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## MWV Onondaga Post No. 66

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We have some big news! Masonic War Veterans Onondaga Post Number 66 has officially been given the green light. In case any of you have not heard yet, we have a brand-new War Vet Post in Onondaga County. Our home sponsor Lodge is Memorial Lodge No. 648 in North Syracuse. Our meeting night is the first Friday of every month unless there is a holiday, in which case we will adjust accordingly.

Apart from installing officers and new members, we will strive to meet for dinner so our ladies will be able to join and help us better serve the veterans of our community. We believe that having dinner meetings where we can bring our ladies is the best way to show our appreciation to them for supporting our Masonic endeavors and allowing us to continue our traveling.

We had our first meeting on April 9, 2021 at Nestico's restaurant in North Syracuse. We had several items that needed to be discussed and, with the help of our wonderful ladies, we are well on our way to building a wonderful, fun productive MWV Post.

For those Masonic War Vets who have joined our Post already, thanks for help-

## MWV43

My Brother Vets, welcome to daylight savings time. I'm late, but due to circumstances beyond my control I didn't post an article last month. I apologize.

I don't know about you guys but I didn't like giving up an hour where I could be lounging around the house sleeping or just doing nothing. Spring might be here by



ing to make this newest Post a great start-up. For those of you who would like to join, please feel free to reach out to us and we will be glad to have you on board. Our next scheduled meeting will be on May 7 with a dinner at 6 p.m. Our Adjutant John Pierce will be sending out an email to all the current members on our rolls to let them know the details of the dinner. Please make reservations with him so we can ensure we give the restaurant the correct number of patrons to expect.

If you want to join the Post, please contact me at this email address: [Mwvonondagapost66@gmail.com](mailto:Mwvonondagapost66@gmail.com). This is the official email address of the Post, to which both the Adjutant and I have access. Please feel free to communicate with us on that email address.

Once again, thanks go to all the members who have joined and thank you ahead of time to those who have yet to join. If anyone has any questions about the War Vets, please reach out to us. We are happy to answer all questions. I hope to see all our members and some new faces at the next meeting.

Ken Sterling

the time you get this word article. Just don't blink.

We are off and running. We had a Zoom meeting in February, where your technically handicapped Commander was able to figure it out. I wish my grandchildren were available to help out. It was fun and different.

We had a meeting on March 20 at Crossroads United Lodge in Solvay. A corned beef and cabbage dinner was served. We opened and welcomed new members Ed Mosso and Mick Dellavalle. It was great to finally meet those guys and Nessie, Ed's wife. We also voted in new members Clifton Carden, PCG Dennis Breheny and Associate Member Robert Myers. We are now up from twenty-four members to thirty. Check out our new FB page Central New York Masonic War Vets Post #43. We are here for every veteran in CNY and New York. Anyone who brings in five new members will receive a polo shirt embroidered with the Post logo. Our April 17 meeting was

More MWV43  
see page 2

## MMRI Honors RW James D. Swan

RW James D. Swan Jr. never expected to receive the call that would lead him to where he is today. In 2016 the then-current Grand Master of NY, MW William J. Thomas, called to appoint him to the Board of Directors of the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory (MMRL)—now the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI). Flash forward five years and RW Brother Swan now serves as Secretary of the Board and is the Chair of the Institute's Building and Grounds committee.

"I come from a multi-generation Masonic family. The MMRI had always been there, a part of the Masonic charities I knew about but had never really engaged with. Now, the MMRI is very special to me, for I know and believe in what it promises for the future," said RW Swan.

At his first Board meeting RW Swan looked around with curiosity. In the room with him were corporate business executives, lawyers, doctors, pharmacists and surgeons, all very well-known and influential Masons. He began thinking, "Why am I here?"

Little did he know that the MMRI was gearing up for what would become a

multi-year and multi-phase renovation project, proposed to transform the internal design of the sixty-three-year-old facility. RW Swan was the perfect man for spearheading the construction, as his background includes forty-plus years in manufacturing facilities project management.

"When we began talking about the renovation of the facility I looked around the room once more and said, "Now I know why I'm sitting here."

In 2017 MMRI started Phase I of a three-part reconstruction project. RW Swan quickly stepped in as the liaison between the contractors and the MMRI team. Primarily, his involvement consisted of communicating the vision, ensuring the desired image was met and purchasing the new equipment. As the project evolved and grew so did Brother Swan's involvement. Soon he began making regular weekly visits to the Institute to oversee the work being done. By the time MMRI was to enter Phase II he says he was all in.

Now, with the completion of both Phase I and II and Phase III on the horizon, it is evident how crucial RW Swan's role truly was. In order to conduct state-of-the-

art science, MMRI needed a state-of-the-art facility and new equipment, with updated research space that could host newly recruited top-tier scientists and their teams.

"Once the plans were in motion for the updated laboratory space, we knew we needed Jim Swan. His experience, knowledge and dedication made this exciting change possible. He is the reason we can now walk through a fully renovated and modern laboratory, necessary for the life-changing work being done at the Institute every day," said RW David F. Schneeweiss, Chairman of the MMRI Board of Directors.

In honor of RW Swan's unparalleled dedication these past five years the MMRI Board of Directors was proud to present him with a gold leaf on the Roswell T. Swits Vine of Life. The leaf rightfully commemorates RW Swan's diligence, time and energy bestowed upon the construction projects so desperately needed, projects that are not yet over.

"We are deeply indebted to RW Jim Swan for his dedication and commitment to this project and to the MMRI. He helped make our vision a reality and as a consequence, the sky is the limit for where

our research efforts can go and what we can achieve," said Dr. Maria Kontaridis, Executive Director, Gordon K. Moe Professor and Chair, Director of Research of MMRI.

"There are a lot of names on the vine that I am in awe of. To have my name included, well it's a little bit surreal," said RW Swan. Despite his shock at being asked to join the Board, and the slight intimidation of joining a group of well-established and acclaimed Masons, RW Swan surely is now among them, having found his place in the MMRI family. Moving forward, RW Swan will continue his efforts with Phase III of the construction plan. So long as MMRI's vision includes expansion, RW Swan knows his place is secured.

"When the Board meets today, our discussion rarely touches upon where we are now. The conversation steers towards where we are going in the next five, ten, twenty years from now."

The transformation to the Institute since 2017 has been monumental. "If someone who worked here in the 80s or 90s were to visit today, without seeing the external

MMRI Honors Swan  
see page 2

## Mentor

Hello, Brethren. Some Brothers may have noticed that some Masonic issues I raise are not typical. This observation is well taken. I come from the Spanish Caribbean Masonic tradition, which in some ways differs from the American one: our Freemasonry developed an important social and educational function. I will illustrate this distinction through an article I wrote some years ago: "Freemasonry in the Spanish Antilles during the Second Half of the XIX Century," published in 2018, in Vol. 131 of the Masonic research journal *Ars Quatuor Coronati*.

I reproduce several key paragraphs and statements therein that speak for themselves:

"Spain invested in its rich Mexican and South American colonies spending very little time or capital in the Spanish Antilles ones. It was only after Spain lost all of its continental colonies that it started dedicating attention to its two remaining Caribbean colonies: Cuba and Puerto Rico.

"Responsibility for Spain losing its Empire was not due to disloyal Cuban and Puerto Rican Creoles, to Freemasonry, or to American Imperialism, as some have claimed. It was due to the disastrous Spanish colonial policy, implemented throughout the XIX Century by its government.

"Autochthonous Freemasonry (composed of Creole membership) provided the vehicle that allowed Cuban and Puerto Rican intellectuals and politicians to gather, interact, develop their skills and ideas, and bring to fruition their efforts to improve the governments of their islands.

"In 1859, Grand Lodge of South Carolina, through Bros. Pike's and Mackey's intercession, provided charters enabling Cuban Bro. Andres Cassard to create the Grand Lodge of Colon. Bro. Cassard also created the Supreme Council of Colon, for Cuba and the Spanish Antilles.

"In 1878, Cuba's first War of Independence ended with a Peace Treaty. In 1880, all Cuban Grand Lodges

merged under Grand Master Antonio Govín, who was the President of the Liberal Autonomist Party. His key philosophy was that Freemasonry would strive to obtain, by evolution, what had not been achieved by war. Autonomist Party leadership included prominent members of Masonic Lodges. Many of the best known intellectuals of that time were Masons. The Grand Lodge, as an institution, affirmed its non-political character; but its members, their commitment as masons and citizens. Grand Master Govín said it would be a major misfortune if there were separation between Freemasonry and Citizens, because the work of Freemasonry would be lost.

"Until late 1800s, neither Cuba nor Puerto Rico had political parties, clubs, unions, or civic organizations. For, most of these institutions were forbidden by the colonial authorities, or had not yet been created. There were few schools, especially mid-level education, and one university in Havana. Freemasons grew intellectually by participating

in the Lodges and literary societies. Freemasonry became, for most masons, their school, as well as the vehicle through which they prepared themselves to become future leaders, able to undertake their patriotic endeavors.

"The fundamental contribution of Freemasonry to nation-building, in Cuba and Puerto Rico was through three key functions: the connective, the disseminating and the incubating functions.

"Autochthonous Freemasonry functioned as a true school of political and socio-economic leaders, especially for those Brethren lacking economic opportunity to obtain a formal higher education. This was the greatest contribution of Freemasonry in the Spanish Antilles."

This information may help explain the variations that some may have observed in my work. The entire paper is in: <https://web.cortland.edu/romeu/AQC131.11%20FinalRomeu2018.pdf>.

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**  
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dancampis@gmail.com

Greetings, Brethren! By the time you receive this it is likely Grand Lodge's abbreviated session is upon us. This year the Onondaga District team has transitioned to the new leadership announced last spring. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to our outgoing DDGM RW Jack Dombrowski for his dedication, discipline and patience during all of our unanticipated extensions in service. Please join me in wishing him well in all of his future Masonic ventures.

Though the District Leadership is progressing, many of you should already be aware that at this time Executive Leadership in the Grand Line will remain the same until such a point (in the hopefully not too distant future) that a full Grand Lodge Session can be held safely. As such, this upcoming Masonic year will again likely look different than the traditional in our District. Plans are still being worked out on administrative workflow, so concrete information is a bit limited. VW Rick Miori and I are slated to receive two trainings this month. Hopefully, by the June word article deadline we will both have a better idea of what the coming

**More DDGM see 3rd column**

## STAFF OFFICER



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

Greetings, Brethren! It is finally, at long last, time that we will soon be able to press forward with our usual Masonic activities. Among these activities will be program opportunities for additional Masonic knowledge. We will be setting a schedule of dates for such programs as the MDC—Masonic Development Course. This is an excellent course for Brother Masons once they receive their Degrees and is a great review for Master Masons.

The RTTE—Road to the East—is an in-depth course that covers almost everything you will need to know regarding the inner workings, procedures, advice, officer's duties and operations of the Lodge. The RTTE course also includes the entire *24-Inch Gauge* book.

The Master's Chair course is a must for current or future Lodge Masters. This gives step by step instructions, detailed information, things to know and items to anticipate.

We will begin by meeting safely for these courses in small groups. It is our hope to start as early as this summer.

At this point your Lodge should be preparing for (or already have scheduled) elections. Some Lodges may have only certain officers advancing in their chairs. Please make these considerations and have preparations in place for the election and installation in your Lodge.

As we forge ahead we look to September. We hope to once again be able to meet safely at full, or at least almost full, capacity.

Rick Miori

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



**VW Tim Conover**  
timconover1@gmail.com  
315/263-5717

Brethren, May is here, finally. Warmer temperatures are upon us, with no more of that white stuff falling from the sky. My hope is that all my brethren and all of our families are doing well and have been able to ride out this perpetual storm of uncertainty—that still looms over our head. The COVID vaccine continues to be administered, allowing a glimmer of hope in attempting to get back to a normal life. The sport venues are being allowed to have fans again, graduations will be allowing proud family members and the sound of live music will, hopefully, once again be heard in person.

There is a new brochure soon to be available: "To the New Mason's Lady." It is a brief but informative brochure welcoming the new Masonic wife. If anyone would like a sample, please let one of us know.

Lodges are getting back



**VW Toby Shelley,**  
TobyShelley@yahoo.com  
315/427-6961

to in-person meetings and some are conferring the modified Degree work. The modified opening, closing and Degree work programs should have been sent to your Lodge Secretary. If there are any questions, or if a copy is needed, please contact one of us and it can be resent.

This is a good start, my Brothers. It's not ideal but as we have been living through this for over a year now, we must endeavor to persevere for a little longer.

Finally, my Brothers, we are here for you. If there are any among you with questions about the ritual, no matter how minor something may seem, please contact us. We will answer, clarify or find the answer. Ritual is one of the many things that make this Fraternity as great as it is. All of us look forward to seeing you soon in the quarries.

Tim Conover  
Toby Shelley

## MWV 43 from page 1

at Scriba Lodge. I hope you were there to participate.

The Post has hats, patches, knives, berets, window stickers, magnetic patch holders for suit jackets and aprons for sale.

The May meeting will be Saturday, May 8 at a place to be determined. We will be holding elections and everyone who is running for office needs to be there. We will notify you via email of the place. Plan on Scriba Lodge unless you hear differently.

If anyone is interested in marching in the Memorial

Day Parade in Elbridge on May 31, let me know, please. I would like to see a showing of us and I am open to suggestions from anyone so some don't have to walk.

"However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at."—Stephen Hawking.

That's all I have for now, Brothers. Stay healthy. Keep all of our military, at home and abroad, in your prayers. Brothers in Arms.

Brian Courtney

## MMRI Honors Swan

from page 1

view of the building, they would not believe it's the same place," RW Swan said.

In five years RW Swan envisions MMRI to be exceeding capacity and in need of an additional building, the current facility being incapable of further expansion. With this growth, each research focus area would also expand. The science portfolio would take on new diseases and disorders, administrative staff would need to increase support for science and the Institute would continue to strive for scientific

excellence in technology and innovation.

The science being done at the MMRI is "the science of tomorrow," said RW Swan. "While we cannot be sure how long it will take, we know the end result will be for the betterment of humanity, and that's really what all this is about. The expansion of the MMRI is an investment in a better future."

Submitted by Anthony F. Cucci Fraternal Relation and Development Associate, MMRI

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### DDGM from 1st column . . .

months will look like and can further communicate those plans to each of you.

In the meantime, I think it will be useful to list what we do know at this point: There is no in-person Grand Lodge Session in May. An invited few, along with the Grand Line, will be meeting solely for the reading of required reports and a few other administrative tasks. Please refer to the Grand Master's Proclamation for more details. A tentative target for fall of 2021 has been set for a full Grand Lodge Session, likely in Utica, though this is all subject to health and safety requirements.

