

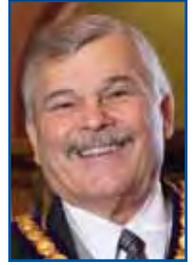
The Empire State  
**Mason**

**WINTER 2022**

MW Brother Robert D. Stack  
1929 - 2022



# FROM THE GRAND EAST



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As part of my message I want to direct your attention to a number of articles in this issue. These topics are not usually listed on the pages of the *Empire State Mason* magazine, but I feel they are of significant importance to our jurisdiction.

The first is the memoriam for MW Robert Stack, which highlights his influence on New York State Masonry. MW Stack was a powerful force throughout the state and chaired the Masonic Brotherhood Fund (MBF) for over a quarter century. He raised awareness of the need to support this fund as he traveled throughout the state, which led to increased participation. When you look at the logo of the MBF remember Bob, because he was instrumental in its design. When you receive your request to donate in this year's campaign, consider making a donation in his honor.

I also would like you to read Grand Secretary RW Richard Schulz's letter to the Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England, RW Dr. David R. Staples. Although the death of the Queen has no direct bearing on Freemasonry, the sentiments emphasized display the connectivity we have with each other. When one of us is in pain, we all are saddened. It is my hope this heartfelt letter brings some comfort to our Brothers in England.

Finally, I asked RW Martin Richard for permission to publish a poem he read at his Mason of the Year Award in the Fifth Manhattan District. I find it very thought provoking and intrinsically simple in its message.

## Leadership & Education

Your Leadership & Education Committee has probably been the busiest committee during my term in office. And that is essential for our continued growth. When interviewing prospective District leaders, it was apparent to me and the committee that many of our future leaders did not have the tools to be successful. In their feedback they stressed areas of need. Responding to this situation the L&E Committee has overhauled its methodology. The first major change was to adopt the philosophy of world-renowned author and leadership guru Robert Maxwell as our guiding force.

The topic I will concentrate on in this article is communication. We will provide Maxwell's book, *Everyone Communicates but Few Connect* as resource guide for our District leadership.

The four major forms of communication are:

- Verbal: communicating by way of spoken language
- Nonverbal: communicating by way of body language, facial expressions and vocalics
- Written: communicating by way of written language, symbols, and numbers
- Visual: communicating by way of photography, art, drawing, charts and graphs

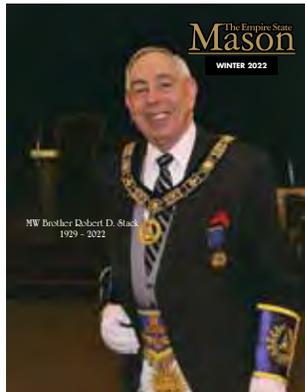
There are ten basic communication skills:

- Active listening means paying close attention to those you are communicating with by engaging them and asking questions and rephrasing their statements. Active listening can build respect and help create a learning atmosphere.
- Communication method: Using the right way to communicate is an important skill. There are benefits and disadvantages to talking through emails, letters, phone calls, in-person meetings or instant messaging. Communication is better when you consider your audience, what information you want to share, and then the best way to share it.
- Friendliness: Friendly traits like honesty and kindness can help foster trust and understanding when communicating at work. Try to communicate with a positive attitude, keep an open mind and ask questions to help you understand where others are coming from. Small gestures such as asking people how they are doing, smiling as they speak or offering praise for work well done can help you foster productive relationships with your audience.
- Confidence: People are more likely to respond to ideas that are presented with confidence. There are many ways to appear confident, including making eye contact when you are addressing someone, sitting up straight with your shoulders open and preparing ahead of time so your thoughts are polished and you are able to answer any questions.
- Sharing feedback: Strong communicators can accept critical feedback and provide constructive input to others. Feedback should answer questions, provide solutions or help strengthen the project or topic at hand. Providing and accepting feedback is an essential skill, as it can help both you and the people around you make meaningful improvements in their work and their development.
- Volume and clarity: When speaking it is important to be clear and audible. Adjusting your speaking voice so you can be heard in a variety of settings is a skill and it is critical to communicating effectively.
- Empathy: Having empathy means that you can not only understand but also share the emotions of others. This communication skill is important in both team and one-on-one settings. In both cases, you will need to understand other people's emotions and select an appropriate response.
- Respect: A key aspect of respect is knowing when to initiate communication and respond. In a team or group setting, allowing others to speak without interruption is seen as a necessary communication skill tied to respectfulness.
- Nonverbal cues: Some amount of communication happens through nonverbal cues such as body language, facial expressions and eye contact. When you are listening to others you should be paying attention to what they are

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Read his story  
on page 14 & 15



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saying, as well as their nonverbal language. By the same measure, you should be conscious of your own attitude and demeanor when you are communicating to ensure you are sending appropriate cues to others.

- Responsiveness: Whether you are returning a phone call or sending a reply email, fast communicators are viewed as more effective than those who are slow to respond.

This is a brief synopsis of the areas that will be covered during our future training sessions. Strategies and tips on how to succeed as a communicator and tutoring on the above areas will be a part of these sessions.

### **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. I thank all of you for your generous support. The purpose is to assist our Masonic families with those unforeseen and sometimes catastrophic tragedies that can destroy a family unit. Once again, the needy are counting on your generosity.

This year, in addition to those incentives offered last year,

our Masonic socks, New York Masonic caps and a deluxe binder are added donation incentives. More, Grand Master Challenge coins are available for a \$20 donation. And the Masonic War Vets' "Teddy Bears for Vets" program is still in place. Make sure you are styling when out and about.

### **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 to lay out the pathway for us to travel. The charges are to remind us we have taken on a sacred trust for the benefit of all mankind. That is quite a tall order for any person alone. But when we work together in unison, that supposed insurmountable task becomes instinctive and easy. When 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. As the RE David Barkstedt, Grand Commander, Knights Templar New York would say, "Masonry is not what we do. It is who we are!"

**Masons truly make a difference.**

---

## **Jacob Morton Award**

During the height of the pandemic in New York City, which happened to coincide with winter's inclement and freezing temperatures, Bro. Henry Lee took the initiative and partnered with other Lower Manhattan businesses and establishments to give assistance to the homeless and destitute in the Lower East Side area. With Patrick Mock and other leaders in the community, they helped provide hot meals and beverages for the homeless and less fortunate. They also made sure First Responders always had a hot beverage and food during their long hours providing for others in the community.

Henry Lee made multiple trips to Costco, Walmart and other big box stores to purchase supplies to assist the homeless, including socks, shoes, sleeping bags and blankets, thermos, hats and gloves, coats and other clothing. He and some others then canvassed the Lower East Side and handed out these supplies and meals to the homeless in the area.

This selfless act was done from the heart, not for recognition or notoriety. And it was with great pleasure and humility that Brother Henry Lee accepted the Jacob Morton award for his altruistic assistance to his community.



**Bro. Henry Lee accepts Jacob Morton Award for his L.E.S. Community Service**



# DEPUTY GRAND MASTER



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August 1, 1922 was a warm day as Grand Master Arthur Tompkins and a delegation of Grand Lodge Officers from New York embarked on the SS Frederick VIII. Their destination, Helsinki, Finland. Their mission, to re-establish Masonry on Finnish soil.

During the five weeks it would take to make the crossing by steamship, Grand Master Tompkins would have the time to reflect on the steps that preceded this historic voyage. It had been only a little over one year since the 1921 Grand Lodge Session empowered the Grand Master to establish Masonic Lodges in unoccupied countries and territories. In response, Grand Master Tompkins directed the Grand Lodge Committees on Foreign Correspondence and Jurisprudence to inquire into the status of European Masonry. Following the receipt of a Petition from Finnish Brothers seeking the establishment of a Finnish Lodge, and after due inquiry, Grand Master Tompkins granted the Petition to establish Suomi Lodge 1 in the newly independent Republic of Finland.

The origins of Finnish Freemasonry date to 1756 when the lands were part of the Kingdom of Sweden. In 1809, as a result of a war between Sweden and Russia, the eastern third of Sweden was ceded to Russia. Masonry continued until approximately 1813 under its new overlord, the Czar, until the establishment of laws banning secret societies within the Russian Empire. Masonry ceased to exist.

Yet, the Light of the Craftsman was not extinguished, only dimmed. Following the Russian revolution of 1917, Finland was able to unshackle its chains. With independence, Masonry was again allowed to operate upon the Finnish shores. Yet, it would take several years for this dream to become reality, largely based upon the hopes and aspirations of Finnish-American Masons, mainly from New York. Their efforts set in motion the events that caused Grand Master Tompkins to embark on his historic odyssey on that warm August day.

Reaching the shores of Finland, Grand Master Tompkins and his delegation would not only consecrate Suomi Lodge 1, but would also give all three Degrees to twenty-seven new Master Masons in one day—possibly the first one-day class. These new Brothers were leaders of Finnish society, including the Composer Jean Sibelius, widely regarded as his country's greatest composer. Bro. Sibelius would go on to write special ritual music for Suomi Lodge and our Craft.

One hundred years later, upon the invitation of the Grand Master of Finland and the Worshipful Master of Suomi Lodge, it was my honor to accompany Grand Master Kessler and Grand Secretary Schulz as we attended the 100-Year Anniversary of our daughter's birth, Suomi Lodge 1. The moment we disembarked our flight, we were met by representatives of the Grand Lodge and Lodge, who whisked us into Helsinki proper.

As a cold war baby with an appreciation for Finland's proximity to Russia, I did not know what to expect. What I found was such a charming city, filled with romantic buildings from the past and gleaming skyscrapers reaching to the future and a Brotherly warmth from each and every Master Mason I met along the way. It felt like home.

On the first day we gathered at the home of RW Lauri Helaniemi, CDR (ret), Centenary Program Director and Past Grand Secretary, and thereafter met with the Worshipful Master of Suomi Lodge, his principal officers and their wives. The bonds of Brotherhood were well established. Having the next morning off, we simply explored the glorious Cathedrals that dominate the Helsinki skyline, the monument to Composer and Brother Jean Sibelius, and the wonderful ambiance of this city on the Baltic. Gathering that evening at the Finnish Grand Lodge Building, we were treated, along with all international guests, to a musical program within Suomi Lodge 1 and a tour of the entire Grand Lodge Building, Lodge Rooms and Museum.

The picture I hold in my hand, maintained in the Grand Lodge of Finland's Museum, is of Grand Master Tompkins, Grand Secretary Kenworthy, Grand Master Scudder and Grand Historian Ossian Lang, part of the New York Delegation.

The following day, for the Centenary Communication we gathered at the House of Nobility, a glorious building in neo-



gothic style that served as the first parliamentary building in Finland. We were treated to a warm welcome by the Grand Master of Finland and the Worshipful Master of the Lodge. Then began a reenactment of the proceedings conducted one hundred years ago by our Grand Master and Grand Lodge Delegation.

Grand Master Kessler provided thoughtful remarks to the assemblage as he brought to our Finnish Brothers the fraternal greetings of every Master Mason in New York. He recounted

*Continues on page 6 – Deputy Grand Master*

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the historical underpinnings that preceded the establishment of Suomi Lodge 1.

In recognition of this special day we presented a Bible to the Lodge to commemorate the auspicious occasion. Following the ceremony, we provided to the principal Officers and other dignitaries a Little New York Bling—or I should say, New York Sting—from our Grand Beekeeper, RW Pat Imbimbo, who graciously donated gifts of his world-famous honey and maple syrup.



Later that evening we gathered at the Helsinki Music Centre, as 1000 Brothers and their Ladies and partners gathered for a special concert: “Masonic Composers throughout the Decades,” hosted by the Grand Lodge of Finland. Other than the wonderful orchestra, all principal performers were Masons, including the Master of Ceremony, who was a famous Finnish TV personality. On occasion, he rapped a gavel in time to the music. It was simply spectacular.



Later that evening we returned to the House of Nobility. Within the Assembly Hall, with its soaring 30-foot ceilings and walls adorned with the Crests of Finnish Royalty from

a bygone era, we were treated to a wonderful Gala as we celebrated this first Lodge. During the evening we were treated to musical interludes by the Lodge’s very own choir and Toasts from the visiting dignitaries. As the Deputy Grand Master of New York, it was my distinct honor to provide the final Toast of the evening: to Suomi Lodge 1 and our Brotherhood.

As most of you know, one of my greatest joys as your Deputy Grand Master and Grand Lodge Officer these many years has been to travel around our glorious state and share our Brotherhood. During the days I was in Helsinki, I could not help but wish that my Brothers were with me to experience the love and friendship from our Finnish Brothers and all Brothers in attendance. I wished that you were with me as we celebrated that momentous occasion when 100 years ago a seed was planted in Helsinki soil by New York Freemasons. I wished that you were with me to see how that seed has grown.

You will have that opportunity in 2024, however. We will return to commemorate the 100-Year Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Finland, established by our Grand Lodge of New York. I hope that you, your wife or partner, will consider joining the Grand Lodge of New York Delegation as we return to celebrate Universal Benevolence and the Grand Lodge of Finland. Towards that end, the Grand Master has charged me to establish a Team of Brothers to work with the Grand Secretary’s Office as we plan our portion of this Masonic story. If interested in working with this Team of Brothers, please email me: [DeputyGrandMaster@nymasons.org](mailto:DeputyGrandMaster@nymasons.org), with the subject heading: “Finland 2024.”

Lastly, someone asked me what I was going to do when I was Grand Master. My response: “Continue to do what I have done these past sixteen years while I have been a Grand Lodge Officer—serve you.” Of course, planning for the future must always take place, whether in our home, work, Lodge or Grand Lodge. But I must tell you, my Brothers, we are not only planning for the future, but also engaged in the present. The Grand Master and I understand the challenges in providing valuable and meaningful programming in your Lodges and Districts to engage our brethren as they seek more Light in Masonry. That has been our focus since we took office last October. One new program I am pleased to announce is the formation of the Grand Lodge of New York Speakers Bureau, whose mission is to compile and thereafter maintain a database of those Brothers and friends of Masonry who are ready, willing and able to speak at your Lodge, District or gathering.

