



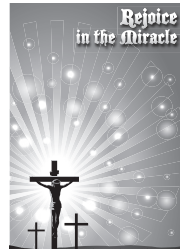
April 8



Easter - April 4



Good Friday - April 2



MASONIC BODIES  
of the  
ONONDAGA  
CAYUGA - TOMPKINS  
CORTLAND - MADISON  
OSWEGO DISTRICTS

Circulation 2,250

Vol. 47, No. 8

Published by EMESBE Service Bureau Inc., P.O. Box 242, Liverpool, NY 13088

April 2021

# The Memorial Bruce Widger Golf Tournament

sponsored by  
The Onondaga Masonic Districts  
Charities Inc.  
10 a.m. – Saturday, July 10, 2021  
at  
The Wood Golf Course



We are pleased to announce our Bruce Widger Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, July 10 at The Wood Golf Course, 7439 Canton Street, Baldwinsville, NY 13027. The cost of the event is \$70, which includes golf, cart and dinner. The phone number at the course is 315/635-9826.

Our tournament format is four-person Captain & Crew, which has fostered a lot of fun on the course. It's nice to contribute on a hole with a good shot; and it's nice to know your mates can bail you out if it's not so good.

Last year the Brothers from Skaneateles prevailed with a low score of 61. But the scorer's table had declared a tie between Jordan Lodge and the Oswego District Team, with 62's each. The Brothers from Skaneateles, after everyone left, had us re-check their card, which we had at 63. It was actually 61. Can you imagine the uproar that would have taken place at any other event? We salute our gentlemen Masonic golfers for not showing us up. Masons really are special.

Other than our scoring table blunder, the turnout was great, we were blessed with great weather and raised more money than in past years. One player scored a hole in one, and we had a good time in spite of the pandemic. Every District Lodge and Concordant Body was represented with a hole sponsorship. We thank you.

Your local charity, because of the nearness of the need, is in a position to respond quickly when called upon. We have supported several Brother Masons who suffered loss—some material, some physical and many financial. The ability to support these Brothers would be impossible without you. Let me express our heartfelt thanks.

Please plan on playing. You will have a great time of fellowship while fulfilling one of our most sacred ties.

Once again, all are invited. The cost is \$70 per player for golf, cart and dinner. Time and place: 10 a.m. on July 10 at The Wood Golf Course. Contacts for the event are Pat Pacini, 315/720-3526; Frank Kennedy, 315/420-8877; Karl Parker, 315/427-1411; and W Garry Campbell, sitting Master at Konosioni 950, 315/385-1170. Applications are available by email. The officers, Directors and members of your Onondaga Masonic District Charities thank you again for all your support.

Pat Pacini

**Occasionally, we receive nice communications from subscribers. This is a welcome one from another side of the world.— Editor.**

Thank you very much for sending this out electronically. I am living in Phuket Thailand and having this piece from home is really quite nice.

In addition to my Mother Lodge in Liverpool, now 501, I am also a member of Light of Siam 9791 here in Phuket Thailand, which is

Nice Communication  
see page 4

## Mentor

Hello, Brethren. If you have read this column during the past three issues of *the word*, you already know there is a group of CNY Masons who meet via Zoom every first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. Our present purpose is to read one of *The Federalist Papers* each night. And if your Lodge belongs to a Masonic District that is forwarding these Zoom links to its Lodges, and they are forwarding to their members, you are also receiving the information required to log into these Zoom meetings.

So far we have had four meetings (plus an extra one on the third Thursday for the benefit of those Brothers who are unable to participate on Mondays). We have read, so far, the Introduction and the first and second Federalist Papers. On March 15 W James Rizzo, Master of Lake City Lodge No. 127, read *The Federalist Paper #6: "Concerning Dangers from Dissensions Between the States"* (by A. Hamilton). The paper dwells on the

weaknesses of human nature which may cause frequent and violent contests among the States unless a strong union is created. The collection was originally published in 1788. Even at that time, a lack of union constituted a danger to our Nation.

The objectives of such readings include: (1) learning the rules of our democratic process, as provided by the US Constitution, and (2) showing how, with Brotherly Love and Tolerance, it is possible for brethren with different viewpoints to share and discuss information. This is a very useful lesson for many Americans in these days of stressful contention and of political intolerance.

Freemasonry is particularly positioned to implement these ideas, given our core principles of Brotherly Love and Tolerance. Tolerance does not mean that one gives up his way of thinking, but that one accepts that there are others with different ways, and that even if we do not share these, we can argue our differences in a civil and constructive manner.

During these readings we

also learned much about why the Federalist Papers were written and about that political time. Then, thirteen American colonies joined to win Independence but still needed to create one Nation. To achieve this, nine of these thirteen colonies were required to ratify the Constitution, which would replace the Articles of Confederation. New York State's support was crucial. Therefore, three patriots (Hamilton, Madison and Jay) decided to jointly publish a series of articles under the fictional name of Publius to explain the need to adopt a Constitution. Evidently, their political climate was as contentious and the in-fighting as crude as it is now.

*The Federalist Papers* consisted of 85 articles. Our group is reading a selection of the best among them. If anyone is interested in joining us but is not receiving information and the link to do so, please send me an email ([matresearch@cortland.edu](mailto:matresearch@cortland.edu)) and I will be happy to comply.

Moving to another topic: We continue to receive from

Grand Lodge the names of potential candidates for our Fraternity, who must undertake the NorthStar process. After being contacted by email and told that they will be assigned to a Lodge Mentor to follow that process, more than one half of the inquirers never re-appear. But those who do, eventually join a Lodge.

The COVID-19 vaccination process is advancing. I had my shot today and several other Brothers have already received at least their first dose. Vaccines can protect us from death or hospitalization. But we will still need to wear masks, keep social distancing, etc., as it is not known if the vaccines prevent asymptomatic illness or virus transmission. The CDC has just come up with new safety rules for those who are vaccinated: small groups can meet in more informal settings. This means that we may soon be able to start meeting again, thereby attending Lodge in person.

Jorge L. Romeu

## THE ANTI-MASONIC MOVEMENT

BY BRO. EMERY B. GIBBS, P. D. G. M., MASSACHUSETTS  
(Dec. 1918, *The Builder*)

THE institution of Masonry was introduced into the Colonies at an early stage of their existence. The growth was slow at first, but after the Revolution it spread more rapidly. From 1790 to 1820 the growth was very marked. It had the sanction of many of the most distinguished men of the country. Nothing had occurred up to 1826 to mar its progress. Men prominent in Masonry spoke publicly of the many positions of trust and importance held by men belonging to the Masonic Fraternity. Some were indiscreet enough to announce that Masonry was exercising its influence in the pulpit, in the legislatures, and in the courts. To this but little attention was paid until the Morgan episode in 1826.

William Morgan was a native of Virginia, born in Culpepper county in 1775 or 1776. Little is known of his early history. Among the assertions regarding it is one story that he was a Captain in General Jackson's army at the battle of New Orleans, and another that he belonged to a band of pirates and was sentenced to be hanged, but pardoned on condition that he enter the army. But little

credit should be given to either of these reports.

In October, 1819, at the age of forty-three or forty four, he married Lucinda Pendleton of Richmond, Virginia, then in her sixteenth year. In 1821 Morgan and his wife moved to Canada, where he undertook the business of a brewer near York in the Upper Province. The loss of his brewery by fire reduced him to poverty and he then moved to Rochester, New York, where he worked and occasionally received assistance from the Masonic Fraternity. From Rochester he went to Batavia, in the county of Genesee, and worked at his trade, which was that of a mason, until his disappearance in 1826.

During his residence at Batavia he was intemperate, frequently neglecting his family. With but little education, it is said he had a fair knowledge of writing and arithmetic, kept reasonably good accounts, was a man of common sense, pleasing manner, and when not under the influence of strong drink was a pleasant, social companion among his fellows.

No one has been able to ascertain where he was made

a Mason. He met with the lodge at Batavia. In 1825 or 1826 a petition to the Grand Chapter of the state was drawn up to obtain a charter for a chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Batavia. This petition Morgan signed. Before it was presented to the Grand Chapter, others who had signed it and knew his habits and character were unwilling to have him become a member. A new petition was prepared and signed and presented without Morgan's name. On this petition a charter was obtained. When Morgan learned that he was not a charter member and knew that he could be admitted only by a unanimous vote, he was surprised and offended at being excluded from the Chapter, and from that time became an active and very ardent foe of Masonry.

A few years previously one David C. Miller had established himself in Batavia and was publishing a local newspaper. Miller's undertaking as an editor and printer was unprofitable. He was a man of cunning and of a certain ability; reputation not very good, and of objectionable habits. At some time

prior to his living in Batavia, he had been initiated as an Entered Apprentice at Albany, New York. Objection being made to his further advancement on the ground of his character, he never received the second and third degrees.

Morgan and Miller, having a common grievance against the Masonic Fraternity, planned together how they might create something of a sensation and acquire a substantial, if not great fortune, out of the venture to disclose the secrets of Freemasonry. Their threats and suggestions were regarded at first as of no significance. The Masons at Batavia paid little attention to the rumors until it was evident that Morgan and Miller were bound to carry out their threats and publish in Miller's paper a complete revelation of so-called Masonic secrets. There was a strong feeling on the part of a few who were quite as much opposed to Morgan and Miller personally as they were zealous in the cause of Masonry that this publication should be

Anti-Masonic Movement  
see page 4






# ONONDAGA DISTRICT


www.onondagadistricts.org  
or Grand Lodge web site under regional and District Web Sites at:  
www.nymasons.org

## DDGM



**RW Jack G. Dombrowski**  
315/395-1255 (c)  
315/409-4929 (h)  
[bdombrowski@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:bdombrowski@twcnny.rr.com)

## STAFF OFFICER



**RW Dan Campis**  
732/241-0606  
[dancampis@gmail.com](mailto:dancampis@gmail.com)  
*No News Received*

Greetings, Brethren! The month of April brings us the nicer weather we have been eagerly awaiting. It also reminds us that one of our solemn duties is only a month away. That is the duty of electing a new line of officers for our Lodge. It is that time of year that the many Brothers who have been working their way through the chairs on the Road to the East eagerly await the results of the elections and appointments to enable them to continue their Masonic journey to the East in a new position.

With the Degree cycles wrapping up, it is now time for our already busy AGLs to start preparing for the Ceremony of Investiture. The tentative plan is to hold individual investitures in order to keep the attendance numbers down and keep individuals safe. However, as a Past Master of your Lodge, you should be in attendance for your Lodge's investiture ceremony. This is the time for all Past Masters to step up and be a part of the process, either actively or as a sideline, showing support for your incoming Worshipful Master. Think of the vast

**More DDGM see 2nd column**

the word  
(USPS 050-170)  
(Published Monthly  
Except July and August) by  
Masonic  
**EMESBE** Service Bureau Inc.  
of Central New York  
400 Alder St.  
Liverpool, NY 13088

**PERIODICALS**  
Paid at Liverpool, N.Y.


Len Hass, Chairman  
Bruce D. King, Secretary (Home) 655-8257  
Ben Lees, Ex. Dir. (Home) 457-3549  
[oldbanker60@yahoo.com](mailto:oldbanker60@yahoo.com)

Advertising Rates:		
Column	1 Time	Annual
Inch	\$4.40	\$33.00


Subscription Rates Per Year	
Group Rates	\$3.50
Individuals	\$5.00

(Rates subject to change)  
News Deadline: 12th of the Month  
Editor: Stephen L. Zabriskie  
PO Box 119  
Aurora, N.Y. 13026  
**POSTMASTER:**  
Send address changes to  
"The Word"  
P.O. Box 242, Liverpool, NY 13088

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



**VW Rick Miori**  
[rickmiori@gmail.com](mailto:rickmiori@gmail.com)  
315/254-1671



**Toby Shelley,**  
[TobyShelley@yahoo.com](mailto:TobyShelley@yahoo.com)  
315/427-6961

Greetings, Brethren! We have had much time to reflect over this past year. We have also made extra time to further our Masonic development. At some point during this time away, you had the opportunity to work on memorizing a Scripture part(s), learn a new lesson, take an online Masonic course, research the history of our Craft or read through a new section in your Blue Book.

You have, no doubt, also been invited to numerous virtual sessions. These virtual sessions (Zoom, Google, Web Ex, etc.) can be beneficial for keeping the Brotherhood informed, for basic planning (not for use in conferring degrees or ritual), for keeping in touch in bad weather or from a far distance. We have also learned over the past year that no virtual session can replace the good old-fashioned camaraderie of getting together and meeting in person as Brothers in our Lodge. Although these sessions may be here to stay in certain circumstances, we are all beyond ready to be back with regular, in-person meetings.

We can meet in person now in smaller groups but by the time we are able to meet again at full capacity we will come to the end of this Masonic year. The great news is that "Masonry never stops!" We will pick up from where we left off.

Keep in touch with the candidates in your Lodge who have been waiting for their next Degree(s). Their patience has proven them to be worthy of more light in



**VW Tim Conover**  
[timconover1@gmail.com](mailto:timconover1@gmail.com)  
315/263-5717

Masonry. By the time we confer our next upcoming Degrees we can all be more prepared and more confident to teach our newest Brothers the importance of our lessons.

WMs and Brother Secretaries, feel free to contact us anytime about Degrees or dates for the new Brothers in your Lodge. Take care and stay healthy, Brothers.

Rick Miori  
Tim Conover  
Toby Shelley

**Tom Ostrander,**  
**Sponsor**  
**Past Grand Steward**  
**Cayuga-Tompkins District**  
**2012-2014**

## Event schedule, Apr '21

The reader should consult each organization to check the status of these events.

Apr 1 .....	Caroline
Apr 3 .....	Pulaski—Cook Trailer
Apr 4 .....	Easter
Apr 5 .....	OnStar
Apr 6 .....	FayCC—1°
Apr 7 .....	Skaneateles—Euclid
Apr 8 .....	LkOntRAM—Zoom
.....	BonaFide—OV
.....	Nortrip
Apr 10 .....	Tigris—Informational
.....	Tully—BBQ
Apr 13 .....	WashingtonRAM
.....	LkCity—Zoom
Apr 14 .....	CC13
.....	Pulaski RAM
Apr 15 .....	Centerville—OV
.....	Caroline
Apr 16 .....	KT25
.....	LkCity—Osw GLect. Convention—Zoom
Apr 17 .....	MornStarOES—Elect/Install
.....	Pulaski—BBQ
Apr 20 .....	FayCC—Zoom
Apr 21 .....	CayugaCouncil90—Table Council
.....	Skaneateles
Apr 22 .....	BonaFide—Ample Form
.....	Nortrip—Awards
Apr 24 .....	BonaFide—Take-Out Dinner
.....	Caroline—Partridge Benefit
.....	TriValley—1°
.....	CentSq—1°
Apr 25 .....	Auburn—BBQ
Apr 26 .....	Homer
Apr 27 .....	CC Riverside RAM—OV
.....	LkCity—Zoom
Apr 28 .....	CHPlatt—OV
May 3 .....	OnStar
May 6 .....	Caroline—1°
May 10 .....	MornStarOES—OV
May 11 .....	PulaskiRAM—OV
May 12 .....	CC13—OV
May 15 .....	CHPlatt—150 <sup>th</sup>
.....	Tigris—Spring Ceremonial
May 18 .....	FayCC—Annual
May 24 .....	MornStarOES—Draping

**PARTIES BY PATTI**  
Creation is my passion.

**Patti Courtney**  
Baking/Catering  
8975 E. Mud Lake Road  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

(315) 447-1350

PattiCakes on Facebook  
[partiesbypatti@gmail.com](mailto:partiesbypatti@gmail.com)



**FAIRCHILD & MEECH**  
**DEWITT CHAPEL**

3690 ERIE BLVD. E., DEWITT, NY 13214

**Ph. 446-5500**

BRADLEY A. MEECH, TERRY D. WHEAT, MARK C. BENTZ  
Funeral Directors  
Est. 1893

**SWEET-WOODS MEMORIAL CO.**

Phoenix, NY  
315-695-3376

Camillus, NY  
315-468-0616

Brewerton, NY  
315-676-2333

Cemetery Memorials and Bronze Mausoleums  
Cemetery Lettering  
Memorial Cleaning and Restoration



**Past Senior Grand Warden**  
**John R. Fuller**  
**Sponsor**

Are You ~ ~ ~ Moving?

