



Caroline Lodge conferred Third Degree with assistance from Tritown and Warren Salem Town. Second from left in front is Brother Nizipol.

Degree takes international turn

On Saturday, November 6 Caroline Lodge No. 681 joined Tritown and Warren Salem Town Lodges to put on a Third Degree. The combined ceremony Raised five new Master Masons. Brothers Yegit Nizipol, Carl Tilton, Kelvie Lowry and Ben Hogben were sponsored by Caroline Lodge.

It is of note that Brother Nizipol came to us from Hazor Lodge in Istanbul, Turkey as an Entered Apprentice. Caroline Lodge members conferred the Second and Third Degrees as a courtesy to their Turkish Brothers. Brother Nizipol has since affiliated with Caroline 681.

Mentor

Hello, Brethren. Last month I read an article about membership recruiting and retention issues in the American Legion and the VFW. It said that instead of looking into why members leave we should also investigate why members stay in the organization. That is what I propose in this article.

Freemasonry is a big-tent institution and its members remain for many different reasons. First there is Fellowship: When we join a Lodge we form friendships with its members. If we work with Masonic Districts we befriend other Lodges' members. If we join Appendant Bodies we interact with members from contiguous Districts. And as Fellowship is multifaceted, it may take very different forms.

If we travel and visit Lodges in other cities we
Mentor see page 4



Seventy years for VanArkle

On October 5, 2021 members of Caroline Lodge No. 681 hosted a morning session to conduct a seventy-year-recognition. Worshipful Brother Elmer VanArkle is a member of Tritown Lodge in Groton, having been Raised in Dryden Lodge on February 22, 1950. Because of his residence in the Slaterville Springs area he opted for the ceremony at Caroline and members of Tritown were pleased to travel.

When Brother Elmer, 98 years old, joined the Dryden Lodge there were seventy-

two members. His friend Myron VanPelt took the Degrees with him. At that time the annual dues were \$20. Elmer was elected Worshipful Master in 1957, succeeding Woodrow Wood. Fellow officers were Paul Perkins as Treasurer and George Fellows, Secretary. Brother Elmer remembers the Brothers playing cards after meetings.

Worshipful Brother Elmer's dad Henry was also a seventy-year Mason. Henry joined a Lodge in Iowa and transferred membership to

Dryden about 1918. Elmer's older Brother Earl VanArkle joined the Lodge in Dryden in 1944 while Elmer was serving in World War II.

Brother VanArkle says the only successful money maker the Lodge put on in his day was the turkey dinner held in November at the Lodge room, which was over Trip's Gas Station on the corner in Dryden. The Lodge's formal donations were designated to the Brotherhood Fund or directly to Brothers in need.

Elmer's wife passed away

after many years of marriage and for thirty years he has been accompanied and supported by his "significant other" Bea Raponi. Bea, of course, is seated, right, in the photo. On the platform are RW Brad Perkins and W Mel Brown and WM Herb Gregory is on the level, all from Tritown. The honoree, Elmer VanArkle, shows off his apron.

Details submitted by W Ray Ink, Caroline Lodge. Brother Ray presented the framed seventy-year certificate.

This piece is taken from The Builder, the November 1921 issue.—Editor.

The Everlasting Necessity for Brotherhood

Had mankind from the day of the flood, steadily followed some of the lessons taught them by the industrious bees, had they associated themselves together in lodges, and taught and faithfully practiced Toleration, Charity and Friendship; had even those of the human race done so who have professed

Necessity for Brotherhood see page 2



ONONDAGA DISTRICT

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

DDGM



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Greetings, Brothers and Happy New Year! I hope your holiday season was relaxing and refreshing and you were able to spend quality time with friends and family.

As we head into 2022 we have a lot that has been laid before us on the Trestleboard. I promised in my December *word* article that I hoped January would bring some exciting announcements. The good news is that I am able to share at least one of those exciting plans with you now.

As many of you have heard by now, I have adopted the theme of "Putting the fun back in Masonry" for my tenure as DDGM. I have adopted this attitude in my own practice of Masonry. I do not feel that respect and reverence for the Craft and its work is at conflict with the idea that we should be having fun while doing it. As such, some of my efforts will be directed towards reinvigorating old events with a new flair. As COVID-19 still continues to rear its ugly head, planning for these types of events has been difficult, to say the least. That said, it is my express hope that we will be able to plan and continue to hold some of these events through the spring and summer months.

DDGM
see 3rd column

STAFF OFFICER



VW Rick Miori
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Happy New Year, Brethren! All of us on the Onondaga District Team wish you and your family a happy, healthy new year.

Entering into this new year, we have many education programs available to ensure a positive kickstart to further your Masonic knowledge. We invite you to inquire about our newly updated programs and how they are great for all Masons. You will absolutely learn more in each class and have a fun time doing so.

We have just finished our first Masonic Development Course (MDC) in quite some time. The next MDC is quickly filling up right now. This is the perfect time to reserve your spot on this list. It will start mid to late January. You are guaranteed to learn more about Masonic history, get a firsthand, in-depth meaning behind the three Degrees and discover specific hidden mysteries that are right before your eyes. The Masonic Development Course is designed for those currently working through each of the Degrees, those who have achieved the three Degrees or for Brothers who may want to take this course again as a refresher.

As we approach the month of March our focus will shift to the RTTE—Road To The East. This course is also open to all Master Masons. It includes specific materials for Lodge officers who have aspirations of some day becoming Master of the Lodge.

Our Official Visits are now underway. We look forward to seeing you at your Lodge. Feel free to contact me at any time.

Rick Miori

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



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No News Received

DDGM from 1st column . . .

At this time I am happy to announce that the District will be holding its first ever District-wide Table Lodge. While this in and of itself would be cause for excitement, we are taking it a step further. We are inviting spouses and hoping yours will join us for what will certainly be a most exciting event. For far too long our spouses have been invited only to events where we ask them to celebrate our achievements and pat us on the back. It's far past time we invite them to join in on the fun and enjoy Masonry in the same ways that we do. While we do not yet have a date on the books, we are actively engaged in the be-

hind the scenes planning to make this event a reality. We hope to have this event this coming spring if all goes well. More information will be forthcoming so please keep a lookout.

Over the coming months I plan to announce more exciting initiatives within the Onondaga District. I ask that as you hear of them you consider participating and joining with us as we try new things and create new memories. I look forward to smiling and laughing with all of you in the coming months. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me and I will do everything I can to assist you.

Daniel Campis

Event schedule, Jan '22

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

- Jan 1 New Year's Day
- Jan 3 LivSyr—Billiards
..... MornStar
- Jan 4 FayCC
..... OnStar
- Jan 5 Skaneateles—1°
- Jan 6 Auburn—OV/Homecoming
- Jan 7 KT25—Readthrough Order of Red Cross
- Jan 10 Homer—Annual
- Jan 12 PlattRAM—Special Planning
- Jan 15 MornStarOES
..... Caz—BBQ
..... Tully—Fundraiser
- Jan 17 MornStar—Templar History
- Jan 18 FayCC—Masonic Education
..... OnStar—(Weather Date)
- Jan 19 Skaneateles—1° Hist. Lecture
- Jan 20 Centerville
..... Auburn—Officer Mentoring
..... LivSyr—Walkabout
..... Konosioni—1°
- Jan 21 KT25—Rehearse Order of Red Cross
- Jan 26 Platt RAM—Table Chapter
- Jan 29 Crossroads U—2°

- Feb 1 OnStar
- Feb 3 Auburn—Peculiar Stone
- Feb 10 LkOntRAM—Install
- Feb 12 Osw MDC
- Feb 13 Jordan—BBQ
- Feb 15 OnStar—(Weather Date)
- Feb 17 GCollege of Rites

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Necessity for Brotherhood from page 1 . . .

the Christian faith, to what imaginable degrees of happiness and prosperity would they not have attained! to what extreme and now invisible heights of knowledge and wisdom would not the human intellect have soared! Had they but practiced Toleration alone, what a Garden of Eden would this earth be now! Blood enough has been spilled for opinion's sake, to fill the basin of an inland sea! Treasure enough has been expended and destroyed to have made the world a garden, covered it with a network of roads, canals and bridges, and made its every corner glorious with palaces; and the descendants of those who have been slain would have thickly peopled every continent and island of the globe.

The earliest of all lessons taught mankind was the necessity of association; for it was taught in unmistakable terms by his own feebleness and weakness. He is an enigma to himself.. Launched, blind and helpless, upon the great current of Time and Circumstance, he drifts, like a helpless vessel, onward to eternity a mere atom and mote of dust, clinging to infinity, and whirled along with the revolutions of the Universe. He knows nothing truly of himself and his fellows. His utmost effort never enables him to get a distinct idea of his own nature, or to understand in the least degree the phenomena of his mind. Even his senses are miracles to him. He remains feeble as a child. Between him and the future is let down a curtain, dark, palpable, impenetrable, like a thick cloud, through which he gropes his way and staggers onward. At every step Destiny meets him in some unexpected shape, foils his purpose, mocks at his calculation, changes the course of

his life, and forces him into new paths, as one leads a blind man by the hand; and he never knows at what unexpected moment the arm of Death will be thrust suddenly forth from behind the curtain and strike him a sharp and unerring blow.

The sudden shifting of a wind, a few cold drops of rain, an unseen stone lying in his path, the tooth of an unregarded serpent, a little globe of lead, the waving of a rag near to a shying horse, a spark of fire on a great boat of a dark night, upon a wide, deep river; all are to him Death's messengers, and overtake him with a peremptory fate. Stumbling over some object at every step, he needs constant sympathy and unremitting assistance. Fortune smiles today and frowns tomorrow. Blindness or palsy makes the strong man an infant; and misfortune, disaster and sad reverses trick him like gaunt hounds, lying in wait to seize him at a thousand turnings.

Unfortunately, the obvious truth that every man either actually needs, or will at some time need, the charitable assistance, or, at least, the friendship, the sympathy, the counsel, and the good will of others, like other truths, produced but small effect upon the early human mind. Pressed by the urgent necessities of the moment, by which alone, ordinarily, men's actions are governed, they did associate themselves with communities, and institute civil government, as often, perhaps, for purposes of aggression as of defense or other associations. We hear and know nothing for very many centuries, and then, except where the light of Masonic tradition reaches, dimly and obscurely only, as in the case of the Eleusinian Mysteries; whose purpose we can merely guess at from the faintest possible revelations, - hardly able to say more than their forms and ceremonies bore a faint resemblance to some used in our time-honored institution. It is highly probable that they had a philosophical and religious rather than a charitable object.—Albert Pike.

