



Senior Warden W Mark Heitmann (left) presents Crossroads United Brother Hans Hefti his 50-year apron and certificate from GM William Sardone.

## A Year in Review

(Excerpted from original in MMRI 2020 Annual Report)  
Executive Director, Dr. Maria Kontaridis

We can all agree with certainty that 2020 unfolded in a way none of us could have ever imagined. In the wake of the most devastating health crisis of our lifetimes, Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI) demonstrated unwavering commitment to serving humanity. Between outreach to the local community and cutting-edge research that led to advancements of science across the globe, the Board of Directors, scientists, and staff at MMRI stayed true to their mission: advancing the health and quality of life for all humankind. This year, more than ever, this team showed dedication, leadership, determination, and most importantly, resilience. I could not be more proud to be a part of such an amazing organization.

MMRI's underlying philosophy, to understand mechanisms of disease, to uncover cures and treatments, and to train and educate rising scientists, has not changed in the sixty-two years of our history. We stand on the foundation of these convictions and conduct innovative science that has lasting impact. Our research has consequently achieved great success, getting recognized across the country not only

for its strength in cardiovascular disease, but also for its efforts in new areas of study, including autism and lupus.

As you all may be aware, over the last three years, MMRI has been undergoing an aggressive growth and expansion phase. Since 2018, MMRI has brought in highly talented, world-renowned scientists and staff to Upstate New York. Indeed, we are now over fifty people, with thirty-one scientists and twenty administrative staff! In addition, despite the pandemic, we completed our Phase II renovation project this year, outfitting our basement level with a new procedural suite and state-of-the-art research bench space for our scientists. This endeavor could not have been possible if not for the vision and dedication of RW James Swan, Jr., our Board of Director's Secretary and Building and Grounds Committee Chair, and Mr. Curt Fowler, our MMRI Facilities Manager. In addition, a generous gift from RW David Schneeweiss, the Chairman of our Board of Directors, allowed us to complete our beautiful veranda on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, a space created to foster networking and scientific discussion for our MMRI team. Going forward, plans are underway to continue construction in Phase III, for which we received a \$668,980 grant from New York State and Empire State Development, to renovate the Genetics wing of our building. Once completed, we will have renovated every square inch of our current footprint in Utica, NY, paving the way for thinking about a new building or space to accommodate our growing research endeavors.

In this regard, even in the midst of crisis, our faculty research programs had tremendous impact this year. Some of our scientists pivoted their efforts to assist in the understanding of mechanisms causal to severe

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## Masonic War Veterans Post No. 43

Commander Clifton Carden  
MWVP43@gmail.com  
315/882-4985

Brothers times 2: As Masonic Brothers and Military Brothers we are bound by Brotherhood twice.

By the time you get this another Masonic year will have passed us by. We did meet when we could virtually, in person and accomplished what we could. We went to the VA Hospital with donations, which I didn't think would happen, and delivered more than they imagined. They were very grateful and we can't wait to do it again. We broke bread at some meetings and even brought in new members. It was quite the feat considering all we've been through.

Our dinner and election night at Mimi's was well attended. Congratulations go to the new officers of Masonic War Veterans Post No. 43: Commander Clifton Carden; 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Com-

mander Charlie Blood; Treasurer Norman Kruth; Adjutant Carl Hoyt; Grand Post Representative Brian Courtney. Our three-year Trustee is Leon Bulriss; two-year Trustee Tom Sawyer; one-year Trustee John Voetelink; Chaplain is Tom Sawyer.

As GPR I will work with the new officers to make sure that Post No. 43 continues to move forward. The new Commander Clifton Carden is more than qualified to do this. We welcome his ambition, drive, love of Masonry and his Brother veterans. His passion for helping out Brother vets is well founded and he looks forward to working with everyone. This is a great group of Brothers and I look forward to continuing to work with the Post anywhere I am needed.

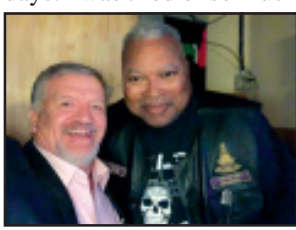
We will be doing flag presentations in the near future at Lodges. Any that would like to have us present the Colors may contact Commander Clifton Carden or me. We will be more than happy to do your Color Guard, even in Onondaga District to help out Post 66.

To be a member you do not have to live in Oswego County. We are open to any veteran, whether you served in peacetime or during war.

Masonic War Veterans  
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## Traveling man seeks more light

Here's a story about a Past Master who is totally miffed at how the world is nowadays. I was tired of so much



hate, so much discord and division and I wanted to make a real difference in Freemasonry in my hometown.

My mission began with a phone conversation with a Brother War Vet in VA and he schooled me on Prince

Traveling man seeks  
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## Masonic Service Bureau seeks cooperation

As one of the Directors of the EMESBE, the Masonic Service Bureau that publishes *the word*, I want a moment to enlighten you on a few things. If a Brother is dropped for NPD, or dimits or moves or passes away, if there is no notification *the word* still gets mailed to him. If it is undeliverable the postal service returns the paper and charges us 75 cents. Multiplied by all the bad addresses from the Lodges in the District, that totaled more than \$300 last year.

It is the responsibility of each Lodge Secretary to immediately notify Executive Director Ben Lees of changes. This helps maintain accurate mailing and email lists and keeps your subscription cost under control. Every Lodge should purge its roster two or three

times a year to make sure the people listed are in fact in your Lodge—surviving spouses, too. Just last night a Lodge told me they found on their roster twenty-nine names of members from other blue Lodges in the District. No one knows how it happened but they have been paying for those who aren't theirs and don't know for how long.

Every Lodge receives an invoice for subscriptions, due by January 31 each year, with a roster of members on record. You should clean up this list and return it with a check for the appropriate amount. Some Lodges still owe for 2021. We have taken money from our CD to pay our bills. We try to avoid increasing subscription price-

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## Mentor

Hello, Brethren. As I do every year, I drove down to Florida to visit my son and grandchildren and to talk with my Mentor—a seasoned Mason who has occupied all the positions in the Grand Lodge of this state. He still keeps very busy and has always given me the best advice.

Currently, my Mentor is working on regularizing some Hispanic Masonic groups in Florida. Regular Masons come from Latin America, with little English and a different ritual. It is not easy for them to integrate into regular American Lodges. So, some create their own irregular Lodges. My Mentor is facilitating links with Spanish-speaking Lodges in South Florida so they can join them, or creating new Lodges with them and other GL of Florida Hispanic Masons.

He then asked me what new things I was working on and how they are coming along.

"Since you first told me about the *Readings*, I knew you would get into trouble with some," he said. "I

know you well and understand what you are trying to do. Those who don't know you will not."

I explained that, in addition to the meaning of this work in the US it had another implication. I am in contact with the Grand Lodge of Cuba. And I stress the relation between Mason and Citizen. I would be a big hypocrite if I asserted that approach there and maintained another one here.

I told him how, at the start of Castro's regime, the Grand Lodge of Cuba held a big meeting. There were two sides and two issues. First, those who supported Castro claimed that his regime incarnated the beliefs of Freemasonry and proposed that the Grand Lodge disband, donate its wealth to the government and join it. Then there were those who, like my father, claimed that our Institution was independent and should thus remain. The latter group carried, and the Grand Lodge of Cuba, under whatever restrictions it has to live with, is still there and is still working.

We then talked about strengthening Lodge orga-

nization and cohesion. Statistically, membership started declining from the 1950s on. What happened then? New media (television) and a move to the suburbs and to other cities in search of better opportunities changed people's life.

The old system, where people lived in the same town, knew each other and socialized in the Lodges and local organizations, started to change. In the new suburbs many people were not well acquainted with each other. New family life included evenings at home watching TV. The social function of the Lodge started to change as new forms of socialization took over. Things became even more complex with the appearance of the Internet, email, social media and Zoom.

Freemasonry must respond by becoming more creative and thrive under the new conditions. We currently advertise in Grand Lodge's webpage and get hits. Candidate information is sent to local NorthStar mentors. But half of the candidates never respond to our

contact emails. And, of those who do and actually go through the three Degrees, half leave our Institution shortly after.

Lodges need to establish a theme to provide stability. We have discussed this before in this column. In England there are Lodges supporting sports cars, motorcycling, etc. We need to think about creating different themes for our Lodges: hunting, fishing, camping, canoeing, hiking, gun ownership, etc. Such activities may attract member interest beyond the Three Degrees and make them want to come to Lodge because, before or after the session, they can develop such interests.

Currently, candidates are linked to Lodges close to their homes. But this is not efficient, nor enough, because these Lodges may well be integrated by Brothers with interests different from those of candidates. And bonds established may well be too few or too weak for them to stay.

Jorge L. Romeu






ONONDAGA  
DISTRICT


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

DDGM



RW Daniel Campis  
732/241-0606  
dancampis@gmail.com

STAFF OFFICER



VW Rick Miori  
rickmiori@gmail.com  
315/254-1671

Greetings, Brethren! The weather has finally turned and so too has the Masonic year. Lodge elections have concluded and investitures and installations continue around the District. The sense of normalcy is so close you can almost taste it.

Behind the scenes, your District Team has been hard at work meeting and planning for the upcoming year. As we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic, we hope to organize some events and put together some special opportunities for the District. While I cannot yet share any specific details, I can say that all of us are very excited about the ideas on the table. In the hopefully not too distant future, we can announce some of the details and you can share in our excitement. The pandemic may have locked us away for a bit but we plan to bust out of it in full force.

I continue to work with all incoming Masters to set out the Official Visit schedule. Due to the timing of Grand Lodge, District events, Lodges just opening back up, etc., I have elected to postpone any Official Visits until the beginning of November. This should give everyone time to shake out the cobwebs and take care of

More DDGM  
see 3rd column


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Greetings, Brethren. The month of June is allegedly named for the Roman goddess Juno, patroness of marriage and the wellbeing of woman. June is also the time we welcome newly elected officers in our Lodges and I congratulate the Brothers who have accepted the additional work and responsibility.

The ensuing year's District team looks a lot like last year's team, with the exception of RW Jack Dombrowski. I would like to thank Jack for his leadership and loyalty to the Craft.

A few important dates this month are June 6, D-Day (and for some strange reason, National Yo-Yo Day);

DDGM  
from 1st column . . .

vital Lodge business before having to worry about hosting the DDGM and District Team. I also hope to reinvigorate some of the Team's committees with the return of some seasoned veterans as well as some fresh blood. I encourage you to plan to attend our visits to get to see these fresh faces in action.

This month I would like to spotlight a committee I think is vitally important and has traditionally been underutilized in our District: the Surviving Spouses Committee. Our lives are busy; that is a plain fact. As Masons we take an obligation to care for our Masonic families, yet sometimes in the fast pacing of our everyday lives we inadvertently forget this duty. We sometimes tend to overlook people, items opportunities right in front of us.

Surviving Spouses is a Grand Lodge-sponsored program that works with individual Lodges to continue to involve a Brother's family in the life of the Lodge even after that Brother may have passed. It really is one of the programs that sets Masonry apart from other organizations. As many of

us already know, the death of a loved one can be a devastating and difficult time. What a kind and supportive gesture it would be for a Lodge to reach out to the family of a departed Brother and offer support, comfort and familiarity! Though their world may be changed forever, we can make sure that the loss is not all encompassing.

Many of our different families become very close over the years of our membership, developing strong friendships centered around annual Lodge activities and events. Imagine the shock of not only losing your loved one but also feeling as though the access and events you looked forward to with your friends is now denied to you. We can and should do better. It may seem like a small gesture but I can assure you it can have incredible effect.

In the coming months you will be hearing more from our District chairs about the resources available to you to address this type of shortcoming. I implore you to put them to good effect in your Lodges. It is the true Mason's way.

Daniel Campis

Bruce Babilot  
Owner

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14<sup>th</sup> Annual Widger  
Memorial Golf Tournament

sponsored by  
The Onondaga Masonic Districts Charities Inc.  
10 AM - Saturday July 10, 2021

Well, all the arrangements have been made and all that's left to do is show up and have some fun and fellowship. At the same time we'll fulfill our first obligation as Masons. "To come to the relief of distressed worthy Brothers."

To that end is the reason this tournament is held every year—simply to have funds available to meet needs as they arise. Since the inception of our Golf Tournament we have raised several thousands of dollars. All of which have been devoted to helping individuals in need. We have also supported other Masonic Charitable causes: Scottish Rite Charities, Shrine Charities and Oswego Masonic Charities, to name a few.

We have also supported local Lodge charitable events, Konosioni's Christmas and Thanksgiving drives. We support our local communities through the American Red Cross, the Salvation Army, CNY Jazz Foundation, and we made a special gift to the SPCA in Grand Master Widger's name at an event held at Morning Star Lodge.

Now our golf event did not support all of the above by itself. We have had bequests bestowed to us over several decades, which your volunteer officers have overseen and grown to keep us going. Your officers have grown the charity by over a third in the last decade. We owe a debt of gratitude to many Brothers who have kept our organization alive.

I would like to thank them now in group, all past officers and Directors. I would like to mention a few by name: RW Fred Wyker, RW Floyd Popp, RW Gerry Roberts, RW Edward Sinay Jr. and MW Bruce Widger.

We continue to keep their heritage alive by continuing the work they started.

God has blessed the work of their hands and has provided workers to keep it going.