Print your NEW address below (incl. seasonal changes)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and mail to: **the word**  
P.O. Box 242  
Liverpool, NY 13088



**WARD'S FOOD TRUCK**  
(315) 406-2566  
[wardsfoodtruck@gmail.com](mailto:wardsfoodtruck@gmail.com)



**DIXE**  
Sweeping Service Inc.

Pavement Maintenance

- Power Sweeping
- Line Stripping
- Pavement Markings
- Seal Coating



Jeff Dixe, Sr.

P.O. Box 51  
Syracuse, NY 13205  
Phone: (315) 475-7764  
Fax: (315) 475-1565  
Email: [dixe@verizon.net](mailto:dixe@verizon.net)



**Fayetteville-Central City 305 (ON)**  
116 East Genesee St.  
Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066  
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.  
315/637-6431

WM Matt Gregory

Greetings, Brethren. The sun is higher in the sky and getting warmer every day. I hope all is well with you and your family.

April 6 is our First Degree. Please remember to bring your mask. Please plan to arrive before 7:30 p.m. No dinner will be served prior to meeting.

Your Lodge will continue to have a Zoom meeting at least once per month. Our next Zoom meeting will be Tuesday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. Please email Craig Cobb at [cobb3@verizon.net](mailto:cobb3@verizon.net) for an invitation to the Zoom meeting.

Remember the Brotherhood Fund and these future dates. Our Annual Meeting is May 18. Installation of officers will be on June 1. May God bless.

Matt Gregory

**Morning Star 524 (ON)**  
46 E. Main St.  
Marcellus, N.Y. 13108  
1st & 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m.  
315/673-2561

WM John Bromka,  
315/567-5697



Greetings, Brethren. I am very happy to report that we are up and running, thanks to health precautions we have all been observing and a steady roll-out of vaccinations. We look forward to recognizing three fifty-year members in the coming weeks and hearing a petition or two, as well. And it's great seeing faces from the past now active in Lodge on a regular basis. These are men such as Brother William "Mel" Simmons, who's also been very helpful with repainting the restored apartment.

Signs of Masonic life are all around us. Did you see the news item about the Mars explorer Perseverance? Encoded on the landing parachute were some oddly dispersed numbers and letters that helped track orientation. The numbers along the perimeter, as it turns out, gave the geographic coordinates for Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The letters, arranged in a sort of a loose spiral against almost random red-and-white chevrons, spelled out "DARE MIGHTY THINGS," a nugget of wisdom from Brother Theodore Roosevelt. Here is TR's full statement from 1899:

"Far better it is to Dare Mighty Things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure...than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."

Thank you, Brethren, for daring to build this Fraternity we share. Happy Easter and spring.

John Bromka

**Jordan 386 (ON)**  
14 North Main St.  
Jordan, N.Y. 13080  
1st & 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m.  
315/689-3455

WM Adam Novak,  
315/200-0886,  
[Novakadam14@yahoo.com](mailto:Novakadam14@yahoo.com)  
Secy Joe Maslak,  
315/491-1410



Fraternal greeting, Brethren. Our in-person Lodge meetings have resumed and we are working towards our Degrees. I have tasked our Senior Warden to coordinate our Degree practices so please respond to his inquiries as he organizes practice dates.

The new men's bathroom is almost complete. This will be an upgrade that has been a long time coming.

Please keep an eye on your emails. I will be regularly sending updates as we progress toward the summer months. As always, if any Brother is in need, has suggestions or has any ideas he would like to see our Lodge pursue, please do not hesitate to let me know. I am available through email or phone at [Novakadam14@yahoo.com](mailto:Novakadam14@yahoo.com) and 315/200-0886. Please stay safe and healthy.

Adam Novak

**Nortrip 998 (ON)**  
116 East Genesee St.  
Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066  
2nd & 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
315/637-6431

WM Kevin Ingalls  
[kingalls1652@gmail.com](mailto:kingalls1652@gmail.com),  
315/380-4303

Secy Tom Mitchell  
[tmmitche@twcny.rr.com](mailto:tmmitche@twcny.rr.com),  
315/687-9551



Greetings, Brothers. Hopefully, warmer weather and vaccinations slow down COVID-19 enough to get us a step closer to normalcy. With so much time and so many changes under the pandemic, the old norm will likely take some getting used to.

In March we checked in with Brothers who haven't been able to attend meetings and it was a joy to hear their voices. Even if it is prudent for them to take care of their health first, we still think of them often. At the following meeting we had move-up night and finalized our community involvement projects.

At this month's first meeting we are making plans—plans for celebrating next year's Nortrip Centennial as well as plans for elections and Degree work. We have some work to do but these are the sort of things we want to do, not have to do. The fourth Thursday will be awards night at the Lodge, both service awards and novelty. This is always a fun night.

We will likely be reading petitions and balloting this spring but it is too soon for dates. Also, this the last call to participate in the Brotherhood Fund. Lastly, our roadside cleanup spring date will be scheduled soon.

This is enough to keep us busy and, hopefully, improve the world a little. Which, I believe, is the whole point of our valued institution and why I appreciate the efforts



of all the Brothers at Nortrip. Be safe. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Kevin Ingalls

**Skaneateles 522 (ON)**  
13 E. Genesee St.  
Skaneateles, N.Y. 13152  
1st & 3rd Wed., 7:30 p.m.  
315/685-8297

WM Mark Kulik,  
315/278-0010,  
[mark.kulik@verizon.net](mailto:mark.kulik@verizon.net)  
Secy Earl Tuttle,  
315/673-2213

Greetings, Brothers. Welcome to the restart of the year. As I write this, we will be reopening the Lodge for the first meeting in a while so when this appears in the paper we should have one meeting under our belt. I am a little unsure how this will all work but I am excited to get back with everyone and learn how the world's events have affected each of you over this last year.

The first meeting of the month will be on Wednesday, April 7. We will be addressing any changes in Lodge policies, new openings and opportunities to get back to normal. We will have our standard dinner at 6:30. It will be served with socially appropriate distancing and practices applied. The meeting will start at the usual time, 7:30 sharp. I will have a presentation on Euclid's postulate.

I want to let anyone who is still uncomfortable with attending a meeting know

that you will be missed. But we all sympathize with everyone's individual situation. Having said that, I hope you all will join us.

The second meeting of April will be on April 21. As always, we will be having a dinner and we hope everyone feels welcome to join us. I am unsure of any program at this point, as we will be rushing to get together plans to finalize our Degrees, if possible. This will mean that there will be quite a bit of juggling on the meeting schedule.

"We Masons are among the fortunate ones who are taught to meet together with others of opposing convictions or competitive ideas and yet respect each other as Brothers."—Author unknown.

Mark Kulik

**Tully 896 (ON)**  
13 State St., POB 896  
Tully, N.Y. 13159  
2nd & 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
315/696-8252

WM John Rapp,  
315/569-5203,  
[jrappl26@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jrappl26@twcny.rr.com)

Greetings, Brethren, good morning! The weather has turned noticeably better and it feels great outside. A month ago I was lamenting how cold it was. That is what I love about New York weather and seasons.

All seems to be well with your Worshipful Master and

his lovely bride. She recently had her first COVID vaccination and I am currently scheduling mine. Hopefully, this will all be behind us very soon.

Dues notices have been sent out. It is the same amount as last year. I am currently learning the Lodge upgrade to MORI. Many of our transactions will be accomplished electronically—hopefully, very soon.

We will be planning several fundraisers this year to help keep our coffers full. We have a chicken barbecue planned for Saturday, April 10. We plan on selling halves only. As always, your help and participation will be much appreciated.

In the Little-bit-late Department, I report that we opened our doors to PEACE, Inc. in December. It was for their annual Food Giveaway to the needy in and around

our community. See the photo of the set-up. It was quite a challenge with COVID restrictions, but all went well. PEACE is planning a clothing giveaway in late April using our Lodge.

As previously noted, we have been selected for a \$35,000 Repair and Beautification Grant from the State of New York. We continue to hold fundraisers to help with the \$12,000 match that we need in order to qualify for the grant. The money will go to fix the western roof, the columns, new windows, paint, etc. Since the Apple Fest was cancelled this year, alternative fundraising is vital to keep our building open.

Please contact me if you need anything or to just say, Hi. My email is [jrappl26@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jrappl26@twcny.rr.com). My phone is 315/569-5203.

John Rapp

## Dennis A. Hughes Agency

For all your Insurance & Investment needs

**Dennis A. Hughes Sr.**  
315/458-6320

5702 South Bay Rd.  
Cicero 13039

**Dennis A. Hughes Jr.**  
315/635-9959

8 Tappan St.  
Baldwinsville 13027

## Plis Funeral Home Inc.

33 North St., Marcellus  
315 - 673 - 2017

220 State St., Auburn  
315 - 252 - 6261

**KEDER KHAN GROTTTO**  
Syracuse, NY  
**GROTTTO PROPHETS**  
**HELP THE**  
**SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD**  
**COME AND JOIN US**

CALL:

**Richard M. Nuhn, Secretary**  
(315) 689-9925



Bruce Babilot  
Owner

### EXPERT CLUTTER REMOVAL SERVICE

We Clean Out Your Junk - Not Your Wallet

CLEANOUTS & REMOVALS: Households, Basements, Attics, Garages, Barns, Sheds, Yards, Brush, EVEN Entire Estates  
WE ALSO DO LIGHT DEMOLITION & MOVING

(315) 258-9365 - (315) 730-6370 cellular

E-mail: [expertclutterremoval@yahoo.com](mailto:expertclutterremoval@yahoo.com)  
Find us on the web at: [www.expertclutter.com](http://www.expertclutter.com)

Free Estimates & Fully Insured



TIGRIS SHRINERS

1121 Milton Ave., Suite 1  
Syracuse, NY 13204

Phone: (315) 308-0410 Fax: (315) 313-5976

office@tigrishriners.com

[www.webruler.com/shriner/tigris](http://www.webruler.com/shriner/tigris)

Is there a Shriner in you?  
Join our great fraternity

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



**Shriners Hospitals**  
for Children™



# Editor’s Prerogative

## One pill makes you larger

I wanted to expand a little on last month’s discussion by Wilmshurst of man’s fall from his original place of favor. There is much analysis and opinion and assertion about the reasons for the separation from the Source and many prescriptions for regaining the lost ground. The topic interests civilizations and societies from antiquity to the present and solutions come from indigenous cultures, the Jewish Torah and the Zohar and Kabbala, Eastern religions, yogic practice, Christianity in all its stripes, and on and on. And Freemasonry. There is much in common amongst these approaches, much overlap of concept and threads that wind through the different authorities. One cannot go wrong in the study of all of them.

I found a while ago a long treatise in a couple of issues of *The Builder* dealing with the ancient Eleusinian Mysteries. I am trying to find it again. The author clearly thought there was Masonic interest in the subject and may have been trying to establish a hard link to the Craft and the ritual. I want to share it—or at least portions of it—with this audience; but my source is not in a searchable format and it will take some legwork.

One of the themes I have recently discovered is the use of, shall we say, mind-altering substances in rituals of worship and attempts to connect with our higher self; and whatever entity occupies that territory beyond our itty-bitty reality. I suspect that the YouTube sphere has a great number of presentations on psychedelics and hallucinogens. When such intense focus is centered on Mindfulness and Consciousness, why not look at the history and use of things that bend consciousness?

This leads back to the Eleusinian rituals, which are presumed to have incorporated a special kind of ceremonial beer to help transport its initiates. The connection has been made to the beverages Jesus and the Disciples enjoyed, whether wine or beer or something else. Native cultures have long used substances such as Ayahuasca and Peyote. And we use craft brewskis seeking light at our Table Lodges. By the way, this essay is not an endorsement. But we think Timothy Leary probably communicated with the Universe.

An interesting source used in some ceremonies has recently come to my attention. In our area in SE Florida there are annoying creatures known as Cane or Bufo Toads. They are considered invasive and were introduced to Florida from South America to control insects in sugar cane plantations. Seems like a great idea, right? Well, these big guys secrete a poisonous goo that can be fatal to dogs and other inquisitive or threatening “predators.” Pet owners must be alert when the hounds are out and drivers have been known to swerve to run them down. And they are big. I saw one flattened in our roadway a year ago and thought it was a tray table.

Anyway, someone has figured out a way to extract the venom from the Bufo, distill it down and vaporize it. Fairly small portions of inhaled Bufo smoke can take a person to bliss for some ten to ninety minutes. The average reported experience seems to be about twenty minutes. The articles on this topic that I briefly surveyed suggest it may bring very beneficial results for people with depression, PTSD and other mental maladies, and the “patients” report enthusiastically. One indication of its efficacy is the fact that it is not a legal substance.

So I said this column is not an endorsement, per se, but maybe these techniques do have merit in certain, controlled, circumstances. Who knows? If you’re coming up a little short of spiritual connection in your regular meditation practice, a little Bufo blow may get you there.

Stephen L. Zabriskie  
zabled@aol.com

## Anti-Masonic Movement from page 1 . . .

prevented. Soon the matter became the topic of street conversation and one night an effort was made to sack Miller’s office and some forty or fifty persons assembled for the purpose of breaking in and securing the manuscript. Nothing was accomplished at this time, but two nights later an attempt was made to set fire to the office. Whether this attempt to burn the place was made by persons who were opposed to Morgan and Miller, or made by Miller himself, was an open question and never satisfactorily settled. Masons offered a reward of one hundred dollars for the discovery of the incendiary. A man by the name of Howard, suspected as an accomplice, fled, no one knows where, after a warrant had been issued against him.

The details of Morgan’s arrest for petty larceny, his acquittal, his arrest again for debt, and his discharge after the debt had been paid, his ride in a carriage to Rochester with several other men, and from there to Fort Niagara, are all familiar. One writer on this event, himself not a Mason, traces Morgan to Fort Niagara and concludes by saying that there is no reliable evidence of what happened to or became of Morgan after he was taken to Fort Niagara.

To the question, what became of Morgan? no definite answer has been, and so far as we can learn, ever can be given.