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Hello, Brothers. On November 27 we held a Masonic Funeral Service in our Lodge for Leroy Forbes. Leroy passed on September 6, 2020; his family delayed the service because of COVID. Lee Wiggins was officiant for the well-attended service.

VW Bob Tyrrell, W Bill Schuetz, Dauris Little and I traveled to Crossroads-United No. 93 on December 2. We were warmly welcomed and all of us were able to participate in their First Degree. It's good, visiting other Lodges, and I hope we'll have more opportunities to do that in the new year.

RW Bob Eustace Jr. reached a big milestone in Masonry. Please congratulate Bob when you see him, for achieving fifty years of loyal support and dedication to the Masonic Fraternity (see photo).

Our Official Visit was on December 6 (see other

photo). W Tim Hansen prepared a great meal. Then RW Dan Campis relayed the Grand Master's Message. He also shared with us his plans for the Onondaga District. Other leaders were RW Rick Miori, VW Tim Conover and VW Toby Shelley. Thanks go to the Masonic War Veterans who presented the Colors. The meeting went very well, after which we had a good group stick around for some fellowship.

Our Christmas Party was on December 20. There was dinner and musical entertainment.

We start the new year with a fellowship meeting (non-tiled). On January 3 we will of course have billiards available in the Lamb Lounge. We'll also have a couple of cornhole boards set up on the second floor. The plan is to get a 501 team together to challenge the District Team in the near future. Bring your "A" game.

Our next tiled meeting will be on January 20. RW Ralph Haney will conduct a Walkabout-the-Lodge, which was postponed from November. Grant Hamelin is also planning to present a short video. Happy New Year!

Rainer Grimme

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

WM Mark Knowlton
mkinthdrk@msn.com
SW John Bromka



Greetings, Brethren. Hopefully, your Christmas season has gone well and you were able to enjoy family and friends. The new year is upon us and with that, new events on the horizon.

I first would like to give a big thanks to the Right Worshipful Association for inviting me to their meeting on December 11. Meeting with other Masters and Secretaries throughout the District was an enlightening time. Our DDGM, RW Dan Campis, has some wonderful ideas about how to get us, as Masons, more involved, especially where our spouses are concerned. More on that will come as the new year creeps in.

Some things we are working on for January. January 3 will be our first meeting of 2022 and, hopefully, we'll be able to conduct it without masks. But we will follow whatever the state puts in place. On January 17 RW Bill Toth will be giving us a

short talk on his Knights Templar historical program. You won't want to miss that. We are also in talks to have a billiards night, possibly sometime in January, possibly once a week or every other week, at Lodges with a pool table. Morning Star is on that list.

We have two candidates who have taken their First Degree. We are working to get them their Second and Third, hopefully come February and March. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they endeavor to become Master Masons. The future of our organization is bright and with the continued support of you, my Brothers, we will make 2022 something to remember.

As always, should you need to reach me, my email is at the top. I am always available through that. I would like to leave you with this quote from Winston Churchill: "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts." We are courageous; we will continue.

Mark Knowlton

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

WM Mark Appleby

Happy New Year 2022 to you and your family! Another new year is before each of us—another opportunity to spread the cement of brotherly love.

January 4 will be our first meeting of the new year. A beef stew dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$10. Please contact Craig at 315/446-0625 or cobb3@verizon.net to make your reservation by Sunday, January 2. Get warmed up for the 2022 new year.

January 18 marks the celebration of Masonic Education. Please join us for some important updates on Masonic Education. A chicken and biscuit dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. before the meeting. This cost is also \$10. Please contact Craig at 315/446-0625 or cobb3@verizon.net to make your reservation by Sunday, January 16.

Remember our Brotherhood Fund. I'll see you in Lodge.

Mark Appleby

Nortrip 998 (ON)
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2nd & 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.
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Greetings, Brothers. I am not much on the hype of New Year. It always seems like a silly festival for the closing of another calendar year. Especially after the joy of Christmas has come to an end. Furthermore, Nortrip's calendar doesn't really change over until June. That being said, I am encouraged by what lies ahead for 2022, for our Lodge and for all New York Masons.

We ended in December with our annual meeting with the traditional oyster stew for refreshments. Earlier in the month we joined with Fayetteville-Central City in a Fellowcraft Degree. Many thanks go to all those who helped make that happen. Also, we enjoyed a lovely Christmas party hosted by Mark and Sharon Lafountain and delivered poinsettias to our widows.

This month we will first meet to lay out the Trestleboard for the next six months. We will outline the various officer stations and plan our 100th year anniversary celebration for Nortrip Lodge.

We also need to discuss and prepare for the Degrees for our candidates and Brothers in progress. Additionally, we will plan for those NorthStar program contacts we have been working with.

Our second meeting will be Nortrip's Official Visit. I've been privileged to hear some of what our District leaders have planned for us. All I can say is, you don't want to miss out. So come hear our District Deputy and officers on this important evening.

With the assistance of SW Todd Burns we are having a work day in January. With the Sleep in Heavenly Peace organization, we will be making beds for those in need.

It is with regret that I need to inform our members of the passing of Brother Paul Klock. We respectfully ex-

press our sympathies and condolences to Tammy and family.

There is a lot to do and prepare for in the upcoming months. Let's do it right, with the purpose and rewards of Masonry in mind. I look forward to seeing you in Lodge.
Kevin Ingalls

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116 E. Genesee St.
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1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.
315/637-6431

WM Garry E. Campbell
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Happy New Year, Brothers! I hope each and every one of you had a great holiday season and I wish you all the best in the upcoming year.

I want to thank our SD Andrew Blair and his team for getting all the new candidates investigated. Our first meeting of the new year will be to vote on all the new candidates and then we can begin our ritual work.

I also want to thank our JW Chris Rhea for putting on a most splendid St. John's Day holiday feast. It was great to get together, even though COVID is beginning to ramp up again. For now our business meetings and ritual work can remain as usual and in person; however, we will have to wear our masks again.

I had to rearrange some dates on the Trestleboard and I will be sharing that out, so please pay attention to your email. Our First Degree will be held on the third Thursday of January and I hope all that can make it will be in attendance.

I look forward to continuing our in-person Masonic work but in the meantime I ask that we make sacrifices to better serve the greater good of our health and safety within our community and Masonic Lodge. Please continue to wear masks where and when mandated.

If any Brother needs assistance or knows of a Brother in need please reach out to me. My home phone is 315/214-4435 and cell is 315/385-1170.

Garry E. Campbell



Liverpool's Bob Eustace shows off 50-year certificate.



Large contingent enjoys the Liverpool Syracuse Official Visit.

Editor's Prerogative

Watch your head, Chicken Little

Two years ago nobody had heard of Wuhan. Now, nobody remembers why, exactly, that was important. Two years ago most of us were enjoying a comfortable state of affairs in our personal life, notwithstanding the national argumentation, which was like a diversionary sporting event. We each had our team shirt and we relished the competition and we went home friends after the game because we had a life.

Today we sort of hate everybody. Because we have no life in isolation. It is not a game. We cannot even be spectators because the unassailable other side insists on dressing us in the enemy colors of the day.

Attitude is bad, reflecting the nonstop stoking of fear. What are we afraid of? Everything. Why? What happened to spirit?

The notion and practice of toleration is the biggest victim. Freedom? What's that? It's an Alice and Looking Glass world, it's power and control, and we have none. At ground level where we are there are constant consequences. In the other world, where our masters play, payback is rare. The All-seeing Eye searches the human heart and rewards us according to our merits. Implicit: metes out punishment for trespasses. We know there will be judgment but sometimes we would like to see it applied. It is probably a little sin to feel good when the tether begins to ravel and elite hubris comes undone. Nevertheless, we root for compeance; and we have witnessed a little of that.

In the meantime, we are still in hiding, doing avoidance because it is easier, maybe safer. It is amusing to think of finding *Dexter* a comforting place of retreat. More amusing to find the show's unending vulgarities adopted as approved speech in the home, my genteel wife sounding like an iron worker—or a Democrat Congresswoman. Not to disparage iron workers.

Maybe the flipping of the calendar will trigger a few of us to stand, and then bring more and more along. Is it not so that Freemasonry may be the basis for this change? Our regard for harmony and respect for other viewpoints can be the crucible that makes allies of strangers, that sets a foundation of confidence and assurance of a right outcome. Faith, hope and charity are pretty good watchwords. So's humor. Let's go, Brandon, indeed.

Stephen L. Zabriskie
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WM Toby Shelley,
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Greetings, All. As I write this our Holiday Party at Lasca's is a few days away. January finds us with the daylight finally getting longer and a new year beginning.

At our January 5 meeting we will be presenting the First Degree for two candidates. Dinner will be cooked by Brother Tyde Richards, starting at 6 p.m. We will open Lodge at 7 p.m. for business and start the Degree at 7:30 p.m.

For our January 19 meeting will have a 6:30 p.m. dinner cooked by Bill Toth. We will follow this with a 7:30 p.m. meeting and presentation of the First Degree Historical Lecture. I look forward to meeting everyone on the level.

Toby Shelley

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I would like to thank all the Brothers and Sisters who came out to the Christmas party. A good time was had by all. I hope that all of us had a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

We look forward to the new year with the Second Degree to be conferred on January 29. Start time is 8 a.m. It's very exciting to have four new Brothers coming up, Gentlemen, so please do whatever you can to make it there. We might even have a soup and sandwich to finish the day off.

We also need to remember the Brotherhood Fund. It is time, if we can, to contribute to the relief of all of our Brothers, their widows and orphans. Please contribute. You can mark your money to go to the youth groups. Both Triangle and DeMolay in our District will definitely appreciate your assistance.

We'd like to wish happy birthday to all those who have birthdays in the month of

January. I hope you continue to have good health and enjoy your new year.

If anybody needs a ride to Lodge please don't hesitate to give me a call. I'd be more than happy to give a ride or find someone who lives near you to bring you to Lodge.

