

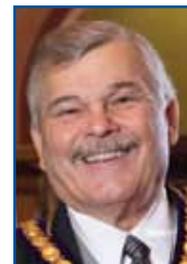
The Empire State  
**Mason**

**SPRING 2022**



**MW RICHARD J. KESSLER  
AND HIS LADY JOANNE**

# FROM THE GRAND EAST



MW RICHARD J. KESSLER  
GRAND MASTER  
716/873-0207  
grandmaster@nymasons.org

My Brothers, I find this to be my most difficult and challenging article ever. Much has changed for me since being elected and installed as your Grand Master in October 2021 in Utica. As most if not all of you know, I lost “My Girl” Joanne on December 27, 2021. “Joey,” as I always referred to her, was such an integral part of every aspect of my life, including Freemasonry. This journey that I will now continue to pursue was the collaboration of the two of us. Her insight, advice and support of me was immeasurable. Although I will physically traverse this journey without her, she will always be my North Star, illuminating my footsteps along the winding path. Love you so much, Dear! You will be with me with every beat of my heart.

I always knew that Freemasonry was the greatest organization God ever gave man the skill sets to create but I was blown away by the outpouring of love, support and prayer for my family. The little notes in the cards, emails and texts showed me how much she meant to all of you. But I constantly remind myself that she would insist that we push onward. With God’s Divine Guidance and your help, we will. Always remember that our gentle Craft must be defended vigorously and valued as the most precious of jewels. By living according to our principles and tenets we will demonstrate, one member at a time, our value to the world.

There were many firsts for the annual Grand Lodge Communication of New York this past year. In the midst of a pandemic many precautions were in place. Everyone in attendance was required to wear a mask at all times to limit our exposure of contracting and/or spreading the COVID virus to others. The order of the day was to conduct the business of our Grand Session. Masonry persevered over all obstacles and is stronger and more resilient because of these challenges.

## MAY 3, 2021 - DAY 1

Our Grand Session opened on May 3, 2021 and after a very brief first day we went from Labor to Refreshment. We met in our newest home on the New Rochelle Campus with only the essential officers needed for opening. The annual communication was opened and after some essential business, Grand Master Sardone called us from Labor to Refreshment.

## OCTOBER 23, 2021 - DAY 2, PART 1

On October 23, 2021 Grand Master Sardone called our annual communication back from Refreshment to Labor. Again, there was no fanfare, no foreign jurisdictions and most of all we were without our ladies. We were working within local, county and state health mandates. This was definitely an all-work-and-no-play Masonic event. There was much to do, including constitutional amendments and the election of officers, just to mention two. With the guidance of the Grand Master, the outstanding Masonic Care Facility’s staff, and the cooperation of all in attendance, it was an outstanding

success. Grand Lodge business was completed and the session was closed.

## OCTOBER 23, 2021 - DAY 2, PART 2

After Grand Lodge was closed we moved to the Tompkins Chapel for Installation of Officers. Under the auspices of MW Edward Trosin, Installing Grand Master, and MW Carl Fitje, Installing Grand Marshal, the entire Grand Line and all pertinent Trustees were installed in their places and stations. The work of the installation was performed expeditiously and with all the proper and necessary respect for the ceremony. I want to thank Grand Masters Trosin and Fitje for their outstanding ritualistic and administrative acumen. The end result is that the Grand Lodge of New York fulfilled its constitutional duty and successfully conducted its transfer of leadership.

## OCTOBER 24, 2021 - DAY 3

On Sunday, October 24 all of the District officers received their commission from me, as per our Constitution. Again, this was another first. The District officers received their commission and the Grand Master’s Message, which is usually reserved for St. John’s weekend. The reason I listed the forgoing travelogue of events is to display the resilience and dedication of our membership. We dealt with adversity, persevered, conducted our business in due form and came out a much stronger Fraternity.

## Leadership & Education

The Leadership and Education Committee has undertaken a dramatic change in its mission. During the early days of the pandemic it was apparent that we had to find new methods of reaching out to our membership to provide them with a diverse platform of topics in order to keep them involved, entertained and educated. The need to reach out to the membership was never more essential to our survival and growth. The committee is chaired by RWs DiNatale, Drzewucki and Hudson. In addition to the committee being responsible for training District officers, the L&E Committee is introducing a wide-ranging core of educational and leadership programs that are open to all Master Masons.

In March, our first class of Train the Trainer teams have begun their mentorship under the renowned Maxwell Leadership Program. The Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Home have underwritten this initiative. In addition, the Trustees will be sponsoring this program for administrators, employees and other Masonic bodies. I thank them for their generous support and their vision in providing the foundation for our future success. Our ultimate goal will be to provide members and Lodges with easy-to-follow guidelines for thinking and speaking about the Grand Lodge and Freemasonry in the New York jurisdiction. The guidelines should serve as a front line of

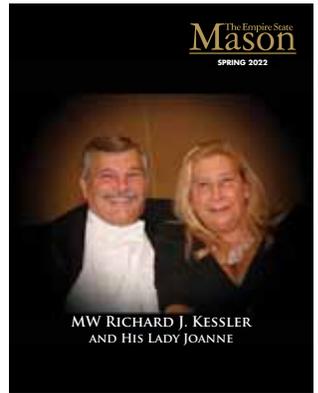
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MW RICHARD J. KESSLER  
AND HIS LADY JOANNE



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### CONSULTANTS

RICHARD J. KESSLER  
Grand Master – Editor in Chief

JOAN C. BOWER  
Assistant Editor

LORAIN DIBLEY  
Graphic Designer

STEVEN ADAM RUBIN  
Deputy Grand Master

ROBERT L. HOGAN  
Senior Grand Warden

PETER C. STEIN  
Junior Grand Warden

JOSEPH J. SAGLIMBENE  
Grand Treasurer

RICHARD T. SCHULZ  
Grand Secretary

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communication, suitable for introductory materials and initial conversations.

### Website update

Members inherently know what the Grand Lodge is and what it stands for but articulating those things in a common, clear manner isn't easy. There are also many facets to the Freemasonry belief system, which can be difficult to organize and explain in a succinct, cohesive and digestible way. Then, there are the common misconceptions (e.g., Freemasonry is a religion). The effect is a lack of unity in messaging among Lodges and members and difficulty attracting potential members who are aligned with Freemasonry's ideals.

We have entered into a contract to establish and maintain a state-of-the-art website. I apologize now for the lapse of time in its startup: but many programs that needed a serious outlay of cash had to be put on hold until after the annual communication. The company is fine tuning many of the aspects of the website and will be emphasizing standardization, branding and external and internal mission statements. We must ensure that our mission statement is consistent with our principles and tenets and ensure that all of our members' needs are addressed. What we must project to the outside world is that we are truly an honorable organization and represent a worthwhile use of their time.

It is apparent that the Square and Compasses are recognized world-wide but many do not know what we do or what we stand for. Countless surveys have proven that there is a great need for an organization that provides what we do. Our focus must be on informing the public of our vision, mission and legacy. Whether it is through our website, communications or action, we must ensure that the public receives the exact message we are conveying.

### Masonic Brotherhood Fund

The Masonic Brotherhood Fund is the Charity arm of the Fraternity and has helped to raise money to help many Brothers and families in need. At this time I would like to thank all of you for your generous support. The purpose is to assist our Masonic families with those unforeseen and sometime catastrophic tragedies that can destroy a family unit. Our current charity drive is off to an outstanding start. I want to thank you for your most generous support. We have outstanding responses to the Masonic War Vets' introduction

of "Teddy Bears for Vets." Not only have many of you supported the Military Outreach Program by adopting a bear, but you also gave us the name of a needy veteran so we could send that stuffed animal to a most welcome home. Many of our bears were also auctioned off, resulting in most generous bids. Thank you for supporting our veterans.

The "Battle Within" program has been received with such enthusiasm and support that we had to reorder both pins and cufflinks. As soon as new arrivals are received we will send them out. This project was the brainchild of Harmonie Lodge 699 in honor of a fallen member of their Lodge. Joanne was struck by the overwhelming emotion of the project and the devastating statistic associated with the suicide rates of our veterans. The pin is a broken heart with the message: *"A Tribute to Those We Will Always Carry and Those we can No Longer Hold."* The Foundation is also offering Memorial Garden and Let's Talk benches initiatives. Please contact your District Deputy Grand Master for information and to contribute.

We also contribute to the relief of our fellow Masonic jurisdictions when disaster strikes. This past December the state of Tennessee was devastated by a series of tornados. Your generous support of the disaster relief fund enabled New York to generously assist the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.

### Masons Make a Difference

Brothers, "Masons Make a Difference" is not merely a slogan or a catchy tagline. It is who we are and what we stand for. Our principles and tenets are our guiding force through life. The obligations that each of us swore lay out the pathway for us to travel. The charges remind us we have taken on a sacred trust for the benefit of all mankind. That is quite a tall order for any single person; but when we work together in unison, that supposed insurmountable task becomes instinctive and easy. When you are surrounded by men of high moral fiber, following the honorable path is spontaneous. When we live according to these precepts in all our activities, we are a shining example for all to see.

### Masons truly make a difference



MW Richard J. Kessler  
Grand Master

## A Woman of Valor

*What a precious find is a Woman of Valor!*

*Her worth is far beyond rubies.*

*Her husband puts his confidence in her*

*And lacks no good thing.*

*She is good to him, never bad,*

*All the days of her life...*

*She opens her hand to the needy,*

*And extends her hand to the poor...*

*She is clothed with strength and splendor,*

*She looks to the future cheerfully.*

*She opens her mouth with wisdom:*

*Her tongue is guided by kindness.*

*She oversees the activities of her household*

*And never eats the bread of idleness.*

*Her children come forward and bless her;*

*Her husband praises her (and says):*

*"Many women have done superbly,*

*But you surpass them all"*

*Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain,*

*But a God revering woman is much to be praised.*

*Extol her for the fruit of her hand,*

*Wherever people gather, her deeds speak her praise.*

From the Book of Proverbs

# DEPUTY GRAND MASTER



**RW STEVEN ADAM RUBIN**  
*DEPUTY GRAND MASTER*  
917/584-3427  
[deputygrandmaster@nymasons.org](mailto:deputygrandmaster@nymasons.org)

My dear Brothers, while this is the spring edition of the *Empire State Mason* and I submit this article at the beginning of the new year, this is my first opportunity since our Grand Lodge Session in October 2021 to say, Thank You. I have been blessed with many honors during the years that I have served our Craft, but next to my son's Raising this past October, my election as Deputy Grand Master has been the highlight. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with and for our Grand Master and such an outstanding array of dedicated elected and appointed Grand Line Officers, District Deputy GMs, Staff Officers, AGLs, Worshipful Masters, Permanent Members, Committeemen, Trustees, Board members and you. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for your confidence and support. I do not take lightly the responsibility you have placed in me.

Following our Grand Lodge Session in October, with our Deputy Grand Marshal, RW Spiro Triantafilis, our Junior Grand Deacon, RW Al Cortizo and our Deputy Grand Standard Bearer, RW Peter Unfried, I have continued to travel our great state and observe firsthand why it's called "Brotherhood." With our Grand Master and nearly the entire Grand Line, we toasted 150 years of Masonry at Harmonie Lodge 699 in the Erie Masonic District. We gathered again in Buffalo in December as we celebrated 175 years of Faith, Hope and Charity at Hiram Lodge 105 and in Schenectady we recognized 100 years of Scottish Rite Freemasonry at the Valley of Schenectady. This also gave the opportunity to toast, in his home Valley, Ill. Peter J. Samiec, 33°, Sovereign Grand Commander.

It was my distinct honor to attend, along with my wife Mojdeh, the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts and their Feast of St. John the Evangelist as I represented our Grand Master and our Grand Lodge. In January we came together as only our Masonic Family can as we said goodbye to our First Lady Joanne.

We celebrated our Masonic War Vets in Alexandria Bay and shared in good fellowship with the outstanding Sir Knights at the Grand Commander's Reception in Utica. We remembered those Brothers lost this past year at the First Westchester-Putnam Masonic District's Lodge of Remembrance. We raised money for Childhood Diseases and remembered children hospitalized during the holidays at Masonic Toys for Tots. We celebrated the holiday season with the Brothers and families of Anchor Astoria Lodge 729, Advance Service Mizpah Lodge 586 and King Solomon-Beethoven Lodge 232.

We joined with you in welcoming home District Deputies and Staff Officers around our State as we thanked our Brothers for their service; and we joined you in celebrating our new District Leadership Teams as they began their terms of office.

Together we witnessed inspiring ritual, ate great food and celebrated the Spirit of Brotherhood.

Yet, we also spoke of the many challenges that you and our Lodges—especially building owners—continue to face, from simply providing a meaningful Masonic education and experience to our brethren, to limited revenue streams, to leaky roofs and high taxes. That is why our Grand Master and I believe that we must harness our most precious Masonic resource—you—to find real solutions to these challenges. Towards that end, working with Chairman RW Allan Bryant, the process to reman the Buildings and Lodges Committee and restore its functionality is well underway. Yet, more Brothers with project management, fire safety, construction, zoning law and DEC experience are needed. So are lawyers and accountants with not-for-profit experience, or any Brother who has experience in the management of a Lodge or Lodge building—experienced Treasurers and Trustees. Follow the link and become part of the solution: <https://forms.gle/K1y2qVNtKS9AVjB86>.

We have begun addressing the manner and means of communication within our Grand Jurisdiction and without. A District Public Relations Officer who will work with our Grand Lodge Communications Committee promoting Lodge and District charitable, philanthropic, recreational and educational programming will be one weapon in our arsenal. But that won't do it all. We need copywriters, content generators, artists, photographers, authors and poets, Blog Editors, Blog Managers and Social Media Managers. Follow the link and become part of the solution: <https://forms.gle/K1y2qVNtKS9AVjB86>.

My Brothers, like you I joined our Gentle Craft for its most special history and remarkable philosophy. Indeed, as Master Masons, we are each on our own journey. That never changes, not with the color of our apron or the initials that precede our name. Yet, along that journey many of us have come to realize that for Masonry to not merely survive, but thrive, we must implement real governance within our Lodges, our Districts and our Grand Lodge. Leadership doesn't mean merely showing up, it means stepping up. I hope you will take the opportunity to shape the face and future of New York Masonry. If you have leadership, management or professional experience or talent and a desire to work with Brothers across New York State to enhance our Craft and our Grand Lodge, our Grand Lodge needs you. Follow the link and become part of the solution: <https://forms.gle/K1y2qVNtKS9AVjB86>.

As we continue to suffer from the effects of the pandemic, let me wish for you and those you love, now more than ever, a happy Easter and happy Passover and the hope for a healthy tomorrow. God bless you, our country and our Craft.

# SENIOR GRAND WARDEN



RW ROBERT L. HOGAN JR.  
SENIOR GRAND WARDEN  
845/485-6436  
[Sr.GrandWarden@nymasons.org](mailto:Sr.GrandWarden@nymasons.org)

Greetings from the West, my Brothers! Enjoy the journey. Get the work done. Have fun in the process. That's my game plan while I'm Senior Grand Warden.

It sounds simple enough. And so far, even with our Jurisdiction dealing with the pandemic in varying degrees, we've been able to do just that. We've been down to Queens three times, Nassau once and Masonic Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. There's been a trip to Rochester and another to Alexandria Bay and Utica. All that has been bookended by two Lodge rededications up in the Erie District. The weekend after Grand Lodge we were up there performing a Lodge's 150-year rededication. On Saturday, December 18 we were back up in Buffalo for a Lodge's 175-year rededication. Yes, the car is scheduled for an oil change.

Grand Master Kessler has asked me to look into past due Annual Returns, reports and overdue funds. I have contacted the applicable District Deputies and asked them to find out what the delay is and to see if they can assist the Lodges. I'm

pleased with the initial response we've gotten. It's a work in progress but we'll get there. Working together, we can accomplish anything.