The American Quarterly Review for March, 1830, published an article on the Anti-Masonic excitement, by Henry Brown, an attorney-at-law of Batavia, New York. This article was reviewed and commented on by Masons and by those who were not Masons, as being a carefully prepared and well-presented statement of what occurred.

Brown, in narrating the events which followed the disappearance of Morgan and the efforts made to discover his body, particularly the searching of the Niagara River and a part of Lake Ontario, all without success, and when a good deal of the public excitement in that locality had abated, states that a body was discovered on the 7th of October, 1827, in the town of Carlton about forty miles from Fort Niagara. It was lying at the water’s edge. An inquest was held, witnesses who were personally acquainted with Morgan were examined, and the jury pronounced it the body of some person to them unknown who had perished by drowning. The body was in a decomposed and offensive state at the time, and was quietly buried.

This inquest was published in the newspapers and suspicion was at once ex-

cited that this was the body of Morgan. Several men from Batavia and Rochester had the body disinterred, and then discovered, or pretended that they discovered, points of resemblance between this body and Morgan. They had the body watched over night to prevent the Masons from carrying it away. Mrs. Morgan was visited and went to Carleton and inspected the body.

“On arriving at Carleton on the 15th of October the body was slightly and imperfectly examined. It was bloated and entirely black, putrid on its surface and offensive (beyond anything conceivable) to sight or smell. Its dress did not correspond with anything which they had seen before, and the religious tracts in the pocket staggered some of the most credulous. There was not in fact a single circumstance in the dress, size, shape, color or appearance of the body which pointed it out as Morgan.”

**Morgan and Miller, having a common grievance against the Masonic Fraternity, planned together how they might create something of a sensation and acquire a substantial, if not great fortune, out of the venture to disclose the secrets of Freemasonry.**

The men active in fomenting the excitement were unwilling to lose the advantage of so valuable an asset. A second inquest was held over this body which, if it had been that of Morgan, must have been thirteen months in the water.

Mrs. Morgan testified she believed it to be the body of her husband, though the clothes were entirely different from those he wore at the time of his disappearance, and there were found in the pocket a number of religious tracts of a description not known in the neighborhood of Batavia.

One witness recognized the shape of his head; another the outline of his features; a third the color of his hair; a fourth of the whiskers; a fifth the teeth, and a sixth the hair inside of the ears. On these grounds the jury decided that this was the body of William Morgan and that he came to his death by drowning.

The body was removed with great parade of solemnity to Batavia and there interred in the presence of a vast crowd, and a funeral oration pronounced by one Cochran, who, Brown says, “Sometimes when sober and sometimes when otherwise, preached in the vicinity and was then assistant editor to Col. Miller.”

(Miller was associated with Morgan in the publication of the so-called Masonic

secrets.)

These events inflamed the indignation of the people to the highest pitch and Freemasonry was detested more bitterly than ever. It was on the eve of an election.

“The cry of vengeance was wafted on every breeze and mingled with every echo of the lake where Morgan’s ghost, it was said, performed its nightly rounds.”

About this time a notice appeared in the Canadian newspapers that one Timothy Monro, of Clark, in the District of New Castle in Upper Canada, left that place for Newark in September, 1827, in a small boat, and was drowned in the Niagara river while attempting to return. A description of the body found in Carleton, together with the clothing and religious tracts found in the pocket, being published in the newspaper soon after the first inquest and coming to the knowledge of Monro’s friends, induced the belief that the body found in Carleton was his. Mrs. Sarah

least five feet nine inches long, whereas the height of Morgan when alive was less than five feet six inches. It also appeared in evidence that the hair of his body had been so disposed by art as to make it appear like that of Morgan.

The Morgan excitement was rapidly waning and the political situation of the Anti-Masonic party was becoming sadly in need of some new stimulant, when it was furnished by the confession of one Hill, who declared himself one of the murderers of William Morgan. He was arrested and committed to jail in Buffalo, where he signed a confession. He was then removed to Lockport for trial, but refused to go before the Grand Jury to testify to the truth of his confession. The Grand Jury, believing him insane, refused to find a bill and he was discharged. No clew to his conduct has ever been discovered. It may be an injustice to the politicians to suggest that this man, carefully coached, played his part, knowing that no serious harm would come to him, and so contributed to the excitement and bitterness of feeling against the Masons. In any event, his part was well played and the effect far-reaching.

More than forty trials took place of persons suspected of being concerned in Morgan’s disappearance. The greater number resulted in acquittals. Several, however, were convicted and served substantial sentences.

M.W. Brother Gallagher stated in an address that Maj. Benjamin Perley Poore, for many years Washington correspondent of the Boston Journal, while in Smyrna, Turkey, in 1839, knew that Morgan was then alive and identified by men who had known him in New York.

I have referred to these different reports as to what became of Morgan, but I leave it as I began, with uncertainty and inability to determine his fate.

—To be continued—

**This is from January 1921, *The Builder*.**

## OLD BOOK

**BY BRO. GERALD A. NANCARROW, INDIANA**

Old Book! Thou solid Rock of all the years Thy covers bring to me sweet memories, Thy golden Truth and Promise still my fears - And feed my soul.

My father’s eyes did search Thee and did find Thy fruited lessons which he made to show In e’en his smallest dealings with mankind While he was here.

My mother’s hands caressed Thy page and board While from her blessed lips Thy truths have come. O Bright illumine this picture for me, Lord, My eyes grow dim.

They loved us both, Old Book, and taught me Thee. Though scarred Thy boards and yellow is Thy page, No other book can ever be for me So loved a guide.

**Nice Communication from page 1 . . .**

under the Grand Lodge of England. I received my 60-year pin from GL New York here in Phuket, where a very nice ceremony was held by the officers and brethren. The Lodge meetings here are suspended due to Corona Virus

but hopefully will resume later this year.

Thank you again and I really appreciate your efforts.

Sincerely and Fraternally,  
Robert Traister

We do Quality Printing

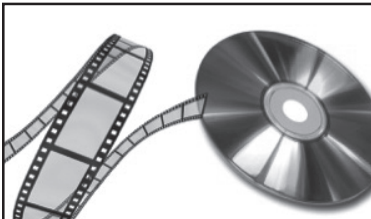
EAGLE NEWSPAPERS

Check us out at

eaglenewsonline.com

2501 James St., Syracuse, NY 13206

315-434-8889



CONVERT  
TO DVD

BUDDY BELONSOFF  
315-698-0186 | bbelonsoff4@verizon.net

VHS, S-VHS, VHS-C, MINI DV,  
BETA, HI 8, SUPER 8, REG 8, SLIDES

OAKWOOD CEMETERIES, INC.

Oakwood - Morningside -

White Chapel - Valley

315-475-2194



OES from page 12 . . .

Lake Victoria . . .

and in time became one of the best-known printers in New York City. He married Rebecca Martin on September 24, 1854. Jenkins was a Brother in Lebanon Lodge No. 191 in New York City and served as Worshipful Master several times. He was also a member of the now defunct Germania Chapter No. 20 OES. Jenkins served from November 1870 until June 1871. He died in New York City on April 22, 1884. He and Rebecca, who died on December 4, 1895, are buried in Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn.

Cornelia Smith Hardick served as Associate Grand Matron in 1870 and again in 1873. Her Eastern Star Chapter has not been identified but it may have been Esther No. 2 or Delta No. 3. She was born about 1835 in New York City and married John S. Hardick there on February 27, 1856. Hardick, born about 1832, served in Co. E, 128<sup>th</sup> Regiment NYSV. Nothing has been discovered concerning his Masonic affiliations but he was a machinist who developed the John Hardick Steam Pump. He died on July 4, 1868. He and Cornelia had one child, Henry H., frequently known as Harry. On January 4, 1875 Cornelia married Gilbert B. Snedeker, about whom nothing is known except that he had been born in 1824. By 1880 Cornelia, claiming to be a widow, and Harry were living alone. Cornelia died on March 20, 1910 and was buried in Green-Wood Cemetery in the same plot as an apparent stepdaughter.

Frederick “Fred” Delcourt Ramsdell served as the first Associate Grand Patron. He was born in Pennsylvania on July 2, 1839 but lived in Elmira, NY in 1870.

Oswego from page 6 . . .

Lake City . . .

and staying safe, now is the time to stay the course and not squander that safety because we lack the patience and fortitude to see this through. Certainly, spring energies stir us all up in many ways and we have been chomping at the bit for so long but it should only be for just a little bit longer. The health and safety of our brethren and their family has always been foremost on the mind of our officers. Brethren, as the pandemic wanes we shall look to build back the health of our Lodge so it may resume its full place as a beacon of light in our community.

Before we part, here is an inspiring quote from a worthy Brother Mason:

“I ask of each Mason, of each member, of each brother, that he shall remember ever that there is upon him a peculiar obligation to show himself in every respect a good citizen; for after all, the way he can best do his duty by the ancient order to which he belongs is by reflecting credit upon that order by the way in which he performs his duty as a citizen of the United States.”—

He married Jennie S. Miller on September 5, 1861. Jennie, born on January 8, 1838, died on December 17, 1924. She would serve as Grand Matron in 1875. At the time, Elmira boasted two OES Chapters, Fidelity No. 16 and Evergreen No. 18. The one to which he and Jennie belonged has not been identified. According to his obituary, Fred was a bookkeeper who worked for several different companies in the greater-Elmira area. He and Jennie had moved to Washington, DC approximately three years before his death. His obituary stated he was a Mason in Elmira, and “at one time held very important positions in that order.” In fact, he was a member of Ivy Lodge No. 397, which through several consolidations is today known as General Sullivan No. 95. Initiated on March 4, 1861, he was Passed on March 21, 1861 and Raised a Master Mason on April 4, 1861. He served as Worshipful Master in 1868 and 1869. He was High Priest of Elmira Chapter No. 42 RAM, serving as High Priest in 1873 and again in 1874, which may partially explain why he did not become Grand Patron. He was a member of Elmira No. 42 KT and of Omer’s Commandery No. 19, of which organization he was elected Commander. Fred was buried in Towanda, PA but his exact gravesite has not been located. Jennie died in Elmira. Her brief funeral notice said she too was to be buried in Towanda, but no cemetery was named.

Next month I will focus on the first Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer and Grand Conductresses. Stay tuned.

Natalie J. Woodall

Theodore Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> President of the United States.

James Rizzo

Past  
Grand Master  
Carl J. Fitje  
Sponsor

Ken Pollard



Capital Abstract of CNY, Inc.

Robert B. Grover  
President

rbgrover@capitalabstractcny.com

615 Erie Boulevard West, Suite 301  
Syracuse, New York 13204  
www.capitalabstractcny.com

Office: 315-424-8181  
Fax: 315-295-2660  
Mobile: 315-243-1089

Memorial Lodge No. 648  
W.: Alfred W. Ferguson  
Centerville Chapter No. 185, OES  
Patricia H. Ferguson



FERGERTSON FUNERAL HOME, INC.  
(315) 458-1970



215 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
NORTH SYRACUSE, NY 13212-3100  
FergusonFuneralHome.com

Auburn Shrine from page 10 . . .

yuga Lake. The ice is out of the lake and I just wish this could last until early May but I know better.

At least we know that spring is coming and that means, with the COVID-19 virus hopefully coming under control, the Auburn Shrine Club will again be able to meet. It will be a challenge, as our President Jeremy Frisco has moved to accept a new job opportunity out of state and we have no President, Vice-President or Secretary. Our Treasurer is Scott Bennett. Tom Ostrander was given the books from Jeremy, and the money, so at least Scott has something to help us get going again. Jeremy’s moving left a big hole not only in our Club but in Damascus Temple as well. We wish him continued success in his marriage and family.

I hear the Springfield Shriners Hospital for Children is picking up steam. The virus seems to ease some of the problems of transportation and communication are easing.

Noble Richard Palmer celebrates sixty-five years as a Mason this year. Congratulations go to Dick on a real milestone. Beth Bowman, who helps our club so much at the steak roast each year, lost her father: Allen Shotwell passed away at the age of 101. Allen was a seventy-six-year member of Scipio Lodge. Our thoughts and prayers go to Dave and Beth and their family at their loss.

I hear that Will Schwarting, who was in the hospital, is out and improving. We urge him to keep up the good work and to follow Dr. Jean’s advice.

We will welcome the snowbirds back from the warmer climates. It will be good to see Bruce Christopher, Gordon Clarke, Lyle Maldoon, Larry Pritchard and Lance Ward. I hope I did not miss anyone. I hope to have more good news next month. In the meantime, stay safe and remember the words of William A. Ward. “Nothing limits achievement like small thinking. Nothing expands possibilities like unleashed imagination.”

Ken Pollard



Potentate III.  
Duane E. Crapser

Office: 315/478-0277  
31 New Street, Oswego NY 13126

We are back! And Bingo has started again on Monday evenings. Doors open at 4 p.m. and Bingo starts at 7 p.m. I am excited about Bingo because it brings Shriners together weekly to just have fun and raise money. Please come out and join in on the fun by playing.

On Saturday, March 13 we had our first corned beef and cabbage dinner. We served both dine-in and carry-out dinners. With the help of the Divan the event was a success. By success I mean it was profitable but more than that it was fun. At the end of the night we announced the three winners of our first meat raffle.

Having a meat raffle has been discussed before but this time it was not just talk. We had a great response to the raffle and are happy to announce we are currently selling tickets for another meat raffle. We will draw the winners at our Spring Ceremonial on May 15. To add to the fun we will have more raffles besides the three meat packages. View details on our webpage ([www.tigrishriners.com](http://www.tigrishriners.com)) or our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/tigrishriners](http://www.facebook.com/tigrishriners)).

To be part of the fun you can become a Shriner. You already know that but did you know this? You can become a member of Tigris Shrine and your fee covers your Fez and your 2021 dues. The Shrine is the Masons’ playground. From parades to social gatherings, we do it like no one else. Don’t wait; reach out to a member of Tigris or call our office for a petition: 315/308-0410.

The planning for our family picnic is underway. On June 5 we will gather at the Shrine Center to enjoy family fellowship. This would be a great time to meet the Shrine family you as a Mason have been invited to join. Burgers, hot dogs and steak—what more do you need to know?

On April 10 we will have an informational night for prospective new members. Members are asked to bring someone who might be interested in becoming a Shriner. We will enjoy chicken wings, beverages and fellowship. Oh, wait, we’ll also have fun.

Until next time my fellow Nobles, and prospective Nobles, be safe and enjoy life. God bless you all.

Duane E. Crapser

Cayuga-Tompkins from page 8 . . .

Caroline . . .

continues to take oral chemo. He is feeling good but has some issues with his right hand, which is being treated by physical therapy.

W Brother Bryce Partridge has discontinued chemo treatments, as they are not working. Keep Bryce and his family in your prayers. A benefit is planned for Brother Partridge on April 24 from 1 to 6 p.m. It will be held at the West Creek Roadhouse, which is owned and run by the Partridge family. The Roadhouse is located off Rte. 79 near Richford. The event will include barbecued chicken, music and raffles. Some of the early raffle items include an Ithaca Double Barrel Shotgun and a Ruger 10/22. Call Wendy Smits at 607/657-2752 or the Roadhouse: 607/657-8023 for further details.