It is important that we remember to reach out so that all of us know what's going on with each other. God bless. Have a good year.

Mark Heitmann

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WM Adam Novak,
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Secy Joe Maslak,
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Greetings, Brethren. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable and safe holiday season.

I am pleased to announce that in December we welcomed three new Master Masons into our Lodge. We were invited to participate in a joint Degree at Memorial Lodge and it was a wonderful experience for all involved.

One update of note: we have amended our by-laws and will now be dark from January to February. This change was made so we can remain open during the summer months to allow our winter bird Brothers the opportunity to attend more meetings. Our next regular scheduled meeting will be March 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Our super bowl chicken barbecue is still expected on February 13. So please keep a lookout for emails advertising and asking for volunteers to work.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me if anyone has questions, advice or suggestions. Please stay safe and healthy.

Adam Novak

Tully 896 (ON)
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2nd & 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.
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WM John Rapp,
315/569-5203,
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Greetings, Brethren, good morning! I hope that all is well with the brethren of Tully Lodge and elsewhere. The holiday season is upon us (whether we are ready or not). I'd like to extend holi-

day wishes and cheer to all Master Masons, their family and loved ones. May the new year shine with hope and prosperity for all.

We are planning some fundraisers, starting on January 15. I will keep everyone informed as planning progresses.

The roof project over the Western Portion of the Lodge has just been completed. No more leaks. We have also replaced a window or two in the upper lavatory. Stop by and check things out when you can. Painting and column repair will commence in the spring. We also replaced the snow cable on

the south roof to prevent ice damming there. The wood next to the south entrance has also been replaced, as it was rotting.

The P.E.A.C.E Inc. is currently using our fellowship hall for their annual Christmas Food Giveaway. They serve the poor and needy of the Southern Hills area with food at Christmas and clothing in the spring and fall, as well as help throughout the year.

Please contact me if you need anything or to just say, Hi. My door is always open. Get in touch by email at jrapp126@twcny.rr.com, or by phone: 315/569-5203.

John Rapp

Mentor from page 1 . . .

further widen our circle. In New York City many Lodges are organized by ethnic groups—Hispanic, German, French, Italian, etc. The same goes for Washington, DC: Filipino, Arab, etc. These Lodges work in their own languages and provide social gatherings for family and friends living in the area. Visiting is very enlightening and enjoyable.

In other countries (e.g., England) Lodges gather Brothers with similar hobbies or avocations. There are Lodges for car, motorcycle and boating enthusiasts. I have suggested using themes in our Lodges, such as fishing, hunting, canoeing, gun practices, etc., to help attract and keep members.

Another very strong reason for remaining is Ritual. We all look up to our ritual for learning about our Craft, Lodge officers' duties, Degree particulars and Freemasonry's many and excellent teachings, which help us become better men. Others are interested in ritual procedures and improvements. For them, Observant Lodges were created by the Grand Lodge.

Other men have an interest in investigating the origins and developments of Freemasonry, both in time and across different nations. For them, GL has Research Lodges in Buffalo and in NYC.

Other brethren like to explore social and public issues, from a non-partisan, non-political point of view. Freemasonry is a strong component of Civil Society, one that embraces important philosophical tenets (tolerance, brotherly love and devotion to Country). Such a position is part of our Service to Humanity. But these members do not have a space to meet and exchange views. Through *the word* they are able to raise some issues and bring them to the attention and consideration of other brethren.

At the start of this difficult year, some of us, concerned with the divisions in the country and the bitterness of the debates, started reading *The Federalist Papers*, written long ago and also during troubled times. We thought these could help lower the temperature of public discussion and contribute to heal and unite. The effort was misinterpreted by some who thought it was political. It was not!

I want to restart this effort by exploring issues that contribute to tempering the tone and bridging divisions. Our Tolerance and Brotherly Love should allow us to examine and question in harmony. Opening such meetings to our own communities may help give greater exposure to the Craft, increase its membership, and provide a badly needed public example of respectful discussion of civic issues.

Those interested in joining in this effort need to meet and plan what to do and how to go about it. In January I will send out Zoom links for short meetings every second and fourth Friday of each month, at 7 p.m., to work on planning. It would be helpful if the DDGM, and the leaders of the Appendant Bodies of the four Districts covered by *the word* would pass these links to their respective Lodge Masters. And it would be helpful if these contacts would make them available to their Lodge members.

By the time this issue of *the word* comes out we will have or will be celebrating New Year, the Festival of Lights, Hannukah, Christmas and other festivities. To all: health, happiness and peace in 2022!

Jorge L. Romeu

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



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



MWV Post No. 43

Masonic Brothers and Masonic War Veterans: Here you will see the Teddy Bear you can order to help raise money for GM Kessler's Charity. You can purchase one and have it mailed to you or check the box to have it sent to a VA Hospital patient. Some veterans don't have any family and would love to have something like this to cherish, just to know someone is thinking about them. It is all tax deductible, also.

Here is a picture of the pin, too, which you can purchase from DDGM Dan Campis at any time. Just contact him or see him at your Official Visit.

Please do what you can to help all veterans in New York suffering from PTSD. Check out the Onondaga District Facebook page to read more about it. The Battle Within is real.



If anyone has any connection to any parks where we could install benches, please contact me. The benches will be engraved with "Let's Talk." It is an attempt to get someone to open up, even to a complete stranger.

The number cited is twenty-two veterans each day who commit suicide in our country. These are active duty and those who served. An Air Force vet who was serving in England just gave in on December 8. Help us help them. Anyone who served can join. Email me for an application. If anyone needs to talk my phone is always on.

Brian Courtney
40thSPVet@gmail.com,
315/447-2104



GRAND LODGE OF NEW YORK

Teddy Bears for Veterans

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Lodge Name: _____ Lodge Number: _____

Grand Lodge #: _____

Number of Bears: _____ Total Amount: \$50.00(Each) _____

Please Ship the Bear to my address: Please Take the Bear to the VA Hospital:

Please return this form with your check, payable to: BROTHERHOOD FUND attn: Teddy Bears

GRAND LODGE OF NY
ATTN: Teddy Bears
71 West 23rd Street, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10010

Order of the Eastern Star from page 7 . . .

display. Each adult guest received a mug filled with candy as a party favor. The three youngsters in attendance received Christmas glasses, also filled with candy.

The menu for the occasion consisted of spaghetti and meatballs with salad, Italian bread, and desserts donated by the Sisters. Chef Salisbury, capably assisted by RW Chef Cynthia J. Sanders, Associate Matron, and RW Nancy J. Costello, Treasurer, dished up ample portions which were delivered to the guests by some of the younger set. Thanks go to the young ladies whose nimble feet ensured all were served promptly.

Sr. Mary Babbitt, Conductress, and her granddaughter Hailey Comstock took charge of the two raffles. Sincere gratitude is extended to them for overseeing this part of the celebration. RW Alan Wood won the 50/50 raffle and Sr. Christine Dennison took home the "whatchamacallit" basket.

As part of its community outreach, the Chapter sponsored a food drive for the Human Concerns Center in Oswego. The response was overwhelming (photo page 7), as food came in not only from the Sisters and Brothers but also from family and friends who attended the event.

Yours truly, acting as Mistress of Ceremonies, introduced visiting Masonic dignitaries RW Christopher Reis, District Deputy Grand Master, and E Ronald Bond, HP of Lake Ontario Chapter 125 RAM. RW Grant

DeLong, the Chapter's Associate Patron, was recognized for fifty years of membership in the Masonic Fraternity; Brother John Voetelink, Chapter Trustee, has forty years of membership. Both gentlemen belong to Hiram 136 in Fulton.

RW Erma Cota was congratulated and thanked for her two years as Grand Representative of Illinois. Darlene and William Woolson, friends of the Chapter, were recognized for their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary on December 17.

On behalf of the officers and members of Lake City Victoria Chapter, I wish you and yours a productive and happy new year. On a personal note, I urge everyone who has not yet been vaccinated against the COVID virus to do so. This pandemic has disrupted and disturbed our lives for almost two years. Getting vaccinated will not only preserve one's own life but also the lives of friends, neighbors, children, parents, colleagues and even strangers. Let us not be pleading at the end of 2022 for people to be inoculated against this deadly virus. Make getting vaccinated one of your New Year's resolutions—and keep it.

Natalie J. Woodall

Morning Star 289
Marcellus Masonic Temple

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. I hope this finds you all happy from the holidays and all in good health.

Sympathies of the Chapter are extended to the family of WRuthie Curtis. I have



Morning Star Installation

heard that RW Harold Lanning has not been well; and as always, please keep Sr. Shirley Hake and her husband Don in your prayers. Also, Sr. Nancy Fichter's family has been under the weather.

In my last article I sent the word out asking for help on how to keep our doors open. It was decided that instead of a regular stated meeting on January 22 we will host an Open House. We will start at 1 p.m. and dress will be business casual. Please plan on attending and bringing a friend. Our hope is to open our doors to the community to raise awareness and possibly get more members.

Some of the feedback rec-

ommended moving our meetings to Saturdays, permanently. This of course would have to be voted on, as our winter meetings are already once a month on Saturdays. I hope to see all of you at our Open House.

Check the District article for what's going on around town. Did you know the most common New Year's resolution is to get healthy? The second is to get organized and the third, to live life to its fullest. I'm not sure how I'm supposed to accomplish number three if I'm dealing with one and two. So I'll take number four: make new friends! See you at the Open House.

Mary Perry
Larry Spencer

Pulaski Puritan 159

Welcome, 2022! I just read the other day that in February you will see 2-22-2022. I wonder how many people will play that number in the lottery.

We've had our Christmas party and cookie exchange. Now I have to find things to write about in *the word* now that we're dark for the winter.

I haven't heard how much money Sister Charlotte raised for the food pantries through the memory tree. At last look she thought she did more than last year; that was more than \$4,000. Kudos go to that girl.

We have distributed all the pecan candies for the Oswego Dist. OES. Check

with your Chapter to see if they still have any to sell. I know Pulaski-Puritan Chapter has sold out.

I guess I don't have much to say so I'll end with a couple of silly things. Did you know that the dawn of a new year is an opportune time to take stock of your life? The practice of making New Year's resolutions, said to have begun with the Babylonians as early as 2600 B.C., is another way to reflect on the past and plan ahead. On New Year's Eve kiss the person you hope to keep kissing.