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7439 Canton Street Rd, Baldwinsville, NY 13027  
315/635-9826  
4 Man Captain & Crew Format  
18 holes of Golf, Cart & Dinner - \$70 per player  
Checks payable to OMDC and mail to: OMDC Golf  
c/o 17 Overbrook Lane, Baldwinsville, New York 13027  
Contacts: Garry Campbell ..... 315/385-1170  
Frank Kennedy ..... 315/420-8877  
Pat Pacini ..... 315/720-3526  
Karl Parker ..... 315/427-1444

Masonic Service Bureau ... from page 1

ing but the cost of everything continues to rise. The migration of some members from print copy to digital helps with the cost of paper and mailing but these are still big expenses.

I have suggested that Brothers who own businesses take out ads in the paper.

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COVID-19 infection. Specifically, with studies showing that 30% of COVID patients experience blood clots, Dr. Chase Kessinger, an investigator working to understand causes of pulmonary embolism, began looking at the relationship between the virus and blood clots. Likewise, Drs. Sathya Unudurthi, Nathan Tucker, and Zhiqiang Lin centralized their COVID research on cardiac complications, finding that 20-25% of all COVID-related deaths are due to underlying cardiac disease. Their work additionally addressed the role of genetics in infection severity and how gene variants might increase or decrease susceptibility of individuals to the virus. Finally, Dr. Jason McCarthy, in collabora-

tion with Dr. Benoit Boivin at SUNY Poly Albany, focused on whether drugs could be specifically targeted to the heart to prevent COVID-19 viral replication, to limit the cardiac damage caused by such infections.

In addition, to assist our community with the pan-

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Are You ~ ~ ~ Moving?

Print your NEW address below (incl. seasonal changes)

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Clip and mail to:

the word  
P.O. Box 242  
Liverpool, NY 13088



**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

Greetings from the East. I hope that all is well with you and your family. I thank you for electing me as your Master and I congratulate all our newly elected and appointed officers. June 1 will be our installation at 7:30 p.m.

Special thanks go to W Matt Gregory for serving this past two years. Despite the many challenges, his Lodge kept the flame burning. Thanks go to all who contributed to the Masonic Brotherhood Fund this past twelve months.

June 15 will be a Lodge meeting via Zoom. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m.

May you and your family enjoy the warmth of the summer sun. God bless.

Mark Appleby

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

WM Mark Knowlton

Greetings, Brethren. Happy summer and St. John's Day!

May 3 saw our annual meeting and elections. I thank you, Brethren, for making such a strong showing and coming out in force. Huge thanks go to our Trustees for keeping us on a strong functional financial footing and for presenting their structural proposals to keep us ever more solid.

I had the recent pleasure and honor of presenting a fifty-year certificate to Brother Richard Houser at his home on Makyes Road. Brother Houser has the further distinction of being a Korean War Purple Heart Veteran. I thank Brother Houser for sharing his stories and for service to Lodge and Country.

Secretary Rich Preall has quite the story to tell about the return of a Masonic Bible. We will try to get it submitted for publication herein in the fall.

On May 17 we had our long-delayed First Degree for two candidates. June 7 will be an open meeting for installation of our 21/22 officers. Congratulations and thanks go to Brother Mark Knowlton, our new Worshipful Master. We've been a long while anticipating his time to rule and govern. All the best! He couldn't ask for a more cooperative and supportive Lodge. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m., the ceremonies. Formal attire is requested. Our last meeting of the season will be on June 21, our annual picnic at the Grove Pavilion in Marcellus Park (Upper Park/Left Bank). Set-up is at 4 p.m., with conviviality at any point from then on. The potluck dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. The Lodge has traditionally provided burgers, dogs and soda. Bring lawn games. All family and Eastern Star members are welcome.

Our coffees will continue through the summer on Tuesday mornings from 9 to 10

a.m. Do drop in.

This will be my last word article for this amazing three-year term as Worshipful Master. We had some challenges in 2020, yes? Thank you, Brethren, one and all for your passion, dedication and cheerful willingness to shoulder our labors together. It's been a great privilege and joy to work with you and serve with the help of your profound experience and wisdom.

John Bromka

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

WM Toby Shelley,  
Secy Earl Tuttle,  
315/673-2213

Greetings, Brethren. The Lodge's May elections and appointments turned out like this: WM T. Shelley; SW S. Plourde; JWM. Shearer; SD MGregory; JDM. Spacious; Treas. T. Gannon; Secy. D. Foward; Chap. P. Bertan; SMC A. Wazalewski; JMC K. McHale. Other appointments will be announced. Wally McKeown was voted well-deserved Marshal Emeritus of Skaneateles 522.

Brothers in the news: Darren McLaughlin is home recuperating. Harvey Eysman is scheduled to have surgery. Ernie Maffei is quickly recovering from knee surgery. And Bruce Clarke isn't recuperating or recovering but is getting married.

A few questions have come up regarding dues cards. The new dues cards are plastic and come from Grand Lodge. Ensure that Grand Lodge has your current address.

The end-of-the-year dinner cruise on the *Judge* is scheduled for June 16. Members are free, guests pay \$57. Meet at the park next to the Blue Water Grill at 5:30 p.m. for a 6 p.m. launch. Dinosaur BBQ will be the caterer. Mark Kulik is heading up the dinner cruise; contact Mark to get on the list.

June 2 will be a regular meeting with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The meeting opens at 7:30 p.m. and the program for the evening will be "Who Built the Moon?" In Grand Master Gilbert's words, "Lead with your Heart."

Toby Shelley

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

WM Kevin Ingalls  
kingalls1652@gmail.com,  
315/380-4303

Secy Tom Mitchell  
tmmitche@twcny.rr.com,  
315/687-9551



Greeting, Brothers. Our Masonic year is winding to a close but we plan on ending the year well. In the last couple of months Nortrip Lodge has made up for lots of time lost due to COVID-19 restrictions. June will also be busy but with a lighter workload.

Last month we cleaned up the roadside, elected new officers, balloted on petitions and conferred Degrees on three new Brothers. It takes many hands to get this work

done. We should not only thank the members who made this possible, but also especially express our appreciation for the efforts of the outgoing officers. I would personally like to thank Fayetteville Lodge members for their support and assistance during Degree work.

This month's first meeting will be the installation of officers. Many of the new line of officers are continuing in the natural progression towards the East. Also of note is the reappearance of some of our snowbirds. It has been great to see the Lodge awaken from such a long and difficult period. Join us in supporting these newly installed officers.

Our second meeting this month will be our traditional steak bake. This is an open meeting available to our newly made Masons, with casual dress—but please bring your mask. Look for an email to confirm your reservation. It's a great way to end the year and celebrate new beginnings. And let's not forget: also delicious.

The membership is somewhere in the 80-90% vaccination rate. Not one member contracted COVID while at our Lodge, which was my greatest fear.

We have made three new Masons and have a Fellowcraft Degree to follow. This will likely be conferred upon five Nortrip Brothers. This is truly a new beginning, with much to do and much to look forward to in our great Fraternity. As always, I sincerely look forward to seeing you in Lodge.

Kevin Ingalls

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

WM John Rapp,  
315/569-5203,  
jrapp126@twcny.rr.com

Greetings, Brethren, good evening! I hope that all is well with the brethren of Tully Lodge and elsewhere. We are cautiously moving ahead with things. Hopefully, this will all be behind us very soon.

We are planning on several fundraisers this year to help keep our coffers full. We are planning to repeat a highly successful chicken barbecue on Saturday, June 12. As always, your help and participation will be much appreciated in the months to come.

As previously mentioned, we have been selected for a \$35,000 repair and beautification grant from Onondaga County. We continue to hold fundraisers to help gather the \$12,000 that we need in order to qualify for the grant. The plan is to install a new roof over the entire Lodge as well as fix the columns and paint the Lodge. Losing the Apple Fest last year, we need to continue to raise dollars to keep our building open.

The Brothers of Tully Lodge No. 896 would like to give a huge thank-you to the brethren of Skaneateles Lodge No. 522 for their most generous donation to our building project. I have never been prouder to belong to such a caring Fraternity that

is the Masons. I thank you again for your generosity.

P.E.A.C.E. Inc. again used our fellowship hall for their annual spring clothing drive. They serve the poor and needy of the Southern Hills area with food at Christmas and clothing in the spring, as well as help throughout the year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need anything or to just say Hi. My door is always open via email: jrapp126@twcny.rr.com, or phone: 315/569-5203.

John Rapp

**Konosioni 950 (ON)**  
116 E. Genesee St.  
Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066  
1st & 3rd. Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
315/637-6431

WM Garry E. Campbell  
H 315/214-4435,  
C 315/385-1170  
gcampbellk950@gmail.com



Happy spring, my Brothers. I hope this finds you remaining happy and healthy and getting ready for warmer weather. We are winding down our 2020-2021 Masonic year and will finish with in-person meetings for installation of officers and Past Master Night the first Thursday in June and are still planning for our usual steak bake and awards ceremony on the third Thursday in June. Stay tuned to your email, text or our Konosioni Facebook page for details, as we do not have everything set in stone as yet.

I would like to thank my line of officers as well as the Lodge Trustees for helping to guide me through this past year, which has had its challenges. I am looking forward to a more normal year for next year as the same officers have stayed in their respective stations and places.

As always, if any Brother needs assistance or knows of a Brother in need, please contact me. Please continue to wear your masks and make healthy choices for the safety of your family and community and yourself. May the Great Architect of the Universe be with you.

Garry E. Campbell

**Crossroads United Lodge 93 F.&A.M.**  
780 Woods Rd.  
Solvay, N.Y. 13209  
1st & 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
315/487-0596

WM Mark Heitmann  
markheitmann93@yahoo.com  
315/944-5640  
Secy Jon Lorber  
bisco302@gmail.com,  
315/657-4068

Brothers, I have to say that serving all of you was my distinct honor. This will be my last word article as WM of Crossroads United Lodge No. 93. I hope I have done my job to meet everyone's expectations. All of you are the reason I took this position. I thank Brother Menke for the wonderful phone call and the very kind words. Also, thanks go to Bob, Joan and Kurt for taking me to dinner.

We had our ups and downs and we persevered through it all, even the virus. You are a great bunch of Brothers and amongst all of us we made it a much better

place. It's called teamwork. I have thanked many in articles over the last two years. All who helped deserve credit more than I do.

My biggest praise goes to Worshipful Jon Lorber, our Secretary. That is a thankless job and he has my eternal gratitude. When things go right it's because of the job he and all of you have done. If things went wrong it was my fault.

I am not going away. I will step into any role needed for the Lodge to continue to move onward. That's what we are supposed to do as Masons. It's not about accolades or aprons or titles, it's about improving your Lodge and Masonry as a whole. No organization is perfect but we can work to be better.

Our First Degree last month was flawless thanks to all involved (see photo and comment elsewhere). Thanks go to W Robert Neufang, a sixty-two-year member, for doing the Apron Presentation and to W Anthony Kofi A. Osei-Tutu for coming from NYC to serve as Master. W Mark Heitmann will be planning the next two Degrees. The Trestleboard is finished and will be sent to everyone.

We voted overwhelmingly "Yes" to replace our roof. I thank those Brothers who were generous enough to donate money toward the cost. If anyone else is so inclined, it would be appreciated. Schaffer Building Services will be contractor and we are fortunate, as Patrick Schaffer is a Brother Mason. Contact him for a quote if your Lodge is having issues.

We will have a picnic on August 7 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Lighthouse Park in Brewerton on Rt. 37. More details will be sent when you indicate you would like to attend. WM Mark Heitmann is organizing, so all communications will go to him. We will also celebrate birthdays every month. Everyone will bring a dish to pass. Notify Mark that you are coming and what you would like to bring so we don't have too many of any item. Bring lawn chairs and your own beverage and any of your own special dietary items. The Lodge will supply the meat and we will split the cost. Masonic War Vets Post No. 43 will also join us for some fellowship.

I say Happy Masonic Birthday to the following, with their years as a Brother. June: Brion Gallagher, thirty-nine years; James Orlando, seventy-one years; Thurman Tejan, twenty-five years. July: Steven Esgro, ten years; Bill Hannon, five years; Nick Lettieri, ten years; James Monroe, nine years; Harold P. Naumann Jr., seventy-five years; Joseph Strom, twenty-four years. August: Robert Alvord, forty-five years; Theodore Cooper, thirty-nine years; Gerald Ives,

forty-six years; Charles Patchin, thirty-two years; Shawn Reilly, four years. September: William Eaton Jr., eleven years; Barton Pipes, forty-six years.

That's 493 years of Masonry in sixteen Brothers. What's not good is that we lost seven Brothers in four months with 291 years in Masonry. That is an average of forty-seven years per person. This is happening across the US and it is not a good thing for Masonry. Everyone in the Lodge needs to bring in a new Brother.

Congratulations go to the following for their recent awards for years of service to the Craft. Salvador Gandhi has sixty-five years; W Warren Barth, sixty years. Hans Hefti received his apron and certificate for fifty years (photo). Ronald Reese and Barton Pipes are forty-five-years members; Joseph Strom and RW Ron Waterbury have thirty-five years. Thurman Tejan is at twenty-five years and James Pishotti, twenty. Steven Esgro, Nick Lettieri and Joshua Heitmann are ten-year members; and Carl Smith and William Hannon have been Brothers for five years. DSA recipient Dick Forth will get his apron in the fall, as GL had issues filing our order. It will be my honor to present.

Elections and appointments for 2021-2022 yielded this line: WM Mark Heitmann; SW Russ Beckwith; JW Bill Hannon; Treasurer Lanny Schantz; Secretary Jon Lorber; Trustee Brian Courtney. For SD, Nick Lettieri; JD is Bill Eaton; SMC Dick Forth; JMC W David DeOlden; Steward Carl Smith; Steward Josh Heitmann; Chaplain Ron Waterbury; Marshal Tim O'Hare; and Tyler DSA Joe Stevens.