I've had the good fortune of working very closely with both our Grand Master and our Deputy Grand Master and in doing so I've gotten to realize the love each of them has for our Craft. I think that their plans and initiatives will align seamlessly. We have much to do but we have many enthusiastic Brothers who are willing to sacrifice their time and energy to take our beloved Craft to new levels. Working together, we can accomplish anything.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: Masonry, my Brothers, is the last best hope for a decent, benevolent society. Now more than ever we must lead by example, showing what makes the man who has knelt at our altars stand out from the rest. Be honest and humble. Remember your obligations and live by them. Our commitment to excellence will be the standard for generations to come. I'll see you in the quarries.

## Wayne District recognizes 911 Coordinator

The 911 dispatcher is often the unsung professional of the emergency response team. These professionals, who gather essential information from callers and dispatch the appropriate first responders to the scene, must be able to take control in situations that may be chaotic, heart wrenching, stressful, confusing and frenzied.

On January 5 Katie L. Dean, Wayne County

E911 Operations Manager, received the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York Certificate for Excellence in Service to the Community. Clifford E. Dennie, District Deputy Grand Master (first row, left) and Christopher P. Fox (second from left), Grand Steward of the Wayne District, made the presentation. The rest of the E911 Center staff looks on.



# JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN



RW PETER C. STEIN  
JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN  
716/432-7751  
JrGrandwarden@nymasons.org

Brethren, while this is for the spring edition of the *Empire State Mason*, I am writing it a few days after Christmas. That being said, I hope you and your family had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I also hope and pray that this article finds you in good health, with all that has been going on with COVID and its variants this winter.

This has been a sad week for the Grand Lodge of New York. Our Grand First Lady has passed to that Celestial Home above. Over the last three-and-a-half years as your Deputy Grand Standard Bearer, I traveled quite extensively with the Grand Master and Lady Joanne. We became good friends and I will miss her dearly.

On to better news: first and foremost, I would like to thank all my Brothers for putting your trust in me and electing me as your Junior Grand Warden. It has been about two months and what a whirlwind it has been! Right after Grand Lodge we had a rededication at Harmonie Lodge 699 OM and 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party at the Buffalo History Museum. Then my lovely wife Melanie and I traveled to Rochester for the Most Illustrious Grand Master's reception for MI John Gallant. The following week I traveled with the Grand Master, Lady Joanne and his team to the 1000 Islands for the Masonic War Veterans Commander General's Reception. Then it was off to Utica the next day to participate in the presentation ceremony of Order of the York Rite Tribute to the DeMolay State Master Councilor and to attend the Right Eminent Grand Commander's Reception for Sir Knight Dennis Davis.

The next day we went to Long Island for the Herman Weiss Awards, and then to Manhattan for the homecoming of RW Scott Peat, Past Grand Standard Bearer. We stayed in Manhattan and attended Saint John's Lodge 1 and Pyramid Lodge 490, which presented the Empty Chair Degree in honor of Veterans Day. It was a beautiful Degree and ceremony. The following day we attended the Masonic Toys for Tots event back on Long Island. I'd like to congratulate and commend the Masonic Toys for Tots Committee for a very wonderful affair.

After returning home for the Thanksgiving holiday, I attended various Lodges in the Western Region and in December headed back to Utica to attend the Grand Chapter Royal Arch Mason training weekend. Later in the month, we attended the Lake Erie Commandery Christmas Observance

and the Valley of Buffalo AASR Christmas play. The Grand Line then performed the rededication of Hiram Lodge 105 for their 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on December 18.

Our Grand Master has appointed me the State NorthStar Chairman and I'm continuing as a member of the Membership Development Committee. In past years, the focus of the Membership Committee and the NorthStar Task Force was on training Success Coaches. I'm now focusing more on the use of the NorthStar Portal and continuing to instruct Brothers on being a Success Coach.

I have great news, my Brothers: we are receiving leads from gentlemen almost every day. This year to date we have received 1356 inquiries. We get them from our webpage, from the Scottish Rite Campaign and we get them from other sources. The leads are then entered into the NorthStar portal, either automatically or manually, and then sent to District Candidate areas, called Candidate Lodges. From there, either the District NorthStar Chairman or the District Deputy Grand Master moves them to the appropriate Lodges. The Lodge makes contact and starts the NorthStar process.

The problem is, once they are put into a District Candidate area or Lodge, they too often sit there without being forwarded to a local Lodge. I have reviewed all the Districts in the portal and there are hundreds of leads not forwarded to the Lodges throughout the state. We need to do better replying to these gentlemen in a timelier manner. So, the first thing I have done is to appoint or reappoint Regional NorthStar Chairmen. For the Metro Area is RW David Menegon; the Hudson-Champlain Region is W Alexander Terpening; in the Midstate Region it is W Scott Tarkowski; and Western Region is RW Larry Kania. These Brothers will work closely with the DDGMs and NorthStar Chairmen in their regions, assisting them with the use of the portal and making sure the leads are flowing to the Lodges.

RW Joseph Passaretti, Chairman of the Membership Development Committee, and I will be setting up both in-person and Zoom training for the NorthStar Program and how to use the NorthStar database or portal. If your District would like to host a NorthStar training course, please feel free to contact RW Passaretti or me to set it up. I hope you have a great and healthy new year and a wonderful spring.

# GRAND TREASURER



RW JOSEPH J. SAGLIMBENE  
GRAND TREASURER  
718/738-1102  
iron1057@aol.com

## My Pledge

My Brothers, it is an honor being elected as your Grand Treasurer. Those who were at the October 23 Grand Lodge Session heard me mention during my speech that I care. Well, that wasn't just a political speech but something I truly practice in life. There are many Brothers who need help, whether it's financial or emotional. We are here to help each other. I ask you, individually or through your Lodge, to contact me. I pledge to do my best to help you. Don't be embarrassed; contact me.

We have Lodges that need help in retaining members. I will work with any Lodge and show you how to guide them. Boring meetings or cliques can drive any man away. Start making the new members active. Don't wait until they are Raised as Master Masons, involve them as soon as they are

Entered Apprentices. Ask them to give a short talk on any subject they are interested in or appoint them to a committee. This will give them confidence and, I promise, it's a great way to retain them for your Lodge.

During my term as District Deputy Grand Master of the Queens District, I appointed many newly Raised Brothers to serve on my committees. Today, many have served as Master of their Lodge.

We must make a change in the way we run our Lodges. To succeed in life, one must change. Remember, this is not only your Lodge, but also your family. That is why we call each other "Brother."

## Hoffman honors vets

On November 13 Hoffman Lodge 412 held its tenth annual Veterans Appreciation Dinner, the proceeds of which were to benefit Honor Flight. Co-chairs RW John Cola and W George Kaiser did a fantastic job, as always. The cook for the event was W Bob Valentine and he was assisted by RW John Cola and W Bill Ramlow.

We were honored to be assisted by Middletown Chapter 25 of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. The evening was a great success. More than \$1,500 was raised for Honor Flight.



Honor Flight Dinner



Rainbow Girls

(l-r) Geraldine Palmer, Mother Advisor;  
Alexis, Rainbow; Zoe, Rainbow; Hannah, Pledge;  
and RW William Fitzhenry



**RW RICHARD T. SCHULZ**  
*GRAND SECRETARY*  
*Masonic Hall*  
*71 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street*  
*New York NY 10010*  
*212/337-6644*  
[grandsecretary@NYMasons.org](mailto:grandsecretary@NYMasons.org)

Brethren, it has been a very busy few months since the conclusion of our Annual Communication in October. There were many Masonic events that took place in November and December: the Grand Line attended several Masonic Award dinners, Apron Re-presentations and Lodge Rededications. The World Conference of Regular Masonic Grand Lodges met in Berlin, Germany. Many Lodges began doing Degrees throughout the last few months.

But then, the latest COVID variant, Omicron, hit at the beginning of the year, shuttering many Lodges all over again. Zoom meetings once again were back on, in lieu of in-person meetings. However, I am pleased to report that as January turned to February we saw an uptick in Degree conferrals, and with large classes of candidates.

The COVID variant resulted in the cancellation of the Metropolitan Dedication Service and Breakfast in March, but it's full-speed ahead for our Annual Communication on May 2 and 3 at Masonic Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street in New York City. The Grand Lodge Convention Committee has been busy making plans. By the time you receive this magazine, you will have found the plans online and in special mailings.

Going forward, our Grand Lodge continues to embrace change in the way we communicate. Please accept and prepare yourself and your Lodge for more use of online communication and greater use of online dues payment via the Groupable:m2 system, or via Paypal. As newer technologies become prevalent in our society, they will in time become prevalent in both our

Grand Lodge and Lodge communications. While we have many brethren capable of embracing this new technology, we plan to assist those who are not comfortable with the new procedures.

I have been at events in the last several months and I hear things such as "Masonry is a moral compass." I could not agree more. Our society has changed, and we, both personally and as a group, need to embrace much of that change; but it is important that our Masonic principles help guide us morally and spiritually. I have written previously of the need to exemplify—not just repeat the rhetoric—of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. It bears repeating, as we all have occasionally witnessed clear examples where we do not live those values. It is our duty, remember, to whisper wise counsel in the ear of an erring Brother when we notice Brothers not practicing these values. Courtesy, brotherhood, respect, integrity are words we must live by and we must have the courage and fortitude not only to exemplify them, but also to encourage others, particularly our Masonic Brothers, to exemplify them as well. We are on our own Masonic Journey to self-enlightenment and to greater fulfillment in our life. Our personal and worldly achievements matter only in how we help the next generation, and we must leave them foremost with our core values.

I hope all of you are doing well in this difficult and uncertain time. I am here as your Grand Secretary to assist you and your Lodge as we continue to move past the current crisis and go forward.

## North Rose-Wolcott Honors 50-Year Member

On Monday, November 15 Brothers from North Rose-Wolcott Lodge 1187 gathered for their regular communication. This was a special night to honor a Brother with fifty years of service to the Fraternity and the community. RW Harlow Everett, Raised in May 1971, received his apron from Lodge Master Donald Sipes. Brother Sipes was accompanied by recently appointed Grand Lodge Officers of the Wayne District, RW Clifford Dennie, DDGM, and RW Chris Fox, Grand Steward for the District.

RW Brother Everett was very devoted to the service of his Lodge and community. He was active in many pursuits and demonstrated his passion in 1979 when he decided to walk 110 miles from Wolcott to Utica in support of the Masonic Home Building Fund.

He began his journey in the early hours of August 16, 1979. After forty miles wearing his jogging shoes, he had his wife Darlene bring him his work boots. They were heavier but felt

better for the long walk. He arrived in Baldwinsville at 1 p.m. that day. He was served lunch at Seneca River Lodge 160 in the Masonic Temple. After the short reception he resumed his journey, which he was scheduled to complete on August 18 in conjunction with the festivities of the Family Days at the Masonic Home.

The reward for his efforts came in the form of donations and support from Brothers and communities along the way. His goal was \$4,000. He raised \$5,000 in support of the Building Fund. When asked a couple of weeks later how his legs were, he said, "Fine. But my tail is still dragging."

RW Everett received the title of District Deputy Grand Master in 1979. This honor had not been bestowed upon this Lodge in eighteen years. His purple apron was presented to him by then-Master Bob Stanley of Wolcott Lodge and RW Bruce Widger, Deputy Grand Master of the NY Masons.

# Options at Livingston Masonic Library

By RW Walter E. Cook, IV, Library Trustee

As we begin to make our way out of a once-in-a-century pandemic, often unable to meet together in Lodge or at other traditional events, the Trustees of the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Masonic Library have pressed on in their mission to bring the Library and its trove of historic and cultural treasures to members of New York Freemasonry. The quest for more light in Masonry must never stop. The Trustees and staff of the Library are very pleased to bring to all New York Masons a new dimension of access to the resources contained in the volumes of the Livingston Library. We now can share many of these treasures with you online, accessible through PCs and mobile devices.

By partnering with the well-established eBook vendor Odilo in this venture, the Library is now able to bring to its members an experience identical to electronic lending from any public library. Gaining access to these electronic resources is as simple as activating an online Library membership. Staff have been working continuously to provide a clean and easy-to-use interface, complete with



Joseph Patzner, Librarian of the Robert R Livingston Masonic Library

a FAQ resource, enhanced by regular hours for phone-based assistance. Staff has sent out announcements through a variety of media and are eager to provide all New York Freemasons with access to the collection of online resources.

In response to patron requests, the Library has also acquired licenses for audio books. In yet another recent enhancement to the inventory of online resources, the Trustees entered into an agreement with the American Lodge of

Research to post its Annual Proceedings on the Odilo system. Step by step, the Livingston Library is becoming a one-stop center of Masonic education and enlightenment in our Jurisdiction.

Establishing a borrowing account for eBooks and audio resources is done through the following link: <https://nymasoniclibrary.odilo.us/>. If you are not already registered with the Library, you will need to do so before borrowing. Please reach out to our staff via the main web page at <https://nymasoniclibrary.org/>, by phone at 212/337-6620 or email at [info@nymasoniclibrary.org](mailto:info@nymasoniclibrary.org). Please feel free to contact our Librarian, Joseph Patzner (see photo), at [jpatzner@nymasoniclibrary.org](mailto:jpatzner@nymasoniclibrary.org) for further information and assistance.

The Trustees are pleased to extend the reach of our Library to all New York Freemasons through their desktop or mobile devices. We look forward to casting additional light into each Freemason's experience and are committed to expanding the content and scope of services to those who use the Library's unique resources.

## Toys from Goshen

Brother Victor Melendez, of Goshen Lodge 365, delivered toys to Grand Lodge as part of the Toys for Tots Campaign. Brother Victor is the current Junior Warden of Goshen Lodge.



Brother Victor Melendez is photographed with RW Richard T. Schulz, Grand Secretary, and RW George Filippidis, Chairman of the Toys for Tots Campaign.

## Office Visits

The Grand Secretary's Office receives visitors from time to time for various reasons. Brother Francis Powers of Holland Lodge 8 stopped by to get a Masonic Passport for Masonic travel. W Rochelle Santos, Master of Pyramid Lodge 490, presented a Grand Lodge Car Decal, on behalf of the Lodge, to the Grand Secretary.

RW Manuel Valladares, Grand Representative of Peru and a member of La Universal Lodge 751, presented gifts on behalf of the Grand Master of Peru. These measures of respect for MW Grand Master Richard Kessler: MW William Sardone, PGM; and Grand Secretary RW Richard Schulz were received by the Grand Secretary in his office.



Francis Powers Holland Lodge 8



RW Manuel Valladares Grand Representative of Peru



W Rochelle Santos, Worshipful Master of Pyramid Lodge 490

## Schlottmann receives 70th

Brother Ernest C. Schlottmann of America Lodge 284 received his Masonic Service Award for seventy years of service. Brother Ernest originally joined Merchants Lodge 709, which met in the Ridgewood Masonic Temple at Bushwick and Gates Avenue, in 1951. Over the years the Lodge merged with several Lodges and is now part of America Lodge 284 in the Second Kings District. The presentation was made at

his home in Ridgewood, Queens and was celebrated with a chocolate mousse cake.



Brother Ernest C. Schlottmann is pictured with RW Marshal Shichtman, District Deputy Grand Master of the Second Kings; RW Peter Unfried, Deputy Grand Standard Bearer; RW Donald C. Gorham, District Deputy Grand Master of the Ninth Manhattan; and RW Richard T. Schulz, Grand Secretary.

# Masonic Hearts and Hands Award

by RW Richard W. Bateman & RW Bill Dalgarno

Here's a nice human interest story from the past. Looking back a few decades, the *Empire State Mason* at one time featured a byline from Brother Richard H. Brown, aptly named "Something Old - Something New." It featured articles from the past and how they relate to more recent times. With that thought in mind, I ran across a rather dated application from 1989, in the New York office, for the Masonic Hearts and Hands Award. It was originally submitted by RW Arthur H. Ballion on behalf of RW Bill Dalgarno, PDDGM, and the Suffolk Masonic District.

During the year 1989 RW Brother Bill Dalgarno, together with the Suffolk District, diligently performed charitable work with the AHRC of Suffolk County. The AHRC, or the Arc, is an acronym given to a community based charitable organization. Although the terminology has certainly changed over the decades, its helpful purpose and mission has not. The original acronym derived from their founding name, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children.