Now a word from an ol' angel. Give a woman an inch—and right away the whole family is on a diet.

We will talk again. Happy New Year to all!

Diane Manwaring

OSWEGO DISTRICT

DDGM REPORT

No News Received

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

WM Fred Dashnaw



Tidings, my Brothers. It's beginning to look a lot like the holiday season with the snow-covered ground. It adds a whole new feeling to the season. As much as it can bring great joy and happiness to many, it can also be a time of loneliness. Let us be ever mindful of the needs of others who may not have family and friends nearby. A call or visit could make a big difference.

Today is December 7, a time to remember all the souls lost on this date in 1941 at Pearl Harbor. There are few remaining of that greatest generation. We should ever remember and honor their sacrifice.

Your Lodge received the Grand Master's Address at our Official Visit of DDGM Chris Reis and Staff Officer John Pierce. Much information was shared by our new District leaders. A special thanks goes to Masonic War Vets Post 43 for posting the Colors. It really adds a lot to the evening. Also, a thank-you goes to Sister Cindy Betts for working with the Junior Warden on a great covered dish supper.

We conferred the Third Degree on Wednesday, December 15. It's a pleasure to have Brother Paul as a new Master Mason.

Your Lodge will go dark for January and February. We will resume labor on the third Wednesday in March. The plan is to meet for breakfast on the third Saturday of January and February, at the Lodge or local diner, to set up a spring/summer Trestleboard.

We hope the Great Architect watches over and blesses our Masonic family in the coming new year. I thank each of you for the help and support you have afforded me this past year. Happy New Year! I hope to see you on the level.

Fred Dashnaw

Past Grand Master Carl J. Fitje Sponsor



STAFF OFFICER



John Pierce
Central Square 622
585/610-8772
jpierce13076@gmail.com

Happy New Year, Brethren! I hope you all enjoyed the holidays with family and friends.

It is time to start a fresh new year in the quarries and I want to remind all of you about the training opportunities that are available to you.

The LSOME Program is to be presented to new Brothers after each Degree. I am asking each Lodge to designate a mentor or mentors to make sure every member has an opportunity to view this program.

In addition to LSOME, this is the perfect opportunity to discuss Masonic Etiquette. If you need any information about the program or need assistance, please let me know. I am always willing to give you a hand with it.

The MDC is an excellent program for all Brothers, especially newly Raised Brothers. I plan to host the MDC on February 12 at Central Square Lodge starting at 8 a.m. I will be sending out an email to all Masters and Lodge Secretaries to get a count of potential participants. In the meantime, if you would like to attend this training please send me a quick text or email so I can send you the required information.

The Master's Chair and the Road to the East is another directed program. I plan to start these courses in the spring. Stay tuned for details.

Lastly, I can't forget to mention we have the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Library reading program. They now have eBooks and audio books available. I personally have enrolled in this program. It is very simple to enroll; you can find the info on the GrandLodge website.

Be well, Brethren. Stay in touch. John Pierce

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



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

AGL Bob Boutell
No News Received

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

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



Greetings, Brethren! It is a new year and a time for new beginnings. The Sun has moved into Capricorn and austere Saturn is the ruling force, bringing solidarity and form through contraction and elimination. Delivering its lessons of time and experience, it upholds the traditions of the past—something we must remember even as we embark on our new year.

Last month we celebrated the holidays, joining with our Sisters of the Eastern Star for a party. All attending had a great time.

We also celebrated the Raising of a number of Fellowcraft across the District to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. This was an effort that went not only District-wide but also into the next District. Thanks go out to all who attended and took part.

This month we will move ahead into a new Trestleboard. But as we have yet to discuss that (our December meeting has not taken place as I write this), just mark off the usual second and fourth Tuesdays as always for Lodge.

We know that the George Washington Banquet is coming up in late February on a Saturday and that our District Deputy will have his Homecoming on the second meeting in April. So mark off your calendar and plan accordingly.

The new year brings us face to face with a starting point—a new beginning. Why not make this year the year you buckle down and really drive home the tenets of Freemasonry?

RW John Fuller, past SGW and District Leader of our Purple Club, has said he knew a Brother who used to repeat one of the obligations or charges as his retiring prayer, just before bed. Let us all do the same. Or, you could choose from one of the presentations at any of

the Degrees that you wish to master: the Working Tools, Apron or Bible Presentation, even the passages from the Bible that mark the Degrees. This way you have a daily connection to your work of subduing your animalistic nature, your compulsions, base desires, and rising above; to put your intellect and enlightenment first, and not to yield to being driven and controlled by emotions and passions. Seek, instead, to promote Light and Truth, to use rationale to subdue the lower self. You will be surprised what a difference such a regimen can make, how soon we find ourselves so much more in control in our daily lives. And, after all, isn't this what we pledged ourselves to? To become more than mere men. To bring forward in us that which is of God!

Look deeply into your hearts, dear Brothers, delve deeply into your minds. This is a time to begin again, a chance to start over, a new year, a reason to strive harder, do better, climb higher, to reach those heights intimated in our promise as Master Masons.

Again I present for your edification and inspiration a marvelous quote by a Worthy Brother Master Mason: "Patriotism means to

stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official, save exactly to the degree in which he himself stands by the country. It is patriotic to support him insofar as he efficiently serves the country. It is unpatriotic not to oppose him to the exact extent that by inefficiency or otherwise he fails in his duty to stand by the country. In either event, it is unpatriotic not to tell the truth, whether about the president or anyone else."—Brother Theodore Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States.

James Rizzo

SCRIBA 414
1416 St. Rt. 49
Constantia, N.Y. 13044
2nd & 4th Mon., 7:30 p.m.

WM Bryan Morse
315/414-9547,
bmorse90@gmail.com



Brethren, when you receive this I hope you are reflecting on the laughs and good times you had spending Christmas with your family and loved ones and planning on how you are going to start the new year. We are now dark until the second Monday in March; but please keep checking your email

boxes as I'm sure we will be getting together as a group to travel to other Lodges or practice our ritual. I hope that when spring comes all of you can find ways to come back to the quarry. The past few years have been very difficult for all of us to get back into the swing of coming to Lodge; the sight of spring and new growth can spark that interest in you.

January is a busy birthday month and the officers and Brothers of the Lodge would like to wish a happy birthday to Brother Donald Coe, Wayne Confer, Gregory Gagen, Edward Hodge, Scott Ingerham, Roland Whigham and William Whittaker. Happy Birthday, Brothers!

Brothers to keep in your thoughts and prayers include Brother Donald Lord, currently at the MCC. He was fighting with a bout of pneumonia around Thanksgiving and is doing better now. Brother Jim Lemm and his wife are recovering from COVID. Sister Rosalyn House lost her sisters Roberta and Rita. Brother Leonard Hass has a few family members who are recovering from COVID. Brethren, please keep all of them in your prayers. And for you, I wish safe travels, Brothers.

Shawn Tuff

Order of the Eastern Star from page 12 . . .

hair follicle is a tiny fan-shaped muscle called arrector pili. These muscles contract when the body is cold in an effort to warm up the body and this causes a person's hair to stand up straight on their skin. This gives the appearance of the condition known as "goosebumps." See you in Chapter.

Cathy Barling

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

Brothers and Sisters, January is a fun and exciting new month with new opportunities for fellowship and celebration. I am looking forward to seeing what this year brings.

This past December we held a chicken and biscuit

dinner, which was greatly successful. We are excited to announce that we will be continuing those dinners in the new year with the take-out service.

We also had a meeting on December 9 with a soup dinner and a cookie exchange. The holidays were in the air and the members truly enjoyed themselves.

This coming year we look forward to having an Initiation, which will be determined at a later date, as well as more member dinners to increase morale. For the winter months of January, February and March we will be having a single meeting on the second Thursday of the month, due to weather concerns. We look forward to seeing our members there and urge you to look forward to more upcoming event dates.

Annie Urban

Onondaga Star 144 Masonic Memorial Center

Hopefully, everyone had a safe, healthy and happy holiday season. As usual, Mother Nature could not decide if it was going to snow, rain or be mild.

At the December 7 meeting the members voted to hold only one meeting during the months of January and February 2022. We will meet on January 4. If that has to be canceled the Chapter will meet on January 18.

We will meet on February 1. February 15 will be the backup date if the February 1 meeting has to be canceled. Please contact the Worthy Patron or the Secretary or me if you have any questions.

Nancy Weisbeck
Joe Stevens

OES
see page 7



Three generations of Bona Fide Matrons with WP Al Tefoe: W Annie Urban, RW Marilyn Decker and RW Jeannine Parks.

CORTLAND-MADISON DISTRICT

DDGM REPORT

Wade A Caler
hipper62@yahoo.com
607/423-2669

No News Received

MARATHON 438

28 Main St.
Marathon, NY 13803
1st & 3rd Monday,
7:30 p.m.

WM Vincenzo Aiello

Good evening, Brothers. As Secretary I have the privilege to get the news in for Marathon again. This last month has been very busy for Marathon 0438. The roof job did get started and is nearly completed. They should finish the small stuff in a couple days. This should be good for another twenty years. Thanks go to the boys from Weathermaster.

Last month I reported that the Lodge Brothers had an open night to inform Brothers and possible future Brothers of all the great things that Marathon Lodge and the Fraternity in general have to offer. I am happy to report we had a Brother come back, and we have a petitioner to interview. This is great for us and the Fraternity.

We continue to hold a light meal before each regular meeting. This makes it easier for some Brothers to

More Marathon
see 6th column

STAFF OFFICER'S REPORT

RW Richard G. Reed

Happy New Year, my Brothers! We have made it to 2022 and we give thanks to the Great Architect of the Universe for Mercy, Strength and Care. And even as we continue to struggle with the Coronavirus and the rollercoaster ride of this pandemic, we rejoice that we are able to meet together in our Lodges and together seek the light that comes to us from above.

Our brotherly love and affection binds us together, even when we experience differences in our religious, political and social practices, thoughts and opinions. Our Grand Master Kessler has called to our attention that Masonry stands in a position to bring men of good character together, even in the midst of the deep divisions that would pull us further apart. But for that to happen, each of us bears responsibility.