Crossroads United has two more Brothers confirmed as Nobles of the Mystic Tigris Shrine. With David De Olden and Derek Baichi we are up to eight members. If anyone else is interested I will email you an application.

Sickness and Distress: Brother Joshua Heitmann is getting better daily. Brother Russ Beckwith had fluid taken off his heart. It is a regular routine for him. My mother is the same. Tim O'Hare's wife is finally home. Keep all the above in your thoughts and prayers, along with our Law Enforcement, First Responders, our Military and families. When you have your Health you have your Wealth.

If anyone is interested in renting our building for events or to use our Lodge as a meeting place, please contact me. We are open for discussion.

Be thankful you don't already have everything you desire. What would there be to look forward to? God bless you, my Brothers.

Brian Courtney

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# Editor’s Prerogative

## From the bunker

Appropriately, we in the Craft are used to ritual. In fact, our entire world functions on rituals; whether or not you think of them in terms of sanctioned rites or daily routines, everything is ritual practice.

In the last many months my household has developed some rituals and embraced them. Come the evening, my wife and I settle in at a round table, which is not a Round Table, although if there is a bit of Scotch involved it does feel a little Arthurian.

We invite Alexa to spin songs, usually by some favorite country artist and we commence combat in a card game called Hand and Foot. This is typically played as a team competition, two on two, but we have cemented the mano a mano version. Usually cordial and a pleasant diversion, it sometimes occasions verbal grenades.

The hour of dining has morphed comfortably into something that is positively European, long past sundown. And we begin binge-flxing as we eat. We have consumed a lot of TV programs in back-to-back episodes and it doesn’t take long to get through an entire season. The big conundrum for the month: Now, what are we going to watch next?

We absorbed the *SVU* series and recently went back to pick up the 2020 season. I think this show is in its twenty-first year, sort of in the category of the *All My Children* daily soap. The themes of the 2020 *SVU* season are current, featuring pandemic and wokeness.

I was glad to enter into the experience brought by *The Wire*. This was an HBO offering so we binge-BO-ed. It is five seasons from the early 2000s depicting the gutty street life of Baltimore, one storyline per season. It is cops and politicians and lawyers but mostly the drug powerlords and the little kids coming up on the streets. Most of the characters in all these classes are Black. The good guys display their share of taint; the bad guys have a near-monopoly on it. The value of a human life is nil. For every one kid who gets out, or every gangbanger who reforms, another 100 are lost to the game.

The presentation is precision focused, no holds barred. It is frankly, unapologetically not PC. The stories are harsh and the language brutal but if you don’t mind it, funny. There is good, dark humor—particularly in the police relationships where the goal seems unachievable and the frustrations are many and profound. I loved all the protagonists and antagonists, recovering addicts, girl hitman, little-kid wannabes. There are no one-dimensional characters here. The biggest villain is the system that traps everyone, cops and criminals. The battle is for assertion of individual worth.

Rituals. The talented police try to break the gang culture and the continual gang-related murders despite interference by corrupt superiors in the chain of command. Every day. The gang bosses try to keep their distribution system intact and free from poaching by rivals. Every day. These objectives are baked into the activities of all parties. What do they learn from their ritual? There seems not to be much of a lesson, only fine adjustment in behavior. There is a kind of integrity and a kind of honor. But one has to be part of that system to appreciate it and it is irony to aim to lead by example. How are we doing by contrast?

Stephen L. Zabriskie  
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## Cayuga-Tompkins from page 8 . . .

### Cayuga . . .

Brother David Wawro as a new dual member of our Lodge from Auburn Lodge No.124. We held election of officers and installation, with these results. WM Jeffrey Lampman; SW Ryan Jackson; JW Harry Zirbel; SD Adrian Beesley; JD David Wawro; Treasurer Michael Whitten; and Sidney Gilmore as Secretary.

There were two award winners for scholarships. Jenna Dean of Moravia High School. is attending the Nursing program at TC3. Steven Sherman of Southern Cayuga High School is attending SUNY Alfred for the Electrical Maintenance program. We congratulate both and wish them well in their future endeavors.

We are having our summer picnic on August 14 at 2 p.m. at our Lodge. We plan to give a Dewitt Clinton Award to Bill Hall at that time. And we are also recog-

nizing years of service to the Craft. With sixty years is Brother David White. W Keith Hatfield and Brother Mark Klipple have fifty-five years; Brother Nelson Littlejohn and Brother C.H. Cuykendall are fifty-year members; and Brother Gary Gordan has forty-five years. The class of Brothers at five years includes Ryan Jackson, Sidney Gilmore and Jeffrey Lampman. Big thanks are due for all the years of service many members have contributed to the Lodge. I look forward to seeing all of you at the picnic.

We are also looking forward to participating in both Erie Canal Lodge No. 141 and Auburn Lodge No. 124 golf tournaments. These are always good times with great Brothers.

I will see you at Lodge. God bless.

Jeffrey Lampman

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## Oswego from page 7 . . .

### Central Square . . .

please keep in mind that barbecues are fundraisers to keep dues low. So, I call on all brethren of Central Square Lodge to plan to be there to help. Lock the dates in your calendar. Help is needed, please, and thank you.

Calling all Masonic members again: We will be having a graveside Masonic funeral at Hillside Cemetery in Central Square on July 17 at noon. As most of you know, Tom Weatherup passed away; so we would like to have a huge presence.

I thank everyone for keeping Freemasonry alive. We move forward with promise of brighter days to come.

Edward L Dayton

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WM Scott Colbert  
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Scott.colbert@pauldavis.com



Greetings, Brethren. I hope this finds you and your family well and you’re enjoying something a bit closer to resembling summer than what early May has delivered for us this year.

To update everyone on happenings within the Lodge, we held another chicken barbecue on May 1. Again we sold out, thanks to your pre-orders, the walk-up service and the 5-foot 6-inch dancing chicken that showed up. You can see a few pictures at PhoenixMasons.org. Again, my deepest thanks go

to those who selflessly give their time to make these events fun and successful.

We expect to do more throughout the summer and will keep everyone posted via Facebook and our new website PhoenixMasons.org. We don’t really have anyone dedicated to the website right now but the foundation is there and we will be periodically posting updates on our events.

We participated in the Phoenix Memorial Day Parade again this year on Monday, May 31. We had our float, along with our cool cars and motorcycles. We hope you joined us on that day.

We made some necessary repairs to our Lodge room and were able to resume our meetings there. It has been a while since we were able to do that. We still have work to do on the main floor.

We have two petitions to act on soon and that is exciting news for us, as we continue to struggle with participation. We hope that as the COVID restrictions ease up and life goes back to normal you will consider re-engaging with your Lodge. We are constantly talking about new and fun things we can do to promote fellowship and support our community. Your input and your ideas are greatly appreciated. Remember: “There are no strangers in Free Masonry, only friends you’ve yet to meet.”—Author unknown.

Scott Colbert

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A Year in Review ... from page 2

demic, in June 2020, MMRI began conducting quantitative PCR COVID-19 testing in Utica, which resulted in an incredible partnership with the Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS), which make up our local hospitals. We were able to “create a local solution to a national problem,” as stated by Darlene Stromstad, President/CEO of MVHS. Our qualified team, consisting of Drs. Nathan Tucker and Michelle Hulke, Mr. Ryan Pfeiffer, and Ms. Mayuri Desai, have been working tirelessly on these efforts, processing several hundred COVID-19 tests per week at our facility. Furthermore, in November, we also became a rapid testing site, only the third at that time for the whole of Oneida County. Finally, we had the opportunity to participate in several webinars hosted by Grand Master William Sardone, where we had the opportunity to discuss COVID-19 and answer any questions fellow Masons had in this regard. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to give back in such an impactful way and are thankful to be a part of such a great community.

Besides COVID-19, our primary research projects have also progressed suc-

cessfully this year, despite the starts and stops of this pandemic. Firstly, together with Dr. Gulhan Ercan-Sencicek, I received a new three-year \$300,000 Transformational Project Award from the American Heart Association for research focused on understanding how specific genetic mutations differentially affect heart and brain development. In addition, thanks to a \$120,000 grant award by Onconova Pharmaceuticals, my lab is also working on understanding ways to treat heart disease in children with specific genetic mutations. Dr. Jason McCarthy, as part of his collaboration with Harvard Medical School, received three multi-year grants from the National Institutes of Health, one focusing on the role of inflammation in deep vein thrombosis, one on the development of atherosclerosis, and the other on cellular angiogenesis. Together, these grants total over \$400,000! As well, Dr. Nathan Tucker, in collaboration with Columbia University, received an American Heart Association Innovative Project Award focused on the role of atrial fibrillation in heart dysfunction, efforts that total near \$50,000. All these grants are in addition to the more than



Crossroads United Lodge No. 93 brought a new Brother into our Fraternity with his First Degree. From L to R William Eaton, Russ Beckwith, Worshipful Anthony Kofi A. Osei-Tutu, Tom Sawyer (in back), W Rick Penhall, W Mark Heitmann, Derek Baichi, RW Ron Bond, Lanny Schantz, Dick Forth, (back) RW William Toth, RW Ron Waterbury, (back) W Jonathan Lorber, Joe Stevens, VW Bob Tyrell, VW Norman Kruth. I wanted everyone to see all those who contributed to helping bring a new candidate to light in Masonry. It takes a team to win; that’s what we had here. I hope to see many more for the Second Degree. If any other Lodge would like to get together for a Second Degree, please contact Mark Heitmann. Submitted by Brian Courtney

\$6M multi-year grants our investigators have already previously secured for MMRI! Most excitingly, this hard work by our faculty, postdoctoral fellows, research associates and assistants have culminated in the publication of thirty-two manuscripts this year, in top-tier, peer-reviewed scientific journals, increasing our nationwide research excellence in areas such as cardiac arrhythmias, heart disease, and heart failure.

Finally, one of the most important jobs we have at MMRI is to inspire and encourage young people to pursue careers in STEM-based programs. As part of our commitment to building

an infrastructure of independent thinkers and to help promote the growth and curiosity of budding scientists, we created the Halfond-Weil Postdoctoral Fellowship. Thanks to a generous endowment provided by the 8<sup>th</sup> Manhattan Lodge in New York City, this fellowship provides an annual \$50,000 award for a top-talented MMRI postdoctoral fellow. This year we are pleased to award this fellowship to Dr. Jagathesh Chandra Bose Rajendran, a postdoctoral fellow in the McCarthy Lab, whose project focuses on

targeting organ/tissue-specific immune cells to develop therapeutics for autoimmune disorders.

In closing, our sixty-two-year history encapsulates tremendous achievements, which have lent themselves to the development and/or implementation of critical devices and therapies utilized around the world, including the pacemaker, implantable cardioverter defibrillator, automatic external defibrillator, catheter ablation therapy and a wide variety of drugs used to treat heart disease. MMRI is one of only a

handful of institutes whose research has been this influential and essential to the study of experimental cardiology. In the last decade, such treatment strategies have saved countless lives. As our impact worldwide continues to grow, along with our research portfolio, so will the importance of our work, again thanks to you. The first sixty-two years at MMRI only set the stage for our next sixty-two, years we are confident will yield extraordinary new discoveries that will bring life-saving benefits to us all.

Traveling man seeks more light ... from page 1



Hall Lodges. I thank Brother Michael Minor.

Onondaga Lodge No. 24, Prince Hall Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons is not far from me. I contacted Brother Carlton Jackson who put me in touch with Brother Dana L. Jackson, who in turn invited me to fellowship.

Well, fellowship turned into me hooking up with this crew of Brothers and the fellowship went into the night. The two eldest, Sam and I closed the place. I am pictured with RW Sam Roberts and other Brothers include

Dana Jackson, Worshipful Master Brandon Irons, Sam Roberts II and Divine Bey. It was as if we were Raised together.

We are working on a plan to do a lot more things together in the District, to work together as one. The plan is to get them to subscribe to *the word* so they know what we are doing—if every Lodge posts an article—and if Onondaga Lodge posts an article so we know what they are doing. Imagine the extra money that can be made on joint fundraisers; and the

Table Lodges; and most importantly, the fellowship. I’m telling you, I know the meaning of fellowship now.

I know these Brothers have done things with Konosioni and Liverpool Lodges in the past. There will be more Lodges, hopefully, involved with Onondaga Lodge in the future. I know Crossroads United No. 93 I will be. I thank them from the bottom of my heart for the friendships I have made.

Brian Courtney

Masonic War Veterans ... from page 1

Our main goal here is to help any veteran in need and to coordinate with any other veterans organization to make sure that happens. Team work is much better than doing it alone.

If anyone has ideas of things we can do for other veterans or the community, please email us. We want to make ourselves more visible to the community with things you are passionate about. There are veterans out there that can use our help.

Happy Birthday wishes go to the following Brothers for April: Richard Arthur; May: Charles Toombs; June: John Colbert, Clifton Carden, Mick Dellavalle, Alan Wood; July: John Voetlink; August: Charles Blood.

I don’t have everyone’s birthday. If you would like to contact me I will gladly update our roster with it.

We are invited to partake in a family picnic with Crossroads United Lodge on August 7 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

at Lighthouse Park in Brewerton on Rt. 37. Everyone will bring a dish to pass. Notify W Mark Heitmann, [markheitmann@gmail.com](mailto:markheitmann@gmail.com), as to what you would like to bring so we don’t have too much of one item. Bring lawn chairs and your own beverage. Tell him who you are and that you are with the War Veterans, please. The Lodge will supply the meat and we will all split the cost. If you have a special diet please see to that yourself.

Sickness and Distress: Please keep Brother James Johnson in your prayers. John and Ruth Votellink have

to go in for surgeries and my mother is still hanging in there. We hope Dennis Breheny is feeling better. We missed him.