The mission and vision of the Arc is to support and advocate for individuals of all ages with unique abilities and challenges in an effort to open opportunities and choices leading to a meaningful quality of life. The Arc has been in existence since 1949 and they have never deviated from their original conviction that every person, regardless of intellectual abilities, has the right to live with dignity, learn with pride and work to achieve his highest potential.

Upon finding this application for Masonic Hearts & Hands Award, I shared it with RW Bill Dalgarno who now resides at his retirement home in Florida. RW Brother Dalgarno was surprised that the documentation about this very important and magnanimous work still existed and he was delighted to fill in some more details as provided below.

RW Dalgarno recalls his involvement with the Arc, together with the brethren of the Suffolk Masonic District, in saying:

"I started the AHRC Holiday Party in 1984, after I had been the District Deputy Grand Master of the Suffolk District, when I was told there were only a few children from the District that would be attending the Babylon Lodge Holiday Party. At the time, I had been volunteering at the AHRC for quite a while

and thought it would be ideal to invite the children from AHRC to attend. The officers and brethren of Babylon Lodge and the Suffolk District concurred that it was a terrific idea.

"When I had the opportunity to extend an invitation to both the staff and the children of the AHRC, they were totally delighted. In setting up for the party, I was assisted by RW Harold Wissing and RW Jon Mason, who both did most of the heavy lifting.

"The long and short of it is that the party is ongoing and has been for thirty-seven years. Thousands of mentally challenged children and their siblings have experienced the unique pleasure, joy and peace of the Holidays because of the altruistic work of the Suffolk Masonic Fraternity.

"Additionally, I was approached by a Social Worker assigned to the Arc to see if the Masons would be interested in furnishing a new and potentially helpful model for specially challenged children in this country. That concept would become known as the 'Snoozelin Room.' A room designed specifically to reward the students of Arc for excellent behavior. The cost at the time was \$5,000. Within two months the Suffolk Masonic Family raised the money. Today the door for that room bears a plaque thanking the Suffolk Masonic District for their kindness and support.

"Further, the brethren of the Suffolk Masonic District donated at least two family automobiles, which were converted to allow for wheelchair access. Plus, the Masons constructed wheelchair ramps and made household repairs for several homes and residences for Arc Children.

"Lastly, but certainly not the least, the general public may not be aware that both the Masons and the Sisters and Brothers of the Order of the Eastern Star have traditionally provided hours of time volunteering their services with the Suffolk County Special Olympics, now known as the Long Island Special Olympics. These dedicated brethren and Sisters have packed more than five thousand volunteer bags for the Spring Games for more than twenty years. And I would be remiss in not mentioning that the Masonic Youth Groups have volunteered to mentor with the Special Olympic Athletes in creating lasting memories and successes."

# Norsemen inaugurates toy drive

On December 12 brethren of the Norsemen Lodge 878 held their annual holiday dinner at Mussels and More in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. Before the gathering, new Master Mason Jason Cohen suggested a twist to the WM Ronald Shepard. He proposed that Brothers and their family bring unwrapped toy donations. At the dinner numerous garbage bags full of toys were collected for the Ronald McDonald House (RMH) children's charity drive. In the days following the holiday party, the toys were successfully delivered to RMH by JW Tom Stanten—just in time for their pre-Christmas family toy drive for the sick children.

The members at Norsemen Lodge believe in and implement the dedicated principle of philanthropy, encompassing what it means to be a Free and Accepted Mason. We encourage other Lodges to follow suit. This holiday donation will become an annual Norsemen Lodge 878 tradition.

Special recognition goes to RW Joseph Burke for his connection with RMH and to RW George Filippidis and Brother Ciro Battista for their generous donation of toys. Special thanks go to the other Norsemen 878 Brothers and families during these tumultuous times.



# Washington Inaugural Bible: Masons in American History

The American Republic was born in New York City on April 30, 1789, with the inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States of America. This event is celebrated each year (COVID-19 permitting) with a reenactment of that very first inauguration. Central to that first inauguration and each of the subsequent reenactments is the altar Bible of St. John's Lodge 1, F&AM, AYM.

This first Ceremony of Inauguration took place in the open gallery of City Hall (later to become Federal Hall) on Wall Street, New York City. This historic ceremony was performed by the then-Grand Master of Masons of the State of New York, MW the Hon. Robert R Livingston, who was at the time also



Cover (above) & pages 57 and 58 of Bible George Washington took Oath of Office (below)



Chancellor (Governor) of the State of New York.

President-Elect Washington raised his right hand and placed his left hand on page 57 of the open Bible and repeated the Oath of Office as spoken to him by Chancellor Livingston. To mark this page for posterity, Chancellor Livingston turned down the corner of page 57. The crease of this dog-ear can be seen to this day. Then Washington kissed the Bible to seal his oath before God and all those assembled.

This Bible was not that of any particular church denomination, but that of a Masonic Lodge, from whose light respect for all persons of all faiths that believe in a Supreme Being is taught and practiced. The Bible itself had been in the possession of St. John's Lodge 1 since 1770. On March 8 of that year much of Lower Manhattan was burned to the ground, including the Hall where St. John's Lodge met. The Lodge lost everything—furniture, regalia, equipment and its altar Bible. The building was rebuilt in November of that same year and a new altar Bible—the present Bible—was placed on the Lodge's new altar on November 28, 1770.

W Brother Jonathan Hampton was then Master of St. John's and secured the new altar Bible for the Lodge. Both the front and back covers of this handsome leather-bound Bible bear the following inscription in gold letters:

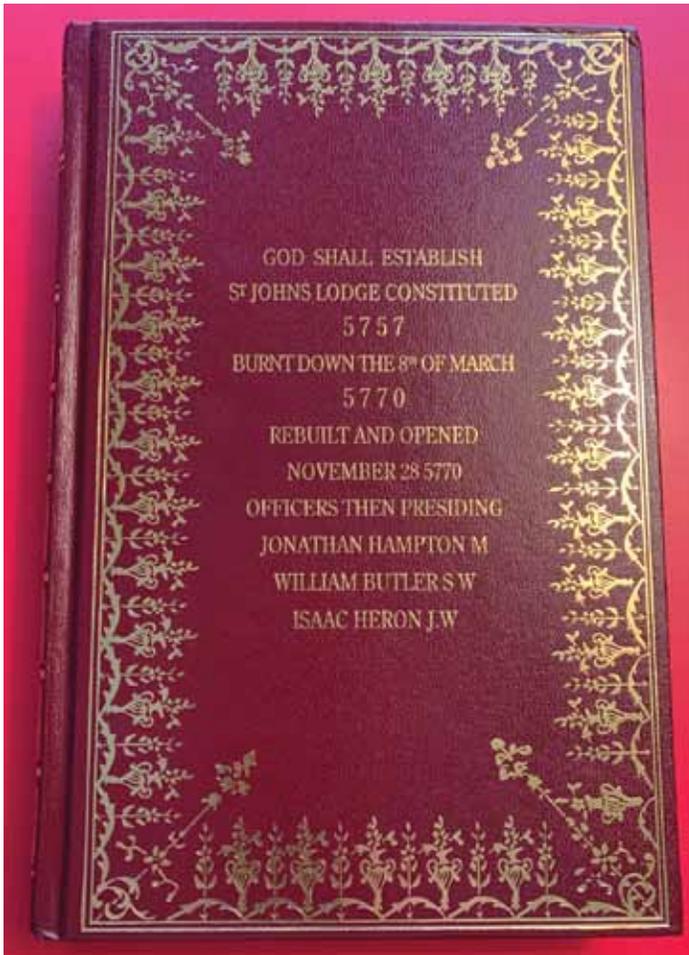
“GOD SHALL ESTABLISH; ST. JOHN'S LODGE CONSTITUTED 5757; BURNT DOWN 8TH MARCH, 5770; REBUILT AND OPENED NOVEMBER 28TH, 5770; OFFICERS THEN PRESIDING; JONATHAN HAMPTON M; WILLIAM BUTLER SW; ISAAC HERON JW”

The year 5757 is of course 1757. Over time, this Bible has been utilized at the inauguration of Presidents Warren G. Harding, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter and George H.W. Bush. The Bible was intended to be utilized at the inauguration of President George W. Bush, but inclement weather did not permit its use then. However, the Bible was on hand in the Capitol Rotunda that day on the chance of improved weather, carefully guarded by three Brothers of St. John's Lodge.

In addition to its part in Presidential Inaugurations, the Bible has been utilized in the funeral processions of Presidents George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Jackson and Zachary Taylor. Other events of note include the Laying of the Cornerstone of the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. by George Washington in 1793; the Laying of the Cornerstone of the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., in 1885; the Laying of the Cornerstone of the Washington Arch in Washington Square, New York City, in 1890; the Laying of the Cornerstone of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia in 1923.

Walter Cronkite took his Obligation as a Legionnaire of the DeMolay Legion of Honor on the Bible at Masonic Hall,

New York City, in 1967. In 1919, when HRH Edward, Prince of Wales (later King Edward VIII of the United Kingdom) visited New York City as a young man, he was presented a miniature replica of the George Washington Inaugural Bible.



Copies of an identical miniature replica Bible are available from the St. John's Lodge 1 Foundation on its website: [gwbible.org](http://gwbible.org). For access, enter the website, click on "Donations," and



Miniature Replica Bible Cover (left) and Title Page (right).

scroll down and click on the image of a miniature replica Bible to reach instructions. Copies of the miniature replica Bibles will also be available at the St. John's Lodge Booth at Masonic Hall, New York City, during Grand Lodge's Annual Communication on May 2 and 3, 2022.

The following persons are allowed by the Lodge's By-Laws to take an Oath or Obligation in the presence of the Bible: Presidents of the United States during their inauguration; Governors of the State of New York during their inauguration; Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York during their installation; Masters-Elect of St. John's Lodge 1, F&AM during their installation; and Third Degree Candidates of St. John's Lodge 1 at the time of their Third Degree Obligation.

Much additional information concerning the George Washington Inaugural Bible may be obtained. Access the Foundation's website at [gwbible.org](http://gwbible.org).

## Hiram 105 receives honor

The Valley of Buffalo was pleased to present Hiram Lodge 105 the Ben Franklin Award for their 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Hiram Lodge is the oldest Lodge in Erie County, receiving its charter when Buffalo was only a village.



(l-r) MW Richard J. Kessler, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York, Worshipful Myron Deputat, Master and DB Albert J. Luss CIC Valley of Buffalo.

# MASONIC BLOOD AND ORGAN DONOR PROGRAM

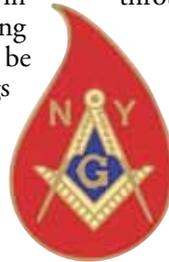


RW CARY S. COHN  
CHAIRMAN  
516/781-1157  
[cjohn1127@aol.com](mailto:cjohn1127@aol.com)

We often hear of a Brother, a friend or relative in need of a kidney transplant; or one who is suffering from some life-threatening disease. Anyone's life may be affected by ill health. All too often, chemotherapy, drugs and dialysis have done all they can to prolong life—the best medicines no longer work. All that remains as a medical solution is a life-saving transplant.

There are now nearly 10,000 children and adults on the New York organ transplant waiting list. Over eight thousand folks are currently residing in the New York Metropolitan area, waiting in many cases two, three, four or more years for their life-altering operation. While New York boasts world class hospitals and transplant surgeons, hundreds of patients die each year because of a delay in availability of viable organs. On average, one New Yorker dies each day because the organ he needed did not come soon enough. These people are our family, friends, neighbors and Brothers. We can help them by saying yes to organ donation.

Choosing to be an organ donor means choosing to change the course of someone's life. You have the opportunity to make a lasting impact. For each New Yorker who enrolls in the registry, up to eight lives can be saved through organ donation and another fifty to seventy-five lives saved or improved



through tissue donation.

“Living donation” is how the medical profession refers to donating an organ to someone in need while the donor is living. Living donors may donate a kidney, a part of the liver, and in some rare cases a portion of the pancreas, intestine and a lung.

The National Kidney Donation Organization (NKDO) is an organization of living donors who help mentor those looking to donate a kidney, as well as helping those who are in need of a kidney transplant. NKDO provides education and information to prospective living kidney donors. If you are interested in learning more about living kidney donation, please visit their website at [www.ndko.org](http://www.ndko.org). For more information on organ donation go to [www.LongliveNY.org](http://www.LongliveNY.org).

A New York State Donate Life Registry enrollment form is available on the Grand Lodge website under the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Program. In 2014 the Most Worshipful Grand Master William J. Thomas expanded the Masonic Blood Program to include the Organ Donor Program. If there are questions or concerns, please contact me at [cjohn1127@aol.com](mailto:cjohn1127@aol.com).

## Traveling Gavel captured

January 4, 2022: Today, W Harold Velazquez led an elite Squad of Minutemen through the dark, cold streets of New York. This courageous troop left the safety and comfort of the home base in the Renaissance Room, seeking to complete a mission others have not been able to accomplish for nearly three years. Under the guise of a birthday celebration for one of their own, these seven brave Masons slipped quietly into the camp of WSG and in one quick and surprising move,

captured the elusive Traveling Gavel.

That is correct, Brethren. The Traveling Gavel is now back in the safe confines of the high towers of Grand Lodge. It has been stowed away in a secret tomb guarded by the Stewards of Continental and there it will remain until another brave band of Brothers can find a way to wrest it from their grip. Good luck to all.



# APRIL 2, 2022 RECOGNITION BANQUET

## ***FOR RW & ILL. G. MICHAEL MORRIS, 33°*** **Banquet Celebration for Deputy for New York, AASR and President of the Trustees of the Masonic Home and Asylum Fund**

**Location: Woodcliff Hotel and Spa  
199 Woodcliff Dr, Fairport, NY 14450**

Date and Time: April 2, 2022; Social time 5:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$89 per person for dinner, cash bar available.

Rooms available through the hotel at \$159 plus tax per night. Call toll free: 800/365-3065, or 585/248-4810. Mention promotion code **"Valley of Rochester AASR Room Block 2022."** Room reservation deadline: **February 28, 2022**

**Dinner reservations due by March 1st.** Phone 585/425-0033 or 800/858-2320.

The event is to celebrate the election and installation of RW and Ill G. Michael Morris, 33°, Active as the new Scottish Rite Deputy for the State of New York. Brother Morris was also elected President of the Trustees of the Masonic Home and Asylum Fund and was instrumental in the purchase of land in Henrietta, NY for the Trustees to build another campus of the Masonic Care Community.

Meal checks: Payable & mail to:

Valley of Rochester AASR, 811 Ayrault Rd. Suite 3, Fairport, NY 14450-8964

[secretary@valleyofrochester.org](mailto:secretary@valleyofrochester.org)

## **Riverhead Hosts Holiday Board**

On Tuesday, December 21 Riverhead Lodge 645 hosted its First Annual Ugly Christmas Sweater Festive Board to celebrate the holidays. With over thirty Brothers in attendance, representing five Lodges, a fine time was had by all.

As part of the merry festivities, W William Mountzouros and the Brothers of Smithtown Lodge narrowly edged out their competitors to finally steal the Traveling Gavel. Perhaps the new year will bring more Lodges from the western Suffolk Masonic District into the fray.



Festive Board attendees: Brother Robert Able, Senior Warden of Riverhead Lodge 645, presents the Traveling Gavel to W William Mountzouros and the Brothers of Smithtown Lodge 1127.

# AWARDS COMMITTEE



**RW GEORGE R. WACOB**  
*CHAIRMAN*  
 631/838-7508 (C)  
[grwacob1@optonline.net](mailto:grwacob1@optonline.net)

## Committee Ratifies 33 DSAs

The Awards Committee received a total of thirty-six recommendations for the Dedicated Service Award for the year of 2022. Eight came from the Metro Region, four from the Hudson-Champlain Region, five from Mid-State and nineteen were received from the Western Region. Thirty-three awards were granted; twenty-two honorees are Past Masters. Three names were held over until next year due to District allotment limits.

The recipients and their Lodge Secretary and District Deputy Grand Masters have been notified. The Awards Committee will send letters and forms for 2023 in late August and begin accepting DSA recommendations in September.