Local Lodge elections are still required to be held as per the Constitution and Certificates of Election will be due to Grand Lodge in the usual timeframe. As a District we will not be holding a District Investiture Service. Please contact AGLs VW Tim Conover and Toby Shelley to assist you in con-

ducting the Investiture Service locally within your Lodge. Similarly, we will not be holding a District Apron Presentation this summer. Due to the same concerns of meeting size that cause the District Investiture to be cancelled, we are postponing the presentation to a later date yet to be determined.

For now this is what we conclusively know. There are many other ideas and plans in varying stages of implementation but none has yet been communicated to us. The only one I believe is

worthy of mentioning is a current proposal to withhold conducting DDGM Official Visits until a full Grand Lodge Session is held, likely middle to late fall, and a new Grand Master elected and installed. Again, this has yet to be fully decided but I feel it is worth mentioning as around this time of year the DDGM would work with Lodge Masters on scheduling visits. I ask incoming Masters to be patient with me as they develop their Trestleboard for this Masonic year. As soon as I know

more, I will communicate it to each one of you.

This is not how I envisioned my start as DDGM when I received the news last February, but I don't think anyone could have envisioned what the past thirteen months have looked like around the globe. Rest assured, I remain fully committed to many of the plans and items I had developed to continue to make the District just as fun and lively as it can be. COVID-19 may have slowed us down but it sure won't stop us.

Daniel Campis

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

WM Matt Gregory

Brethren, greetings. I hope all is well with you and your loved ones. Spring is here, flowers are in bloom and the sun is warmer and higher in the sky. All of us continue to experience a very challenging time in our life. It is very comforting to know that the spirit of Masonry is alive and well, spreading the cement of brotherly love and helping to unite us in a common bond for each other.

There is a light at the end of the tunnel. This light may flicker at times but will never be extinguished. This light is the spirit shared by all Masons to help make the world a lighter and brighter place.

Your Lodge will be meeting via Zoom on May 4 at 7:30 p.m. You are officially Summoned to attend our Annual Meeting on May 18, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

Remember our Brotherhood Fund. May God bless.

Matt Gregory

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

WM Adam Novak,  
315/200-0886,  
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Secy Joe Maslak,  
315/491-1410



Fraternal greeting, Brothers. We are excited to have had our second First Degree this year on April 19. We have two more gentlemen seeking light in Masonry.

Additional activities included a workday on Saturday, April 17 at the Lodge to clean up the interior and perform some light landscaping around the Lodge exterior. Good fellowship was a byproduct.

Adopt-a-Highway is scheduled for Saturday, May 15 at 8 a.m. We will meet at the Town DPW and clean up our section of Route 31. Expect more information as we get closer to this date.

Lastly, I wanted to take time to thank Brothers Gale Mitchell and W Sonny Schloop, DSA, for shouldering the workload in getting our men's bathroom renovated. It looks wonderful and has been a project long overdue. Without the dedication and bareknuckle grit of these two Brothers, I doubt the task would ever have been completed. Thanks go to Gale and Sonny.

And thanks to all Brothers. Please stay safe and healthy.

Adam Novak

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

WM John Bromka,  
315/567-5697



Greetings, Brethren. Merry May! If this month is anything like the first third of April has been, we should be in for a treat. Hey, we had

a real Easter once again! Life is indeed returning.

Lodge has been up and running and gathering strength. We balloted-in a new candidate and will be planning for a First Degree on Monday, May 17. All able-bodied local brethren should please be there so we can make a good show of it. And get this: the candidate has his own goats. Formal attire, as possible.

May 3 will be our Summoned Annual Meeting and elections. We will also be hearing reports from the Streeter and Sapphire Funds. Business attire.

We have four Brothers who are celebrating fifty years of Masonic service this spring. Thus far we have had the privilege of presenting two certificates in person. First, to RW Brother James Mooney, our steadfast Chaplain. As Jim has been a Masonic mentor to Brother Mark Knowlton, we asked Brother Mark to present the certificate and pin, and heard some timely words from each. I also had the pleasure of meeting and visiting Brother Joseph Wylde and his dear wife for presentations in their home in Mattydale. Brother Joseph has the further distinction of being a union brick mason of seventy years and built his own home. Grand Honors to Brothers Mooney and Wylde! We look forward to acknowledging our other two fifty-year members in the coming weeks.

Lastly, welcome Brother David Invenio, of Skaneateles No. 522, who affiliated with us on April 5. David surprised us the next day with an entire brunch at our Tuesday (9-10 a.m.) coffee.

Brethren, we've got much to look forward to at Lodge: worthy Brothers, labor, pleasure and refreshment in abundance. See you there.

John Bromka

**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  
tmitcht@twcny.rr.com,  
315/687-9551



Salutations, my Brothers. It may just be my personal experience but it seems every spring we awaken from winter with new energy and duties to fulfill. We welcome the challenge and also the change of scenery. Likewise, our Lodge enters into spring with renewed vigor and new Brothers in waiting.

It seems appropriate that our first project of the month is our Green Lakes roadside cleanup. We have it scheduled for May 8, with Brothers meeting at the Lodge at 8 a.m. This is somewhat weather dependent, but unless it's a typhoon, we tend to get it done. Join us if you can. Mother Nature thanks you.

Our first meeting of the month brings us to other new beginnings, with the election of next year's officers. Hopefully, the Brothers have already considered their re-

sponsibilities and the needs of our Lodge. Also hopefully, our current Master (ahem) has communicated with the Lodge officers to have a smooth and logical progression. In addition, we expect to be balloting on petitions this meeting.

Our second meeting will wrap up any old business from our Masonic year and include preparation for Degree work. This is necessary as our June meetings are already planned for installation and steak bake, both of which are open meetings. Likely for the third or fourth Saturday of May we will be requesting dispensation for a Saturday First Degree.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Helen Thompson, a widow of W Gary Thompson, mother to Brother Dale Mitchell and active participant in our Lodge and Eastern Star for many years. God bless.

In addition, our Tiler and Brotherhood Fund chairman Les Morrell and his wife Peg are recovering from a fall. We wish them a speedy recovery.

There are many factors that affect our plans, including weather, COVID-19 restrictions and our Brothers' personal schedules. So look to your emails for any changes in plans. Due and timely notice will be given. We have much to do and much to look forward to.

Kevin Ingalls

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

WM Mark Kulik,  
315/278-0010,  
mark.kulik@verizon.net  
Secy Earl Tuttle,  
315/673-2213

Greetings, Brothers. Well, our restart has been going well. We have had a good number of Brothers attend the meetings and the atmosphere has been warm and welcoming. I hope we continue to have the same enthusiasm moving forward.

Because of COVID protocols, Skaneateles Lodge as a group has decided to hold off conducting the Third Degree until such time as we can present it in its original, unmodified form. Because of this we will be conducting all our meetings on the First Degree, except when required by the Masonic Constitution. We decided to do this to ensure that our current Fellowcraft Brothers have the opportunity to be active members and grow within the Fraternity. Ultimately, we want them to have the opportunity to proceed as all fellows and brethren have done who have gone this way before them. Hopefully soon, this storm will pass and we can Raise these well-seasoned Brothers to the Third Degree.

The first meeting of the month will be on Wednesday, May 5, Cinco de Mayo. On this day we will be having the Lodge election for officers for the coming year. We will have dinner at 6:30 and start the meeting promptly at 7:30. I hope we have a good turnout.

The second meeting of

May will be on May 19. It has been the plan to have awards and Past Masters night. We will continue to monitor the COVID requirements and make every effort to be able to hold the event as planned. It is always enjoyable to get many Brothers and family to attend and I want to make sure we have the appropriate systems in place to be safe. Dinner will be ready at 6:30 and we will start the fun at 7:30. If anyone has any concerns or wants to know specifics, look for a follow-up email or give me a call.

As always, thanks for all of your patience and understanding with all of the modified plans as we try to finish out the year. It has definitely been a challenging one.

"To build our Temple for tomorrow, we must start by cutting stones today."—Author unknown.

Mark Kulik

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

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

Greetings, Brethren, good morning! I hope that all is well with the Brethren of Tully Lodge and elsewhere. Your Worshipful Master and his lovely bride have been fully vaccinated against COVID. We are cautiously moving ahead with things. Hopefully, this will all be behind us very soon.

We have Lodge elections coming up on May 14. Please be thinking of officers for the upcoming year.

We will be planning several fundraisers this year. We had a highly successful chicken barbecue on Saturday, April 10. We sold 220 halves in two hours. A big thank-you goes to all who helped. As always, your help and participation will be much appreciated in the months to come.

As I have mentioned before, we have been selected for a \$35,000 repair and beautification grant from Onondaga County. Our fundraising efforts will help secure the required \$12,000 match. We met with the architect last week. The plan is to install a new roof over the entire Lodge and fix the columns, paint the Lodge, etc. Since the Apple Fest was cancelled last year, we need other sources of funds to keep our building open. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need anything, or just to say Hi. My email is jrapp126@twcny.rr.com and my phone is 315/569-5203.

John Rapp

**Seneca River 160 (ON)**  
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608 Oswego St.  
Liverpool, N.Y. 13088  
3rd Tues. of Sept., Oct.,  
Nov., Mar., Apr., May  
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WM Robert Tyrrell,  
315/416-3320

Greetings, Brethren. Hopefully, when you receive this spring will be in full bloom.

Looking forward, our

next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 18. This will be our Annual meeting with both election and installation of officers. This meeting will commence at 6:30 p.m. and afterwards we will adjourn to The Retreat for a Dutch treat dinner.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 15. This will be the first meeting of the next term, with further details to follow.

I hope to see you in Lodge. Stay observant.

Bob Tyrrell

**Memorial 648 (ON)**  
648 Centerville Place  
N. Syracuse, N.Y. 13212  
2nd & 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.  
315/458-5560

WM Carlton P. Jackson  
cartonjackson88@gmail.com,  
315/863-6630

Greetings, Brethren. With the month of April behind us and the flowers of May blooming, Memorial Lodge is excited to announce we have welcomed ten new Brothers into our Fraternity. On May 15 they will join the ranks of Fellowcraft.

With the easing of the COVID-19 mandates and vaccinations of some members, it's not a sign that all is well but a continued opportunity to proceed with caution. Brothers, it has been said it ain't over till the fat lady sings. I, for one, don't even hear her warming up. Brothers, be smart, safe and cautious in all you do.

Our District is fortunate enough to have not one but two charitable events coming up this summer for those of you who love the challenge of golf. First is the annual Bruce Widger golf tournament to be held Saturday, July 10 at the Wood Golf Course. Second is the Annual Teddy Bear classic held in support of the Children's Dyslexia Center. This is tentatively set for

Friday, August 6.

I'm looking forward with excited anticipation to the work yet to be accomplished. As always, if any Brother is in need or has an idea to be shared please feel free to reach out to me at [carltonjackson88@gmail.com](mailto:carltonjackson88@gmail.com) or 315/863-6630.

Carlton P. Jackson

**Liverpool Syracuse 501 (ON)**  
608 Oswego St.  
Liverpool, N.Y. 13088  
1st & 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m.  
315/451-7524

WM Robert D. Bowles  
5431 Tourmaline Dr.  
Clay, NY 13041  
315/436-0997  
rbowles1@twcny.rr.com  
Secy Gary L. Heinmiller  
garylheinmiller@gmail.com

Greetings, Brethren. I hope to find all of you in good health. Spring has sprung and with the renewal of everything that comes back from dormancy, so has our Lodge.

By following Grand Lodge guidelines we had two face-to-face meetings and our third one was on April 19. This evening featured the long overdue First Degree for the two applicants who have waited over a year. After this we will have four Brothers needing the Second and Third Degrees.

As the Masonic year is running out and we have work on the Trestleboard that is mandated to be done, we have no time to do Degrees. Your Lodge is contemplating a dispensation to do the Degrees this summer. We understand this will be tricky because of summer vacations but with a well-placed plan we should be able to at least get the Fellowcraft Degree done in June.

My Brothers, if you need assistance or know of any Brother who does, please call the Secretary or me. Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win.


Robert Bowles

Memorial Lodge No. 648  
**W.. Alfred W. Fergerson**  
Centerville Chapter No. 185, OES  
**Patricia H. Fergerson**



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# Editor's Prerogative

## Carry on

Once in a while—or, if you are lucky, frequently—you might happen upon a Great Truth when you least expect it. Our search for light in Masonry need not be confined to dusty attics of Masonic archives or some dead white guy's ancient interpretation and speculation. Sometimes things hit us at the Speed of Masonic Light and we can see the connections of agreement between numerous sources. These are the Universals. There is no reason for claim or argument that one particular wisdom holds primacy, and is therefore superior; and we can happily find corroboration of every illumination in our Masonic teachings.

The AAA used to prepare a TripTik map for members for lengthy road trips. I think they still do but it's more of a self-directed, online process these days. I remember the old-time flip maps that laid out a few hundred miles per double page along the prescribed route. These showed the main highway and a few details but the more intensive identification of the territory was revealed when the user unfolded the pages. Here one could see places from the perspective of the locals.

When light seeps in it is not always self-evident. Some of us just know it, some have to do some digging. On the road in Scotland, a land of majestic scenery, lakes and crags and sheep and Highland cattle and wrong-side driving and the ubiquitous round-about. In the days before really good GPS and not very good road signs, we often flagged down a local to ask direction. Invariably, the advice was to "Go up to the next round-about and carry on." See what I mean? Some things are just simple.

In Edinburgh in August there is a tremendous exhibition every evening. The Tattoo is a presentation by military, and other, pipe bands, assembled from around the commonwealth, performing for the public. At the commencement of ceremonies the pipers strike up inside the castle grounds and the hairs stand up on the back of your neck. The bands then parade out to the Esplanade of the Castle. Ranks of bleacher seating accommodate thousands of appreciative spectators. We were touring the city, watching street performers, didn't know about the show, had no idea tickets were required, and didn't know this was a daily thing. But serendipity favored us and we obtained seating and thrilled to the experience.

So light is a serendipitous thing, as well. Sometimes we are bathed in it but we seek the shade. Sometimes, though, it sits on us and we unconsciously soak it up until it reveals itself in a Masonic moment of clarity.

Take Charity, for example. A tenet of Freemasonry, it is a universally recognized virtue. As with most, I expect, I had always associated the concept with the act of giving to others. Until I read something somewhere that insisted charity begins in attitude. It beckons us to a position of forgiveness and loving treatment of others in our daily relationships. It encourages us to banish hatred and open our heart with universal love—even and especially when dealing with hateful people. This definition, originating outside of the lessons of the Craft, is in perfect congruence with them. It accords with our notions of equality and the brotherhood of man (and woman). There are no others; we are all part of One.