When I first became a Mason, we Brothers in the Cortland-Madison District traveled. We made opportunities to get together. We each took responsibility to make our Masonic experience something that we were excited and proud about. And even as we face new mask

More Staff Officer
see 4th column

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS

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

VW Walter J. Boronow
walterisagenius@aol.com
315/750-5985

Brethren all, this an opportunity I have long sought—or, for a month or two. As I tell Brothers throughout the District, the AGL job is the one to have.

Recently there was a Third Degree in the District. Despite some unforeseen hiccups, the Degree was a great job. The Master did an excellent job putting together the Degree team and it showed. Many of the participants, either Brothers on the sidelines or actual Degree team members, came from other Lodges. Most of the time we all find the need to borrow a Brother.

We are fortunate to have Degrees going on in our District. At least four of the Lodges are doing or are going to be doing Degrees in the next several months. As I said, it's a great time to be an AGL.

Brothers, if I might suggest: please pick up your ritual (hopefully, it is the newest edition) and read through it. You may discover some words of wisdom that catch your attention or find a particular part of ritual you might like to do. Take that to the Master and ask if he might let you do it. Sometimes a

More AGL
see 5th column

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

WM Kim C. Dellow

Brethren, we wish you a happy holiday and hope everything is well with you and your family. Our next meeting is January 10, 2022. This will be our annual meeting, with a meal at 6:30 and meeting to follow.

For the February meeting we will be having our own RW Richard Reed doing an education program. Let's have a great turnout. Stay safe. I'll see you in Lodge.

Kim Dellow

Staff Officer from 2nd column . . .

mandates and surges in illness from the pandemic we can make this our experience again.

Our District Team invites you, our Brothers, to attend the Official Visits, the special programs and even the regular Lodge nights within

our District and in our separate Lodges. We urge you to travel within the District and even to Lodges outside the District. Perhaps you have been absent from your own home Lodge. The new year is a great time to resolve to attend Lodge meetings and forge new and deeper relationships with your Brothers.

The fellowship and brotherly love at the recent Degrees has been warm and vibrant. I look forward to what the new year will bring.

Richard G. Reed

AGL from 3rd column . . .

section may be expanded on with help from the Grand Library. Contact your Staff Officer to help you find that extra material.

I want to give a special thank-you to VW Walt. He has been a great addition to our team. He is always working on Masonic "stuff," as he says. Walt has done a lot of traveling, both in our Dis-

trict and other Districts.

Brethren, in closing let me say it is our ritual that sets us apart from most of the other groups out in the world. We strive to do our best or to improve over time. That's all any of us can do. Enjoy the ritual.

David Walter
Walter Boronow

Marathon from 1st column . . .

get to Lodge. As it was back in the days of old when we traveled by the carful to other Lodges, a lot of Masonry happens around the dinner plate that doesn't always happen at the meeting.

One last thing to acknowledge: Congratulate Marathon OES, as Monday, December 13 was their installation of officers. We send them best wishes for a successful 2022. And Marathon Lodge wishes all: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

David Walter

Order of the Eastern Star from page 6 . . .

Lake City Victoria 205
Lake City Lodge No. 127
Oswego

RW Natalie J. Woodall, Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers, I write this column on a sunny Sunday morning after a huge windstorm tore through the area—the same one which devastated part of Kentucky. As we progress through the holiday season, let us find ways to assist the victims whose coming days

will be neither merry nor bright.

Lake City Victoria Chapter has gone dark until March but that does not mean the work has been discontinued. On December 4 we served a roast beef dinner to members of the Red Cross of Constantine. Our chef and Worthy Matron, RW Carla J. Salisbury, received rave reviews for her mastery of the culinary arts.

Approximately forty Sisters, Brothers and friends gathered at Lake City Lodge on December 11 for a party. The dining room was resplendent with red table cloths, gold and red miniature Christmas trees, surrounded by various types of decorations. A large Christmas tree laden with lights and more ornaments was on

OES
see page 5



RW Carla Salisbury, Worthy Matron, views the many food items donated by guests at Lake City Victoria Chapter's Christmas party on December 11. Cereal, vegetables, pasta, soup and other staples were collected for distribution at the Human Concerns Center in Oswego. Photo by Natalie J. Woodall



Onondaga Star Installation

CAYUGA-TOMPKINS DISTRICT

DDGM REPORT



RW Anthony J. Tabone
thats1happitooth@verizon.net

Brethren, with eager anticipation, most of us are becoming enveloped in the sights and sounds of this time of year. Today, a cup of warm cider is particularly satisfying as a light snow falls from the skies and multi-colored bulbs twinkle from the newly powdered evergreens. To use a song title apropos of the season, "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas."

At least Masonically, December is traditionally a quiet month, with official Lodge proceedings slowing down and Brothers taking time to anticipate the celebration with their families of the holidays that are very soon to come. My hope for all is that you, likewise, are able to take the time to enjoy some of the things we tend to take for granted or neglect during the rest of the busy year: the love of family and friends, a breather, a reset, camaraderie, Brotherly Love with and for your fellowman.

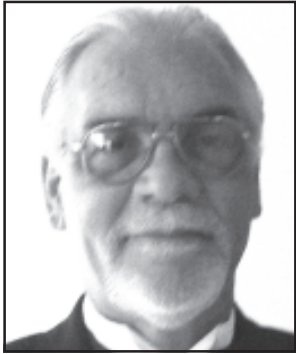
At the District level there is still much to be done, as December also brings Official Visits scheduled for Erie Canal, Warren Salem Town, King Hiram and Cayuga Lodges. The Grand Master's message continues to be well received, with particular interest being paid to his project, The Battle Within. In every Lodge where the District team and I have travelled, a similar enthusiasm is encountered and an unanimous "What can we do?" attitude follows. Our response is unchanging: "Whatever needs to be done."

We encourage you to continue to get this important message out to your fellow Brothers and your communities at large by any means you see fit. Only by being as proactive as we possibly can will we succeed in this mission we are tasked with. Some other Brothers and I have entered into negotiations with municipal leaders in Auburn to get out the message. I hope to report back in a few months with some positive and concrete steps forward; so, more to follow.

As we enter this most joyous time of year let us not forget our call to Charity. Remember that amongst the aroma-filled kitchens and the

DDGM
see 2nd column

STAFF OFFICER



RW David A. Barnello
Grand Director of Ceremonies
dabbcr@aol.com
315/283-6705

Greetings and Happy New Year to all! I hope your holiday season was joyful and you got to spend some quality time with family.

Personally, 2021 is in the books as my least favorite year. That's on the heels of my former least favorite: 2020, the Lost Year. With several quarantines, restriction confusion, COVID-related family and friend exposures and deaths, multiple vaccinations, Delta variant and the rest of it, I'm hoping for a brighter 2022.

On the Masonic side of life, RW Tabone and I will be wrapping up the Official Visits soon. So far, we have been blessed with clear sailing on the roads and we have surely been fed well. I'm definitely going to need to hit the gym after all the visits.

I am looking at setting up Masonic Development Course sessions for later in January once the current Degree cycle winds down. Look for details on dates and information coming your way in the next couple of weeks. Until then, I hope to see you soon, in or out of Lodge. Stay safe and do good things.

Dave Barnello

DDGM from 1st column . . .

children singing Christmas carols there is still the desperate need; and remember the satisfaction we receive from fulfilling our obligation to share what Divine Providence has provided us. Sadly, this time of year is not filled with joy for everyone. I want to encourage each of you to lend a hand or an ear in behalf of the destitute, downtrodden and oppressed among us, neighbor as well as Brother.

Please continue to pray for the members of our Armed Forces as they engage themselves tirelessly in their service to each of us. Above all, let us rejoice with Faith, Love and Charity and share that joy with all whom we might encounter. May you have a very happy Christmas and prosperous new year.

Anthony J. Tabone

ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURER

Jeffrey Lampman Jr.,
315/406-8050,
jefflamppost@gmail.com
Anthony Vaughan,
607/351-6872,
aqvaughan56@hotmail.com

No News Received

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, December moved right along with crazy weather and good times. December 2 was a regular meeting where we firmed up plans for our December 4 Hiram Legend, which went off without a hitch. We had our annual Christmas Party at Lodge this year, on December 5, which was well accepted, with a decent attendance. Many thanks go to Paula Ostrander and Kristin Sheppard for the Lodge decorations. We went back to casual this year and it was well received. Great food was prepared by Luke Zsabo: beef pot pies, roasted potatoes, roasted chicken, candied brussels sprouts, salad, meat and cheese tray and apple cobbler—all for \$40 per couple or \$25 single. You can't beat that!

There was no meeting on December 16, to celebrate Christmas. January 6 is our DDGM Official Visit with our own RW Tony Tabone bringing the Grand Master's Message. Dinner at 6:30 is homemade eggplant parmesan, from Paula O, and more surprises. Reservations must be made with me by December 31, please. January 20 will be a regular meeting with an Officer Mentoring Program.

We are currently working with three candidates who have completed the Guarding the West Gate Program, so 2022 is looking good already. If any Brother knows a prospective candidate, please get in touch with me.

Looking ahead to February 3, the program is the Peculiar Stone. The February 17 program will look at the Grand College of Rites. And in March this year we are having March Madness Night at Lodge, now that we are WIFI ready.

That's it for now: short and sweet. Take care, God bless. I hope to see you in the Lodge.

Tommy Ostrander

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

WM Steve Yaple,
607/351-3616,
syaple@newfieldschools.org
Secy Tom Szebenyi

Hello, Brothers. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and that your new year is off to a great start.

As I compose this month's article, the Lodge has been very busy. In De-

ember we had our Official Visit, where we had a dinner before the meeting. It was really nice to be together with Brothers and enjoy a meal. The Lodge also put on our Christmas party, which we haven't been able to do in the last couple of years. The turnout was great with over thirty Brothers and guests.

We have been working toward getting the Degrees done for our four new members. It feels great to be doing Degrees again and it's nice to see new Brothers coming on board.

Brother Tom Szebenyi has sent out notification and your annual dues are now due. If you have any questions about how much they are or if you didn't get your notification from Tom you can contact me and I will forward the information or contact Tom directly. There was also a letter in the packet about supporting the Brotherhood Fund and I hope everyone will join in and help support this great charity.