Keep all of our First Responders, LEOs and our Military at home and abroad in your prayers. My youngest son is a short-timer on his deployment. He will finally get to see his son who was born while he was serving in far-off places.

“A Mason’s Character is supposed to be as good as gold any place in the world where a man’s Character still counts for something.”—Unknown.

Brian Courtney



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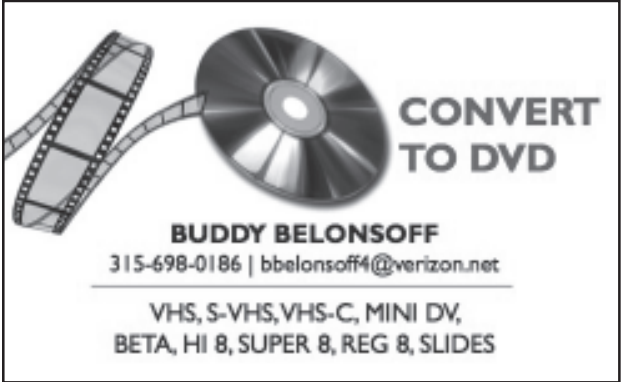
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# OSWEGO DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



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

Greetings, Brethren. These being our last word articles until September, please mark your calendar now as a reminder for the September article submission due date on August 12.

Although spring weather temperatures have been slow to warm up and below the norm for this time of year, we are seeing other more promising indicators for a great summer ahead. With COVID cases steadily on the decline and the increasing percentage of our population receiving the COVID vaccine shots, state restrictions are opening up steadily and close to normal in many areas. The Governor has stated that there will be a New York State Fair this year, which is a hopeful indicator of once again allowing large group gatherings. If this is the case we may be able to hold the second session of the 239<sup>th</sup> Grand Lodge Communication this fall. As of this writing, the last I heard is that Grand Master Sardone's tentative plan is that once state gathering restrictions allow, there will be a one-day session scheduled at the MCC Campus in Utica for the main purpose of voting new Grand Lodge Officers and conducting essential business.

The Grand Lodge 239<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication having opened on May 3 in New Rochelle, this constitutionally allowed for our local Lodges to hold their election of officers. By now you all have held your elections and or installation of officers. Please report your Certificate of Election to Grand Lodge as soon as possible and send or email me a copy so I can put together an accurate revised list of all District Lodge Officers and their contact information for our Masters and Secretaries.

With Lodge officers installed, most Lodge business, Degrees, meetings, etc. will be able to be performed, still staying within the guidelines of New York State restrictions and those of Grand Lodge. We continue to move cautiously in the right direction. As for Staff Officer RW

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

## STAFF OFFICER



**Shawn Tuff**  
Shawn.tuff@gmail.com

Brethren, it has been a while since I've put some training together and hopefully things are changing a little. Many Lodges have held their election of officers and now it is time for any new Masters to contact me so they can take the required course, "The Master's Chair." I also would recommend that you take the 24-inch Gauge. I can't stress enough how important it is for you to take these courses. They can truly make your year enjoyable and successful.

I can offer these courses both in person or online on the following dates. Mondays, June 7, June 21, July 5 and July 19. All sessions are from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Scriba Lodge No. 414. I

hope these dates will work for you; if they don't, please contact me and we can work out something else. You can reach me on my mobile; call or text 315/727-0850 or email to Shawn.tuff@gmail.com.

Stay safe, my Brothers. I look forward to working with all of you again in quarries. Shawn Tuff

## DDGM from 1st column . . .

Shawn Tuff and me, we have elected to stay on in our present positions with Grand Master Sardone until such time as the second session of Grand Lodge is held and voting and appointment of new officers has been confirmed. I will keep your Lodges informed of all Grand Lodge updates as the summer progresses. All Lodge Masters and Secretaries should have received an email attachment from the Grand Secretary's Office with the minutes of the 239<sup>th</sup> Annual Communication and the Address of the Most Worshipful William Sardone. If you did not, please let me know. I would respectfully request that these be read in Lodge and or a copy passed on to your Brothers.

In the District several Lodges have held Degrees, fundraising activities are being planned and Lodge repairs are being made as the weather improves. It has been a tough year for all of

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

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



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

## AGL Bob Boutell

Greetings, Brethren! Hopefully, by the time we receive our next issue of *the word* we will be in full swing. Masonic Lodges and Concordant bodies are meeting live and in person and Degrees are being conferred, under strict guidelines, but they are being conferred. Brothers are getting vaccinated, COVID numbers are dropping and life is beginning to look somewhat normal again. So, what more is there to say?

Let's dust off our aprons and suits, gas up the vehicles and meet with our brethren for some Masonic fellowship and fun. See you soon. Pat Fasulo

## DDGM from 2nd column . . .

us, and especially hard for those who lost loved ones and those who were unable to visit family and friends in nursing homes and out of the area. We as Masons have persevered and adapted as necessary. As a Brother and the District Deputy of the Oswego District, I could not be more proud of all our Lodges and brethren. I sincerely thank you for all you have done for your Brothers, widows, your community, veterans and beyond; and for the support, understanding and help you have given me for the last three years and especially for the past year. You truly exemplify the words "Brother" and "Freemasonry."

I wish each of you a healthy, safe, fun-filled summer and a rapid return to the old normal. May the Grand Architect of the Universe watch over you, your family, Freemasonry and the United States of America. And may we all once again meet this fall, unrestricted in our travels, and take each other's hand in fellowship and brotherly love.

Leon A. Bulriss

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Tidings, Brothers. As COVID's hold on our lives is slowly letting up we again can meet together on the level.

At the past communication we had the sad duty of draping our altar for Brothers who have laid down their working tools. It is unfortunate we could not say goodbye with our Masonic service for the families.

With the month of May now here we have elected our officers for the ensuing year. The line remains essentially the same with a couple of changes. I thank each officer for his continued support of our Lodge.

Our Lodge, working with Warriors against Cancer, held a fundraiser barbecue for them on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at the South Park, Pulaski. Thanks for those who again helped; it is much appreciated.

Our plans call for untiled meetings to practice ritual, along with a program on our big-screen hook-up. I'm sure our new AC in the Lodge room will be a welcome addition, for sure.

May the Great Architect watch over our Masonic family and keep all under his care. See you on the level.

Fred Dashnaw

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secretarylakecity127@gmail.com



Brethren, the unofficial start of summer has just passed with Memorial Day and summer is due to start in earnest with the Solstice near month's end. The Cosmic Wheel of the Seasons has turned to warmth, growth, and the early crops will be ripe for picking.

We had our last two Zoom meetings in May and will now proceed to in-person gatherings. June's first meeting is on Tuesday, June 08 at 7:30 p.m. (no dinner). It is a Summoned communication, the annual meeting. The mode of dress is dark suit or coat and tie. Election of officers, passage of the budget and other financial matters, and annual reports will be the business items, as well as anything else required at an annual meeting.

All of our officers have agreed to stay on for one more year and all of you have had the budget to review, so this will mostly be an exercise in formality. Brethren, please remember your oath in regard to receiving a Summons.

It will be so good for all of us to get back together in person. As of this writing Grand Lodge has not lifted the pandemic protocols, so we will continue to follow. Wear your mask, etc.

Our second meeting is on Tuesday, June 22 at 7:30 p.m. (no dinner). It is a stated communication and mode of dress is business casual. That means khakis or dress pants and a polo or sport shirt. The business of the evening will be an open discussion of how to move Lake City Lodge No. 127 forward after more than a year of pandemic restrictions. It is likely that

pandemic protocols will still be in place so wear your mask and etc.

We need to plan our Degrees for our waiting candidates, figure out new ways to attract membership, design some kind of study program for prospective candidates and a whole host of other issues. Your attendance is important; we need everyone's input on the issues.

In July and August we meet but once on the second Tuesday. That is July 13 at 7:30 p.m. and August 10 at 7:30 p.m. At present we have yet to solidify plans for these meetings. We usually use business casual for our summer meetings and that will likely be the case.

Other events may be organized, but the Independence Day Parade was cancelled by the City of Oswego. Be on the lookout for emails.

As I write this in early May, I have just heard that RW Harry Frazier has sold his house and will soon move to Indiana. RW Brother Harry has been with Lake City Lodge since we were located on Rt. 104. He has served as Worshipful Master numerous times, is one of our finest ritualists, a great teacher, mentor and all around source of Masonic wisdom. He is a Purple Club member, having served the Oswego District in many ways, not the least of which was as District Deputy Grand Master.

While we all, of course, wish him and his family well as they move on, our farewell is bittersweet, as he will sorely be missed. He has an amazing way of taking the lofty teachings of our Gentle Craft and making them easily understood by all. Here's wishing the best to Harry!

Following is a closing quote from a Brother:

"I ask of each Mason, of each member, of each brother, that he shall remember ever that there is upon him a peculiar obligation to show himself in every respect a good citizen; for after all, the way he can best do his duty by the Ancient Order to which he belongs is by reflecting credit upon that Order by the way in which he performs his duty as a citizen of the United States."— Brother Theodore Roosevelt, 26<sup>th</sup> 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, it is nice to see that many are returning to the quarries. We have missed the camaraderie and company of each other.

We had our first chicken barbecue on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> of April. We sold out in a very short time. Not only did we miss each other, it also looks like the community missed our chickens, too. Many of the patrons said they

are happy to see us back.

I'd like to give an update on a few Brothers we know have not been feeling well. If you would like to send a card please contact me and I will provide their address. W Brother Donald Lord has been fighting bouts of pneumonia after a fall he had in February. Don is currently in the Masonic Care Community in Utica, rehabilitating. Brother Wayne Long, I am told, is back home with his brother in New Berlin recuperating from a stroke. Thanks go to Brother George McCormick for keeping us updated on his status. Brother Jim Lemm told us at our first meeting in April that he is feeling much better after a cardiac procedure in May of last year.

We held our annual meeting for election of officers and I am proud to share with you the new elected line: WM Bryan Morse, SW Charles Tuff Jr., JW Joel Morse, Treasurer Paul Morse, Secretary Shawn Tuff. Due to time constraints in submitting this article, the appointed line was not completed. I will announce them in our next column.

I want to take this time to recognize a few Brothers who have birthdays this month. They are Donald E. Lord, Carl L. Shaw Jr., Christopher D. Tuff and Patrick D. Violando. All of the officers and Brothers of Scriba wish them a happy birthday.

In closing, my Brothers, this past year has been difficult on all of us, especially our older Brothers. Hopefully, we are starting to see this pandemic subside and we can find ways for all of us to gather and share the stories of our experience. Stay well, my Brothers, and travel safely.

Shawn Tuff

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

WM Duane Crapser



Brothers, don't forget that until December 31 you can become a Noble with Tigris Shrine for just \$85. This includes your 2021 dues and your fez. Come join us in Shrinedom.

This month I decided to write one article for Hiram Lodge and Tigris Shrine. Remember that we are all creating a legacy—make it count.

A few years back, I learned that the age to become a Mason was lowered from 21 to 18 years of age. I set the magazine down on my kitchen table and went to find two of my sons who were now of age to become a Mason. Without hesitation one son requested a petition. He is the level-headed son who has plans for his plans. Every step he takes has been clearly assessed and looked at. He has his faith in place and knows where he was first a Mason. He was ready for

**Hiram**  
**see page 7**



# CORTLAND-MADISON DISTRICT

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

Brethren, first, please let me begin by thanking RW Moe Skinner Jr. for his service to the Cortland-Madison District representing Grand Master William Sardone these last three year—especially during the last fourteen months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Helping the District Lodges adjust to the various openings, closures, adjustments to ritual and guiding us in what we could and could not do probably was not something discussed in his training. On behalf of the Cortland-Madison District, we wish RW Skinner the best in his new location and ask him to keep in touch.

Secondly, I would like to congratulate VW Walter Boronow from Tri-Valley Lodge on his appointment as Assistant Grand Lecturer. VW Boronow joins our other two AGLs, RW Dave Walter and VW Richard Reed assisting you with your ritual needs and questions. VW Reed will be appointed Staff Officer once the new Grand Master is elected and installed.

I congratulate the various Lodges for working within the constantly changing guidelines and change in ritual and continuing to work this last year in their own way. That includes bringing new Brothers into the Craft.

Moving forward I will continue to represent MW Sardone within the District until the recessed Grand Lodge session resumes and a successor has been elected and installed. At this point in time, all Lodges in the District have elected and installed their officers. Sometime in June the AGLs and I will have a Master's Chair class for all incoming Masters, both new and for those who have already served in the East. Remember that Masonic education is an ongoing process, even for the Past Masters.

Please remember to keep your needy Brothers, widows and orphans in mind. Masonic charities across the board have understandably had a significant reduction in contributions this last year. The Grand Lodge Brotherhood Fund can use any donation you can contribute.

Please keep me informed on anything happening within your Lodge. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 607/423-2669 or email [hipper62@yahoo.com](mailto:hipper62@yahoo.com).

Wade A. Caler

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

**STAFF OFFICER'S REPORT**  
*No News Received*

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

WM Ralph I. Haney Jr.,  
Secy Walter Boronow,  
315/495-2855 H  
315/750-5985 C,  
[walterisagenius@aol.com](mailto:walterisagenius@aol.com)

My Brothers, my term as Master of this Worshipful Lodge has concluded. I've held elected or appointed offices consecutively throughout my forty-nine years in this great Fraternity. I'd like to begin by thanking my wife Coleen Toombs for her patience and support. Each year I would return home with a new obligation. Without her support I would not have been able to experience in full what Masonry has to offer. My weary feet will continue to work in and out of the quarries but I'll be spending more time at home and in the woods.