The popular DSA Chest Medallion will continue to ship in the DSA package purchased through Lodge Services. This DSA medallion is available for past DSA recipients for \$20, plus tax and shipping. The medallion must be ordered through the Lodge Secretary.

The Community Service Awards (DeWitt Clinton, Jacob Morton and Grand Lodge Certificate of Excellence in Service to the Community) are processed as recommendations are received. This year twenty-nine DeWitt Clinton Awards, thirty-three Jacob Mortons and five Certificates of Excellence were approved by the committee. The Lodge Secretary and

DDGM are notified promptly when one of these awards is approved. Again this year many Brothers received the Jacob Morton Award, showing the extraordinary efforts by Masons throughout the State during the pandemic.

The Jacob Morton Award Chest Medallion should be awarded with the certificate. As with the DSA medal, it may be purchased for \$20 by the Lodge Secretary from Lodge Services. This too is available to past Morton recipients.

Please refer to the Awards Committee's webpage on the Grand Lodge website: <http://nymasons.org/2016/committees-departments-programs/awards-committee/>. This page provides information, requirements and forms for the various awards.

I thank the Awards Committee team for the time and efforts they put into examining all of the recommendations and fairly determining who will receive the awards. They are, from the Metropolitan Region: RW Gregory Noulas and RW Joseph T. Entler; from the Mid-State Region: RW Thomas L. Jenison and W Alfred W. Ferguson; in the Hudson-Champlain Region: RW Charles E. Knapp Jr. and RW Robert L. Hogan, Jr.; and in the Western Region: RW William H. Greene and RW Douglas D. Air.

### DSA recipients

<u>Metro Region</u>			<u>Western Region</u>		
District	Brother	Lodge	District	Brother	Lodge
First Manhattan	Levent Ozkurt	Mariners 67	Chautauqua	Franklin Spencer Werren	Olive 575
Fourth Manhattan	Edgar P. Umbao	Gramercy 537	Erie	Edward W. Tromble	Kenmore 948
Fourth Manhattan	Marty A. Visitacion	Pyramid 490	Erie	Leigh Steven Menzel	Akron 527
Metropolitan	John-Charles J. Toussaint	Humanitas 1123	Erie	Mark Daniel Donnelly	Harmonie 699
Nassau	Edward L. Kass	Lynbrook-Massapequa 822	Herkimer	Steve Doty	Olive Branch 40
Suffolk	Robert Philip Previto	Jephtha 494	Letchworth	Steven Douglas Shull	Livonia 122
Suffolk	Timothy W. McCann	The Lodge of Antiquity 11	Letchworth	Bruce John Church	Constellation 404
Suffolk	Robert J. Abel	Riverhead 645	Monroe	Scott Michael May	Union Star 320
			Monroe	Peter Joseph Matthews Jr.	Clio 779
			Monroe	Patrick Schwartz	Unity 479
			Niagara-Orleans	James Lyn Cowley	Social 713
			Niagara-Orleans	James Anthony Minnick	Niagara River 785
			Ontario-Seneca-Yates	Robert Helling	Eagle 619
			Steuben	Norman H. Bowen	Avoca 673
			Steuben	Charles Giehl	South Dansville-Wayland 478
			Wayne	James C. Hopkins	Sodus 392
<u>Hudson-Champlain Region</u>					
District	Brother	Lodge			
Central Leatherstocking	Robert Tracy Starr	Phoebus 82			
Fulton-Montgomery	Thomas F. Graham Jr.	St. Patrick's 4			
Mid-Hudson	Steven G. Beojekian	Rip Van Winkle 468			
Old 17th	Robert R. Rawlins	Noah 754			
<u>Mid-State Region</u>					
District	Brother	Lodge			
Cayuga-Tompkins	Walter Dabulewicz	Sylvan 41			
Cayuga-Tompkins	Leroy G. Crispell	Caroline 681			
Jefferson-Lewis	Charles J. Bunke	Lowville 134			
St. Lawrence	Carl W. Pagel	DePeyster 573			
	Larry D. Denesha	Wildwood 477			

## Grand Lodge Community Service Awards:

<u>DeWitt Clinton Award</u>			<u>Jacob Morton Award</u>		
	Date	Submitting Lodge		Date	Submitting Lodge
Matthew Malette	2/9/21	Mount Vernon 3	Jose Rizal		
Bruce Jones	3/8/21	Smithtown 1127	+A33: C69Lodge 1172	2/23/21	Jose Rizal 1172
LeRoy Rotary			Wor. Michael Mitsis	3/24/21	Amity 323
Community Kitchen	4/8/21	Olive Branch 39	Jack Ozer	3/25/21	Dongan Patent 1134
Don Reinhoudt	4/24/21	Dunkirk-Irondequoit 301	James Allen Ridley, Sr.	3/25/21	Dongan Patent 1134
Antoinette P. Cilberti	4/26/21	Beukendaal 915	Thomas Frederick Sauter	3/25/21	Dongan Patent 1134
Fredonia Small Business Revolution Committee	4/28/21	Forest 166	David John Diaz	3/25/21	Dongan Patent 1134
Marcia Riedel Benware	5/3/21	Ken-Ton 1186	Harry Jacob Parrish	3/25/21	Dongan Patent 1134
Sr. Michelle Folan	5/3/21	Ken-Ton 1186	Worshipful Henry Lee	4/23/21	Franklin 195
Janet Payne-Guarino	5/3/21	Ken-Ton 1186	David Massaro	4/26/21	Beukendaal 915
Vinny Guarino	5/3/21	Ken-Ton 1186	Randall J. Meschutt	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Caitlyn's F.I./G.H.T. - Non Profit Organization	5/4/21	Franklin 195	Kristofer Kinnear (Ad Orientum U.D.)	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Norbert Heuser	5/22/21	Wantagh Morton 63	Jordan E. Jaquay	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
W.S.S. United Methodist Church Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Randy Rathka	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Vine and Branch Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Roger Pelham	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
St. Paul's Lutheran Church Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Philip S. Arony	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
St. John's Church Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Stephen C. Schiamowitz	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
St. Andrew's Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	John A. Califano	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Livingston Manor Methodist Church Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Art H. VanVranken	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Grahamsville United Methodist Church Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Richard J. Frederick	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Dav Ministries Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Christopher M. Wisniewski	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Bread of Life Food Pantry	5/25/21	Sullivan 521	Francis P. Burek	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Jesse Abbott	6/3/21	Cortlandville 470	William M. Flax-Leight	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Richard Holmes - Juicy Lucy's BBQ	6/13/21	Staten Island 66	Philip D. Shappy	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Barbara Knighton	6/21/21	Johnson City Unity 970	Karl Schwarzenegger	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Reverend Jerry McKinney	7/19/21	Granville 55	Richard Rodrigues	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Granville Area Food Pantry, Inc	7/19/21	Granville 55	Stanley F. Craig	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Hartford Food Pantry - Hartforn Yoked Parish	9/28/21	Herschel-Argyl 508	Raphael Jean Baptiste	5/17/21	Schoharie 491
Marc Whitten	11/29/21	Goldenrule Clermont McKinley 486	Neal Swernofsky	5/22/21	Wantagh Morton 63
Frank Reyes	11/29/21	Goldenrule Clermont McKinley 486	Worshipful Phillip Valot	6/2/21	Meridian 691
			Steven Piazza	6/2/21	Meridian 691
			Roger Pelham II	9/15/21	Schoharie 491
			Douglas Arthur Cornwell	11/8/21	Schoharie 491
			Schoharie Lodge 491	11/9/21	Schoharie 491

### GL Certificate of Appreciation for Excellence in Service to the Community

	Date	Submitting Lodge:
Rome, New York Police Department	4/9/21	Roman - Hathaway 223
Chief Kevin C. Beach	4/9/21	Roman - Hathaway 223
Joe Peters	6/3/21	Cortlandville 470
Allyana Rachel Wiviott	6/25/21	Humanitas 1123
Katie L. Dean, Wayne County E911, Operations Mgr.	10/25/21	Wayne District Presentation

# MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY



RW G. MICHAEL MORRIS,  
*PRESIDENT*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MASONIC HALL AND HOME  
585/734-4012 (C)

[morrisgm@nymasonictrustees.org](mailto:morrisgm@nymasonictrustees.org)



As I begin my term as President of the Board of Trustees, I thought it would be interesting to briefly summarize the various activities currently being pursued and managed by the nine members of the Board of Trustees. These activities include oversight and management of the:

- Masonic Hall in NYC
- Masonic Care Community in Utica
- Round Lake/Camp Turk
- DeWint House, George Washington Headquarters and Historic Site – Tappan
- Educational Assistance Program
- Masonic Care – New Rochelle campus
- Masonic Care – Henrietta campus
- Morgan Stanley Investment Accounts

## **Masonic Hall in NYC**

A major focus during this past year at Masonic Hall, which is managed by the Trustee Masonic Hall Committee, was the multi-million-dollar installation of a new roof and maintenance of the building facade, both of which are underway. Local Law 26 Sprinkler Project is now complete. In addition, the committee manages the lease agreements with all the Masonic Lodges and Masonic Hall commercial tenants.

## **Masonic Care Community in Utica**

The dining and wellness facilities at Acacia Village, the independent senior living apartment complex on campus, were renovated and expanded, including the renovation of the pool area. Eight new cottage homes and eight garden homes were constructed and all of the homes are fully occupied. We are also getting the campus ready for the 2022 St. John's Day festivities.

Thirty-two wells were installed for new a geothermal heat pump system for the Administration Building. The high-voltage electrical infrastructure was updated and renovations to add a handicap-accessible entrance to the side of Tompkins Chapel is underway.

## **Round Lake/Camp Turk**

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 we were not able to open Camp Turk at all in 2020 and the 2021 season was reduced significantly. However, our plan for the summer of 2022 is to open Camp Turk for six weeks of youth camping: two weeks, July 3 to 16 for boys; two weeks, July 17 to 30 for co-ed camping; and two weeks, July 31 to August 13 for girls. Following youth camping, the facilities will be open for the enjoyment of Masonic families, Lodges and Masonic Care Community employees. Additional information regarding Camp Turk youth camping and Masonic family/Lodge camping can be found at <https://www.campsturk.org> and <https://www.masonichomeny.org/round-lake-camp/>.

## **Educational Assistance Program**

The Grand Lodge of New York, through the Trustees of the

Masonic Hall and Home, established a scholarship program in 1996. The Education Assistance Committee of Grand Lodge administers this scholarship program for post high-school-level students. The effort is directed at the sons, daughters, grandsons and granddaughters of Master Masons in good standing, belonging to Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Applications are currently available under the Committees and Programs tab on the New York Grand Lodge website: <https://nymasons.org/site/committees-departments-programs/>. All applications are to be completed online.

## **Regional Masonic Care Community Initiative**

In 2019 the Trustees embarked on the initiative to establish regional or satellite Masonic Care facilities at different locations around the state. The goal is to provide to our members services that are located closer to their communities, families and friends. Two regional campuses have been acquired and are currently under development.

## **Masonic Care – New Rochelle**

In January 2020 the Trustees purchased the College of New Rochelle, a 15.6-acre campus located fifteen miles north of Manhattan in Westchester County. The campus includes a library, wellness center with NCAA gymnasium and pool, a TV-production studio, laboratories, lecture halls, student housing, extensive classroom space and a large chapel. A master plan for the campus has been developed. A major focus this past year has been on the renovation of the campus infrastructure—new high-efficiency boilers for steam generation, replacement of numerous windows, a building management system for the wellness center and new, high-efficiency LED lighting fixtures.

In September an American Orchid Lodge Room was dedicated and Masonic Lodges are now meeting at MC-New Rochelle. The DeMolay held induction ceremonies for the Grand Master's Class, which was followed by the DeMolay Hall of Fame induction of Past President G. Stephen Getman and MMRI President Robert A. Hewson.

In addition, due to the campus' unique architecture and COVID restrictions in NYC, a significant source of revenue for MC-New Rochelle has come from television and movie production companies. Shows such as *Law & Order SVU*, *Prodigal Son*, *City on a Hill*, *Gossip Girl*, *Evil* and *FBI: Most Wanted* filmed episodes at the campus.

## **Masonic Care – Henrietta**

The MC-Henrietta (88-acre) campus is located adjacent to the I-90 New York State Thruway, near Exit 46 in Henrietta, NY. The schematic design phase for the campus was recently completed. A centerpiece for the campus will be a 52,000 square foot Community Center, which will house two Masonic

*Continues on page 21 – MCC President*



**RW ROB RAFFLE**  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*  
MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY OF NEW YORK  
315/798-4882  
raffler@mccny.com



## Looking Forward

A highlight in 2021 was welcoming the Masonic Fraternity and more than 500 Brother Masons to the Masonic Care Community for the Grand Lodge session in October. For many, it was the first time visiting our amazing campus and seeing firsthand the beautiful historical buildings and facilities that the New York Fraternity has made possible and supported since 1893. It was an extremely special day as Brothers greeted one another, laughed together, enjoyed the event, ate together and reunited after far too many months apart.

We will carry the joy of that day with us into 2022 when we once again welcome the Masonic Fraternity and St. John's Day back to the Masonic Care Community Campus. There is much to be proud of as we celebrate 129 years since the first cornerstone was laid here at MCC.

The Masonic Care Community is known for excellence in compassionate care for seniors. We remain committed to our mission to support, nurture and educate those whose lives we touch. We provide them with the care and services they deserve with compassion and pride, guided by the Masonic principles of brotherly love, relief, truth and integrity.

None of this would be possible without our talented healthcare workers. The pandemic crisis has made it abundantly clear how each of our MCC employees is connected and essential to our mission. We know that there will be continued

challenges ahead but the MCC team has navigated this road together. We will continue to do so and face future challenges head-on.

As we enter the new year, at MCC we will continue to create a plan forward and I am excited for the work to come. I am also very thankful for the community that helps us every day: our donors who contribute in support of our cause; our residents and their families who share their lives with us; our compassionate and committed staff working in a changing world and giving extensive hours. And finally, my Brother Masons, I am thankful for all that you continue to do on behalf of the people we serve. You exemplify the brotherly love, relief, truth and integrity that our organization is founded on and I am grateful for your dedication and support.



### *Continues from page 20 – MCC President*

Lodge rooms, offices and conference rooms for Masonic organizations and dining and wellness center facilities. A multi-purpose room will accommodate large (~ 200-person) Masonic and community events. Two hundred independent senior living units are planned. These will consist of sixty-two one- and two-bedroom apartments, 100 villa homes (twenty in Phase I and eighty in Phase II) and thirty-eight villa cottages. In addition, a Masonic Memorial to honor those who have



served in the United States Armed Forces will be visible from the I-90 (see photo below).

Electrical and water utilities are currently available for the site but a new sewer pump station is needed. It has been designed and is scheduled to be installed in Q2 2022. Detailed infrastructure design for the roadways, water management, utilities, landscaping, lighting and parking—and the design phase for the community center and independent living units—are underway and scheduled to be completed by December 2022. Construction for the campus is scheduled to begin in Q2 2023.

As you can see, the Trustees have a lot on their plate. It is indeed a pleasure to have the opportunity to work with this magnificent band of Brothers to advance the vision and mission of Freemasonry in New York. I truly value the commitment, energy, expertise and enthusiasm that each Trustee brings to this Board. In closing, I would particularly like to thank RW G. Stephen Getman, Past President and Trustee Emeritus, for the insights, efforts and dedication that have helped to set the direction for the Board of Trustees for years to come.

Schematic Design Layout for MC-Henrietta Campus

# MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY



**MICHELLE SMITH**  
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER  
315/798-4768  
smithm@mccny.com

## The Joy of Giving

As I write this article the holiday season has just ended at the Masonic Care Community. What a special time of year it was! As MCC's new Development Manager, I was amazed to see the tremendous outpouring of gifts and donations from across the state and across the country, and most especially from members of the New York State Masonic Fraternity. I extend my most heartfelt thanks to all of you who chose to give to the Masonic Care Community and in support of our elderly residents.