You will see more information on this program as it gets closer to roll-out. If you or someone you know has a lecture or talk and would like to share it with your Brothers and be considered for this database, please follow the link below: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1vTVTXrt2JrcvIxpWEChSiyjKAh4sQVs8BaUgN2ly3Y/edit?ts=63220935> or go to [CraftsmenOnline.com](http://CraftsmenOnline.com) for an additional link. Should you have any questions, please email RW Rafael Preza at [GrandLodgeSpeakersBureau@gmail.com](mailto:GrandLodgeSpeakersBureau@gmail.com). He or one of his team will contact you.

As this is the holiday season, I wish for you the Happiest Hanukkah, the Merriest Christmas and health and happiness in the New Year. I remain, your Brother.

# SENIOR GRAND WARDEN



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Warm fraternal greetings from the Grand West, my Brothers! It has been a busy, busy summer. The Grand Master's Ball in Buffalo in early July was a wonderful event. A thoroughly enjoyable weekend that culminated with the Ball was the perfect way to honor a great Brother, Grand Master Richard J. Kessler, our beloved "R.J."

August brought the much-anticipated Warren Lodge 32 Festive Board. As I belong to that Lodge and was on the planning committee for the event, I take great pride in the fact that it was a huge success. We are the last Chartered "Moon Lodge" in our Jurisdiction. If you have never attended a meeting by lantern light you need to come to Schultzsville, NY. Nearly the entire Grand Line attended, along with Brothers from down in the Suffolk District and up as far as the Clinton-Essex District. We even had a descendant of Dr. Joseph Warren join us that evening. Brother Keith Warren, the Junior Warden of Schenectady Lodge 1174, was kind enough to attend and give a brief talk about the namesake of many Lodges throughout the US, two in our Jurisdiction.

Mark your calendar for July 29, 2023. That will be the second installment of the Midnight Riders Warren Lodge 32 Festive Board.

August saw the Grand Council of Cryptic Masons Annual Assembly in Albany. In September we had a great event in the Bronx honoring Deputy Grand Master RW Steven Adam Rubin. Also in September, the leaders of the Scottish Rite in New York held the NY Council of Deliberation in Syracuse.

September ended with an eventful weekend. On Friday, September 30 the Mid-Hudson Past Grand Lodge Officers Association held my Apron Re-presentation in Kingston, NY. I was honored, I was humbled, but my three grandchildren stole the show. That is all I am going to say about that.

On Saturday, October 1 we had Grand Master's Day at West Point. It was brotherhood at its best. Tailgating was all day long and many Brothers ate all day long. It was a day filled with fun, football and food.

Sunday, October 2 brought us down to the George

Washington Masonic Historic Site at Tappan, NY which is a property owned and operated by the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Home. Grand Master Kessler, with the assistance of the elected and appointed Officers of the Grand Line, conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on ten new Brothers two sets of five. Kudos goes to RW Alonza Lloyd of the MHH Trustees and Grand Marshal RW John B. Haslam Sr. for the job they accomplished setting up the event. I also congratulate my colleagues who took part in the Degree.

In the last issue I promised to list a few of our Ancient Landmarks in each issue of the *Empire State Mason*. Here are four more:

That every Mason is bound by his covenants to have respect for and obedience to the civil law of the country, and the Masonic regulations of the jurisdiction in which he may reside.

That no candidate or Brother can be questioned as to his particular mode of religious faith or political opinion, nor can any discussion upon such subjects be permitted in any assembly of the Craft.

That the right of a Lodge to judge for itself who shall be admitted to initiation or affiliation therein is inherent and indefeasible, not subject to dispensation or legislation of any kind or from any source whatsoever.

That the ballot for candidates is always strictly secret and inviolable.

If you look at the Ancient Landmarks you realize that they are what make us, us. They are the foundation on which our Constitutions were built. They set the stage for Masonic ritual. They describe the requirements for a candidate, the rights of a Lodge and the rights of the Master of a Lodge. They even give guidance to a Grand Master, describing his foundational rights and prerogatives.

My Brothers. I will be doing a lot of travelling over the next quarter. I am sure I will see a lot of you in our Masonic quarries. Stay well, travel safely and may the Great Architect of the Universe watch over you and your family. I love you, Dad.

## Sullivan Lodge 521

George Kaiser and his Degree team executed an excellent Master Mason Degree at Sullivan Lodge 521. The Lodge congratulates newly Raised Brothers Charles Lynch, Greg Cohen, Dustin Housner and John Taylor.



# JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN



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Greetings, my Brothers. I hope your summer was an enjoyable season. I am writing this article in late September, watching the leaves on the tree change colors. This summer was outstanding for me. First, we celebrated our Grand Master at his Ball in Buffalo. I was able to attend the Warren Lodge--“The last Moon Lodge”—Festive Board. What a great night of fellowship! I represented Grand Lodge and you at the Grand Cryptic Council Annual Meeting. I participated in the Grand Secretary’s Annual Golf Classic, a great event. My foursome was not very good but we had a great time. I was fortunate to attend the Maxwell Leadership course and am looking forward to pass on to our Jurisdiction what I learned. I was present at the Deputy Grand Master’s Testimonial Luncheon, another wonderful event.

In this issue I would like to discuss preparing and leading your Lodge communications. During my career I was selected to teach the proper way to prepare and lead a meeting. The USAF found that meetings were not being led correctly, wasting time and manhours. These principles can be used by Lodge leaders to lead a well-organized communication.

How many of you have been at a Lodge communication and thought “What a waste of time! I’ll never get that time back.”? I believe that a lot of Brothers do not attend Lodge business meetings because they feel it is a waste of one’s time. Face facts: one of the main reasons Brothers come to our meetings is for the brotherhood and fellowship, not paying bills or discussing what color to paint a bathroom. We can make our meetings shorter and more productive by using a few principles. This will leave more time for the fellowship our Brothers want.

Preparation: A well-prepared meeting will be more productive and enjoyable. First, make sure the environment is conducive to holding a good meeting. What I mean by this is simply making sure the Lodge room is not too hot or cold. I was at a meeting a couple of weeks ago and the Lodge room was 86 degrees. The Master had the Brothers remove their sport coat and tie to be more comfortable. This should have been thought of prior to the meeting and notices sent via email, changing the meeting dress code—maybe polo shirts,

Hawaiian shirt night or simply no coat or tie.

Have a well-written agenda ahead of the communication: I suggest starting your agenda a few days prior to your next meeting. Use email to send your agenda to your officers so they are all on the same page for the meeting. This also gives them a chance to add to or remind you if something was left off the agenda. It will also help your Secretary immensely. Make sure you have time limits on topic discussions to keep the meeting moving.

Use committees to take care of the majority of Lodge business: say a bathroom needs to be painted. Your Trustees should be deciding such questions as color and who is going to do the job. The committee chair can then make a brief report to the Lodge. Masters, empower your committee to make those discussions. This will shorten your meeting greatly.

Be on time: if your Lodge meeting starts at 7:30 p.m., start it at 7:30 p.m.! Do not waste your members’ time by being disorganized. Keep the communication moving, stick to your agenda and time limits, facilitate discussions by keeping attendees’ statements short and to the point. Use the gavel when needed to keep the meeting moving. If a topic runs too long, table it and send it back to the committee or form a new committee. You may want to call for a vote to resolve the issue.

One thing that drive me nuts is when the Master calls for the meeting minutes read and the Secretary re-reads everything that happened in the communication. Please remember that meeting minutes are a summary of the meeting not the entire thing. There is no need to list what everyone already knows, such as the officers present, attendees and visitors, or the communications that were already read, or rehash dates already mentioned. Close your meeting on time and let your Brothers get to what they love: fellowship with one another.

One last thing, my Brother officers: have a great attitude. It will set the tone of your meeting. Be open minded. And most importantly, have fun and enjoy. May the Great Architect of the Universe keep you safe and healthy.

The Editors and Staff of the *Empire State Mason* magazine, the Trustees of the Masonic Hall & Home, and the Grand Line Officers and Permanent Members of the Grand Lodge wish you and your family a Happy, Healthy and Blessed Holiday and a Wonderful New Year!

# GRAND TREASURER



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## Are We Growing?

I am writing this article in September for the winter *ESM* issue but I must say it was great meeting all of you, my Brothers, and your families at St. John's weekend. I would especially like to thank the mother of a Fellowcraft Brother from the Richmond District for the kind words. They really touched me.

Ask yourself, Why is my Lodge Raising Brothers, but then they no longer attend. I will tell you why. One of the main reasons is boring meetings: a Trestleboard with no interesting evenings; lectures that go on and on all night. I am sure your older members do not appreciate that, either.

Does your Lodge have cliques where no new member feels welcomed? Do you run it as a Lodge or a place where members meet once or twice a month?

They go through the NorthStar program, and then they are Raised but stop attending.

One main reason for the lack of interest from new members is that they just sit in meetings and have no participation in Lodge. I had this happen to me. I was first appointed Junior

Master of Ceremonies. I attended all our meetings but just sat and listened to all the officers of the Lodge discuss business. Finally, I told the Master, This is boring and it's not for me. It then started to change.

In the Queens District we have the YES program: Young Brothers Educational Seminar. It teaches how to mentor the new members and help them enjoy and be part of the Lodge. Ask new members to speak on any subject that interests them. It does not have to be a Masonic talk. Let them be part of a committee. Give them a reason to come and enjoy themselves. Have family events. Believe me, events where the family can attend can certainly help your Lodge grow.

I will personally visit any Lodge or speak to any Brother who needs attention to rebuild their Lodge. Also, if you would like, I will email the program to you and possibly hold a meeting on Zoom. Remember, if it is fun they will come.

The first Master of my Lodge was W Lester Albers. I thank him for making me the Mason I am today, Rest in peace, Lester. I love you.

---

## District recognizes five 50-year members

RW Joseph J. Saglimbene, Grand Treasurer, attended the fifty-year apron presentation for five Brothers of the Orange Rockland-Sullivan District. RW Daniel Janes,

DDGM of the District, and RW William Fitzhenry and RW Bruce Weigard (back row) also participated in the event.



Front row, L to R: Brothers Robert Itzla, Robert Predmore, Raymond Baker, Theodore Lewis, Robert Clawson.

# GRAND SECRETARY

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**B**rethren, the Masonic year is well underway. Lodges around the state are running programs designed to produce prospective members and are conferring Degrees with large classes of new candidates.

On Grand Master's Day at Tappan, October 2, the Grand Master and the Grand Line officers conferred the Entered Apprentice Degree on ten worthy candidates from around the state. Those participating in the Degree are noted in this magazine. Special thanks go to the Trustees of the Masonic Care Community, and most especially to site coordinator RW Alonza Lloyd. It was a long day in a large outside tent with a light rain for parts of the day, but I am sure everyone who attended felt the significance of the event and the brotherhood on display.

We canceled the Grand Lodge Special Communication, which we had announced in the summer to be held in late October. But we are still planning for the Florida Sojourners Luncheons in January. By the time you receive this magazine, it may be too late to reserve a spot, but please feel free to email me at [grandsecretary@nymasons.org](mailto:grandsecretary@nymasons.org) to check availability.

The Luncheons schedule is: Wednesday, January 11, 2023 in Sarasota (SW Coast of Florida) at the Sahib Shrine Center, AAONMS, 600 North Beneva Road, Sarasota from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.; Thursday, January 12 in Tampa (West Coast of Florida) at the Egypt Shrine Masonic Center, 5017 E. Washington Street, Tampa from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.; Friday, January 13 in The Villages (North Central Florida) at the Waterfront Inn at Lake Sumpter Landing, 1105 Lakeshore Drive, The Villages, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.; and Sunday, January 15 in Palm Beach Gardens (East Coast of Florida) at the Embassy Suites, 4350 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

The cost is \$10 per person. Our Grand Master and several members of our Grand Line and Grand Lodge will be in

attendance. We will once again be joined by the Order of Eastern Star—Grand Matron, Grand Patron, Grand Line and several Eastern Star members. Members with special Masonic milestones (50+ year Service Awards) will also be honored. I look forward to seeing many old friends at our Florida Luncheons.

Meanwhile, the business of the Grand Secretary's Office continues to move forward. My office is here to serve the Grand Lodge of New York, the Grand Master and you our members with diligent, enthusiastic support and with quality customer service.

By now, your Lodge Secretary should have the Annual Return packets for 2022. I will hold several Zoom meetings in January designed to assist the Lodge Secretary in submitting the Annual Return to my office by February 1. Lodge and District officers are also encouraged to attend. Look for further information on OLP and in emails.

The Metropolitan Dedication Service and Breakfast is going to be held on Sunday, March 5, 2023 at Marina del Rey. Look for further information in this magazine. A Brotherhood Night, hosted by the Grand Lodge of Delaware, is scheduled to be held on Friday, March 17 in New Castle, DE, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The event typically draws Brothers from the entire Northeast. A limited number of tickets at \$50 apiece are available. Please contact the Grand Secretary's office if you are interested.

My message this quarter: I am reminded of my time as Lodge Secretary, where I was a constant participant in all aspects of the Lodge. It was a position that brought me much joy, especially as I was surrounded by true Brothers who rejoiced with me when I celebrated, and commiserated with me when life brought sorrow. As your Grand Secretary, I hope that I can assist your Lodge in the best way possible in the spirit of brotherhood.