RW Ralph I. Haney Jr. has stepped up in a large way once again to lead this Lodge as Installed Master. Please give him your full support as you have given me.

There's plenty of work in front of us as we Initiated three new Entered Apprentices in late April. A focus on Masonic education has begun with bi-monthly EA classes. We have visiting EAs who have been properly vouched for who join us as well. There's a role for every Lodge member or visitor to partake of Masonic education as we come together as Brothers and build. Light refreshments will be served.

The month of June can hold the promise of fellowship. We strive to join with concordant bodies at Lodge where a picnic may be held. The time is drawing near but we may not know till the end of the month if this can safely and effectively be held. Let's stay positive. Dinners of the same may be held in the months following.

As we continue to meet during the summer months, RW Ralph I. Haney Jr. expressed his desire to open and close Lodge on the First Degree. These can be exciting times for our Lodge and the Fraternity as a whole. You get out of it what you put in. Stay in touch.

Chuck Toombs

**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, I would like to thank W Cliff Kostuk for the work he has done for the Lodge in the last couple years. I have some plans for this coming year for Masonic education and fun programs. We are going to do "Adopt a Highway" on a two-mile stretch on Rte. 281. This will

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

**RW David R. Walter**  
**hydevilles1116@gmail.com**  
**607/725-7227**  
*No News Received*

be starting soon.

Also, we need to support the two new RWs of the Cortland-Madison District. They are from our Lodge so we will be traveling with them. See you in Lodge soon.  
Kim C. Dellow

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

WM Tom Whitney

Brethren, I was recently part of a Lodge deliberation on membership and I have some things I think it is important that we all think about. Our Craft as a whole is doing a wonderful job coming together again. Across the system we need to focus on building new memories with the traditions of past to fit our current times. Let bygones be bygones and adapt, mold our future for the next generation. There are keys to this process we must utilize. Remember, our paths may seem insignificant yet they lay the walkway which good men will follow. There are three of everything in our Craft, so mote it be. Here are three Rs I want you and your Lodge to think about and use.

Recruitment: Now, "To be one, Ask one" is outdated. "To be one, act and talk as one" is more fitting here. Be visible, be available and make the most of your time with Brothers. We make a scene when we are together

## Oswego from page 6 . . .

**Hiram . . .**

his Degrees.

My oldest son had questions and played the what-if game. That question I have heard many times when talking Masonry. What if I do not have the same faith as you? Now, some would think that is an easy question to answer, but not for one of my sons. You see, their dad is not an easy-going person who has much grey area in his beliefs; and he knows that. Like me and so many others as young men, he believed in something but could not define it.

I will never forget the conversation that took place with my two sons who were now the proper age to kneel for their obligation. It's the conversation about faith. I believe in the Bible as written. Every word to me has been recorded as part of a historical document. Many have a faith that interprets the Bible differently.

We stood next to the island in our kitchen. "Dad, I know what you are saying but there is so much more out there that you and I don't know," he said.

No, you are not hearing

in a good way. Who wouldn't want to be part of a fun group. This always leads to people asking questions and wanting to be a part.

Retention: This is arguably the most important piece we seem to forget. Lodge is a heck of a lot more than four walls and roof. Just yesterday I heard ten stories of what made me a Mason and all of them ended with bonds and companionship. So how do we focus this "Give me a reason to be here?" Open, close and go home is not a reason. That's the detail and structure. What is your Lodge's niche? Don't know? Well, that's your starting point: find it.

Remember: To all of our members with a lot of years under their belt, this section is critical to success for we, the new brethren. Change is a small word that is super scary. I get it. Nobody, not even we like it. However it is possible to modify things and remember our culture. Tradition doesn't change, teachings don't change but times do. We can still be traditional and make a new experience. Think of it as a road map. Getting from A to B is the important goal. However, there are probably thirteen different paths there. Don't jump right to no! when ideas come in. Perhaps you can help plan how we can use a new tool in the same quarry.

Anyway, I thought this important to share with everyone as positive food for thought. We are Brothers; brothers may disagree but brothers always remain family. We have grown and adapted for our entire existence. We are at that crossroad now. Do we grow or do we die? Do not let the little bump in the road scare you.

I look forward to a fun summer. Hopefully, I'll be seeing all my Brothers soon.

Tom Whitney

what I am saying, I would tell him. As a Mason we all know that our beloved Craft is not a religion. But we also know that it is always brought up to prospective members.

Those who know me know I have a rock-solid faith in God. Well, that faith did not happen overnight and neither did my son's. As at so many times in my life, one of my sons needed to step in to say words that I was not saying.

"Listen to me! Dad is telling you your belief that 'something is out there' is a belief in a higher being."

Yup, it was that easy. Me raising my voice to my off-age son, who had had a few adult beverages, had not worked. But the calm voice of his younger brother did. Now that we all agreed that there is and always was a higher power than all of us, the petitions were signed and it was time to plan a Degree.

It is not a secret that I am not a ritual guy. I have my own ideas that I feel would help Masonry advance into

**Hiram**  
**see 5th column**

our current climate of fast learning. My District came together to give all of our candidates three great Degrees. I was honored to extend the first hand each of my sons held while being Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

What I learned very quickly was that my sons were taking to ritual much easier than I ever did. They were enthusiastic about being Masons and starting their Masonic career. But that was short lived, as it happens with so many young men. One got married, joined the Navy, had a baby and moved away. The other joined the National Guard and got his deployment papers before he had finished his schooling.

Before shipping off both of my sons joined the Shrine. It is no secret in my home that I love being a Shriner. Naturally, I would drop petitions in their lap for Tigris Shrine. They both happily became Nobles.

As time went on, our home Lodge Mexico 136 merged with Hiram Lodge 144, forming Hiram 136. I went from being Master for four years to a Trustee in Lodge. In the Shrine I had started my journey to where I am today: Potentate of Tigris Shrine in Syracuse. My sons have been able to make a few meetings. They have been to a business meeting and afterward said, "Why waste time going to just hear minutes read and hear people complain without any solution?" Good question.

Sadly, many people feel the same way. Why be involved if being involved is a fight. What happened to the brotherhood? What happened to helping our community? So many Lodges—well, that isn't fair—so many Masons have forgotten that we are part of a giving, charitable organization. Pinching pennies and fighting over helping a family in need tends to come before knocking on a family's door with bags full of groceries. Making sure everyone knows "That is not how it was done in the past" takes priority over calling a Brother who has not been to Lodge or Shrine in a long time and offering to pick him up for a meeting.

It is truly my fault that these frustrations have been brought home. These topics of tension have been heard by another son who has been of age to be a Mason for three years now.

"Dad, I don't need to be a Mason to be a good person," or "I can help people and not have to deal with all the crap you complain about," he has said many times.

Until recently. A fellow Noble and dear friend lost his dad recently and it was time to pay our respects. With my oldest away in the Navy, he paid his respects online. The two younger brothers made the trip to the Celebration of Life for Marty Santy.

To his son's surprise, Marty was a member of DeMolay. He never became a Mason but attended many Shriner events, supporting his son Jimmy Santy and the Fraternity that he dedicates

so much of himself to.

I am not sure if my doubting son was inspired by the fact that he and the man he was paying respect to both knelt to become a member of DeMolay as young men. Or maybe it was a few cocktails and the words of a Brother Mason. But that night my third son put his name on the petition to become a Mason. Now the young man who did not know he was always on the path to becoming a Mason is seeking light.

He has asked many questions and has some anxiety about what will take place during his journey but the best advice I can give him is that I will be there for him as I was for his Brothers. Mine will be the first hand held when he is Raised a Master Mason.

This is not the end, my fellow Brothers and Nobles, this is just the beginning. How will we groom the next generation of Masons to carry the weight as we age? Will we dig in our heels, screaming and mumbling "This is not how we did it" or will we listen to new ideas? Can we adjust to new thinking, as we had to when our ritual books went from symbols to code? Our survival depends on the ability to change while maintaining the teaching of our Craft.

Duane Crapser

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

WM Edward Dayton,  
315/243-6863

Greetings, Brethren. As most know, April 22 was a special communication, the day of our First Degree for two Brothers. I, Master of the Lodge, and all brethren of the Lodge welcome them on their journey in Freemasonry with Central Square Lodge 622. As I'll be preparing my Trestleboard this summer, the plan is to have a Second Degree in the fall with a possible Third in December or early spring. More information will come as we are moving forward.

May 20 was election of officers, with installation following. The next two meetings are as planned. For June 3 we are Calling all Lodges: If you have never seen and would like to see an Empty Chair Degree, we will perform it at Central Square Lodge 622 on June 3. All are welcome to join us. Masks and social distancing are in effect.

June 17 will be our annual awards ceremony, which was cancelled last year. I am so looking forward to honoring my Brothers for the many years of serving the Craft that we all enjoy.

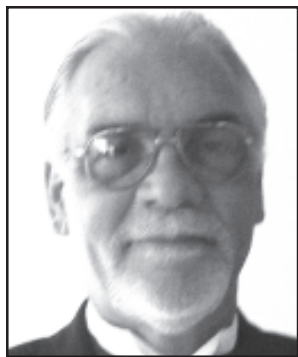
Our summer plans are locked and loaded. Chicken and rib barbecues are as follows: June 5, June 22, July 17, August 7 and August 21. There may be dates in September but that depends on whether there's an applefest or not. So on that front there is more to come. Please,

**Central Square**  
**see page 4**



# CAYUGA-TOMPKINS DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



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

Greetings, All. Here are some June dates to remember (it's a good month for eating). June 1 is "Say Something Nice Day." June 2 is Doughnut Day or I Love My Dentist Day or National Rocky Road Day. June 3 is Egg Day and the day of the first U.S. spacewalk. On June 4 the first Ford was made; it is National Frozen Yogurt Day. June 5 is World Environment Day. June 6 is National Yo-Yo Day. June 7 is National Chocolate Ice Cream Day. June 8: National Jelly-Filled Doughnut Day. June 9 is International Young Eagles Day. June 10 signifies National Flag Week, somehow. June 12 is National Peanut Butter Cookie Day. June 13 recognizes National Juggling Day and National Lobster Day.

June 14 is Flag Day, a day for all Americans to celebrate and show respect for our flag. Our flag represents the United States of America and its citizens. We should pause today to recognize our great country and our great citizens over the ages. Our flag represents our independence and our unity as a nation—one nation, under God, indivisible. Our flag has a proud and glorious history. It was in the lead at every battle fought by Americans. Many people have died protecting it. It even stands proudly on the surface of the moon. By the way, this is Pop goes the Weasel Day.

June 15 is Fly a Kite Day. June 16 is Fudge Day. June 18 is International Picnic Day.

June 19—"Juneteenth"—is also known as Black Independence Day. Juneteenth honors enslaved people, African American heritage and the many contributions that Black people have made to the United States.

June 20 is the Summer Solstice, the official start of summer and the longest day of the year. It is also Father's Day. On this day we also thank fathers and father figures for the sacrifices they make, for embracing the responsibility of nurturing and raising children and for devotion to their family.

June 24 signals Deaf-Blindness Awareness Week

**More DDGM  
see 2nd column**

## STAFF OFFICER



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

*No News Received*

### DDGM from 1st column . . .

and is St. John the Baptist Day. June 25 is National Catfish Day. June 26 is National Chocolate Pudding Day. June 27 is National Orange Blossom Day. June 28: Paul Bunyan Day. June 29 is Camera Day and June 30 is Meteor Day.

Around the District, Lodges are meeting in person again. Elections have been completed and the installation of officers continues. For Brothers serving as Master for the first time, we are looking at the need to schedule a District Investiture Service. Stay tuned. Secretaries, don't forget to send in your Lodge election report to Grand Lodge—and a copy to me.

On May 6 Caroline Lodge conferred the First Degree on two new Brothers. It was the first time it was held under the pandemic guidelines. All went well but it was definitely different.

As Lodges are opening up, there are signs that the activity level is increasing. Lodges are planning summer events in anticipation that the restrictions will be loosened soon. Take-out chicken barbecues and the like are happening, Golf tournaments are being scheduled and other outdoor programs are on the calendar. Remember those men waiting in the wings to become part of your Lodge. Summer events are a great opportunity to bring them around to get to know your members and for your members to get to know them.

As of this writing (early May), Grand Lodge has not lifted any of the restrictions for meetings and travel. Hopefully, by the time you are reading this, things will be better in those regards. In the meantime, keep a positive outlook and trust that we will be moving in a forward direction. Don't forget to let me know when your Lodge is holding an event. I look forward to being a part of your Masonic life. Stay safe; do good things.

Dave Barnello

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURER

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

Brethren, I'm hoping all is well around the District. As we are starting to see Lodges meeting again, I am sure some Lodges have candidates in waiting. Please don't be afraid to reach for help.

I would at this time like to reach out to you for assistance. I would like to get a list from every Lodge in the District of who is proficient in Degree work, who is willing to help out other Lodges in need. For example, who does the Historical Lectures, the Middle Chamber Lecture, the Q & A, Charges, the Bible presentation, apron presentation, Working Tools? Who does the different parts of all the Degrees? Some Lodges in our District struggle to achieve manpower enough to have a meeting let alone do Degree work. Your help with this would be greatly appreciated.

On May 6 Caroline Lodge No. 681 conferred an Entered Apprentice Degree following the new guidelines. It can be done. I would like to welcome the two new Brothers and congratulate them.

In closing, we look forward to working with each Lodge in our District, helping with their needs. I look forward to hearing back from you. God bless.