We are also saddened to hear of two recent losses in the District. R.W Dave Barnello’s father died and W Brother Phil Soyring passed away.

Our Lodge reopens on Thursday, April 1 at 7:30 p.m. It is a regular business meeting plus planning and practicing for the First Degree. Thursday, April 15 will be a regular business meeting and final practice for First Degree. And on Thursday, May 6, at 7:30, we will confer the First Degree with assistance from VW Brother Jeffrey Lampman and others from his Lodge.

Our two candidates have been waiting for over a year now. We also have one Brother who has been waiting for his Third Degree for over a year. We will present the First Degree Historical Lecture at a future meeting. Details are pending.

All meetings will be opened on the First Degree to allow all Brothers to attend. We will be observing the latest COVID regulations for all meetings. May this article find all healthy, wealthy, wise and inoculated.

Ray Ink

KING HIRAM 784  
186 Main St.  
Newfield, N.Y. 14867  
2nd & 4th Tues., 7:30 p.m.  
607/564-9930

WM Tony Cirulli, 607/280-9909,  
[anthycrll@aol.com](mailto:anthycrll@aol.com)  
Mike McLaughlin  
[Mmclaug1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Mmclaug1@twcny.rr.com)

Hello, Brothers. Hopefully, everyone has wintered well and April will bring us some nice spring weather.

The parents of the 2021 graduating class at Newfield held a chicken barbecue at the Temple in March to raise funds for the After-Graduation drug- and alcohol-free party. The Lodge will again be helping that group place banners throughout the town to honor this year’s graduates. The backyard at the Temple is all set up for doing chicken barbecues and hopefully it will see lots of use

this coming year.

The officers of the Lodge are hoping that we will soon be able to meet in person so that we might be able to put on Degree work. We still have four candidates in waiting for their First Degree. They all opted to wait till we can do Degrees in our normal fashion. We continue to hold Zoom meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. If you’d like to participate in these meetings, we’d love to have you. Invitations are sent out to make linking into the meetings easy. Just let me know if you’d like to be included in the meetings and we’ll add your email address to the list.

As always, if you know of any Brothers in need of aid or assistance or if you’re in need please let us know. If you’re aware of groups or organizations that are in need of help please join us at a Zoom meeting and let us know.

There are several Masonic awards given to both non-Masons or groups, as well as Brother Masons, that recognize service to community. If you know of any and wish our Lodge to look at them as candidates for these awards please let me know.

Mike McLaughlin

ERIE CANAL 141  
2805 Rte. 31 East  
Weedsport, N.Y. 13166  
1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:00 p.m.  
315/834-9465

WM Mike Lees,  
Secy Gary Mowers

Greetings, Brothers. The weather is getting better every day and we have reasons to be optimistic about this pandemic. Vaccine availability is increasing and appointments are easier to get. Our Brothers are doing their share with stepping up for vaccinations. The hope is that we soon can get back to some sense of normal meetings and Lodge activities.

Our fundraising committee has its nose to the grindstone creating new opportunities to bolster our funds. Chicken barbecues on Mother’s Day and Father’s Day are firmed up. Golf is on the horizon. We are having discussions on how to get back to our monthly pancake breakfasts. Hopefully, it is all sooner than later.

We are seeing a glimmer of hope for doing Degrees. Soon we may be able to do these with other than the procedure now in effect with the COVID protocols. Also, we hope the annual election and installation of officers in May will take place.

I am actually looking forward to the grass greening up in April and we soon will be mowing lawn. That’s better than dealing with the cold and snow, for sure. Until next time, stay safe and healthy.

Gary Mowers

Juarez Lincoln Marti Intl. Ed. Project

<http://web.cortland.edu/matresearch>

A labor of Love



# OSWEGO DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



**Leon A. Bulriss**  
315/668-6521 (h)  
315/720-4798 (c)  
lbulriss@aol.com

Greetings, Brethren, and Happy Easter. The days are now longer, the weather is getting warmer and the future looks much brighter now that spring has arrived. Everything seems to have taken on a more positive air, lately. March 27 is my 75<sup>th</sup> birthday; two days prior to that I will have received an early birthday present that I'm sure will be one of my most memorable: my second COVID vaccination shot. It obviously is a coincidence that it occurs at that time but I sincerely feel I could not anticipate a better gift. After the first shot I began to experience a strange, liberated and tranquil feeling. I am realizing that I view the second inoculation as the completion of that final step in the long journey back to the old normal way of life. I hope many of you have already received your COVID vaccination, or will as soon as it is made available to you. I am looking forward to seeing you all back in the quarries.

At this time of year I see our Lodges as depicted by the symbol of the beehive: busy and becoming active again after a long winter. As restrictions begin to loosen up and in-person Lodge meetings are resuming, Degree practices and Degrees are being held; as other Masonic activities are taking place, we need now, as much as anytime during the past year, to continue to be vigilant and follow all Grand Lodge and State COVID guidelines. Please remember that although it is at our Master's discretion how many may be present in Lodge meetings, at no time should that number exceed twenty-five until we hear differently from Grand Lodge.

When a Lodge communication is held in person, all actions taken at previous Zoom meetings should be brought before the Lodge, approved and recorded in the Lodge minutes as such. Hybrid Lodge meetings cannot be held, per our Grand Master. A Lodge meeting can be in person or Zoom but not a combination of the two.

**More DDGM**  
**see 2nd column**

## STAFF OFFICER



**Shawn Tuff**  
Shawn.tuff@gmail.com  
*No News Received*

## DDGM from 1st column . . .

As always, remember to reach out to your Widows and offer to perform a Masonic service in the future, should they desire. I pass these on as items discussed at a recent Regional District Deputies meeting held by RW Charles Roberts, SGW. As we all know, things can change quickly during this time of COVID. I will keep your Lodges updated as to all changes by Grand Lodge as soon as I receive them.

Brethren, please mark April 16 at 7:00 p.m. on your calendar. Lake City Lodge No. 127 will host the Oswego District Grand Lecturer's Convention on Zoom. Further information will be forthcoming as the time draws nearer.

The Chancellor Robert R Livingston Library has announced that it is now able to offer the Masonic Reading Courses on-line. Also available are audio and e-books from their vast collection. For all the details, check out GM Sardone's video under Grand Master's Messages at [www.nymasons.org](http://www.nymasons.org).

Thanks go to all the Lodges and Brothers in our District who supported the Children's Dyslexia Center Virtual Annual Gala Fundraiser held in March. With the help of your generous contributions and support this year was another successful event in spite of COVID. I hope you and your family enjoyed the Live Zoom performance by Magical Arts Performer Leon Etienne and were among the lucky winners in the huge Basket Raffle drawing. We look forward to returning in 2022 to Harts Hill Inn in Whitesboro, NY for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Fundraiser, to sharing a fun-filled evening of food, entertainment and fellowship with all of you.

Stay healthy and safe. I will see all soon.

Leon A. Bulriss

**PGMs**  
**Calvin G. Bond**  
**Bruce W. Widger:**  
**Thanks**

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



**Patrick Fasulo**  
315/760-7676  
ptfasulo@yahoo.com

## AGL Bob Boutell

Greetings, Brethren. What do the Pledge of Allegiance, the Star-Spangled Banner, your Social Security Number and our home address have in common? Odds are, these meaningful pieces of information are valuable enough to us that we have at one point in our lives spent some time to memorize them.

Could you imagine going to the theater only to see the actors reading the lines from their phones? Do you think it would somehow cheapen the experience? If the actors didn't take the time to memorize their lines, how believable would their characters be? As an audience member, would you feel the performers are fully invested in their characters or the plot? Would you ask for a refund?

The best, most interesting teachers I had in school were not the ones who read line by line out of the text book. (Believe me, I had one teacher who actually read directly out of the history book. Boring!) The best were the ones who had memorized their material to the point that they could pull the concepts and facts out of their mind as they were incorporating them into a story. These teachers were able to keep their students interested and engaged.

I recently had the opportunity to discuss memorization in Masonry with a group of Brothers from all walks of life. Some are young, some older, some in Grand Line positions and some from my own Lodge. The overwhelming sentiment was that memorization is not only important for Masons; it is also essential. But why?

The answers I received from my Brothers were varied but they all support the need for memorization. Below are some of the responses to the question of whether or not memorization is needed in Masonry.

1. The lessons we teach are not just for the candidate, but the performer also learns from the experience. There are times, especially during the lectures, where the performer will discover a new meaning while reciting a piece. This leads to #2.

2. Internalization through

**More AGL**  
**see column 4**

## AGL from column 3 . . .

memorization. When we memorize we make a conscious investment in the material. It takes time and effort to memorize material. This investment eventually pays off in emotional dividends. When emotion and intellect are combined, the meaning of the material becomes part of you. Is there a better way to make good men better?

3. Sincerity of the experience. Just as with actors reading lines from their phones, how believable or sincere is it to see people reading ritual from the text, versus really knowing and understanding the ritual and putting feeling and emotion into it?

4. Memorization is good for the brain. Memorizing creates new connections in the brain and leads to stronger, more hard-wired connections in the brain.

5. Memorizing ritual is what Masons do.

"I can't memorize the ritual!" is a phrase that has become more common in recent years. Sure you can. Do you want to memorize the ritual?—that is the question. If you want to learn the ritual, it is going to take some effort. It is not going to just jump into your head. It requires giving a few minutes each day of dedication. Start small, don't grab the Middle Chamber lecture as your first ritual piece; but if you did it would be impressive. Start with working tools or Q&A. Read it multiple times, then get to work memorizing. The benefits of finishing a piece and confidently reciting it in Lodge are tremendous for you, the candidate and the Lodge.

Let's go to work! See you in the quarries.

Pat Fasulo

**HIRAM LODGE 136**  
646 Maple Ave.  
Fulton, N.Y. 13069  
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.  
315/593-1832

WM Duane Crapser



This is going to be a short message, my Brothers. It is not because of my lack of love for our Fraternity but because I fear for our ability to move past what we have always done. As spring arrives, are we ready for some new ideas or are we going to settle in for more of the same? Are we ready to embrace some change?

In case you missed it, Hiram Lodge hosted a Q & A about becoming a Freemason via Zoom. As Master, I was able to shed some light on what we do in Lodge and in our everyday lives. As always, I am more than willing to push the envelope trying to bring about change. This event was broadcast from inside our Lodge. Remember, my Brothers, it's not a secret; they are just asking the wrong questions.

Are we doing our part to invite good men to the Craft? There are so many ways to make that invitation—you need only pick one. Once we make that contact to bring

someone in, how do we keep him? Opening Lodge just to read minutes has not been working. What fresh ideas is your Lodge using to encourage fellowship that builds on membership?

I found this quote and feel that we all should read it and ask some very important questions.

"The Society or Fraternity of Freemasons is more in the nature of a system of Philosophy or of moral and social virtues taught by symbols, allegories, and lectures based upon fundamental truths, the observance of which tends to promote stability of character, conservatism, morality and good citizenship." – H. W. Coil

Are we so focused on making sure we memorize and hammer that into the heads of the petitioners and new Brothers that we forget the moral and social virtues taught? I think many have. The leadership within our Craft need to clear the path for new thought.

Duane E. Crapser

**PULASKI 415**  
28 Broad St.  
Pulaski, N.Y. 13142  
1st & 3rd Wed., 7:30 p.m.  
315/298-6029

WM Fred Dashnaw



Tidings, Brothers. It seems that March came in like a lion with high winds and single-digit temperatures. Hopefully, by the time you read this we will have 60-degree days.

By now we will have had our first in-person communication. I know it has taken way too long to get to this point.

Our plan: On Saturday, April 3, get the cook trailer set up for our first-of-the-season barbecue—weather permitting—on Saturday, April 17. If you would like to pitch in and help...you never know, it might be fun. Just show up at the south park in Pulaski at 7 a.m. You are always welcome to join in.

It has been some time since we have tackled projects on our Temple fix-up list. We always have things that need doing.

For our Royal Arch Brothers: a Convocation will be held on April 14 for Pulaski Chapter 279. If possible at that date, we plan a covered dish dinner prior to that meeting.

We still have a few Brothers with dues in arrears. It would be great to have those caught up and I thank you in advance.

We hope to be seeing you at one of our activities. May the Great Architect watch over our Masonic family and keep each one safe and healthy. See you on the level.

Fred Dashnaw

**CENTRAL SQUARE 622**  
3215 East Ave.  
Central Square, N.Y. 13036  
1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
315/668-3277

WM Edward Dayton,  
315/243-6863

Greetings, Brethren. I hope all is well, as we can see light at the end of the

tunnel. Staying safe is still top priority so we did Zoom meetings in January, February, March and April. We will still have practices on Wednesdays with a First Degree set for April 24, which is a go as of right now. As things begin to open up, I'm looking forward to it.

I'm sorry, my Brothers. I did have a message the last two months but I forgot to send it in. I did have it prepared, I wanted to add to it and by the time I realized it, it was the 13<sup>th</sup>. My bad. I will try not to let it happen again.

Chicken and rib barbecues are still a little bit away, maybe April or May. I am looking forward to it. I will keep everyone posted as we get closer.

Edward Dayton

**LAKE CITY 127**  
765 E. Seneca St.  
Oswego, N.Y. 13126  
2nd & 4th Tues., 7:30 p.m.  
315/207-0127  
[www.lakecitylodge127.org](http://www.lakecitylodge127.org)

WM James Rizzo,  
315/593-9966,  
cmc\_nyc@hotmail.com  
Secy Mike Regan,  
315/591-3827,  
secretarylakecity127@gmail.com



Brethren, as we move into April, the Wheel of the Year just rolled into spring at the Vernal Equinox last month, the Sun now being in Aries, which has Mars as its ruler. The fiery nature of Mars signifies the passions of nature are aroused as the earth springs into growth. The wheel of the Zodiac is headed by Aries and so begins the Astrological year in the season of beginnings, of birth and the renewal of life.

Easter for most Christians is on the 4<sup>th</sup>. So, Happy Easter! Passover ends on the 4<sup>th</sup>, so to our Jewish brethren we say, "Chag Pesach sameach!" Or, Happy Passover! I have to wait until May 2 for Greek Orthodox Easter.

Soon we begin to prepare our gardens for planting and we need to think about preparing our Lodge for a re-birth and regrowth, as well. But at this present moment it is still too soon to meet in person. The numbers will, hopefully, still be going down for COVID cases and more and more people will be getting vaccinated; though, to stay safe Zoom is still the way to meet.

Our April Trestleboard has meetings on Tuesday, April 13 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom and Tuesday, April 27 at 7:30 on Zoom. If you haven't been attending the Zoom meetings, you need to take the time to do so.

We will be planning our first in-person meeting since last year for June, which will be on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup>, COVID permitting. This is going to be our Annual Meeting with the election of officers, budget approval, etc. In April and May at our Zoom meetings we will go over our annual budget and discuss the variety of other things necessary for the Annual Meeting.

Since we have spent all this time meeting remotely

**Oswego - Lake City**  
**see page 5**



# CORTLAND-MADISON DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



**Maurice (Moe) Skinner**  
rwmoeskinner@gmail.com  
607/592-5424

Hello once again, Brothers. It is so wonderful to see new Brothers once again entering our ranks. I speak of course of the recent Degree put on by Cortlandville Lodge. We also have one coming up this month in Tri-Valley and a little birdie has told me that Cazenovia has a few in the wings.