Presentation of Colors



**Entered Apprentice Degree  
Grand Masters Day@ Tappan  
10/2/2022**

<i>Parts</i>	<i>Officers</i>
Master . . . . .	Richard Kessler
Senior Warden . . . . .	Robert Hogan
Junior Warden . . . . .	Peter Stein
Treasurer . . . . .	Joe Saglimbene
Secretary . . . . .	Richard Schulz
Senior Deacon . . . . .	Lawrence Kania
Junior Deacon . . . . .	Al Cortizo
Senior Master of Ceremony . . . . .	Steven Rubin
Junior Master of Ceremony . . . . .	Peter Unfried
Steward . . . . .	Alonza Lloyd
Steward . . . . .	Donald Williams
Chaplain . . . . .	Charles Roberts
Marshal . . . . .	John Haslam Sr.
Tiler . . . . .	Gustavo Terán

<i>Lodge of Candidates</i>	<i>Conductors</i>
Ulster 193 . . . . .	Irving Rivera
Washington 21 . . . . .	Andrew Kozinn
South Shore Long Beach 1126 . . . . .	Frank Sforza
Munn 203 . . . . .	Christ Lee
Harmony 199 . . . . .	Richard Padilla
Wappingers 671 . . . . .	John Shekitka
Ridgewood 710 . . . . .	Richard Sagistano
Floral Park 1016 . . . . .	Leonel Cortizo Sr
Olive Branch 40 . . . . .	Steve Getman
Fellowship 1175 . . . . .	William Lawrence

Apron presentation . . . . .	Al Cortizo
Working Tools . . . . .	Peter Unfried
Questions . . . . .	Steven Rubin
Answers . . . . .	Robert Hogan
Whys . . . . .	John Haslam
Wherefores . . . . .	Peter Stein
Lecture . . . . .	Ricardo Rosado
Bible Presentation . . . . .	Donald Williams
Charge . . . . .	Lawrence Kania
Closing Charge . . . . .	Peter Stein



Grand Master thanks the Trustees



Grand Organist  
RW Frank Miller



Grand Secretary  
RW Richard Schulz  
Custodian of Working Tools



RW Philippe Hiolle DDGM  
4M with Brethren

## More pictures from Grand Master's Day at Tappan



Above: GM Richard Kessler work well done.



Top Right: Plenty of food for Observers and Participants



Bottom Right: RW Jimmy Martin PGLSO served to RW Richard Batesman, AGS in the food line

## GRAND LODGE EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



### EAP Gears Up for '23

RW CHRISTOPHER J. HOUGH  
CHAIRMAN  
[hough441@roadrunner.com](mailto:hough441@roadrunner.com)



The year 2022 was another success for our Educational Assistance Program. Some 436 children, grandchildren and Masons returning to school, from Lodges across the State of New York, received grants. There were three in-person Award Ceremonies where students received their award certificate and took photos with Lodge officers and Trustee Board Members. We are proud of the success of this program once again this year and are looking forward to 2023.

#### 2023 EAP Scholarship applications open on January 1.

Applications for the 2023 Education Assistance Program can be found on the Grand Lodge website: [www.nymasons.org](http://www.nymasons.org) under the Educational Assistance link at the bottom of the page. The enrollment period begins on January 1, 2023 and ends on March 31 for all students seeking financial assistance for the fall 2023 academic term. Requirements for eligibility and instructions for completing the scholarship application

are provided online. If you are a returning applicant, please use the same profile you created for your previous application. Applicants selected to receive awards will be notified in May of 2023 and public award presentations will be held around the state during the months of June through August.

To be considered for an award, applicants must:

- Be a child/grandchild of a New York State Master Mason or a NY Master Mason returning to school for a college degree.
- Show academic or vocational achievement and have a minimum GPA of 2.75.
- Be a full-time student (12 credits per semester minimum for undergraduate and 9 credits per semester minimum for graduate level studies) in fall 2023.

Any student is eligible for a maximum of four awards from this program.

# The Faithful Fifth Celebrated Three Masons of the Year



RW Martin Richards



RW Chad Benton Ploth



RW Rafael Preza

The eight Lodges of the Fifth Manhattan Masonic District came together with vibrant gusto to start our Masonic Year together. Over 100 Masons and their wives attended our Mason of the Year dinner. The Faithful Fifth honored three amazing Masons on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>: the RW Martin Richards, the RW Rafael Preza, and the RW Chad Benton Ploth: each a pillar of our Craft.

With humble gratitude, the Faithful Fifth received an outpouring of support by our Grand Line of Free and Accepted Mason of the State of New York. The heart, involvement, and connection each Grand Line member offered truly touched all who attended. The presence of the Grand Line said so much. It cemented what our Grand Master the MW Richard J. Kessler has spoken about these past several months: We are family! Together, we lift each other! Together, we are family.

Our family is our core and family is what we are.

Through these moments of connection, our Masonic family emerged from the summer respite with vibrancy and renewed strength. The District Team as well as the District Leadership very much appreciate the attention and care the Grand Line brought to the evening. It was a memorable night.

The RW Ryan Rodriguez Wiggins,  
Deputy Grand Master of the  
Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons  
for the State of New York for the  
Fifth Manhattan Masonic District  
and  
The RW James William Gregg,  
Grand Sword Bearer of the  
Fifth Manhattan District

## What makes a Mason?

Forwarded from RW Martin Richards, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Grand Secretary, to RW Richard Bateman.

"I have been asked from time to time what makes a man a Mason. For myself and those who know me, I wish to share

*"What makes you a Mason, O brother of mine?  
It isn't the duegard, nor is it the sign,  
It isn't the jewel which hangs on your breast,  
It isn't the apron in which you are dressed,  
It isn't the step, nor the token, nor grip,  
Nor lectures that fluently flow from the lip,  
Nor yet the possession of that mystic word  
On five points of fellowship duly conferred.  
Though these are essential, desirable, fine,  
They don't make a Mason, O brother of mine.  
That you to your sworn obligations are true —  
'Tis that, brother mine, makes a Mason of you.  
Secure in your heart you must safeguard your trust,  
With lodge and with brother be honest and just,  
Assist the deserving who cry in their need,*

this short poem, written by George H. Free, which I believe sums it up nicely. Little is known about the author except he was born in 1910 in Iowa and died in 2003. The poem is titled 'What Makes A Mason?'

*Be chaste in your thought, in your word and your deed,  
Support him who falters, with hope banish fear,  
And whisper advice in an erring one's ear.  
Then will the Great Lights on your path brightly shine,  
And you'll be a Mason, O brother of mine.  
Your use of life's hours by the gauge you must try,  
The gavel to vices with courage apply;  
Your walk must be upright, as shown by the plumb,  
On the level, to bourne whence no travelers come;  
The Book of your faith be the rule and the guide,  
The compass your passions shut safely inside;  
The stone which the Architect placed in your care  
Must pass the strict test of His unerring square,  
And then you will meet with approval divine,  
And you'll be a Mason, O brother of mine."*



## In Memoriam: MW Robert D. Stack b. 1929 - d. 2022

by Richard W. Bateman, A.G.S., Grand Pursuivant

The Most Worshipful Robert D. Stack, Honorary Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York, has laid down the working tools upon the Trestleboard of Life. On the morning of Tuesday, September 20, 2022 our dear Brother Bob died peacefully nine days after his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday, his wife Natalie and his two children standing vigil.

We are all familiar with the proverbial question, “If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?” The answer, according to some theologians, is “yes,” because G-d has heard it. This past week our beloved Brother Bob, the Great Oak in the Forest of Freemasonry, fell. The reverberation of his positive timbre as a man of high standards and propriety was not silenced, but rather his gentlemanly spirit proliferated across this wonderful Jurisdiction that Brother Bob called home.

Akin to Grand Master Hiram Abif, MW Brother Robert D. Stack kept his integrity intact and shared it with his fellow Masons by his good and steadfast example. The Philosopher and Humanitarian Dr. Albert Schweitzer clearly defined the meaning of setting a good example saying, “Example is not the main thing in influencing others; it is the only thing.” This statement surely defines our dear Brother Bob to a “T.”

Professionally, Brother Bob Stack worked and served his community as the friendly pharmacist and proprietor of a local Drug Store for forty-three years in Floral Park. He graduated from the prestigious Columbia College of Pharmacy in 1951. Brother Bob’s profession was virtually indistinguishable from his personality and demeanor, in that he exuded an all-around good chemistry with everyone he met. He had that perpetual smile, twinkle in his eye and a warm extended handshake.

Brother Bob loved Freemasonry and he especially loved his fellow Brothers. Brother Bob always had the best interests of his Brothers on his mind and in his heart. So much so, that his son, Brother Richard Stack, recalled how his father on the morning of his passing said he needed to get dressed and go to the Lodge in Rockville Centre, as he had unfinished work to do for his Brothers.

One of the many books amongst Brother Bob’s library was *Our Stations & Places* by the late RW Brother Henry G. Meacham, Past Grand Lecturer. A passage within that book obviously molded Brother Bob’s outlook on Freemasonry, reading in part that Masonry is “a school of deportment, teaching the art of gentle manners more by practice than by precept..” It further states that “Harmony is the first law of the Lodge as it is of Heaven... Since it is the nature of decorum to nurture and protect harmony, etiquette is a bulwark of the Craft...” So it was with Brother Bob, who sought and embraced harmony wherever and whenever he traveled.

Traveling the width and breadth of New York State in his capacity as Chairman and the Chief Fundraiser for the Grand Lodge’s Masonic Brotherhood Fund—an office he lovingly held from 1985 until he retired in 2012—Brother Bob believed in being a hands-on facilitator. If your goal was to



excite the Craft into reaching deep into their pockets for a good cause, Brother Bob firmly believed that in order to have success, you need to shake their hands and pat them on the back. You need to show them you are the real deal, truly devoted to your mission and willing to go that extra mile. He was adamant that leaving a voice mail or sending a post card will simply not generate sufficient enthusiasm for the cause. He was the consummate promoter when it came to Masonic Charities.

During the many hours that Brother Bob sojourned across the jurisdiction in the early 1990s, he was frequently joined by then-Grand Secretary, the late MW Robert C. Singer, PGM, and me. Many topics of conversation were discussed, but most fondly I remember Brother Bob playing his collection of audio cassettes featuring Carl Reiner and Mel Brooks performing the comedy routine “The 2,000-Year-Old Man.” We heard those tapes on many trips with Brother Bob and they always brought forth much laughter. Yes, laughter and good humor were definitely a strong part of the essence and character of Brother Bob Stack.

At the Annual Communication in May 2012, MW Gary A. Henningsen, Past Grand Master and Past President of the Masonic Brotherhood Foundation, stated that Brother Bob, who would retire that year, had been working as a volunteer for the Committee for over a quarter of a century and had raised over thirty million dollars during his long tenure—a feat that few men have accomplished for the Grand Lodge and its Brotherhood. MW Henningsen then announced that the Board of Past Grand Masters unanimously recommended, and asked the Grand Lodge for approbation, that then-RW Robert D. Stack be named to the esteemed office of Honorary Past Grand Master. The brethren of the Grand Lodge responded overwhelmingly with a standing ovation.

Most Worshipful Robert D. Stack, Honorary Past Grand Master, thanked MW Gary A. Henningsen and the Past Grand Masters for the great honor. He also thanked Grand Master MW Vincent Libone and he thanked the brethren of Grand Lodge. MW Bob Stack said at the time that he was at a loss for words and did not know what else to say, except that he had just celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of being a part of the Masonic Fraternity, and he and his wife, Lady Natalie, had just celebrated their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary.



MW Brother Bob Stack asked his Brothers for forgiveness for his hoarse voice. It had changed over the year due to a medical procedure. He was sorry to say that he could no longer sing like Tony Bennett. Brother Bob went on to say every year that he spent with the Fraternity was greater, and he had the pleasure of knowing so many of them and wanted to give each a hug and a kiss. Being a Mason was the best thing that ever happened to his life. "Thank you. Thank you."

In recent memory, only a rare few extraordinary Brothers have received the esteemed title of Honorary Past Grand Master. These special Brothers include MW Wendell K. Walker, MW Emanuel Kreisel, MW Walter Dobler and MW Robert D. Stack, who were granted this coveted title by the Grand Lodge of New York: MW Daniel M. Semel was honored by the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of New York; and MW Leon Zeitounian was honored by the Grand Lodge of Armenia.

Our good Brother Bob Stack was Initiated into the Masonic Fraternity sixty-one years ago by Modin Lodge 1153 on February 13, 1961, he was Passed on March 13, 1961 and Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on May 8, 1961 by Modin Lodge 1153 in the First Nassau District. Subsequently, due to consolidations, Modin Lodge 1153 became part of Guiding Light-Olympia Lodge 808 in the Nassau District. Brother Bob was elected and served as the Master and then Secretary of the Lodge for eighteen years. He was appointed to the office of District Deputy Grand Master in 1979. Brother Bob Stack was elected and proudly served as the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge from 1992 to 1994.

Brother Bob Stack was equally active in the concordant and related orders of Freemasonry. He was a member of the Valley of Rockville Centre in the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, NMJ, where he served as Secretary. He was coroneted a Thirty-Third Degree Mason in 2003. He was also a member in good standing of Kismet Shrine, the Royal Order of Jesters-New York Court 30, and was an active member of the Freeport-Long Island Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons and

the Cryptic Rite Masons.

Brother Bob Stack was the recipient of the Dedicated Service Award in 1975. He also received the Honorary DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1988 as well as Grand Master's Certificates of Appreciation from MW Gary A. Henningsen and the late MW Roswell T. Swits. Brother Bob was presented with the Charles Henry Johnson Medal in 1989.

Brother Bob Stack enjoyed the company of many friends and Brothers, one of whom, RW Marshal D. Shichtman, Past Proctor and former affiliated member of Brother Bob's Mother Lodge offers some kind reflections about our departed Brother:

Regardless of his Grand Lodge and Scottish Rite duties, MW Bob was always at Lodge, at the Degrees and the officer meetings. That was what he was like. Even if Brother Bob disagreed with the decision, he was still first in line to do the work.

Brother Bob Stack was reliably relentless in his efforts to better the Craft; from Blue Lodge to Grand Lodge. MW Bob was also quite the ritualist. One young Master, exasperated on how to deal with MW Bob's corrections, finally told MW Bob if he knew it so well, he was welcome to do it himself. He did; letter perfect. That was MW Bob; he practiced what he preached. That, in combination with his tireless service to the Craft, made MW Bob a pillar of his Blue Lodge.

It was not the accolades, although Brother Bob was very proud of them, it was his steady and persistent service to the Craft. MW Bob's service was never self-serving, or glory motivated. MW Bob did the un-glorified work that made things run. If the Craft was a beautiful fountain, MW Bob made sure the water was running. That was MW Bob. His service to the Craft will be sorely missed, but his example and memory will be long remembered.

