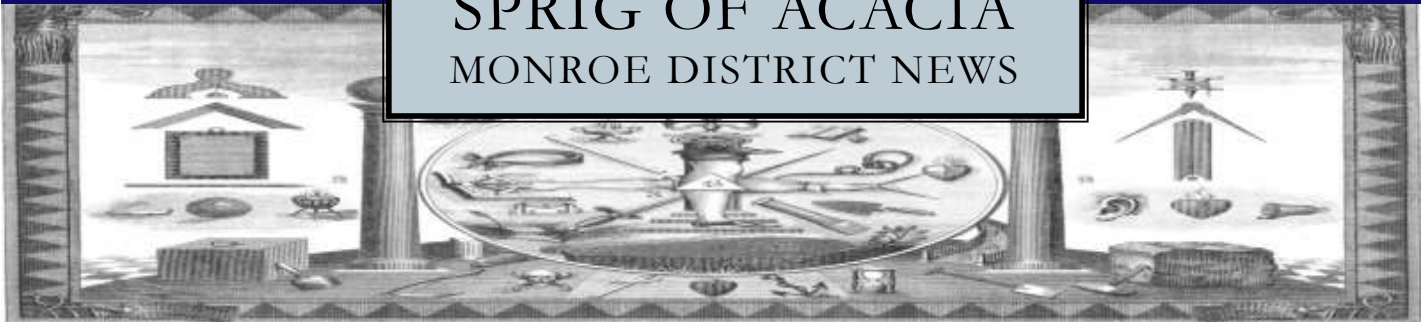


SPRIG OF ACACIA MONROE DISTRICT NEWS



DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER

R.: W.: William Edwards



Congratulations to the recently elected and installed officers of the Monroe District Lodges. The District Team is looking

forward to working with you and your lodge for the upcoming term. Our district goals will remain the same: Improved Communication, Enjoying our Brotherhood and Owning your Masonic Experience. Please read the previous editions of this newsletter at www.monroemasonic.com to learn more.

Here are some interesting statistics about the Monroe Masonic District. There are ten lodges

in the Monroe District with a current total membership of 909 Masters Masons. Six lodges have first time Worshipful Masters in the East, six lodges have first time Senior Wardens. There are five first time Junior Wardens and three new lodge secretaries.

The District Team will start the lodge Official Visits in September year. I look forward to visiting your lodge again as the District Deputy Grand Master. As District Deputy I have responsibility for sharing the Grand Masters yearly message and also reviewing the lodge books and records.

Here are the planned dates for the Official Visits:

- Unity Lodge 479: Monday, September 25th 2023
- Oatka Lodge 759: Wednesday, September 27th
- Fairport-Flower City Lodge 476: Monday, October 9th
- Seneca Lodge 797: Tuesday, October 10th
- Inspiration Lodge 109: Tuesday, October 24th
- Ecclesia Lodge 1189 OM: Monday, October 30th
- Clio Lodge 779: Tuesday, November 7th
- Webster Lodge 538: Thursday, November 16th
- ERAC Lodge 154: Monday, November 27th
- Union Star Lodge 320: Monday, December 11th

The Monroe District Teams Chairman are:

- Brotherhood Fund -RW Derek VanHouten derekhouten1@mac.com
- District Newsletter -RW Allyn Borrino ajborrino@gmail.com
- Etiquette and Protocol - RW John Zabel zabelj@mindspring.com
- Have-A-Heart 2023 -VW James MacDuff bricklayer.jsm@gmail.com
- Leadership and Educational Services -RW Allyn Borrino ajborrino@gmail.com
- Membership Development (NorthStar) -W Mike Pettinato mpettina@reslife.rochester.edu
- Public Awareness -W Chris Mahood csm1066@gmail.com
- Public Relations Contact: -Bro. Chris Carosa ccarosa@earthlink.net
- Ritual Club and Degree Team -VW Jim MacDuff bricklayer.jsm@gmail.com
- Youth -W Gary Burke gary_burke@frontiernet.net



GRAND STEWARD

R.: W.: Allyn J. Borrino



Brothers, welcome back to the Quarries. We welcome all new Masters and Officers of lodges as they begin the work of the Craft. The District Leadership Team, as always, encourages lodges to engage in “visitations” to other lodges. Check your District Directories for the lodge masters and make a request for a copy of their Trestleboards and plan to attend a program of interest and a night of fellowship. We have many talented brothers out there and many interesting programs that will be taking

place within the district. Take advantage of these opportunities and visit your Brothers.

