I encourage you to get your nominations in early to the Valley Secretary. Nomination forms are available online or by calling the Valley Office.



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Presents

31st Annual

Symbolic Lodge Awards Program

Saturday, January 7, 2017

At the Damascus Shrine Center
979 Bay Road, Webster

Social – 4 p.m. ~ Awards Presentation – 5 p.m.

Followed by Refreshments ... Pizza & Wings

Our Guest Speaker will be

M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson, Grand Master

~~~~~

The Awards Ceremony is open to family and friends to attend in support of the Nominee from your Lodge.

**Reservations are required, please call**

**The Scottish Rite Office at (585) 425-0033**

~~~~~

Gordon D. Hubbell, 32° MSA, Chairman

viving Spouses and Brothers who have been Masons from 5-years to 55-years in five-year increments. I thank W.: Bill MacPherson and the Brothers who helped in the preparation, serving and cleanup for our delicious meal. Thanks also to our District Deputy Grand Master, R.:W.: Rick Howe; Staff Of-

ficer, R.:W.: Bob Ball; and Assistant Grand Lecturer, R.:W.: John Wiktorowski, for attending our event and helping our Master, Worshipful Jack Flint, with handing out the Years of Service Awards.

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

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

Master
W.: John F. Flint
768-6988

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

12 Bank Street, Le Roy 14482

By R.:W.: Neil Bedford

Hello to the Brothers of Olive Branch Lodge. As most of you

are aware, this will be the last issue of the **Masonic Times** you will be receiving. Unfortunately, without this publication, communication will be a little different. As I stated in a previous article, your Master, W.: John "Jack" Flint, Senior Warden W.: David Beswick and Secretary R.:W.: Neil Bedford are going to try to publish a monthly newsletter about happenings and upcoming events at our Lodge.

We hope to send the majority of the newsletters out by email. If you have not been receiving

email information from me over the last few months and have an email address, please send it to me at:

olivebranchnumber39@gmail.com

This will dramatically reduce our costs for publishing this newsletter. The Brothers who do not have email will receive theirs by snail mail.

We recently had a dinner for our Surviving Spouses and Years of Service Recipients. There were over 50 people present to support our Sur-

Wayne District

District Deputy Grand Master
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V.:W.:

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jamespagne@yahoo.com

Grand Steward



R.:W.:
Michael B. Cholach, Sr.
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This being the final edition of the **Masonic Times**, I thank Brother Skip Waterstreet, Jan Porter and the rest of the Staff who made it possible to publish such a wonderful communication medium! It will be sorely missed!

Road to the East Schedule Change

Last month's issue reported that the *Road to the East* would be offered November 11th, November 26th and December 3rd. Unfortunately, my work schedule has changed and I will be moving the class to November 19th for Section 1, **December 3rd** for Section 2, and **December 10th** for Section 3. I also encourage you to check the calendar page on Wayne Lodge's webpage:

www.waynelodge416.com for up-to-date class schedules.

In the future, I plan to list meeting nights and programs, for any of the Wayne District Lodges who wish to participate, on that calendar.

When talking about communications last month, I addressed the need for the Master and Junior Warden to communicate clearly and often. While re-reading the article, I noticed that I left out the Senior Warden! We can't have him going away dissatisfied, now can we?

If you are currently a Senior Warden, you should be well underway in developing your Trestleboard for next year. You should be conferring with the members of your Lodge to see what programs might interest them. Is there anyone in the Lodge who might be able to put on a program, or do they know

someone, Mason or profane, who would be willing to put on an interesting program for the Brethren? Is there something from years past that maybe worked, or didn't work? You should, at a minimum have the "required meetings" planned (Degrees, Brother Bring-a-Friend, Elections, Installations, etc.), and begin looking at dates for the Official Visit. Experience shows that the sooner you approach the DDGM with a date, the more likely you are to get your first choice.

If you are planning on having a speaker for the evening, get on their calendar early, and don't forget to follow up with them as the date gets closer! Also, remember, it's ALWAYS good to have a "Plan B" in your back pocket in case something happens and your speaker can't make it. Keep in mind that Masons can have fun too; it's not limited to just the Guys! Maybe a family Game Night, Holiday Party, or Sweethearts Dinner should be on the Trestleboard. It's up to you!

Soon-to-be Senior Wardens (see how I did that?) the time will be here before you know it! Start thinking about your Trestleboard NOW! Plan on attending the *Road to the East* as soon as possible, and get your hands on a 24-inch Gauge. This is an invaluable resource for anyone who

has a desire to sit in the East. It is available through the Grand Lodge Store, and your Lodge has a copy for you to review before you buy one.

Lodge Happenings
Sodus No. 392

December 6th - Business meeting and Awards Night

December 20th - Short Business Meeting - Sodus Lodge history - before and after the fire.

Wayne Lodge No. 416

December 14th - Sacred Geometry, presented by Brother Mark Sullivan

December 28th - Chili Cook-off and Movie Night! All are welcome - Mason or Non! Visit the Wayne Lodge website:

www.waynelodge416.com for reservations and let them know if you are bringing a Chili for the contest. Cost is \$5 and includes Lodge-provided Cornbread, Dessert and a drink. Prizes awarded for the first three places! Movie is "The Man Who Would Be King."

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District Deputy Grand Master
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District Deputy Grand Master

Monroe District

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By the time you read this, all Official Visits will be complete. Thus far, I have enjoyed visiting each Lodge and being warmly received by the Brethren. For the most part, Lodges seem to be in good shape. For those Lodges who find themselves struggling a little, remember that things are cyclical and sometimes trying something different can make all the difference in the world. If you keep doing the same things, you'll get the same results. I know, these are clichés, but I believe there is some truth in them. Please know that R.:W.: Joe Bourcy, V.:W.: Lance Daul and I as the District Leadership Team, are here to help in any way we can.

I'm sorry to see this fine publication going away, and at the moment the future is uncertain for how we Masons will communicate. For now our best bet is the Facebook Page at Finger Lakes Region - Monroe Masonic District. Get on Facebook and search for it, and send a friend request, because it is a closed group and open to Masons only. Any Lodge or Concordant Body can post to it with information about what's going on. We currently have 241 members on the page and I'm sure there's a whole lot more Masons using Facebook. I hope to see you there.

Titles

Pardon me, while I wax philosophic with some parting thoughts.

We have all kinds of gloriously grandiose Officer titles in Masonry. In the world of symbolic Lodge Masonry alone, our leaders have titles such as Worshipful Master, Grand Steward, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Master of Ceremonies, District Deputy Grand Master and the absolute pinnacle - Grand Master. It seems that we Masons either:

- a) under-estimate the significance of these titles, or
- b) over emphasize the importance of all these titles, which have been concocted in both

our symbolic Lodges and various other Masonic organizations. The Concordant Bodies, likewise, have many exalted and impressive-sounding titles for their leaders, which I won't mention here because there are so many.

Did you ever wonder who made these titles up in the first place? They are fun in an amusing self-important manner. Try telling your wife you are the Most Wise Master and see what she says. When these titles were created, did those Brothers do so with tongue in cheek, or was it more likely that they wanted titles that were ultimately symbolic of a larger Masonic philosophical teaching? The latter would be my guess. However, it is possible that this philosophical teaching (through use of symbolic titles) may be lost on many, including those who hold such titles. Titles can sometimes go to a Brother's head.

No title in Masonry is any greater than the title of Master Mason. Our Ritual tells us this. Since there is no Degree higher than that of Master Mason, the case can be made that there is no title greater than that of Master Mason. Consider even the words of our Apron Presentation in the Entered Apprentice Degree, "never again...shall any honor so distinguished... be conferred upon you." Our charge as Master Masons calls us the "most glorious climax of all created things" formed in the image of our Creator.

All of us have come to our journey as Master Masons of our own free will and accord. In other words we volunteered to be part of this thing we call Masonry. It doesn't matter if you have a Chair in Line at the Lodge, or in the York or Scottish Rite or the Shrine, etc. Just like the rest of your Brothers traveling the Masonic path, now and through the ages, we are ALL here voluntarily. We take the voluntary nature of our organization so seriously, that we do not ask men to join our ranks. They must ask us! I fondly recall the pleased look on my beloved father's face when I uttered the magic words "Dad, how do I go about becoming a Mason?"

So here's a thought for all those of us who would aspire to leadership positions in our Fraternity; maybe we would do well to think of our leadership position with a different title, which is less grandiose and maybe more mundane, but more accurate to a leader in a volunteer organization. How about leaders recognizing themselves as VOLUNTEER COORDINATORS first and foremost, before the impressive sounding title?

That is the primary purpose of a leader in a volunteer organization. A leader in a volunteer organization coordinates the volunteers, and makes sure everyone has something to do and feels like they are part of the group. Brothers who show up and offer to help out our Masonic organizations, by volunteering their talents, treasure and most sacredly their time, deserve to be treated with kindness and dignity. A truly good leader does not take

those who volunteer for granted. A good leader is courteous, considerate and appreciative of the efforts of those who surround them. A good leader recognizes that it is a privilege to be in a leadership position.

In addition to all the other tools, the Working Tool presented to a Master Mason is the trowel used to unite the several parts... into one common mass, but also for the purpose of spreading Brotherly love and affection into a society of friends and Brothers. Most critical is the desire that "no contention should ever exist," but instead our effort should be towards achieving "who best can work and best agree." Doesn't that sound like coordinating volunteers, among Brothers?

It's debatable whether Leadership can be taught completely. Universities offer MBA programs to teach leadership skills, and tactics which can be quantified and almost spelled out into a mechanical formula. However, quality leadership is more attitudinal and something that can't necessarily be taught. Good leaders in volunteer organizations are reluctant to dictate, but more likely to build consensus and draw out from others the contributions they can make toward the effort. It is a challenge that requires patience, toleration, and TEAM work (Together Everyone Achieves More). Perhaps if more Masonic leaders understood and practiced these ideals, we would do a better job of retaining our Brothers and increasing participation.

It is imperative that Masters of Lodges understand that their title is not "Worshipped Master," but rather "Worshipful Master." The same can be said about other highfalutin Masonic titles in the Concordant Bodies. In the immortal words of one who exemplified Masonic principles perhaps better than anyone else (although he was a carpenter) who said "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my Brethren, ye have done it unto me." This is Masonic leadership exemplified at its finest.

Let us keep our light eternally shining!

Assistant Grand Lecturer



V.:W.:
Lance J. Daul
319-6796

lance.daul@gmail.com

Official Visit season moves on and the Ritual continues to be very well done. Most Lodges will be conferring Degrees shortly as well. Please do not hesitate to ask for any assistance you might need ...

lance.daul@gmail.com or 319-6796. Let's all strive to make every Degree a memorable one. The impressions will last on these new Brothers for their Masonic lives.