A work on the Indian notion of Karma describes "Spiritual Enlightenment Through the Path of Virtue." It offers daily practices that "promote the process of purification of the heart in preparation for the judgment of the soul. This judgment will be understood not as an event that will occur at the time of death but as an event that occurs continuously, at every moment in the life of the individual." This sounds a lot like knocking off our rough edges as we work on our temple. This light from another perspective has a lot of Masonic vitamin D.

Stephen L. Zabriskie  
zabled@aol.com

**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 Brian Courtney,  
wife Patti  
WMCRU93@gmail.com  
315/447-2104  
Secy Jon Lorber,  
bisco302@gmail.com  
315/657-4068



My dear Brothers, we hope all of you had a great Easter and a wonderful and blessed time with your family. We had our second annual corned beef and cabbage fundraiser. It didn't go as well as expected; but this is understandable under the condition of it being only our second one and under trying times. Next year will be better. In fact we are planning ahead for next year: Saturday, March 12, 2022 will be our next corned beef and cabbage dinner at Crossroads United Lodge in Solvay.

My tour as WM is coming to an end. Four tours in two different Lodges makes me feel good that a few people thought I was qualified enough to put their trust in me. Thank you. What that means is there will be no more falling asleep while reading my articles. Some things may have bored you, some raised your interest and some words may have inspired you, I hope. Onward and upward.

Saturday, May 1 will be our Awards luncheon. You have received a letter or email about that from our SW. Those who live out of town will receive their award by mail, as promised.

Our vote on a new roof had to be postponed until our Thursday, May 6 meeting. This is your invitation. If it's voted on to do the work, it will start within two to three months and be finished two to three days later. The new ceiling in the Lodge room will take a few extra days to accomplish, along with painting. What a difference it will make!

Elections will be held May 20. We will speak about those who want to run for office at our May 6 meeting.

Happy Birthday wishes went to the following Brothers in April: Albert Anderson Jr., Joseph Blanchette, Edward Edem, Robert Janssen, Gary Kimpel, Tim

O'Hare, Harvey Pierce, Carl Smith III, Robert Tyrrell and Ray Wachob. The May birthdays are Gary M. Kimpel II and Eric Neufang. I hope I didn't miss anyone.

On April 15 we put on a First Degree and we welcomed in with open arms a wonderful young man who will do well in the Fraternity. To those who took a part in the Degree I thank you immensely. It takes a team to succeed.

W Robert Neufang did the Apron Presentation for our Degree. He was WM around 1979. He just came back to Lodge after about a thirty-year hiatus. At rehearsals he nailed his part. Over fifty years a Mason and he started coming back to Lodge around two years ago. That's true Masonry and it all started with BAB2L (Bring A Brother To Lodge).

I also thank the Brothers who took vital parts. As WM, Anthony Kofi Osei-Tutu traveled from NYC to help out. JW was Norman Kruth. Bob Tyrell made the Bible Presentation. The Whys and Wherefores were recited by Bob Tyrell and Bill Toth and Brother Toth also gave the

Historical Lecture. The Q&As belonged to Tom Sawyer and Ron Bond. And many other Brothers from Crossroads participated. Teamwork is what Masonry is all about.

Under Sickness and Distress, my mother still declines with her Alzheimer's/Dementia issues. It is the most horrible disease there is, in my opinion. Her cancer is secondary right now. Josh Heitmann is out of the hospital after a very long stay and is doing well. Brother Russ Beckwith is still recovering from his health issues. Please keep all the above in your prayers.

If anyone is a veteran and would like to join the Central NY Masonic War Veterans Post No. 43, contact me. Most importantly though, support our Blue Lodge first and foremost. Meanwhile, keep all of our military at home and abroad in your prayers.

Think about this declaration. "You may see me slip, maybe even watch me fall, but you'll never see me stay there for long."—Unknown.  
Brian Courtney



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

sponsored by

The Onondaga Masonic Districts Charities Inc.

**10 a.m. - Saturday July 10, 2021**

**The Wood Golf Club**

7439 Canton Street Rd, Baldwinsville, NY 13027  
315/635-9826

4 Man Captain & Crew Format  
18 holes of Golf, Cart & Dinner - \$70 per player

**Save The Date:** Widger Golf 2021

**Cost:** \$280 per team

**Why:** Fellowship, Fun, Golf, Libations, Food, too  
**Benefits:** Libations, Food, Fun, maybe some Golf, too

**Oh, no:** I am repeating myself.

Did I mention it's an outdoor event?

**Trophies:** Yes, there will be trophies. Get your team together and join up with us Saturday, July 10, 2021

**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

## Event schedule, May '21

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

- May 1 ..... CrossroadsU—Awards
- May 3 ..... OnStar—Ample Form/DGL OV  
..... Grand Lodge  
..... MornStar—Annual
- May 4 ..... FayCC—Zoom
- May 5 ..... Skaneateles—Elect
- May 6 ..... Caroline—1°  
..... CrossroadsU
- May 7 ..... MWV66
- May 8 ..... Nortrip—Adopt-a-Highway  
..... MWV43
- May 9 ..... Mother's Day  
..... ErieCanal—BBQ Take-Out
- May 10 ..... MornStarOES—OV
- May 11 ..... PulaskiRAM—OV  
..... PulPurOES—Draping/Mothers  
..... LkCity—Zoom
- May 12 ..... CC13—OV
- May 13 ..... BonaFide
- May 14 ..... Tully—Elect
- May 15 ..... CHPlatt—150<sup>th</sup>  
..... Tigris—Spring Ceremonial  
..... Jordan—Adopt-a-Highway  
..... Memorial—2°
- May 17 ..... MornStar—1°
- May 18 ..... FayCC—Annual  
..... SenecaRiver—Elect/Install
- May 19 ..... Skaneateles—Awards/PM
- May 20 ..... Centerville—Draping  
..... CrossroadsU—Elect
- May 21 ..... KT25—Elect
- May 22 ..... OnStar—Pulled Pork Take-Out  
..... Warren Salem Town—BBQ  
..... Pulaski—BBQ
- May 24 ..... MornStarOES—Draping
- May 25 ..... PulPurOES—Master Masons  
..... CCRivRAM—Regional OV  
..... LkCity—Zoom
- May 26 ..... CHPlatt—HRA°
- May 27 ..... BonaFide—Draping
- May 31 ..... Memorial Day Parade Elbridge
- June 1 ..... OnStar—OV
- June 3 ..... Auburn—Scholarship/Service/Drawing
- June 8 ..... LkCity—Annual
- June 10 ..... BonaFide  
..... LkOntRAM—OV
- June 15 ..... SenecaRiver
- June 17 ..... Auburn—Open Install
- June 19 ..... Hiram—Family Picnic
- June 20 ..... ErieCanal—BBQ
- June 24 ..... BonaFide—Picnic
- June 27 ..... ErieCanal—Golf



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***This is a continuation of the story of "The Anti-Masonic Movement" by Emery B. Gibbs, introduced in the April issue of the word. The complete work is taken from the December 1918 issue of The Builder. The account will conclude in June.—Editor.***

Prior to the Morgan incident there may have been some excuse for accusing Masons of political activity and using the organizations for political purposes.

In 1816, John Brooks, a Mason, and Samuel Dexter, not a Mason, were opposing candidates for the office of Governor of Massachusetts. In 1798, Mr. Dexter had written a letter to Grand Master Bartlett strongly condemning and ridiculing Freemasonry.

In 1816, Benjamin Russell was editor of the "Boston Centinel" and also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and an ardent supporter of General Brooks as against Mr. Dexter. In the "Boston Centinel" of March 30, 1816, appeared the following paragraph:

"TO THE MASONIC FRATERNITY.

Brethren:—It need not be repeated that the internal regulations of your benevolent order exclude all discussions of political dogmas. But every Master Mason knows that his public obligation obligates him to discharge the duties he owes to the state with diligence and fidelity.

When two candidates, therefore, present themselves for his suffrage, he is not bound to inquire to what party the one or the other belongs; but whether he is "a good man and true," and faithful to the Constitution which he may be called upon to administer. And all other things being favorable, he is bound by every Masonic obligation to give his vote for the one who is a Free and Accepted Brother in preference to one who is not.

Brother John Brooks shall receive the vote of A MASTER MASON."

## Square and Compass

In New York, in the year 1824, De Witt Clinton was candidate for Governor against a candidate who was not a Mason. At that time Mr. Clinton was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, Grand Master of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Grand Consistory of the United States. He also held other Masonic offices. All these Masonic titles, from the highest to the lowest grade, were centered in Mr. Clinton at about the same time. A paper called the "National Union" was published in New York solely to aid his election as Governor. Samuel H. Jenks, of Nantucket was the editor. Mr. Jenks was the Deputy Grand Master in Massachusetts in 1825. The following was published in that paper October 30, 1824:

"Brethren:—Your former Grand Master is now a candidate for the support of the 'free and accepted.' De Witt Clinton, if there be any virtue in the cardinal principles of your faith, will receive your undivided suffrage for Governor. It is in periods of trial, like the present, that the wisdom of Freemasonry has been exercised, its strength tested, and its beauty displayed. Amidst the dark ages of past time, the great lights of our Order, though often obscured, have never been extinguished. Shall they now be eclipsed by the 'introduction of strangers among the workmen?' Will you suffer the political edifice to be 'daubed with untempered mortar?' No, surely! The architect of your internal prosperity is before you. Enter warmly into the cause of your Brother—pass onward to the ballot boxes, with the tokens of your zeal and fidelity—and by your united votes contribute to raise the State to that exalted rank to which she is so justly entitled.

(Signed) THE WIDOW'S SON."

Mr. Clinton's election was accomplished by a very great majority. This was in 1824. Mr. Clinton was Governor of New York in 1826, when Morgan disappeared.

The political situation then suddenly changed. In the spring of 1827 Masons were proscribed simply because they were Masons in Genesee and Monroe counties. In the Fall of 1827 the Anti-Masonic party announced its object as the destruction of Freemasonry through the instrumentality of the ballot box.

George A. S. Crooker was nominated for Senator the eighth district. Although he was defeated, the Anti-Masonic party carried Genesee, Monroe, Livingston and Niagara counties in the face of both the Democratic, or Jacksonian party, and the National Republican or Adams party.

In 1828 Solomon Southwick of Albany, was nominated for Governor of New York. His total vote was 33,345, and, while defeated, in the more radical counties he received a very large vote.

In the State election of 1829 the eighth district elected Albert H. Tracy senator by a majority of 8000 votes, and the same year they carried fifteen counties, with a total vote in the state of over 67,000.

In 1830, Francis Granger was nominated for Governor at a convention held at Utica in which forty eight counties were represented by one hundred and four delegates. He received a vote of 120,361, but was defeated.

Granger was nominated again in 1832 and again defeated, although his vote was 156,672....

In 1833 the estimated strength of the Anti-Masonic party in the United States

was 340,800. Its most rapid growth was in the State of New York....

In Vermont the feeling was so intense that in 1832 she cast her vote in favor of the Anti-Masonic candidate for President, and had the distinction of being the only state in the Union to be carried by the Anti-Masonic party.

In Pennsylvania the feeling was so intense that at a convention of Anti-Masonic delegates held in Philadelphia, September 11, 1830, the report of a committee was adopted which recited that "Morgan was foully murdered," rehearsed the several obligations of Freemasonry, and demanded the suppression of the institution. Among the reasons given for this drastic action may be cited the following:

"To this government Freemasonry is wholly opposed. It requires unresisting submission to its own authority, in contempt of public opinion, the claims of conscience, and the rights of private judgment."

"The means of overthrowing Freemasonry cannot be found in any, or in all, of our executive authorities. They cannot be found in our judicial establishments."

"The only adequate corrective of Freemasonry—that prolific source of the worst abuses—is to be found in the right of election, and to this we must resort."

"~Freemasonry ought to be abolished. It should certainly be so abolished as to prevent its restoration. No means of doing this can be conceived so competent as those furnished by the ballot boxes."

In 1836 the Anti-Masonic party held its last national convention at Philadelphia and its influence as a factor in politics practically ended at this time.

In reading accounts of the campaign carried on during these Anti-Masonic days, one is impressed with the bitterness, fierceness and intensity of the Anti-Masonic spirit. One writer describes it in the following language:

"That fearful excitement which spread over our land like a moral pestilence, which confounded the innocent with the guilty, which entered even the temple of God, which distracted and divided churches, which scattered the closest ties of social life, which set father against son and son against father, arraigned the wife against her own husband, and in short wherever its baleful influences were most felt, deprived men of all those comforts and enjoyments which render life to us a blessing."

Resolutions were adopted in the different legislatures calling for investigations, demanding the surrender of the charters of the Grand Lodges, and looking towards every possible way of terminating the Masonic institu-

tion.

In Rhode Island a committee of five was appointed by the legislature, no one of them Masons. This committee held eighteen sessions in the principal cities of Rhode Island, hearing all the evidence offered, whether hearsay evidence or evidence in the proper form as admitted in courts, and then made a very complete report in which it declared that all the charges presented to it against the Masonic order were baseless and slanderous.

In Massachusetts our Grand Lodge surrendered its act of incorporation to the legislature and turned its property over to trustees to be held by them, rather than engage in any controversy on the subject with the legislature. It is interesting, however, to know that a committee of the legislature appointed in 1834, after long investigation and hearings, made an elaborate report, from which the following is taken:

AN INVESTIGATION INTO FREEMASONRY BY A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS, MARCH, 1824.

The Joint Committee of the Central Court to whom were referred the memorials of Otis Allyn and other citizens of the Commonwealth, praying for a full investigation into the nature, language, ceremonies, and form of rehearsing extra-judicial oaths in Masonic bodies, and, if found to be such as the Memorialists described them, that law may be passed, prohibiting the future administration of Masonic, and such other extra-judicial oaths as tend to weaken the sanction of civil oaths in Courts of Justice; and praying also for a repeal of the charter granted by this Commonwealth to the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, have attended the duty assigned them, and ask leave to

## REPORT

The committee are fully impressed with the sacred character of the right which the people of this Commonwealth, in their Bill of Rights, have retained to themselves, of petitioning their Legislature for the redress of grievances. The right has been exercised in the present instance by more than eight thousand citizens, in one hundred and twenty Memorials referred to the Committee, complaining of the institution of Freemasonry as a grievance.