Long before Brother Bob had entered into the Fraternity of Freemasonry, he had inculcated a firm belief in the value of integrity. After all, Brother Bob was a true blue U.S. Marine, having proudly served in the corps from 1951 to 1953. Brother George Washington said it best: "I hope I shall possess firmness and virtue enough to maintain what I consider the most enviable of all titles, the character of an honest man." That statement surely summarizes Brother Bob and we salute him for his service.

In closing, let us now pause and bow our heads in prayer, knowing that MW Brother Bob Stack lived life to the fullest and that the journey continues. His spirit softly encourages us to carry on that journey without his joyous and patient presence. In our grief and sadness, let us remember the cheerfulness and the brotherly love that his life exemplified for the Craft and for each of us who came to know and love him.

We can say with certainty that our beloved Brother has heard the comforting words, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Welcome into the joy of thy Lord."

# ROBERT R LIVINGSTON MASONIC LIBRARY

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This evening I attended a Zoom meeting with the men and women of the Hudson River Valley Lafayette Farewell Tour Bicentennial Committee and the American Friends of Lafayette.

Anne Putko, our Chairwoman, prepared these notes for our committee:

“The AFL is working to have -

- an Op Sail event at the start of the Bicentennial year, that will bring tall ships from around the world to NYC Harbor and up the Hudson River,
- Congress approve the issuance of a Lafayette commemorative stamp and coin,
- a symphony composed and played in Lafayette’s honor,
- a possible musical composed in the Marquis’ honor for theaters here and abroad,
- a gala at the Metropolitan Museum of Art,
- a mini-series on Lafayette for streaming services created, and
- receptions, reenactments, balls, fireworks, parades, and museum exhibitions throughout 24 states.

“This is the ‘big picture.’ On a local scale, I and my committee are putting the pieces in place that will enable the 2024-2025 Lafayette re-enactor, his entourage, and the dedicated supporters of the AFL, DAR, CAR, SAR, and many other organizations, to retrace Lafayette’s footsteps in the Hudson River Valley during his Farewell Tour. At present, we are concentrating on just 2024. And there is truly much work to do.

“The dates and locations are as follows:

2024

8/20	Rye, and other locations in Westchester
9/15	West Point, Newburgh
9/16	Poughkeepsie, Staatsburg, Clermont
9/17	Albany
9/18	Troy
9/19	Albany

“At most of the sites, there are receptions, dinners, parades, and other events to coordinate. So too, there is boat transportation up and down the Hudson River to schedule, as well as land transportation and hotel accommodations to arrange for out-of-town attendees. There are museums and historical societies to contact to request exhibitions on Lafayette, and universities to ask for lectures, or symposiums on the great man. There are mayors and city councils to apprise and permits and permissions to request. And there are public and private schools to contact, and presentations to make to children across the area. There may even be a stagecoach to hire, if one can be found, and mounted police to be requested, for the trip through Westchester. And lastly, of course, there are contingency plans and back-up activities that must be developed in the event of foul weather or unforeseen issues that may require a sudden change to the schedule.

“So, as you can see, the task at hand is huge. However, I am delighted to take it on. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Although I know there will be challenges, I know too that

this endeavor will bring joy to countless numbers of people and will cause many of them to speak of Lafayette, and of his contributions to this country, for years to come. I also hope and trust that the Bicentennial will serve to bring Americans across the political divide closer together, and that it will result in people focusing once again on what is right about the United States and its history, instead of what is wrong. To try to refocus the public on the good in our country may be daunting in its scope, however, it is obvious from events and rhetoric across the nation, that there is a strong need to attempt to do so. And it is, after all, the least that responsible and proud citizens can do to honor the memories of the founders, as well as those of the men and women who have fallen in the service of this great land.

“Therefore, in closing, I wish to thank you for allowing me to address you. I look forward to the AFL and DAR working closely together to create an unforgettable Bicentennial experience. And, I wish to let you know that I would greatly appreciate the participation of any DAR members who may wish to join the HRV committee, and help with the planning and execution of the activities that I have described. AFL membership is not necessary.

“Thank you, again. Vive Lafayette! Vivent les DAR!”

The program is getting a good response from the towns that Lafayette visited, including having ships up the Hudson River. What a great opportunity for the Freemasons in New York to bring attention to Masonry and their Lodges through the example of Lafayette. Many towns, many Lodges should be involved. Your ideas and telling our Brothers certainly will help.

One of the sites is the Robert R Livingston home. It is under repair now but should be done by next year. Lafayette also visited West Point. While he visited Tappan with Washington, he did not stop by there on this trip fifty years later. And Albany (twice). I think we can find Lodges that may have been founded during his tour of NY. Lafayette did a great job for birthing America and will certainly be honored by many of the towns. And hopefully by his Masonic Brothers.

Lafayette’s son travelled with his father and a diary of sorts was kept daily. I have taken these entries and, as of today, began putting the pages on Facebook—and will send to you all daily—as Lafayette toured New York.

I certainly will appreciate your support and any questions or ideas. A key idea for Grand Lodge would be reenactment of [The 1824 Marquis de Lafayette Dinner at Grand Lodge](#), when the Grand Lodge of New York hosted a dinner in October, 1824 for the Marquis de Lafayette during his visit to the United States. Four pages of *The Albion* newspaper covered the event, showing the seating at the dinner, and including Lodges and names.



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

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EMAIL: GrandSecretary@NYMasons.org

RW RICHARD T. SCHULZ  
*Grand Secretary*

September 8, 2022

**RW Dr. David R. Staples**  
**Grand Secretary**  
**The United Grand Lodge of England**  
**Freemasons' Hall**  
**60 Great Queen Street**  
**London WC2B 5AZ**  
**England, United Kingdom**

Dear RW Dr. David R. Staples

It is with bowed heads and saddened hearts that we pause at this moment to mourn and offer our personal tribute of respect and approbation to the memory of your dear departed Sovereign, Her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

We cannot find the words to remove the hurt and sorrow that fill the hearts of the Royal Family and the British People as well as the overwhelming grief that encompasses the United Grand Lodge of England and the Craft, but only to urge that all who were touched by Her Majesty to turn to God through prayer for inner strength and comfort. For solace remember the words of the Great Light which says *"surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."*

The beloved Sovereign and Defender of the Faith, HRM Queen Elizabeth II has been the moral compass of good stewardship for the United Kingdom and the Anglican Church, for nearly three-quarters of a Century. In her own immortal words, *"...I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service..."* The Queen has certainly exemplified and defined the term "service" during her magnificent reign.

Few women of greatness have achieved the collective respect and admiration of the whole world as has HRM Queen Elizabeth II. Such highly regarded women like Eleanor Roosevelt, Mother Teresa and Florence Nightingale come to mind. Yet, their names pale in comparison to that of HRM Queen Elizabeth II's compassion, astuteness and steadiness of hand. Commenting about her meeting with the Queen in 1957, Eleanor Roosevelt, the wife of the late Brother and former President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, *"I have the greatest respect for this young woman, who must combine the responsibilities of a Queen with the requirements and emotional stresses of a young mother. I think, too, the British people are fortunate in having the Royal Family to hold them together. Everywhere you go, you see that the Queen, Prince Philip, the Queen Mother, and Princess Margaret are loved as well as deeply respected."*

We, the Brethren from New York, were blessed with three official visits by HRM Queen Elizabeth II. She was received in 1957 with much fanfare and a ticker-tape parade down Fifth Avenue in New York City. During our Nation's Bicentennial Celebration in 1976, we were once again graced with her regal presence and self-assurance. HRM Queen Elizabeth II's last visit to the City of New York was in 2010, when she attended the United Nations and visited our hallowed Ground Zero at the site of the former Towers of the World Trade Center.

Our fraternity and the people of this Nation as a whole are much richer for having had the pleasure of knowing your beloved Queen. On behalf of the Grand Master, Most Worshipful Richard J. Kessler, the Grand Lodge of New York, and all of our Officers and Members, our fraternal spirit is there at the side of your Grand Lodge with special prayers and support during this sad time of grief. If there is anything that we can do, please do not hesitate to let us know.

May God bless and keep you this day and forevermore.

With kindest fraternal regards, I am sincerely,

RW Richard T. Schulz  
 Grand Secretary

cc: Grand Lodges of British Commonwealth, Britannia Lodge No. 1166, NY  
 cc: GM, DGM, Chairman – Jurisprudence, Chairman - Corr. & Relations Comm.

# CONCORDANT BODIES PAGE



## 32° SCOTTISH RITE FREEMASONRY

**Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite,  
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, USA.**

- Strengthens the community and believes that each man should act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.
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- Mission: Inspire our members by emphasizing our Core Values: Reverence for God, Devotion to Country, Integrity, Justice, Tolerance and Service to Humanity.
- Ensure that activities are convenient. Provide enjoyable programs and fraternal fellowship.
- Visit our website, [www.scottishritenmj.org](http://www.scottishritenmj.org), to learn more about the Rite and to apply for membership online.
- Visit NYS Council of Deliberation website, [www.nyscottishritemasons.org](http://www.nyscottishritemasons.org), to locate the Scottish Rite Valley near you.

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Royal Arch Masons**

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- To be a member of the oldest Rite in Freemasonry
- I didn't want to stop at the 2.5 Degree – I want to complete the Third Degree
- I want to learn all the Secrets of Freemasonry
- I read the first 3 Chapters and I want to finish the book
- To make new friends from other local Lodges
- To participate in some of the most beautiful rituals in Masonry



Website: [ny-royal-arch.org](http://ny-royal-arch.org) / email: [ghp@ny-royal-arch.org](mailto:ghp@ny-royal-arch.org)

To be advised of a Royal Arch Chapter near you, email: [grandscribe@ny-royal-arch.org](mailto:grandscribe@ny-royal-arch.org)



## CRYPTIC MASONS

**Grand Council of Cryptic Masons  
of the State of New York**

### Why Join the Cryptic Council?

- Be a Royal Arch Mason in good standing
- Come celebrate our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2023
- Learn the rest of the story of Hiram's Legend
- See some of the most stunning Degrees in Masonry
- See the parts you missed in the previous Degrees
- Find out what was deposited in the secret vault of the Temple
- See what happened during the final destruction of the Temple

Website: [nycryptic.org](http://nycryptic.org)

Contact the Grand Recorder's Office:

[GrandRecorder@NYCryptic.org](mailto:GrandRecorder@NYCryptic.org)



## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

**Grand Commandery of Knights Templar  
of the State of New York**

### Benefits of membership as a Knight Templar:

- Study ancient Knights Templar history
- Learn who the Templars were and who they defended
- The opportunity to become Knighted as a Sir Knight
- The importance of King Solomon's Temple
- To continue the journey that you started
- Knights Templar members must have Christian beliefs and be a Royal Arch Mason

### To find out more regarding our Chivalric Order:

Website: [www.grandcommanderyktny.org](http://www.grandcommanderyktny.org)

Email: [syrknightstemplar@gmail.com](mailto:syrknightstemplar@gmail.com)



# 32° SCOTTISH RITE FREEMASONRY



Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite,  
Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, USA.

## New York State Council of Deliberation

Websites: [www.nyscottishritemasons.org](http://www.nyscottishritemasons.org) NYSCOD [www.scottishritenmj.org](http://www.scottishritenmj.org) Supreme Council  
email: [p.o.mclaughlin@gmail.com](mailto:p.o.mclaughlin@gmail.com) NYSCOD Secretary



Active Members of Supreme Council for New York  
(left to right): Ill. G. Michael Morris, Deputy for New York; Ill. Steven C. Stefanakos; Ill. David E. Barnes;  
Ill. Richard J. Powell; and Ill. John R. Patterson, Jr.

The Scottish Rite, often referred to as 32° Freemasonry, is an appendant body of Freemasonry. A Master Mason may join to journey deeper into the teachings of the Craft. Through twenty-nine Degrees, six Core Values, charities, and a wide array of educational programming, the Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, helps Master Masons on their journey to more light.

Our Vision Statement focuses us: “We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members.” Our Mission Statement directs our works:

Ensure activities are convenient. Provide enjoyable programs and fraternal fellowship. Inspire our members by emphasizing our Core Values: Reverence for God, Devotion to Country, Integrity, Justice, Tolerance and Service to Humanity.

The Scottish Rite expands upon the fundamental principles of Freemasonry, exploring and building upon the ethical and philosophical teachings of the Blue Lodge. It reveals a wealth of knowledge about Masonry not found in the other Degrees and seeks to help good men become even better as they continue their Masonic journey.

The first Ineffable Lodge of Perfection was established in Albany, New York, on October 7, 1767. Since then, the Rite has expanded throughout the United States and the rest of

the world. Local groups of Scottish Rite Masons are called Valleys and consist of members from a number of Lodges in each region of the state. In New York State there are thirteen Valleys in four major regions. The New York State Council of Deliberation is held annually, at which time it conducts the business of the Council. It awards the Meritorious Service Award to deserving Brothers and presents other recognitions to members for their work on behalf of the Craft.

The Scottish Rite is a charitable organization, providing help, aid and assistance to Master Masons and their families through the Grand Almoner’s Fund and Hospitaler’s Fund, both at the national and state levels. Many Valleys also have similar funds to offer assistance. The Rite also provides education assistance to college students and recognizes students in ROTC and JROTC programs. New York has three Children’s Dyslexia Centers where students suffering from dyslexia can receive individual tutoring at no cost to them or their families.

Scottish Rite Masons have a long history of service to Freemasonry. If you are not a 32° Scottish Rite Mason and would like to be, or would like to learn more about the Rite, visit the Supreme Council website ([www.scottishritenmj.org](http://www.scottishritenmj.org)), which has a wealth of information as well as an online application process.

*29 Degrees + 6 Core Values = An Extraordinary Life!*

## A visitor

At the last meeting, after all the presentations were made to Most Worshipful Kessler, we went downstairs to find a visitor from Pennsylvania. Brother Ronnell Hunt from Pittsburgh was in town training. He saw our lights on and wanted to say Hi and enjoy some fellowship with us.