This will be the last issue for the **Masonic Times**; as you all know it is going away. This is an

NorthStar Project Presentation

January 28th

8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Webster Masonic Hall - 30 Orchard Street

Reservations by January 23rd

W.: Bruce Katz - Ph: 227-5553

brucek8189@aol.com

~~~~~

R.:W.: Joseph Bourcy - Ph: 703-0343

[jbourcy3@hotmail.com](mailto:jbourcy3@hotmail.com)

## Road to the East

February 18th & March 4th

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Spencerport Masonic Hall

133 South Union Street

Reservations by February 6th

R.:W.: Joseph Bourcy - Ph: 703-0343

[jbourcy3@hotmail.com](mailto:jbourcy3@hotmail.com)

absolute shame and will leave us having a much harder time to communicate. I urge every Mason to make the effort to know what is going on in your area. I will try and post upcoming events on Facebook and send emails to Masters and Secretaries of our Lodges.

Please make sure you are hearing about District and other Lodges' events. If you're not hearing about these, ask your Master or Secretary, contact the DDGM, the Staff Officer or contact me. Whatever you do, please do settle for receiving no information. The decision to end the **Masonic Times** will make obtaining this information harder, but it is imperative that we all continue to receive it! ☐

## Monroe District Masters and Wardens Association

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

Happy Holidays to all! Brothers, family, friends and those who have the opportunity to read this, Masters and Wardens both present, and past leadership, thank you for reading this column over the decades.

With the closing of the **Masonic Times** have come many questions. The "What do we do?" has been asked so many times. It seems as if the workmen have found an empty Trestleboard. There are those who prefer to receive a printed newspaper, myself included. The business model was on the same pathway as all printed newspapers. How we communicate with each other has changed from word-of-mouth, simple and complex Trestleboards, letters, printed newspaper, telephone, mobile phones, email, texting – even online social media venues.

But, Brothers, our Trestleboards have nearly always been there to guide the Brethren ... look to the Trestleboard for information on when and where our District meet-

ings and events are. Then show up at as many of those meetings as you can.

Last Administrative Term, Masters and Wardens voted to change our By-laws and added a new standing committee – **Social Media Committee**.

Knowing we would be growing an on-line presence as we move out of hard copy print, this seemed like a good step to cover ONLY how we wish to present ourselves as Brother Masons in the public on-line world. Masters and Wardens is here to fill the communication gap for our District. At the Lodge levels each Lodge will still receive all the Grand Lodge information and mailings, but at the District level between the Lodges it is now our Masters and Wardens who ultimately are the communication hub for the Leadership of our Lodges.

Make time a few times a week to look at the on-line Regional Masonic Events Calendar.

### Follow Simple Instructions

- You can find the Regional Masonic Events Calendar by going to the Masonic Service Bureau's Website at: [www.monroemasonic.com](http://www.monroemasonic.com)
- Scroll down and look for the Calendar Icon
- Add it to your calendar on your phone by clicking the + sign at the bottom right of the Calendar Page.
- Click directly on it and then click on each and every event you find on the calendar to learn more on each event.
- Remember your back button; it will be your friend here.

Masters ... please make sure your Trestleboard is on this Regional Calendar.

Future Presidents and Secretaries of Masters and Wardens ... make sure you have your meetings posted to the Regional Masonic Event Calendar.

If there are questions about how to post your Lodge's information, contact the Masonic Service Bureau for the present

## Masters and Wardens

*Continued from page 7*

Regional Event Calendar Webmaster's Contact Information.

Masters and Wardens is here to assist the District. Watch for our meeting dates and try to make each and every one.

### No December Meeting

In December there is NO meeting per our By-Laws.

**Friday, January 27th** - Masters and Wardens next meeting will be 7 p.m. in Grotto Room of the Damascus Shrine Center, 979 Bay Road, Webster. All sitting Masters, Senior Wardens, Junior Wardens, Senior Deacons and Committee Members should be present.

Thank you to all past and present Masters and Wardens who have labored here and will continue on in the Quarries forevermore.

## MONROE DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

*W. : Bruce Katz, District Chair*

Change is constant; for nearly forty years I've been involved with the paper industry, which has allowed me to earn a good livelihood for myself and family (and contribute to the relief ...). It's a very different business now than my first experiences in the 1970s. Technology has driven huge changes in this industry as much of print has been replaced with digital displays. Newsprint paper, in particular, has been hard-hit. For the last several years newspapers have been reducing pages or, like **Masonic Times**, cease operation altogether. However, there are some indications that the pendulum is swinging back to print for some applications. How this will play out is yet to be determined. But (to borrow from Brother Samuel Clemens), news of print's death are greatly exaggerated.

The same can be said of Freemasonry. Brothers, the future of Freemasonry in your hands. Nurturing the Masonic interests of new Brothers and inculcating them in the beauty of our Fraternity is the only assurance of the continuity of the Craft. Retaining experienced Brothers will preserve and protect our proud heritage. Encouraging the new Brothers and continuing to welcome our older Brothers can grow the Masonic experience of all our Brothers.

We all are familiar with the Masonic Builder's Tools, but how familiar are you with the tools to build membership? Publications from Grand Lodge, such as *The 24-Inch Gauge* have many proven ideas. The *Master's Chair* and, of course, the Internet are also sources of good information. Human Resources available include the interactions at Masters and Wardens, as well as contacting various District volunteers such as our District Deputy Grand Master, Staff Officer (Chief Education Officer) or Membership Development Chair. The Youth Chair would be glad to help provide information for the sons and

daughters of Brothers to join the wonderful organizations available to them.

One of the challenges Lodges have always had has been communications with the Brothers. This challenge will be compounded by the loss of our **Masonic Times** with this final issue. I hope you've gotten a good idea or two from the columns over the past two years. To borrow a phrase from the recent elections (and I hope you will forgive me, whatever you think of the results), it is within our power to Make Freemasonry Great Again. □

## O-At-Ka Lodge No. 759

5 Browns Avenue, PO Box 111, Scottsville 14546  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
**Master - W. : Mack D. Thompson**  
435-1929; [mistargazer@frontier.com](mailto:mistargazer@frontier.com)  
**Secretary - W. : Mark Arlauckas**  
889-8418; [oatkalodge@gmail.com](mailto:oatkalodge@gmail.com)  
[www.oatkalodge.org](http://www.oatkalodge.org)

*By W. : Mark Arlauckas*  
**Season's Greetings!  
Last Hard Copy of  
Masonic Times**

Just in case you skipped everything and went straight to this article, this is the last hard copy of the **Masonic Times**. We at Oatka hope in the next few months it will come back in some other incarnation. In the meantime, please keep an eye out for a Lodge newsletter mailed directly to your mailbox ... or email ... or Facebook ... or at [www.oatkalodge.org](http://www.oatkalodge.org). One way or another, you will know what is going on at Lodge.

### Pay Your Dues

Dues Notices were sent out in November. Your immediate attention and prompt payment is greatly appreciated. We are also seeking donations to the Brotherhood Fund, Fellowcraft Room Renovation Fund and Winter Utilities Fund. In addition to paying by check or money order, we have set up means of paying by credit card for your convenience. Please visit our website:

[www.oatkalodge.org](http://www.oatkalodge.org)

### Update Your Information

If you have changed your address or phone number in the past three years, it is vital you contact the Lodge Secretary. We have experienced returned mail and telephone numbers not currently in service. Use ANY of the communication methods from the box located at the top of this article. Don't wait, please do it now or risk being dropped from our Rolls.

### Fellowcraft Room

Brother Terry Wright plied

his talents, with the assistance of Brothers Mack Thompson and Leandro DaSilva, to complete the woodwork around the new doorway, sidelights and transom. Stop by and check out our progress.

### December Birthdays

Join us in wishing the following Brothers another happy trip around the Sun: Damon Bradford (3rd), Mark Arlauckas (8th) and Charles Piazza (23rd).

### Our Regular Communications

We still meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, except November and December. Please mark your calendars for **December 14th**. We would sincerely enjoy seeing you! **The Lodge will be dark on Wednesday, December 28th for the Holidays.**

### 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. □

## Inspiration

### Lodge No. 109

979 Bay Road, Webster 14580  
2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.  
**Master - W. : Ryan M. Ramplin**  
(610) 724-7336; [ryan.ramplin@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.ramplin@gmail.com)  
**Secretary - R. : W. : Derek VanHouten**  
247-2920; [derekhouten1@mac.com](mailto:derekhouten1@mac.com)  
website: [www.inspiration109.org](http://www.inspiration109.org)

*By R. : W. : Skip Waterstreet*

We have plenty going on this month. It's the Holiday Season, and it is our duty to entertain our Ladies and offer cheer and support to our Widows.

I'm hoping several of you have put Saturday, **December 10th**, on your calendar and will come and help out at the All Masonic Bodies Children's Holiday Party, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. If you can spare a couple of hours on Friday night (**December 9th**) we will be setting up the Shrine Dining Room for Santa's visit. Feel free to join us for one or both opportunities to help provide a wonderful experience for our children.

On Tuesday, **December 13th**, we will have our Annual Holiday Party. This catered affair is always a highlight event, By now you should have made your reservations with our Junior Warden, Adam Gerken - 281-6577; email: [amg6975@gmail.com](mailto:amg6975@gmail.com) - or you could still try. The permanent list will not be honored for this night. We need to know who else you might be bringing.

The usual hours will be maintained ... Social at 5:30 p.m.; Dinner at 6:30 p.m.; with more

Social and (possibly) Entertainment following. Please join us to celebrate the Season.

Right behind that, on Saturday, **December 17th**, we have planned our Annual Poinsettia Plant distribution. As we have done in recent years, we will gather at the Nutcracker Restaurant on Empire Boulevard for Breakfast at 9 a.m. Our Worshipful Master, Ryan Ramplin, has graciously offered to pick up the cost for your meal for this occasion. After you have built up your strength, come over to the Shrine Center where plants, names and addresses will be provided.

This is truly an event where the more the merrier. We have an expanded list this year, as we welcome the Brothers and Sisters of Fame Lodge into our fold, so your help will be greatly appreciated. You have the opportunity to meet some fabulous Ladies who are very appreciative of the time and effort you spend to deliver the flowers and visit with them.

A Summoned Meeting has been called for **December 27th** for the approval of the revised By-Laws and other required business. We expect this approval will satisfy concerns of Grand Lodge and all requirements of our merger with Fame Lodge will have been fulfilled.

### January

The new year will be here before you know it. We have two business meetings scheduled for the month. On **January 10th**, the program should be *Masonic Virtues and Everyday Life*. Then on the **January 24th**, we are scheduled to learn about *Masonry and a Perfect World*. As usual, a Dinner will precede each meeting.

### February 14th

How lucky can we get as Valentine's Day is our meeting night? Of course, some of the Ladies might think otherwise, but it will give us a chance to celebrate with an Open Session for our Sweethearts. Please mark your calendar now while you are thinking about it, and make another note a week ahead so you remember to call Brother Adam with your reservations.

### Have-a-Heart

This Campaign will be held from **February 2nd** through **February 18th**. Inspiration Lodge is scheduled for three sessions at the Mall at Greece Ridge: Monday, **February 6th**; Sunday, **the 12th**; and Friday, **the 17th**. The Fraternity, with the generosity of the shopping public, has raised over 1/3 of a million dollars to support this worthy operation. If my calculations are correct, this is the 30th year of expending our efforts for this program.

If you have never needed this facility, count your blessings. Those who have are so grateful it was available when they were at their wits end. The stories we hear are heart-warming. Please plan to sign up for a shift or two (or three) as you are able. The full schedules are on page 19 of this issue, in case you want to keep that reminder on your bulletin board.

## Widows Luncheon

It is really early, but since I may not have another opportunity, also please mark your calendar for our Annual Widows Luncheon. The date is **Saturday, April 29th**, and it is at the Burgundy Basin once again. We will be getting more details out as the date approaches.

### Sayonara

I'm sure you are all aware that this is the final printed issue of the **Masonic Times**. If you have email capabilities and are not in the Google Group to receive messages, I suggest you contact our Master, Worshipful Ryan Ramplin - [ryan.ramplin@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.ramplin@gmail.com) - to be added. At the moment, that is the only way I know you will learn of Lodge news and events.

Those of you who do not have electronic capabilities may want to call or send a letter to the Master and/or the Secretary to let them know that fact and ask that you be included as best as possible in any and all information sharing situations.

As for me, well it has been fun while it lasted. Adios!