The report then goes on to recite different reasons and motives for these Memorials and the method of conducting their investigations; that they had invited the officers of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and all other Masons to attend; that neither the Grand Master nor any other member of the Grand Lodge, nor any adhering Mason appeared be-

fore them, and that the committee had failed in its efforts to have anyone appear before it who should fairly represent the Masonic Fraternity; that at the request of counsel for the petitioners invitations were sent to the following adhering Masons:

Rev. Paul Dean, Rev. Samuel Barrett, Rev. Asa Eaton, Rev. Sebastian Streeter, Rev. William Cogswell, Benjamin Russell, Esq., Robert G. Shaw, Esq., Samuel Howe, Esq., Hon. Charles Jackson, Hon. Josiah J. Fiske.

Two of these respectfully declined attendance in writing; the others neither replied nor attended. At the request of the committee, the House gave them power to send for persons and papers, but the Senate refused to concur in the action of the House.

Upon such information as the committee could obtain from the petitioners, among whom were many seceding Masons, they submitted the following conclusions:

"First. That Freemasonry is a moral evil; inasmuch as it holds its proceedings shrouded by cautious and almost impenetrable secrecy, and at an hour of darkness, which withdraws its members unseasonably, from that family circle, which ought to be the first care and the first solace of every good citizen; as it offers temptations in the form of 'refreshments,' to a departure from that sobriety and temperance, which should mark the character of an intelligent and moral community; as it familiarizes the mind, theoretically at least, to the contemplation of scenes of violence and blood; and especially as some of its rites and ceremonies are offensively sacrilegious, profaning what the community generally religiously respect; thus undermining those sentiments of piety, which are acknowledged to be the very basis and safeguard of morality.

"Second. That Freemasonry is a pecuniary evil; inasmuch as it collects from the community, under the false pretenses of extensive charity and peculiar science, large amounts of money, which are afterwards chiefly expended in unprofitable entertainments, parades, and trinkets, which, in the language of an eminent departed statesman, 'a well-informed savage would blush to wear.'

"Third. That Freemasonry is a political evil; inasmuch as it is a government claiming existence independent of civil governments, and administering oaths, which, from their number and frequency, tend to impair the binding force of civil oaths—threaten penalties, severe even to barbarity, and calculating to have an appalling and controlling effect on weak and uninformed minds—and in their tenor conflict with the civil obligations of the citizen, calling

on him either to violate the latter in obedience to his Masonic oaths, or to violate his Masonic oaths in obedience to his civil obligations."

The report continues to set forth the reason for its conclusion and the following is taken from part of the report relating to the second finding:

"The By-Laws of the Grand Lodge appropriate one fourth part of the annual fees and one-third part of all initiation fees paid by subordinate lodges, to the charity fund; that is, two dollars for every lodge, and one dollar for every initiation in the State. Thus one hundred one lodges would pay \$808, and if nine hundred Masons were made annually, as was the increase in 1826, they would pay \$2700 more, of which \$1206 would go to support the 'dignity' of the Grand Lodge, and \$502 be added to the charity fund, the interest alone of which can be applied to charity—so that by this process, it would require \$2700 to enable this Charitable Society, the Grand Lodge, to distribute in charity \$30.12 a year!"...

The period 1820 to 1840 was one of intense religious activity.

On July 4, 1827, in the Seventh Presbyterian Church of the city of Philadelphia, Ezra Stiles Ely said in a sermon:

"I propose, fellow-citizens, a new sort of Union or if you please a Christian party in politics, which I am exceedingly desirous all good men in our country should join, not by subscribing to a constitution, but by adopting and avowing to act on religious principles in all civil matters."

At this time also the more orthodox members of the Congregational church were alarmed at the different beliefs creeping into their fold. For this purpose it was proposed by many to adopt synods like those of the Presbyterian church in order to define their tenets exactly. A large body of the church even desired the union of the Congregational and Presbyterian churches.

The Anti-Masonic party having so many religious men in its ranks, and being at this time in a crusade in which the churches were distracted, naturally entered as another element in the religious distress of the period. In New England this was especially true, as the party there was composed of the older religious country people, already in opposition to the liberal spirit of the cities.

The Anti-Masonic party received the name of the "Christian Party in Politics."

Every effort was directed against Masonic preachers and laymen. Churches in their councils condemned the order. Before the disappearance of Morgan, the Presbyterian church at Pittsburgh

**Anti-Masonic Movement**  
see page 7



# OSWEGO DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



**Leon A. Bulriss**  
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lbulriss@aol.com

Greeting, Brethren. Looking out on my backyard it seems as if I can actually see the grass growing. By the time you read this, most of you will have already mowed your lawn at least once. It's a task I find far more enjoyable than snow removal.

Among the enjoyable Labors of Spring are the conferral of Degrees, award presentations, Lodge cleanup days, chicken barbecues and the election of Lodge officers, just to mention a few. Long-awaited Masonic fellowship is finally returning, more valued and appreciated than ever before.

Grand Master Sardone has proclaimed that on May 3, 2021 a condensed version of the 2021 Grand Lodge Annual Communication will convene at 9:00 a.m. at the Masonic Medical Care New Rochelle Campus. Only the essential Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters and limited others by invitation will be present to receive reports. No other business, amendments or elections will be conducted. Our Grand Master will then adjourn Grand Lodge until such time as the Governor lifts restrictions on gatherings and we can safely meet according to the Grand Lodge Constitution.

Following Grand Lodge all Lodges shall convene at a Stated and Summoned Meeting for the purpose of electing Lodge officers. Installation of the new officers is to take place by June 30 and Certificates of Election sent to Grand Lodge by the Lodge Secretary and a copy to the District Deputy Grand Master. Elections and all other Lodge activities must be conducted in accordance with the Grand Lodge COVID guidelines. For full details refer to the Grand Master's Proclamation of March 22, 2021.

According to Grand Master Sardone's letter dated April 1, Lodges may once again be open for collations with the following restrictions: There can be no buffets; cooked meals must be served by wait staff wearing

**More DDGM**  
see 2nd column

## STAFF OFFICER



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

*No News Received*

**DDGM**  
from 1st column . . .

masks, gloves, etc.; and no family style allowed. We continue to keep moving in the right direction but we are not there yet. Now is not the time for us to cut corners and we must continue to remain vigilant.

The Valley of Rochester presented via Zoom their annual session of the College of Freemasonry on March 27. This year's lecture topic was "Legends and Myths on Freemasonry." The guest speakers included Brother Michael Poll, publisher, editor and New York Times Best Selling Author; and our own RW E. Oscar Alleyne, Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of New York, author, international speaker and Fellow and Vice President of the Philalethes Society, Fellow and VP of the Masonic Society. He holds a Doctorate from the NY Medical College and is Chief Program Officer at the National County and Health Officials. The last speaker was RW Thomas W. Jackson, who has been a worldwide champion of Freemasonry, education and a supporter of the College of Freemasonry since its inception.

It is impossible to describe here the preparation, time and depth of research these three Brothers put into their presentations but it was truly a morning of giving and receiving further light in Masonry at its finest. The session began at 9:00 a.m. and ended at about noon, at which time all three Brothers were presented with the very prestigious Thomas W. Jackson Award of Excellence in Masonic Education, named in honor of the last lecturer. Congratulations go to all three Brothers on receiving this award and thanks for all they do for our Fraternity. If you have the opportunity to attend a session of the College of Freemasonry I strongly recommend doing so. It is time well spent and I am looking forward to attending next year's College of Freemasonry when it is held in person.

Grand Lodge Leadership

**More DDGM**  
see 3rd column

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS



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

### AGL Bob Boutell

Greetings, Brethren. May is upon us and live meetings are picking up around the District. With many Brothers getting vaccinated, it won't be long until we are back in track.

Stay positive! Memorize some ritual and let's all be thankful for the moments we are fortunate to share with others. See you soon.

Pat Fasulo

**DDGM**  
from 2nd column . . .

and Educational Services has been presenting a series of educational and informative Masonic lectures called Craftsman Online, pertaining to different subjects from Masonic Leadership, Lodge Secretary education and much more. One of these Zoom sessions that caught my attention was titled "Basics of Lodge Artifact Preservation." I became curious as I had not given this subject much thought. Being a history buff, collector and actively involved in antiques I began to wonder how this might be applied to our Lodges. The session was not long but followed, as the title stated, the basics of artifact preservation. What I personally took away from the presentation was that each Lodge should be aware that all archive material is important. Do you know what you have? Where is it stored? Is it in a fireproof safe, cabinet or cardboard boxes in the basement and attic? What is the value—either monetary, historic or both? Is a record maintained in case of theft, vandalism or fire for insurance purposes?

These questions need to be considered by each Lodge. All artifacts should be on a detailed list and have duplicate copies made and stored at different locations. An inventory list could be as simple as a computer spreadsheet and stored on a cloud. Photographs should be taken in duplicate of all items such as jewels, costumes, furniture, etc. and be properly labeled and stored. Spreadsheet columns might, for example, be labeled Title, Archive, Detail, Year, Location, Value and Notes. Each Lodge should have a designated Lodge Historian.

**More DDGM**  
see 4th column

**DDGM**  
from 3rd column . . .

All important Lodge documents should be photographed, copied or scanned. Document scanners can be purchased at reasonable prices if so desired but this is not essential. Copies or thumbdrives of artifacts and documents should be stored off premises in a safe location. Old pictures and documents should have acid free backing paper and matting if framed. Each Lodge can easily tailor a system to best serve its needs.

If you haven't considered doing so yet now is a good time to begin checking your Lodge artifacts. With a little research you may be surprised what history and treasures your Lodge holds. Once artifacts and records are lost or destroyed they can't be replaced. Copies are better than nothing and can preserve our Lodge history if disaster strikes.

As always, Brethren, stay safe and healthy and if you haven't got your COVID shots yet please consider doing so when they are available to you. This is one of the best contributions each of us can make in the fight to beat this disease and return our lives to normal.

Leon A. Bulriss

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

WM Fred Dashnaw



Tidings, Brothers. It appears we have survived another northern NY winter. We hope all have received their COVID-19 shots. My second one was yesterday; so far, no side effects noted. It may allow things to become more normal.

Our Lodge has once again begun our barbecue season. The operations are located in the south park in Pulaski. These are a lot of work for a few dedicated Masons but it allows your Lodge to donate scholarships to three local schools as well as support the local food pantries.

On May 22 the Warriors Against Cancer will be holding their spring fundraiser, with the Lodge doing the chicken. They will handle the sides. All of the proceeds will go to cancer causes. Please stop by and have some finger-licking good chicken and help us help others.

Summer is around the corner and as we break for summer we will continue to meet for non-tiled meetings. We will practice our openings and closings and offer programs of interest on our big-screen downstairs. At that time it may be possible to enjoy pizza and soda. I think if we can get started at 7:00 we could be done by 8:30. We also will be staying with the first and third Wednesday setup. So, my Brothers, stay safe and enjoy the sunny days until we meet again on the level.

Fred Dashnaw

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

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



Brethren, May is here. The weather has warmed, flowers are blooming, trees are green and spring is in full swing. (As this is written in early April, those are just guesses.)

With inoculations becoming more available, hopefully by May's end most will be vaccinated. If you have not got yours, please make haste.

This month we will have, hopefully, our final meetings on Zoom. These will be on Tuesday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m. If anyone has suggestions for the meetings, please send them along.

We had an officers meeting last month to go over the budget and financials, plan the Annual Meeting and, in general, to plan for the coming year. All of the officers have agreed to stay in place for the coming year and the budget had minimal changes. A copy of the budget and other financial matters will be sent to all members long before the Annual Meeting. If there are questions they can be dealt with ahead of the meeting.

The Annual Meeting of Lake City Lodge No. 127 will be held in person at Oswego Masonic Hall on Tuesday, June 8 at 7:30 p.m. There will be no dinner service. Elections will be held, the proposed budget will be voted, and other financial matters discussed. But all in all, it should be a fairly short meeting.

No doubt, protocols will still be in place and we will follow them. This is an exciting time, to finally meet in person again. We will continue to meet in person depending upon conditions due to the pandemic.

There have been many suggestions for next year, such as modifying the NorthStar Program with more structure for newly interested prospective candidates. This might include setting up some kind of classes to keep the interest of prospective candidates, with as much Masonic knowledge as can be told to the uninitiated, including some kind of memorization so these potential Masons can get used to flexing their minds. Some classes might be in person and maybe some on Zoom.

Degrees will be planned; and there has been interest expressed in doing them outside at Fort Ontario. It will be a challenging and exciting year for Lake City and all of these efforts will require the aid and assistance of all our brethren. So get ready. After a year or so on pause, we're going to be hitting the start button again.

As we part, here's a quote

**More Lake City**  
see 6th column

**Lake City**  
from 5th column . . .

to inspire us at this time from a Worthy Brother Mason.

"Never give up on something you can't go a day without thinking about."—Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and Brother Mason.

James Rizzo

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

WM Duane Crapser



How do we find out if something works? Do it! Hiram Lodge had an informational Zoom meeting about how to become a Mason. This event was a great way to talk about being a Mason and it was well received by those in attendance. It was also nice to get new petitioners.

We will be having our Lodge Family Picnic on June 19 from noon until 4 p.m. There is no cost to members and their family. We look forward to seeing you all there.

I am happy to announce that Hiram Lodge is hosting a DeMolay Chapter. Early in the month of April Brothers Rob Myers and W Ken Sterling were presented with Letters Temporary, empowering the adults of the area to begin forming an Advisory Council and welcoming young men into DeMolay. Fifteen young men are needed to qualify for a Chapter. Rob has spent a lot of time preparing a meeting room for the Chapter. This is great work by all involved.

As we are still in a holding pattern with COVID restrictions, we should all be looking forward. Whether we are evaluating the new leaders in the Lodge, forming a Chapter of DeMolay or reconsidering the future leadership of the District, it is important to receive the input of those impacted by the decisions. If the last fourteen months have taught me anything it is that we need to be able to rethink our path.

I look forward to continued work in the Lodge, effecting to move us into a time that makes becoming a Mason easier than 2B1ASK1; but also focusing on the importance of ritual both in our business meetings and during our Degrees. The teachings of Freemasonry and the life lessons that we have all learned must be carried forward into a new generation far beyond me.

In closing I would like to wish you all a very safe summer filled with fun with family and friends. God Bless all of you. Remember, you must shine the light of Masonry to bring in new members.

Duane E. Crapser

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



# CORTLAND-MADISON DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



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

Welcome back, Brothers. With the softer restrictions we are once again traveling the District. This week alone I have traveled 132 miles; had I not canceled one and had one cancel on me it would have been 268 miles to our Lodges. But that is my job as I see it. I told you three years ago that I was here to help you do your job and I cannot do that while sitting at home.