**Holiday 2021**

What you have discovered is a priceless gift—the joy of giving. We hear that phrase often but we know it brings more to those who give than even those we are helping. We are easing the way for someone else and often we do not ever meet or know the individuals who benefit from our generosity. What it brings to each of us may be different but we are joined together as givers.

Featured here are photos of those whom you helped support in 2021 when you donated to the Masonic Care Community. They are fathers, mothers, grandmas and grandpas. They are aunts, uncles and much more. They are the people who were often frightened by the challenges of the time but also taught us once again how to find happiness in small things: a cookout, a picnic, a musical performance or even a S'more by the fire.



**Joanne**



**Christina S'mores Night**

There are many ways to give. We thank our monthly donors, our annual donors and our planned giving donors who create a living legacy by including the Masonic Care Community in their estate plans. As we enter 2022 at MCC we hope you will join us once again with your support as our efforts to rebound and recover after an unprecedented crisis are still underway. And our residents are still in need.

### WWII Vet

Caring for the elderly remains our cause and it is what we are committed to doing. We are extremely fortunate and blessed that the Masonic Fraternity joins with us in that mission. We again thank you for all of your tremendous support.



“Only by giving are you able to receive more than you already have.” – Jim Rohn



**LINDA RAE AVOLIO**  
 SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY RELATIONS  
 ACACIA VILLAGE  
 315/798-4775  
 avoliol@acaciavillageny.org

# ACACIA VILLAGE



## A Masonic Tradition

For many years Masonic Brothers and their wives have come to live at The Neighborhoods of Acacia Village. That tradition continues.

Dorothy Chadbourne moved to Acacia Village in February of 2003 with her husband Arthur. Arthur had a strong connection to Masonry and was a member of the Amicable Lodge 664 in Utica, the Scottish Rite and the Ziyara Shrine. Art once said that moving to Acacia Village was the best decision he made since asking his wife to marry him.



**Dorothy Chadbourne**

Art and Dorothy first met when they were both freshmen at Cornell University. They dated throughout college and were married in 1950. Art went on to work at General Electric as manager of general accounts, while Dorothy was busy raising their five children and also working part-time as a substitute teacher at Cornell Cooperative Extension. Arthur passed away in July of 2015.

While Dorothy misses her husband very much and admits that she was at first reluctant to leave their home of close to fifty years, she's glad Art convinced her to move to The Neighborhoods at Acacia Village. Dorothy has a lovely two-bedroom, two-bath apartment on the third floor facing west, where she has lived now for the past eighteen years. She also appreciates all of the support she receives from the staff and as part of a resident community since Art passed away. She received assistance from Amy Falvo, the director of The Neighborhoods at Acacia Village with Art's memorial service. Thelan Dittman, one of our environmental services technicians helped Dorothy rearrange upper shelves in her kitchen so she was able to reach items that Art used to get for her. Dorothy also praises Jasminka Pasic, another member of our team who provides cleaning services for Dorothy every other week.

Dorothy also keeps busy and is engaged in many different activities. She has supported the resident library for years and twice each day helps to shelve returned books. She is also working on a family genealogy project. While Dorothy used to love to cook for Art, she says it is not as much fun to cook for just one, so she now enjoys the homemade soup from the Hearth restaurant inside the Lodge, which is a favorite of hers.

For more than eighteen years Dorothy has lived at The Neighborhoods at Acacia Village. We are grateful that Dorothy and many other residents affiliated with the Masonic Fraternity choose The Neighborhoods at Acacia Village for their home. Gloria Schaeffer just moved here in November of 2021. Gloria's husband Philip was a member of Moriah Lodge 958 in the Oneida District, the Scottish Rite and the Ziyara Shrine. Gloria and Philip met in Brooklyn when Philip was just coming back from overseas and it was love at first sight. Philip worked as a sales representative for Hart, Schaffner and Marx. His territory included all of New York State, so it made sense for them to live in the center of the state in the Utica area. Gloria shares that Philip was the love of her life, as are their three children.



**Gloria Schaeffer**

Philip passed away in November of 2016 and this past summer Gloria decided that she was tired of the upkeep of her big home and she was ready to move. She contacted the team at The Neighborhoods at Acacia Village and was placed on our priority waiting list. She then put her home on the market. With the current real estate boom, it sold in one day. Gloria now lives in a two-bedroom apartment with a lovely water view of the pond and fountain and our new Waterside Cottages.

Like Dorothy, Gloria is active in the community. She teaches Mahjong at the Mohawk Valley Institute for Learning in Retirement and belongs to a book club that meets at the Utica Public Library. Gloria enjoys entertaining her friends and they like having lunch in the Hearth restaurant and then playing cards or Mahjong in her apartment. Gloria also loves knitting, painting and baking.

Right now, Gloria admits that she is still in transition. As do many people, she feels she brought too many possessions when she moved here and she is still trying to downsize a little more. Gloria is also beginning to meet her new neighbors and develop new friendships, which is what the community of The Neighborhoods of Acacia Village is all about.

We welcome the opportunity to share more with you about independent living options at The Neighborhoods of Acacia Village. Feel free to contact me at 315/798-4775 or visit our website at [www.acaciavillage.org](http://www.acaciavillage.org) to learn more. Seniors live here in cottages, townhomes and apartments and enjoy an array of activities including cards, book clubs, trivia contests, water aerobics, bocce ball and so much more. The Neighborhoods at Acacia Village is a community that more than 150 senior residents call home.



# Save the Date!

*Join us at the Grand Master's Ball at the historic Kleinhans Music Hall in Buffalo, New York.*

*July 9, 2022*

*Details to follow via Our Lodge Page and [nymasons.org](http://nymasons.org).*

**B**rethren, with the election of our new Grand Master MW Richard J. Kessler last October, the Grand Master's Journal Committee is pleased to announce that the Grand Master's Ball will be held on Saturday, July 9, 2022 in his honor.

A fundamental activity of our Masonic Fraternity is the practice of charity. This being said, our Grand Master has chosen the Masonic Brotherhood Fund and the Masonic Care Community ([www.masonichomeny.org](http://www.masonichomeny.org)) in Utica, NY, as his charities of choice for his two and one-half-year term.

The Grand Master's Ball Committee will be publishing an advertising journal for the 500 guests in attendance on that evening. We are asking that you consider sponsoring an ad to help support this journal fundraiser. Please see attached form for the details on how to purchase an ad for the journal. All proceeds from the Grand Master's Journal will be split between the Brotherhood Fund and the Masonic Care Community in Utica. It is the committee's hope that you will consider advertising in the Grand Master's journal. Purchase one of the pages. Help us help others who are or may be unable to help themselves. The Brotherhood Fund is a charity arm of the Fraternity and has helped many Brothers and families in need.

We thank you for your continued support of our Masonic Fraternity.

The Masonic Care Community is the center diamond in a crown of properties owned and managed by the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Home and the members of the Masonic Fraternity. The effort to build a home for Masons, their wives, widows and orphans began in the mid 1800s. The Masonic Care Community opened its doors in May of 1893 as the Masonic Home. It was built with pride and purpose and over the years has been a safe haven and welcome place for tens of thousands of people.

Today, this first-class facility is open to everyone and more than 500 elders call the Masonic Care Community home. The 400 magnificent acres are close to city services and area attractions, and also offer our residents a safe and secure country setting complete with pond, stream, woods and a variety of wildlife.

Grand Master's Journal Committee



# Grand Master's Journal

## Subscription Order Form "2022"

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Deadline for Submission: **June 6, 2022**  
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 In addition to the electronic copy, please enclose copy of ad and check to:  
 Peter Stein, 3519 Wallace Dr. Grand Island, NY 14072-1035

### Mason's Booster Brick Page\*

\*Note: Lodges with 30 names or more will have its own separate Booster Brick page displayed.



John Smith  
Oxford Chapter # 254

John Smith  
Scotia Lodge No.634

John Smith  
Grand Island Lodge #1138

John Smith  
Pelham Lodge #712

John Smith  
Amity Lodge #323

## Connetquot Attends Gala

On Monday, December 13 the Long Island Past Masters Association hosted its First (Annual?) Holiday Gala at Land's End in Sayville to help kick-start social activities as New York Masonry returns to labor. The event was a huge success. Some 200 attendees came to celebrate the festive occasion, including Brothers of Connetquot Lodge 838 in Sayville, who were honored to bring several of the Lodge's Masonic Widows to the Gala.



Brethren of Connetquot Lodge 838 appear with their guests, as well as a few Brothers of Riverhead Lodge 645, who were hijacked into the photo.

## Star of East Presents Aprons



(l-r) W Peter Pizzorno, DSA; Brother Ken Hallock, DSA; RW John Geehreg; Brother John Tarbet; and W Walter Alex Walter, DSA

On Thursday, December 9 Star of the East Lodge 843 in Amagansett hosted its regular communication and honored several long-standing Brothers with their anniversary apron. W Joe Lombardo and the Brothers of the Lodge recognized W Peter Pizzorno, DSA, with his twenty-five year apron; Brother Ken Hallock, DSA, with his thirty-year apron; RW John Geehreg and Brother John Tarbet with forty-five year aprons; and W Walter Alex Walter, DSA, with his forty-year apron. These awards represent 185 years of Masonic service. Congratulations go to all.

## Smithtown Hosts Visitation

On Wednesday, December 9 W William Mountzouros and the Brothers of Smithtown Lodge 1127 hosted District Deputy Grand Master Jeffrey Santorello and the officers of the Suffolk Masonic District for their Official Visit. With forty Brothers in attendance, RW Santorello spoke about the holiday season. He welcomed home Smithtown Brother VW Gilbert Kruse, who is serving as one of Suffolk's Assistant Grand Lecturers for this term. In addition, RW Grand Sword Bearer Robert Licata addressed the brethren.



## Letter from Camp

We made it through January and February and we are one step closer to summer. I don't know about you, but we are ready for some warmer weather.



This is the time of the year that parents are starting to make plans for their children for the summer. We are trying to get out the word about Camp Turk, not only to Masons but also into the community. Remember that camp is open to all children between 8 and 16 years of age.

Are you having a pancake breakfast or a dinner at your Lodge? Is there an upcoming event in your community? Are you interested in hosting a Camp Turk informational night in your District or at your Lodge? Send us an email or give us a call and we will send one of our Camp Turk Committee members to your area. Does your Lodge have a website, newsletter, Facebook or Instagram page? May we send you some information to post for us?

Did you know that Camp Turk offers more than thirty activities? We do soccer; lacrosse; softball/baseball; hiking. We have paddleboards and kneeboards and water inflatables. We have theatre and music. We play basketball, rugby and tennis. There is biking; and windsurfing, wakeboarding and tubing. We play volleyball and disc golf and work with computers. We go kayaking, canoeing and fishing. There are dances and we have a newspaper. Kids can play badminton and try archery. We do arts and crafts. Back to the lake, we enjoy sailing and paddle boats and row boats.



And we have campfires and much more.

The cost for all of this experience is \$500 per week. Financial assistance is available.

Have you ever visited Camp Turk? If not, we invite you to stop by. We are hosting a clean-up weekend in the spring on June 3, 4 and 5. We are looking for volunteers to come help us clean and we will be giving tours of the campgrounds. If this is something you are interested in, call for further details. Reservations are a must.



Important dates for 2022 are as follows: Registration opened on January 1. The Financial Aid application deadline is May 1. Tuition is due June 1. The Work Weekend is June 3 to 5. The camping schedule looks like this:

Camp Turk (boys) July 3—July 16  
Camp Turk (coed) July 17—July 30  
Camp Turk (girls) July 31—Aug. 13

Did you know that after the Camp Turk sessions end we rent our cabins to Masons and families?

For further details, click the following link: [www.masonichome.org/round-lake-camp/](http://www.masonichome.org/round-lake-camp/). If you have any additional questions, contact Mollie Denslow at 315/392-2081 or email [campturk@campturk.org](mailto:campturk@campturk.org).



# Noble Ninth Continues Good Works



**R**W Bob Stein and Brother Pat Donohue of Trinity Lodge 112 donated their time and efforts on behalf of Trinity Church in Wyandanch. With the help of a youth counselor at the church, they donated, packed and delivered Thanksgiving boxes to those less fortunate in the area. Brother Stein has been doing this mission for many years and the church appreciates his efforts on behalf of those they serve.

Brother Bob runs the food pantry at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lindenhurst and has been its Director for over twenty years. He has been organizing food baskets for both Thanksgiving and Christmas since he first assumed the position of Director. The food pantry serves many clients every week throughout the year, in addition to the special baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Brother Hernan Picalomino and Brother Ray Figuer, under the guidance of Lorenzo Cesare, worked diligently with a group to provide Thanksgiving dinners for 200 residents of the Carlos M. Rios Senior Residence. This brings joy to the residents as well as to our Masonic Brothers.



The Noble Ninth has many Brothers that also worked hard in service to others. Brother Hernan Picalomino spearheaded a fundraiser for the Hassenfeld Children's Hospital of the NYU Langone group. They raised \$3,100 and purchased toys that were delivered to the hospital, putting smiles on many little faces.



Well in India

Knickerbocker Lodge 182 has been working on saving our planet and people. Can you imagine not having a source of viable drinking water? Over 700 million children, men and women face this situation every day. The brethren of Knickerbocker Lodge 182 partnered with Bees Trees Water to provide a clean-water well to a community in West Bengal, India.

More than 500 people will benefit from having access to clean water, which will result in healthier lives. Next, the Brothers are planning to plant beehives and home gardens in Tanzania, East Africa.



Mizpah

A Brother Lodge in the Queens District, Advanced Service Mizpah Lodge 586, has been very busy with charity work, as well. They organized and executed their First Annual Gobble Giveaway. Using individual Brothers' funds, they paired with the organization "Queens Together" to acquire 100 turkeys which were distributed to the community.

Thanks go to the Lodge and to Brother Luis Rodriguez for his great efforts in organizing this worthwhile event. Thanks, too, to Brother Galen Kaback for letting us know about this activity.

# Connetquot Hosts Blood Drive



Connetquot Masonic Lodge 838 hosted New York Blood Centers for a holiday blood drive in Sayville on Saturday, December 4. Since the onset of the pandemic it has been extremely difficult for New York Blood Centers to stage successful blood drives, due to the various restrictions and a reticence by many to congregate.

Blood supplies in the metropolitan region have been very low. All are encouraged to donate if they are healthy and able. Lodges are urged to contact NYBC if they are interested in hosting a blood drive in their community.

W Avi Dicken, Master of Connetquot, donates blood.

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## Banquet Kicks Off Fundraiser

The Brothers of Mount Moriah Charity held their first Bi-Annual Fundraiser on September 30 at the Peninsula Hotel in Midtown Manhattan. The Foundation was established by the current Worshipful Master James J. Lukezic, Secretary and Past Master John E. Torres and RW Joseph Lozano. Mount Moriah Charity raises funds to assist children of widows and families in need in the five boroughs of New York City. Donations from corporate and private donors were received. J.P. Morgan was lead sponsor of the Gala Dinner.

During the seated dinner on the Terrace of the Peninsula

Hotel, the executive chef served a refreshing burrata with farm-to-table ingredients for a first course. The main dish was a seared seabass in roasted fennel, apple puree and caviar beurre blanc. This was followed by a unique take on New York Cheesecake, served with berry compote and vanilla bean Chantilly.

There is currently a waiting list for the next fundraiser in the spring. For more information, please reach Mount Moriah at: [info@mountmoriahcharity.org](mailto:info@mountmoriahcharity.org).



Martin Kanter, Steven Rubin, Giacomo Franci, John Torres, Darien Mirabal, Ulysses Minaya, James Lukezic, Jack Rucker, Odelon Torres, Joseph Lozano, David Menegon

# Trinity Celebrates 225

By Bob Stein

Trinity Lodge's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was March 23, 2020. A huge gala celebration was planned for March 28 at the beautiful Swan Club in Roslyn on Long Island's north shore. Due to the challenge that the COVID pandemic brought, this gala was scheduled and postponed three times. Finally, the anniversary gala was reset for October 30, 2021 and actually took place.