### Birthday Celebrations

We name those Brothers who are maturing this month and send our best wishes for a happy day and joy in the coming year: Eugene Smith, Jr. (4th); Glen Campbell (6th); Richard Lippincott (8th); James Moore and Daniel Lewis (10th); Paul Shipman and Brent Hungate (12th); David Mura (14th); John Dense (17th); Frederick Stahl (24th); Jared Sherwin (26th); John Auer (30th); Michael Robinson and Joseph Gingold (31st).

### Season's Greetings

However you may celebrate, may you and your family enjoy a wonderful Holiday Season together. Happy New Year! □

## Northfield

### Lodge No. 426

17 Church Street, Pittsford 14534  
1st Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

**Master - W. : Jason Morrisette**  
797-8169; [jman580517@gmail.com](mailto:jman580517@gmail.com)  
**Secretary - W. : John Dudley**  
586-6426; [jdudley1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jdudley1@rochester.rr.com)  
[www.northfield426.org](http://www.northfield426.org)

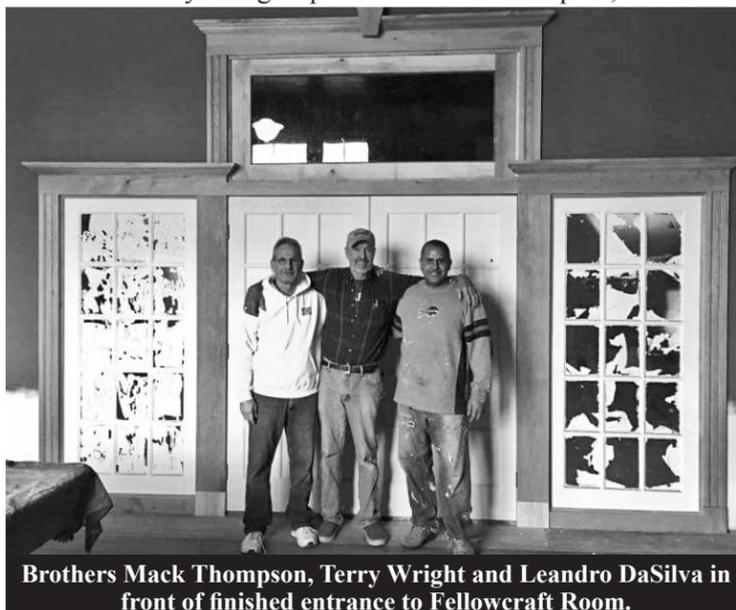
Brothers, can you believe it is already December? What happened to 2016? The Holiday Season is upon us - the time of the year when all of our Cable-tows shorten. We need to spend time with our families and, in the Lodge, we need to plan ahead for the second half of the Masonic Year. It can be a lot to fit in!

### Communication

As I have said in the October and November issues, we now have a number of great electronic means of communication available to our Brothers. Between the website, email and a digital newsletter, we have many ways for you to stay in touch. If you are not currently receiving emails from the Lodge and would like to, please email me at:

[northfield426@gmail.com](mailto:northfield426@gmail.com) and I will add you to the list. For those who do not want electronic communications, don't worry! We are committed to continuing some form of mailings to our members. Although we have not yet decided on a so-

*Continued on Page 13*



Brothers Mack Thompson, Terry Wright and Leandro DaSilva in front of finished entrance to Fellowcraft Room.



# Damascus News

Damascus Shrine Center No. 2

December 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



Nobles, this is my last article for the year. Sadly it is also the last issue of the **Masonic Times**. We at Damascus wish Skip Waterstreet and his staff a great retirement from the **Masonic Times** and a huge THANK YOU for the many years of service to the Masonic Community, especially for keeping all the Masonic groups and Bodies well informed on what was going on in and around the Districts.

You may be wondering how you're going to keep up with what is happening around Damascus ... well, you can go to our improved website at [www.damascusshriners.org](http://www.damascusshriners.org). It will have all the information you need and be updated weekly. Put it in your "favorites" and visit regularly.

As the year winds down, I thank all the Nobles and Ladies for letting me

serve you - especially those who supported me throughout the year. Unless you have sat in the "big chair," you have no idea what obstacles are thrown at you as you proceed in the year. Thanks to those who helped me get past them and guided me down some rough roads.

All-in-all, it's been a great ride. I've made many new and life-long friends along the way. Now your 2017 Divan is ready to take on the everyday challenges that meet them and I'm sure they will do just fine.

First Lady, Debra, and I wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a very Happy and Prosperous New Year. We also wish the best of luck to the 2017 Potentate and Divan for a year filled with fun events and great fellowship. □

## CHUCK MC DONALD CHIEF RABBAN



As the Seasons have changed and we move into the Holiday Season, I trust everyone had a great Thanksgiving with family and friends.

During the last eleven months, I have not only visited Auburn Shrine Club which has been my assigned Club, but I have also visited every Shrine Club in our District - some more than once. I have also visited several Lodges.

### How Did We Do?

I know we did very well on Cruz Nights. Also, the Gun Raffles were huge successes. The November Harvest Din-

ner was enjoyed by all who attended.

### Mark Your Calendar

Don't forget our Election of Officers is at our **December 7th** meeting. It would be rewarding to see everyone there and the same for the Installation of Officers at our **January 4th** meeting.

In February, we will be having another Super Bowl Party. It has always been a great time to get together with family and friends.

I wish all of you a Happy and Healthy Christmas and Hanukkah. Thank you and may the Peace of the Lord be with you. Happy New Year! □

## AUBURN SHRINE CLUB



By Dave Bowman

Our Fall kick-off has been well attended. It all began with Derek VanHouten's presentation in September; followed in October by Honorable Gary Finch talking about the issues facing New York State. November found us at the Hollywood Restaurant listening to a representative of the Seneca Meadow, Inc. You would think our brains would be overloaded with knowledge. A big thanks to Bob Coleman, Larry Pritchard and Chuck Minster for arranging these dinners.

Speaking of dinners, we were disappointed to learn that Tabatha's Restaurant in Auburn has closed its doors. We understand the other Tabatha's is still going strong. Don't be surprised if you find us trying out the Auburn Ale House soon. Seems a new owner has taken over and is changing all sorts of things.

I don't know if this will be published before the Annual Christmas Bash at Club 86 or not. If not, you should sign

up. It will be on a **Friday Night** this year - **December 16th**. Give Charles Rouse at call at (315) 789-5194.

In reading *The Word*, it was wonderful to see that two of our Shrine Club members celebrated their service to Masonry. Burt Ward was presented with his 55-Year Certificate and Joe Marshall for 60-Years a Mason. Wow! Burt, how do you keep looking so young? And Joe, we are sure you were up for an evening of fun that night.

A couple of us will be sitting down at McDonald's soon to try to make plans for 2017. Do you have some ideas? Do you want to join us? Do you know someone we can ask to be our President and leader? Just send a note to Dave Bowman at:

[dp49b@verizon.net](mailto:dp49b@verizon.net)  
or call (315) 253-3947.

May your Holidays be safe and sane (unless you have grandkids); may your home be filled with love (especially if you have grandkids); and may you have peace throughout the year. □



## Damascus Shriners 2016 Christmas Party

Sponsored by Geneva and Auburn Shrine Clubs

**Friday, December 16th**  
All Welcome

For All Shriners, Masons, Their Ladies and Their Guests

**Club 86 Party House - 86 Avenue E, Geneva**

6 p.m. - Hors D'Oeuvres - Personality Adjustment  
7 p.m. - Dinner Served

Entree Choices:

**Prime Rib ~ Baked 1/2 Chicken  
or Broiled White Fish**

All dinners include Soup, Salad, Dessert and Coffee

**Price \$80 per Couple**

Please Specify Dinner Choice & Number in Your Party

**6 p.m. - 10 p.m. - Music and Dancing**

Dress Code: Tuxedos or Business Suits and Fez for Gentlemen;  
Cocktail Dresses for the Ladies

**Raffles and Prizes**

**Reservations by Monday, December 12th**

Send Checks and Dinner Choices to:

Geneva Shrine Club; c/o Charles Rouse;

19 Herbert Street; Geneva, NY 14456

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

or Phone: (315) 789-5194

### Dedicated to the Memory of Nobles

Hubert "Fritz" Friedrich

October 26, 2016

Gary Stewart

October 23, 2016

Donald Heath

June 30, 2016

Robert Van Lare

September 23, 2016



## Summons

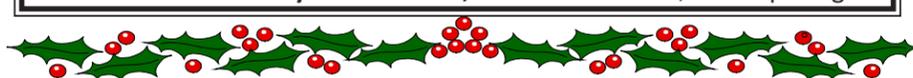
You are hereby summoned to attend the  
monthly meeting of Damascus Shrine

**December 7TH, 2016 -**

**7:00 p.m.**

for the purpose of

**Election of Officers for 2017**



Accommodations Available with Special Prices for Shriners

You Must Make Your Own Accommodation Reservations

Ramada Inn Lakeside, 41 Lakefront Drive, Geneva, NY 315-789-0400

\$99.00 per night with transportation provided to and from the party.

Reservations needed by November 16, 2016 - Thereafter \$129.00 per night.



**All-Masonic Groups  
Children's Holiday Party**  
at Damascus Shrine Center  
979 Bay Road, Webster

**Saturday, December 10th  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Open to children and grandchildren  
(and their friends) of all Masonic Families**  
Bring a wrapped gift for each child.  
Be sure to mark with child's full name.

Activities will include ...  
Cookie Decorating Games Coloring  
Pine Cone Bird Feeder Snacks Drinks  
Special visit with Santa

**2016 Damascus News Boosters**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Kevin & Deb Faro      Dean & JoAnn Smith**  
**Skip & Diane Waterstreet      Cy & Olga White**

**Official Publication of Damascus Shrine**

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

**Kevin Faro**  
POTENTATE  
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p><b>Chuck McDonald</b><br/>CHIEF RABBAN<br/><a href="mailto:alpha925@aol.com">alpha925@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>James R. Ryan</b><br/>ASSISTANT RABBAN<br/><a href="mailto:jryan91458@rochester.rr.com">jryan91458@rochester.rr.com</a></p> <p><b>Jerry W. Lack</b><br/>HIGH PRIEST &amp; PROPHET<br/><a href="mailto:jwlack@aol.com">jwlack@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>Mike Pavone</b><br/>ORIENTAL GUIDE<br/><a href="mailto:mikedpavone@gmail.com">mikedpavone@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Michael P. Hueston</b><br/>TREASURER<br/><a href="mailto:mph0523@frontiernet.net">mph0523@frontiernet.net</a></p> <p><b>Sean Noonan</b><br/>RECORDER<br/><a href="mailto:recorder@damascusshriners.org">recorder@damascusshriners.org</a></p> | <p><b>Dan Burkhart</b><br/>1st CEREMONIAL MASTER<br/><a href="mailto:dburk6t9ss@yahoo.com">dburk6t9ss@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>Jason Simmons</b><br/>2nd CEREMONIAL MASTER<br/><a href="mailto:hagar129@gmail.com">hagar129@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Mike Roberts</b><br/>MARSHAL<br/><a href="mailto:mroberts11@rochester.rr.com">mroberts11@rochester.rr.com</a></p> <p><b>George Corbett</b><br/>CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD<br/><a href="mailto:gcorbett@penfield.edu">gcorbett@penfield.edu</a></p> <p><b>Rob Russo</b><br/>OUTER GUARD<br/><a href="mailto:robrusso3@gmail.com">robrusso3@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Vance R. Collom, Jr.</b><br/>DIRECTOR STAFF<br/><a href="mailto:vcollom1@rochester.rr.com">vcollom1@rochester.rr.com</a></p> |
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**Skip Waterstreet, EDITOR**  
*Damascus News*  
(585) 671-9730  
[masonictimes@gmail.com](mailto:masonictimes@gmail.com)

# What's Happening at our Shriners Hospitals for Children® *News from Springfield*

## 5th Annual "Love to the Rescue" Radiothon Raises \$200,000 for Springfield Hospital



Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield express our thanks to our good friends at MIX 93-1 and NewsRadio 560 WHYN for hosting the Hospital's 5th Annual "Love to the Rescue" Radiothon in October, which raised \$200,000. Zito & Kera from MIX 93-1 along with Jim Polito from The Jim Polito Show and the entire crew did an outstanding job on the air and behind the scenes to make this an overwhelmingly successful event.

This two-day event was full of energy, which led us to receive 780 phone calls, and approximately 300 staff, volunteers, Shriners, families and guests attended to help us create another memorable Radiothon.

"Words can't convey our gratitude and appreciation for the love and support expressed by the community and our sponsors. Smith & Wesson has been our lead sponsor for all five years, and a new phone bank sponsor was the Safari Golf Club of Southampton, MA. Other sponsors include Diversified Metals; Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co.; the Shivering Shamrocks of McCarthy's Pub; Dunkin' Donuts; City Tire; New



England Orthopedic Surgeons; Rovithis Realty, LLC; Raymour & Flanigan; Paul Santaniello from JP Santaniello Retirement Solutions; and the Springfield Thunderbirds." stated Karen Motyka, Director of Development.

"The work performed at the Shriners Hospitals for Children® is nothing short of miraculous. From the moment a family walks through the doors they are treated with respect and kindness and an attitude that no challenge is too large to tackle. At Smith & Wesson, we are proud of our community support and honored to have had the opportunity to support the Radiothon," said Mark Smith, President - Manufacturing Services at Smith & Wesson.

"It was an exciting two days with the phone bank volunteers taking calls from donors and many friends of the hospital walking in off the street with donations in hand. We are so grateful to everyone for their support of our mission in providing care regardless of the patients and families ability to pay. It was a fabulous event," stated Lee Kirk, Hospital Administrator.

## "2016 Employer of Choice" Award

Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield is pleased to announce that our hospital was selected as an Employer of Choice Award recipient by the Employers Association of the NorthEast (EANE). The award was presented to a team of hospital employees at EANE's Employment Law and HR Practices Conference luncheon in November.

difference in a manner they can afford. From cool communications tactics leveraging mobile apps to innovative green initiatives to company-paid time-off for community service, the array of engagement tools is always inspiring."

Lee Kirk, Hospital Administrator stated, "To receive this award confirms what



Employer of Choice Awards recognize companies and organizations for developing workplaces that value employees, foster engagement, invest in training and reward performance. Past winners view the award as a cornerstone of their company credentials and often highlight the award in recruiting and retention, grants and funding applications, and business development. All winners receive a professional, customized video that spotlights the company's achievements.

Meredith Wise, President of EANE remarked, "We received a wealth of great applicants this year. Regardless of size, the best organizations are measuring employee engagement in some way and using that data to make a

our staff already knows - that Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Springfield is a great place to work. Our staff is so honored for the hospital to be the recipient of this award and proud of the role they play each day in transforming the lives of children. The hospital has created a 'family-centered' culture where clinical outcomes are outstanding and children are cared for in the safest environment possible. Our metrics speak for themselves including data-driven scores of a highly dedicated and engaged workforce, which is demonstrated both by the exceptional care given each day and their respect for one another."