Brother Hunt is a professional wrestler and made top 500 Wrestlers in PWI. Below is a picture from the magazine and a picture with Prophet Draves.



# MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY



RW G. MICHAEL MORRIS,  
*PRESIDENT*

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

[mmorris@nytrustees.org](mailto:mmorris@nytrustees.org)



## Veterans/Battle Within Memorial Garden – MCC

The ground-breaking ceremony for a new Veterans/Battle Within Memorial Garden on the Masonic Care Community campus in Utica, NY took place on June 25, 2022 during St. John's Day weekend. The garden will be prominently located on main lawn in front of Wiley Hall and will serve as a focal point for MCC residents and for everyone who visits the MCC campus.



Ground-Breaking Ceremony for the Veterans/Battle Within Memorial Garden at St. John's Day, 2022.

The garden is designed as a tribute to all United States Military Veterans who have bravely served and continue to serve our country. But it is particularly dedicated to our Masonic Military Veterans and those who made the ultimate sacrifice during times of war, and the twenty-plus veterans who die each day due to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).



Architectural Rendering of the Veterans/Battle Within Memorial Garden.



Eagle Taking Flight  
Statue with Marble Base  
(Dimensions  
25" x 35" x 45" H).

The layout design of the garden, created by Anthony Battaglia, landscape architect from Battaglia Landscaping and Supply, is shown below.

The dimensions are approximately forty-five feet by sixty-seven feet and will feature a fourteen-foot-wide gazebo. Distinctive elements are the large bronze "Eagle Taking Flight" statue from the Randolph Rose Collection; a personalized, diamond-patterned bench in remembrance of Mrs. Joanne Kessler, First Lady, 2021-2024, and her passion for "The Battle Within;" an "Empty Chair" presented by the brethren of Pyramid Lodge 490; and several other benches. The plantings will include tree lilacs, junipers, hydrangeas, Rose of Sharon, roses, lavender and more. The garden will serve as an

inspirational destination for personal reflection and quiet conversations.



Lady Joanne Kessler "Battle Within" bench.

Construction of the garden is slated for spring 2023 and it will be open (and in full bloom) for St. John's Day 2023. The Veterans/Battle Within Memorial Garden will be a wonderful addition to the MCC campus that will be enjoyed by all. Be sure to stop by during your next visit to the campus.



**RW ROB RAFFLE**  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*  
 MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY OF NEW YORK  
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 raffler@mccny.com

# MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY



## A New Year, a New Road Ahead

As the present year comes to an end, we are provided the opportunity to reflect on the wonderful things that transpired at the Masonic Care Community in 2022. St. John's Day returned to the Masonic Care Community after a two-year absence. It was amazing to welcome Brother Masons once again from all over the State of New York. The beautiful weather, the barbecue, music, fireworks, parade and so many other festivities made for an extraordinary event. We were so grateful to have the Masonic Fraternity again on our campus.



During St. John's Day there was also a very special dedication to the site for the new Veterans Memorial Garden. We were honored to partner with Feed Our Vets for the collection of canned goods and non-perishable items to help veterans and their families in need.

As I write this, we are looking forward to the special Holiday Concert featuring the Fenimore Chamber Orchestra benefiting the Daniel D. Tompkins Memorial Chapel. Caring for and preserving this magnificent building, including its stunning architectural features, is extremely important. The Chapel honors a distinguished Mason and public servant, Daniel D. Tompkins. It is well known that Daniel D. Tompkins served as Vice-President of the United States with President James Monroe (1817-1825), Governor of the State of New York (1807-1816), and Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York (1820-1822). He was Sovereign Grand Commander of the Scottish Rite Supreme Council, Northern Jurisdiction, until his death. Maintaining this historically significant building is important for Masonry as well as for the Masonic Care Community.

We have also continued construction activities and

improvements to the Administration Building. This will one day serve as a Masonic Community Center and a focal point for fraternal activity and outreach for the Masonic Care Community.

Our most important focus in 2022 continued to be on our mission and the people we serve at the Masonic Care Community. All people should have access to the services and support that empower them to live a life of dignity, good health and purpose—regardless of age, race or income. At MCC our services are structured to help provide equitable and inclusive programming for our senior residents and to break down barriers to meaningful aging. Our goal is to provide purposeful living and exceptional care for the seniors who call MCC home. I extend my appreciation to each one of you who chose to make a donation to MCC in 2022. You help us to fulfill our mission and make our work possible.

As we approach the new year there is much to look forward to at MCC. We anticipate that St. John's Day will be held again on our campus. If you were not able to join us this past summer, we would love to welcome you back in 2023. Plans in the new year also include strategic planning discussions and activities for the organization as we continue to rebuild following the COVID-19 pandemic. As the sixteen independent senior homes at The Neighborhoods of Acacia Village remain fully occupied and rented, part of that strategic planning includes the construction of additional homes so that a greater number of older adults have the opportunity to live here.

In closing I would like to wish all of my fellow Brother Masons, your families, our donors and supporters the very best holiday season. I would also thank you for your support of our cause. You ensure our mission to support, nurture and educate those whose lives we touch by providing exceptional care and services with compassion and pride, guided by the Masonic principles of love, relief, truth and integrity.



# MASONIC CARE COMMUNITY



**MARA MULLIGAN**  
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC MARKETING AND PHILANTHROPY  
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## Love of Humanity

When I am traveling around campus or out in the community I am often asked what I do for the Masonic Care Community. It is easy to explain the marketing and communications aspects of my job but the word “philanthropy” in my title often results in the question, “What does that mean?”

I love this question because it provides me with the opportunity to talk about philanthropy and our mission at the Masonic Care Community. Greek playwright Aeschylus coined the term philanthropy in the fifth century BC. It meant “love of humanity.” Today, Webster’s Dictionary defines philanthropy as goodwill to fellow members of the human race, or an act or gift done or made for humanitarian purposes.

Nowhere is this love of humanity more present than at the Masonic Care Community. Our very community was built upon that principle. Brother Masons cared so deeply about their fellow Brother Masons, their families and their children, they built a Home to care for them.

That philanthropic tradition continues today. We care for more than 500 older people, many of whom cannot care for themselves, have chronic diseases or are in need of just a little more assistance. As we know, many of those individuals are Masons or have a Masonic family affiliation.

During this special holiday time of year I have the honor and the privilege to ask for gifts to the Masonic Care Community; so, as you are reading this, I am asking for your support for our philanthropic mission and the people who live here. If you have not made a donation this year, please give, as there is still time to do so.

If you are an ongoing donor—and I extend an enthusiastic thank-you to our ongoing donors—please consider setting up a monthly, recurring donation to MCC at <https://masonichomeny.org/giving/give/>. Simply choose “Monthly”

under the Payment Type. Monthly recurring donations also protect a nonprofit during times of uncertainty or emergency, such as during a disaster or pandemic, which we continue to experience with COVID-19. Making a recurring charitable gift helps provide much-needed stability when unforeseen or emergency circumstances occur.

Finally, if you have not increased your gift level to Masonic Care Community in some time, please consider adding a little extra with your next donation. Because that little extra goes a very long way when added to gifts from others, all joining together in their shared love of humanity.

Philanthropy. It is an incredible and powerful force for good in this world, and most certainly here at the Masonic Care Community.



MCC residents enjoying snow cones and cotton candy.

## Suffolk Holds Annual Picnic

On Sunday, August 7 the Suffolk Masonic District held its Annual Picnic at Cathedral Pines County Park in Yaphank. Several selfless Brothers volunteered their time to cook over a hot barbecue. The day was a resounding success with Brothers from all over Suffolk and visiting Districts in attendance.

Be sure to mark your Masonic calendar in 2023 for this always-fun event. Attend and enjoy some fine food and excellent fellowship.



# Adonai Lodge Celebrates 150



As it has done for the past twenty years, Adonai Lodge 718 planned its installation of officers for the Sunday before the second Monday in June, this year June 12. There was a slight difference this year: the event was the day after the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Adonai receiving its charter. A celebration was in order. The Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master were invited to rededicate the Lodge.

The installation took place in the morning, with Grand Master Richard J. Kessler obligating incoming Master Byron Chapman. After a short break with light refreshments, Grand Master Richard J. Kessler; Deputy Grand Master Steven A. Rubin; Grand Marshal John Haslam Sr.; Deputy Grand Marshal Peter Unfried; Junior Grand Deacon Alberto G. Cortizo; Deputy Grand Standard Bearer Gustavo Teran and Senior Grand Warden Robert L. Hogan Jr. and Junior Grand Warden Peter C. Stein proceeded with the rededication ceremony.

Recognitions from various community groups were read and the Benjamin Franklin Award of Distinction from the Supreme

Council of Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was presented to the Lodge. A brief history revealed a predecessor Lodge, Columbia Lodge 38/207, from which many early members of Adonai originated. The petition for this Lodge requested the name Highland Lodge but the Dispensation and Charter are for Adonai Lodge; there appears to be no other Adonai Lodge in any recognized Masonic jurisdiction. The current Lodge building was a gift of the Elting family in honor of Philip Elting, a Past Master of Kingston Lodge 10 and a District Deputy Grand Master of the 15<sup>th</sup> Masonic District.

Those present then adjourned to the Wiltwyck Country Club for a banquet as a capstone to the celebration. Adonai Lodge appreciates all the encouragement it has received over the years. For their support for this day, MW Richard Kessler and RW John Haslam Sr. were recognized as honorary members of Adonai Lodge. RW Rubin has previously been accorded an honorary membership of Adonai Lodge in recognition of his support.

## Alcyone Lodge Takes Official Visit

On Tuesday, September 27 the Brothers of Alcyone Lodge 695 hosted RW District Deputy Jeffrey Santorello and Grand Sword Bearer Robert Licata and visiting Brothers from throughout the Suffolk Masonic District for their annual visitation. Various Brothers announced upcoming District events.

Assistant Grand Lecturer VW Gil Kruse announced the details of the new Traveling Trowel competition in the District. At the end of the evening, RW Santorello and RW Licata presented Brother John Slawsky his certificate for completion of the Masonic Development Course.





## Grand Lodge of New York's 2023 Grand Master's Cruise

**February 5-12, 2023 on Holland America Line's Nieuw Amsterdam**

Please join The Grand Master as we set sail together again! Our voyage visits some of the most beautiful ports in the Caribbean while enjoying the luxury of Holland America Line's five-star vessel, the ms Nieuw Amsterdam.

By joining the Grand Master's Cruise, you will be among Brothers, families and friends, and you will enjoy exclusive events and amenities available for the Grand Master's group only! In addition, for every cabin booked in our group, JPS at Your Leisure Travel will make a donation to support Masonic causes.

Date	Day	Itinerary
2/5	SUN	Fort Lauderdale, Florida, US
2/6	MON	At Sea
2/7	TUE	Georgetown, Cayman Islands
2/8	WED	Falmouth, Jamaica
2/9	THU	At Sea
2/10	FRI	Grand Turk, Turks and Caicos
2/11	SAT	Half Moon Cay, Bahamas
2/12	SUN	Fort Lauderdale, Florida, US

For more information and to make your reservation, contact:

Judi Stern – JPS At Your Leisure Travel

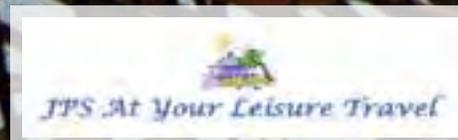
judistern@gmail.com 917-692-3806

### Pricing\*

Inside staterooms starting at:	\$1044 pp
Ocean view staterooms starting at:	\$1,244 pp
Balcony staterooms starting at:	\$1,444 pp

- \*Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Prices include cruise fare and all taxes and fees.
- Prices quoted are based on availability at time of booking.
- Additional stateroom categories, single and third and fourth party rates are subject to availability.
- A \$350 per person deposit is due at time of booking.
- Cruise line rules require all guests to be fully vaccinated from Covid-19.
- Insurance is additional and strongly recommended.
- Airfare and pre/post cruise packages are available upon request.

***Masonic Cruises support Masonic causes!***



## Holland America ms Neuw Amsterdam

### VOYAGE SUMMARY

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Itinerary</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>
5-Feb-23	SUN	Fort Lauderdale, Florida, US		4:00 pm
6-Feb-23	MON	At Sea	AT SEA	
7-Feb-23	TUE	Georgetown, Cayman Islands	8:00 am	5:00 pm
8-Feb-23	WED	Falmouth, Jamaica	8:00 am	5:00 pm
9-Feb-23	THU	At Sea	AT SEA	
10-Feb-23	FRI	Grand Turk, Turks and Calcoa	7:00 am	2:00 pm
11-Feb-23	SAT	Half Moon Cay, Bahamas	8:00 am	3:00 pm
12-Feb-23	SUN	Fort Lauderdale, Florida, US	7:00 am	

#### Double Occupancy Pricing

Category	Guest 1	Guest 2	Cabin Total
Inside	1,004.00	1,004.00	2,008.00
Ocean View	1,124.00	1,124.00	2,248.00
Balcony	1,444.00	1,444.00	2,888.00
Signature Suite	2,234.00	2,234.00	4,468.00
Neptune Suite	2,784.00	2,784.00	5,568.00

#### Single Occupancy Pricing

Category	Guest 1	Cabin Total
Inside	1,639.00	1,639.00
Ocean View	1,893.00	1,893.00
Balcony	2,703.00	2,703.00
Signature Suite	4,283.00	4,283.00
Neptune Suite	5,383.00	5,383.00

# AWARDS COMMITTEE



RW GEORGE R. WACOB  
CHAIRMAN  
631/838-7508 (C)  
grwacob1@optonline.net

## DSA Nominations Are In

As this Masonic year heads into the holiday season, the cutoff date for Dedicated Service Award recommendations has passed. The committee is now in the process of determining which recommendations will be approved or rejected. All DSA awardees, the DDGMs and the Brother's Lodge will be notified early in February 2023. An Order Form for the 2023 DSA Package will be sent to the Lodge Secretary with the notification letter.