What is it that these Lodges are doing that many throughout the State are not? Do they have a magic wand? Do they have a Mason factory in their back yard pumping out prototypes of men to be new Masons? Yes! Yes! Yes! In each of these Lodges they have at least one Brother who oversees all aspects of new Brothers. This goes from greeting them, to meeting them, leading them through the NorthStar program to seeing that they have a Mentor—and not just through the three Degrees but for years beyond.

As Ritual Directors have helped those Lodges that use them in improving their ritual, so, too, do these Membership Directors help with developing their membership. Every member of these Lodges has made a commitment to rebuild his Lodge. Every one of these directors does things differently: he travels! They travel and encourage others to travel, as well. As the true Masonic Brothers they are, they are always ready to lend a hand should another Lodge need it. If your Lodge is not growing the way you would like it to, maybe you should listen to what these Brothers have to offer.

Let us give some well-earned credit where credit is due. The spring copy of the *Empire State Mason* just hit my desk. As always, I sprinted to the back of the book to look at the “Years of Service” section to see if I knew anyone. Wow! Starting with the fifty years of service (I would like to see that—I would only be 99 years young): John Gulick Jr. of Tri-Valley No. 148; Donald E. Knickerbocker of Marathon No. 438. At fifty-five years is William F. Coffin from Cazenovia No. 616.

**DDGM**  
see 2nd column

## STAFF OFFICER’S REPORT

*No News Received*

### DDGM from 1st column . . .

Charles A. Dellow of Cortlandville No. 470 has sixty years of service. With sixty-five years are Robert C. Bird from Marathon 438 and Donald C. Hoglund, Cazenovia 616. And at seventy years of service is Sterling G. Brisbin of Cazenovia 616.

Brothers, if you see these gentlemen, thank them. For had they not served before us, there might not be an us. As always, Brothers, look for me around the quarries.  
Moe Skinner

**CORTLANDVILLE 470**  
1883 Rt. 13 North  
Cortland, NY 13045  
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.  
607/753-9525

WM Tom Whitney

Brethren, would you look at this? There is some sunlight peeking through the snow clouds. Not only has spring started to approach but so has an opening for our Lodges.

We have several candidates who have been waiting a long time to get Degree work. On March 16 that happened. Finally, back to work in the quarry!

We have been looking forward to making some new Brothers and seeing some familiar faces. I personally cannot wait to rejoin my Brothers all over the place. As everything opens back up I do encourage us to remain safe and steadfast in our labors.

We wish you fraternal greetings from Cortlandville. I look forward to many more adventures to come.

Tom Whitney

**TRI-VALLEY 148**  
611 Stone St.  
Oneida, N.Y. 13421  
1st Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

WM Chuck Toombs,  
315/687-5783,  
ctoombs@twcny.rr.com  
Secy Walter Boronow,  
315/495-2855 H  
315/750-5985 C,  
wallerisagenius@aol.com



Brethren, I trust this month finds you well. It’s great to be using the calendar and plan. We have a date certain of Saturday, April 24 at 5 p.m. to hold a First Degree. Work during this month will consist of practices, with the assistance of our AGLs. The year began with anticipation and it continues until our Degree work completes its first goal of Initiating the three gentlemen in waiting.

The Masonic Concordant Bodies that use our Lodge building will begin meeting again. NYS protocols have been changing and within these guidelines there’s hope we can build together soon.

Under glad tidings, I can

**Tri-Valley**  
see 3rd column

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS

**VW Richard G. Reed**  
rgreed13045@gmail.com  
607/591-1301

**RW David R. Walter**  
hydevilles1116@gmail.com  
607/725-7227

*No News Received*

### Tri-Valley from 2nd column . . .

report that W Brother Bruce Nichols, DSA, called to say that he’s feeling better and plans to attend Lodge soon. We look forward to seeing Brother Bruce again safely. We are assured that his progress is in large part due to Jean. She also bakes great homemade pies, to which many Brothers can attest.

As I close for now, please remember to contact Lodge if you are in need of our aid or sympathy. I’ll see you in Lodge.

Chuck Toombs

**HOMER 352**  
27 S. Main St.  
Homer, N.Y. 13077  
2nd & 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.  
607/749-2201

WM Clifford Kostuk,  
ckostuk@cortlandschools.org

Brothers, on Monday, March 8 an informal meeting was held at the Lodge to discuss plans for the Lodge in the upcoming weeks and months. First of all, we will return to our regular schedule of meeting in the Lodge rooms on the second and fourth Mondays.

At our April 26 meeting we will hold a summoned communication. The agenda of the evening will be our annual business meeting that is normally held in January. In May we will hold our annual election of officers.

Also discussed were possibilities of becoming more involved in the Homer community to attract new membership. Ideas discussed included an adopt-a-highway program, sponsoring youth athletic teams, working with the Boy Scouts, using village events to show the public we do exist.

If you have any ideas please attend our meetings or contact someone with your suggestions. Please continue to stay safe and contact us if you need anything.

Wade A. Caler

**CAZENOVIA 616**  
2836 State Rt. 20 East  
PO Box 285  
Cazenovia, NY 13035  
1st & 3rd Wednesday,  
7:30 p.m.

WM William T. Brush,  
315/837-4350,  
brush@citlink.net  
Secy Gregory J. Wright,  
315/655-1089,  
gjiw412@yahoo.com

Greetings, Brothers. The Cazenovia Lodge No. 616 is meeting in person and following all appropriate COVID restrictions. It is amazing how nice it is to resume Lodge communications. Hopefully, this time we will not be required to suspend our work and will eventually resume normal

**Cazenovia**  
see 4th column

## Cazenovia from 4th column . . .

operations.

We are continuing to make a concerted effort to communicate with all members of the Lodge. Some of the members are now living far from the Lodge, some not in good health and some have fallen off the regular Lodge communications. Even the Brothers who would find great difficulty in attending any activities want to know what is occurring

within the Lodge.

The Lodge continues to work on opening an ice cream stand to support Lodge operations. This has proven to be a challenging effort and has required several Brothers to contribute both their talents and fortitude to bring this project to completion.

The Lodge had a chicken barbecue on Saturday, March 6. We took a chance

on the weather and were fortunate to be successful on this project, as the weather was not cooperating. See the photo montage. We are planning to have several chicken barbecues and pulled-pork events throughout the summer. Thank you for your continued support during these very challenging times.

William T. Brush





**AUBURN SHRINE CLUB**  
*Auburn, NY*  
An Affiliate of Damascus Temple  
A.A.O.N.M.S.  
1st Shrine Club  
in America  
Auburn Shrine Club  
Supports Our Hospitals

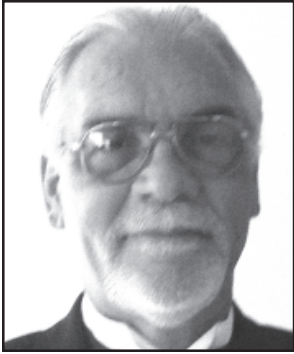


Tel. (315) 475-1673  
Fax (315) 475-1674  
  
Harold H. Greenleaf Jr.  
**STEVEN M. ILTSCH**  
  
**Greenleaf**  
*Funeral Home Inc.*  
503 W. ONONDAGA STREET • SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13204



# CAYUGA-TOMPKINS DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



**David A. Barnello**  
DDGM, Cayuga-Tompkins District  
315/283-6705  
dabbcr@aol.com

Greetings, all. April is here—which means the days are getting longer, the snow is melting, birds (and snowbirds) are returning, flowers will be blooming and Lodges are opening.

Here are April dates and facts to remember: April Fools’ Day is the 1<sup>st</sup>. It’s a great day for pranking your partner (just sayin’). Its origin is unknown. Good Friday is on April 2. This Christian holy day commemorates Jesus Christ’s death on the cross. Easter Sunday, the 4<sup>th</sup>, is the Christian high holy day commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Last day of Hebrew Passover falls on the 4<sup>th</sup>, also.

National Tartan Day, for those unfamiliar, is a US observance on April 6 each year. It commemorates the Scottish Declaration of Independence, on which the American Declaration of Independence was modeled. It also recognizes achievements of Americans of Scottish descent.

The Muslim celebration of Ramadan begins on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Ramadan is a holy month of fasting, worship and prayer. It celebrates the creation of the Quran, which is the holy book for those who practice the Islamic faith.

Administrative Professionals Day on the 21<sup>st</sup> is also called Secretaries Day. It falls annually on the Wednesday of the last full week of April.

Earth Day is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was created to raise awareness about how to keep the earth healthy and habitable.

It has been a year since we were forced into restricted meeting due to the COVID pandemic. Things are loosening up but we are not out of risk. Our best plan of action should be to get vaccinated and remain vigilant in keeping social distancing, sanitizing and mask protocols in place.

Around the District we are moving forward. We are looking to get back to in-person District committee meetings. RW Tabone recently held an in-person Masonic Development Course and RW Bowman is working on plans for a Dis-

**More DDGM**  
**see 3rd column**

## STAFF OFFICER



**Anthony J. Tabone**  
thats1happitooth@verizon.net

The number three appears a lot in Freemasonry. We have three Degrees, three principal officers, three Great Lights, three Lesser Lights; three moveable jewels, three immovable jewels and three precious jewels of a Fellowcraft; a Fellowcraft receives wages of three types and has three Working Tools. There are three ruffians; three great pillars. We look to three senses of Human Nature above all others. We give three knocks at the door. The Temple had three avenues of entry and exit. We revere three ancient orders of architecture. We are charged to inculcate three great duties. Our principal tenets number three and we had three ancient Grand Masters. This is a lot of threes!

Yet there are only two working tools for an Entered Apprentice and only one for a Master Mason. Why are there not three? Outside the U.S., Freemasonry includes three working tools for each degree. In England and Scotland the three working tools of the Entered Apprentice are the 24-inch gauge, common gavel and chisel. The explanation of the gavel suggests “the gavel teaches us that skill without exertion is of little avail, that labor is the lot of man; for the heart may devise in vain, if the hand be not prompted to execute the design.”

This interpretation seems very practical and designed to emphasize the virtue of hard work. It contrasts with our moral explanation that the Common Gavel serves to divest our hearts and consciences of the vices and superfluities of life.

The chisel is not used in Blue Lodges in the U.S.; however, it appears in parts of the Scottish and York Rites. The chisel symbolizes education, the means by which we improve ourselves. The association of the chisel with education is interesting since education is often thought of as the accumulation of knowledge and facts. The tool removes unnecessary rock from the usable stone much as a plane removes excess wood. The idea that education might chip away or remove the unnecessary merits attention.

**More Staff Officer**  
**see 3rd column**

**ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURER**  
**Jeffrey Lampman,**  
315/406-8050,  
jefflamppost@gmail.com  
**Anthony Vaughan,**  
607/351-6872,  
aqvaughan56@hotmail.com  
*No News Received*

## DDGM from 1st column . . .

strict Memorial Service. Some Lodges are gearing up for Degree work. Hopefully, we will be able to travel in the District soon, which will ease the strain of Degree work on smaller Lodges. To accompany this, VWs Lampman and Vaughan are working on gathering a list of Brothers who can assist in Degree work in our District. Please contact me and let me know of your plans to hold Degrees.

I am hearing that Lodges are staying in touch with their communities and finding ways to get involved with local events to try to boost their presence. A couple of examples were recently seen in local newspapers and in the *Empire State Mason* magazine. King Hiram Lodge was able to give financial aid to their town for a new lift to help in the hanging of banners, flags and decorations for village events. Tritown Lodge purchased over 100 pizzas for the workers at a local extended care facility in Groton. Good job!

There is much good being done by Masons. Please let me know if there are members in your communities that may need our assistance. Our District Masonic Charities Corporation is available to offer financial grants to those in need.

Speaking of financial aid, the government is sending out another stimulus check. For many it is like found money. I challenge all the Brothers in this District and all of the Brothers in our jurisdiction to join with me and give 10% of your check to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund. Think of how much good can be done with such an influx of income to the fund. Pay it forward.

That’s it for now. I hope to see you soon. Be safe and do good things.

Dave Barnello

## Staff Officer from 2nd column . . .

The chisel, then, is emblematic of education by elimination, not accumulation.

The three working tools of Master Mason outside the U.S. are the compasses, skirret and pencil. The compasses have significance in our Entered Apprentice Degree as a Great Light. In the English ritual the compasses allude to Justice. Their ritual suggests that “the compasses remind us of God’s unerring and impartial justice, Who, having defined for our instruction the limits of good and evil, will reward (or punish) as we have obeyed (or

**More Staff Officer**  
**see 4th column**

## Staff Officer from 3rd column . . .

disregarded) His Divine commands...should we fail to subdue our passions we will be judged for it even if we escape earthly punishment.”

The skirret is a tool to be used in laying a foundation. It is a spool of thread on a handle. The loose end of the thread has a loop or ring to attach to a center pin or stake. The thread is unwound and kept taut. Once the desired length is reached, a piece of chalk is used to mark the foundation line. In modern times it would be called a chalk line. It serves a similar purpose as the ruler does for drawing a straight line on a piece of paper. The skirret alludes to that straight and undeviating line of conduct laid down for our reflection in the Volume of Sacred Law. When we consider the Volumes used by Freemasonry, whether the Hebrew Bible, the Christian Bible, the Koran or writings of the Hindus, we recognize that they were written years ago, in cultures and contexts different from our contemporary times, yet each is a rule and guide to our faith and practice.

The third working tool of a Master Mason outside of the U.S. is the pencil. The Canadian ritual suggests “the pencil teaches us that all our works and actions are not only observed, but recorded by the Supreme Grand Master, to whom we must render an account of our conduct.” If we look at the pencil more literally, it, like the compasses and skirret, is a tool of planning. The Trestleboard and the skirret help the Master prepare the ground for the foundation. This planning must be done before the Apprentice descends into the quarry with his 24-inch gauge, gavel and chisel to prepare stones and before the Fellowcraft tries the first stone with his square. As we leave the northeast corner to build our Spiritual Temple, we may reflect upon the necessity of having a full complement of working tools. Perhaps we need three for each of the different stages of life. We prepare ourselves with the gavel, chisel and 24-inch gauge. We try our work (and ourselves) by the plumb, level and square. We plan our journey and our building with the pencil, skirret and compasses. We build and finish our work by the use of the trowel.

Anthony J. Tabone

**WARREN SALEM TOWN 147**  
155 Cayuga St.  
Union Springs, N.Y. 13160  
1st & 3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m.

WM Tim Carmon  
with Kelly

We remain at very limited Lodge activity. However, there are some things worth reporting. We continue to have a Table Lodge on the third Tuesday each month. We really appreciate the efforts of Brother Steve Hunter for preparing the dinners. This month the meal will be “build a burger night.”

As usual, we’ll eat at 6 p.m. with Lodge to follow.

Again this year we were disappointed. Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 10 years old had to be cancelled.

As you know, several Brothers have been working on a project to preserve our historical heritage. It includes obtaining pictures of Past Masters, placing them in 5x7 picture frames with their years of service and mounting them on a progressive board. All pictures, including those from the past have been uniformly scanned and cropped for display. If you’re a Past Master and have not submitted your picture, please send it as soon as possible.