To learn more about the Employers Association of the NorthEast, visit:

[www.eane.org](http://www.eane.org)



**Meredith Wise, President of EANE, and Lee Kirk, Hospital Administrator.**





# What's New in Erie...

## Former Patient Lives Un-limb-ited Life

Richard "Lucas" Slusher was born without a forearm below his right elbow. As a patient of Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie, Lucas learned the skills and resolve necessary to lead a full and active life. The staff members at the Erie Medical Center inspired Lucas, now 23 years old, to give back.

This journey began when he was 17 with a flyer he received advertising the Un-Limb-ited Amputee Camp in Park City, Utah. The camp is coordinated by Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Salt Lake City.

### The Great Outdoors

The Camp gives children, ages 13-17 who have a limb deficiency, the opportunity to learn skiing and snowboarding



or to experience white-water river sports like kayaking, canoeing and rafting, as well as camping.

One of the Camp's missions is to help the teenagers better understand how to use their prosthetics through sports. Lucas was excited by the Camp's mission, so he wrote an essay and completed the application process. He was selected to attend the Camp. He says his experience was spectacular.

Prior to attending the Un-Limb-ited Camp, Lucas had never had the opportunity to interact with other kids who were missing a limb or even travel somewhere as far as Utah. It was enlightening for him to see how other children approached their challenges. Lucas now volunteers at the same Camp and shares his love of the outdoors with teens who may be facing some of the same challenges as he did.

### Never Giving Up

Lucas credits the people around him ... his family and the medical staff at SHC - Erie ... for being his biggest motivation. He was raised to do his best at everything, never make excuses and never give up. One piece of advice he has for anyone facing obstacles in life is to "Have faith in yourself and reach out to others. Open up to someone. Never doubt yourself."

Throughout his life, Lucas has used a body-powered prosthesis. More recently, Lucas was fitted with a myoelectric prosthetic, which uses existing muscles in the upper arm to control the wrist, hand and elbow. Lucas hopes that further progress in technology will one day allow him to use a more advanced prosthetic arm.

Lucas is currently finishing his studies at Kent State University and expects to graduate in 2017 with a Bachelor's Degree in applied communications. He recently completed an internship with WJET-TV 24 (Erie's ABC affiliate) and really enjoyed writing stories and reporting. He hopes to follow that career path upon graduation.

### New Fundraising Campaign

Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie has launched a major fundraising campaign to purchase an EOS Imaging System. EOS is a revolutionary imaging system that captures whole body images of a standing or sitting patient in a single scan, using up to 91% less radiation than x-ray. Radiation dose received during repeated x-rays is a risk factor for cancer later in life, particularly with many of our patients being treated for condi-

which is our primary objective on the 3rd Wednesdays each month and commence with Adjutant Vance Collom's sheet cake and ice cream distribution for residents who are celebrating birthdays during the month.

We do, in fact, include all residents of a ward. Song sheets are usually distributed by Post Officer, Richard Spangenberg, but he has become physically unable to participate. He did celebrate his 90th birthday last month and had recently received recognition for his 60 years as a Mason by Unity Lodge Officers.

Commander Palmeroni, also a Unity Lodge Member, has fallen on hard times physically, having damaged his right knee making him unable to "navigate" very far as he is in considerable pain. He has had medical MRIs and the like at the VA Clinic on Westfall Road to help determine a way to get back on his feet and working on his goal of recruiting several new members for the Post.

Finance Officer, Don Osborne, placed an order for Casual Sport Shirts in September. The first lot were received and some distributed to members at the October meeting. He also has

made contact with staff members in Building 8-A (Golden Memories) at the Canandaigua VA Clinic and residents there will be greeted with a "birthday party" like the one we provide for Building 7-A. Both parties will be on the same afternoon.

We have received thank you notes from Lt. Col. Dan Fletcher's successor, Major and MD Christopher Mitchell. It was for medical books and encyclopedias the Post mailed to his Afghanistan location in box lots recently, to be placed in a medical library that is prized by local medical staff. The books were collected from libraries at MCC, the University of Rochester and RIT. Fletcher is a member of Unity Lodge and Battalion Commander in the western NY region since returning to the States.

**December 21st** - The Post will participate in the Canandaigua VAMC Holiday Gift Distribution. We will start in Building 5 Auditorium at 12:30 p.m. for security check and Ward assignment.

There will be no regular Post No. 12 meeting in December.

Your Post Officers wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year. ☐



## December Birthdays



David Benda  
Mark Broyles  
Dennis Carroll  
Philip Cox  
Robert Cox  
Allan Cragg  
Raymond Crandall  
Embola Ekille  
Rodney Finewood  
Delbert Fix  
Earl Gorton, Jr.  
Richard Green  
Roy Hamilton  
James Harding  
James Holman

Daniel Lewis  
Henry Libera  
Richard Lippincott  
Devon Littlefield  
David Locke  
Frederick Ludwig  
Robert Mattick  
Alvin Metcalf  
G. Michael Morris  
James Nielsen  
Donald Osborne  
Fernando Palmeroni, Jr.  
George Pierce  
Kenneth Pollard  
Bradley Rathbun

Charles Rouse  
Robert Selbert  
George Simon  
Timothy Slater  
Dean Smith  
Frederick Stahl  
David Taber  
David Upham  
Michael VanderKamp  
James Verbridge  
Robert Verbridge  
Lance Ward  
William Williamson  
J. Peter Yendell

tions such as scoliosis, that require multiple x-rays throughout childhood. The new EOS imaging system will enhance SHC® - Erie's ability to continue providing the highest quality care to children with musculoskeletal conditions and other special health care needs. The cost of bringing this advanced technology to the Erie Medical Center is estimated at \$1,012,500.

Since initiation of the campaign, more than \$328,000 has been secured. Shrine Temples are invited and encouraged to help make this project a reality by supporting our fundraising efforts to bring this state-of-the-art technology to our Medical Center.

If you would like more information or are interested in making a donation, please contact Rick Liebel, Development Officer, at (814) 875-8807.

### Golf Tournament a Success

Sara Galmish, a senior at Titusville High School, raised \$5,500 for Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie as part of her Senior Project. Sara partnered with the Colonel Drake Shrine Club to host a golf tournament which was held at Cross Creek Resort.

Sara comes from a long line of Shriners and a family that supports our mission. Her father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all Shriners and Sara is the third in her family to host this golf tournament and raise money for Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie.

For additional information, contact: Micheal Widrig (814) 875-8780. ☐



Bill Anthony (Sara's grandfather), Sara Galmish and Rick Liebel, Development Officer at Shriners Hospitals for Children® - Erie.

## Masonic Activities Looking Ahead

~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**2017**  
~ ~ ~ ~ ~  
**JANUARY**

- 7 Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards, Shrine Center**
- 13-15 DeMolay Winterfest**
- 27 Masters & Wardens, Shrine Center Grotto Room**
- 28 NorthStar Project Presentation, Webster**
- 31 Monroe Purple Club Meeting**

### FEBRUARY

- 2-18 Have-a-Heart Campaign, Various Malls**
- 18 Road to the East, Spencerport**
- 18 Scottish Rite Ladies Night, Artisan Works**

### MARCH

- 4 Road to the East, Spencerport**
- 29 Monroe Purple Club Meeting**

### APRIL

- 22 Scottish Rite 150th Anniversary, Woodcliff Inn**  
**Featuring - College of Freemasonry**  
**- Anniversary Banquet**

### MAY

- 1-2 Grand Lodge Sessions, New York City**



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

Commander  
**Fernando Palmeroni**  
426-8962  
fpalmeroni@gmail.com

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

Looks like we have to accept the fact that most of us are aging Vets. Some are guys who can carry the torch yet like those "younger" Brothers on active duty in the Monroe County Area. That includes Rob Buchanan and Matt Cryer who get to Post meetings when their military recruiting positions allow some time away from primary tasks.

While our Post Headquarters is in Webster, our Commander, Fred Palmeroni, has arranged for some meetings at the Villager Restaurant in Canandaigua where we have a private conference room. After business and lunch are concluded, we travel to the Canandaigua VA Clinic,

## Northfield Lodge

Continued from page 8

lution moving forward, I know that due to time and cost the frequency of mailings will be less than monthly. With this in mind, please consider trying our electronic communications to supplement the mailings.

### Congratulations

It is my honor to announce Northfield Lodge's nomination for this year's Symbolic Lodge Award. For those of you unfamiliar with the Symbolic Lodge Award, it is an award given to one Brother from each Lodge by the Valley of Rochester, AASR, in recognition of that Brother's hard work and commitment to their Lodge. It is a way for the Lodge to honor that Brother's work when they may not otherwise receive official recognition for it. **Congratulations to Brother Todd Strassner!**

### Looking Back

We had our Official Visit during our October 6th meeting. Thank you to R.:W.: Stephan Michener, R.:W.: Joseph Bourcy, V.:W.: Lance Daul, and all the Brothers of Northfield Lodge for attending.

During our October Fellowship meeting, Brother Cruz gave an incredibly interesting presentation on the history and connections between Mormonism and Masonry. It is a sure sign of a great program when the discussion and questions that followed were as long as the presentation itself! Finally, our budget for the 2017 year was presented and approved during the November 3rd meeting.

### Looking Ahead

**December 15th** – No Fellowship Meeting, but will meet to set up the Lodge for the December 16th Event, so feel free to stop by and lend a hand!

**December 16th** (Friday) – Wine & Cheese (& Tea) Party. In place of our usual Fellowship meeting, we will be holding a Wine & Cheese (& Tea) Party on the Friday after. This event will be open to guests/significant others.

Since December 16th is the Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, we will have a short program on its connection with Freemasonry. Bring your favorite wine or tea and a dish-to-pass and join us for a relaxing night in the Lodge!

**February 2nd** – 2nd Degree. Mark your calendars and start learning your Parts now!

**April 6th** – 3rd Degree. Mark your calendars and start learning your parts now! □

## Fairport-Flower City

### Lodge No. 476

87 South Main Street, Fairport 14450  
2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

Master - W.: Paul McLaughlin  
414-4549; pmclaugh2000@gmail.com

Secretary - Scott Gonyeo  
415-2702; sgonyeo@gmail.com

website: [www.fairportmasons.com](http://www.fairportmasons.com)

This year is coming to its end ... a time to enjoy the Holiday Season with family and friends!

**Saturday, December 17th** - Annual Family Holiday Party at the Lodge Hall. Details will be sent out by the Secretary.

Keep up-to-date on Lodge events and activities throughout

2017 by checking our website: [www.fairportmasons.com](http://www.fairportmasons.com)

It isn't fancy, but we will keep the information current. We will also be sending out timely updates and reminders to all Brothers on our email distribution list. If you are not on it and want to be, send an email to either the Master or Lodge Secretary. We are still working out plans to address the issue of reaching our Brothers who don't use the internet or email.

### Mark Your Calendar Looking into the New Year...

**January 9th** - Regular Communication; Lodge of Remembrance - a time to honor and pay respect to our Brothers who have entered the Celestial Lodge above.

**January 23rd** – This meeting will start the Degree cycle with new Candidates entering the Craft on the 1st Degree.

Until next we meet, Happy Holidays to all our Brothers! □

## Wakan-Hubbard

### Lodge No. 154

30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580  
2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30 p.m.

Master - W.: Allen C. Heidrick  
(386) 314-1762; allenheidrick@hotmail.com

Secretary - R.: W.: John E. Zabel  
223-3228; zabelj@mindspring.com

website: [www.wakanhubbard.org](http://www.wakanhubbard.org)

By R.:W.: John Zabel

My Brothers, this will be that last article in the **Masonic Times** as it is stopping publication with this issue. It will be missed by all, but we as a Lodge, will come up with an alternative to keep you informed of what is happening during the rest of the year. The method is not yet defined, but your Secretary will be working with the Master and Wardens to find a solution.

Our November 14th meeting was held in conjunction with ERAC Lodge to view their method of holding and conducting meetings. It is a change from prior "normal" practice and many members enjoyed the evening and had a great time. We held this meeting with ERAC so our Brothers could see what they are doing and to evaluate for themselves whether they like the concept. They will help us going forward in the future as our plans for the Lodge evolve and solidify. We also did this as we originally had a Degree scheduled, but we do not have a Candidate for the Degree at this time.

Our second November meeting was a program on Masonic Music, the Seventh Liberal Art. The program was enlightening for the Brothers who attended as we have not talked about music as part of our Ritual in any previous programs. Music does add to the effect of a Degree, especially the 2nd Degree, if you remember. We currently do not have an assigned Musician, but we do have a Brother who could supply music at our meetings. Maybe we can get him to become a regular attendee and supply us with relevant music during meetings and Degrees ... something to think about.

Coming in December is our Annual Financial Meeting for which you should have received a Summons, either by email or snail mail. At this meeting we will be reviewing the past year's expenditures and adopt-