Wow! Within the past few months Tri-Valley No. 140 has added three new Entered Apprentices, Cortlandville 470 added five, with up to eight more in the wings and Cazenovia No. 616 has four or five in waiting. My guess is that we are on the cusp of a growth within our Lodges like we have not seen in over sixty years. It is all due to the hard work of each and every one of you, to the efforts of every Brother, from our seasoned members of seventy years to those newbies with just a few days service. Each of you has held aloft the light that shines on every Freemason—that light that separates us from the rest. That light, that inner light, holds each of us accountable for our actions. That light says, “We are our Brother’s keeper.” To all of which, I bow to you and say, “Well done.” But I remind you that we are just getting started.

Brothers, on May 9 we celebrate a day we set aside every year for those women who have supported and nurtured us: Mother’s Day. This year, especially because of COVID-19, let us not forget the mothers, brides and daughters of the Brothers who have joined our Celestial Lodge. They may not have anyone to send them a card, give them a phone call, spend an hour chatting with them or taking them out to lunch.

Grand Lodge will open on May 3 of this year. Grand Lodge will be called by invitation only, a quorum of Lodges will be in attendance. They will receive reports. There will be no business, no amendments or elections, by order of the Grand Master. The meeting will be ad-

DDGM  
see 2nd column

## STAFF OFFICER’S REPORT

*No News Received*

DDGM  
from 1st column . . .

journed until the Grand Master can call from refreshment to labor following guidelines laid out by New York State. This, in effect, will allow all Lodges to hold elections. As of the afternoon of May 3, 2021 your schedule for elections will be the first available meeting in May. Grand Lodge will reopen hopefully later this year (my best guess is October or November). If you have any confusion on this feel free to call me and I will be happy to clarify.

Moe Skinner

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURERS

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

RW David R. Walter  
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607/725-7227

*No News Received*

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

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



Brethren, our rescheduled meeting in April was quite productive in moving forward and building. I’d like to take a moment and thank the Brothers who selflessly work on behalf of our Lodge. It’s been a team effort. I’m confident that we’ll be able to report good results from the scheduled April 24 EA Degree. Things are shaping up for a productive election as well. The Brotherly love is overwhelming. W Brother Bruce Nichols, DSA, attended Lodge and even filled in as JW. We say, Welcome back, Brother!

In the face of the pandemic we stayed connected and kept our future firmly in front of us. As the restrictions become reduced we’ll stay mindful of our safety. Increased social and community interactions will be our focus, along with Masonic Education.

There’s much to be excited about as we get back to making Masons. Our obligations and our purpose are clear. It’s all made possible by using the working tools we possess. Masons build. And that’s what we’ll do.

Chuck Toombs

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

## Central City 13 from page 10 . . .

ship. Petitions are available from RI Earl Tuttle.

Hopefully, you are fully vaccinated as the fight to eradicate the COVID-19 virus continues. Stay safe. Be diligent in your activities. Please note the upcoming Official Visit and attend our next stated meeting on May 12.

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



Good day, Sir Knights! As I write this I am about to make calls to confirm attendance for our first in-person meeting in a long time on Friday, April 16. The goal with this was to accomplish all we can that has been left lingering during this pandemic. All safety precautions were observed.

Our next meeting will be on May 21, where we will be having our election of officers already. Though it did not go as expected, by any stretch, I am honored to have served the past two years as Commander of this wonderful Commandery. In the beginning we came a very long way with our ritual. And we have many new candidates to get through as things open back up. I am very excited about the direction we are headed.

We have a lot to be proud of, much history! I encourage you all to visit the link here: <https://museum.westford.org/the-westford-knight/>. This refers to the Westford Knight in Massachusetts. I had the opportunity to go there a few years back with our now Zone Commander SK Rick Miori and it is very fascinating, indeed. This link provides a brief written description as well as links to a couple of YouTube videos with information.

Be well, Sir Knights. But if there are any Sir Knights or Companions or Brothers in distress, please contact me.

Eric J. Driscoll

## Auburn Shrine

The Auburn Shrine Club is in the process of picking itself up after the COVID pandemic tried to do us in. The status is this: At an informal meeting, Dave Bowman, Bob Coleman and I discussed our next move. Dave said he would resume being Secretary if we went back to meeting on Monday. We have a Treasurer in Scott Bennett and we hope to soon have a new President and Vice President in place.

We are planning to have our usual August steak roast, as we anticipate it will be

possible to have normal activities at that time. Lee Kirk, the Administrator of the Springfield Shrine Hospital, looks forward to coming to Auburn to meet with us. That will be a meeting we should want to attend, as it will be most interesting to learn all that is happening in our hospital. We are still collecting aluminum tabs and I am glad to report the price is going up—a little.

In a conversation with Lee Kirk, I learned some facts of interest. In 2019 our Springfield Shrine Hospital cared for 10,000 children but last year, because of the virus, this number dropped to 7,600. Lee is very hopeful that this year we can get back to at least 10,000 children and is making plans to do so.

I was very glad to learn that on March 12 the hospital had 137 outpatient encounters. This was a new high for the hospital and credit goes to Dr. Stoddard and his team in the Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic. Dr. Stoddard is the surgeon who spoke to our Club a couple of years ago. This Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic has grown since it was started by Dr. Drvaric several years ago.

I hope this finds each of our Nobles and his Lady safe from the effects of the virus and ready for a more normal spring and summer. I recall the words of Eleanor Roosevelt: “I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalog: No good in bed but fine against the wall.”

Ken Pollard



Potentate III.  
Duane E. Crapser

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

You can’t make an impact without being present. With our Imperial Session right around the corner, what is a better way to prepare than to get involved?

Tigris Shrine is focused on new members. Last year we were about to bring in nine new Nobles. This year we would love to beat that number. As Potentate I have reached out to the Masters in the Oswego District to request time to speak with the Brothers during a Lodge meeting. A thank-you goes out to Worshipful James Rizzo for being the first to extend an invite to me to discuss Tigris Shrine during a Lake City meeting.

To bring members together for some fellowship Tigris hosted a chicken wing night. This was a time for Nobles to bring in a new member. A simple invite and meeting the Brother at the Shrine Center was all it took—with a video loop of Shriner’s Hospitals for Children commercials playing in the room. Many Nobles and Ladies enjoyed the evening.

## Anti-Masonic Movement from page 5 . . .

in January, 1821, condemned the institution as “unfit for professed Christians.” After the Morgan incident the Presbyterians required their ministers to renounce Masonry and their laymen to sever all connections with it and hold no fellowship with Masons. The Congregationalists took practically the same attitude in New England and Eastern New York. They attacked at one and the same time the Unitarians, the Universalists, and the Masons. In New England Anti-Masonry was looked upon as “nothing more than Orthodoxy in disguise.”

In one of the Vermont papers opposed to the AntiMasons appeared a letter in which the writer made the following appeal: “Universalists, awake from thy slumbers, and show to these Orthodox (Anti-

Masons) that we are yet a majority and that we calculate to retain the majority.”

March 11, 1834.

The Baptist church also

was rent with dissensions over the question, although not to so great an extent as the Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and Methodists. At a convention of delegates from Baptist churches held at LeRoy, New York, January 30, 1827, it was

“Resolved, that all such members as belong to the Baptist church and who also belong to the society of Freemasons, be requested to renounce publicly all communications with that order, and if the request is not complied with in a reasonable time, to excommunicate all those who neglect or refuse to do so.”

Many of the friends of temperance, which was a growing reform at this time, were also enemies of Masons.

With so many options to enjoy the Shrine, the most important thing is to be present. We were all asked to join the greatest philanthropy ever and we were all obligated, but our journey did not stop there. Remember, we meet on the third Wednesday of the month. Many improvements have been made as we continue to move past the COVID restrictions. Many more improvements are coming.

If you have not heard, our weekly Bingo fundraising is back up and running. With limited capacity we are still bringing in much needed funds for Tigris. We could never be successful without our volunteers. Thanks go to all. Their time is not going unnoticed.

The number of administrative tasks to keep us going have been placed in the lap of our Recorder and Past Potentate Ralph Haney. Thanks go to Ralph for all he does for the Shrine.

Success is not achieved by sitting at home. It is time to get involved.

I would like the opportunity to speak to all the Lodges in Oswego and Onondaga Districts, to personally invite you all to become a Shriner. There has never been a better time. Do not forget that until December 31, 2021 you can create a Shriner for only \$85. That includes his Fez and his 2021 dues.

Please check our website to purchase your meat raffle tickets. We will be drawing the winner after our Ceremonial on May 15. Come and join in on the fun. I will see you in Shrinedom.

Duane E Crapser

—To be continued—

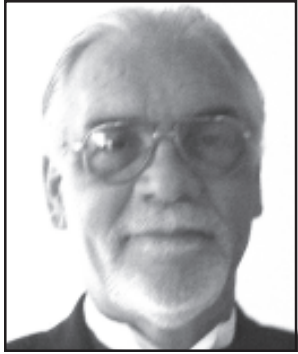
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# CAYUGA-TOMPKINS DISTRICT

## DDGM REPORT



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

Greetings to all. Spring weather is cooperating, with the freshness of the season and warmer days and nights. May dates to remember include May Day, May 1<sup>st</sup>. It is the traditional celebration day of spring. Many of you might remember dancing around the May Pole, the crowning of a May Queen or creating a May Day basket of flowers and treats as a youth. In some countries, it is celebrated by drinking mead.

May 1<sup>st</sup> this year, the first Saturday in May, is also Kentucky Derby Day. It is dubbed the "Run for the Roses" for the large garland of roses placed over the winning horse. The race features three-year-old thoroughbreds racing a distance of 1.25 miles at Churchill Downs. Sit back and enjoy a mint julep while watching the race.

Cinco de Mayo is May 5. This day is celebrated in Mexico and parts of the United States in honor of Mexico's military victory in 1862 over the invading French forces of Napoleon III during the Franco-Mexican War. Mix up some guacamole, tortillas, salsa or other traditional foods and invite others to toast the day with your favorite margaritas.

Mother's Day on May 9 is the holiday honoring motherhood around the world. It became an official U.S. holiday in 1914 and is celebrated on the second Sunday of May.

Armed Forces Day is May 15, traditionally the third Saturday in May. This became an official holiday in 1961. It is about appreciation, recognition, awareness and education on what members of the military do for the country and what the military does on a daily basis. In the U.S. the day is marked by parades, open houses and air shows.

May 31 is Memorial Day, formerly known as Decoration Day. It is the last Monday in May. This day had its beginnings during the Civil War and was proclaimed a Federal holiday in 1971 for honoring all those who have died in our nation's wars.

More DDGM see 2nd column

## STAFF OFFICER



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

No News Received

## DDGM from 1st column . . .

You have all seen the proclamation for the condensed Grand Lodge Session on May 3. It will open for required business and then move from labor to refreshment until the Governor's and Health Department restrictions are lifted. At that time a target date and location will be announced.

Remember that all Lodge elections are to be held after Grand Lodge Session in May. The District is working on holding an Investiture Service for all first time Masters, likely in June. Also, training courses are coming. It is important to communicate your Lodge line-up to me as soon as possible after election.

Caroline Lodge will be conferring the First Degree on two candidates on Thursday, May 6 with assistance from AGL Jay Lampman. This will be done with COVID protocols in place. Sorry, there can be no visitors.

Erie Canal Lodge will be holding a chicken barbecue with to-go orders on Mother's Day, May 9. Check out details in their article and pre-order yours today. Then mark your calendar for the Erie Canal Lodge 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament. It will be held on Sunday, June 27 at Meadowbrook Golf Course in Weedsport. Details are coming; this year's tournament will have some exciting changes you won't want to miss.

Brothers, take advantage of the trainings and programs offered through Grand Lodge committees. Strengthen your Lodge. And as your Lodge opens, please adhere to COVID restrictions. We are not out of the woods yet.

Remember the Brotherhood Fund and my challenge. Stay safe and do good things.

Dave Barnello

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

## ASSISTANT GRAND LECTURER

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

No News Received

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

WM Tim Carmon  
 wif Kelly

The Lodge continues at somewhat limited Lodge activity. But we continue to have a Table Lodge on the third Tuesday each month, thanks to the efforts of Brother Steve Hunter. Last month was Build a Burger Night. And we have begun meeting on the scheduled first and third Tuesday each month.

The Sons of the American Legion conducted the Good Friday fish fry on behalf of our Lodge. Our annual chicken barbecue will be held on May 22 at the Trinity United Church of Christ from 10 a.m. until sold out. The event is take-out only, with curbside pickup. Orders can be called in to 315/889-7302.

Several Brothers, as previously noted, have been working to preserve our historical heritage. It involves 5 by 7 pictures of Past Masters mounted on a progressive board showing years of service. All pictures, including those from the past have been uniformly scanned and cropped for display. If you are a Past Master and have not submitted your picture, please send it as soon as possible.

RW Ken Pollard reports Brother Art Smith and his wife are getting settled in their house after a two-year absence due to smoke damage and needed improvements. Art is a sixty-five-year member of our Lodge. It must be a joy to get back in their home.

The 2020-2021 Masonic Brotherhood Fund drive is winding down and this is your last reminder to support this worthy cause. Send your check to Ken Pollard at 5173 Plaster Point in Cayuga, NY 13034.

In the Birthday Corner we wish Happy Birthday to Brother Mike Murray, who turns 60 on May 13. W Brother Tim Carmon has a May 15 birthday and Brother Kevin Grish is May 20.

Warren Albrecht

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

G. Scott Harris  
 gscotch09@gmail.com  
 315/406-4646  
 Secy Tom Ostrander,  
 tostrander7948@gmail.com,  
 315/224-0940



Brothers, I have good news and requests for continued prayers. Joe Sheppard's father-in-law is home and doing better; Mike

Auburn see 4th column

## Auburn from 3rd column . . .

Miller's mom will undergo more cancer treatments but is coming along; Steve Howard's mom is home from rehab and doing better; and prayers go for our Brothers in Vancouver whose Lodges were burned.

The March Madness night at the Ukrainian National Club on the 18<sup>th</sup> was a super fun night with camaraderie, wings, pizza and beer. Our April 1 meeting featured a great program by RW Mike Miller on the Tiler's station and history on the Tiler's sword. It was well done, as always.

On April 18 we heard our Nominating Committee report for officers for 2021-22. May 6 is election night and Summonses have been sent. The Lodge scholarship applications are due, also.

The Rainbow Girls held a chicken barbecue on April 25. I took reservations for the \$10 dinners and they served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

June 3 is the date for our Lodge fundraising raffle drawing. Tickets are available from Secretary Ostrander for \$50 each. First prize is \$5000, second is \$1000, third is \$500, fourth is \$250 and fifth is \$150. The sixth through tenth-place winners receive \$50 each. This will help fund our scholarships and cover some of the cost for our new Ferris Zero-Turn mower, which will be W Brother Persaile's new toy.