It was a long-awaited glorious affair attended by more than 200 family, friends and guests. The Swan Club was beautiful, decorated with mum plants of all the vivid colors of the season and lovely autumn leaves of bright orange, yellows and browns. Each man in attendance was gifted with an engraved trowel as a thank you from Trinity Lodge.

The cocktail reception was in the Terrace Garden Room and there was piano music during the cocktail hour, which

was quite nice. There were so many stations in addition to the seafood boat it was impossible to sample just a few items. Most people were stuffed before moving into the main ball room for the Banquet Gala. Pat Farrell and his Cold Spring Harbor Band provided the evening's entertainment and had everyone dancing the night away.

Many dinner choices fit every desire and need. The food was delicious and plentiful and there were so many courses no one left hungry. The evening went smoothly, with no complaints.

Thanks go to the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for their devotion and tireless efforts in making the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala an evening to remember. We applaud W John Farina, RW Robert Stein, RW Werner Kress, Brother Joe Becker, W Oscar Garcia and Brother Alfredo Torres.



▲ Lady Rose from Herder Lodge celebrates her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Trinity Gala.



▲ Lady Angie from the Lorelei Chapter of the Eastern Star enjoys herself at the Gala.



► Brothers of Trinity Lodge.



Co-Chairmen of the Anniversary Gala, RW Bob and his wife Kathy, Trinity Sister Luann and Brother Fred Stein enjoy the Anniversary Ball.



RW George Filippidis and his lovely Lady Vicki.

## McCauley Honored



W Thomas F. Sauter watches as RW William McCauley presents the PDDGM collar jewel to his Brother, RW Kevin McCauley.

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October Dongan Patent Lodge 1134 saw one of its own, RW Kevin McCauley, return to receive a well-deserved honor. This followed the conclusion of his successful term as Suffolk County District Deputy Grand Master. Standing before his Brothers, RW McCauley received his Past District Deputy Grand Master's collar jewel from his sibling, RW William McCauley.

Brother Kevin, who was Raised on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 1990, was Master of his home Lodge from 2012 through 2013 and was named District Deputy Grand Master in 2018. His term was extended because of the COVID-19 pandemic, through which he successfully led the District.

W Thomas F. Sauter, Master of Dongan Patent Lodge, witnessed the presentation. He said, "The RW Kevin G. McCauley did a magnificent job for all the Suffolk County District Lodges and has been a mentor to me personally since he Raised me in the Lodge in 2012 while he was the Master."

## Queensboro awards Bennett Medal



(l-r) RW Greg Artinger, Past Grand Sword Bearer; RW Stewart C. McCloud; W Victor Han, Master of Queensboro Lodge 892; and RW Richard T. Schulz.

Queensboro Lodge 892 awarded the Gordon Bennett Award for Distinguished Service to two of its most stalwart members: RW Richard T. Schulz and RW Stewart C. McCloud. The ceremony was conducted on December 2, 2021.

RW Richard Schulz served the Lodge as Secretary for twenty-five years. He was then succeeded by RW Stewart McCloud. Together they have been the foundation of the Lodge for more



Pinning of the medal on RW McCloud by RW Schulz.

than thirty years.

The award is named for RW Gordon Bennett, who was the longtime Treasurer of Queensboro Lodge 892, as well as one of its predecessor Lodges. RW Gordon was a Brother of upright character who provided sage advice to the Lodge for many years. He was a Past Grand Representative and the Chairman of the Queens District Blood Drive.

# MASONIC YOUTH COMMITTEE



RW CARY S. COHN  
CHAIRMAN  
516/781-1157  
ccohn1127@aol.com

Grand Lodge of New York has always had a particular interest in education and the youth of America, so it is no surprise to find wide support given to students, usually in the form of scholarships. Masonic scholarships range from funds offered by thousands of Masonic organizations countrywide, large national and statewide programs, to localized individual Lodge programs for students in their respective communities. Our own Grand Lodge New York during the past fifteen years has contributed many hundreds of thousands of dollars to over 10,000 worthy recipients through the Grand Lodge Educational Assistance Program.

The Masonic Youth Committee is requesting help from Lodges and Districts. As a further service to the children and grandchildren of our Brothers, and to members of our DeMolay, Rainbow and Triangle Youth groups, the committee

has put together a Scholarship Resource guide. This currently appears on the Grand Lodge website: [www.nymasons.org](http://www.nymasons.org).

We ask that all Masonic Lodges, Districts and affiliated bodies help support the creation of the “New York State Masonic Educational Funding Guide.” It aims to be a vital resource for students, parents, youth group advisors and academic administrators. The guide helps locate available scholarship, grant and loan opportunities for Masons, their families, siblings, children, grandchildren and members of the Masonic-related youth groups. All are beneficiaries of this accumulated data.

We would like to expand the existing guide to include your Lodge and District, if at all applicable. Please contact RW Peter Brusoe for more information: [pwbrusoe@gmail.com](mailto:pwbrusoe@gmail.com).

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## Committee promotes new Service Awards

In 2021 the Masonic Youth Committee developed a new “Excellence in Masonic Youth Group Service Award.” This award recognizes youth and adults who have rendered excellent service to Rainbow or Triangle or DeMolay by fulfilling certain criteria. For young persons to earn this award they must have brought in a minimum of two new members for their youth group, performed fifty hours of community service since 2020 and supported or attended an event for another Masonic youth group. Adults must be a volunteer in good standing with their youth group, have brought in two other adults to serve as youth group leader since 2020, provided at least fifty hours of service to their youth group since 2020 and served a minimum of two years as an adult volunteer for their organization.

The award is a magnificently designed lapel pin with deep allegorical meaning. The symbols of our three youth organizations—DeMolay, Rainbow and Triangle—have special meaning for their members. Their being joined together signifies that only by working together can we make this world a better place. The triangular shape alludes to the three cardinal virtues of Freemasonry—Truth, Charity and Brotherly Love. Finally, the starburst shows the light that our youth groups are to this world.

Congratulations go to the Class of 2021. Bro. Austin T. Altman (DeMolay), Bro. Michael A. Jordan (DeMolay) and Bro. Brian C. Ramos (DeMolay) are the Youth awardees. “Mom” Veronica Altman (DeMolay) and “Dad” Edward W. Tromble (DeMolay) are the recognized Adults.

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## Dolgeville Party for Kids

On Friday, December 10 Dolgeville Lodge 796 hosted its annual Children’s Christmas party. The Lodge provides each child twelve and under with a free gift and a chance to sit and talk with Santa Claus. More than seventy-five children attended the event.

This is one of the most important events of the year. It was great to see many Brothers and families come out and help us make Christmas just a little brighter for our local community.



# INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF THE RAINBOW FOR GIRLS IN NEW YORK



MRS. GALE GOULD  
Supreme Inspector in NY

35 Maple Street  
Auburn New York 13021  
Phone: 315/253-8206

e-mail: [galegould@gmail.com](mailto:galegould@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.nyiorg.org](http://www.nyiorg.org)  
f: [facebook.com@NY Rainbow](https://www.facebook.com/NYRainbow)

We hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and is looking forward to an even better 2022, filled with greater spirit and participation. Transitioning back to state events has been slower than hoped for with the pandemic continuing to rage on. Most Assemblies are playing it by ear and rolling with the current situation in their community by holding a mix of in-person and virtual meetings.

We do appreciate all who came out in support at our first two Grand Officer receptions in September and November. And we hope you attended the final reception, the Grand Officers' Homecoming in Middletown on February 26. We are also working hard on the planning for our Grand Assembly sessions to be held March 24 to 27 at the Villa Roma in Callicoon, New York.

This year, 2022, marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Please be sure to like and follow our Facebook page, NY Rainbow, to

see what is happening and the celebrations to be held. NY Rainbow was also featured on the International Rainbow social media sites the week of January 16. We hope you checked out those posts and learned more about us.

As with all of the Masonic youth groups, adult support and participation are vital to our ongoing success. We need and welcome more of that in 2022. Please reach out to our Supreme Inspector, Mom Gale Gould, if you can help in any way. We look forward to spending time together soon.

And please consider this:

In the stream of life, Rainbow is only a pebble... A pebble that can change us and help us to grow, and even though the ripples seem small, they in some way influence our course. With a positive outlook towards the future, we hope to look back on our pebble with thoughts and memories of good times, friendships and personal growth.



# ORGANIZATION OF TRIANGLE, INC.



 Facebook.com  
@OOTNY  
@Triangle StateDirector

KRISTINA TURRI  
State Director

 Twitter.com  
@ootrianglesny

 Snapchat.com  
@ootrianglesny

Email: OOTrianglesNY@gmail.com  
Website: www.OOTNY.org

 instagram.com  
OOTrianglesNY  
@OOTMYStateRep  
@TriangleStateDirector



Adriana Ramirez  
State Representative of the  
Organization of Triangles, Inc.

## Meet the State Representative

Hi, everyone! Most of you know me as Adriana Ramirez, State Representative of the Organization of Triangles Inc. and as a young leader spreading the motto, “Not Self, But Service.” There is, however, definitely more to me than meets the eye.

When I put down the crown and sash to rest, I am no different from any other college student. I currently attend Molloy College to pursue a Bachelors’ Degree in Nursing. I am in my junior year, so picking a specialty is coming up very soon. In the next few years I hope to work in a Neonatal setting or anywhere involving children and Pediatrics.

When I am not studying I enjoy spending time with friends, relaxing and chatting or playing a fun card game.

We do our best to escape the technology and really catch up. As you know, being an adult is extremely busy, so when I can squeeze in time with friends I am content.

I love anything purple (that is my absolute favorite color) and llamas are by far the cutest animals. I am not picky with food, either. I do consider myself a foodie at heart. A good burger with fries I can always eat.

One thing I hope to do this summer is definitely take in more of what nature has to offer. I live in a more populated suburban area so I do have to drive a bit for a beautiful outdoor hike. I hope you enjoyed seeing a little more about what makes me me.

## Installations

Following the State Convention of the Organization of Triangle in October, our Triangle Chapters across the state have been pushing forward and getting back into the swing of things. Installations are a big deal for our members. We love showing our friends and family our organization, and these signal a new start in our new positions. Each term beginning is an amazing time to see how far our members have come and to look forward to all of our girls growing even more.



On November 19 Truth Triangle 31 in Huntington held their installation of officers. Miss Lilyonna went in as the new Beloved Queen. In her previous term she raised \$254 for “Hope for Youth,” a program that provides services for children, youth and adults. Some of the services include outpatient, foster care, clinical and preventive services, runaway and homeless youth services and emergency residential care. They work with children from as young as birth through 21. They are located across Long Island with six residential facilities, thirty-five foster homes and 165 staff members.

She also raised \$600 for the OES Beacon House. During the night, Lily also asked guests to gather non-perishables as donations to St. Kilian’s Parish Outreach Food Pantry.

On December 4 Cassiopeia Triangle in Amherst held their installation. Miss Brittany Rapan, the most recent Order of Deborah Award recipient, ended her term as Beloved Queen after an extended term of two and a half years. Miss Fallon Roseboom, a first generation Triangle, went in as the new Beloved Queen. Her charity is the “It Gets Better Project.” Their mission is to help connect and empower LGBTQ+ youth across the globe. She hopes by supporting the group she

*Continues on to page 35 – Installations*

## Find Us!

Kaitlin Piston

Junior Advisor of the Onondaga and Capitol Districts

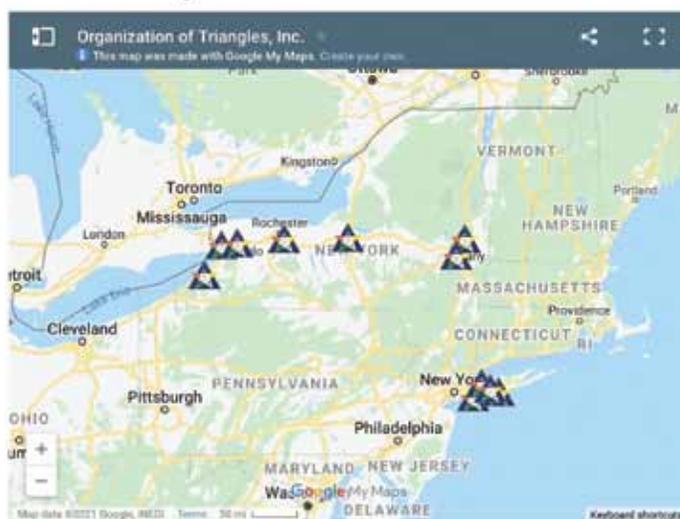
Are you looking for a group that will teach social skills, public speaking, charity, and help create friendships? If you are a girl between the ages of 10 and 21 and know someone in that age bracket, let them know about the Organizations of Triangles Inc.

The following list will help you find the Triangle closest to you, where they meet and when they meet.

- Cassiopeia Triangle No. 202 - Buffalo, NY - meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month (excluding July & August).
- Lockport Triangle No. 128 - Akron, NY - meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month (excluding July & August).
- Fidelity Triangle No. 4 - Pittsford, NY - meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month (excluding July & August).
- Bal-On-Sen Triangle No. 65 - Liverpool, NY - meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month.
- Onistagrawa Triangle No. 215 - Schenectady, NY - meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month (excluding July & August).
- Sunrise Triangle No. 146 - Baldwin, NY - meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month (excluding July & August).
- Truth Triangle No. 31 - Huntington, NY - meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month (excluding July & August).
- Meridian Triangle No. 71 - Islip, NY - meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month (excluding July & August).

I hope that this helps you figure out where your Triangle is. If you seek more information you can always go to the OOTNY website at ootny.org. Go to "Find a Triangle" or go to "Contact Us" and leave us a message. We hope to see you soon.

### Find a Triangle



### Continued from page 34 – Installations

can help others not feel lost.

In 2022, Sunrise Triangle 146 celebrated its installation of officers on January 9 at the Valley of Rockville Centre. Miss Alisia Barker went in as Beloved Queen. We are all excited to see how all our members grow in their term.



# NEW YORK DEMOLAY



2150 Bleecker Street  
Utica New York 13501

Peter Brusoe, Executive Officer  
Office 315/798-4922  
Fax 214/446-6537

nydemolay@nydemolay.org  
Website: NYDemolay.org

f: Facebook.com@NYDemolay

t: Twitter.com@NYDeMolay

i: Instagram.com@NYDeMolay

## Francisco Memorial Class

In August, New York DeMolay lost senior DeMolay and Advisor “Dad” Kristoffer Francisco at the age of 28. Dad Francisco joined Knickerbocker Chapter Order of DeMolay in September of 2010. He had a tremendously successful term as Master Councilor, went on to serve as Metro Region Master Councilor and other roles within New York DeMolay. The International Supreme Council unanimously elected Brother Francisco to be invested with the Degree of Chevalier, the highest honor that can be bestowed on an active DeMolay. When Brother Francisco became a majority member he became an advisor for Knickerbocker Chapter. A friend,

a mentor and a supporter of youth, Dad Francisco made a tremendous impact in the lives of so many others.

To honor his life, legacy and memory, Knickerbocker Chapter hosted an outstanding Degree in his honor and welcomed three new Brothers on December 6, 2011 in the Empire Room of the Grand Lodge building. His father and brother were on hand for the occasion. The Degrees were flawlessly performed by Brothers from across the New York City Metro Area. Though Dad Francisco is no longer with us, his memory lives on.



## Making a Difference, Serving Others

In December, DeMolay Chapters around the world serve others as part of their “Day of Comfort” obligatory day. Knickerbocker Chapter hosted a food drive and collected shoes and Elias Light Chapter did a food drive. The Knights of Antiquity Chapter donated goods to a local shelter.

During LeadCon the young men made care packages for homeless youth. Mohawk Valley Chapter helped out at the Festival of Trees. These are a few examples of so many more deeds of kindness.



# MASONIC MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



RW ROBERT HEWSON  
*PRESIDENT*  
MMRI BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
716/866-3353  
Rhewson@mmri.edu



As we emerge from the dark and cold of winter and begin to embrace the promise of spring, so does the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI). We continue our progress and are optimistic that our research will open new and exciting opportunities in medicine.