ing a budget for the coming year. We need to watch Grand Lodge Assessments to assure that we are getting the proper amount for money from the Dues total to adequately run the Lodge. As you are aware, our Dues will not be used to fund the rent at Webster Masonic Hall as the money from the sale of the building has been invested to generate sufficient income to cover our rent. This is good for us. There will be other areas of our budget that will be adjusted to keep costs down. To find out what will be changing financially, please plan to attend the meeting.

There is a chair lift in the Webster Masonic Hall for the two small sets of stairs and our Master will work with the Webster Lodge Trustees to see if we can get a set of keys to run the chair lift as needed. Most of our current members do not need to use the chair lift, but we may have visitors who would like to use them.

Later in December, we will be doing visitation to our shut-in Brothers to see how they are doing and bring them Season's Greetings from the Brethren. Our Master is also planning to put together a Christmas Eve Dinner at the Ronald McDonald House for the families who need to stay there over Christmas. We have not done this before and we may ask other Lodges to help, but the planning is in the very early stages. We will keep everyone informed as plans are completed.

January will see our first meeting having a program on TV Lodges, not really Masonic, but how Lodges of any sort are portrayed in television situation comedies over the past decades. This could include from the "Honeymooners," the "Flintstones," etc. This should be a fun and informative evening. Plan to attend.

Our Degree Schedule for the year will change due to whether we receive Petitions and whether we implement the *NorthStar* Program and its specified steps. It is believed that the *NorthStar* Program will help Lodges qualify possible Candidates prior to conferring Degrees such that the new Brother will become active in the Lodge and interested in the teachings and philosophy of Masonry.

Well that is all for this final article. We will keep our Brothers informed of future activities and programs; we hope you will attend a meeting and let us know how we are doing. See you in the New Year, if not sooner. □

## Union Star

### Lodge No. 320

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

Master - W.: Kenneth Hecker  
420-8852; kennethhecker@gmail.com  
Secretary - R.: W.: George Foehner  
586-5255; georgefoehner@gmail.com  
[www.unionstarmasons.org](http://www.unionstarmasons.org)

Happy Holidays to all – Brothers, family and friends. This December marks the closing of one of the most important communication tools ever created for Monroe District. Literally decades of fine fruitful labor will come to a close as the **Masonic Times** stops the publication process. Many have asked, "what do we do?" as if they found an empty Trestleboard.

Brothers, look to the Trestleboard and remember the lessons it teaches us. The Trestleboard is how we know when and what to do in our Labors; this has not changed. Only the venues we use to view the Trestleboard has changed. It was by mouth-to-ear, then letters, print such as newspapers, telegraph, telephone, mobile phone, now smartphone and internet. My grandparents used to tell me how the horse and wagon would deliver ice with sawdust. I shake my head like I have fleas thinking about this. In less than two Generations, we have come so far that one can have a real-time Skype Video face-to-face conversation on a smartphone that could run two Apollo moon missions at one time without a hitch.

But some forget the simplest venue for information of when and where to seek Masonic Light ... our Trestleboard. It is found simply by looking for it. Today we Google "Union Star Lodge No. 320" and once on the Lodge webpage, click on the "Google Calendar Trestleboard" and Voilà!

The **Masonic Times** was the venue of choice and award-winning at that, but today print is sadly going the way of the ice wagon. We have two members who do not have email. I have issued an order to the Secretary of the Lodge that as long as I sit as Master of Union Star Lodge No. 320, these two members are to be mailed any announcements, communications and other pertinent information via US mail. As Master, I will also be calling them from time-to-time to keep these two Brothers up-to-speed.

Only two people have asked me what I planned to do when the **Masonic Times** stops. Amazing to me, they did not have a suggestion as to what they thought might be a realistic idea. Our only options now are electronic, on-line, direct mailings

and coming to the meetings. All bear the weight of proper formatting and what information can be placed in each venue.

Union Star Lodge will continue to use direct mail, email, on-line Trestleboard, our Lodge website, Facebook and Phonevite. Also, the Masonic Service Bureau website link:

[www.monroemasonic.com](http://www.monroemasonic.com) which has a link to:

[www.unionstarmasons.org](http://www.unionstarmasons.org) and on this site is a link to the Union Star Lodge No. 320 **Facebook Page**.

The most important link of all is found on the Lodge Website. The link to the Union Star Lodge No. 320 Trestleboard is found here. Watch the Trestleboard for changes and postings. Please make every effort to come join us at the Lodge for meetings found on the Trestleboard; we look forward to seeing you soon. □

## Webster

### Lodge No. 538

30 Orchard Street, Webster 14580  
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

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

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

As most of you know, this will be the last-ever issue of the **Masonic Times**. The Officers of Webster Lodge are currently trying to come up with a solution, at the very least, for a way to keep our members informed of District events. Hopefully, as time passes, we will find a way to be able to stay in touch with Lodges in the District.

By the time you're reading this, we will have had our Official Visit. This year, instead of an Edict Degree, the Lodges of the Monroe District will be graded on their Opening and Closing Ritual, rather than our Degree work. I'm happy to report that the District Staff Officers were very impressed with the Officers of Webster Lodge and, as usual, our Webster Lodge Officers made me very proud. Our 1st Degree will have been on November 18th and I'm sure your Officers made us just as proud as we initiate six new Brothers into the Craft.

The Officers of Webster work very hard to maintain a healthy Lodge. We have some great programs to look forward to this year. One program for which I am personally very excited about will be on **December 15th**. It will be on the History of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, presented by V.:W.: Bill Edwards. That evening will mark the 234th Anniversary of its establishment. This is very cool for our meeting to fall on the actual day, and even cooler for the presentation to be given by Brother Bill. His love and knowledge for the Craft is very impressive.

### Spaghetti Dinners

Please remember that we are still holding our Community Service Fundraiser Spaghetti Dinners the 1st Friday of every month. As the weather changes and some of our members travel

Continued on Page 15

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# SCOTTISH RITE NEWS

In last month's column, I briefly surveyed the origins of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in North America. I left off with Brother Henry Francken. Brother Francken, while in the West Indies, was made a Deputy Inspector General by Stephen Morin, who, in turn, had received a patent while in England, to confer the higher Degrees.



Phillip Hurwitz, 32° MSA  
Commander-in-Chief

Shortly thereafter, Brother Francken left Brother Morin in the West Indies and made his way to Albany, NY, and created a Lodge of Perfection sometime in 1767. Francken is also credited with creating a Manuscript of Degrees ranging from the 4th to the 25th Degrees. Not long thereafter, Brothers who fancied themselves as Inspectors, were traveling throughout the Colonies conferring the Higher Degrees. Whether they were officially sanctioned to do so or not, created controversy.

In an effort to bring order out of chaos, a Supreme Council was convened in Charleston, SC, in 1801. This Body declared itself in charge of the higher Masonic Degrees in America. The 21 Degrees developed by Francken were incorporated into an additional 8 Degrees, now making 29 (32 if you count the Craft Lodge Degrees).

An additional 33rd Degree (Honorary) was added. As an incentive to rein in roving Inspector Generals, Supreme Council offered them the authority to confer the Higher Degrees up to the 32nd Degree, provided they agreed to relinquish

whatever patent they had received prior, and to abide by the rules of Supreme Council.

Roughly five years later, a competing Supreme Council was established and continued to operate until both Supreme Councils united in 1867. It was during this time that the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was established, which essentially covers geography encompassing the Northeast and Great Lakes of the United States.

And that is your thumbnail sketch of the History of Scottish Rite Freemasonry in North America. If you are interested in greater detail, I recommend two books: Newbury, George and Williams, Louis *History of the Supreme Council, 33° A.A.S.R., NMJ, U.S.A. A.A.S.R., NMJ, U.S.A.*, published by Supreme Council ©1987; Morris, Brent, *Guide to Freemasonry*, ©2006.

As you know by now, this will be the last edition of the **Masonic Times**. I am grateful to everyone who has had a hand, throughout the decades, in publishing this paper. It was a labor of love.

Now is a good time to be looking forward. Your Valley will continue its communications to our members by use of a printed newsletter, Valley Webpage, email communications and through our Facebook Page. Ultimately, the best method of communication is when we can join together as Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret.

My best to you and your family this Holiday Season. ☐

## Scottish Rite Membership Development

By Bruce Katz, Chair

Why did you become a Scottish Rite Mason? For many years it was usual to hand the newly-Raised Brother a Scottish Rite Petition on the night he was Raised. For others (before the "rules" changed) it was a required stop on path to join the Shrine. For me, it was attending the College of Freemasonry during my first year in the Craft.

This Spring we will again host the College, with nationally-known speakers highlighting the program. (See elsewhere in this **Masonic Times** for details.)

Shawn Eyer, Editor of the *Journal of the Philalethes Society*; Dr. William D. Moore from Boston University; and Dr. Aimee Newel, former Director of Collections at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum and Library, are the featured speakers along with Thomas Jackson, Executive Secretary of the World Conference of Masonic Grand Lodges.

This will take place at the Woodcliff Hotel and Conference Center, where our Valley will celebrate our 150th Anniversary in the evening.

My copy of Dr. Moore's *Masonic Temples* book arrived yesterday and I'm looking forward to reading it in the coming weeks. We became Masons to seek Further Light; the College of Freemasonry is a rare opportunity to continue our journey.

Invite a Brother whom you think might be interested in this incredible Masonic education opportunity. You'll both be glad. ☐

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

### AASR Valley of Rochester 2016-2017 Officers

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

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

Rochester Chapter of  
Knights of Rose Croix  
Most Wise Master Lance Daul, 32°

Rochester Consistory  
Commander-in-Chief Phillip Hurwitz, 32° MSA

#### Allegiance

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

III.: G. Michael Morris, 33°

III.: Steven C. Stefanakos, 33°

III.: James F. Niehoff, 33°

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

III.: Richard H. Welkley, 33°

III.: Gary A. Henningsen, 33°

III.: Frederick D. Greene, 33°

III.: Edward R. Trostin, 33°

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

III.: P. Michael Nielsen, 33°

Deputy's Representative - III.: Joseph E. Bourcy, 33°

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

Secretary  
III.: Jack VanElzakker, 33°

Treasurer  
Jason Morrisette, 32°

Trustees  
III.: Glenn A. Stahl, 33° (2017)

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

Garry Cranker, 32° MSA (2019)

III.: M. Donald Darrohn, 33° (2018)

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

#### Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Websites:

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

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

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

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

144 Metro Park, Suite 1, Rochester, NY 14623  
Office (585) 424-5390; Fax (585) 282-0978; Email: [dyslexia.center.rochester.ny@gmail.com](mailto:dyslexia.center.rochester.ny@gmail.com)  
Ann Kaczka, Learning Center Director - - - III.: Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°, Chair, Board of Governors



Scottish Rite Masonic Museum & Library, Inc.  
National Heritage Museum



## Rochester Chapter of Knights of Rose Croix

By Lance Daul, 32°  
Most Wise Master

I wanted to touch on one of our core values in the Scottish Rite ... Integrity. Integrity is defined as "the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness." This is a value we should all strive to have at the forefront. We should also expect it from all of our Scottish Rite Brethren.

Being surrounded by Scottish Rite Brothers with integrity is a

blessing that we sometimes take for granted. If you are not a member of the Scottish Rite, perhaps you would like to expand the pool of honest and moral people surrounding you in life.

Reach out to a Brother whom you know to be a Member or contact the Valley Office. Joining the Scottish Rite is a decision I know you will never regret. Why not take that first step today? ☐



## Rochester Lodge of Perfection

By Neil Bedford, 32°  
Thrice Potent Master

This will be my last article for the **Masonic Times**. As most of you know it is regretful that the **Masonic Times** will cease with this publication. This will leave a big gap in our ability to communicate within our Districts and with the surrounding Districts and Concordant Bodies.