This season the Grand Lodge Leadership and Development Committee releases the new learning platform, “Hiram.” As the season progresses, I will send out the information you will need to attend the MDC Program (Masonic Development Course) for all three degrees. I think this will be a great way for a good many of you to receive this training. We will also, based on the needs of the Brethren, hold in person MDC course. The Masonic Development Course is offered in a series of three courses,



each following the Masonic Degrees; Entered Apprentice degree, Fellowcraft degree and the Master Mason degree; each degree providing a different and unique experience to the brother. The Masonic Development Courses answer and explain the experiences of each degree.

As many of you already know, the Road To The East (RTTE) training course provides some of the information and tools necessary to successfully run a Lodge. This training covers Masonic Law of New York, Grand Lodge structure and operations, Constitutions and more. The training is meant for any and all Masons but

primarily for those aspiring to advance to a seat in the East. This training will take place during the winter months. This training will most likely be in February. More on this to follow.

As this is my last Masonic season as your Staff Officer, the Master's Chair training will be facilitated by the brother that will precedes me in this Grand Lodge position. The Master's Chair training will mirror much of the RTTE training, delving deeper into the leadership aspect of running a lodge.

Remember that if you are thinking about a future Grand Lodge appointed position such as DDGM, Staff Officer or AGL the MDC, RTTE and Master's Chair training is required training.

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURER

V : W : James MacDuff



Brethren: I hope you all are enjoying the summer season. As I write this, it is the last day of July. Half the summer is gone.

HAVE-A-HEART REMINDER

This past winter's Have-A-Heart campaign encompassed two (2) booths in the Eastview Mall, and one (1) in the Greece Ridge Mall. Collectively, from in-person donations and online, we raised \$6,505.22 for Ronald McDonald House Charities of Rochester.

NEXT year, we will again be back in the Marketplace Mall, rebuilt better than ever with

the renovations completed, that now includes UR Medicine. Let me say now officially as the HaH Chair, I look forward to ALL of us helping collectively next February.

RITUAL EVENTS

I have set a couple of dates for you to take note of for the upcoming 2023-2024 Masonic year.

FIRST: Grand Lecturer's Convention – Saturday, December 9, 2023. Our Host for the day will be Unity Lodge in Spencerport. The WORK will be the Hiram Drama. This SATURDAY event will feature breakfast and fellowship beginning at 8am, with the work to begin at 9am.

SECOND: School of Ritual ... Lecture of Reasons

January 27, 2024. Our Host for the day is yet to be determined. The newer Brethren chosen will be responsible for the Questions and Answers of the Lecture of Reasons ONLY. This Saturday event will too feature a breakfast *as provided by us Big Brothers*.

THIRD: District Hiram Legend – April 20, 2024

Our Host for the day will be Union Star in Honeoye Falls. THE PLAN will be for each Lodge to perform their own 1st Section of the Master Mason Degree, within 60 days of this date. The Hiram Legend cast will be a compilation of Brethren from each of the different Monroe Lodges... Fellowship and meal details will be ironed out and communicated later in the year.

Lastly, certainly not least important, the Monroe District Masons have once again been called upon to perform grilling duties at the Mary

Cariola Center fundraising event, Sunday morning, September 17th at the Penfield Town Hall, located at 3100 Atlantic Avenue, Penfield, NY 14526 – volunteers should arrive at 8:30am. Please come donate 1-2 hours of your time for this fabulous organization!

Originally “The Day Care Center for Handicapped Children”, opened their doors in 1949 and served just eight students. It was renamed “Mary Cariola Children's Center” in 1977 ... today, now known as “Mary Cariola Center”, they transport children to the center , on a daily basis, from each of the six counties that borders Monroe County.

We all of us indeed have these children in each and every one of our communities. Please come and be counted and walk with us for a couple hours.

-Please keep watch for the 3rd and 4th schools to be announced!

The Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man ...

2024-2026

GRAND LODGE OFFICER APPLICATIONS

NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Brothers Past Masters, if you are interested in applying for a Grand Lodge Officer position for the 2024 – 2026 Masonic term now is the time to submit your application. We encourage you to make your interest known to the GL Officer whose position you are interested in applying for. We will be happy to answer any questions that you may have about the position or the application process. The workbook and application for District Deputy Grand Master and

Grand Lodge Staff Officer can be found at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScMmuoXq4WlNwkLEqSTpYmsWs3mfXf-xLwwStI5fnf3q9AZAQ/viewform?usp=sf_link



Pride in the Craft Pride in the District

QUOTES

“I hope I shall always possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man”

Brother George Washington
United States President and Freemason