The DSA Chest Medallion is part of the DSA Package purchased through Lodge Services. This DSA Chest Medallion is also available for Past DSA recipients. The purchase price is \$20, plus tax and shipping and 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) have no cutoff date and will be processed as they are received. The Lodge Secretary and DDGM will be notified within a short period of time if the nominee has been awarded a Community Service Award.

The Community Service Awards offer a Lodge an opportunity to bring Masonry and the tenets of Masonry to the forefront of the public's view within the community. The Grand Lodge provides a distinct and decorative certificate to be displayed by the recipient. It also gives the Lodge an opportunity to invite the public into a Masonic Temple for

the presentation. We should not waste an opportunity to put a positive face on our Craft.

Grand Lodge has also approved a chest medallion which can be worn by Jacob Morton recipients. It is available at Lodge Services for the price of \$20, and tax and shipping. It, too, is available to previous Jacob Morton recipients, through their Lodge Secretary.

Please take notice of the Awards Committee's webpage on the Grand Lodge website: <https://nymasons.org/site/committees-departments-programs/awards-committee/>. This page will give you information, the requirements and forms for the various awards.

I would like to publicly 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. Their service to the Craft should be acknowledged.

Awards Committee, Metropolitan Region: RW Gregory Noulas, Vice Chairman. The Mid-State Region is represented by RW Thomas L. Jenison and W Alfred W. Ferguson. In the Hudson-Champlain Region committeemen are RW Charles E. Knapp Jr. and RW Robert L. Hogan Jr. The Western Region members are RW William H. Greene and RW Douglas Airth.

## Connetquot Installs Officers

The brethren and guests of Connetquot Lodge 838 gathered together in Sayville on Monday, June 20 for an installation ceremony. With more than forty brethren and guests in attendance, a fine time was had by all.

Newly elected and appointed officers, led by W James Terry, look forward to an enlightening and effective new Masonic year as we continue to emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic. W Terry has a full Trestleboard of interesting events planned.





**BROTHER KENNETH JP STUCZYNSKI**  
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I often hear people say they prefer hard copy records because they are safe and secure. What if your hard drive crashes or your laptop is stolen? There was a time that was true. Or was it? How many Lodge records ended up in dumpsters when moving between buildings or thrown out by the family of a deceased Secretary? Secrecy and oral preservation are not the only reasons we have lost so much of our history. There are countless times we hear records were lost or damaged from fire and flood. I guess we never learned the lesson of the brass columns of Solomon's Temple.

If a computer can be stolen, so can a briefcase. If an account can be hacked, a lock can be picked. What is the difference? Everything changed with the introduction of Cloud Storage. Just as paying online is safer than using a credit card at a restaurant (seriously), you can keep records online, safe from almost any potential loss. If every computer and device in my life disappeared tomorrow, I would still have decades of personal photos, all my business files, everything. And I could recover it from anywhere in the world. We are way past the days of backing up on disks and USB drives. The services to store files are so robust that it would take a major disaster to lose anything—far more than a basement flooding or a fire in a storage area.

This is not a solution in search of a problem. Even basic notes are lost from Master to Master. Consider a fundraiser event with various expenses and sales numbers. Instead of

spreadsheets with columns for each year, we have bundles of physical paper, sometimes poorly hand-written and unorganized. Each new person reinvents the wheel. He may hope for mentorship, but too many times one person keeps at it with no understudy until he is gone. There is no record of process or details.

So imagine a document repository shared by the Secretary, Master and others as needed. Certain documents would only be accessible to certain people. Some would not be preserved digitally at all due to privacy and prudence, but I am not talking about that. Each committee, each officer and each generation of leaders should have a place to build upon the notes and numbers of those who have gone before them. We can store templates of letterhead and letters, invitations, posters, logos and other materials unique to your Lodge.

There is nothing like a memento of an event in your hand, but this is not either/or. Why not have a digital version of all your clippings and programs? Grand Lodge has already done this with records sent to them for each Lodge. And the actual items can stay on display in your hall. But if something were ever to happen to them, they would not be lost forever with the last person who remembers being there.

From collaboration to continuity to preservation, it is worth going digital. Future generations will thank our foresight.

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## Pultneyville Raises Two



On Monday, May 2 Brothers from around Wayne District gathered at Pultneyville Lodge 159 to Raise two new Brothers to the Craft. Brothers Vincent Steffon and Wade Lessord were Raised in a ceremony that began at 5 p.m. With the first section completed the members broke from labor to refreshment and enjoyed an excellent lasagna dinner. The second section proceeded thereafter with the Raising and the Hiramic Legend.

Special thanks are in order for Susan Verbridge for preparing

the excellent dinner. Thanks go to RW Joe Green for putting together the Degree team and to all the Brothers from the various Lodges in the District for helping in this important Masonic duty. Congratulations to all came from DDGM RW Clifford Dennie, who was at Grand Lodge that weekend, and from RW Christopher Fox, Wayne District Grand Steward.

Photo: Brothers Vincent Steffon (center with red tie) and Wade Lessord (to his right) with Brothers from Pultneyville and other District Lodges.

## Scottish Rite Honors Our Youth Leaders

Our Three Youth Groups, Rainbow, Triangle and DeMolay, are brimming with great young people who are the future of our great Masonic Family in New York State. As you travel around the state to different Lodges, Concordant Bodies and Districts, you will find much of the Leadership has roots in the Masonic Youth. They are quick to credit the adult volunteers they had growing up with equipping them with the skills they need to lead the Craft today. Since our last issue, we have witnessed some of our adult volunteers receiving some well deserved awards for their investment in our future

We offer our Congratulations to International Order of Rainbow's Mrs Gale Gould, Supreme Inspector in NY, on being honored with THE ILL. ROBERT H. JACKSON, 33° AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE. at the Annual Convocation of the Council of Deliberation. She was rewarded for performing outstanding service to society. Only one of these awards is given a year and Mrs Gould is most deserving. My Brothers, it should be noted that she is always an invited guest at Grand Lodge Masonic Youth Committee



Meetings and her contributions, experience and wisdom have been tremendous.

We are also proud to announce, Ms. Chrissy Whipkey earned the Scottish Rite Youth Advisor of the Year award. Ms. Whipkey is one of the Leaders in NY (Amaranth and OES) that started as a Masonic Youth, she was a Triangle Girl and a DeMolay Sweetheart. She is now an Advisor for both Triangle and DeMolay, her Triangle (Cassiopeia) has brought in 18 new members and she is an active advisor of three DeMolay Chapters. She has also helped to start the Olean Chapter and Tuscarora Chapter of DeMolay!



On a personal note, when my son Chris started coming to DeMolay, my wife worked the 2nd shift so my daughter, Pearl (3 years old or so), had to come - or Chris and I couldn't. Chrissy Whipkey as Ridge Council Chapter Sweetheart was glad to watch Pearl during the closed portion of the meetings. Without her, I may have never been a DeMolay Advisor or involved in Masonic Youth!

Both these women have contributed to the future of FreeMasonry in the world as well as in NY. We owe them a debt of gratitude. We also thank The Brothers of Scottish Rite for recognizing our great volunteers.

**Articles Due Date for the SPRING Edition  
of the *Empire State Mason* magazine is  
January 1, 2023**

# Whipkey Picked Advisor of Year

Each year, the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction honors one adult volunteer from each state as their Masonic Youth Advisor of the Year. This year the New York Council of Deliberation, based on recommendations from DeMolay and Triangle, selected Ms. Christine Whipkey as the advisor of the year. Ms. Whipkey has a long-standing history of service to DeMolay and Triangle.

In Triangle, Ms. Whipkey serves Cassiopeia Triangle 202 as their Junior Deputy. Asked why she agreed to become Junior Deputy, she will tell you how she wanted to give back to the organization that gave her so much. Triangle has helped her become a successful adult and gave her the skills she needed in her own career. She wanted the next generation of Triangle members to have the same experience she did, and wanted to give them a safe environment in which to grow.

Her Triangle members love and respect Ms. Whipkey and look forward to spending time at events with her. Ms. Whipkey tries to be someone whom the members can confide in and can call at any time. For the third consecutive year, Ms. Whipkey has helped and supported Cassiopeia Triangle to bring in more new members than any other Triangle in New York State, earning Cassiopeia Triangle the coveted Grand Commandery Socium Award. Currently, she is working with the leadership of Lockport Triangle and helping them to rebuild Triangle in Niagara County.

One of her nominators wrote: “Watching ‘Mom’ Whipkey work with our youth is a true joy. She constantly encourages them in each of their endeavors, praises publicly, privately

corrects. If they are having a bad day, she’s a shoulder they can lean on. ‘Mom’ Whipkey guides the youth by asking questions and using a very Socratic method of exploration where the youth arrive at their conclusion having a better understanding of their needs and how they respond. The youth have tremendous respect and love for ‘Mom’ Whipkey.”

Another wrote: “When the youth came in and see Mom Whipkey you thought a celebrity walked in! The DeMolays and Triangle members went over to see her and say hi. It was like they’re seeing a favorite older sister come home from college. That affinity for an adult volunteer is amazing. Not only is ‘Mom’ Whipkey helping the individual DeMolays grow, she’s helping DeMolay as an organization grow! When she became Royal Matron of her Amaranth court she approached New York DeMolay about sponsoring a DeMolay chapter in Olean, NY. After a meeting, three weeks later everything was lined up and an army of ‘Moms’ and ‘Dads’ wanted to start DeMolay back up!”

Ms. Whipkey is also a Past Matron of Betsy Ross-Levant 695 Order of the Eastern Star, current Royal Matron of Hamilton Court 2, and a member of Queen City Court 3, Order of the Amaranth. She also serves NYS Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth as a Grand Officer, member of the Scholarship Committee and member of the Youth Appreciation Committee. Outside of her Masonic obligations, Ms. Whipkey is the Director of Workforce Development at Trocaire College which provides educational training programs to her local community to help them rejoin the workforce.

## NY DeMolays Win at Tournament

Since 1983 the Mid-Atlantic Tournament of Champions in Gettysburg, PA brings together DeMolay youth leaders from Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. The young men present our beautiful and moving ceremonies to the best of their abilities and are adjudicated by meticulous judges on the recitation of the part, their performance and floorwork.

New York DeMolay took first place in the Mixed Team category for the Preceptor Corps with a team of Bro. Raven Santos, Bro. Tristan Schulbaum, Bro. Gavin Johnson and Bro. Austin Altman. This is the first time that New York has won this category.

The 9 O’clock Interpolation Open team of Austin Altman, Tristan Schulbaum and Gavin Johnson placed third. This was a historic placement for New York DeMolay.

In the Ceremony of Light, Open, Bro. Tristan Schulbaum placed first in the under-15 category. If he was 15 or older he would have won first in that category as well. The last time a New Yorker won this contest was Bro. John Tree in 2003.

In the NY DeMolays receive their MATOC medals for winning. Ceremony of Light, Open, Bro. Gavin Johnson



NY DeMolays receive their MATOC medals for winning.

placed second. In the Flower Talk Open Bro. Austin Altman placed first—the first time a New Yorker has carried this category.

New York DeMolay also made history in fielding a Chevalier team for the first time in NY DeMolay’s history. This was long a dream of “Dad” Craig Henderson and it was great to help fulfil that dream.

# NEW YORK DEMOLAY



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## Heitmann Named York Rite Tribune

At the 55<sup>th</sup> annual New York DeMolay Convention, Bro. Nicholas G. Heitmann of Trinity Chapter was announced as 18<sup>th</sup> DeMolay York Rite Tribune. Created in 2005, the DeMolay York Rite Tribune recognizes one young man who has rendered exceptional service to DeMolay while manifesting the values and virtues of DeMolay: love of family, reverence for sacred things, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanness and patriotism. As we think of the historical role of a Tribune, one who represents his group in deeds, action and word before the Roman body politic, it is a most honorable role and position.

Competition for this honor is hypercompetitive, with nominations coming from all of the DeMolay Chapters in New York. The nominations are reviewed and a group of finalists is presented to the Grand York Rite Bodies. They take the final decision.

Bro. Heitmann joined Trinity Chapter on April 14, 2014 and would become a plural member with Mohawk Valley on April 20, 2020. He joined DeMolay because his older brother Josh was in DeMolay; also, his parents and grandmother are active in the Order of Eastern Star.

Bro. Heitmann has served as Senior Deacon, Scribe and Master Councilor of Trinity Chapter. He served New York DeMolay as Lakes Region Master Councilor, State Chaplain and Rivers Region Master Councilor. Bro. Heitmann has earned the Lamp of Knowledge, The Representative DeMolay and is a Chevalier. In 2022 he was honored with the York Rite Tribune.

He also earned the Coaches' Award in Wrestling. Bro. Heitmann graduated from Paul V. Moore High School in Syracuse, NY and he is currently studying photography at Onondaga Community College, where he is also a collegiate athlete on the track team.

His nomination read in part: "Bro. Nick puts his blood, sweat, and tears into the Order of DeMolay. Nick exemplifies all of the values of DeMolay. One of the great things he did was when he served as State Chaplain. A role that he has excelled in by helping the Brothers focus on the love of God and the brotherhood of his creation. At State Events, Nick is a hard worker, one of the first to get there, and the last to leave, putting in the extra effort and work that needs to be done. Nick does his work well and is a true credit to his family, his friends, and DeMolay."



Bro. Nick Heitmann, our newest York Rite Tribune.

The Order of Tribune was conferred at the annual New York DeMolay Convention on August 21, 2022. Participants included Right Excellent Steven R. Shearer, Grand Scribe of the Grand Chapter; Right Illustrious Daniel D. Elliott, the Grand Principal Conductor of the Work of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters; Right Eminent Dennis S. Davis, Grand Commander of the Grand Encampment; Right Worshipful Carl Klossner, representing the MW Richard J. Kessler Grand Master of Masons. A big thank-you goes to Right Excellent Mark Peerson for coordinating.

For more information about this award and the past honorees please visit: <https://www.nydemolay.net/en/page.php?id=979>. If you know of a young man between the ages of 12 and 21 who would enjoy membership in DeMolay, please email "Dad" Peter W. Brusoe at [PWBrusoe@gmail.com](mailto:PWBrusoe@gmail.com).