As always, if you are aware of any Brother in need of support or if you are in need please let me know. We all need to think back to when we joined this brotherhood and the obligations that we took. If you can, reach out and help someone. I have found the return that I get from being there for others is the greatest payment of all.

If you'd like to attend meetings but need a ride, please let me know. We'd love to see you at a meeting or gettogether.

Mike McLaughlin

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

WM Tim Carmon
with Kelly

Last night we had our Official Visit. The evening started with an outstanding



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pork roast dinner provided by Brother Steve Hunter. After dinner DDGM Anthony Tabone met with our Master, Secretary and Treasurer to review all the requisite documents for the Official Visit.

Lodge opened and we were joined by DDGM RW Tony J. Tabone, Grand Director of Ceremonies RW Dave A. Barnello, and RW Steve Howard from the Auburn Lodge. After introductions and Grand Honors, RW Dave gave a compelling talk about the importance of Masonic education, the need for officers and new members to attend these opportunities, and membership.

DDGM Tony brought the message from Grand Master Richard Kessler. Particular emphasis was given to The Battle Within Foundation and taking back Memorial Day. We have two Brothers working with the American Legion Post 1107 to resurrect our annual Memorial Day Parade. Additionally, we have at least five Brothers active in the Legion serving in Honor Guard for Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and funerals. This was one of the best Official Visits. The presentations generated much conversation amongst the Brothers regarding Masonic opportunities.

At the end of December we had Clinton Clark Night. The night is named for W Clinton Clark and commemorates his outstanding contributions to the Brotherhood Fund and other Masonic activities.

Say "Happy Birthday" to these Brothers. Brother Len

Defendorf has a January 10 date and Brother David Schenck is January 27. Of special note, on December 30 RW Kenneth Pollard turned 90 years old.

If you have not paid your dues or submitted your contribution to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund, this would be a good time. Happy New Year to you and your family.

Warren Albrecht

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

Brothers, I'm not sure about everyone else but October, November and, so far, December are flying by. December 2 was our DDGM Official Visit with RW Tony Tabone providing us with the Grand Master's Message. I thank you, Brothers, for coming out. I saw some faces I haven't seen in a while.

On December 4 the Hiram Legend drama went great. Thanks go to Auburn Lodge for hosting us and our now fully Raised Master Mason Brother Rory Heath. We didn't have a tiled meeting on December 16 but instead had a fellowship night.

Remember that as always, the second Sunday of the month—from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.—we have pancake breakfasts. From Erie Canal Lodge No. 141 to all of you Brothers, we hope you have yourselves a happy and safe holiday season.

Robin Fragoman

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



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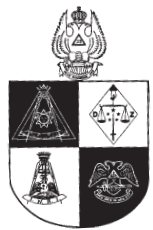


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648 Centerville Pl., N. Syr., NY 13212
(315) 452-7976 • Fax (315) 452-9679

Consistory

Happy New Year! That 2021 is behind us and 2022 is full of promise for an active Masonic Year in the Valley of Syracuse, AASR. Membership in Scottish Rite Freemasonry has never been easier. The Rite on The Road program can be presented in any Master Mason Lodge in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction. A team of Scottish Rite Brothers can open the Lodge of Perfection in your Lodge and present the Fourth Degree to any Master Masons that want to join our ranks. Just contact the Valley office at 315/452-7976 for more information.

January 24 will be the Spring Membership Night and Ladies are invited. Master Masons and their Ladies will be the guests of the Valley. Social time is at 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the program will start at 7:30. If you know a Master Mason who is interested in joining Scottish Rite, invite him to attend any of our events that are open for guests.

Dates are being scheduled for our future Family Life programs by 1st Lt. Commander, Ill. Earl Tuttle, 33°. These events will fall under his leadership as Commander In Chief as of May 23. Keep your schedules open for the ball game with the Syracuse Mets and enjoy the fireworks show after the game. We have received petitions for membership at several of our Family Life events.

Save this date: February 27. It is the Reception and Dinner for Ill. Richard J. Powell, 33° Active Member of Supreme Council. Details will follow.

We are all encouraged to promote Scottish Rite programs for our respective Lodges to help provide interesting programs for their Trestleboard. If you have a Lodge Master who wishes to plan a presentation, contact the Valley Office and we will send out a team to put on a program of interest.

If you need any assistance or are struggling, let us know. We are here for you. Our obligation demands that we help and care for one another.

Lawrence W. Egnaczyk

Lodge of Perfection

Princes: January brings the wonderful prospects of a brand-new year. It is time for reflections on our past few years and hopes and dreams for a better tomorrow. With that in mind, I reflect on our obligations as a Freemason—to be better men for ourselves, family and community. The last few years have shown the world in a very turbulent time. Through its course, along with bring-

ing deathly sickness, the pandemic has isolated us, divided us, infuriated us and changed our ability to socialize with one another. The way we educate our young has drastically changed. There have been riots in our streets and strong division in our political system. In our lifetimes there has never been a greater need for Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, a greater need for Freemasonry to spread its beneficent influence on all mankind. My beloved Brethren, let us all go into this new year with refreshed vigor to live up to our Masonic values and do our part in shedding light upon the world.

In the spirit of that refreshed vigor, your Valley has two exciting programs scheduled for the month of January. The first is the Robert Burns Supper at Coleman's Restaurant on January 22. Although closely associated with the Knights of St. Andrew, this is a public event and is open to all Masons and friends. It is a truly spectacular event and spreads light on how diverse and fun Masonry can be. Just two days later, on the 24th, is our Spring Membership Night with our ladies and guests. Consider coming out and enjoying a great dinner and program. Invite a Brother Mason who has expressed interest in the Scottish Rite.

In closing, here is one example of a New York Mason who shed his light upon the world. On January 2, 1901, U.S. President-to-be Theodore Roosevelt received his First Degree in Matinecock Lodge No. 806, Oyster Bay, New York. He was Vice President of the United States when he joined. Brother Roosevelt continued on to make an impact upon the world and our Fraternity. Over the course of his life he was an active and proud Mason, visiting Lodges in Africa, Europe and South America and regularly attending Masonic events throughout his two-term presidency. He assisted in laying the cornerstone of the Pilgrim Memorial Monument in

Provincetown, MA. He broke ground for the Spokane, WA, Masonic Temple. He also laid the cornerstone at the north gate of Yellowstone Park.

Terry A. Byard
Council Princes

Greetings, Sovereign Princes. Well, a new year is here. Let's hope this year we can have more together as Brothers.

Speaking of the new year, this would be a good time to make a concentrated effort to include more of the new members in everything we do. There are plenty of newer members who would love to

help with events, offer ideas or take part in Degrees—such as our upcoming Fifteenth Degree. The Valley cannot thrive if a small group of dedicated members are the only ones participating in our activities.

Long-time members are encouraged to reach out to newer members and newer members are encouraged to reach out to the Office to let them know how you are willing to help. The next few months are very busy in the Valley and the more participation we have from more members, the better.

Members are also encouraged to travel safely to other Valleys to see Degrees. Car pools are a great bonding experience.

Stay safe, everybody. God bless you all, Freemasons, our military and this great country.

James McNeal

Rose Croix

Greetings, Knights. I would like to commend the Eighteenth Degree cast members, sound and stage crews on an outstanding performance in November. The Degree was more meaningful to me as a Degree director. I could follow each section and visualize the characters in their parts and come away with the core virtues.

I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year. I am excited to see all the other Degrees that will be performed.

In February we will be having a dinner for the ladies. The details will be coming to you in the mail.

Richard E. Barrett

Notes from the Children's Dyslexia Center CNY

Where has the time gone? Here we are just two short weeks from Christmas Break and the start of the new year.

Last week we hosted Cindy Allen-Fuss, Associate Director of Clinical Affairs, for our tri-annual Center Visit/Review. We enjoyed the day as Cindy observed two of our tutors and reviewed our files. She was suitably impressed with our Center facilities and our training program, so kudos goes to the staff and to you for all the support which allows this to happen.

Lucas is one of the children Cindy observed. Lucas began his tutoring in January of 2021 (filling an opening caused by a withdrawal). He had a lot of anxiety and struggled throughout his time here in the spring. Upon return this fall, Lucas was much more settled and focused, working hard during his sessions. He was a bit intimidated by Cindy observing his lesson; but his tutor was able to bring him back and complete the lesson. It was a great job by the tutor and by Lucas.

We are still planning our GALA Celebration and fundraiser for March 12 at Hart's Hill Inn in Whitesboro. The Family Fun Celebration will include food, games, music and dancing—something for ev-

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Website: www.syr-aasr.org

January 2022

Jan 3 Executive Committee Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Jan 10 Confer 15° "Knight of the East" 7:30 p.m. Live Degree Presentation; Refreshments to follow.

Jan 22 (Sat.) Knights of St. Andrew Burns Supper @ Coleman's Restaurant, 5:00 p.m. (Reservations required)

Jan 24 Spring Membership Night w/Ladies; Social 6:00 p.m./Dinner 6:30 p.m./Program 7:30 p.m.

February

Feb 7 Trustees Zoom Meeting 6:30 p.m./ Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Feb 14 Caregiver's Event with the Ladies; Social 6:00 p.m./Dinner 6:30 p.m./Program 7:30 p.m.

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. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander; Ill. Mark C. Roth, 33°, Grand Lieutenant Commander; Ill. Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Grand Minister of State; Ill. G. Michael Morris, 33°, Deputy for New York State.

ACTIVE MEMBERS FOR NEW YORK—Ill. Steven C. Stefanakos, 33°; Ill. David E. Barnes, 33°; Ill. Richard J. Powell, 33°; Ill. John R. Patterson, Jr., 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; Ill. David P. Spencer, 33°, Past Deputy for New York State

DEPUTY'S REPRESENTATIVE—Ill. Robert M. Tyrrell, 33°

erybody. We also plan to have our exciting Basket Raffle. We hope you will join us for an evening of fun and fellowship and suggest you get your reservations in early.

Also in the works will be the Recognition Ceremony, scheduled for June 14. It makes such a difference to recognize our children and tutors in a special way. Last year the Ceremony was limited to families, tutors and the Board. We will let you know what can happen this year as we get closer to the date.