Our Birthday Corner numbers a few Happy-Birthday Brothers. Brother Ed Heselton has an April 23 date. Brother George Fearon is April 25 and Brother Peter VanVlack’s is April 28.

Warren Albrecht

**AUBURN 124**  
5593 St. Rte. 34B.  
Auburn, N.Y. 13021  
1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

G. Scott Harris  
gscotth09@gmail.com  
315/406-4646  
Secy Tom Ostrander,  
tostrander7948@gmail.com,  
315/224-0940

Brothers, sad news. Brother R. Allen Shotwell, age 101, passed away just recently. Brother Shotwell was a seventy-six-year member of Scipio 110 in Aurora. He was the father to Beth Bowman and RW Dave Bowman’s father-in-law and grandfather to W Matt Bowman of Auburn Lodge. W Phil Soyryng, long-time Secretary of Fidelity-Hobasco Lodge passed away. And at Sylvan 41, W Brant Sherlock’s wife Betty Jean passed away recently.

We ask prayers for RW Miller’s mom, who has no cancer and is home recuperating. Brother Joe Sheppard’s father-in-law is also home and recovering from surgery.

The good-news report shows the recent chicken barbecue was a successful fundraiser for our Scholarship Fund, showing a profit of \$1305. It was an awesome job by all, especially Chefs Bob Burdick, Joe Sheppard and Rob Gleason. The kitchen staff was Fred Kruger, Joe Sheppard, Mike Finizio and Tommy Ostrander.

The next chicken barbecue on April 25 will support the Auburn Rainbow Girls. Dinners are \$10. Make reservations with me by email or cell: 315/224-0940. Donations are welcome for products needed. The Cornell Sauce and containers are already set. We will need salt potatoes, Grandma Brown baked beans, bacon, brown sugar, bread, butter, etc. Check with me if you are interested.

The March 4 meeting program was the Fellowcraft LSOME, which was presented by RW Mike Miller and RW Steve Howard. It was well done, as always.

We rebooted our Digital Committee of W Harris, VW

Kruger, Brothers Joe Sheppard and Mike Finizio. More information will come on that committee.

March 18 was our annual March Madness night at the UNC. It featured pizza, wings, beer and camaraderie, as always. RW Tony Tabone, GDC, conducted the Masonic Development Course on March 24 at Auburn Lodge. I hope you contacted Tony and attended.

We are up and running on our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser. Tickets are \$50 each, with only 200 sold. Prizes are: 1<sup>st</sup>—\$5000, 2<sup>nd</sup>—\$1000, 3<sup>rd</sup>—\$500, 4<sup>th</sup>—\$250, 5<sup>th</sup>—\$150 and 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>—\$50. These amounts are based on sale of all 200 tickets. Contact me by email or 315/224-0940 if interested.

I’m short and sweet this month. We hope to see you in Lodge—we can have up to twenty-five members now at the meetings. Take care and God bless.

Tommy Ostrander

**SCIPIO 110**  
Main St.  
Aurora, N.Y. 13026  
2nd & 4th Tues., 7:30 p.m.

WM David A. Timm,  
ddtimmm@yahoo.com  
Secy Stephen L. Zabriskie,  
zabled@aol.com

Greetings, Brothers. I’m sorry I missed last month’s word article. I wasn’t up to doing much. As some of you may be aware, my mom and my brother and his family and I all came down with COVID. We are all well now. My mom is now at rehab, though, due to her being hospitalized due to other health issues.

On the better news front, Brother David Brooks was just recognized as a seventy-year member and Brother Jack Logan was recognized as a sixty-year member of Scipio Lodge 110. Congratulations go to both!

We plan on opening again in April, as long as this pandemic will let us. We have been and will continue to canvass our members on their input to this, as well as heeding the Grand Master and his direction. To all: stay safe and healthy.

Ed Maassen II

**CAROLINE 681**  
P.O. Box 72  
Fuller Lane  
Slaterville Springs, NY 14881  
1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
607/539-7735

WM Leroy Crispell,  
Secy Roger Gleason,  
secretary.caroline681@gmail.com

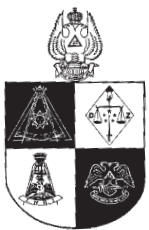
At Caroline Lodge No. 281 our meetings are on the first and third Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. from April to December. We have coffee hour on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. every week. Here are the current officers: Worshipful Master Leroy Crispell; Sr. Warden Raymond Ink; Jr. Warden Barry Goodrich; Treasurer Gordon Ryan; and Secretary Roger Gleason.

Under sickness and distress, W Brother Crispell has completed his chemo treatment and is in remission. He

**Cayuga-Tompkins - Caroline**  
**see page 5**



# Scottish Riter



Central City Bodies, A.A.S.R.  
648 Centerville Pl., N. Syr., NY 13212  
(315) 452-7976 • Fax (315) 452-9679

Consistory

Greetings. As COVID infections in our area have been on a decline and vaccinations have become more available I am excited to finally begin a renewed journey. The officers of the Central City Bodies have been patiently waiting for the day when we could resume the in-person events that we were used to for many years.

By the time you read this article we will have presented our Radio version of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Degree, “Knight of Valor,” on March 15. My thanks go to the following Brothers who brought this together: Ill. James D. Swan Jr., 33° for hosting the Zoom meeting; Ill. Gary S. Hartman, 33° for adapting the original script; Ill. Richard J. Powell 33° for adding the background scenes and sound effects; and DB William H. Toth II, 32° MSA for assembling the cast for this Degree. I thank you and all the cast members and our audience that attended this special event. I especially want to thank Ill. David P. Spencer 33°, Deputy for New York, for granting us permission to present this adaptation of this moving Degree.

We were also able to present the Feast of the Paschal Lamb on March 27, which we were able to stream live to our website with the help of Brother Joseph Stabb, 32° and Ill. Gary S. Hartman 33°. Thanks also go to SPRS Gary W. Hamburg, MWM for assembling the cast for this presentation.

April 17 is a date we have been awaiting for over a year. We will finally have our Reunion and 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Knighting of our last two classes of candidates as SPRS. Due to the size of the classes we may be required to do this ceremony in a split session due to restrictions that could still be in place at the time of this event.

Special thanks also go to all who attended and supported the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Gala for the Children’s Dyslexia Center of Central New York as a virtual event. Isn’t technology wonderful?

Lawrence W. Egnaczyk

Lodge of Perfection

Greetings, Brethren: Ahhhh! April is here with warmer weather, longer days and hopes for a bright and happy summer. With COVID restrictions lessening, the officers of the Lodge of

Perfection want to wish you and your family the very best the spring/summer season has to offer.

With our lives opening back up and Lodges beginning to meet again, I would like to make a special plea to

all who are reading this article in *the word*. As I have said many times before, throughout this pandemic and everything before, the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite NMJ and the Valley of Syracuse is by far the finest Masonic experience here in the North Country.

Some of the highlights are well-rehearsed Degree work portrayed in full costume; organized and meaningful meetings; providing virtual Degree work and other meaningful content throughout COVID restrictions; a state of the art AASR NMJ website with Leadership Resource Center. There are fun side groups such as the Knights of St Andrew and a well-recognized award system that is fairly distributed. There are Military Recognition nights and true family-oriented content such as family dinners with musical entertainment, sporting event outings and family barbecue events.

We even have the ability to make any Master Mason a Scottish Rite Mason in his own Lodge or in the comfort of his own home (virtually). Again, my plea: To all who are reading this, consider becoming part of the Valley of Syracuse family. Or if already a member, help spread the word about all we do and entice one or two of your friends and Brothers to join.

Happy Easter from the Lodge of Perfection. May God bless each and every one of you.

Terry A. Byard

Hospitaler

Greetings, Brothers. The good news is that spring is finally here and more and more people are getting vaccinated. Illness and injuries, however, are currently high in our Valley. Under Sickness, our thoughts are with Fred Dambach, David Freeman, Robert Valenson, George Caswell and his wife Diane, James Mooney and Tim DiMare from the Valley of Utica. Under Distress for the loss of loved ones are Daniel Lort, John Seel, William C. Brunet, Bruce Dauer, Bruce Naumann and the family of Leon Milner. We keep all of these people in our thoughts and prayers.

Informed sources report that Sandy Samson has been causing problems down in Cortlandville. Rumor has it that he suffered a broken arm while brushing snow from his car! I hope this gives him a chuckle and motivation to get better soon. We miss him at the Valley.

The Hospitaler’s Fund is always in need. If you are able to help, please send a check made out to “Central City Bodies” and directed for the Hospitaler’s Fund.

If you are in need of confidential assistance please



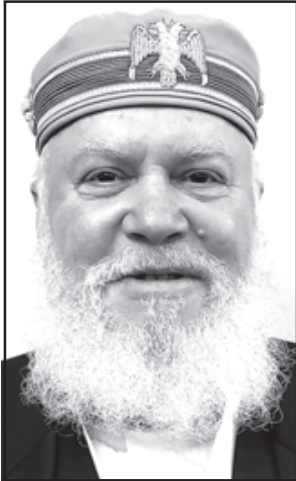
Central City Consistory Egnaczyk



Central City Chapter of Rose Croix Hamburg



Central City Council Princes of Jerusalem McNeal



Central City Lodge of Perfection Byard

contact us. We may be able to provide some type of help. Keep wearing that mask.

Dick Freeman

Princes of Jerusalem

Greetings, Sovereign Princes. The Valley officers are in the midst of planning the 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree. How that will happen is in the works but it will be good to start doing Degrees again.

One of the new things available is that the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Library is starting a new program where you can sign up to borrow digital copies of books from the library. What an easy, fun way to gain even more insight and education on Scottish Rite! Look for an email for the easy sign-up process.

We would like to see more Brothers participate in the Degrees, both virtual and in person. If you are interested in taking part please let the office know.

With Easter coming up, all of the officers of Council Princes of Jerusalem wish you all a joyous and safe holiday. Stay safe, everybody. God bless you all: Freemasons, our military and this great country.

James McNeal

Rose Croix

The Lost Word, one recalls, is the representation of several things: the loss of reason, intellect and the moral sense and the loss of a true conception of Deity. In the drama of the 18<sup>th</sup> Degree we are asked to labor both day and night for the Lost Word. While searching, three pillars appear: Faith, Hope and Charity, to aid our search out of the wilderness of doubt, dismay and despair.

We must continue our search for the True Word while also pursuing the explanation of how to reconcile the existence of sin, wrong, pain and suffering in the world; the prosperity of the wicked and powerful; the untold wrongs and injustices; and the emptiness of some religious creeds. During our search we learn the Masonic meaning of the initials INRI inscribed upon the cross of Christ in John 19:19. The True Word having been discovered in John’s gospel and having been placed upon the cross: Iesvs, Nazarens, Rex, Ivdeorvm means “Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.” Others have interpreted the initials to mean: Igne, Natura, Renovatur, Integra, meaning “All Nature is Renovated by

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Website: [www.syr-aasr.org](http://www.syr-aasr.org)

April 2021

April 5 .....Executive Committee Zoom meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
Apr 17 .....32° Confera. Final arrangements and scheduling to be confirmed.  
..... Attendance will be limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

May 2021

May 3 ..... Trustees Meeting/Executive Committee Zoom meeting, 7:00 p.m.  
May TBA .... Annual Meeting with election and installation of Valley Officers. Details TBA.

Note: Dates and times for 2021 events to be determined and announced.

Specific event invitation notices will be sent from the office for all future personal and virtual events as we are allowed to meet.

Dates and times for all events are subject to change as we continue to work around the COVID-19 meeting restrictions.

We are taking direction from the Grand Master, Sovereign Grand Commander, and the Memorial Masonic Temple Corporation Trustees respecting the scheduling of meetings and events in the North Syracuse Masonic Memorial Center.

Allegiance

The Bodies of the Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Syracuse, State of New York acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts and whose officers are: Ill. David Alan Glattly, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander; Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Grand Lieutenant Commander; Ill. Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Grand Minister of State; Ill. David P. Spencer, 33°, Deputy for New York State

ACTIVE MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK - Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Grand Lt. Commander, Grand Almoner, Past Deputy for New York; Ill. G. Michael Morris, 33°; Ill. Steven C. Stefanakos, 33°; Ill. David E. Barnes, 33°

ACTIVE EMERITUS MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK - Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33°; Ill. Gary A. Henningsen, 33°; Ill. Fredrick D. Greene, 33°; Ill. Edward R. Trosin, 33°; Ill. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°, Past Grand Minister of State, Past Deputy for New York; Ill. P. Michael Nielsen, 33°; Ill. Stephen R. Whittaker, 33°, Past Grand Master General of Ceremonies

DEPUTY’S REPRESENTATIVE - Ill. Carl F. Fahrenkrug, Sr., 33°

Fire.”

All the Degrees prior to and including this Degree have led us to a better understanding of our Faith in a Creator, a Hope for a life hereafter and Charity to all that may need our help. Thus, we have been given a platform on which the Muslim, the Hebrew, the Hindu, the Buddhist and the Christian may stand side by side and hand to hand as true brethren, each respecting the private beliefs of the other and doing him no harm.

So, you are a Mason and also a Knight of the Rose Croix. Do your attitude and actions reflect Faith, Hope and Charity?

Gary W. Hamburg

Notes from the Children’s Dyslexia Center CNY

Who would ever believe that we have been dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic for over a year? After the mandated closure last spring and our six-week stint of tutoring via Zoom, I am happy to report that the Children’s Dyslexia Center has managed to stay open and meet with the children in a one-on-one situation without incident since the beginning of October 2020. Due to monumental efforts by the Board, tutors, families, Gineal and me, we have, hopefully, weathered the

worst of it and will soon begin to return to some sense of normalcy.

We had wonderful news recently. Colton’s mother called to thank us for all the help Colton received at the Center. He completed his second year last spring, when I had the privilege of working with him on Zoom. She was thrilled to let us know that Colton made Honor Roll this last semester, something she was sure would not have happened without his time at the Center. As always, I want to remind you that this only happens because of your continued support of our program. Every child who comes to the Center is impacted in a positive manner because of what you do for us, and for that, I thank you.

In other news, we have yet to finalize plans for the annual Recognition Ceremony. We want to do something to honor this year’s children and tutors, as well as those whom we were not able to honor last spring. We will bring updates as we know more.

Blessings to all. And wishes for a warm and beautiful spring.

Linda L. Martin

Valley releases Scholarship update

The latest communication from the Scholarship Committees confirms that checks

will be mailed to awardees after the announcements are made. We anticipate that the distribution of financial assistance checks will occur during the month of August. We will keep everyone informed if we receive changes to this Scholarship Committee announcement.

Central City Bodies, AASR, Valley of Syracuse invites...

You...to a Masonic Lodge Outreach and Scottish Rite “Rite on the Road” Degree Conferal Program. This is a Scottish Rite program to confer the 4°, “Builder”, which is the first Scottish Rite Degree. Thus begins a Master Mason’s journey to become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason; but it is presented in a Master Mason’s home Lodge and community.

The Degree will take place on a scheduled date at a convenient time selected by your Masonic Lodge. A Membership Team representative from Central City Bodies, AASR, Valley of

Syracuse will make contact with your Masonic Lodge. You may also contact the Valley of Syracuse Office for more information: 315/452-7976 or email: [ny017@twcnv.rr.com](mailto:ny017@twcnv.rr.com).