## Allentown Comes to Knickerbocker

DeMolay is a brotherhood beyond borders. In September, Allentown Chapter of Pennsylvania DeMolay paid a fraternal visit to Knickerbocker Chapter. Allentown Master Councilor, Bro. Shane Reznick, and his corps of officers worked with incoming Master Councilor Bro. Chas Dumaguig for a great visit. The trip included a tour of the historic Grand Lodge of New York Building.



DeMolays from New York and Pennsylvania gather in the Empire Room at Grand Lodge.

## DeMolay Inaugurates Empire State Conference

Leadership Training Conferences have been a staple of the DeMolay experience since 1924 when the Grand Council of DeMolay sponsored the first-ever conference at Bear Lake Lodge in Estes Park, CO. Since then DeMolay Leadership Training Conferences have been hosted in a number of different states across America and in Canada. New York DeMolay has relied upon conferences hosted by New England States, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Ohio for our youth leaders to have that experience. Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Trustees of the Masonic Hall and Home, New York DeMolay was able to host the Empire State Leadership Training Conference at the Masonic Home Camp in Woodgate, NY from August 14 to August 18, 2022.

This year's conference was themed "Men for Greatness." As part of this conference DeMolays learned event planning, how to organize a term plan for DeMolay, how to host a meeting, and how to learn the DeMolay ritual. In addition, the young men learned a lot of critical life skills, including how to cook lasagna, do laundry, set a formal table, refurbish wood. They were able to take a scenic tour of the woods around the lake and boat tours to explore the flora and fauna.



Our Masonic family gathers at Camp Turk.

The DeMolays also learned about flag etiquette, traditions and patriotism. The young men heard stories about inspiring male role models throughout history. Too often in our society,

traditional values and male role models have been downplayed or erased. DeMolay believes that it is critically important that the DeMolays of today are given positive male role models to emulate.



DeMolays play Putt-Putt.

The DeMolays enjoyed a trip to play miniature golf and a gourmet Chinese luncheon to celebrate the success of the week. A big thank-you goes to the amazing Empire State LTC Staff for making this event happen. They are Dad Robin Honeycutt, Dad Nick Portera, Dad Steve Bunch, Dad Mark Alvarado, Dad Bryant Dorney and Dad Bruce Van Buren.



Bro. Brian and Bro. Jorge enjoy the lake at the Masonic Home Camp.

# DeMolays Sponsor Education Day

Education is an important part of the DeMolay experience. Since 1922 DeMolay Chapters across the world honor education day in the month of September.

Crown City Chapter in Cortland hosted a teacher appreciation event. The DeMolays cooked a chicken and pasta dinner with amazing garlic bread. Each DeMolay and sweetheart introduced an educator who was important to them

and made a difference in their life. Each educator was presented with an appreciation item to proudly display in the classroom.

Elias Light Chapter in Oneonta hosted long-time public school educator and award-winning soccer coach, Alexander D. Brannan. Coach Brannan spoke about the importance of learning, working hard and setting goals.



DeMolay Master Councilor Bro. Spencer presents a Teacher Gift to "Mom" Whitney.



Crown City DeMolays receive their letters patent, making them DeMolays.



DeMolays of Elias Light with Coach Brannan.



## Masonic Eagle Scout Award

It was a wonderful night of Masonry at Goldenrule Clermont McKinley Lodge 486 as five Eagle Scouts received the Masonic Eagle Scout Award. One outstanding young lady received the Girl Eagle (the second in NYS). And three retired Judges were awarded the Dewitt Clinton Award for exceptional voluntary service to their communities.

In attendance were RW Steven Adam Rubin, Deputy Grand Master; RW Yves Etienne, District Deputy Grand Master of the First Manhattan District; RW Leonel Cortizo and W Bro. Terence Dolan, Worshipful Master of the Lodge. Members of the Knickerbocker Grays posted our Flag with pride.



# 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)

 [facebook.com@NY Rainbow](https://www.facebook.com/NYRainbow)

## Rainbow Celebrates 100 Years

April 6, 1922 was the beginning of the beautiful story of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, when 171 girls formed the founding class of initiates in McAlester, OK. Since that time hundreds of thousands of girls have knelt at altars in Lodge rooms across the country and the world to take their vows as Rainbow girls, promising to learn, grow and become good citizens and leaders of our communities.

At the end of July 2022 more than 1400 Rainbow girls and adults from around the world arrived in Oklahoma City, OK for the biennial session of the Supreme Assembly to celebrate this incredible milestone. Our New York delegation consisted of nine attendees for the week-long celebration. Highlights included us hosting a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party for the girls, our JPGWA Malea serving as Supreme Page to Supreme Love and participating in the memorial service, GWA Sydney representing our state in the cavalcade of flags and GWAA Meagan adding her beautiful voice to the international Supreme Choir. The sessions were beautiful, the meals delicious and the

activities a lot of fun for all as we reconnected with old friends and made many new friends.

One of the features of the trip was a visit to the International Supreme Temple in McAlester, which was built over seventy years ago with funds raised by the girls. Age and weather have conspired against the building, which is in need of repairs, and a capital improvement project is underway for that purpose. At the opening session, the Grand Master of Oklahoma presented a check for \$100,000 for the project, with a promise of an additional \$100,000 in matching funds for any money raised by Rainbow through December 31, 2022. Please reach out if you are interested and able to help with this exciting project.

This was a wonderful experience that we hope many will be able to share in the future. Our next International session will be held in July 2024 in Hampton, Virginia.



# Postscript by the Citizen

Postscript by the Citizen's Council: American Sentinel, Tuesday Morning, August 17, 1824

From the New York National Advocate, Aug. 16

## General La Fayette

We have the satisfaction to announce to our readers, that the *Cadmus* has arrived from Havre, having on board, in good health, our distinguished fellow citizen, GENERAL LA FAYETTE, the soldier and patriot of the revolution, & the friend and companion in arms of the great WASHINGTON.

It is upwards of forty years since La Fayette left a country which he eminently assisted to make sovereign and independent, for which he freely expended his treasure, and shed his blood. Providence has rewarded his patriotism by sparing his life and protecting his health and guiding him in security to that land which in his time contained less than three million of people, and now boasts an increase of upwards of ten million of freemen: which from thirteen Continental States, has swelled to twenty-four independent sovereignties, which boasts of a powerful government, equitable laws, and liberal institutions.

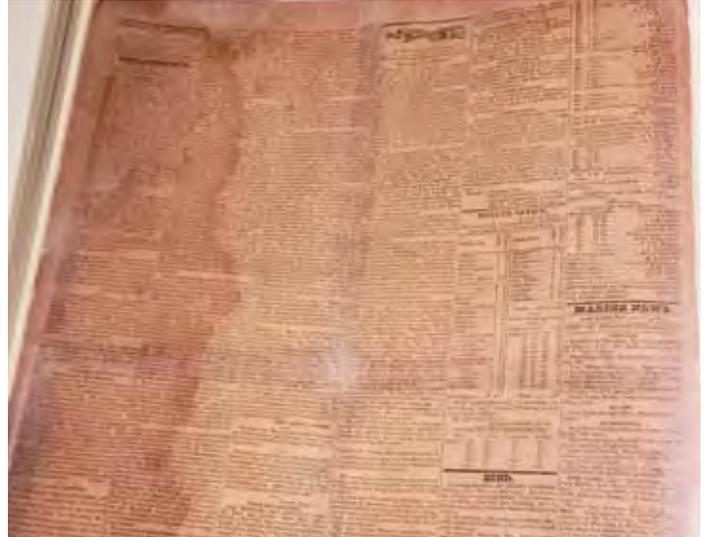
We will not anticipate his surprise and pleasure at the great improvements which he must witness, nor forestall that hearty, sincere, and most cordial welcome which a free and grateful people will extend toward him. All are anxious to see and welcome him to our shores. — As the GUEST OF THE NATION, he must be everywhere free of expense: the nation owes him an unpayable debt of obligation.

A number of his old companions in arms are ready to receive him: and many a Continental soldier, who served under La Fayette and fought with him at Yorktown, Brandywine, and in Rhode Island, are saving a part of their pensions to come down to New-York and shake hands with their old general.

The arrangements for his reception are complete: - the roar of artillery, the thrill notes of the bugle, and the "spirit-stirring drums," will announce his landing; and we hazard little in saying, that his arrival may be considered as a general jubilee.

The General and his son George Washington La Fayette, landed from the *Cadmus* at an early hour yesterday mornings, and received an invitation from the Vice-President, and repaired to his house on Staten Island. The Committee of the Corporation chartered the *Bellona* Steam Boat for the purpose of waiting on the General, and we had the pleasure of seeing him in excellent spirits - full of conversation and rejoiced beyond measure in having his foot upon American ground - talking with several of his revolutionary comrades on old events - being very agreeable, communicative and happy.

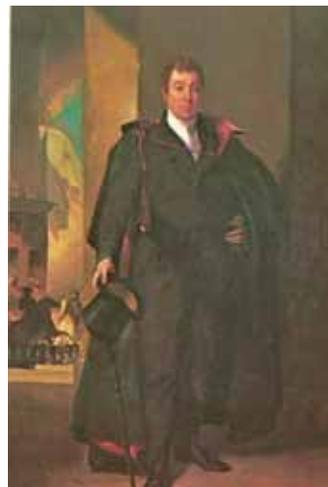
The military arrangements for his reception are all made. About 10 o'clock this morning, the Steam ship *Robert Fulton*, manned with 200 seamen from the *Constitution* frigate and the officers of the Navy on the station, and decorated with the flags of every nation, will lead the way, followed by the *Chancellor Livingston*, with a band of music. The steam-boats *Connecticut* and *Oliver Elsworth*, and other boats with passengers, will fall in, and the whole proceed to Staten Island,



where he will be received on board the *Chancellor*, and the *Robert Fulton* will fire a salute, and the whole move up to the city. The military will receive him on the Battery, whence he will be escorted, about 12 o'clock to the City Hall, when the Common Council will be in session, to the quarters prepared for him at the City Hotel.

We should be pleased to see these ceremonies conducted with the least possible fatigue to the veteran general, who is lame, occasioned by breaking his thigh some years ago, but with as much joy and spontaneous feeling as the occasion warrants. Let us prove to Europe, that the Republics are not ungrateful.

We expect of course, to see the balconies and windows filled with the beauty and fashion of our city, as the streets, we are sure, will be crowded to receive and welcome the Patriot and Soldier of our Revolution.



Young Lafayette



Old Lafayette

MOLLIE DESLOW  
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Registration  
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Boys - 7/2/23 - 7/15/23

COED - 7/16/23 - 7/29/23

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## From George Washington to Woodstock

by Francis Dumaurier  
[FDumaurier@nyc.rr.com](mailto:FDumaurier@nyc.rr.com)

The annual July Table Lodge and August picnic of L'Union Française Lodge 17 (<http://www.unionfrancaise.org>) had to be canceled once again. Worshipful Master Michaël Pelletier conceived two events that could easily be organized for the few who would be able to attend. The first was a dinner at Fraunces Tavern on July 19; the second, a visit to the site of the original Woodstock Festival on August 20.

Fraunces Tavern and L'Union Française No. 17 have historic connections to President and Brother George Washington at the 54 Pearl Street in lower Manhattan. It is most famous site where, on December 4, 1783, then General George Washington gathered a group of his officers, nine days after the last of the British troops left American soil, to thank them for their service and to bid them an emotional farewell before returning home.”

L'Union Française, then 14, was the first Lodge to follow the delegation of Knights Templar in the Masonic funeral procession to honor the memory of Bro. George Washington at Tappan on December 18, 1799. This funeral procession was recreated in 1899 at the same place and in the same order, and two hundred years later on December 18, 1999 it was organized by the Friends of '76 at the DeWint House Masonic museum in Tappan ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DeWint\\_House](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DeWint_House)). This event occurred under the leadership of MW Stewart C. McCloud, Grand Master, and RW Herbert M. Groce Jr., Grand Chaplain.

On that day, L'UF17 was once again the first Lodge to march in this Masonic funeral procession behind the delegation of Knights Templar. Lodge participants included Worshipful Master W Joël Nommick (DSA), W Pierre-Henry Marshall, RW Philippe Hiolle, RW Jean-Pierre Boissier and RW Francis Dumaurier.



Tuesday, July 19, 2022 – Dinner at Fraunces Tavern  
(l-r) VW Ziad Jalbout, W Alain Machu, W Matthew Tulloch, Bro. Stéphane-Antoine Therene, Bro. Ricardo Corassa, and W René Fauchet

Even though W Michaël Pelletier had planned this year's dinner at Fraunces Tavern, he had to be excused because of a last minute business conflict; RW Francis Dumaurier fell sick with COVID-19. The dinner was almost canceled when Brother Stéphane-Antoine Therene suddenly arrived from Paris and announced his desire to join. The event was fortunately reinstated and this "Gang of 6" affirmed that they had a splendid time: VW Ziad Jalbout, W Alain Machu, W Matthew Tulloch, W René Fauchet, Bro. Stéphane-Antoine Therene and Bro. Ricardo Corassa.

The casual dinner at Fraunces Tavern was the substitute for the annual Table Lodge. To replace the annual picnic W Michaël Pelletier asked RW Francis Dumaurier to take a group to the site of the original Woodstock Festival, where Bro. Dumaurier had spent his first weekend ever in the United States of America fifty-three years ago. W Michaël Pelletier; W Alain Machu, Secretary; W Didier Virot (DSA); Bro. Ricardo Corassa and his lovely wife; VW Zaid Jalbout and his younger brother Ralph (and his dog Jolly); and RW Francis Dumaurier (tour guide) came in three cars from Manhattan and New Jersey for breakfast at



The Monument by the side of the original site



(l-r) RW Francis Dumaurier, W Michaël Pelletier, W Alain Machu, W Didier Virot (DSA), VW Ziad Jalbout, Mr. Ralph Jalbout, and Jolly the friendly dog, in front of the site

the Bethel Market Café. They were greeted by the legendary Duke Devlin (<https://www.facebook.com/yasgur69>). Duke hitchhiked from Texas to arrive at the Festival one week before its start in August 1969, and he never left the place, working for years as a guide and contributor for the Museum. Bro. Dumaurier met Duke at the premiere of a documentary

Photograph credit: W Michaël Pelletier, RW Francis Dumaurier, W Didier Virot, DSA

produced and directed in 2009 by two-time Oscar winner Barbara Kopple. *Woodstock: Now and Then* features Duke and Bro. Dumaurier (<https://www.francisdumaurier.com/Woodstock.html>).