During the last few months we have been busy with the reconstruction of our genetic wing and are anxious to move into this repurposed space. This space will provide room for additional primary investigators, technicians, post-doctoral associates and their state-of-the-art equipment, bringing more talent and high-paying jobs to the Utica community.

We continue to be a major player in the Mohawk Valley and Central New York healthcare systems. We have established a high-caliber community advisory committee (CAC), with our first meeting scheduled for March 2022. This committee consists of local leaders in the fields of law, business, banking and the medical community. It will function to foster collective thinking and growth beneficial to both the community and MMRI.

We continue to collaborate with multiple quality academic institutions. These collaborations give our faculty the ability to interact with scientists from multiple disciplines from around the world, opening dialogue and working together to our mutual benefit.

I am pleased to announce that we have contracted our Executive Director Maria Kontaridis Ph.D. to another four

years. This is essential to our continued success as she is responsible for the impressive growth and recognition MMRI has received nationally and internationally in the medical research community.

Our autism research project continues. If you would like to learn more about this research venture we would be happy to present to your Lodge or at an event in person or by Zoom. Please contact us.

Our Grand Lodge outreach program continues to gain traction. We have opened discussion with multiple Grand Lodges in the northeastern United States to help them better understand our mission and for their new or continued support. We are exploring multiple new ventures to ensure that the MMRI remains vital and viable for many years to come. Further information will be coming as these projects come to fruition. You can follow these and other projects on MMRI's Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram page and our website.

As always, if you wish more information or would like to help with our fundraising, marketing or Board of Directors' participation, please reach out to me. We appreciate your support and enthusiasm and look forward optimistically to the challenges ahead.

Find us on:



## Star of the East OV

On Thursday, November 11 RW District Deputy Grand Master Jeffrey Santorello continued his Official Visitations by traveling to Suffolk District's easternmost Lodge, Star of the East 843 in Amagansett. With more than thirty Brothers in attendance, the meeting centered on the Grand Master's message. But, with the visitation falling on Veterans Day, RW Santorello also spoke at length regarding the debt we all owe our selfless veterans for their sacrifice, dedication and service.

RW Santorello requested all of veterans in attendance escorted west of the altar, where he presented each with the Grand Master's pin. W Joe Lombardo



and the brethren of Star of the East were excellent hosts for the evening and much fellowship was enjoyed before and after.



# MASONIC MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

**MARIA I. KONTARIDIS, PhD**  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*  
*GORDON K. MOE PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AND TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE*  
*DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH*  
315/624-7496  
[mkontaridis@mmri.edu](mailto:mkontaridis@mmri.edu)



Dear Empire State Masons, philanthropy makes transformational discoveries possible. While a lot changed in 2021, the growth and expansion of the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI)—enabled by your generous support—did not. We continued to empower our scientists to take on bold ideas, embrace intellectual risks and develop new technologies. We continued to upgrade our facility, increase our research capabilities, and unearth new critical findings on potential causes of devastating diseases—all to identify therapies to treat these ailments.

To continue to uphold our mission of improving the health and quality of life for all humankind, we continue to need your partnership. You can help make discoveries happen. Indeed, your support already helped move our research forward this past year. Support from the Masons and the National Institutes of Health helped us further our research into the causes of heart disease, blood-clots, diabetes and obesity. It also helped us focus our efforts on understanding the possible link between congenital heart disease and autism, a connection also supported by the American Heart Association. Your help similarly enabled us to expand our research and understanding of systemic lupus erythematosus—a devastating autoimmune disorder estimated to affect nearly five million people worldwide. This research is additionally supported by the Department of Defense and the Lupus and Allied Diseases Association.

Your donations make all these research efforts possible. They lay the foundation for big discoveries and provide us with the data we need to garner support from national funders, federal agencies and individual donors. We simply cannot do it without you.

Thank you for considering support of MMRI in 2022. It helps us continue to build a state-of-the-art facility, expand our research into new areas of investigation (including cancer) and allows us to recruit the best and brightest scientists in our country, who share our passion. Your gifts will also help us train the next generation of scientific thought-leaders—both from our community and from across the world—through our Summer Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows Research Programs. These people may fuel the development of medical cures and treatments of tomorrow.

To inquire about our research, arrange for a tour of MMRI or support us with a gift, please contact me at [mkontaridis@mmri.edu](mailto:mkontaridis@mmri.edu); 315/624-7496. My Principal Development Officer is Stephen F. Izzo, at [stephenizzo@mmri.edu](mailto:stephenizzo@mmri.edu); 908/477-7966.

Find us on:



## Seventy Year Apron Presented



(l-r) MW Grand Master William Sardone, Brother Theodore Bartels, Mrs. Phyllis Bartels, Brother Kevin Bartels, and RW Ed Bartels

On the evening of Monday, October 4, MW Grand Master William Sardone and RW Ed Bartels presented Brother Theodore “Ted” Bartels with his proclamation and seventy-year anniversary apron. The ceremony followed the meeting at Old Town Lodge 908 in Southampton.

Brother Kevin Bartels presented his grandfather the seventy-year pin. Congratulations go to Brother Theodore and the entire Bartels family on this auspicious occasion, with appreciation for their dedication to Masonry.