Jeffrey Lampman  
Anthony Vaughan

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

WM Tim Carmon  
wift Kelly

We finally seem to be able to conduct Lodge on a regular basis. In the past we struggled to have five members present to open. Our meeting last night, on May 5, had twelve members in attendance. More important was the completion of the Entered Apprentice Degree for our new Brother. RW Paul Schenck delivered the Historical Lecture, did a great job, and we are glad he's back.

We continue to have a Table Lodge on the third Tuesday each month. We really appreciate the efforts of Brother Steve Hunter for preparing the dinners. I'm looking forward to our next meeting.

Our annual chicken barbecue was held on May 22 at the Trinity United Church of Christ. The event was take-out only with curbside pickup. We took orders by phone.

The 2020-2021 Masonic Brotherhood Fund drive has been winding down, but it is never too late to give. Send your check to Ken Pollard: 5173 Plaster Point, Cayuga, NY 13034.

The Birthday Corner con-

veys Happy-Birthday wishes to three Brothers. Brother Ed Smith and Brother Dave Balcom share June 21. Brother Dodman turns 75 on June 23.

Finally, best wishes go to W Brother Randy Mayer as he travels to Ohio for the wedding of his daughter Jordan. What a proud father!

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

Greetings, Brothers. Our in-person Lodge meeting on May 6 was our first in over a year. This was exciting, for sure. The dark tunnel of the pandemic is now behind us. Every Brother in attendance was fully vaccinated and we all had a sense of relief and encouragement. We have new officers, with installation scheduled for June 3.

The chicken barbecue on Mother's Day, May 9, was a success. June 20 will feature beef brisket dinners for Father's Day, so get your orders in early. Call 315/840-0391 or use Facebook.

Our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament is on Sunday, June 27 at Meadowbrook in Weedsport. The shotgun start time is 9:00 a.m. We are introducing new and exciting features and lots of great food. All players will get prizes. Call for details and an entry form. We are limited regarding the number of teams so it's important to contact Gary Mowers at 315/246-7029 or Dave Barnello at 315/283-6705 to reserve your team.

As we move down the road, Degree work and getting back to normal will be among our main goals. Planning for Service Awards is underway for this summer. Stay tuned. Until next time, stay safe and healthy.

Gary Mowers

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

G. Scott Harris  
gscott09@gmail.com  
315/406-4646  
Secy Tom Ostrander,  
tostrander7948@gmail.com,  
315/224-0940



Brothers, our prayers go out to Brother Mike Finizio and his dad, who is having a tough go in Hospice Care. W Harold Parker is home recuperating after a fall. RW Sandy Ward, a fifty-three-year Mason, passed away in Gaffney, SC on Saturday 15, 2021. Sandy was a Past Master from Sea & Field Lodge No. 3-974 in 1972 and of Auburn No. 124 in 1990. He was also a Past DDGM from the Cayuga-Tompkins District.

The May 6 meeting was election of officers. The 2021-22 slate is as follows: Worshipful Master G. Scott Harris Jr.; SW Joe Sheppard; JW Scott Bennett; Treasurer VWF. John Kruger IV; Secretary RW Tom Ostrander; Trustee RW Tony Tabone. The appointed officers list will be sent out when it is confirmed. We also approved our 2021-22 budget

at that meeting.

The recent chicken barbecue for the Rainbow Girls was very successful, with a profit of \$1290 for our very special young ladies. All the items needed, except chickens, were donated by the Lodge Brothers, and some cash, too. Their thanks go to the guys.

The scheduled \$50 raffle has been terminated due to unfortunate circumstances. If you purchased a ticket you will be reimbursed. Contact me if there is an issue.

June 3 will be our Scholarship Recipient Night with awardees to be revealed when the committee finishes its deliberations. Also that night, we will honor our Brothers with Service Awards. Virgil Switzer has sixty-five years; Dennis Haines, fifty-five years; RW Tom Ostrander is a fifty-year member; Gary Caldwell has forty years; and RW Dave Bowman, thirty-five. VW Jeff Green and James Kahn have thirty years; W Stephen Persaile, W Craig Coleman and W Bill Pipher are twenty-year Brothers; RW Steve Howard, RW Mike Miller and W Dave Wawro have fifteen years. Robert Webster is a ten-year member; while Josh Hinton, Scott Bennett, Rob Gleason and Frederick James have been Brothers for five years.

The Lodge Scholarship Golf Tournament will be on July 25 at Meadowbrook Golf Course. The information has already been sent out.

Last but not least: A Masonic Memorial Service for R. Allen Shotwell, age 101 and an almost-seventy-eight-year Mason from Scipio 110, was held on May 15 and officiated by RW Steve Zabriskie. Worshipful Brother Shotwell was father-in-law to RW Dave Bowman, Auburn Lodge and a sitting Grand Chaplain. Brother Bowman participated and placed Brother Shotwell's apron.

Take care, God bless. I hope to see you soon.

Tommy Ostrander

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

WM Edmund E. Maassen II,  
Secy Stephen L. Zabriskie,  
zabled@aol.com

Greetings, Brothers. It is finally May. The furnace is still running and we are all mowing our lawns between the raindrops.

With May came an abbreviated Grand Lodge session with the current officers still in place until a later session, possibly November. Scipio Lodge has a new slate of officers for 2021-2022. Ed Maassen was elected to WM; B. Scott Ward is SW; Richard Bradley stays at JW; Virgil Farlow is Treasurer; and Steve Zabriskie is Secretary. Bill Hitchcock was re-elected to a three-year term as Trustee.

Brother Richard Bradley's wife Alice continues to improve; our condolences go out to David Passmore who recently lost his grandfather. As David

told me, he lost his best friend and he will be sorely missed.

RW Stephen Zabriskie led a Masonic funeral service for R. Allen Shotwell on May 15. Even though we all had to follow COVID guidelines the event was well attended.

Scipio Lodge has on its Trestleboard Second Degree practices scheduled and a Brother Bring a Friend night. After a six to seven-month hiatus we are trying very hard to get our momentum moving forward again.

I thank my Brothers of Scipio Lodge for electing me WM. It is a great honor for me to serve you and I will try my best to get us moving forward. With the help I know I will receive from the Brothers it looks like a positive year. Stay healthy and safe.

Ed Maassen II

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

WM Steve Yaple,  
Mike McLaughlin  
Mmclaugh1@twcny.rr.com

Hello, Brothers. The lights are on at the Lodge and we have had a couple of in-person meetings. While Zoom allowed us to conduct business there is nothing as fulfilling as having in-person contact with our Brothers.

We have our new slate of officers for next year and Worshipful Brother Steve Yaple will once again take the Master's chair. Last year's line officers will remain in line and move up in 2023.

We still have candidates in waiting and it's our game plan to do Degrees at the beginning of 2022. These candidates are all still excited about becoming members but are willing to wait for Degrees to return to normal so they can get the full effect of the experience.

Banners of graduating high school students will be up on Main Street soon to honor the graduates. This year the Lodge is assisting with the seventy-four banners.

If you are aware of any Brother in need of aid or assistance or if you need something please let me know. The Brothers and I are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible as soon as possible. If you have any questions about what's going on drop me a line and we can talk.

Mike McLaughlin

**CAYUGA 221**  
Rt. 34  
Scipio Center, NY 13147  
1st & 3rd Wed., 8:00 p.m.

WM Jeff Lampman  
315/406-8050  
Secy Sid Gilmore,  
sidg33@aol.com

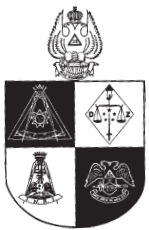
Greetings, my Brothers. Summer is upon us and many things to do.

On May 5 we had eleven members at Lodge and it was nice to see some faces we haven't seen in a while. We welcome Worshipful

**Cayuga  
see page 4**



# Scottish Riter



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

Consistory

Greetings. What a year in the Valley of Syracuse! Thanks to the talent, skills and dedication of our members, the Valley was able to present programs for our Scottish Rite Brothers to enjoy in the comfort and safety of their home. Many of our programs would not have been possible without the support of Ill. David P. Spencer, 33° Deputy for New York State.

We presented the Seventh and Twenty-third Degrees as virtual radio Degrees. Ill. Gary Hartman, 33° and Ill. Richard J. Powell, 33° adapted these Degrees, adding special scenes and effects to enhance the presentation. DB Terry Byard, 32°, MSA and DB William H. Toth II, 32° MSA handled the casting. We received many compliments and I thank all cast members.

Other virtual events included a music program by DB James Nelson, 32° MSA and the Robert Burns Supper hosted by Ill. Richard J. Powell, 33°. The Children’s Dyslexia Center Virtual Gala fundraiser was successful. SPRS Gary Hamburg, 32°, the MWM of the Chapter of Rose Croix, cast a live presentation of the Feast of the Paschal Lamb. This was live streamed thanks to SPRS Joseph Stabb, 32°. Joe leaves soon for Tennessee to accept a teaching position and we wish him luck.

Our first Rite on the Road presented by Terry brought in four new members. This is a validation. And I thank SPRS James McNeal for organizing the DSA members into a vital service group to become involved in activities in our Valley.

We Knighted nine of our newest members SPRS 32° AASR. The Knighting team was Ill. David E. Barnes, 33°, Ill. Richard J. Powell, 33° and DB Douglas H. Storey, 32° MSA. Many Brothers are still waiting to receive their Thirty-second Degree as soon as we can schedule a live event.

If any Lodge would like a Scottish Rite program for its Trestleboard please contact our office. Special thanks go to the talented and dedicated office staff, Ill. James D. Swan Jr., 33°, Sharon Swan and Sharon Fox.

Lawrence W. Egnaczyk

Rose Croix

The Chapter of Rose Croix’s year is drawing to a close, with the election of new officers on May 10. As the officers of the Chapter have chosen to advance, this is my last article as Most Wise Master.

The year was short due to COVID-19. The Chapter was limited to one event and no dinners. I am thankful to

all my Brothers who participated in the Feast of the Paschal Lamb, which was well done and honored those members who have passed. This may have been the first to be shown live on the Internet by the Valley of Syracuse, but I trust it won’t be last. Thanks go to Joe Stabb for his skills to video this event and stream it online.

I also thank Caleb Haines and Hank Havener, Past Most Wise Masters, for their support and training while I served as Junior and Senior Warden. I trust that I have given to Richard Barrett, the new Most Wise Master, and Joe Stabb, Senior Warden, enough support and encouragement to perform their duties in the coming year. I am a phone call away for advice and support.

Greatest thanks go to the administration staff, Jim, Sharon and Sharon, and to Larry Egnaczyk, Terry Byard (one of my sponsors for the Valley) and Jim McNeal for their encouragement and support and for their desire to make the Valley of Syracuse the best in the Northern Jurisdiction. I have enjoyed this year and I thank those who have helped make me a better Scottish Rite member. I look forward to seeing all of you as the Valley gets back to business as usual.

Gary W. Hamburg

Lodge of Perfection

Greetings, Princes. By the time of publication we should be full into our summer months with fun and family in the great outdoors. We have hopes that this summer brings freedom from the long and laborious restrictions of COVID-19.

This summer marks a renewed spirit in the Valley of Syracuse. On May 10 the Valley held its annual meeting, election and installation of officers. Several will remain in position, a few will move up and a couple of new leaders have stepped up to a more active role in the Valley. All are excited to serve and work hard to make 2021-2022 the best term ever.

Part of renewed spirit is a project to enhance interest in the Knights of St. Andrew Chapter. The Knights of St. Andrew is a service club purposed to assist the four Bodies in the events and Degrees of the Valley, while having fun with a Scottish flair. On Monday, May 24 the Syracuse Chapter held a reorganizational Zoom meeting. They plan to host an in-person evening of initiation, election and installation of officers on Monday, June 14. I highly recommend all new Princes get involved and attend this meeting.

We are also happy to say our 2021 Family Life Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 7 at the Cicero Legion. It is sure to be a great event with barbecue and games for the whole family.

As Leadership continues to develop content-filled programming, we hope you find renewed interest and come support your Valley. If you have found this to be an important part of your Masonic experience, ask a Brother to join. With Thursday Night at the Rite, Rite on the Road and active Valley resources, it’s easier than ever to get started.

The Lodge of Perfection wishes you and your family the best of summers with warmth, sunshine, freedom and fun. God bless.

Terry A. Byard

Princes of Jerusalem

Greetings, Sovereign Princes. People are planting flowers and golfing, birds are singing in the early morning and people are actually outside. Could it be that summer is finally coming to Central New York? I hope so because that means that getting together, in some capacity, can’t be far behind.

By the time you read this the Valley has installed the officers for the next year. Let’s hope that this year we can do some live events, in a safe way, of course.

I want to wish all the fathers out there a happy Father’s Day on June 20. Also, don’t forget that Flag Day is June 14, so please fly our nation’s flag with pride.

One thing that we would encourage is ideas from Brothers who are not officers. You never know if something will work until you try it. We have some of the most innovative and creative Brothers in all of Scottish Rite in our Valley. Let’s hear from you.

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

James McNeal

Hospitaler

Greetings, Brothers. In last month’s article I promised to address some issues of growing old. Each decade of our life seems devoted to a specific task: buying a home, raising a family and planning our retirement. At age 70, (for those lucky enough to get there) we begin to address our mortality.

In my early seventies I began to notice a change in my abilities. What once was a brisk walk out to get the mail has now slowed so that I have to stop and catch my breath. Things that I did naturally now became harder—maintaining the car, doing yard work. Each year seems to bring a new ache or pain and a referral to another specialist. Aging is not just a physical

adaptation but also an emotional one. Next month I will address the emotional interaction with aging.