I cannot tell you how much we appreciate continued support, whether in body or donations. Our wait list is still two years out and we receive an average of one to two applications weekly. We are hoping to offer a Practitioner 2 (Advanced) class this coming academic year, as well as the Practitioner 1, (Scholar) level. Please be aware that we are always looking for qualified people interested in the annual training course. Having new scholars allows us to bring in more children. We want to keep training more people, as many of our certified trainees are working in schools and some are also taking on children privately. Your support reaches many, many families in many ways.

Blessings to all. To all: Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Linda L. Martin

Burns Supper is Back

The Knights of St. Andrew will be holding their 2022 Burns Supper on Saturday, January 22 at Coleman's Irish Pub at 100 South Lowell Avenue, Syracuse. Social time begins at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be buffet style and the cost will be \$45 per person. Wives and significant others and guests are invited.

This event is open to all but seating is limited to 65 this year, so make your reservations now. We will be downstairs behind the bar rather than upstairs. Make



Central City Consistory Egnaczyk

Central City Chapter of Rose Croix Barrett

Central City Council Princes of Jerusalem McNeal

Central City Lodge of Perfection Byard

your check out to the Knights of St. Andrew and mail it to Richard Powell, 4717 Broad Road, Syracuse, NY 13215. Be sure to write "Burns Supper" in the memo area of your check. Final cutoff is January 8.

Thursday Night at the Rite

The Thursday Night at the Rite program presents video Degrees, which will resume on Thursday, February 17. The Degree showings are every two weeks. Planned dates are March 3, March 17, March 31 and continuing through April.

The schedule for the Degree or Degrees for each week was announced on December 15. Email reminders will come from the office. If you have any questions regarding the schedule please phone 315/452-7976 or email adminny017@twcny.rr.com or ny017@twcny.rr.com.

James D. Swan, Jr.

Valley issues invitation

To: Masonic Lodges and Master Masons

What: Scottish Rite Degree program to confer the 4° "Builder." This first Scottish Rite Degree begins a Master Mason's journey to become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason.

Where: At a Masonic Lodge building in your community.

When: At a convenient time selected by your Lodge.

A Membership Team representative from Central City Bodies, AASR, Valley of

Syracuse will contact your Lodge. Or, you may contact the Valley Office for more information. Phone 315/452-7976 or email ny017@twcny.rr.com.

Abbott and CoD Scholarship Applications Available

Applications for the 2022-2023 Supreme Council, AASR Leon M. Abbott Scholarship and New York State Council of Deliberation Scholarship Aid are available for pickup at the Valley of Syracuse Office. Call 315/452-7976 to request one be mailed to you. Applicants may also go to the Valley of Syracuse Website www.syr-aasr.org to obtain the information online. Look for the "2022 Leon M. Abbott Scholarship Application."

The deadline to submit your completed applications to the Valley of Syracuse is close of business on Monday, April 4. The program is for graduating High School Seniors and members of our Youth Groups: Triangle, Rainbow and DeMolay. Also eligible are students who complete the program at the Children's Dyslexia Centers in New York State.

The Valley of Syracuse had eight successful applicants for the 2021-2022 scholastic year. Congratulations and best wishes go to them. Reach the Office at the above contact points if you have questions or require assistance.

YORK RITE BODIES



12th Capitular District RAM

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

Happy New Year, Companions! And congratulations go to the new High Priests and other officers for the Chapters of the 12th Capitular District. With every new year come new hopes and dreams for something better. I hope each of you, your families and Chapters can achieve those things in 2022.

Here is a reminder to Chapter leaders: If you have not already done so, please get your year-end reports mailed to Grand Chapter, with a copy emailed to me, as soon as possible. That copy to the DDGHP often gets forgotten. Please remember to send me a copy.

With new officers in place and a new year to plan, this is a great time to be reviewing and rehearsing the opening and closing of Chapter. Give our AGL, VE Jim Nelson, a shout-out for assistance.

It has been some time since any Chapter was seeking education. Companion Bob Tyrrell is available and waiting to hear from you.

Grand Chapter will be held in March. Details have not been received at the time of this writing but should soon be in hand. Please keep an eye out for those.

E. Ryan Hanlon, the newly elected and installed High Priest for Charles H. Platt Chapter is planning a Table Lodge for Wednesday, January 26. The cost will be \$45. For more information call or text him at 315/663-8466.

Richard J. Powell

12th Capitular District RAM

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

Greetings, Companions of the 12th Capitular District. I trust that all have enjoyed a blessed and joyous holiday season, celebrating the various Holy Days of your faith. With the new year we welcome those who have been newly elected to new positions within our Chapters. We look forward to opportunities to assist in any way we can to bring the newly elected Companions to success in their goals, and thus to the success of their Chapters throughout our District.

With new positions being taken, it means new ritual to be learned. It should be every Companion's goal to work on his new position

and to learn his new ritual well. Every officer should accept as a personal goal that he will perform his work in the opening and closing without need for ritual books. This brings forward the opportunity for better understanding of all that is encompassed in our opening and closing ceremonies and helps set the stage for expectations that our Degrees are going to be done well for all those who will be joining our Chapters this coming year. In all of Masonry our ritual work sets us apart from most other fraternal orders. It is up to each of us to do his best to bring to those new to Royal Arch Masonry better understanding of our teachings through every part being performed well.

May this coming new year see each of our Chapters revive and thrive, with new Companions brought into each Chapter. I look forward to visiting each of our Chapters through the coming year and greeting all our Companions of our District as friends and Brothers in our wonderful Craft.

James Nelson

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



Companions, I would like to thank everyone for the chance to be your High Priest for another year. It's still very challenging.

We started the year with Zoom meetings, with the first in-person meeting being in June. We were able to open very well and do some overdue business. We had to install our officers for the year. The next two meetings were unofficial, as we were short a Companion or two, so we practiced our opening and closing, which went very well.

I traveled to Charles H. Platt 247 with a new Companion for his Holy Royal Arch Degree—along with five others. The Degree work was done very well. Sadly, we had one other Brother who submitted his petition but he became ill and was unable to get his Degrees.

We're all hoping this COVID-19 passes and we are able to get back to normal meetings again. Thanks again. I look forward to better things for next year.

The above is my yearend annual report. We met on December 9 and elected our new line officers, read our annual reports, voted on some donations, appointed an investigating committee and went over some things we would like to do for next

year. Anyone who would like to get more involved or do a program for the evening should please let me know. Everyone's input will help make our meetings more interesting.

The next meeting, February 10 at 7:30 p.m., will be installation of officers, with refreshments before and after, as always. If we could get more than twelve Companions we could think about having a dinner before meeting.

Stay well and safe. I hope everyone enjoyed his holidays.

Ronald A. Bond

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

Companions all, Happy New Year! I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your trust, especially in your decision to select me as High Priest of Charles H. Platt No. 247 Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the ensuing year. I am truly honored.

We have a very full Trestleboard, which should foster an interesting and engaging year filled with fun and excitement. I believe you will find it refreshing.

Our first meeting will be specially convened and will take place on January 12 for the purpose of looking at the year ahead. We will have a short program on the namesake of our Chapter and we will discuss proposed changes and amendments to the Chapter By-Laws. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m., with the program beginning promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Our festive Table Chapter (open to all Master Masons in good standing) is being held on January 26 at the Dewitt Fish & Game Club. It will be catered by the Scotch & Sirloin. Social hour is at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7. The cost is \$45 and this must be paid in advance. The deadline for all reservations is Friday, January 21. Your entry fee includes your dinner, wine for the toasts and a cigar for the evening. There will also be a cash bar available all night and additional cigars for a \$5 donation. Bring a Brother and come enjoy some fellowship and fun.

Please direct all questions and RSVP's directly to me. I can be reached via call/text at 315/663-8466. I look forward to seeing you there and I wish all of you the best in the upcoming year.

Ryan W. Hanlon



KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

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

Commander
William H. Toth
Recorder Earl Tuttle,
etuttle1@twcny.rr.com

Greetings, Sir Knights. I hope all of you have had a very nice holiday season with your family. With you, I look forward to a new year filled with promise and hope. Above all, I hope that the worst of the COVID pandemic is behind us and that 2022 will continue to bring us back to a more normal existence.

As I write this article, Governor Hochul has announced a mandatory mask requirement for all indoor spaces beginning Monday, December 13, 2021. I am hopeful that the situation will not get any worse and that we will be able to begin conferring our Orders in 2022.

I did discover an error on the Trestleboard, which placed the Order of Malta ahead of the Order of the Red Cross. So, correcting the Trestleboard, we will read through the Order of the Red Cross at our meeting on January 7 and assign parts. I would like to do the Order of the Red Cross in full form. At the January 7 meeting we will also assign parts for the Inspection Ritual Requirements (see below for parts to be recited from memory). We will discuss our 2022 dates and perhaps revise the Trestleboard accordingly.

General Order Number 1 has been issued and will be read at the January 7 Assembly. Some key items from General Order No. 1 are as follows:

The theme for the 2021-2022 year is: Faith, Hope and Charity. The Frederick A. Beitter Symposium will be held on January 22, 2022 at the Albany Masonic Temple. Grand Line Officers, Zone Commanders and new Recorders are required to attend but the event is open to all Sir Knights. I attended in 2020 (pre-lockdown) and found it very informative.

Inspections will focus on Tactics and the Sword Manual. Books of the Recorder and Treasurer will be thoroughly examined, since it has been two years since the last examination.

Ritual Requirements to be recited from memory at Inspections include: Red

Cross—Sovereign Master's part beginning on page 39; Malta—Prior's part beginning on page 73; and Order of the Temple—Commander's part (first half of the Sword Lecture) page 146.

Our Assembly on January 21 will likely be a rehearsal of the Order of Red Cross. I hope, at that time, to know exactly when our Inspection will be so that we can finalize revisions to the Trestleboard.

Sir Knights, all of the foregoing may be subject to revision depending on any COVID restrictions that may be in place at the time of various events. It is said, "Faith is Belief without Proof." Sir Knights, I ask you all to have faith that no matter what the future holds we will get through this with faith.