# YEARS OF SERVICE

## 80 YEARS

0524 MORNING STAR  
Gwynn K. Morey

## 76 YEARS

0128 OGDENSBURGH-ACACIAN  
Robert Denner

0633 RICHVILLE  
Wallace K. Hurlbut

## 75 YEARS

0084 AMSTERDAM  
Carson A Thompson

0112 STEUBEN  
Donald E. Scott

0120 HAMILTON  
Arnold R. Fisher

0223 ROMAN-HATHEWAY  
Kenneth K. Snavely

0231 CORNERSTONE  
Belding F. Clearwater

0297 ALEXANDRIA  
John A. Keeler

0425 WARRENSBURGH  
Dennis H. Galloway

0839 ATHELSTANE  
Fred Kaplowitz

0855 PAUMANOK-PORT  
WASHINGTON  
James R. Wells

0890 JOSHUA  
David Rowe

0892 QUEENSBORO  
Joseph K. Muller

1185 WESTERN STAR  
William W. Swenson

## 74 YEARS

0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Martin Frank

0634 SCOTIA  
John Williamson  
Robertson

## 73 YEARS

0137 ANGLO-SAXON  
George R. Johanson

0164 PHILANTHROPIC  
Irwin E. Brown

0406 HUMANITY  
Earl Buchanan

0445 CASSIA  
Hugh D. Greenberg

0551 RANSOMVILLE  
Albert L. Rusk

0965 GENEVA  
Richard Haag

0970 JOHNSON CITY UNITY  
Alton L. Frisbie

1041 BROTHERHOOD  
Marcel Seidler

1174 SCHENECTADY  
Robert L. Johnson

## 72 YEARS

0472 TRITOWN  
Elmer Harold Vanarkel

0533 ROUND HILL  
Carl Marca

0639 SOMERSET  
Burnette C. Wayner

0651 TRUE CRAFTSMAN'S  
Theodore J. Fuchs

0701 BEACON LIGHT  
Charles J. Ericson

0787 GASPORT  
Victor E. Fitchlee

0912 GREAT KILLS  
John G. Anderson

## 71 YEARS

0110 SCIPIO  
David A. Brooks

0285 GEORGE WASHINGTON  
Gerhart Malunat

0439 DELAWARE RIVER  
Lester E. Gregory

0524 MORNING STAR  
Joseph Lounsbury

0579 PORTVILLE  
Eugene L. Newburg

0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Harold Prashker

0589 NAURASHANK  
Vincent Trojan

0616 CAZENOVIA STERLING  
Grant Brisbin

0634 SCOTIA  
Herman S. Stein

0791 LIVINGSTON MANOR  
Albert A. Voorhess

0814 SCONONDOA-SHERRILL  
Curtis J. Hammill

0838 CONNETQUOT  
Peter Greenko

1068  
JAMES W. HUSTED-FIAT LUX  
Neil R. Berzak

## 70 YEARS

0083 NEWARK  
Eugene R. Denagel

0155 FRATERNAL  
Myron  
Frederick Degenhardt

0177 BINGHAMTON  
Jerome P. Jones

0183 FARMERVILLE-UNION  
John Holcomb

0230 UNIVERSITY  
John D. Cramond Jr

0256 FORT BREWERTON  
William A. Grady Sr

0264 BARON STEUBEN  
George J. Olney  
John B. Olney

0285 GEORGE WASHINGTON  
Frank J. Lengenfelder

0342 WYOMING  
Richard E. Brummer

0365 GOSHEN  
Harold E. Suresky

0548 LAURENS  
John C. Duroe

0627 WALKKILL  
Walter T. Roosa

0639 SOMERSET  
Herbert C. Loesch

0819 COMPOSITE  
Arthur Schorr

1037 VICTORIA SEA GATE  
Lester B. Bloch

1041 BROTHERHOOD  
Lester Fishman

1057 SPRINGFIELD GARDENS  
Earl C. Valder

## 65 YEARS

0084 AMSTERDAM  
Donald L. Singer

0111 ST. LAWRENCE  
Paul T. Evans

0134 LOWVILLE  
H. Paul Steiner

0147 WARREN SALEM TOWN  
Arthur H. Smith

0154 ERAC  
Thomas E. Holtz

0155 FRATERNAL  
Andrew Albert Ewart

0172 CHAUMONT  
Charles A. Brox Jr.

0223 ROMAN-HATHEWAY  
Cameron Ross Johnston Jr.

0297 ALEXANDRIA  
Robert C. Tague

0387 LA FRATERNIDAD  
Bladimiro Rodriguez

0417 WADSWORTH  
Ronald H. Noll

0458 SHEKOMEKO  
Herbert B. Schwager

0501 LIVERPOOL SYRACUSE  
Richard A. Dombrowsky  
William J. Kornbluth Jr.

0584 ASHLAR  
Harold E. Snow

0619 EAGLE  
Thomas E. Badger  
Everett H. Vail

0653 JOHN JAY  
Stephen M. Kittler

0684 BERNE  
Robert M. Wesel

0689 WHAT CHEER  
Dale Riggs

0750 SHAKESPEARE  
Paul I. Auerbach

0757 SILVER  
Malcolm L. Claffin

0925 TYRIAN  
Charles Edward Wareham

1057 SPRINGFIELD GARDENS  
Albert O. Klipfel

1185 WESTERN STAR  
Robert W. Tills

1188 RENAISSANCE  
Kenneth N. Ries

## 60 YEARS

0022 FRANKLIN  
James Fox Gilday Jr.  
Walter N. Sweet

0056 ST. ALBANS  
William E. Jagoe

0073 CHARLOTTEVILLE  
Larry Ray Sidebottom

0079 UNITY  
Charles H. Wood Jr.

0082 PHOEBUS  
Ernest C. Emhof

0122 GENESEE VALLEY  
Robert Flesch Jr.

0123 DUNDEE  
Richard Dale Kaufman

0128 OGDENSBURGH-ACACIAN  
Frank K. Martin

0129 SANGER  
Richard Eugene Palmer

0139 MILNOR  
Glen O. Thon

0230 UNIVERSITY  
James A. Comes

0290 MOUNT OLIVE  
Richard H. Green

0347 CLINTON-HAMPTON  
Neal Bunnell Rothfuss

0375 NIAGARA  
Glenn M. Foley  
Richard J. Foley  
David W. Pynn

0392 SODUS  
Alfred Elwin Beckens  
Robert Thomas Mitchell  
James Burl Norton

0399 MAINE  
Garald H. McManus

0414 SCRIBA  
Ralph E. Kelley

0445 CASSIA  
Richard A. Newman

0468 RIP VAN WINKLE  
Eric P. Rasmussen

0493 SOUTHSIDE  
Gordon E. Downs Jr.

0494 JEPHTHA  
Raymond C. Mahdesian

0533 ROUND HILL  
Donald E. Short

0545 COPERNICUS  
Werner Vonderheide

0552 HANCOCK  
Eugene R. Creech

0553 FARMERS  
Hillis Crandall

0565 GUIDING STAR-ANGLE  
Alexander Ermalinski

0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Myron Conovitz

0627 WALLKILL  
George A. Begbie

0695 ALCYONE  
Stephen G. Thide

0718 ADONAI  
David Freer Jr.

0750 SHAKESPEARE  
Sidney Cooper

0855  
PAUMANOK-PORT WASHINGTON  
Harold R. Doughy  
William E. Kurz

0948 SWEET HOME  
Frank Levin

0956 SPARTAN  
Paul B. Cooper

1072 DEXTER  
Dale O. Corrice

1174 SCHENECTADY  
Calvin P. Welch

1188 RENAISSANCE  
Charles E. Wright

## 55 YEARS

0004 St. PATRICK'S  
Fred I. Maderic  
Frederick R. Stortecky

0044 EVENING STAR  
Donald M. Schulitz

0049 WATERTOWN  
Robert H. Ridall

0066 STATEN ISLAND  
Eugene R. Bleimann

0082 PHOEBUS  
John R. Chase  
Samuel Senn Jr.

0085 BETHLEHEM  
Ralph Edward Folger Jr.  
Arthur F. Warner

0097 RENOVATION  
Richard S. Bostdorff

0105 HIRAM  
Keith B. Rung

0112 STEUBEN  
Stephen B. Morley

0121 QUEENSBURY  
Robert C. Morris

0122 GENESEE VALLEY  
Ray E. Robinson

0123 DUNDEE  
Warren H. Elliott

0145 MOUNT MORIAH  
Paul A. Wahlstrom

0166 FOREST  
Norman B. Whitton Jr

0168 CORNING PAINTED POST  
Hilton B. Champaign

0175 OXFORD  
Wesley P. Atkins

0203 MUNN  
Joel A. Risch

0256 FORT BREWERTON  
Edward R. Roundy

0313 STONY POINT WAWAYANDA  
R. Brian Johnson

0319 BLACK LAKE HAMMOND  
Robert A. Laclair

0341 CLYDE  
Thomas P. Carr

0358 ANCIENT LANDMARKS  
Thomas J. Davies  
Paul J. Puckett

0399 MAINE  
Steven Lee Osser

0425 WARRENSBURGH  
James D. Flatt

0458 SHEKOMEKO  
Richard E. Pelkey

0466 ONEONTA  
Richard E. Morey

0533 ROUND HILL  
Ronald C. Leonard

0544 WARWICK  
Albert W. Buckbee II

0545 COPERNICUS  
Helmut M. Streng

0553 FARMERS  
Ronald D. Bennett

0581 WINFIELD  
Robert Charles Wheeler

0589 NAURASHANK  
Harold B. Jones

0649 ROBINSON  
Glen E. Bullock

0740 ALLEMANIA  
William W. Weier

0750 SHAKESPEARE  
Harold W. Berk

0754 NOAH  
Jan F. Zeh

0785 NIAGARA RIVER LODGE  
James D. Wagner

0788 FORTUNE  
John Robert Eggen

0837 HESPERUS  
John A. Jessop

0839 ATHELSTANE  
Robert C. Carmen  
Harold J. Dresdale

0892 QUEENSBORO  
John F. Wolf

0956 SPARTAN  
Edgar I. Barr

0958 MORIAH  
Myron J. Silverman

0970 JOHNSON CITY UNITY  
David L. Alexander  
Robert K. Conant  
Frank W. Dunlap

1037 VICTORIA SEA GATE  
Edward Bienstock

1057 SPRINGFIELD GARDENS  
John H. Dick  
Derwood A. Fish II

1066 HARRY S TRUMAN  
Mehran W. Davidian

1188 RENAISSANCE  
Spencer P. Schofield

## 50 YEAR

0004 St. PATRICK'S  
Wayne D. Schermerhorn

0013 APOLLO-KING SOLOMON'S  
Donald Matthew Valerino

0022 FRANKLIN  
Bruce W. Madison  
Herbert J. Springer

0039 OLIVE BRANCH  
James Nielsen

0082 PHOEBUS  
Robert H. Elliott

0103 RISING SUN  
James P. Sanzone

0136 HIRAM  
Allen E. Boyce  
Lance A. Knapp  
Wayne Visconti

0147 WARREN SALEM TOWN  
Donald R. Waldron

0154 ERAC  
Dennis H. Copeland

0160 SENECA RIVER  
John David Briggs

0172 CHAMONT  
Martin E. Quencer

0177 BINGHAMTON  
John R. Parnica

0200 GAROGA-SINCERITY  
Norman Charles Schaefer

0229 ORIONA GROVE  
Lowell B. Mills Jr

0262 PHOENIX  
Earl G. Clabeaux

0347 CLINTON-HAMPTON  
Richard G. Raitt Jr

0350 CHEMUNG VALLEY-  
WAVERLY  
Bruce A. Blauvelt

0358 ANCIENT LANDMARKS  
William G. Karle

0392 SODUS  
David B. Riddervold

0415 PULASKI  
Philip B. Kline

0458 SHEKOMEKO  
Allen R. Rundall

0479 UNITY  
Clarence Russell Dinger

0481 CAMBRIDGE VALLEY  
Gerald Kenneth Aiken  
Arthur Emerson Center Jr.  
David W. Whitcomb

0483 ZEREDATHA  
Sheldon Altenhaus

0550 HANNIBAL  
James J. Kelso

0553 FARMERS  
Eugene D. Cole  
David L. Osborn

0589 NAURASHANK  
John H. Taylor

0611 St. JOHN'SVILLE  
David L. Saltsman

0630 GILBOA  
John Walter Standhart  
Carson Moore Stryker

0701 BEACON LIGHT  
William F. Nalwasky

0712 PELHAM  
Gary E. Gilbert  
Donald P. Mattson

0725 SOUTHERN LIGHT  
Matthew J. Castle

0750 SHAKESPEARE  
Gustaf Westerholm

0754 NOAH  
Richard B. Loetterle

0757 SILVER  
Ronald R. Miller

0867 DAMASCUS  
John A. Mouracade

0878 NORSEMEN  
Hjalmar Hansen

0917 IMA  
Eric S. Price

0977 AMITYVILLE  
John Morris

1057 SPRINGFIELD GARDENS  
Ronald Christian

1175 FELLOWSHIP  
David Lee Phillips

1178 GREAT VALLEY  
James F. Granger Jr

1186 KEN-TON  
John W. Schunak



**PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE**  
**Brotherhood Fund**  
**(212) 337-6652**



# L'UNION FRANÇAISE N°17

71 WEST 23<sup>RD</sup> STREET,  
18<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, BOX K5,  
NEW YORK, NY 10010

In spite of the restrictions imposed by the coronavirus new variants, the officers and members of L'Union Française Lodge 17 continue their march forward under the leadership of their Worshipful Master, W Matthew Tulloch. On Tuesday, November 16 VW Christophe Lobry-Boulanger, Junior Warden of L'UF17, received his commission as Assistant Grand Lecturer during the Official Visit of RW William DeLima, District Deputy Grand Master of the Tenth Manhattan District. Accompanying RW DeLima was RW Jaime Alcaraz, Grand Sword Bearer of the Grand Lodge of New York.

On that same day, one candidate for Affiliation was accepted as a new member of this Worshipful Lodge. On Monday, December 20 three candidates were Initiated as Entered Apprentices in the old French traditional way. That includes the rites of purification, of rosicrucian origins, that have been kept intact for 224 years.

Unfortunately, the annual Gala Dinner scheduled for

Tuesday, December 21 had to be canceled the day before because of the speedy invasion of the new coronavirus Omicron variant. The celebration was set for the amazing French Ionic room, on the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Grand Lodge building. The plan included French champagne and wines, a succulent menu to be prepared by W Daniel Monneaux, DSA, French Executive Chef in Residence, and live entertainment by Margot Sergent and her "So French Cabaret."

This unfortunate adversity was a sobering reminder that, no matter how good our intentions, Mother Nature always has the last word. But this only has encouraged the officers and members of L'UF17 to be more vigilant and steadfast in their resolve for a better 2022.



(l-r) First Degree Night: WM Matthew Tulloch with candidates



(l-r) RW William DeLima, MW Vincent Libone, W Matthew Tulloch, RW Jaime Alcaraz, and VW Christophe Lobry-Boulanger holding his AGL Commission



(l-r) Bro. Stéphane Koffi, VW Christophe Lobry-Boulanger, W Adrian Dechbery, RW Francis Dumaurier, W Didier Viroit (DSA), W Jean-Marc Gagniou (DSA), WM Matthew Tulloch, Candidate, Bro Michaël Pelletier, Candidate, W Alain Machu, Candidate, W Charles Florin, Bro. Franck Litzler (FCAC410).

# FROM THE WEBMASTER



**BROTHER KENNETH JP STUCZYNSKI**  
WEBMASTER  
NYMASONS.ORG  
716/868-1329  
ken@kentropolis.com

Amazing things are happening at the Masonic Care Community. The Masonic Medical Research Institute is engaged in ground-breaking work. Sometimes we even hear about events at Tappan, a historical gem also under the care of our Trustees. But an unsung hero of our jurisdiction has become a resource for Brothers during the pandemic and for the future: the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Masonic Library. Thanks to technology, access to books and information on artifacts is at our fingertips—and thanks to audiobooks, even our ears. But I can't say it any better than correspondence I came across from my Brother and friend, Trustee RW Walter Cook IV (nominally edited for use here):

*As we endure through a once-in-a-century pandemic, unable to meet in lodge, the trustees of our Grand Lodge Library have pressed on to bring our fraternity new Masonic light. I am happy to announce on behalf of the Chancellor Robert R Livingston Masonic Library of Grand Lodge electronic lending is now available!*

*By partnering with the well-established eBook vendor Odilo in this venture, we are able to bring to you an experience identical to electronic lending from any public library. It is as simple as activating your library membership and begin borrowing! Our staff has been working continuously to provide a clean and easy-to-use interface, complete with an FAQ, and regular hours weekly for phone-based assistance. Our staff has sent out announcements*

*through a variety of media, and are eager to provide you with greater access to your library's collection.*

*Lending is done via the following address: <https://nymasoniclibrary.odilo.us/> If you are not already registered with the library, you will need to do so before borrowing. Please reach out to our staff via our web page at <https://nymasoniclibrary.org/>, by phone at (212) 337-6620, or email at [info@nymasoniclibrary.org](mailto:info@nymasoniclibrary.org).*

*We are pleased to extend the reach of our library to all NY Masons through their desktop or mobile device. The trustees look forward to greater light in each Mason's experience, and are honored to be of service to our craft.*

Masons, particularly this new generation of Brothers, seek more light wherever they can find it. As I mentioned in my previous article, there are countless opportunities for that online. But we should be especially proud when Brothers work hard to provide rays of knowledge in our own jurisdiction.

I always say that membership in a Masonic Lodge is like a golden ticket. We can travel and explore innumerable experiences; and yet, many of us haven't cashed in that ticket. Maybe now, in the privacy of your own home, is a good way to start by accessing these resources. Happy reading!

(See article by Livingston Library Trustee Cook on page 10 —Editor.)

## Masonry is alive and we are not going to disappear!





**GRAND LODGE  
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF THE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE**

*Residence*

1732 LEHIGH ROAD  
WANTAGH, NY 11793-3516

TEL. CELL: (516) 679-5579

EMAIL: WWASNIESKI@VERIZON.NET

R.:W.: WALTER J. WASNIESKI III  
*Chairman*

February 2, 2022

TO: ALL DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS AND GRAND LODGE STAFF OFFICERS  
CC: GM, DGM, GS, GRAND LINE AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE

Dear Brethren:

We as a Grand Lodge and Committee thereof are proud and humbled to launch our Grand Master's newest Award, known as the Brother Theodore Roosevelt Masonic Award in honor and respect for our many unsung heroes, the men and women of the Civil Service. The nominee's qualifications and the rules and criteria for consideration to be a candidate for this prestigious award are summarized as follows:

The award's namesake sets the standard and quality by which an award candidate shall be compared. Brother Theodore Roosevelt was a Man and Mason who truly led by example, from leading the charge of his Troops up San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War, to walking the same beat traveled by his patrolmen as the First Police Commissioner of the New York Police Department. Likewise, the recipient of this award shall have walked steadfastly and triumphantly with his or her fellows. It is our Grand Master's goal to recognize the very best of the best, regardless of rank, tenure or position, to have earned this singular award.

The Brother Theodore Roosevelt Masonic Award is open ONLY to CIVIL SERVANTS; the nominee can be either a Mason or a non-Mason, regardless of sex, age, religion or ethnicity.

Who qualifies as a Civil Servant? A Civil Servant is a professional who works for the government at Local, Village, City, County, State or Federal levels. They encompass many careers including Law Enforcement, Police Men and Women, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Service Workers, First Responders, Transportation and Sanitation Department Workers, Postal Workers and other Public Servants.

We wholeheartedly join and embrace our Grand Master's vision to closely guard and reserve the presentation of this award for ONLY those recipients who epitomize that rare quality of

being the best in their field of endeavor within the Civil Service. We want this award to be one of the premier awards given out by the Grand Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons of the State of New York.

With that being said and in strict compliance with the aforementioned criteria, the Committee on Community Service will diligently go through each and every application properly submitted. In a genuine effort to maintain the integrity of the premier award, it is our goal and mission to select only a small handful of recipients on an annual basis to bestow the Brother Theodore Roosevelt Masonic Award. As previously mentioned, the recipient should be a very special and rare commodity and as such, there will be periods of time when no awards are presented.

A copy of the Official Application for the Brother Theodore Roosevelt Masonic Award accompanies this letter and will appear on the Grand Lodge's website at [www.nymasons.org](http://www.nymasons.org). In submitting the application, please provide a descriptive write-up about the nominee, his career, and the instance, event or personal outlook and performance that sets the nominee apart and above the rest. Remember, this esteemed award is much more than longevity on the job, it is about making a true difference for the better.

As with our own Fraternity, many fields of occupation have awards to recognize longevity and anniversaries, which are good, deserved and commendable. Likewise, senior members of the Civil Servant community should be recognized for their exemplary and meritorious dedication and service. However, the Brother Theodore Roosevelt Masonic Award looks beyond for a quality and character that is unique and special.

Should the individual being recommended for this award have been cited by her Division or Department for acts of bravery and heroism or have received other distinguished recognition, please include those details on the application. All such factors will be taken into consideration by the Committee in making our decision.

In closing, I trust that you will eagerly welcome the advent of the Grand Master Richard J. Kessler's new Award, the Brother Theodore Roosevelt Masonic Award, and help your Grand Lodge's Committee on Community Service to shine a LIGHT upon our unsung heroes within our communities, both far and wide.



**THE BROTHER  
THEODORE ROOSEVELT MASONIC AWARD**  
FOR EXEMPLARY CIVIL SERVICE

THE BROTHER THEODORE ROOSEVELT MASONIC AWARD for Exemplary Civil Service honors men & women of the Police & Law Enforcement Departments, inclusive of Federal, State and Local Municipality Agencies, Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Services (E.M.S.) as well as other First Responders & All Essential Personnel.

THIS AWARD RECOGNIZES more than just years of service but also honors outstanding service and actions above & beyond normal parameters of civil service.

HAS THE PROPOSED RECIPIENT RECEIVED OTHER AWARDS outside of the Fraternity related to the specific qualified event or act of heroism?

NO     YES, If so what awards has the proposed received?

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**NOMINATION FOR:**

Masonic Theodore Roosevelt Award     Civilian Theodore Roosevelt Award

NAME OF PERSON BEING NOMINATED,  
MUST SHOW NAME AS IT WILL APPEAR ON THE CERTIFICATE IF APPROVED:

---

CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

**A COMPLETE NARRATIVE EXPLAINING WHY THIS AWARD SHOULD BE GIVEN MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS APPLICATION**

Submitting Lodge: \_\_\_\_\_ Lodge Number \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE

LODGE  
SEAL  
MUST BE  
AFFIXED

\_\_\_\_\_  
MASTER'S SIGNATURE

**MAIL TO: WALTER J. WASNIESKI 3RD - 1732 LEHIGH RD - WANTAGH, NY 11793**

## Star of East captures Gavel, but...

In a brilliant tactical maneuver that outwitted both East End traffic jams and their competitors, the brethren of Star of the East Lodge No. 843 arrived in force at Riverhead Lodge 645 to capture the Traveling Gavel. This was on January 18, the night of RW District Deputy Jeffrey Santorello's Official Visit.

Contingents of Brothers from six other Lodges had arrived with hopes of absconding with the Gavel. W Joe Lombardo of Star of the East, Amagansett, rallied eleven men to the effort and brought the Gavel to the East. Congratulations go to these brethren for a mission accomplished.

In his ongoing effort to bring the Lodges of the western portion of the Suffolk Masonic District into the competition, RW Brother Santorello directed Star of the East Lodge 843 to carry the Gavel to Amityville Lodge's Entered Apprentice Degree ceremony to encourage a new Lodge to steal it. With more than seventy Brothers in attendance from both the Nassau and Suffolk Masonic Districts (shout out to Nassau!), several Lodges were in search of the steal. Despite a valiant effort by Jephtha Lodge 494, Suffolk Lodge No. 60 from Port Jefferson had eleven Brothers on hand to prevail.



## Suffolk DD Santorello makes rounds

On Tuesday, January 18 more than sixty Brothers visited Riverhead Lodge 645 for the Official Visit of District Deputy Grand Master Jeffrey Santorello. Several Lodges arrived with significant delegations of Brothers and a grand time was had by all.

RW Santorello spread the Grand Master's message upon the minutes and spoke eloquently of "The Battle Within" fundraising effort by Grand Lodge. In support of that effort and in memory of Lady Joanne Kessler, the Master's Hat was literally passed around the Lodge. Brothers raised more than \$1,000 toward the charity, signifying that This Is What We Do!

Moving on to Thursday evening, February 10, Suffolk

County District Deputy Grand Master Jeffrey G. Santorello made his Official Visit to Dongan Patent Lodge 1134 in Smithtown, Long Island. Again, Brothers from across the Suffolk County Masonic District followed Brother Santorello and joined the Brothers of Dongan Patent.

Once more, Brothers came from several local Lodges in support of the evening on Wednesday, February 16. W Marc Conrad and the Brothers of Peconic Lodge 349 hosted RW District Deputy Jeffrey G. Santorello and RW Grand Sword Bearer Robert J. Licata for their Official Visit. An excellent dinner and fine fellowship preceded the meeting. The District Deputy presented MW Grand Master Kessler's message and had it spread upon the minutes of this communication.



# Connetquot continues Degree work



On Monday, January 24 Connetquot Lodge No. 838 in Sayville conferred the Fellowcraft Degree on five Brothers progressing on their Masonic journey. Shaking off the rust of the pandemic's inactivity, the brethren executed well. The newly Passed Fellowcrafts are now ready to dive into

their studies in preparation for their Master Mason Degree later this year.

Prior to the meeting, a fine collation was enjoyed by all. Congratulations go to the brethren of Connetquot Lodge.

## Articles Due Date for the SUMMER Edition of the *Empire State Mason* magazine is **April 1, 2022**

### Submission guidelines for publication in the ESM

#### FILE PREPARATION

- Your name and phone number as the beginning of the file.
- Save text copy as .txt .rtf or .doc. **Please do not save as PDF.**
- Save photographs as .jpg .tif or .bmp format. Graphics save as .eps.
- (Do not transmit photos and copy in the same email or file. Transmit photos as individual attachments not embedded as part of email. Files saved as .pub will **NOT** be accepted.
- If submitting pdf format be sure that pictures are originally in CYMK color and type are set in black not registration color.

When saving the file into a pdf format colors are set to "Do not color conversion" "Do not downsample" and "embed your fonts".

#### TRANSMITTING:

To: jcfbower@aol.com  
Subject: ESM Submission

#### VIA MAIL

Send photographs flashdrives and CD-Rom discs (format ted as instructed as in previous column) via United States Postal Service or other delivery service to:

Mrs. Joan C. Bower  
37 Oliver Street  
Lockport NY 14094-4615

## **Lodge Host Blood Drive**

see story on page 29



**A New York State Life Registry enrollment form is available on the Grand Lodge website under the Masonic Blood and Organ Donor Program**