**January 19th** - The Valley of Rochester Lodge of Perfection will be putting on a skit at our January meeting entitled "The TWI-Rite Zone." It will depict a Valley much like ours working out problems be-

tween what the old guard wants and what the new members are looking for from their Valley. PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND OUR January 19th meeting. There will be a discussion after the presentation about the content of the skit and how it affects the Valley of Rochester. It will not be a discussion of the acting in the skit.

I hope the skit will start 2017 with some laughs and a serious look at some problems in all Valleys that can be changed by open dialog. ☐



## Rochester Council of Princes of Jerusalem

By Bruce Katz, 32°, Sovereign Prince

One of the annual rituals many people perform this time of year is making resolutions for the New Year. Often these are forgotten (or at least ignored) before the emergence of the first blooms of Spring.

Brother Ben Franklin decided to internalize thirteen virtues and developed a system to put them into practice. The thirteen virtues are: Temperance, Silence, Order, Resolution, Frugality, Industry, Sincerity, Justice, Moderation, Cleanliness, Tranquility, Chastity and Humility. Each was accompanied by a short descriptor. For example,

Franklin defined temperance as "Eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation;" and humility as "Imitate Socrates and Jesus."

Brother Ben developed a grid of the thirteen virtues arranged in rows and seven columns for the days of the week. Each week he would select a virtue and, for each day of the week, would mark each time he acted upon the virtual. Over the course of the year, he would repeat the cycle four times.

For a brief summary about the Thirteen Virtues, see [thirteenvirtues.com](http://thirteenvirtues.com).

Best wishes for 2017. ☐

## SAVE THE DATE!

150th Anniversary Celebration  
Valley of Rochester AASR

April 22, 2017

featuring College of Freemasonry  
Anniversary Banquet  
at Woodcliff Inn, Perinton

Plan NOW to Attend!

# OUR HONORED VETERANS AT NOVEMBER MEETING



Sublime Princes who served in the United States Army



Only two Veterans who served in the United States Marine Corps were able to attend.



Members of the Valley of Rochester who served in the United States Navy.



Service to the United States Air Force was provided by this group of Veterans.

**7th Annual  
Corning Lodge of Perfection  
Christmas Party**

**Monday, December 19th**  
Corning Masonic Hall  
122 Reynolds Avenue

**Social - 6 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:45 p.m.**  
**\$15 Donation**  
Guests are welcome

**Menu**  
*Sliced Beef in Au Jus ~ Chicken Breast  
Stuffing ~ Tuscan Blend Vegetables  
Mixed Green Salad  
Smashed Potatoes ~ Rolls & Butter  
Coffee & Tea  
Cheesecake, Carrot Cake & Chocolate Cake*  
~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Program for the Evening**  
Fellowship  
Scottish Rite Comments  
Santa's Visit  
Music by "First & Pine"

**Reservations required by December 12th**  
Frank Hamm(607) 962-1677  
email: fhamm16@Yahoo.com

## Scottish Rite Symbolic Lodge Awards Program Attention Lodge Masters!

This is a great opportunity to recognize a Brother who has performed diligent and long-term service to your Lodge and who might not otherwise have a public Masonic recognition. I encourage you to get your nominations in early to the Valley Secretary. Nomination forms are available online or by calling the Valley Office.



## Valley of Rochester Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Presents

**31st Annual  
Symbolic Lodge Awards Program**  
**Saturday, January 7, 2017**  
*At the Damascus Shrine Center*  
**979 Bay Road, Webster**

**Social – 4 p.m. ~ Awards Presentation – 5 p.m.**  
**Followed by Refreshments ... Pizza & Wings**  
**Our Guest Speaker will be**  
**M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson, Grand Master**

*The Awards Ceremony is open to family and friends  
to attend in support of the Nominee from your Lodge.*

**Reservations are required, please call**  
**The Scottish Rite Office at (585) 425-0033**

Gordon D. Hubbell, 32° MSA, Chairman

## News and Notes from the Valley of Corning Lodge of Perfection

The Corning Lodge of Perfection has been busy planning our 7th Annual Christmas Party. We will again hold the celebration at our Lodge Building and have it catered. Invitations have been extended to our Active III. Stephen Whitaker and Phillip Hurwitz, 32° MSA, Commander-in-Chief of the Valley of Rochester. Most of Corning Lodge of Perfection

Brothers are Sublime Princes of Rochester Consistory. All Brothers are invited.

We also had a Candidate, Albert Johnson II, in the Reunion Class on October 22nd. Several of our members accompanied him to Buffalo for Scottish Rite Day for the 32nd Degree.

Our Veterans Appreciation Program was held in November.

## Scottish Rite Ambassador Program

*By Bruce Katz, Chair*  
**Lodge and District  
Ambassadors**

While every Brother can reach out to other members, the Lodge Ambassadors are Brothers who will be contacting other Brothers and providing personal ongoing contact. The District Ambassadors will be coordinating these contacts within the Districts.

My thanks to these Brothers for taking the roles of Lodge and District Ambassadors. Please consider reaching out to your District Ambassador if you would like to help in this important initiative.

If you haven't been called, please feel free to call or email me or any of the Ambassadors.

## CLIP AND SAVE! Current District Ambassadors

- Letchworth District**  
Neil Bedford  
(585) 202-4571  
nbedford67@gmail.com
- Monroe District**  
Bruce Katz  
(585) 729-6657  
brucek8189@aol.com
- Orleans District**  
Garry Cranker  
(585) 260-4546  
gcranker@icloud.com
- Steuben District**  
Mike Koval  
(607) 329-4458  
mpksek@gmail.com
- Wayne District**  
Ernest Ouellette  
(315) 882-4647  
eouellet3@aol.com

## Valley of Rochester AASR On to 2017

### DECEMBER

#### December 3rd - Cap Presentation Breakfast at Spencerport Masonic Hall

Bottomless Pancake Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.  
Ladies invited.

Special program honoring new recipients  
of MSA Red and DSA Blue Caps

#### December 10th - All-Masonic Children's Holiday Party at Shrine Center

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. ~ For ALL Masonic kids and grandkids  
and their friends (age 10 and under).  
Adults welcome to observe ... Bring a wrapped gift with  
the full name attached for each child. Visit Santa and  
enjoy the fun and games with his Helpers.

### JANUARY

#### January 7th - Symbolic Lodge Awards at Shrine Center

Social - 4 p.m. ~ Program - 5 p.m.  
Pizza & Wings following Program.

Lodge participation encouraged to support their Nominee.  
Speaker - M.:W.: Jeffrey Williamson, Grand Master

#### January 19th - Stated Meeting at Shrine Center

Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (\*\*)  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
Menu - Chicken French

#### January 21st - Rite on the Road at Constellation Lodge, Perry, NY

9 - 11 a.m. - Coffee & Donuts  
Open to all Master Masons interested  
in learning more about the Scottish Rite

#### January 29th - George Eastman House Tour with Ladies

1 - 3 p.m. - Guided Tour  
Afternoon Fellowship Event - \$5 per person  
Gather at Cap & Mallet for  
Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres following

### FEBRUARY

#### February 9th - Have-a-Heart Campaign at Marketplace Mall

Shifts 3-5, 5-7 and 7-9 PM  
Family members invited to participate

#### February 16th - Meeting at Shrine Center

Social - 5:30 p.m. ~ Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (\*\*)  
Meeting - 7:30 p.m.  
Menu - Lasagna

#### February 18th - Ladies Night at Artisan Works

5:30 social with hors d'oeuvres  
6:30 dinner - \$45 per couple (\$25 single)

**\*\* 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!**  
**Please notify the Office if you have a special diet require-  
ment. We will do our best to help so you can attend dinners.**



## All-Masonic Groups Children's Holiday Party

at Damascus Shrine Center  
979 Bay Road, Webster

### Saturday, December 10th 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Open to children and grandchildren  
(and their friends) of all Masonic Families**  
Bring a wrapped gift for each child.  
Be sure to mark with child's full name.

Activities will include ...

|                          |                       |        |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Cookie Decorating        | Pine Cone Bird feeder | Games  |
| Coloring                 | Snacks                | Drinks |
| Special visit with Santa |                       |        |

Co-sponsored by AASR-Valley of Rochester, Masonic Service Bureau and Damascus Shrine.

## In Memoriam

#### Fisher, Robert F.

Robert Fisher, 96, went to the waiting arms of his wife on November 19th. He is survived by 2 children, 4 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. The Brothers of Clio Lodge will keep him in their hearts. May he find Peace with the Lord.

#### Friedrich, Hubert "Fritz"

Hubert Friedrich, 95, departed his Earthly family on October 26th leaving his wife of 68 years, Jean; 2 children and 3 grandchildren to remember him. Fritz was a US Army Veteran of World War II and member of Seneca Lodge, Scottish Rite and Damascus Shriners. Earth has no sorrow that Heaven cannot heal.

#### Heath, Donald F.

On June 30th, Donald Heath, 84, passed away. His wife of 65 years, Sally; 3 children, 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren will share memories of his life. Donald was an active Mason in 2 Lodges, member of Scottish Rite and Auburn Shriners. Loving prayers are with you now and in the days to come.

#### Lazore, Michael W.

On November 3rd, Michael Lazore, 67, entered Eternal Rest. He is survived by his wife, Denise; 3 children, 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Mike was a US Army Veteran and a member of Oatka Lodge. May your tears become rainbows when you remember your loved one.

#### Webster Lodge

*Continued from Page 12*

South, we are always looking for help to staff these events. Brother John Ross has done a great job of running this event and this service has already raised over \$3,000 dollars this year for several different organizations. Hats off to Brother John Ross and the Spaghetti Dinner Crew for all their hard work.

Another Brother I would like to take the time to acknowledge is

#### Leilous, William P.

Word has been received on the passing of William Leilous, 76, on May 7th. Bill was a member of Scottish Rite and a US Army and National Guard Veteran. A memory is a keepsake of time that lives forever in the heart.

#### Lindsay, William R.

On November 8th, the loving arms of the Lord embraced William Lindsay, 75, leaving 2 children and 6 grandchildren to remember him. Bill was a member of Nunda Station Lodge and Scottish Rite. May he find peace with the Great Architect of the Universe.

#### Milligan, Jack A.

Jack Milligan, 91, laid down his Working Tools on October 3rd. Jack's memory will be cherished by 2 children and 2 grandchildren. He was a World War II Navy Veteran and a 60-year member of Wakan-Hubbard Lodge. There are special people in our lives who never leave, even after they're gone.

#### Stewart, Gary A.

On October 23rd, Gary Stewart, 75, found loving peace in the arms of the Lord. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Judith; 3 children and 4 grandchildren. Gary was a Veteran of both the US Air Force and Army and a member of Milnor Lodge and Damascus Shrine. A page in our book of memories is gently turned today.

#### VanLare, Robert

On September 23rd, Robert VanLare, 84, was escorted by flights of angels to the Celestial Lodge. His wife of 60 years, Patricia; 3 children and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren are left to cherish his memory. Robert was a member of Damascus Shriners and Sodus Lodge. May the joy of the Lord be your strength.



#### **Widows to be Remembered**

**Mary Bower**, 93, widow of Doyle Bower (ERAC Lodge), passed away October 29th.

**Dorothy Gleason**, 91, widow of Paul Gleason, Jr. (Inspiration Lodge), passed away November 13th.

**Elsie Gurney**, 89, widow of Frank Gurney (ERAC Lodge), passed away November 20th.

**Clara Mac Moore**, 92, widow of Charles Moore (Webster Lodge), passed away October 11th.

**Patricia Rounding**, 87, widow of John Rounding (Damascus Shrine), passed away November 16th.



us. It has been a great year for Fellowcraft, and an overwhelming feeling of Brotherly Love. Refreshment has been excellent, the meetings short, but as much fun as they have been, they have also been informative. The Trustees have some great upgrades in the works. Please come out and see for yourselves.

Thank you all very much for your support and encouragement over the last few years. I'm so proud to call Webster Lodge home and all of you, Brothers. ☺

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 150th Anniversary Celebration Valley of Rochester AASR

## April 22, 2017

*featuring College of Freemasonry  
Anniversary Banquet  
at Woodcliff Inn, Perinton*

### Plan NOW to Attend!



# Lalla Rookh GROTTO News

Roy Moses, Monarch

lallarookhgrotto.com

Legion  
Clowns  
Caldron  
Historian

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



**Roy Moses**  
Monarch  
346-2117  
roymoses46@gmail.com

Here we are in December; my how time flies. Seems like I just started to write the Grotto articles, and here it is my last article. Also seems strange knowing that it is also the last article I will make for the **Masonic Times** forever.

We must remember that nothing lasts forever, that we must still move forward into a new era. Prophet Jeff Ross has been busy looking for other ways to communicate our Grotto News. I'm sure there will be break-in pains, but if EVERYONE will just be calm and collective, then

we will survive.

Last month, six of the Prophets attended the last Honor Flight reception for this year. These homecomings are always special events. I know the Veterans and the crowds love it. I believe Prophet Jeff Ross is planning on doing more next year and I hope more will come out and support our Veterans. It really is very special.

The ESGA Fall meeting was a blast. Five Prophets attended and we had a great time. If only a few more Prophets attended these events, we would have a blast to remember. The Spring meeting is in Corning. Come and join us; I know you won't be sorry.

### December Events

**December 17th** - RPO Gala Holiday Pops Show at the Eastman Theater. A few tickets are available. Call me at 346-2117. First-come, first-served.

**December 21st** - Election of Officers. Let's get out and support the new Officers in a big Grotto way. There's a big dinner this month, so get your reserva-

tion to Frank Habitzreuther at 486-4341.

In closing, I thank all the Prophets for the support you have shown me this past year. You are an amazing group of Brothers. I hope you show the new Monarch the same enthusiasm you have given me. It has been a privilege to have served as your Monarch this past year and I am very grateful to be a member of Lalla Rookh Grotto.