June 3 is also the Scholarship Awards night and Service Awards for Brothers. We will be honoring the following: for sixty-five years, Virgil Switzer; with fifty-five years, Dennis Haines; RW Tom Ostrander has fifty years and Gary Caldwell forty. RW Dave Bowman is a thirty-five-year member. VW Jeff Green and Brother James Kahn have thirty years and twenty-year members are W Stephen Persaile, W Craig Coleman and W Bill Pipher. At the fifteen-year mark are RW Steven Howard, RW Michael Miller and Brother Dave Wawro. Robert Webster has ten years and with five years are Brothers Scott Bennet, Josh Hinton, Rob Gleason and Frederick James. Notices will go out to all. June 17 will be our Open Installation of Officers.

For July 25 we are booked at Meadowbrook Golf Course for our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament. More info on prices and menu will follow. That's all for now. Take care and God bless.

Tommy Ostrander

**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. We are planning an in-person Lodge meeting on May 6. The agenda will be to elect new officers as required by Grand Lodge. Let us have a tremendous turnout, at the

Erie Canal see 5th column

## Erie Canal from 4th column . . .

same time observing protocols.

The chicken barbecue on Mother's Day, May 9, will be a large event. Get your orders in early. Call 315/840-0391 or use Facebook. The Father's Day barbecue on June 20 will be equally big so bear that in mind, as well.

Our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament will be 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.

The pandemic has created havoc with Degree work. We will be scheduling that shortly. We also have fourteen Service Awards that feature Joe Marshall and Ralph McDowell at sixty-five years; Burt Ward and Richard Lees at sixty years; and Mel Marshall, David Hazer and Albert Valerio at fifty-five years. Stay tuned: this event will occur sometime this summer. Until next time, stay safe and healthy,  
 Gary Mowers

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

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

Greetings, Brothers. We resumed our regular meetings on April 13. It was really nice to see some Brothers and be back to a (pardon the expression) new normal.

On May 15 we will perform a memorial service for R. Allen Shotwell. It will be held at Trinity Church in Union Springs at 1:45 p.m. RW Stephen Zabriskie has been asked to be the officiant. Our condolences go out to all his family members. As most of you know, R. Allen was a member of Scipio 110 for many, many years.

To our Brother JW Richard Bradley goes a shout-out that all is well with his wife Alice. We pray her surgery was a success and her recovery quick.

This is a short article on my part, as we have not met in a while. To all the Brothers of the District: Be safe and healthy.

Ed Maassen II

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

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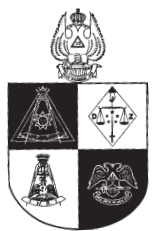
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# Scottish Riter

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 wonderful time! Flowers are in full bloom, the trees are full of leaves, birds are hatching their young and Masonry is making a comeback with Degree work in person. Our ritual work has taken some adjusting during this pandemic but we have learned to work safely, with social-distancing protocols first and foremost.

I am proud of our Valley leadership for their patience during the past year. We have put our heads together to find ways to keep the Valley current for our membership and add value to their life through Scottish Rite Freemasonry.

Our virtual events have included the Seventh and Twenty-third Radio Degrees, the Burns Supper, a music program by Brother James Nelson, Virtual Gala for the Children's Dyslexia Center and the Feast of the Paschal Lamb. All our Trustee and Executive meetings have been via Zoom. Supreme Council has continued with the Thursday Night at the Rite Programs and Town meetings.

The May 10 Annual Meetings will be live, though limited in the number of attendees. There will not be a public installation of the 2021-2022 officers due to restrictions at the Masonic Memorial Center.

We are always seeking Master Masons interested in Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. With the Rite on the Road program up and running we can now bring the Degrees to your Lodge. If you would like a program about Scottish Rite for your Trestleboard we are available to come to you.

Lawrence W. Egnaczyk

## Rose Croix

The significant symbols of the Knights of the Rose Croix are the Rose, the Cross, the Pelican, the Eagle and the Pillars. In Masonry the Rose is taken as the meaning of immortality. The Rose became a Christian symbol representing the blood of Christ. For many others it is the very source of virtue, hope of immortality and life hereafter.

According to Albert Pike's *Morals and Dogma* the equal arms of the cross were a symbol of the medieval alchemists for whom it represented Air, Earth, Fire and Water. To the Mason the cross is a sign of infinity: a universe which has no bounds, time extending without limits before and behind us and above all, the attributes of the Creator.

The Pelican is believed to be pecking its breast to feed its young with its own blood, hence representing the Christ shedding His blood

for the redemption of His children. The Pelican also represents nature. Pike states that "no magnificent works of man can compare to the wonders of the natural world." The caution to "stop and smell the roses" reminds us of what we miss when we become blind to the beauty and order that surround us in nature, God's gift to our senses.

The Eagle represents the Christ who bore upon His wings Truth and Love. The Eagle may also signify Liberty, as displayed in the Great Seal of the United States.

The Pillars represent Faith, Unity, Immutability and Goodness of the Creator. They also represent Hope of Strength, perhaps the supreme hope of mankind. In addition, the Pillars signify Charity or Wisdom, the concept of redemption of the Creator and His love for man.

In Masonry the Pelican represents the virtue of Relief and the Rose Cross the virtue of Brotherly Love. The Masonic virtue of Truth is represented by the Lost Word itself.

I trust these articles have given a better understanding of the Knights of Rose Croix. May they set you on a path to look deeper into each Degree to help shore up the Temple within your own heart.

On October 24, 375 years ago, Masonic history for us was made. What was that event? Email me at [garywhamburg@yahoo.com](mailto:garywhamburg@yahoo.com) with your answer or ask me at our September Annual Meeting.

Gary W. Hamburg

## Lodge of Perfection

Greetings, Princes! We hope you are enjoying the spring weather and a little more freedom from restrictions.

Great news for the Valley: The Lodge of Perfection was proud to host its first Rite on the Road event at Bethany Lodge No. 821 in Black River, NY, bringing in three new Scottish Rite Masons. Congratulations go to Brothers Robert Mullen, John Zimmer and Kevin Cordero. When this article is published we will have had our Thirty-second Degree conferral for all who have been in waiting over the COVID period. If all attended, we made twenty-six new Sublime Princes. The Lodge of Perfection is excited to begin person-to-person work again.

As I have written, I am proud of the many initiatives and events hosted by the AASR throughout the pandemic. Brother Rich Barrett and I attended the 2021 New

York Council of Deliberation Leadership Forum via Zoom on March 13. Wow, what a first-class, quality Leadership Educational event! Along with encouraging and motivational words from the leadership of Supreme Council, topics included new programs built at the Supreme Council; the Valley of Excellence Program; NY COD Secretary Update; the Three Stages of Membership; and the Three Essentials of an Effective Team.

We say Masonry is about Making a Good Man Better. Rest assured, my Sublime Princes, Scottish Rite Freemasonry in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction has all the tools to do just that.

The Lodge of Perfection and I look forward to seeing you in person soon at one of our events. We hope COVID restrictions continue to lessen so we all can taste the freedoms we enjoy in our great Country. We look for a warm and productive summer with our brethren, family and friends. God bless!

Terry A. Byard

## Princes of Jerusalem

Greetings, Sovereign Princes.

There are a couple of important things to keep in mind as we start to gather in person. We still have restrictions on the number of people allowed in the building. So, if the office asks for reservations and you make one, please attend. Always be safe, wear your mask and avoid physical contact.

As we are in May, I would ask each of you to take a few moments on Memorial Day to remember those who gave their life defending the greatest country in the world. Stay safe, everybody. God bless all Freemasons, our military and this great country.

James McNeal

## Hospitaler

Greetings, Brothers. This Hospitaler is in need of some TLC. I have lost the vision in my right eye. I was diagnosed with hemorrhaging in the retina and injections to dissolve blood clots have been ineffective. None of the physicians can say what caused the bleeding but all agree that diet, exercise and eating lots of carrots can't hurt. If anyone reading this article has suffered vision loss and has pointers for coping with limited vision, please give me a call.

Many of us senior Brothers have had a COVID-19 vaccination and the Lodges are starting to reopen under the guidelines. I am a high-risk person and still take all precaution as we start to venture out. Please be careful.

I just turned 79 and in next month's article I would like to address some of the issues of growing old. There were a lot of people in sickness and distress in last month's article. Keep all of them in your thoughts and prayers.

The Hospitaler's Fund is always in need. If you are able to help, please make a

## COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

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

### May 2021

**May 3** ..... Trustees Meeting/Executive Committee Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**May 10** ..... In-person Meeting at Masonic Center 7:00 p.m.;  
..... Guard's Club Annual meeting; Four Bodies Annual meeting w/election  
..... and installation of Valley Officers.  
..... Details for the meeting will be provided

### 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 Glattly, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander; Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Grand Lieutenant Commander; Ill. Richard W. Elliot, 33°, Grand Minister of State; Ill. David P. Spencer, 33°, Deputy for New York State

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

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

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

check to Central City Bodies, directed for the Hospitaler's Fund. And if you need some confidential assistance please contact us. We may be able to help.

Dick Freeman

## Notes from the Children's Dyslexia Center CNY

When we began the in-person venture, with all of the COVID-19 restrictions to work around, it seemed daunting. Thanks to the efforts of the Board, Gineal, the Tutors and the families we are now approaching the end of the year.

With our virtual GALA (our most successful fundraiser to date, thanks to all supporters) under our belt we turn to all of the necessary activities to plan for year eighteen. We are already planning for an in-person, family fun celebration GALA next March. Stay tuned for news on more virtual events.

The Center remains incident free in terms of COVID. We have maintained the safety and disinfectant protocols required daily and have had the Center deep-cleaned weekly. We look forward to normal activity but know we will continue some present practices into the future.

We are preparing for a new class of scholars (tutor-trainees). If you know any who might be interested have them contact the Center. Sadly, we carry a waitlist of children that is over two years old. We are desperate to increase our tutor pool (those trained and certified at the Center) as we foresee losing at least three tutors this June. We have maintained a fairly steady pool for several years but things are in flux.

Our children come regularly and parents express appreciation for their improvement. It is more difficult to assess on the home end, as some children are still home schooled, some are split between virtual and in-school. Many parents say

we are the one constant for their children.

We hope to have an in-person Recognition Ceremony this June. Since we have to use an outside venue it will be limited to immediate participants, including second-year children we were unable to celebrate last year.

Linda L. Martin

## Annual Dues

The collection cycle for paying Central City Bodies dues was changed by Supreme Council effective August 2020 and notice was accordingly sent. If you have paid your member's dues for 2021 and prior years; thank you. If you have not paid your 2021 dues, please do so as soon as possible. Please contact the Valley office if you are experiencing difficulty in paying your dues: 315/492-7976 or [ny017@twcnny.rr.com](mailto:ny017@twcnny.rr.com).

Members owing dues for years 2019 and prior will be suspended effective June 10, 2021. You will receive your 2022 dues invoice from Supreme Council in August. Please note that 2022 member's dues will increase by \$3 because of Supreme Council Assessments.

## Valley announces Annual Meeting limitations

The 2021 Guard's Club meeting and Central City Bodies annual meeting for the election and installation of 2021-2022 officers of the four bodies is Monday, May 10. It convenes at 7:30 p.m. at the Masonic Memorial Center in North Syracuse, NY.

A Summons notice went to all members per the Supreme Council Constitution and Central City Bodies By-laws. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, in-person attendance is limited to 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Valley officers, 33°, MSA and DSA members only. Any other member of the Valley of Syracuse is

welcome to contact the Valley Secretary's office and pre-register to attend the meeting if seating space becomes available, in which case due and timely notice will be given. Reservations will be honored on a first-come, first-to-attend basis. Direct any questions to Jim Swan, Valley Secretary; Lawrence Egnaczyk, Valley Executive Committee Chairman; or Carl Fahrenkrug Sr., Deputy's Representative.

## Valley extends outreach

A new Scottish Rite program, Rite on the Road, brings the first Scottish Rite Degree to a Master Mason's home Lodge and community. The Fourth Degree, "Builder," launches a Master Mason's journey to become a 32° Scottish Rite Mason.

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

## Rites of Summer

Two very successful summertime programs were cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19. Specifically, these were a baseball game night at the Syracuse Chiefs, now the Syracuse Mets, at the northside ballpark and a Family Life picnic at the Cicero American Legion Post. In past years these were very popular and well-attended events.

We are in preliminary planning to reinstate these outings during the 2021 summer months. Our ability to host these events is subject to any COVID-19 restrictions regarding social gatherings. A date for the ball game has not been set. The Family Life picnic is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 7 at the Cicero American Legion facilities.



# YORK RITE BODIES



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

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

Welcome to May, Companions! Spring has sprung and summer should start to occasionally appear even here in Central New York. I hope everyone is well and has had an opportunity to get a COVID vaccination. Please keep wearing your mask and washing your hands, if not for yourself, then for your brethren, family and friends.

It is Official Visit season. In April, I made visits to Central City Riverside and Charles H. Platt Chapters. On June 10 I will visit Lake Ontario Chapter. This month I will make the trek to Pulaski Chapter on the 11<sup>th</sup>. RE Ralph Haney Jr. will be present at the Official Visits when his schedule allows. Originally, he was going to make his Regional Officer Visit on the same evening but that has changed.

The Regional Officer Visit for the 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District will now be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25 at Central City Riverside Chapter in Liverpool. I ask all High Priests and Chapter Secretaries in our District to get the word out to their Companions. I would request that the High Priest and Secretary make the effort to attend this meeting. COVID protocols will be followed at all meetings held in person.

As I did last month, I would like to promote the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Charles H. Platt Chapter in Skaneateles. As we all know, this event was postponed twice in 2020 due to COVID. I hope that conditions allow for it to take place in 2021. It will be celebrated on Saturday, May 15 at the Skaneateles Masonic Lodge, followed by a luncheon at the Marietta House. The Grand High Priest and several of the Grand Line will be in attendance for the Rededication. Contact E Richard Torrey for a reservation.

Tonawanda-Keystone Chapter No. 71 will be hosting the Grand High Priest's Reception for ME Brian Singer. Forms for the reception and the ad journal were emailed to the Secretaries for distribution to the Chapter. All net proceeds will go to Royal Arch Scholarships. Rooms are available at the Millennium Hotel for \$99 per night and can be reserved by contacting the hotel directly. Please note the COVID restrictions. These

may change according to the state guidelines. Any questions may be directed to Herb Hahn Jr. at [hphahn@roadrunner.com](mailto:hphahn@roadrunner.com).