Continue to keep those in need in our thoughts. If you are able to help the Hospitaler’s Fund, please



Central City Consistory



Central City Chapter



Central City Council



Central City Lodge

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

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

June 2021

Jun 7 ..... Trustees Annual/Executive Committee Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Note: We will continue to send specific event invitation notices from the office for all personal and virtual future events, as we are allowed to meet.

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

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

Allegiance

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

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

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

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

send a check to “Central City Bodies” directed for the Hospitaler’s Fund. There may be some Scottish Rite masks left. Stop by the office and buy one.

If you need confidential assistance please contact Bob Tyrrell or me. Continue to follow safe guidelines.

Dick Freeman

Notes from the Children’s Dyslexia Center CNY

I find it hard to believe that we are coming to the end of our academic year. We have made it through, following all the protocols for COVID-19; due to that, we had no firsthand issues with COVID. That does not mean we had no attendance issues for tutors and children due to possible outside exposure. We pray that next year will find us resuming a more normal schedule. Nine students will return next year and we plan to welcome eight new children. We have recruited three tutor/scholars for next fall and two scholars from the last two years complete their training this month.

We were sorry to miss our Recognition Ceremony last June due to the pandemic and are happy to acknowledge all the children and tutors from the last two years this June. Though we cannot open the event to the public as we have in the past (it is an Invitation/Reservation-only admittance, per COVID guidelines), I want to reiterate that our program only happens because of your continued support.

The center continues to be busy as tutors help their children close the year. I am busy with Post-Assessments (another thing that did not happen last year) and we are working on schedule and

roster for the fall. Gineal keeps us on track, making sure we complete yearend requirements for Headquarters.

I won’t see many of you at the Recognition Ceremony but I do hope to see you at the Annual Golf Tournament on August 6 at Vesper Hills. I will be no threat, as I have not played golf since our last tourney. Keep a lookout for our fall events and news of next year’s GALA. Blessing to all.

Linda L. Martin

Teddy Bear Golf Classic returns

Hold Friday, August 6 for the Teddy Bear Classic Golf Tournament to support Children’s Dyslexia Center-CNY. The live event is back for 2021. The Captain and Crew tournament tees off at 10:00 a.m. at Vesper Hills Golf Course in Vesper, NY (Tully). Find refreshments at the turn and a pork barbecue at the finish. The entry fee is \$100 per golfer, with ladies and non-Masons welcome.

Hole sponsorships, with a sign on the tee, are encouraged at \$100 per sponsorship. One hundred tickets are also available to win a custom-fitted driver or \$300. These are \$20 per ticket.

Contact Craig Cobb at 315/446-0625 or [cobb3@verizon.net](mailto:cobb3@verizon.net) or the Valley of Syracuse office at 315/452-7976 or [ny017@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:ny017@twcnny.rr.com) with questions or to enter the drawing.

Summer events

Two popular summertime Family Life programs were suspended in 2020 due to COVID-19. We are in optimistic planning to restore these events for summer 2021 but continue subject to the state of COVID-19 restrictions.

The date for a night at the Syracuse Mets ball game has not yet been chosen. The Family life picnic is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 7. This event is at the Cicero American Legion facilities.

Please keep these activities in mind. Hopefully, we will be able to hold them. Your comments and thoughts about these events are welcome.

AASR comes to Lodge near you

The Valley of Syracuse has begun the “Rite on the Road” Degree conferral program, bringing the Fourth Degree, “Builder” to local Lodges. This first Scottish Rite Degree opens a Master Mason’s pathway to become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason.

A Membership Team representative from Central City Bodies, AASR will contact your Lodge to assess interest. You may select a convenient time to schedule the program. You may also contact the Valley of Syracuse office for more information: 315/452-7976 or [ny017@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:ny017@twcnny.rr.com).

Member Dues

Dues notices for 2021 were sent from Supreme Council in August 2020. If you have not paid your 2021 member’s dues please do so as soon as possible. Special notices will be sent soon to all members who are not current. Membership in the Central City Bodies will be suspended for those owing dues for years 2019 and before, effective June 10, 2021.

You will receive your 2022 member’s dues invoice from Supreme Council by the end of August 2021. Take note that 2022 dues will increase by \$3, due to a Supreme Council Assessment.



# YORK RITE BODIES



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

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

Companions, Masonically, meetings typically dwindle after June and resume in September. With the COVID crisis still looming, some Chapters may still not be meeting in-person on a regular basis. For those that are, I remind you to follow the current protocols. For those that are not, I suggest virtual meetings until you are ready.

I held three out of four Official Visits for the 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District in April and May with only Lake Ontario Chapter remaining, to be held on Thursday, June 10 at 7:30 p.m. I will arrive by 7:00 p.m. to do the examination of the books per OV protocol and I look forward to seeing everyone in Oswego.

As new information is sent out from Grand Chapter, I send it along to the Chapter High Priests and Secretaries. As a Companion of any Chapter in our District, if you are not getting emails from your Chapter please contact your Secretary and ask why. Communication is extremely important at any time but especially now in our current situation. Please stay in touch.

Central City Riverside will be celebrating 200 years in July. Keep an eye out for information from them on their celebration and attend if you can.

Hands Across the Border usually happens in October with our Canadian Companions. I know the Oswego Companions have hopes that this may still happen this year but that will depend upon whether the border opens. Watch for developing news.

Companions, prep yourself this summer to return to Chapter in September. Review your ritual so that your first opening and closing will go smoothly. Charles H. Platt Chapter hopes to resume Degrees this fall. They have several waiting on the Holy Royal Arch Degree and others waiting to start. Good luck to them.

Have a safe summer. Get vaccinated if you haven't already and remember to still wear your mask. See you in September.

Richard J. Powell

**Past  
Grand Master  
Carl J. Fitje  
Sponsor**

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

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

Greetings, Companions of the 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District. I hope this communication finds everyone doing well and your Chapters moving forward toward regular meetings. We have completed three Official Visits by this time and we are hopeful that more visits to your Chapters will be happening regularly.

Our District is blessed with having two celebrations of milestone anniversaries: Charles H. Platt has celebrated their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Rededication; and June will see Central City Riverside celebrating 200 years. These are quite the achievements and we congratulate our Companions in these Chapters for their decades of service and devotion to Royal Arch Masonry.

Our District will be holding our Royal Arch Masons Grand Lecturer's Convention on October 26 at Central City Riverside Chapter in Liverpool. More details on this event will come as we firm up plans while watching what restrictions from Grand Lodge we may be under.

A means of assistance in memorization is to rehearse your parts while including whatever motions you might make to emphasize your ritual work. Planning movements and motions, placement in the Tabernacle, as well as how you recite your parts—all assist in providing memory aids. Doing your part consistently with similar motions gives your brain another hold on the words that you are reciting. Even practicing at home, whenever possible, using motions during your recitation will help make the two parts into a sort of muscle memory. If you are practicing in a place where you cannot make the motions, you can at least visualize making them so they become entwined together. Actors frequently practice on stage moving to their spots or make motions while they are memorizing their lines. Many feel this helps them in learning the whole performance faster.

I am wishing you a wonderful spring and, soon, summer season. Let's have renewed Zeal for our Chapters.

Jim Nelson

## District 13 RAM

Greetings, Companions. Tuesday, April 20 was not only the regular convocation of King David Chapter, Auburn, but also the Official Visits of RE Clayton R. Ruggles, DDGHP, and VE Michael A. Miller, AGL. Also present were RE Jamie

Kaim Jr., Grand RAC, and RE Ralph Haney Jr., Grand MIV, Royal Arch Masons, State of NY.

RE Haney presented the diamond chip to recently anointed High Priest, E Anthony Tabone. This recognizes the completion of his commitment to the Zerubbabel Society.

AGL Miller made two visits in May. The Official Visit to Wayne Chapter occurred on May 6 and Hiram Chapter's was May 27.

Michael A. Miller

**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



Greetings, Companions. I hope this article finds everyone and his loved ones well. Wife Jackolyn and I are doing fine and have started to get out to dinner and visit some. Having had our shots, we are a little more secure with being around other people.

We met in person for Council on May 13 for the first time in over a year. June 10 will be an in-person Official Visit for our RAM Chapter, first in over a year, also. Please mark that date on your calendar and try to attend. Let's be ready to give our DDGHPRE Richard Powell a big welcome as he has waited a long time for this meeting.

I intended to go down to Charles Platt Chapter 247 on May 26 for their Holy Royal Arch Degree. We had one candidate to go with me. He's waited a long time for this Degree but will wait some more. It has been rescheduled to September.

For Companions who haven't paid this year's dues, please start sending them to our PO Box 1027, Oswego NY 13126 address. Our Secretary has moved out of town. This will help prevent them getting lost in the mail.

This will be the last word article until September. Stay well and safe and enjoy the summer months. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone in person.

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

Greetings, Companions. Warm thoughts for the weather and for our continuing celebration of over 150 years a Chapter in Royal Arch Masonry. I hope this finds everyone doing well.

We had a wonderful celebration of our 150 years on May 15. That and a rededication ceremony for our Chapter were well attended as we looked forward to the start of the next fifty years of service. A special thanks needs to be given to E Richard Torrey for his tireless work on putting the celebration and rededication to-

gether. Without his efforts and hard work it would not have been the success it was.

We have postponed the Holy Royal Arch Degree to September. Due to circumstances beyond our control, too many parts were affected to be able to put on the Degree as originally planned for May. I will look to hold a couple of practices through the summer to ensure we are ready to welcome Companions into our Chapter.

Jim Nelson

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

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



Good day, Companions! We are getting nice weather, we are seeing each other in person, we have met in person and conducted business. Things are coming back finally and it is very refreshing. June 22 at 7:30 will be our next and last meeting before our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Now is the time to secure your reservation.

The date is July 11. The rededication of our Chapter will be at the Liverpool Lodge building with a rehearsal at 9 a.m., sharp, and the ceremony at 9:30. The location for our dinner is Borio's Restaurant at 8891 McConnell's Pkwy, Cicero. Our menu is hot roast beef, roasted chicken, baked Cape Cod haddock, shrimp with garlic sauce and linguine, chef salad, toasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, riggies with Vodka sauce, coffee, tea, soft drinks and cash bar. Make your paid reservation (\$30 per person) no later than June 20. Send to Robert Bowles, 5421 Tourmaline Dr., Clay, NY 13041. We very much hope to see you there.

Keep track of our Companions and Brothers. If any are in distress or need assistance in any manner, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Eric J. Driscoll

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

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

Companions, I send you greetings. Central City Council No. 13 welcomed RI Brian D. Moore, 6<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master, on Wednesday, May 12—his Official Visit to our Council. The Council hosted our DDGM for dinner at the Retreat Restaurant prior to the Official Visit meeting. Grand Council Official Visitors, having made their Official Visits at prior Council meetings, did not accompany the DDGM this year. COVID-19 meeting and travel restrictions continue to have a negative impact on Masonic travel.

The annual meeting with election of officers and their

installation into their new stations and places takes place on Wednesday, June 9. The Council meeting opens at 7:30 p.m. at the Liverpool Masonic Center, 608 Oswego Street, Liverpool. You will receive a Summoned-meeting notice for this meeting. If elected, Companion Ralph Haney Jr. assumes the duties of the Illustrious Master that evening. Come and support the 2021-2022 officers. We will continue the tradition to gather at the Retreat Restaurant, 302 Vine Street, Liverpool at 5:45 p.m. for dinner prior to the meeting. Please contact Earl Tuttle at home: 315/673-2213 or cell: 315/481-0176 or Jim Swan at home: 315/458-1539 or cell: 315/569-5910 to let us know you are attending this special communication.

As my time as your Illustrious Master comes to an end I must commend and say thank you to the Council officers for the years 2019 through 2021. Cancelled live meetings were replaced by Zoom virtual meetings, keeping the officers informed while maintaining the most important things that Masons do: meet together, have conversation and enjoy Masonic fellowship.

Please invite your Royal Arch Companions who are not Cryptic Masons to submit a petition for membership. Petitions are available from RI Earl Tuttle. The Council will schedule Degree conferral meetings as soon as the rules allow us to confer Degrees using the traditional ritual so many of us enjoy.

Hopefully, you are fully vaccinated as the fight to eradicate the COVID-19 virus continues. Stay safe. Be diligent in your activities. Please place the upcoming June 9 annual meeting and installation of officers on your Masonic calendar and attend.

By the time you receive this message RI Harvey Eysman and Companion Gary Hartman will be well on their way to recovering from scheduled medical procedures. We received notice at the May meeting that Companion William Hanna, III was injured in a motorcycle accident. John Voetelink and his wife are also recovering from surgical procedures. Keep these Companions and their family in your prayers. James D. Swan, Jr.



**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 am humbled to have been elected Commander of this Commandery. Thank you for the confidence you have

shown in electing me. Please be assured that I will do my best to continue on the path of improvement that we have been on.

Not long ago I read a book called *The Craft Driven Lodge* by Brother Daniel D. Hrinko. The book laid out a number of principles and practices that are common to a vibrant and stimulating Lodge, which I am now paraphrasing as they are equally applicable to any Masonic Body. My goals for the coming year are that: every Sir Knight has a Voice; every Sir Knight sees the Vision; every Sir Knight has a Role; and that Commandery Leadership is servant leadership.

To support these goals I plan to have a meal prior to every meeting. Sharing a meal together has been a major aspect of a quality Masonic experience since the earliest days of the Fraternity. The meals may not be elaborate (pizza, chili, venison stew, hamburgers/hotdogs and chips, subs) but they nevertheless provide an opportunity to eat together in fellowship, engage in conversation, learn about each other and share in each other's joys and concerns. I will have an agenda for each meeting and it is my hope that during our casual dinnertime conversation we can discuss the business of the Commandery so that by the time Commandery opens we have a consensus on how to proceed with the work of the evening. It is my hope that every Sir Knight feels comfortable in the less formal atmosphere of our dinner conversation to express his thoughts and ideas for the Commandery.