### Upcoming Events

**January 2nd** - Board of Governors, 7 p.m., Grotto Office

**January 18th** - Installation of Officers, Gather - 5:30 p.m.; Dinner - 6:30 p.m. (Reservation Required); Open Installation - 7:30 p.m.

### December Birthdays

Glen Campbell (6th), John Smigle (12th), Mark Hutton (23rd) and Gary Richardson (28th).

### January Birthdays

Don Brugger (14th), Ron Weber (16th), Jason Morrisette and Roy Moses (19th), Howard Travis (21st) and Wayne Slack (29th). □

## Personal Thoughts from Dave Allen

To all my Brothers,

In my past 56 years in Masonry, and I have the right to talk about my accomplishments, I started as Senior Steward 1960 and progressed to the East in 1967. Along the way I was fortunate to associate with many Brothers who would affect my final position - that of a Grand Lodge Officer in the 1st St. Lawrence District, which I held for several Terms.

Additionally, I Affiliated with three other Lodges as well as several other Masonic Groups, including the Shrine and an Honorary Entered Apprentice of Ionic Lodge in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada in 1960.

I have a standing date with King George Lodge in Scarborough, NJ, as well as one with the "Sword of Bunker Hill" held in Burlington, VT. I was Senior Warden in Oswegatchie Lodge in Fine, NY, until we had to turn in our Charter and then progressed to Senior Deacon in Mt. Arab Lodge in Tupper Lake until we returned to this area nine years ago.

At that time, W. Warren Patterson appointed me Musician of Webster Lodge - a position which I cherish. One of the groups that failed during my absence was the Monroe Masonic Police and Fireman's Club of which I held an Office until we moved to Cranberry Lake in 1974.

There were probably at least a dozen other events that we, Betty and I, participated in or joined. She held the Chair of Ruth in the former Webster Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Our oldest Daughter, Donna, followed her father's footsteps and was Matron for many years in two Chapters as well as District Deputy Grand Matron of Wayne District.

Now you may say, "what does this have to do with our

**Masonic Times?"** Well, I have in my collection the First Edition of such as well as what was known as "The Webster Trestleboard" and the *Monroe Masonic Times*.

In my travels both here and in several other States and Foreign Jurisdictions, I found that those who communicated with publications such as we are about to see lost, had a much better Membership Retention than those that did not.

At our last Purple Club Meeting, there were several solutions presented. Purple Club consists of all the present and past Grand Lodge Officers who work with our

present Officers to guide the progress of the Lodges in the District.

Now, to all of you who feel that this loss won't affect Masonry in your Lodge as well as others, take it from one who has "Been there and Done that." My only hope is that some of our younger and more able Brothers will understand what I am trying to "Save" so to speak. I also hope that some Members of other Lodges will read this and relay it to their Membership. □

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
150th Anniversary Celebration  
Valley of Rochester, AASR  
**April 22, 2017**

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### Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America

**Looking for a few good Woodsmen**  
**Fun ~ Frolic ~ Fellowship**  
**Philanthropy ... "Muscular Dystrophy Research Fund"**

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

**Annual Activities:**

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

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

## Rochester Forest No. 133

### Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America

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

**Rob Russo, GTC**  
261-8545  
robussos3@gmail.com

**Donald C. Bell, Scribe**  
334-7768  
don\_bell@hotmail.com

By Don Brugger, PDDSTC

### What was Supposed to Happen

The October meeting was cancelled due to a few reasons ... our GTC was in Florida on business, there was no replacement for a Presiding Officer and there would not have been enough Woodsmen to conduct the business of the evening ... Election of Officers, Installation of Officers and Conferral of the Degrees. The Officers will try to schedule an interim meeting to complete the required business for 2016. We will have to contact the membership as best we can for this effort. We are hopeful that this can be accomplished.

### Why?

This brings up our most serious problem - lack of active members. If we can get an attendance of 20 people for a Sausage Roast, who at least 30-percent are Masons, why can't we get at least five or six Woodsmen out to a Summoned Meeting? We meet only seven times a year; one would think we could get out for at least one meeting a year.

Supreme Forest requires doing the Degrees at least once during the year. No organization can continue to function under these conditions for long. If we

Who has the **Traveling Gavel?**

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(585) 242-9720  
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cannot scare up some support from our members, our next meeting may be our last.

### Sickness and Distress

There was no further information on Carey Hollis' condition.

There was no change in Marge Hood's condition at this writing.

Don Brugger had another fall on his stone walk in late October - just in time for the bruising to make him look like a raccoon with bandaging for Halloween. He is doing fine and all the nine or ten stitches on his nose and forehead have been removed. He almost looks like his old, handsome self again at this writing.

### What is to Come

Hopefully, our November meeting will have been held as planned and our Nominating Committee will have conjured up a Slate of Officers for balloting. The Installation of Officers will be held when the Elected Officers are available.

Our Holiday Party, if any, will be announced by postcard; it may be in December or early January.

Enjoy the Holidays and "live with one another in the bonds of Peace and Brotherly Love."

Froelicha Weinachsten □

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# Rochester Chapter Order of DeMolay

By Justin Lunn  
Master Councilor

Here is information about some of our past and future events. We have had tons of fun and can't wait for more special times together, therefore we want to say thank you so much to all of our supporters and sponsors.

On October 22nd we went to Altitude Trampoline and jumped until we had no strength in our legs to jump any more! Lots of fun was had by all.

We went to Utica to the Legion of Honor Investiture Ceremony on October 23rd to see one of our Advisory Council Members, Dad Mike Hueston, invested with the honor. Also invested with the Legion of Honor, was Ken Milner, Senior DeMolay, from Rochester. Congratulations to both on the well-deserved honor.

### Upcoming Events

We will be practicing the memorization of the Ritual work used during our normal DeMolay meetings. It should be a lot of fun and a wonderful way to improve our skills.

**December 3rd** – Rochester will be hosting our Region's

part of the State Bowling Tournament.

We continue to hold our monthly meetings on the **1st and 3rd Mondays of each month** at the Damascus Shrine Center. Please come and visit! If you know of a young man between the ages of 12 and 21, who might be interested in joining, please contact the Scottish Rite, Damascus Shrine Center or John Truebger at (585) 732-8330.

### Calendar of Events

#### December

**3rd** - Statewide Bowling Tournament; Rochester to host Lakes Region

**5th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**10th** - Day of Comfort

**19th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

#### January

**2nd** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**13th-15th** - Winterfest

**16th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**27th** - Amerks Hockey Game, 7:05 p.m.

**30th** - Ritual Practice, 7 p.m.

#### February

**6th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.; Patriot's Day (Obligatory Day)

**18th** - Rochester Knighthawk's Lacrosse Game

**20th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

#### March

**3rd** - Amerks Hockey Game, 7:05 p.m.

**6th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**11th** - Grand Master's Class, Utica

**19th** - Devotional Day

**20th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

#### April

**3rd** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**8th** - Serve Lunch at the Scottish Rite Reunion

#### May

**1st** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**6th** - Open Camp DeMolay

**13th** - Parent's Day, Picnic at Camp DeMolay

**15th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

#### June

**5th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**13th-17th** - International Supreme Council, Buffalo

**19th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**24th** - St. John's Day, Utica

**29th - July 2nd** - Camp DeMolay Weekend

#### July

**3rd** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**4th** - Irondequoit Parade

**15th** - Car Wash

**17th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**31st** - Ritual Practice, 7 p.m.

#### August

**4th-6th** - State Convention

**7th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

**19th** - Seabreeze Park

**21st** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m.

#### September

**2nd** - Chicken Bar-B-Que

**18th** - Stated Meeting, 7 p.m. □



Brother Jack Steinkamp (left) obtained a payloader and assisted the DeMolay boys and Advisors in moving sections of a tree trunk to the fire pit area as they closed Camp DeMolay for the season. Others helping out were John Truebger, Paul, David, Jack, Gary Burke and Frank Granata. The Boys rested after their labors were completed.



In November, the Chapter held a fundraiser. John Hellaby and Kelly Weber prepared the meal, which the members served to the patrons. Here Paul watches Justin dish out meatballs to Ron Weber. David prepares salads in background.

## Delayed Investiture Ceremonies Conferred Jointly in October Event at Utica



Candidates for the Legion of Honor Degree were escorted by the Grand Marshal, Wayne Allen, through Arch of Steel performed by members of the Mohawk Valley Chapter of DeMolay.



The Degree of Chevalier was conferred upon Kevin G. Williams, (left), with the assistance of William Sardone, Grand Master.



Ever wonder how all those photos that appear online are taken? The secret is out. Beware of the man with the cell phone camera...the Grand Master himself!



Michael Hueston was one of three Exemplars for the LOH Degree. Here he receives Cordon from Keith Rung, Commander in the East.



Kenneth Milner receives his Cordon (right) from Keith Rung. Michael Hueston speaking to audience (left), as each recipient was allowed to do after their Investiture. The Daughters of the Nile served a delicious Dinner to attendees following the Investiture Ceremonies.



Recipients, participants and honored guests at the DeMolay Legion of Honor Conferral in Utica in October.



# Order of the Eastern Star

## Monroe District OES HiLights

### DDGM

R.W. Doreen Rhodes  
621-6051

busrhodes1@hotmail.com

### DGL

M.W. Neil Laundry

964-2135

neillaun@hotmail.com

By R.W. Doreen Rhodes, DDGM

This is the final message from both myself and the **Masonic Times**. Let's go back to a first new event on October 8th ... the Harvest Festival. I thank Rev. Brandi Wooten for officiating the service and R.W. Beverly Murray who led us in harmony. A wonderful selection of items was collected during the service and were delivered to The Center for Youth. This will certainly be a wonderful memory.

### 147th Grand Sessions

These were very interesting Sessions. M.W. Nathan R. Herendeen, Grand Patron, conducted the whole Sessions. Unfortunately, M.W. Jackie Howlett, Grand Matron, was not able to attend Grand Sessions as she was with her husband while he was undergoing surgery. We wish him all the best for recovery. There was a "bust" of M.W. Jackie placed on the podium at intervals.

There were 850 Sisters and

Brothers in attendance. Our District Leaders and members thank M.W. Neil and R.W. Donna Laundry for allowing us to share their suite for the hospitality, which was enjoyed by all.

### District Banquet

At the October 21st District Banquet, Dedicated Service Awards were received by three Sisters who have never been a Worthy Matron, but have contributed many hours of service to our Order. Sister June Shaver of Etoileah Chapter, Sister Lala Krause of Starlight Chapter and Sister Janice Bueg of Lilac Star Chapter were honored and received Certificates and Pins.

### Honor Flight Rochester Fundraising Efforts

Well the wait is over and how we made it boggles my mind. It was truly a charity of the heart and \$2,500 was raised. To all that so generously gave thank you.

The East-West Luncheon in November had a Halloween theme. The Matrons again came

through with a lovely luncheon to honor the Associate Matrons as they move into the Matron's position. Thank you to the Worthy Matrons of 2016 for carrying through with this.

### Mark Your Calendar

**December 4th** - District Christmas Party at Spencerport Masonic Hall. We will gather at 2 p.m.; entertainment at 3 p.m.; Pot Luck Dinner at 4 p.m. This was the last scheduled event of our year and we hope it topped it all. Please come and enjoy the afternoon.

My special thanks to M.W. Neil Laundry for a wonderful year of memories; I hope you have enjoyed your journey, also.

My best wishes to R.W. Bonnie Shaffer, DDGM, and M.W. Ken Milner, DGL, for the year 2017.

### Neil's Notes

District Grand Lecturer



Mid-October marked the end of R.W. Doreen and my Grand Chapter duties. At that time, we attended the 2016 Grand Sessions. On Saturday evening, we greeted and escorted the District's newly installed Grand Officers, R.W. Bonnie Shaffer, DDGM, and M.W. Ken Milner, DGL, from West of the altar to their places of honor at the head of the Monroe contingency.

There was one more very important item to which to attend. Once back in the District, we celebrated our District Banquet on which occasion R.W. Do-



Kathy Cummins, Volunteer Coordinator for The Center for Youth, receives the latest Monroe District Food Cupboard contribution from M.W. Neil Laundry, DGL.

reen had the welcome task of presenting a check for \$2,500 to our local Honor Flight Representative. Both Doreen and Monroe members deserve a great deal of credit for raising such a substantial contribution for our District Project. I would also like to acknowledge the District's generosity in supporting our Veterans Hospitals and area food pantries.