William H. Toth

Auburn Shrine

Happy New Year! We ended this year's Shrine activities on December 11 at what used to be the Geneva-Auburn Shrine Clubs Christmas Party. This year's party was a Damascus Party and had several new features. We were back at Club 86 with a shorter social hour and a different band that played throughout the evening, loudly. Auburn Club members (and their Ladies) included Bruce Chilton, Bob Coleman, Jack Ehrlich, Jim Kahn and Ken Pollard. I hope I did not miss any but with a short social hour, I did not see everyone.

There is big news at the Springfield Shrine Hospital. Lee Kirk, Administrator, has announced his retirement

after forty-two years of hospital administration (not all with Shriners). Lee has done a wonderful job at Springfield and will be difficult to replace. With the COVID issue still a problem, hospital administration is a difficult job.

He leaves with the hospital in great shape as far as year-to-date goals. Two items were below expectations: Spine and Inpatient Surgeries. Growth in other activities continues to look good. New referrals are up, ambulatory surgery cases are up and outpatient encounters have increased.

I just read that the Shrine Hospitals are the number one organization in the treatment of cleft lip and palate patients in the world. And to think that one of our own doctors is a leader in this field, Dr. Philip Stoddard. You will recall that he spoke to our club not too long ago.

I just learned that member Bill Newcomb has had a difficult fall and early winter health-wise. I don't know the details, having just learned of his situation last evening. I know he would appreciate a card or note. Our president is heading for Florida and expects to be gone until at least March. He will be joining Bruce Christopher, Gordon Clarke, Lyle Maldoon, Larry Pritchard and Lance Ward. We will be well represented in the Sunshine State.

Happy New Year to you. We hope it is a healthy and prosperous year in 2022. I think a statement by H. L. Mencken would be a good motto for the new year: "I am strongly in favor of common sense, common honesty, and common decency." Again, Happy New Year!

Ken Pollard

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ORDER of the EASTERN STAR



Order of the Eastern Star Oswego District

“For auld lang syne, my dear, For auld lang syne, We’ll tak a cup o’ kindness yet, For auld lang syne.” Happy New Year from Oswego District!

I found that the most accurate plain English interpretation of the *Auld Lang Syne* famous title is “Old long since,” or “For the sake of old times.” Wouldn’t it be nice if we could go back years in our Chapters and Districts for the sake of old times? Back to the days when members filled our Chapter rooms, members traveled the District because they wanted to see their friends, traveled out of the District support-

ing others and a time when members wanted to be involved for the good of the Order. We can’t go back to those days but we can recreate a part of it and get out, fill the sidelines of our Chapter rooms, travel and attend special functions, picnics and outings in our District and visit other Districts. We can, For the sake of old times. Let’s show our newer members what it was like For the sake of old times.

The new year has started in our Oswego District. Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons installed to office for the 2021-2022 year were Yvonne Hanshew and Earl LaFave of Phoenix Elizabeth Chapter No. 105; Beth and David Childress of Oneida Lake Chapter No.

123; Monica Noble and Kenneth Wheeler of Lake Ontario Chapter No. 124; Janette and William Smith of Pulaski Puritan Chapter No. 159, and Carla Salisbury of Lake City Victoria Chapter No. 205.

Most of the Chapters closed their year off by going out to a restaurant for a Christmas dinner and now are in Winter Recess until March. The winter recess of Chapters would be a perfect time for the Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of the District to hold a brainstorming meeting. It’s a perfect time to brainstorm activities to get your creativity flowing, and from each other’s ideas get motivated. Great new ideas are what we need to spark the interest of existing members.

A jam session is a place where people with different skills come together, experiment and build on each other’s ideas. The best creative meetings are fun and

spontaneous. Invite Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of neighboring Districts, who will help contribute more ideas. This is an excellent way for presiding officers to bond. If you like this idea, don’t wait for someone else to host a meeting. Pick a date, time and location, notify others and start brainstorming.

This past month we have had sickness and sadness in our District. Please know that the District sends loving thoughts and asks for prayers for those who are either sick, caring for another, or who have lost a friend, family member and dearest loved one. May they know that God is by their side and may they feel his love every moment.

I would like to mention that Oswego District Deputy Grand Matron, Barb Foster has had knee replacement. She is home from the hospital and going out for physical therapy, with the help of others, in addition to having

exercises at home. Anyone who has ever had knee replacement knows the pain she is dealing with. I’m sure she would enjoy a card of encouragement. Her address is 60 W 5th St. S, Fulton, NY 13069.

RW Barb Foster asked that I send a special thank-you to all the Oswego District membership and others who bought pecans during our recent fundraiser. RW Barb and MW Earl and all Oswego District thank RW Diane Manwaring for the pecan fundraiser idea and for “cracking the nut” to see that they are all delivered and sold. She may be nuts at times but in a nutshell, you pecan’t go wrong with Diane’s ideas.

The year 2021 has come to an end. If you remember, a year ago I suggested you open a book and write on its blank pages, each month being a new chapter. How did your book go? Did you live the way you wanted to

be remembered? Maybe a book was a bit too much to handle. Perhaps you might buy a planner for 2022. It’s smaller. But keep in mind, what’s more important is how you use it. Be safe, keep healthy, celebrate the new year in, but more importantly, live each day to its fullest. Happy New Year!

Michelle Gogel

Order of the Eastern Star Onondaga District

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Happy New Year! May 2022 be extraordinary and full of grand adventures and opportunities.

The Homecoming/Installation/Reception was a huge success. Thanks to the Advisory Committee for putting together an event to accom-

OES
see page 12



Phoenix Elizabeth No. 105 enjoys new, first floor room at Phoenix Masonic Temple.



Lake Ontario Chapter held a Christmas party at the RiverHouse in Pulaski. Monica Noble is seated in front and clockwise around the tree are Jana Casler, Charlie Summerville, Cindy and Rick Stone, Ken and Cathy Wheeler and Charlotte DeGaetano.

JANUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
						1					
2	Jordan 386 Liverpool-Syracuse 501 Marathon 438 Morning Star 524 Trumansburg 157	3	Cortlandville 470 Fay-Central City 305 Hiram 136 Onondaga Star OES Seneca River 160 Warren Salem Town 147	4	Callimachus 369 Cayuga 221 Cazenovia 616 Kedar Khan Grotto Otselic Valley 659 Philo-Mt. Sinai 968 Pulaski 415 Skaneateles 522	5	Auburn 124 Caroline 681 Centerville OES Central Square 622 Crossroads United 93 Erie Canal 141 Konosioni 950 Lake Ontario 32KT Tri-Valley 148	6	Central City 25KT	7	8
9	Hamilton 120 Homer 352 Morning Star OES Onondaga Hill Club Scriba 414	10	Cortland 50KT E Caldwell OES Fulton 167 RAM Fidelity-Hobasco 51 King Hiram 784 Lake City 127 Scipio 110 Victoria OES Washington RAM	11	Cautious 726 Central City 13 CM Hannibal 550 Pulaski 279 RAM Tritown 472	12	Bona Fide OES Lake Ontario 165 RAM Memorial 648 Nortrip 998 Tully 896	13	Ft. Brewerton 256 Owaghena 303 RAM Triangle @ Liverpool	14	15
16	Jordan 386 Liverpool-Syracuse 501 Marathon 438 Morning Star 524 Trumansburg 157	17	Cortlandville 470 Fay-Central City 305 Hiram 136 Onondaga Star OES Seneca River 160 Sylvan 41 Warren Salem Town 147	18	Callimachus 369 Cayuga 221 Cazenovia 616 Daughters of the Nile Otselic Valley 659 Philo-Mt. Sinai 968 Pulaski 415 Skaneateles 522 Tigris Temple	19	Auburn 124 Caroline 681 Centerville OES Central Square 622 Crossroads United 93 Erie Canal 141 Konosioni 950 Watertown 11KT	20	Central City 25KT	21	22
23	Homer 352 Morning Star OES Scriba 414	24	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	25	Charles H. Platt 247 RAM Fulton 50 CM Hannibal 550 MWD's Tritown 472	26	Bona Fide OES Memorial 648 Nortrip 998 Tully 896	27	Ft. Brewerton 256 Triangle @ Liverpool	28	29
30		31									

Order of the Eastern Star from page 11 . . .

modate the pandemic and thanks to all who brought and set up for refreshments.

All Chapters held their installations. Congratulations go to all Chapter officers. We hope they enjoy their year. The following are the Chapter Matrons and Patrons: Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay No. 567, W Annie Urban and RW Al Tefoe; Centerville No. 185, RW Cathy Barling and RW Gary Hartman; Morning Star No. 589, RW Mary Perry and RW Larry Spencer; and Onondaga Star No. 144, RW

Nancy Weisbeck and RW Joseph Stevens.

Each Chapter has voted to have one meeting for the months of January, February and possibly March. Hopefully, having one meeting per month will bring out members to the Chapters during the winter months. The Matrons, Patrons, Secretaries and line officers work hard to plan Chapter meetings so, hopefully, Sisters and Brothers will attend these meetings and support Chapter events. Chapters should communicate to each

other on any upcoming events so the word gets out—especially during the winter months, since there will be only one meeting. Also, please use email, phone contact for those who do not have email and social media to communicate.

We plan to have a group meeting in January and March to meet with the line officers. The January meeting will discuss the 2022 upcoming events and other information. It is important that the line officers try their best to come to these meet-

ings so first-time line officers and repeat officers can coordinate calendars and events and practice ritualistic work. RW Deb will send an email and call the line officers on the date. The tentative date is Tuesday, January 18 at the Memorial Masonic Center, North Syracuse. We hope that this year will allow us to get back to seeing each other and doing the things that make the Order of the Eastern Star a great organization.

Deb Krackhardt
Karl Parker

Centerville 185 Masonic Memorial Center

Hi, Sisters and Brothers. We hope each of you had a wonderful Christmas celebrated with family and friends and that each is looking forward to the new year ahead.

Sister Jeannette Bush passed away on November 20. Keep Worthy Sister Ann and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Our December 16 meeting brought us a Christmas message from Worthy

Brother Steven Maddox. This always serves as a great way to usher in the holiday. Remember that we will be meeting only once during January. Our meeting will be January 20.

Thanks go to everyone who donated a hat, scarf, mittens, etc., for the hat and mitten tree. Donations will be given to local shelters.

Did you know that goosebumps are caused by a muscle? At the base of every

OES
see page 6



Centerville 185 Installation