Our June meeting will be a dinner of meatball subs and installation of officers. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. with Commandery opening to follow at 7:30 p.m. I am also going to propose that we draft a Mission Statement for our Commandery. I will lay out my proposal and the reasons therefore during our dinner. I will ask each of you to contemplate your vision for our Commandery over the summer break. Identify the aspects of the Commandery experience that are important to you and help in fashioning a Mission Statement on which we can all agree when we resume our work in September. Establishing a common vision for the future direction and growth of our Commandery is, I feel, essential for the continual improvement in the Commandery experience.

Finally, Sir Knights, the COVID situation remains a huge unknown. It is my hope that by the time we resume our work in September that COVID restrictions will be lapsing and we can resume more normal operations. Please be safe over the summer months and do your part to help eliminate the COVID threat. May our Heavenly Father continue to watch over all during these trying times.

William Toth



# ORDER of the EASTERN STAR



## Order of the Eastern Star Onondaga District

Deb Krackhardt,  
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Can you believe it is mid-year 2021? Summer will be here very soon. We will be celebrating Flag Day, Father's Day, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the Summer Olympics. Sisters Day and Friendship Day is the first Sunday in August.

We are still doing the peacock and mallard prints fundraiser for the 2021 Grand Projects. The tickets are \$10 each for a chance to win one of the prints and you get to choose which print. If you cannot decide, then for \$15 you can buy two tickets and designate them for the peacock and the mallard print or increase your chances for the print of your choice. The drawing is planned for the end of June—perhaps at the Reception/Homecoming if that is able to be scheduled. Please contact RW Deb Krackhardt, DDGM, at 315/706-3259 or email: [dak2115@twcny.rr.com](mailto:dak2115@twcny.rr.com) if you would like to participate. The winners will be called and arrangements for pickup or delivery will be made at that time.

The DDGM Official Visit on April 15 at Centerville Chapter No. 185 was very nice. The theme was books, as the DDGM loves books. And now that she is retired she will have more time to catch up on the shelves of unread or half-read books.

April 22 was the DGL Official Visit at Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay. Ample Form was observed to open the Chapter. We received a very warm welcome and it was a nice evening. In fact, both the DGL and DDGM commented that we had been to BHS more times than our own Chapter this year.

Onondaga Star hosted the DGL Official Visit on May 4 and did Ample Form. Onondaga Star was lucky, as we had only a few missing officers and the evening went very well.

On May 24 a combined DDGM and DGL Official Visit took place at Morning Star and on June 1 Onondaga Star will finish the cycle with a DDGM Official Visit. These meetings will be detailed in the September word article. Remember that only Chapter members are able to attend the Official Visits unless regulations change. If regulations do change, word will get out.

On Saturday, June 5 Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay will have a pork take-out dinner. This will operate from 4 to 7 p.m. and the price is \$10.

The Grand Matron and Grand Patron have decided to hold the Festival of Stars on Friday, July 16 and Saturday, July 17 at Oriskany. What we know at this time is there will be no access to the

buildings. Portable facilities will be scattered throughout the grounds. The sausage sandwich booth and the This and That/Holiday booths will be set up. If you have any new and gently used items for the This and That booth, please call MW Less Morrell or MW Jodelle Fletcher, ideally by end of June. Arrange for pick up or to bring items to them so they may get the items down to the Home.

This year Grand Chapter will be modified. It will be at the DoubleTree Hotel, Binghamton, NY on Wednesday, October 13. Hotel check-in begins 3 p.m. and registration will be from 4 to 7 p.m. The sessions will be held on Thursday, October 14 and Friday, October 15. Saturday, October 16 will feature the Grand Matron and Grand Patron's Reception. Grand Chapter will be limited to 150 invited attendees.

Please note that this is the information we have at this time and things could change between now and the event dates. Please continue to read the OES Newsletter from the Grand Chapter office and the District and Chapters will make sure information gets to the members as we have it.

I know there is a lot of tentative information at this time and hopefully in the next few months more concrete information will be available. But Grand Chapter and your District are trying to make sure that everyone stays safe. It is clear we are making progress in combating this pandemic and it would be a shame to undo all the hard work and sacrifices made by so many. Have a safe and great summer.

Deb Krackhardt  
Karl Parker

## Order of the Eastern Star Oswego District

June is busting out all over. I wish Oswego District could boast the same. Chapters are meeting but visitors from other Chapters have not been attending. Some Chapters have had a limit as to how many of their own members can attend. Others either haven't had enough members who feel comfortable attending or meetings are not yet allowed in their hall. We are hoping that after the summer recess all Chapters will be meeting and club meetings will resume. Fingers crossed.

On May 27 Lake Ontario Chapter No. 124 honored Barbara Foster and Earl LaFave, Oswego District's Leaders, when they made their Official Visit to that Chapter. With careful consideration of the number of attendees allowed, only members and a few special guests attended.

The District's new project is selling Mascot's Pecans straight from Georgia. We have three assortments to

choose from. There is a 16-oz. bag of pecan halves and pieces—created by what is called “natural break”. When the pecan shells are cracked the process incidentally causes some of the pecan halves to break. A combination of those pieces with halves makes up the 16-oz. bag, selling for \$14. They are perfect to have on hand for baking or to toss in salad. When sealed properly, Mascot's pecans can be stored in a freezer for up to two years and still have that fresh taste.

Another bag, Cinnamon Glazed pecans, are fresh roasted with a crunch cinnamon glaze. This is a taste that's out of this world. Try sprinkling on vanilla ice cream or eat them right out of the bag. This 10-oz. gift bag sells for \$10.

Our third choice is the Glazed Pecans. Small batches of freshly shelled mammoth pecan halves are coated with a scrumptious sugary glaze. Glazed Pecans, also known as Candied Pecans, are perfect to top a leafy green salad or simply munch on—anytime. Glazed Pecans come in an 8-oz. gift bag for \$9.

Diane Manwaring, Grand Representative from NH, is chairing this project. Simply call or text her at 315/416-9854 to place your order; or contact your Chapter's Matron.

Now it is time to recognize Reverend J. Elyse Skiles. Elyse received a two-year appointment as Grand Representative from the State of Ohio Near the Grand Chapter of New York on June 1, 2019. This is not the first office she has held. Her list of offices include: Grand Chaplain 1997, District Deputy Grand Matron 2002, Grand Ruth 2016.

Elyse was Initiated into the Order on September 21, 1971, joining Meadow Brook Chapter No. 725 in the Nassau District. She later joined a Chapter in Indiana before becoming a member of the Oswego District. On October 31, 2006 she joined Victoria Chapter No. 205, which later merged with Lake City Chapter No. 352 becoming Lake City Victoria Chapter No. 205. On October 1, 2014 she took dual membership with Lake Ontario Chapter No. 124, later withdrawing from Lake City Victoria Chapter. This is her 50<sup>th</sup> year in the Order of the Eastern Star.

Elyse retired from Journey of Faith UMC in South-



**Reverend J. Elyse Skiles, Grand Representative from the State of Ohio Near the Grand Chapter of New York, June 1, 2019 to June 1, 2021, is a 50-year member of Order of the Eastern Star State of New York.**

west Oswego and moved to the State of Ohio in 2018. There she joined Amelia Chapter, keeping her membership with Lake Ontario Chapter. In the short time she has been a member in the state of Ohio she has become actively involved. Her membership in that state has offered her the best opportunity to fulfill her office as a Grand Representative and bring the news from Ohio to the State of New York. She has the following to share at this time.

“In Ohio the Grand Matron has issued guidance for our meetings beginning last October after she was installed. We are limited in how many and when we can meet by the number of cases of COVID in our county. We had no meetings at all from mid-November 2020 till March 1, 2021.

“In the county where I live and have my Chapter, we have been at the highest level of COVID cases, therefore we are limited to only 10 people in the lodge building at a time.

“Our Installation was held in November and 9 officers were installed (mostly the elected line) as that was all that attended. At each of our 2 meetings in March and one in April we installed additional 3 officers at each meeting so now we are completed. We had to have a different group of officers present in order to make this happen while trying to have those that are required to be present at a meeting. We begin in our stations and do all our work from there. There is no movement in the room. It is very difficult to have a business meeting with so few in the meeting and those present change from meeting to meeting because of our number limitations.

If we ever get to the next step below where our numbers are we can have more members and then the next level down would allow us to have food served. I just am not sure when that might happen.

“Because of COVID the woman elected last June was unable to move forward and be installed. So, in I jumped when I was asked to do so. Therefore, I have been elected and installed at Associate Matron. There is a lot to learn as meetings, rules and ritual are just a bit different. It has been a very different year and I look forward to see what elections bring in June.

“We have just heard that the Most Worthy Grand Matron of the General Grand Chapter has cancelled the General Grand Chapter Triannual Session set for Salt Lake City in November. COVID is messing up a lot of things. All legislation is being returned to those who proposed it to be refilled in November after the Installation of the new Most Worthy Grand Matron. The Installation of the 2021-24 General Grand Chapter Officers will take place at the Perry Belmont Mansion (OES Headquarters) in Washington, DC on November 4, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. Unfortu-

nately, due to very limited seating, the incoming Most Worthy Grand Matron and Most Worthy Grand Patron can only have a very few Ohio and South Carolina OES members present as the COVID restrictions in DC include masks and seating must be 6 feet apart. The GOOD news is that the Installation, in its entirety, will be live-streamed. Ohio's past Grand Patron, Lon Lowry, will be the new Most Worthy Grand Patron.”

Now that Elyse's Grand Representative office is coming to an end on June, 1, 2021, we here in Oswego District know that her involvement with the two states will not. She has always been an active and faithful member, willing to serve where needed. Congrats go to Elyse from all of us here in Oswego District on the completion of her two-year term as Grand Representative from the State of Ohio and achieving her fifty-year membership. God be with her, always.

I would like to encourage other Grand Representatives to share news from the state that each of you represent. We look forward to hearing about your state.

I guess that sums it up for news here from Oswego District. There is no paper to write for during the months of July and August. Summer recess will be upon us and I hope that each of you stays safe and enjoys life as it comes. Strawberries and watermelons, hot dogs and 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, flip flops and shorts, fresh vegetables and flower gardens, ball games and playgrounds make magical moments. Somewhere there's a big umbrella casting shade over an empty chair waiting for you. Imagine yourself there. Your hair is getting lighter, skin getting darker, water gets warmer, drinks get colder, music gets louder, nights get longer and life gets better. Enjoy!

Michelle Gogel

## Centerville 185 Masonic Memorial Center

Give thanks for all the April showers for bringing in the May flowers. What a wonderful sight!

Our officers did a great job with Draping the Altar at our May 20 meeting. Mothers were honored at this meeting, as well.

June 17 will be our last meeting before the summer. We will be honoring Life Members and fathers. We will also draw the winning ticket for the 50/50 raffle, so there is still time to get your ticket.

Did you know that all of an adult human's blood vessels laid out end to end would be about 100,000 miles? They could encircle the earth four times. Who knew?

Stay safe. See you in Chapter.

Cathy Barling

## Morning Star 289 Marcellus Masonic Temple

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. On May 24 we welcomed RW Debra Krackhardt, DDGM, and RW Karl Parker, DGL, for a

joint Official Visit. We also draped the altar at that time.

Our next meeting will be June 14 at 7 p.m. Please note the time change. This will be our last meeting before we go dark for the summer.

I haven't heard of anyone under the weather to date. If you hear of anything, contact the WM at 315/708-5699.

The Festival at Oriskany is a go this summer. This will be held on July 16 and 17.

Our September meeting will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. This will be a regular stated meeting. On September 27 we will honor Master Masons. Check the District article for what's going on around town. See you in Chapter.

Mary Perry  
Larry Spencer

## Lake City Victoria 205 Lake City Lodge No. 127 Oswego

RW Natalie J. Woodall, Secretary

Dear Sisters and Brothers: Greetings! This month's column concludes my study of the Sisters and Brothers who comprised the original Grand Chapter OES in New York State.

The first Grand Treasurer was Manerva Weston Lazear, who was born in 1834 in Ellenville, Ulster, NY. According to extant records she attended the University of Northern Pennsylvania in 1851-52 and the New York Methodist Conference Seminary in 1853. She married Hiram Lazear ca. 1855 in New York City and became the mother of three children. She served only one term as Grand Treasurer. By 1872 the family had moved to Chicago. Among her civic activities in that city was the Erring Woman's Refuge. In 1890 she was the Vice President of the Trustees.

Hiram, born in 1833, died in Chicago on July 25, 1896. Manerva eventually made her home with her daughter, Marilla Lazear Bowman, and died of pneumonia at her home in Dryden, Tompkins, NY on March 6, 1918. Her body was sent to Chicago and buried with Hiram in Oakwoods Cemetery.

Robert Macoy's name is well known to all members of the Masonic Fraternity since he is credited with writing, among others, the first ritual for the Order of the Eastern Star of the State of New York. It is said that his wife Eliza Ann was the first person Initiated using the new ritual. Macoy, the son of Scottish parents, was born in Armagh, Ulster, Ireland on October 4, 1815 and died in New York City on January 9, 1895. He became a well-known printer and publisher in New York City and founded the Macoy Masonic Supply Company. He was Raised a Master Mason in Lebanon Lodge No. 191 on February 3, 1848. He was also a member of Royal Arch Masons, Commandery and Knights Templar. At the time of his death he had been Eminent Grand Recorder of the Grand Commandery in

More OES  
see page 12