As we begin heading towards summer, remember that we are not out of the woods yet. Be smart, wear your mask and if all goes well, we can begin to see a little more normalcy in our lives this fall. Stay safe, my Companions.

Richard J. Powell

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

VE James Nelson  
Assistant Grand Lecturer  
12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District RAM  
[jnelson@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jnelson@twcny.rr.com)

Greetings, Companions of Royal Arch Masons, 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District. By the time this is published we should have completed several of our Official Visits. I am looking forward to being able to provide any assistance your Chapters might require to bring about resumption of meetings and work on the ritual. Having been restricted from holding meetings for most of the past year, many will find ritual work might be a bit dusty and rusty. Let me know if I can be of service to help your officers get back to good form.

Ritual work is more than just memorization of parts. Yet for many, memorization is the biggest hurdle to learning new roles in the line or learning Degree work. I have spoken to several fellow Masons and have found there is no one, single way people set about memorization. We are all individuals who can find different techniques to accomplish the goal of memorizing our parts. Some are blessed with needing only to read the part a few times and they have it. Others, me included, need quite a lot of time in going over the part.

I would like to repeat some of the different techniques I have heard about in these *word* articles. Maybe one of them will be the most effective for you. One such method I have learned involves writing a few of the words of each sentence, leaving large portions blank. The various written words can provide a memory nudge at key spots. Once the sentences have been mastered, more words can be dropped until you are able to recite ever-longer passages. This method has been used by actors to learn scripts and orators who wish to free themselves from reading their papers. I look forward to working with all of you over the course of this year.

Jim Nelson

## LAKE ONTARIO CHAPTER 165 RAM

Oswego Masonic Lodge  
765 E. Seneca St.  
Meets 2nd Thurs. at 7:30 p.m.

HP Ronald A. Bond  
[rbonds@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rbonds@twcny.rr.com)  
Secy Alan Wood  
315/207-0127  
[awood3@twcny.rr.com](mailto:awood3@twcny.rr.com)



Greetings, Companions. If you tried to join our Zoom meeting on April 8 I apologize, as I thought we had it all set up. I was not on line that day. We went to camp to finish cleaning up the yard and it was late before I realized it wasn't set up. Jim was thinking it was the following week so we went with that date, April 15. We tried to inform everyone of the date change.

Our meeting in May will be in person for Council. Most of our members that attend RAM meetings are also members of Fulton Council. I don't believe there will be any food served, just coffee or other drinks.

June 10 will be an Official Visit from our DDGHP Richard Powell. We plan to keep meetings as short as possible but we do have a few things that need to be done. I hope everyone has gone over his ritual work a little and is ready to have a good opening and closing. I think we do a good job so let's keep up the good work. We need Companions to be thinking whether or not they want to move up the line for next year.

There is nothing new on Hands Across The Border event at this time. Companion RE Richard Fowler will be reaching out to them shortly to see what they would like to do. Right now the border is still closed.

I will be reaching out to Charles H. Platt Chapter 247 to see if we can bring a Companion to their Holy Royal Arch Degree on May 26. I will also offer to help if needed. Companions, stay well and safe.

Ronald A. Bond

## CENTRAL CITY RIVERSIDE CHAPTER 70 RAM

608 Oswego St.  
Liverpool, N.Y.  
Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesday

HP Eric J. Driscoll,  
315/575-4470,  
[Ericjdriscoll@gmail.com](mailto:Ericjdriscoll@gmail.com)  
Secy Bob Bowles,  
315/436-0997,  
[bbowles1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:bbowles1@twcny.rr.com)



Good day, Companions! There is a lot to go over this month as we are getting back into gear a little bit. First, please check your emails as our Secretary has resent the Trestleboard for all to review. Be reminded as to when our meetings are.

Unless something largely unexpected happened, we had our second in-person meeting on April 27. This was supposed to be our Official Visit from RE Richard J. Powell, District Deputy Grand High Priest, 12<sup>th</sup> Capitular District. Prior to this our first in-person meeting was on March 23. It was very nice to see some of our Companions and get some much-needed business taken care of.

As the very first order of business, we took time to

honor and remember a Companion of our Chapter with many titles who has done much for the Craft over the years. RE Joseph Foglietti will be missed, for sure.

RE Ralph I. Haney Jr., Grand Master of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Veil, was present as well. He took the opportunity to "Officially Visit" us, bringing greetings from the Grand High Priest. His District Regional Visit will be at our next meeting on Tuesday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m. There will be no dinner for this, unfortunately, and all safety protocols will be observed during the meeting.

Reminder: Our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner is coming up quicker than you think. Now is the time to get your reservations recorded. The date is July 11 and the location is Borio's Restaurant at 8891 McConnell's Pkwy., Cicero. Menu choices include 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, at \$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.

From time to time there may be Companions or Brothers in distress or in need of assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Eric J. Driscoll

## CHARLES H. PLATT CHAPTER 247 RAM

Skaneateles Masonic Temple  
Meets 4th Wed.  
at 7:30 p.m.

HP James Nelson  
[jnelson@twcny.rr.com](mailto:jnelson@twcny.rr.com)  
Secy Earl Tuttle  
315/673-2213  
[etuttle1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:etuttle1@twcny.rr.com)

Greetings, Companions. I hope this communication finds everyone doing well. The weather so far is looking to give us a very pleasant spring season, with the anticipation of things greening up, flowers budding and a renewed vigor to our lives.

With COVID restrictions being reduced, thanks in large part to our area having low numbers of cases and many people having started or finished taking vaccina-

tions, it means we can move forward with having a more regular schedule of Chapter meetings. Please note that the plan is to hold our regular Chapter meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month. I sincerely hope to see all our Chapter members come out and enjoy the fellowship which has been absent for far too long.

I am hopeful that we can put on the Holy Royal Arch Degree at our May 26 meeting. I have been in contact with our RE Grand Lecturer as to how we can perform the Degree while remaining compliant with restrictions to maintain social distancing protocols without sacrificing the impact of the various parts of the Degree. I hope that we will receive the required approval soon.

We are expecting to hold our 150<sup>th</sup> Rededication and Celebration on May 15, which is coming up quickly. The cost of our gathering is \$30 and it should be a fun event. Invitations have been sent out to our Companions; we hope to see many of you join in the celebration festivities.

Jim Nelson

## Companions, Brethren, Ladies cordially and fraternally invited

After rescheduling this event three times due to the ongoing pandemic, the Companions of Charles H. Platt Chapter No. 247 Royal Arch Masons are proud to announce the details of their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Instituted on February 3, 1870, Charles H. Platt No. 247 will be celebrating 150 years of Royal Arch Masonry in Skaneateles, NY with a Public Chapter Re-Dedication Ceremony on Saturday, May 15, 2021. The ME Grand High Priest of the State of New York Royal Arch Masons, accompanied by his Grand Line, will preside.

A luncheon reception at the Marietta House will follow the ceremony at the Lodge/Chapter Hall. See the accompanying flyer for details. Your luncheon payment of \$30 must be received by Friday, May 7 to guaran-

tee your meal and seating.

We will follow the COVID restrictions that are in place at the time of the event. Right now, these consist of masks unless at your table; the maximum number of people at a table is four to six; and all tables will be socially distanced. If the requirements change between now and then, we will keep you updated.

Checks should be made payable to: Charles H. Platt Chapter No. 247. Please mail your paid reservations to: Charles H. Platt Chapter No. 247, PO Box 174, Skaneateles, NY 13152-0174.

Please see the event flyer attached with this invitation for further information. Thank you.

Richard M. Torrey

## 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](mailto:jdabjr@twcny.rr.com)  
Recorder Earl L. Tuttle  
[Etuttle1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Etuttle1@twcny.rr.com)  
315/673-2213

Companions, I send you greetings. The Official Visit of RI Brian D. Moore, 6<sup>th</sup> District Deputy Grand Master, is Wednesday, May 12. The Council meeting opens at 7:30 p.m. at the Liverpool Masonic Center, 608 Oswego Street, Liverpool. RI Brian will be accompanied by other Cryptic Council dignitaries that evening.

We will gather at the Retreat Restaurant, 302 Vine Street, Liverpool at 5:45 p.m. for dinner prior to the meeting. Please contact Earl Tuttle, home 315/673-2213 or cell 315/481-0176, or Jim Swan, home 315/458-1539 or cell 315/569-5910, to let us know you are attending this special communication.

As a reminder, please make certain that RI Earl Tuttle, Recorder, has your correct telephone number, snail mail and email addresses. Please send him a note or email message at [Etuttle1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:Etuttle1@twcny.rr.com). You should have received an email notice for the April 14 communication. Our intent is to fulfill your requests and continue emailing meeting and event notices to our members and friends. Your positive response to this effort resulted in zero returned, non-deliverable messages when the April notice was sent to the Companions.

We met in person on April 14 for the first time in many months, removed the ritual dust from many months of inactivity and enjoyed a Cryptic Council Charities information presentation by Past Grand Illustrious Grand Master Richard Fowler. Thanks again go to MI Fowler for his efforts and support. Personally, I received a great amount of information about Cryptic Council Charities from the program.

Please invite your Royal Arch Companions who are not Cryptic Masons to submit a petition for member-

Central City 13  
see page 7



# ORDER of the EASTERN STAR



## Order of the Eastern Star Onondaga District

Deb Krackhardt,  
dak2115@twcny.rr.com,  
315/706-3259  
Karl Parker,  
karl.parker1@gmail.com,  
315/427-1411

As we celebrate the month of May, may the force be with us. If you are not a Star Wars fan, the force being with us is a good thing. As each day goes by we are more and more working, hopefully, to put the pandemic behind us. But at present it is not behind us. Vigilance is still necessary or we start going backwards and move into the Dark Forces and that is not a good thing.

This month we celebrate Mother's Day, Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day. Please be sure to celebrate safely and responsibly.

The *word* article for April mentioned that the DDGM and DGL are doing a fundraiser for the 2021 Grand Projects. Since that article appeared, the fundraiser has been expanded to include a framed mallard print. So now there is a peacock print and a mallard print. RW Kelley Parker and Brother Buddy Belonsoff, members of Centerville Chapter No. 185, have donated the framed prints. 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 it 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 we are able to schedule that.

Now, if you are not interested in the prints, then perhaps you know of someone who may be. I know MW Jane and MW Michael may be interested and if you win and would like to give as a gift to MW Jane and/or MW Michael at the 2022 State Official Visit, I will have you personally present the print to the Grand Matron and/or Grand Patron during the Official Visit. But my guess is that the print will be a remembrance of this year and stay with the winner.

If you wish to purchase a raffle ticket(s), please contact RW Debra Krackhardt, DDGM, at 315/

706-3259 or email: [dak2115@twcny.rr.com](mailto:dak2115@twcny.rr.com). I will provide tickets in person or sent to you to complete. Return the ticket(s) and money to RW Deb. You do not have to live in and around Syracuse to participate. If you are the lucky winner, the picture will be safely sent to you.

See the nearby photo of the mallard print.

RW Debra Krackhardt, DDGM, made her first Official Visit on April 8 to Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay Chapter No. 567. It was a very nice evening. Worthy Matron Annie and Worthy Patron Al were wonderful hosts. A poem recitation was performed on Our Eastern Star Garden.

The next Official Visit was April 15 at Centerville Chapter 185. Coming after the *word* deadline, more detail on that Official Visit will be in the June *word* article.

The remaining Official Visits are May 10 at Morning Star Chapter No. 289 and Onondaga Star Chapter No. 144 on June 1. Unfortunately, only Chapter members are able to attend the Official Visits unless regulations change. If regulations do change, word will get out.

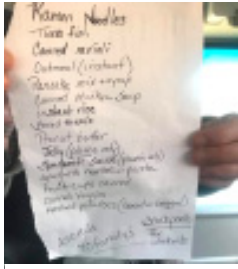
Chapter events that are coming up include a pulled pork take-out dinner on Saturday, May 22 from 4 to 7 p.m., put on by Onondaga Star Chapter No. 144. Centerville Chapter No. 185 is selling 50/50 raffle tickets for \$5 per ticket. Half the money goes to the winning ticket holder and half goes to the District to forward to the Grand Matron and Grand Patron for their projects.

All things seem possible in May. So, get out. And under safe conditions watch as the buds and flowers bloom, birds find each other and sing their songs, and remember to salute those you pass with a warm greeting.

Deb Krackhardt  
Karl Parker

## Order of the Eastern Star Oswego District

May brings good wishes to all from Oswego District. There are plenty of reasons to love May. It's the start of summer, flowers are blooming and you can finally begin entertaining outdoors again. Whether it's World Press Freedom Day or National Buttermilk Biscuit Day, as



**Shopping list/ inventory of foodstuffs packaged for Altmar-Parish-Williamstown CSD families. Reaching 70 families touches 250 youngsters.**



**Cassidy Phillips poses with a portion of the food donations organized by members of Lake Ontario Chapter.**

in most other months there's something official to celebrate every single day of the month. The birthstone of May, the emerald, symbolizes success and love. May's flower, lily of the valley, represents sweetness and humility, purity of heart and honor.

Happy May Day – May 1<sup>st</sup>! When I was a young girl my mother taught my sisters and me to make May Day baskets out of wallpaper. We'd take a square from the wallpaper book, which came in the mail each year. We would cut a strip from one end to use as the handle, and then roll the sheet until it took the shape of a cone. We then glued each end of the strip to the top of our cone.

If we were lucky we could collect May flowers from the woods, any kind—even the stinky ones. After we put our flowers in our baskets we'd go to the three elderly ladies in the neighborhood—Georgie, Lottie, Annabelle—and hang one basket on each door handle. With a knock on the door we'd run and hide in the nearby bushes. We relished the surprise on their face and once they closed their door, we'd hightail it out of there.

We did that for a few years and were sure the women never solved the mystery of who left those flowers, stink pots and all. This was not something we girls thought up on our own. Our mother taught us at an early age that not all good deeds need to be recognized and rewarded. Perhaps we thought of it as being a bit mischievous at the time; thinking back, a smile comes to my face as I remember those ladies.

Right now the leaders and members of the Oswego District are also smiling and are extremely proud of the good deed that Lake Ontario Chapter No. 124 recently did. The Chapter jumped into action when they heard that the Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District Backpack Program was in jeopardy of being discontinued due to lack of donations. The school's Backpack Program assists seventy families, which includes 250 children. This program supplies food to help nourish the children when not in school, where they would regularly receive breakfast and lunch meals. Food is donated by many

community members, teachers and other sources. As the number of days not-in-school sessions was increased, so was the amount of food necessary to meet the needs of these families. The Chapter and individual members made monetary donations to assist in buying products to be used for backpacks. One member in particular, Robin Phillips, along with her daughter Cassidy Phillips, went to work soliciting items and money from the community for donations. Robin gathered, loaded into her Explorer and delivered more than a carload of items, along with more monetary gifts to the APW High School. This was a huge accomplishment through the voluntary efforts of that Chapter's membership to put food in the packs for the children of the district. See representative pictures of this collection nearby.