# YORK RITE BODIES



## 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District RAM

DDGHP RE  
Richard J. Powell  
315/439-2386,  
rjpowell@arsonica.com

Greetings, Companions. I am writing this article a few days after the Virtual Grand Chapter session was held on March 6. After a few minor tech issues, the session settled and went off quite well. Congratulations go to the new Grand Line and the ME Grand High Priest, Brian Singer.

Congratulations are also due to the new 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District Team. VE Jim Nelson is our new AGL. He will be working with ritual only this year. Our Education Officer is Companion Bob Tyrrell and our Charities Chair is E. Ed Sinay, Jr. I look forward to working with each of them this year.

We will be conducting in-person Official Visits this spring. Joining us will be our Regional Officer RE Ralph Haney, Grand Master of the Second Veil. He will conduct his Regional Officer Visit on the same evening as the Official Visit.

Official Visits have been scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District as follows: Central City Riverside Chapter No. 70 on Tuesday, April 27; Charles H. Platt Chapter No. 247 on Wednesday, April 28; Pulaski Chapter No. 279 on Wednesday, May 11; and Lake Ontario Chapter No. 165 on Thursday, June 10. If COVID conditions prevent an in-person meeting a Zoom session will be scheduled to take its place.

Finally, I would like to promote the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Charles H. Platt Chapter in Skaneateles. This event was postponed twice in 2020 due to COVID. I hope that conditions allow for it to take place in 2021. It will be celebrated on Saturday, May 15 at the Skaneateles Masonic Lodge, followed by a luncheon at the Marietta House. I am sure E Richard Torrey will have details for anyone interested.

Stay safe, Companions. Wear your mask.

Richard J. Powell

## 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District RAM

VE James Nelson  
Assistant Grand Lecturer  
12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District RAM  
jnelson@twcny.rr.com

Greetings, Companions of the 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District. On March 6 Royal Arch Masons Grand Chapter was held in a mostly virtual session. During this meeting new officers in the Grand

Line were elected and installed. I hope many Companions, who normally would not have the opportunity to go to Grand Chapter, were able to join us in this virtual meeting. While there is some disappointment that more were not able to be present in person, this format was able to reach a wide audience without violating social distancing requirements.

Official Visits for the 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District will be starting in April. It will give us the opportunity to get to know one another better and a chance to find out how we might assist the Chapters in whatever ways we can.

There are some changes to the role of AGL, starting now. Educational programs will be moved to the responsibility of an Education Officer, so the AGL can concentrate on ritual work. Our first area of focus for the Chapters will be on the opening and closing, particularly with the Excellent High Priest and the Captain of the Host. The opening and closing ritual helps set the stage and expectations for the Degree work.

I look forward to seeing the various Chapter leaders at the Official Visit. Please do not hesitate to put together any requests for assistance I might be able to provide for your Chapters. As a District we are in position to be servant leaders, giving assistance in any way we can to help your Chapter grow and thrive.

Following the hiatus we have experienced through the restrictions, not being able to meet due to the pandemic, we should find many Brothers who would welcome further Masonic light and opportunities to build fraternal bonds. Royal Arch Masons can help fulfill that desire.

Jim Nelson

**WASHINGTON CHAPTER 29 RAM**  
Cortlandville Lodge  
Meets 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

EHP Andrew C. Reed

Companions, on March 9 Washington Chapter No. 29 held its first in-person meeting since last fall. It was an enjoyable evening including a special presentation.

In addition to several Companions in their respective places, ME David Raymond, PGHP; Grand Captain of the Host RE Stephen Shearer; and RE Bob Rogers and E James Meek from Oxford Chapter were all present. RE Shearer was present for his Official Visit and gave a report on the Hybrid Grand Chapter that was held on March 6.

ME David Raymond, PGHP, was in attendance to present the Distinguished

Service Medal in Bronze to RE Kim C. Dellow, PDDGHP. Kim was recognized for his efforts in the Eighth Capitular District's Royal Arch Education program.

The next meeting for the Chapter will be held on Tuesday, April 13. Light refreshments will be provided.

Wade A. Caler

**LAKE ONTARIO CHAPTER 165 RAM**  
Oswego Masonic Lodge  
765 E. Seneca St.  
Meets 2nd Thurs. at 7:30 p.m.

HP Ronald A. Bond  
rbondsr@twcny.rr.com  
Secy Alan Wood  
315/207-0127  
awood3@twcny.rr.com



Greetings, Companions. Well, another month has passed and things are starting to look good for this virus to be under control by early summer. It's not over, as there are still a lot of cases in the state. So follow the guidelines and be smart on how you choose to live your life.

My wife Jackolyn and I were able to get our first shot on March 1 and a follow-up one on March 29. My arm was a little sore for a few days afterward; the second shot may have a few more side effects but I can't wait. Having our shots will change things a lot for us. We will still be careful when around others but be free to eat out and do a little traveling.

We did have a Zoom meeting on February 19 for Royal Arch and a Council meeting on March 11. It was uplifting to see everyone and find out how people are doing. I plan for April 8 to be a Zoom meeting, also. I do think that after that meeting we will be able to meet at Lodge in person, following guidelines. We will start getting back to normal as conditions permit.

Our June 10 meeting will be an Official Visit from our DDGHP Richard Powell. We have two petitions to vote on and a little business to do. We will try to keep business meetings as short as possible.

We will have to think about setting up some Degree work this summer and maybe a fun meeting or two. Hands across the Border should be able to happen this fall, as well. Going forward, Companions, stay safe and well.

Ronald A. Bond

**CENTRAL CITY RIVERSIDE CHAPTER 70 RAM**  
608 Oswego St.  
Liverpool, N.Y.  
Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesday

HP Eric J. Driscoll,  
315/575-4470,  
Ericjdriscoll@gmail.com  
Secy Bob Bowles,  
315/436-0997,  
Rbowles1@twcny.rr.com



Good day, Companions. I am writing this article with hope that as it reaches you we will have had our first in-person meeting in a while. That date was March 23. Our yearly Visit is on April 27 so please review your parts, etc., prior to this.

I want to thank Al Morgan for his presentation during our last meeting on his trip to Russia. It was nice

seeing the work that was done over there. It was another proud moment as a Mason, for sure.

Remember that we are still on target for our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on July 11. The way things are opening up, I hope that this event will be a nice comeback for our Chapter. Please keep this date free; details will be discussed at our meeting.

There may be Companions or Brothers who need assistance. Please contact me.

Eric J. Driscoll

**CHARLES H. PLATT CHAPTER 247 RAM**  
Skaneateles Masonic Temple  
Meets 4th Wed.  
at 7:30 p.m.

HP James Nelson  
jnelson@twcny.rr.com  
Secy Earl Tuttle  
315/673-2213  
etuttle1@twcny.rr.com

Greetings, Companions. I hope this communication finds you and yours doing well.

We are entering a phase where we are able to be cautiously optimistic about seeing things heading back to normal, meaning in-person meetings having fewer restrictions and the return of regular meetings and events.

In February our Chapter was able to meet, hold officer elections, and had the honor of having the Most Excellent Grand High Priest join us. We installed the elected and appointed officers, with ME Harvey Eysman presiding and ME GHP David H. Raymond installing the Excellent High Priest for our Chapter. Congratulations go to all of those who are appointed to fill new positions and those who maintain their positions. I believe we have an excellent line, which will continue to bring new members into our fold.

A special thank-you to VE Bradley Foil is in order. He served as our Excellent High Priest through this difficult past year. It was a frustrating time, filled with a lot of uncertainty, uprooting many plans for the year, and his leadership throughout the year helped to bridge the void of being unable to gather together.

We are looking forward to the year ahead with hope that the pandemic winding down will enable us to continue bringing in new Companions. We look to complete the current class which has been delayed in taking their final Royal Arch Degree. There will be a need to observe remaining restrictions on how we put on our Degrees yet this should not negatively impact the conferral of the Degrees.

We are scheduled to have our Official Visit at our April

meeting. I hope all our Companions will join us for this event so we can enjoy the fellowship that is a hallmark of our Craft.

Jim Nelson



**CENTRAL CITY COMMANDERY 25 KT**  
Liverpool Masonic Temple  
608 Oswego St.,  
Liverpool 13088  
Meets 1st or 3rd  
Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Commander  
Eric J. Driscoll,  
315/575-4470,  
Ericjdriscoll@gmail.com  
Recorder Earl Tuttle,  
etuttle1@twcny.rr.com



Good day, Sir Knights. April is upon us—Easter, spring, vaccines and getting back into our Lodge building to have meetings. I hope that I can say with more confidence than in the recent past that we will be having our meeting on April 16 in person. Emails will go out to confirm but the building is opening back up and our goal is to get things back into gear.

We have a petition to vote on and some business to take care of. Please take some time to go through your ritual book and brush off the cobwebs and brush up on your parts. I hope to see you at Commandery soon. Meanwhile, if any Sir Knight or Companion or Brother is in distress or in need of assistance in any manner, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Eric J. Driscoll

**CENTRAL CITY COUNCIL 13 Royal & Select Masters**  
Liverpool Masonic Temple  
608 Oswego St.  
Liverpool, NY  
Meets 2nd Wed. at 7:30 p.m.

Illustrious Master James D. Swan Jr.  
jdabjr@twcny.rr.com  
Recorder Earl L. Tuttle  
Etuttle1@twcny.rr.com  
315/673-2213

Companions, I send you greetings. Today is Thursday, March 11, the morning following our Zoom Council meeting. As a result of last evening's meeting there is news to report from the Council. Our plan is to meet in person for the months of April, May and June.

Please note that I say, "We plan to meet." That statement is made based upon the news we hear today, but news may change tomorrow. We will keep you informed. We must follow and abide by the directives of the Grand Master of Masons in New York.

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 14. The meeting will be held in our room at the Liverpool Masonic Center, opening in full form at 7:30 p.m. Please

put this event on your calendar and join us that evening. We are planning a program meeting that evening and will gather at 5:45 p.m. at the Retreat Restaurant in Liverpool for a Dutch treat dinner prior to the 7:30 p.m. meeting opening. That event is subject to the restaurant's operating rules in effect at that date. Our goal is to gather everyone back together for an evening of Masonic fellowship.

You will receive a letter inviting you to the April meeting with the details for the before-meeting dinner. Please respond so we may provide the number of dinner reservations required.

We will meet May 12 for the Official Visit of RI Brian Moore, District Deputy Grand Master, who will be accompanied by other Grand Council dignitaries as the Grand Line resumes their official duties. The Grand Line Official Visitor plans to be present that evening, also.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 and its negative impact on everything Masonic continues. Please understand that your Council officers are endeavoring to safely and prudently plan for the next months. We must all be comfortable to attend our meetings prior to returning to live events. As your Illustrious Master I will not schedule a live, in-person event until it is deemed safe to do so.

I cannot stress enough the importance of scheduling an appointment for you to receive the vaccine. My humble opinion: This is the path to controlling the pandemic. Getting the vaccine is and can be frustrating. Please remain diligent and continue your efforts to obtain it.

As the weeks and months go by, please remember your obligations. I am referring to support of the Grand Council's Charities projects.

We cordially invite all Royal Arch Masons desiring to learn more about Cryptic Masonry to present a petition for membership to the Council Secretary. Join us to hear the DDGM's message. Learn more about Cryptic Masonry, the work we do and receive further Masonic instruction.

James D. Swan, Jr.

# Auburn Shrine

This article is written on March 10 and the temperature is in the low 60s. The sun is shining and the snow geese have returned to Ca-

**Auburn Shrine**  
see page 5



**MONDAY EVENINGS**  
**DOORS OPEN 4:00 P.M., BINGO STARTS 7:00 P.M.**  
**1121 MILTON AVE, SYRACUSE, NY**

**BINGO, PULL TABS, RAFFLES, FOOD**  
**www.tigrisshriners.com | 315-308-0410**



# ORDER of the EASTERN STAR



## Order of the Eastern Star Onondaga District

Deb Krackhardt,  
dak2115@twcny.rr.com,  
315/706-3259  
Karl Parker,  
karl.parker11@gmail.com,  
315/427-1411

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. Slowly, Chapters are getting back into meetings. Centerville Chapter and Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay were finally able to install their 2021 officers within regulations. We were able to attend these installations and they went very well. Worthy Annie Urban was installed as a first-time Matron. Not only is Worthy Annie Urban a first-time Matron, but also a Matron who will be sharing this year with her mother who is Matron for Onondaga Star Chapter. Each has Worthy Al Tefoe as her Patron. We are not sure if this is a first-time situation but our guess is that it is. Hopefully, Morning Star Chapter will be able to have their installation this month.

Also, DDGM Official Visits are scheduled for April and May. Remember that at present, members may only attend the meetings of the Chapter where they have membership. But if regulations will allow members to attend other Chapter meetings in the future, here are the visits planned for April and May. Please keep in mind that these dates may need to be re-scheduled or cancelled. Thursday, April 8 is at Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay Chapter No. 567; Thursday, April 15 is Centerville Chapter No. 185; on Monday, May 10 we will be at Morning Star Chapter No. 289; Tuesday, May 18 is Onondaga Star Chapter No. 144.

We are having a fundraiser for the Grand Matron and Grand Patron's Combined Projects. RW Kelley Parker, a Past DDGM and member of Centerville Chapter No. 185, has graciously offered to donate a framed photograph of a peacock to be raffled. Several of her photographs have won awards.

The tickets will be \$10 each. The winner will be announced at the end of June. If you wish to purchase a raffle ticket(s), please contact RW Debra Krackhardt, DDGM, at 315/706-3259 or email: [dak2115@twcny.rr.com](mailto:dak2115@twcny.rr.com). A

ticket will be provided to you in person or sent to you. Complete the information details and send the ticket and money back to RW Deb. You do not have to live in and around Syracuse to participate. If you are the lucky winner, the picture will be safely sent to you. (See the photo of the 12x18 print.)

Have a safe and happy Easter and enjoy the beginning of spring. Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is.

Deb Krackhardt  
Karl Parker

## Order of the Eastern Star Oswego District

Dear Friends: I start this "letter" out with "Dear Friends." The month of April is National Card and Letter Writing Month. The U.S. Postal Service officially designated this holiday in 2001 to raise awareness of the importance of and historical significance of card and letter writing. Letter writing and sending cards makes people feel good. It screams, "Somebody cares." I hope you get some enjoyment out of this letter.

I will say it is getting harder to write about Eastern Star without having any meetings or social gatherings. It is the second week of March as I write this and normally this week all five of the Chapters in Oswego District would be reconvening after the winter recess. Only Pulaski Puritan Chapter met and the rest decided not to meet in person. Phoenix Elizabeth Chapter had a social gathering on March 8 by Zoom and four of the five Chapters hope to meet in person during the fourth week of March. Most of the Lodges are allowing Chapters to meet but members are still hesitant.

Once everyone is vaccinated, Earl LaFave, DGL, is encouraging Chapters to look at what can be done safely to meet. He and Barb Foster, DDGM, are willing to make Official Visits to the Chapters if guidelines permit. He suggests visits be scheduled in May or June and says Barb's and his visits will be combined this year.