Our new Grand Officers were then presented with the District's traditional Deputy and Lecturer jewels. We wish them a most rewarding year.

Before concluding the meeting, we recognized the outgoing and incoming Matrons, Line Officers and the Dedicated Ser-

vice Award Recipients for each Chapter. Our thanks to R.W. Donna Laundry for chairing the committee to organize the Banquet and for an outstanding job as Presiding Officer.

To conclude her duties, R.W. Doreen, together with R.W. Bonnie, hosted the District Christmas Party on **December 4th**.

To repeat my concluding remarks in last month's column, I congratulate R.W. Doreen on her highly successful year and thank her for her gifts of time and energy to our District. She has been terrific! I am honored to have had the opportunity to assist and support her in whatever small ways may have arisen. Bonnie ... Ken ... **You're on!**

## 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

By R.: E.: John Zabel

### What's Happening

The Chapter does have several Petitions for membership, so we need to schedule Degrees for our Candidates. Our one November meeting was used to attempt to set Degree dates and assign Directors and start putting together casts for the Degrees.

The Chapter can do the Mark Master Mason Degree and the Past Master Degree if the Companions who come to Chapter take some of the smaller parts. The major parts are pretty much covered, especially for the Past Master Degree.

As to the Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Degrees, these will take a few more Companions to step up for small speaking and non-speaking parts. All of the Degrees of our Rite have impor-

tant lessons and, in some cases, interesting histories.

**December 8th** - Regular Meeting.

**December 27th** - At this point, we are planning to have a St. John's Day Dinner at Northfield Lodge on **December 27th**. The current planning is that the dinner will be open to all wives, families, etc. In this way, we will have a function where our Companions can get to know each other better and build some good relationships. Oh, the High Priest has stated that he will cook the dinner. It will be something good and somewhat different from most Masonic dinners. He is a good cook, or so his wife says.

The Chapter will be working on more communication systems to keep you informed of our activities. The Phonevite System we have been using for meetings will continue; it is very cheap to use and we will be looking at other electronic methods and paper methods of keeping our Companions informed about what is happening in the Chapter.

What we end up doing will be a replacement for the **Masonic Times**, as this will be the last issue. Your High Priest and Officers want to make sure you receive proper information about the Chapter on a timely basis.

### Musings

The Degree of Past Master as we now confer it is a relatively new Degree in the York Rite System. Early exposés on Freemasonry do not list the Degree as we now confer it. They usually talk about the whole installation process of the Lodge Officers and the Master, in particular. Under Grand Lodges, the Installation of Officers is a ceremony and not a Degree and the investing of the Master of the Secrets of the Chair is also a ceremony and not a Degree.

The New York Grand Lodge has a ceremony for investing new Masters, but this is not the case in all Jurisdictions. I know that in Ohio, a Royal Arch Chapter uses their Past Master Degree to invest new Masters with the Secrets of the Chair. This is probably true in many, but not all, other Jurisdictions. This is a point that is not fully addressed in Masonic literature.

When the Royal Arch Degrees were under the control of Grand Lodges, the Holy Royal Arch Degree could have been considered a very special Past Master's Club as you had to have served as a Lodge Master to receive the Degree. When the General Grand Chapter of the State Grand Chapters were instituted, it was thought

that the rule that only Past Masters could receive the Holy Royal Arch Degree could not be deleted, the Grand Chapters had to come up with something to make, in the Chapter, Brothers qualified to receive the Holy Royal Arch. This was needed as the Chapters were no longer part of a Lodge and needed to build themselves with Brothers coming from Lodge to become Companions.

When the current Degree was developed, I do not know. I should do some research to determine if I can define a date or time when it became well used. The Degree is very similar to the Investiture Ceremony for new Masters, but there are differences, which I will not go into at this time. If you have served as a Master and have taken the York Rite Past Master Degree you will know the differences.

If the lessons we teach, both in the Lodge and in the Concordant Bodies, are adhered to by our Brothers, they will become better at doing their job. I was recently told that, at one point in the past, Kaufman's Department Store Senior Management were all Masons. The employee and customer atmosphere at that time was excellent. The workers and managers enjoyed their work and did the best they could. As times changed and the management changed to where Masons were no longer part of the upper management, things changed. The changes were not necessarily the best for the employees or customers, but the company still made money. I have met and know Masonic businessmen and have found them to be the best managers of their company and employees. 'Nuff said.

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# W

## WRIGHT

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**The Mall at Greece Ridge**  
**Mall Chairman - Eugene Crews**  
**(H: 225-7949 or C: 317-9946)**

| Date                | Time            | Lodge                                    |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|
| Thu., February 2nd  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Eureka 36, PHA                           |
| Fri., February 3rd  | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Clio 779                                 |
| Sat., February 4th  | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Widows Sons                              |
| Sun., February 5th  | Noon - 5 p.m.   | Letchworth District                      |
| Mon., February 6th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Inspiration 109                          |
| Tue., February 7th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Eureka 36, PHA                           |
| Wed., February 8th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Lalla Rookh Grotto & Lalla Rookh Caldron |
| Thu., February 9th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Clio 779                                 |
| Fri., February 10th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Unity 479                                |
| Sat., February 11th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Letchworth District                      |
| Sun., February 12th | Noon - 6 p.m.   | Inspiration 109                          |
| Mon., February 13th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Social 713, Kendall                      |
| Tue., February 14th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Eureka 36, PHA                           |
| Wed., February 15th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Starlight Chapter 507, OES               |
| Thu., February 16th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Letchworth District                      |
| Fri., February 17th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Inspiration 109                          |
| Sat., February 18th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Unity 479                                |

**“Have-a-Heart”**  
 Campaign Tentative Schedules benefitting The Ronald McDonald Houses  
 “The House Love Built”

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

| Date                | Time                             | Lodge                                                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Thu., February 2nd  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Union Star 320                                                   |
| Fri., February 3rd  | Noon - 5 p.m.<br>5 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Fairport-Flower City 476<br>ERAC 163                             |
| Sat., February 4th  | Noon - 9 p.m.                    | Moose Lodge 2290                                                 |
| Sun., February 5th  | Noon - 5 p.m.                    | Union Star 320                                                   |
| Mon., February 6th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Oatka 759                                                        |
| Tue., February 7th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Moose Lodge 2290                                                 |
| Wed., February 8th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Geneseo 214 & Mt. Morris 122                                     |
| Thu., February 9th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Scottish Rite                                                    |
| Fri., February 10th | Noon - 9 p.m.                    | Union Star 320                                                   |
| Sat., February 11th | Noon - 9 p.m.                    | Letchworth District: Nunda Station 682, Livonia 778 & Eunice 830 |
| Sun., February 12th | Noon - 6 p.m.                    | Letchworth District                                              |
| Mon., February 13th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Northfield 426                                                   |
| Tue., February 14th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Union 45                                                         |
| Wed., February 15th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Northfield 426                                                   |
| Thu., February 16th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.                  | Oatka 759                                                        |
| Fri., February 17th | Noon - 9 p.m.                    | Oatka 759                                                        |
| Sat., February 18th | Noon - 9 p.m.                    | Widows Sons                                                      |

**Tear off this page or cut out the Mall section where your organization is supporting this project. Post it on your refrigerator or message board as a reminder.**



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

| Date                | Time            | Lodge                     |
|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Thu., February 2nd  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | O/S/Y District            |
| Fri., February 3rd  | Noon - 9 p.m.   | O/S/Y District            |
| Sat., February 4th  | Noon - 9 p.m.   | O/S/Y District            |
| Sun., February 5th  | Noon - 5 p.m.   | Webster 538               |
| Mon., February 6th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | ERAC 163                  |
| Tue., February 7th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Seneca 797                |
| Wed., February 8th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Wakan-Hubbard 154         |
| Thu., February 9th  | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Eagle 619                 |
| Fri., February 10th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Widows Sons               |
| Sat., February 11th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Seneca 797                |
| Sun., February 12th | Noon - 6 p.m.   | Fairport-Flower City 479  |
| Mon., February 13th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Wayne District            |
| Tue., February 14th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Fairport-Flower City 479  |
| Wed., February 15th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Fairport Chapter 444, OES |
| Thu., February 16th | 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. | Wakan-Hubbard 154         |
| Fri., February 17th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | ERAC 163                  |
| Sat., February 18th | Noon - 9 p.m.   | Webster 538               |

# Big Calendar for December 2016

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at the*  
**Masonic Times.**  
*We wish you all the best for 2017!*

**1**  
 Northfield, Pittsford, 1°  
 Webster, Open Meeting  
 Eunice, Caledonia  
 Lalla Rookh Caldron,  
 Spencerport

**2**  
 Webster Lodge  
 Spaghetti Dinner  
 5-7 p.m.  
 \$9 adult; \$5 Child

**3**  
 Attica Lodge, 3°  
 Wayne District Road to the  
 East, Section 2  
 DeMolay State Bowling  
 Tournament

**4**  
 OES District Christmas  
 Party, Spencerport

**5**  
 KT - Cyrene/Monroe,  
 Pittsford - Open Meeting  
 Lalla Rookh Grotto -  
 Board of Governors,  
 Shrine Center  
 DeMolay, Shrine Center

**6**  
 Clio, Hilton  
 Nunda Station  
 OES - Fairport, Nolatka  
 and Starlight

**7 Pearl Harbor Day**  
 Drumlin Square, Palmyra  
 Olive Branch, Le Roy  
 OES - Lilac Star  
 Damascus Shriners, (E)  
 Summoned Meeting

**8**  
 Milnor, Shortsville  
 Union, Lima  
 RAM - Hiram Chapter,  
 Pittsford  
 Lalla Rookh Caldron,  
 Spencerport

**9**  
**10**  
 Daughters of the Nile,  
 Webster  
 All Masonic Bodies  
 Children's Holiday  
 Party, Shrine Center  
 Letchworth District Road  
 to the East, Warsaw  
 Wayne District Road to the  
 East, Section 3

**11**

**12**  
 ERAC, Shrine Center  
 Fairport-Flower City, OV  
 Union Star, Honeoye Falls  
 Unity, Spencerport, 2°  
 Wakan-Hubbard, Webster

**13**  
 Seneca, Webster  
 Inspiration, Shrine Center,  
 Holiday Party  
 OES - Mary Jane Holmes,  
 Brockport

**14** Oatka, Scottsville  
 Masonic Service Bureau  
 Board Meeting, Shrine  
 Center  
 Damascus Legion of  
 Honor, Shrine Center

**15**  
 Webster  
 Lalla Rookh Caldron  
 Executive Council

**16**  
 Northfield Lodge Wine &  
 Cheese (& Tea) Party,  
 Pittsford  
 Auburn Shrine Club  
 Christmas Bash

**17**  
 Sagoyewatha, Phelps  
 Letchworth District Road  
 to the East, Warsaw  
 Fairport-Flower City  
 Family Holiday Party  
 Grotto Evening at the  
 POPS

**18**

**19**  
 DeMolay, Shrine Center  
 KT - Cyrene/Monroe  
 Auburn Shrine Club  
 Valley of Corning  
 Christmas Party

**20**  
 Clio, Hilton  
 Nunda Station

**21** Olive Branch, Le Roy  
 Drumlin Square, Palmyra  
 Masonic War Veterans  
 Birthday Party, Canandaigua  
 RSM-Doric Council, Pittsford  
 Lalla Rookh Grotto,  
 Shrine Center (E)  
 Shrine Directors Staff

**22**

**23**

**24**  
*Christmas Eve*

**25**  
*Christmas Day*  
*Hanukkah Begins*

**26**

**27**  
 Inspiration, Shrine Center,  
 Summoned Meeting  
 RAM - Hiram Chapter,  
 Pittsford

**28**

**29**

**30**

**31**  
*New Year's Eve*