Helping others is not only good for them and a good thing to do, but it also makes a person happier and healthier. Giving also connects us to others, creating stronger communities and helping to build a happier society for everyone. And it's not all about money. We can also give our time, ideas and energy.

All the Holy Spirit wants us to know is that kind acts are indeed only rewarded by God, not man; but God still uses man to accomplish his purposes. God will reward you.

Like the flowers of May and symbol of its birthstone, I hope your life this month is full of color and success. May you find love in your heart.

Michelle Gogel

## Onondaga Star 144 Masonic Memorial Center

Dear Sisters and Brothers, at the April meeting it was good to see everyone again. It still seems very long between times but at least we are out and about.

It is hard to say goodbye to any of our Sisters and Brothers, as we had to recently for Helen Thompson. She will be missed. Remember to reach out to each other and especially those who are homebound, even if they are only temporarily homebound. It is so important to stay in touch, always.

We look forward to more of you returning to Chapter

as the nicer weather is here and it becomes a more vaccinated world. Our meeting night, still, is the first Tuesday of each month: May 3 and June 1. Our May 3 meeting will be Ample Form and is the District Grand Lecturer Karl Parker's Official Visit. I know that it is different but many things this year are a little different. With fewer meetings we are trying to have as much covered as possible. We hope to see many of our members there.

Our June 1 meeting will be District Deputy Grand Matron Debra Krackhardt's Official Visit. We very much look forward to this visit. These will be two very exciting meetings just before summer. As we reconvene in September we will be draping the altar in remembrance of those lost this past year.

We continue to try to open up our fundraising. On Saturday, May 22 we will host a take-out only pulled pork sandwich and sides dinner from 4 to 7 p.m. Look for the sign. We will also continue our basket fundraiser. Tickets will be available throughout the summer and we will draw the winner this fall. For a small donation you have a chance to win. As you receive the opportunity to be part of these fundraisers, please consider giving us your support.

Again, meeting dates for the next few months are May 3 and June 1. We will do our best to keep in touch and keep the information coming to you. Until the next time, we hope you and your family stay well and happy. We send warm fraternal greetings and unending friendship always.

Jeannine Parks



**RW Mary L. Borland  
July 8, 1930-  
March 28, 2021**

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

RW Natalie J. Woodall, Secretary

My dear Sisters and Brothers: I had planned to continue my story about the persons who organized Grand Chapter during the early days of the Order of the Eastern Star in New York State but a recent event has caused me to postpone that idea. RW Sr. Mary L. Borland died at Seneca Hill Manor on March 28, 2021 at the age of 90. She was a dedicated member of the Order and, even more importantly for many of us, a good friend.

Mary Louise Borland was Initiated into Lake City Chapter No. 352 on November 25, 1955. She served as Worthy Matron in 1975 and again in 1978. In 1982 she was selected for the position of Grand Adah. For several years she and yours truly served as Conductresses. She was active in the Past Matrons' Association and we

looked forward to the pies she served for refreshments.

Mary was a dedicated Chapter member. Her attendance at meetings was nearly 100%. She worked hard to help with fundraising. So long as her health permitted she could be counted on to assist with all those dinners the Chapter catered. I remember fondly the "left-handed kitchen crew," so named because all of us, RW Cynthia Sanders, RW Earline Wood, RW Mary and I, were southpaws. In 2005, the year of the Chapter's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, we were meeting at Hannibal Lodge until the new Lodge in Oswego was available. Mary and I put on the twice-monthly Masonic dinners there. While she began setting tables and brewing the coffee, I used the electric lift to carry many bags of groceries up to the second floor where the kitchen and Lodge room were located. I could not have done those dinners without her help. Whether it was Harborfest or Pumpkinfest, Mary was there lending a hand.

I also remember fondly Mary's participation in Chapter skits. It was the custom to provide some form of entertainment when the District Deputy made her Official Visit. In 2001 RW Earline Wood held that position and we decided to do a musical take-off on *The Golden Girls*, complete with chorus line as the finale. (We were much younger then.) Our rehearsals were held in Mary's living room. Did we have fun!

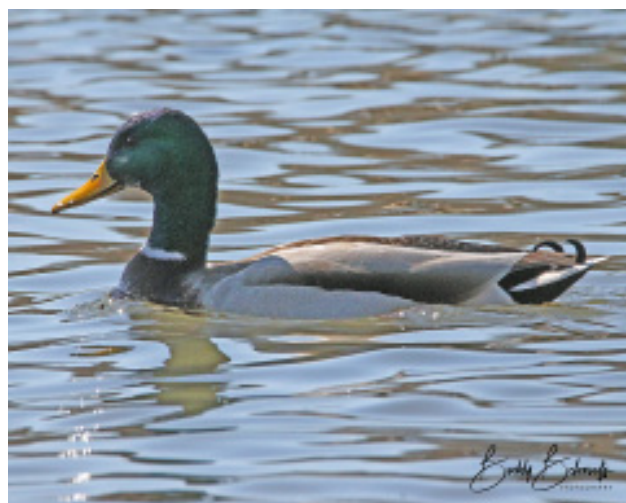
The planning for the Chapter's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday entailed about two years' work and Mary was an important member of the committee. I knew I could always count on her to carry out whatever task I assigned. The party was a celebration I shall never forget.

We attended Grand Chapter and Official Visits in other Chapters. When I was Associate Grand Warder she was my traveling companion. I laugh to remember she thought I was using too much eye shadow!

Mary loved to travel. She, W Ann Eason and RW Gladys Geddes used to travel to Florida for some fun in the sun. Mary made at least two trips to Europe with Sr. Freda Kocher. I chuckled when she complained that everything in England was old. In the fall she and a friend I only knew as Pauline customarily made a trip to the Adirondacks to admire the foliage.

For many years Mary and I traveled to the Home at Oriskany for the annual bazaar. We laughed and ate our way throughout the day, making our way past the various booths and looking for that certain something we just couldn't go home without. She it was who advised me to refrain from buying that treasure at first glance because later in the day the price would undoubtedly be reduced. Of course, that meant I had to hope the trea-

**Lake City  
see page 12**





# MAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY					
						1					
2	Jordan 386 Liverpool-Syracuse 501 Marathon 438 Morning Star 524 Trumansburg 157	3	Cortlandville 470 Fay-Central City 305 Hiram 136 Onondaga Star OES Seneca River 160 Warren Salem Town 147	4	Callimachus 369 Cayuga 221 Cazenovia 616 Kedar Khan Grotto Otselic Valley 659 Philo-Mt. Sinai 968 Pulaski 415 Skaneateles 522	5	Auburn 124 Caroline 681 Centerville OES Central Square 622 Crossroads United 93 Erie Canal 141 Konosioni 950 Lake Ontario 32KT Tri-Valley 148	6	Central City 25KT	7	8
9	Hamilton 120 Homer 352 Morning Star OES Onondaga Hill Club Scriba 414	10	Cortland 50KT E Caldwell OES Fulton 167 RAM Fidelity-Hobasco 51 King Hiram 784 Lake City 127 Scipio 110 Victoria OES Washington RAM	11	Cautious 726 Central City 13 CM Hannibal 550 Pulaski 279 RAM Tritown 472	12	Bona Fide OES Lake Ontario 165 RAM Memorial 648 Nortrip 998 Tully 896	13	Ft. Brewerton 256 Owaghena 303 RAM Triangle @ Liverpool	14	15
16	Jordan 386 Liverpool-Syracuse 501 Marathon 438 Morning Star 524 Trumansburg 157	17	Cortlandville 470 Fay-Central City 305 Hiram 136 Onondaga Star OES Seneca River 160 Sylvan 41 Warren Salem Town 147	18	Callimachus 369 Cayuga 221 Cazenovia 616 Daughters of the Nile Otselic Valley 659 Philo-Mt. Sinai 968 Pulaski 415 Skaneateles 522 Tigris Temple	19	Auburn 124 Caroline 681 Centerville OES Central Square 622 Crossroads United 93 Erie Canal 141 Konosioni 950 Watertown 11KT	20	Central City 25KT	21	22
23	Homer 352 Morning Star OES Scriba 414	24	Central City Riverside 70 RAM E Caldwell OES Fidelity-Hobasco 51 King Hiram 784 Lake City 127 Pulaski OES Scipio 110 Victoria OES Washington RAM	25	Charles H. Platt 247 RAM Fulton 50 CM Hannibal 550 MWD's Tritown 472	26	Bona Fide OES Memorial 648 Nortrip 998 Tully 896	27	Ft. Brewerton 256 Triangle @ Liverpool	28	29
30		31									

**OES from page 11 . . . Lake City**

sure would still be there. Mary meant a lot to me. When I shattered my leg in a riding accident in 2008 she was ever ready to help, whether it was visiting me in the nursing home, taking me to innumerable doctor visits, or buying much-needed groceries. The day I came home from rehab she was there. When I fell in the bathroom a few days later she came to the house and stayed all day to ensure I was all right. I was incapacitated for three years and recall that Mary was the person who took me to the grocery store for the first time. Later, when I needed cataract surgery and laser treatments, she was there.

Mary was pretty self-sufficient. She and her husband Harold Borland II, "Hal," were the parents of Gary, Harold III and Gail. When Hal suddenly died of a heart attack at a young age Mary was left to rear that family alone. She had trained as a nurse and for a while she worked in a doctor's office. When a position became available at the Mary Walker Health Center at SUNY Oswego she applied and won the job. In the coming years she would earn a degree as a nurse practitioner.

When I heard the news of Mary's death, I cried for days. Her daughter told me at the funeral her mother's last year had been difficult, made even more so by COVID, but she was at rest now.

Mary has laid aside her working tools, her labors in life's quarry completed. For those of us fortunate enough to have been touched by her kindness and dedication to the order, however, she lives on in our memory as a woman worthy of emulation and es-

teem. *Requiesce in pace, mea soror.*

Natalie J. Woodall

**Centerville 185  
Masonic Memorial Center**

It sure is nice to see our lawns getting greener and longer. Wait, that means that we have to start mowing it. Well, I guess that's better than shoveling snow.

What a great time we all had on April 15 when we welcomed RW Debbie Krackhardt and RW Karl Parker with their companion Grand Officers from Onondaga District! It was nice to be able to see members outside of our Chapter for the first time in so long.

On May 20 we will be draping the altar in honor of those we have lost this past year. We will also be honoring mothers.

Remember that we are selling 50/50 tickets. Half the proceeds will go to the winner and half goes to the District leaders to forward to the Grand Matron and Grand Patron for their projects.

How about this interesting fact: A caterpillar has more muscles than a human being. A caterpillar has over 4,000 muscles in its body. The head of the caterpillar alone holds over 248 individual muscles, and over 70 muscles control each body segment. Now, wasn't that interesting?

Stay safe. See you in Chapter.

Cathy Barling

**Morning Star 289  
Marcellus Masonic Temple**

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers. At long last we are able to meet again! On April 17 we held our annual meeting, election and installation of officers. What a busy day

we had! Thanks go to all of our installed officers.

We did not have many changes. RW Cathy Woods was elected and installed as our Secretary and W Ruthie Curtis as a Trustee. Thanks to all those who remained in their positions for the past year.

While we have only a few short months until November, we have much work to do. On May 10 at 7 p.m. we will welcome RW Debra Krackhardt, DDGM, as she makes her Official Visit to Morning Star. On May 24 we will Drape the Altar, again at 7 p.m. Please take note of our time changes. I'm excited to say, See you in Chapter!

As with everything else in our lives at this time, masks must be worn at all times and we will practice social distancing. I have not heard of anyone under the weather or in need of a card.

Make sure you check the District article for what's going on around town. Many Chapters are starting to fundraise again, so make sure you look to see if it's something you could support.

"One measure of your success will be the degree to which you build up others who work with you. While building up others, you will build up yourself."—James Casey (founder of UPS).

Mary Perry  
Larry Spencer

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

Dear Sisters and Brothers, Bona Fide-Hiawatha-Solvay Chapter is happy for spring to finally arrive. We had a successful visit from our District Deputy Grand Matron on April 8. We had a

wonderful time welcoming RW Deborah Krackhardt to our Chapter and we are looking forward to having her join us again very soon.

Our April 22 meeting was our Ample Form as well as our District Grand Lecturer's Official Visit. April 24 was our chicken and biscuit take-out dinner. We had a very packed April and look forward to May.

On May 13 we will be holding a regular meeting for all members. We will be discussing having another take-out dinner in early June so please keep a lookout for that coming up. On May 27 we are holding a meeting where we will be draping our altar for those who have passed away this previous year.

Coming up in June, we will be having our last meeting before summer recess on June 10. We will also hold a picnic on June 24 to celebrate the summer and sun. I hope all of you are looking forward to what the rest of the year has in store. Please stay safe and healthy and remember to let love grow.

Annie Urban

**Pulaski Puritan 159**

Here it is April already, the snow is gone and the flowers are coming up, and I just started my seeds for the garden. Life is good.

We will be Draping the Altar and honoring mothers at our first meeting in May. The second meeting, on the 25<sup>th</sup>, will honor Master Masons. It seems good to be back to Chapter. Things are being done a little differently but I think we'll be okay. We're sterilizing the Lodge room when we leave and get together downstairs with store-bought goodies and six-foot distancing. At least we're together.

We have decided to do

the Memorial flowerpots this year, so get your orders in with one of us. For \$18 you can't beat it. They are beautiful.

I have volunteered to head up the fundraiser for the Oswego District OES. We're going to sell pecans. The only bad thing is we can't get the chocolate-covered pecans or caramel clusters until this fall. They told me that it's too hot to ship them. I told the woman it was only 40 degrees here and she laughed and said she was sorry. Bless her heart—if she only knew how many waistlines she saved for the summer. Hang in there because I'll have them for you in the fall. I know: "Bless my heart."

May 5<sup>th</sup> is Cinco de Mayo, and then Mother's Day is Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup>. So, I have

some wisdom from my mom with respect to 1) Appreciating a job well done: "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning." 2) Religion: "You better pray that comes out of the carpet." 3) Time travel: "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into next week." 4) and Logic: "Because I said so." I miss her every day. Who else but a mom would love you unconditionally no matter how many times you talk with your mouth full, forget to call or bring home your laundry? Happy Mother's Day, ladies.

I have just one little word from an ol' angel. "To have a friend and be a friend is the greatest happiness of existence."

Diane Manwaring



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