Earl says that the projects are doing well, thanks to the support of the membership. He asks that District groups be looking at some way to hold their meetings and do the business required by their

by-laws.

There are five Order of the Eastern Star Chapters in Oswego District. They meet at Lodge halls in Phoenix, Central Square, Oswego and two meet in Pulaski. Each Chapter has twenty-four offices, two of which have to be held by a Mason. Men seem to be short to come by in our Chapters; we encourage any Mason who has not been to an OES meeting to consider it. You might even enjoy being surrounded by a room full of women!

With all seriousness, we do need the help of our Masons. We are hopeful that you would enjoy your visit, that you might want to join

our organization and your special person, if you have one, might be a possible candidate for membership—or at least attend our social events. Please contact a Star member at your Lodge hall or call Earl LaFave at 315/652-6670 for more information.

This week a news anchor on television asked everyone to check the last picture on our phone before we went into lockdown. On my phone the last two pictures were from a bus trip to New York City for the 2020 Grand Matron and Grand Patron's Official Visits between March 6 and March 11. There was a picture of the



The World Trade Center Complex; March 8, 2020.



Escorting the Flag of the USA at the Manhattan District's visit on March 7, 2020 is Yvonne Hanshew from Oswego District. Yvonne, the Grand Color Bearer, is escorted by Associate Grand Marshals. On her right is Beth Bellmyer of Richmond District and on her left is Nereida Mosso of Albany-Rensselaer-Schenectady District.

World Trade Center site where the new World Trade Center complex now stands; the other is the escorting of the flag of the USA at the Manhattan District's visit. Yvonne Hanshew, from Oswego District, is the Grand Color Bearer escorted by Associate Grand Marshals Beth Bellmyer of Richmond District and Nereida Mosso of Albany-Rensselaer-Schenectady District. I share these pictures nearby.

The month of April is considered a time of growth and moving forward in new and positive ways. Let's apply this idea to our organization and be open to the ideas of other members. Be creative and perhaps step back and invite others to be more involved and give suggestions.

April starts out with April Fool's Day, when you get to play some lighthearted pranks. Try prepping some fake-out foods, such as a mashed potato sundae. But keep in mind that not everyone enjoys being the butt of a joke, so take care to respect the wishes of those who don't want to participate.

During the month of April every day has at least one National Holiday. Did you know that April 2 is National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day? A peanut butter and jelly sandwich is a lunchtime staple, so it's no wonder the sweet and savory sammie gets its own day of celebration. The first mention of pairing peanut paste with jelly on bread was in an article written in 1901. Celebrate by spreading this perfect duo on a sandwich for yourself.

Easter (not a National Holiday) is April 4. Some of you will buy chocolate bunnies and fill an Easter basket to hide. Others may buy colored foil-wrapped candy eggs and some may color hard boiled eggs and have an egg hunt.

For Christians, the Easter egg is symbolic of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Painting Easter eggs is a tradition where the eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross. Eggs have been seen as an ancient symbol of fertility, while springtime is considered to bring new life and rebirth. Easter is a time to come together and celebrate new beginnings. It is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in the Christian religion. It is a day we remember Jesus's sacrifice and give thanks for what He brought to our world. I'm wishing you a blessed and holy Easter!

Michelle Gogel

## Morning Star 289 Marcellus Masonic Temple

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. It has been a very long and unusual year but it is time to get back to normal. While we were given the green light to meet a while ago, many of our members decided it was too risky. Now that everyone should have received the vaccine, I believe it is safe to start meeting again. Our first meeting will be on April 17 at 1 p.m. This will be our annual meet-

ing with election and installation of officers. If you have not paid your dues, this is the time to do so. This will be a formal meeting; mask and social distancing is mandatory.

On May 10 at 7:00 p.m. the District Deputy Grand Matron will make her Official Visit. This will be formal attire. For May 24 we will have Draping of the Altar at 7 p.m. Officers are to wear white formal; Star Points will wear their colors. On June 14 we will hold a regular stated meeting at 7 p.m.

Sympathy of the Chapter is extended to MW Jodelle C. Fletcher on the passing of her sister. I have heard that RW Harold Lanning is on the mend after an illness. If you hear of anyone being under the weather, contact the Worthy Matron at 315/708-5699. We will see you in Chapter—finally.

Mary Perry  
Larry Spencer

## Onondaga Star 144 Masonic Memorial Center

Dear Sisters and Brothers, in March we were able to restart in-person meetings. We are only once a month right now but that is wonderful. Prior to the restart we established a firm calling committee who made calls and reached out to our members. I hope each of you received a call or message. The feedback was very positive and we want to keep the communication flowing. We will do our best to keep in touch. As we continue to have in-person meetings and have more and more of us together, we hope you will consider returning to Chapter. Our meeting night, right now, will be the first Tuesday of each month.

Fundraising at this time is very difficult, yet we have the responsibility to keep our Chapter going and support our organization's projects. Therefore, we are having a basket fundraiser where we will—for a small donation—give you chances to win. As you receive the opportunity to be part of this fundraiser, please consider giving us your support. There will be other fundraisers announced later in April and May.

The meeting dates for the next few months are April 5, May 3 and June 1. As more vaccines are administered and life slowly inches back to some semblance of normal we look forward to having more meetings and activities. We will do our best to keep in touch and keep the information coming to you with warm Fraternal greetings and unending friendship, always. Until later, stay well and happy.

Jeannine Parks

## Pulaski Puritan 159

Oh my, it's the middle of March already and I almost forgot to put the article in *the word*. What a beautiful day! The sun is shining and it is 50-something and tomorrow is supposed to be better.

We had our first meeting and it was good to see every-

Pulaski Puritan  
see page 12





APRIL						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				Auburn 124 Caroline 681 Centerville OES Central Square 622 Crossroads United 93 Erie Canal 141 Konosioni 950 Lake Ontario 32KT Tri-Valley 148	Central City 25KT	
4	Jordan 386 Liverpool-Syracuse 501 Marathon 438 Morning Star 524 Trumansburg 157	Cortlandville 470 Fay-Central City 305 Hiram 136 Onondaga Star OES Seneca River 160 Warren Salem Town 147	Callimachus 369 Cayuga 221 Cazenovia 616 Kedar Khan Grotto Otselc Valley 659 Philo-Mt. Sinai 968 Pulaski 415 Skaneateles 522	Bona Fide OES Lake Ontario 165 RAM Memorial 648 Nortrip 998 Tully 896	Ft. Brewerton 256 Owaghena 303 RAM Triangle @ Liverpool	
11	Hamilton 120 Homer 352 Morning Star OES Onondaga Hill Club Scriba 414	Cortland 50KT E Caldwell OES Fulton 167 RAM Fidelity-Hobasco 51 King Hiram 784 Lake City 127 Scipio 110 Victoria OES Washington RAM	Cautious 726 Central City 13 CM Hannibal 550 Pulaski 279 RAM Tritown 472	Auburn 124 Caroline 681 Centerville OES Central Square 622 Crossroads United 93 Erie Canal 141 Konosioni 950 Watertown 11KT	Central City 25KT	
18	Jordan 386 Liverpool-Syracuse 501 Marathon 438 Morning Star 524 Trumansburg 157	Cortlandville 470 Fay-Central City 305 Hiram 136 Onondaga Star OES Seneca River 160 Sylvan 41 Warren Salem Town 147	Callimachus 369 Cayuga 221 Cazenovia 616 Daughters of the Nile Otselc Valley 659 Philo-Mt. Sinai 968 Pulaski 415 Skaneateles 522 Tigris Temple	Bona Fide OES Memorial 648 Nortrip 998 Tully 896	Ft. Brewerton 256 Triangle @ Liverpool	
25	Homer 352 Morning Star OES Scriba 414	Central City Riverside 70 RAM E Caldwell OES Fidelity-Hobasco 51 King Hiram 784 Lake City 127 Pulaski OES Scipio 110 Victoria OES Washington RAM	Charles H. Platt 247 RAM Fulton 50 CM Hannibal 550 MWD's Tritown 472			

OES from page 11 . . .

Pulaski Puritan . . . .

one again. We held election of officers, and then installed everyone. We did have a few proxies because not everyone is back from the South yet. It definitely was different with no marching or singing. It was still nice.

After the meeting we had a little get-together downstairs with store-bought shamrock cupcakes and coffee, keeping socially distanced, of course.

We welcome our new Secretary, Veronica Castor. She is brand new to this office but I’m sure we’ll whip her up in shape in no time. Myrna and Ted Evans graciously accepted the offices of Matron and Patron.

Our next meeting on March 23 was Ample Form with an Easter Bonnet Parade—without the parade. We had Masons available to do some judging.

The Pulaski Fire Department and some of us will serve hot dogs and candy in the south park in place of Pancakes with Peter. Hopefully, next year we will be able to have the Pancakes with Peter at the Lodge.

I guess that about does it except for a word from an ol’ angel. Did you know that when cats sneeze it is a sign of rain? Or that bats flying late in the evening indicates fair weather?

One hot summer day a man was painting his garage while wearing three jackets. Another man asked why he was dressed like that. “Look at the can: for best results put on three coats.”

Easter is early this year: Sunday, April 4. I’ll end with a prayer. O God, guide me in the ways to nurture my loved ones. Forgive me when my words or deeds have hurt others. Amen.

Happy Easter, everyone. Remember: don’t eat all the candy.

Diane Manwaring

Bona Fide - Hiawatha -  
Solvay 567  
Solvay Masonic Temple  
780 Woods Road  
Solvay, NY 13209  
315/487-0596

Dear Sisters and Brothers, we were finally able to hold our BHS Chapter installation for our 2020-2021 officers in March. Although the installation was very different from the past, it went well and it was great to be together again. We installed Annie (Parks) Urban as Matron and Al Tefoe as Patron. We congratulate both in their new role and wish them loads of luck this year. Worthy Sister Annie is a first-time Matron and has hit the ground running by setting a preliminary schedule through June.

The first meeting in April, on the 8<sup>th</sup>, will be the District Deputy Grand Matron’s Official Visit. She and the entire Chapter are looking forward to this visit. On April 22 we will do Ample Form.

Pre-COVID we had a petition and a candidate wanting to join. This was placed on hold and until now we have been unable to Initiate. Our new Matron is working with District leaders to see how soon we can add this person to our membership and get the Initiation done. During these pandemic times every activity presents its challenges.

We are also planning in April to have a take-out-only dinner on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>—the last Saturday of April. Check our BHS Facebook page and District pages for more information.

As we look towards May we hope to have both an Initiation and Draping of the Altar during that month. Lastly, June will bring our last meeting before we go dark for the summer and our Chapter picnic on June 24; but more on that later.

Until next time, stay safe, be happy and spread a little kindness along the way. And during these times remember to take care of yourself so you are able to care for others.

Jeannine Parks

Centerville 185  
Masonic Memorial Center

Wow! March is almost over and we can look forward to longer, warmer days ahead.

Our officers did a great job with Ample Form at our March 18 meeting. Brother Steven Maddox gave us a wonderful Easter message. We appreciate the time and effort he puts into his messages to us.

April 15 is tax day. But we are super excited to welcome RW Debbie Krackhardt, District Deputy Grand Matron, who will be making her Official Visit to our Chapter.

Don’t forget our 50/50 raffle. The drawing will be held at our June 17 meeting. You have lots of time to buy and sell.

Remember Sister Jeanette Bush, who is now in hospice care. Keep her and Worthy Sister Ann in your thoughts. Our sympathies go out to Worthy Brother Bruce Naumann on the passing of Worthy Sister Jan Naumann.

Did you know that in 1907 an ad campaign for Kellogg’s Corn Flakes offered a free box of cereal to any woman who would wink at her gro-

cer? Ponder that for a minute.

Stay safe. And have a happy Easter.

Cathy Barling

Lake City Victoria 205  
Lake City Lodge No. 127  
Oswego

RW Natalie J. Woodall, Secretary

My dear Sisters and Brothers, by the time this edition of *the word* reaches you, spring will have officially, if not actually, arrived. I look forward to seeing the crocuses and the daffodils pop up every year.

As many of you know, one of my favorite avocations is genealogy and as I was casting about for a topic for this month’s column it occurred to me that I might learn some history of the Order’s founding in New York State by identifying and researching the women and men who brought the organization into being. With the help of Right Worshipful Gary Heinmiller, Grand Historian; Sr. Dona Cook in the Grand Chapter office; Right Worshipful Albert Comfort III and Brother Howard Henry of General Sullivan Lodge 95—not to mention several reference works—I was able to piece together this story.

It would appear that the earliest form of the Order used many Degrees to Initiate members. One such form, the lecture, was employed as early as 1853 “in social gatherings of the Masonic Fraternity as a special feature of attraction” and was “conferred upon large audiences.”

The real impetus for a more structured organization in this state came about as the result of a Masonic Fair held in New York City in December 1866. The Ma-

sons had purchased the French Church and needed to raise funds to make necessary renovations. The men turned to their wives and daughters for assistance in planning and executing the fair, which netted the Fraternity the princely sum of \$60,000. In the course of planning and carrying out the fair, these women became well acquainted and evoked an interest in continuing their relationship in a more formal setting. Brother Joseph F. Waring of Enterprise Lodge No. 228 invited them to a meeting on January 21, 1867, the result of which was the formation of Alpha Sisters of the Eastern Star, which later became known as Alpha Chapter No. 1.

Initially, meetings were held once or twice a month at private homes but the members thought more structure was required and discussed ceremonies for opening a Chapter and for Initiating new members. Robert Macoy was asked to compose these documents. He frequently updated the women at meetings held at the home of Mrs. Frances E. Johnson. On December 8, 1868 Eliza Macoy became the first candidate to be Initiated into the Order using his draft ritual. At that same meeting an installation of officers for Alpha Chapter was held and Frances E. Johnson was elected the first Worthy Matron.

By 1870 twenty Chapters had been chartered across New York State and many were represented on November 3, 1870 when Grand Chapter was formally organized. A constitution was adopted, according to which the Grand Patron was the chief executive officer. Not

until 1884 did the membership determine that the Grand Matron should be the presiding officer. MW Mary E. Blanding officiated over Grand Chapter sessions in 1885 and Grand Matrons have presided ever since.

As interesting as I found this part of the investigation, even more so was learning about the people who took it upon themselves to form the organization which has endured for over 150 years. Herewith are presented brief biographies of the original Grand Line Officers.

Frances E. Haggerty Johnson was born in 1828. She married William A. Johnson in New York City on September 4, 1847. William was a Brother in Americus Lodge No. 531 and a member of Palestine Commandery No. 18, as well as a member of Alpha Chapter No. 1. Frances served as Grand Matron from 1870 through 1872, thus guiding the fledgling organization through its formative period. According to an obituary published in *The Eastern Star* in July 1889, Frances died after “being injured in a trolley car.” The obituary states that the Eastern Star funeral service was performed by members of her Chapter. Frances was laid to rest beside her husband, who had died on June 27, 1881, in Cypress Hills Cemetery, Brooklyn.

Edward O. Jenkins was elected the first Grand Patron. Born in Wales on September 18, 1817, he had immigrated to the United States with his parents in 1820. As a young man he learned the printing business