Following breakfast, the group went to the Monument at the side of the field where the event took place. Bro. Dumaurier shared personal souvenirs of the “beautiful osmosis of the human condition” that left a long-lasting mark on American culture, and that impressed deeply a jet-lagged Frenchman who had just arrived to explore the land of the blues and rock’n’roll music.

The group moved on to the Museum at the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts (<https://www.bethelwoodscenter.org>) where concerts are still happening. A paver with the name of Bro. Dumaurier can also be found by the entrance of the Museum.

The visitors returned to the Bethel Market Café for a late lunch and made a stop at the local whiskey distillery for a quick tasting and some shopping. After six hours in the area, they returned home happy from an outing that gave them a chance to do something different together, proving once again that a little creativity can go a long way for small groups of Brothers who want to socialize in the warm congeniality of Brotherly Love.



Saturday, August 20, 2022 – Lunch at the Bethel Market Café

(l-r) W Alain Machu, RW Francis Dumaurier, W Michaël Pelletier, and W Didier Virot, DSA



(l-r) RW Dumaurier’s original tickets, and his paver by the entrance of the museum



## Riverhead Lodge Seats Officers



On Tuesday, June 21 the Brothers of Riverhead Lodge 645 installed Brother Dominick Peppaceno and his line of officers in their proper stations and places for the coming Masonic year. In addition to the District Team, ninety Brothers and guests came from as far as Florida to enjoy the evening and congratulate W Peppaceno.

Prior to the ceremony, the guests enjoyed a very large and excellent collation. Congratulations go to the newly installed officers.

# MASONIC MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



RW ROBERT HEWSON  
PRESIDENT  
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As 2022 rushes to an end, I would like to provide a summary of a very productive year at the Masonic Medical Research Institute. The biggest news of the past year is the conclusion of our building renovation. Our building has been completely remodeled from the basement to the third floor. This project has taken five years and many millions of dollars but the results are nothing short of phenomenal. Our 64-year-old building is now a state-of-the-art research facility and is the very envy of many institutions around the world.

We continue to draw world-class scientists and administrative staff from around the world. "If you build it, they will come." Our Executive Director Maria Konaridis, PhD continues to search for new researchers with experience, passion and inquisitive minds. We are now able to compete for the very best talent available.

We have reestablished a long-term relationship with the Lupus and Allied Diseases Alliance LADA. Many new insights into this dreaded disease are being discovered by our scientists. These discoveries may someday provide effective treatment options.

Scientifically, we are continuing our research into the neurodegenerative diseases. Our autism research is ongoing and we are working with the Trustees of the Masonic Home on an Alzheimer research program. We are also eagerly awaiting funding to begin work on Grand Master Kessler's Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) project. We are working with our Brothers in the Battle Within Foundation on that project.

Our 50-state initiative is ongoing. Slowly the world is beginning to realize what New York Masons have known for seventy-five years. We are spreading our message across this great country and informing our Brothers across the world of this true "Masonic jewel" in Central New York. Of important note is our success in bringing Central American Masons on board. Through the efforts of Brother Tony Gilbert, MMRI Development Officer, the Grand Lodge of Ecuador

is appointing an ambassador to MMRI from each of its five provinces. They have been instructed by their Grand Master to inform their Brothers of our mission and are actively planning funding programs. As this program continues to roll out, other opportunities will surface and more Grand Lodges will want to be onboard.

Our Summer Fellow program was a great success. Ten young, enthusiastic and bright college and high school students completed a ten-week session with our scientists. I was lucky to hear their presentations at their graduation ceremony. I was completely blown away by these future scientific stars. This is a testament to the quality of our scientists and facility. It is a most gratifying program, as it introduces students from across New York to the Masonic Medical Research Institute and to a high level of scientific research. It also provides our scientists with the ability to teach and mentor and it provides our institute with additional visibility and relationships in the community. Thanks go to all our sponsors for this great opportunity. We could not do it without their generous support.

All of these programs continue to put a new face on the Masonic Medical Research Institute. We are gaining recognition at the local, state, national and international level. People are realizing we are "the preeminent research center enabling tomorrow's cures."

It is thanks to the Brothers of New York Masonry that we can accomplish these great things. What began as a dream in 1947 is a reality. We have lots to do and with your continued support we will accomplish great things. The Masonic Medical Research Institute is first and foremost New York Masonry at its best. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire Masonic Medical Research Institute family I wish you and your family a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Find us on:



## ALR Reorganizes for year

The American Lodge of Research installed officers for the 2022-23 term and announced plans and initiatives for its future. The new officers of the eldest extant Lodge of Masonic research and education in the United States are: Worshipful Master Conor Moran, Senior Warden Michael Livschitz, Junior Warden Jay Hochberg, Treasurer David Pearlmutter, Secretary Praveen Anumolu, Senior Deacon Yves Etienne and Junior Deacon Michael Brempos.

The ALR met October 25 in Masonic Hall and will again on December 1, jointly with West Point Lodge 877 in Highland Falls. Meetings in 2023 will be held at 7 p.m. in the Colonial Room at Masonic Hall on March 28 and June

27. All Master Masons are welcome to attend. Attire is suit and tie. Aprons are provided but the brethren are welcome to wear their own.



Speaking of regalia, the Lodge revived a sartorial tradition from generations ago by commissioning distinct aprons for its members, officers and Past Masters. Partnering with Macoy Masonic Supply Co. in Virginia, Worshipful Master Moran had the aprons manufactured in designs consistent with what *Continues on next page – ALR Reorganizes*

# Scipio Celebrates Charter Birthday

by RW Stephen L. Zabriskie, Secy

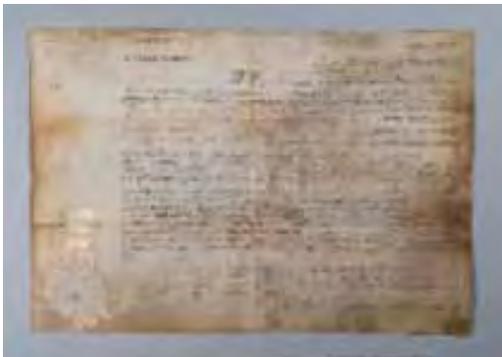
Thirteen settlers in 1795 sent a petition to the New York Grand Lodge seeking a charter for a Lodge in the vicinity of Aurora. On March 22, 1797 Grand Master Robert R Livingston and his Line signed the instrument and Scipio Lodge No. 58 was constituted before there was a school or church in this village.

The anti-Masonry movement impacted this area, as with most of the state, and the Lodge ceased to meet for some fifteen years. When Grand Chaplain Salem Town went to New York to petition to revive the Lodge in 1846, the then-Grand Officers signed the original charter on the reverse side and reissued it to Scipio Lodge No. 110, which is the present numeral.

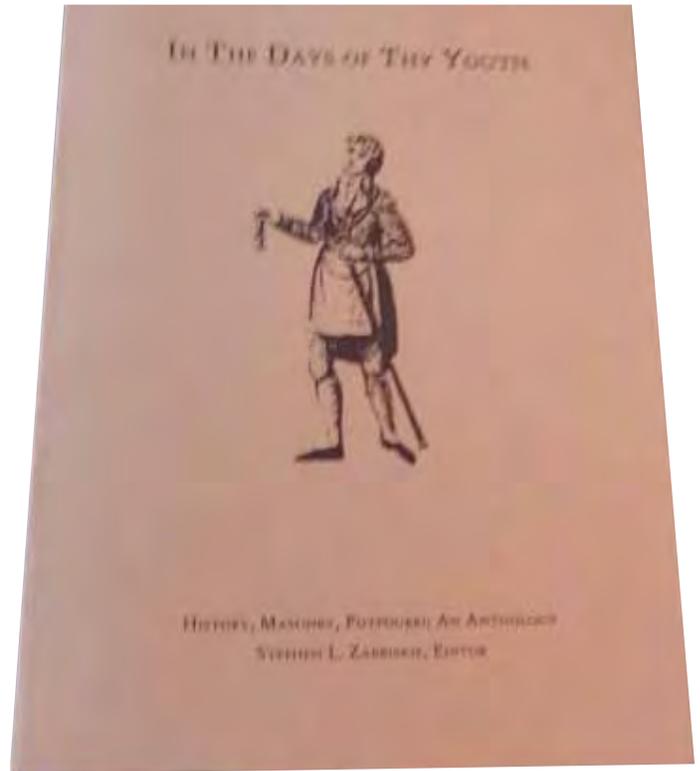
Although the Lodge history was interrupted, the charter is 225 years old this year. The Brothers of Scipio Lodge arranged for the charter to be reconditioned during the winter and returned in time for the celebration in March. The professional treatment was performed by West Lake Conservators in Skaneateles. The photo here is a good representation of the excellent restoration.

The party and dinner were attended by some thirty members and guests from adjacent Districts. The evening featured a program of new historical research and a presentation. Larry Egnaczyk, Commander-in-Chief in the Valley of Syracuse, recognized the anniversary with the Scottish Rite's Benjamin Franklin Award. District Deputy Grand Master Anthony Tabone closed with complimentary and congratulatory remarks.

The Lodge took the occasion to update and republish a collection of Masonic and local histories originally compiled for the charter's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The research was mostly conducted by members of the Lodge and their works were presented as Lodge programs. The other Lodges in the



Cayuga-Tompkins District submitted their history and efforts of more professional historians are included: pertinent papers from the American Lodge of Research, for example. A supply of these books is available.



## *In The Days of Thy Youth*

A collection of local histories, papers and presentations, Masonic and otherwise, of the origins of Lodges of Cayuga-Tompkins District and of early inhabitants. Published by Scipio 110 for its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1997, this updated, larger version celebrates the 225<sup>th</sup> birthday of the charter. Contains submissions quaint and polished from Masons and historians, including research by Temple R. Hollcroft, Stuart Sturges and George Peter. A nice addition to any Masonic library and a great gift for your favorite Craftsman.

\$18.00

Place orders and pay to: Scipio 110, F&AM, POB 74,  
Aurora, NY 13026

## *Continued from previous page – ALR Reorganizes*

the ALR's early brethren wore. The officers store their aprons at Lodge. ALR members in good standing desiring the Master Mason or Past Master (if so deserving) aprons may purchase them from Macoy at \$250 each (call 804/262-6551 ext. 605.)

In addition, the supply of membership jewels for both Active and Corresponding members is being restocked. Elegant membership certificates are fresh from the printer.

Membership begins at the Corresponding level, which is open to Master Masons in the Grand Lodge of New York and jurisdictions in amity. A Corresponding Member who

submits a research paper to the Lodge may be elected to Active Membership, becoming a voting member. Fellows of The ALR are elected by the Active Members in recognition of outstanding achievement in Masonic research and publication. To get involved with The American Lodge of Research, start with a visit to [alrny.org/contact](http://alrny.org/contact).

Earlier this year the Active Members elected to Fellowship: S. Brent Morris of Maryland, and Arturo de Hoyos of Texas. Prolific and renowned researchers, writers and editors in Masonic letters, they will be honored at an upcoming meeting, to be announced.

# YEARS OF SERVICE

## 81 YEARS

0615 STISSING  
Carlyle Lown

## 79 YEARS

0589 NAURASHANK  
Ernest V. Rodgers

## 78 YEARS

0111 ST. LAWRENCE  
Earl N. Wight

## 77 YEARS

0154 ERAC  
Alvin E. Boss  
0168 CORNING PAINTED POST  
Wayne C. Templer  
0463 LAMOKA  
Lauren Wood  
0806 MATINECOCK  
Robert W. Whaley  
1118  
LODGE OF THE UNITED SERVICES  
Wood D. Beeghly

## 76 YEARS

0109 INSPIRATION  
Carl J. Ester  
0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Frederick W. Fecher  
0647 AURORA GRATA-DAY STAR  
Joseph Walter Watson  
0725 SOUTHERN LIGHT  
William F. Wilson  
0867 DAMASCUS  
Alexander E. Deeb  
0934 JOSEPH WARREN-GOTHIC  
Leonard Tauber  
0981 AMHERST  
Harold C. Bechmann

## 75 YEARS

0109 INSPIRATION  
Robert W. Waldeck  
0136 HIRAM  
Robert W. Harter  
0200 GAROGA-SINCERITY  
John M. Record  
0487 NORMAL  
William F. Nehmzow

0664 AMICABLE  
Raymond Haggas Jr

0673 AVOCA  
Christopher P.  
McAllister

0822 LYNBROOK-MASSAPEQUA  
George F. Hughes

0956 SPARTAN  
Sidney Packer

## 74 YEARS

0010 KINGSTON  
Lester E. Frost  
0020 MOUNT MORIAH  
Ira Kass  
0134 LOWVILLE  
Charles J. Reeder II  
0145 MOUNT MORIAH  
William L. Wright  
0148 TRI-VALLEY  
Lloyd James Button  
0396 DEPOSIT  
Raymond J. Scott  
0491 SCHOHARIE VALLEY  
Ronald S. Filmer  
0713 SOCIAL  
Donald M. Beaney  
0782 TRIUNE-OBED  
Robert W. Bahret  
0793 BABYLON  
Bernard Bernstein  
0822 LYNBROOK-MASSAPEQUA  
William R. Lockwood  
0913 HEIGHTS  
Donald E. Gray  
0915 BEUKENDAAL  
Arthur W. Coolidge Jr  
1066 HARRY S TRUMAN  
Gerald S. Wank

## 73 YEARS

0155 FRATERNAL  
Winston R. Norcross  
0250 WILLARD SYLVAN GROVE  
Levon Margosian  
0318 JOSEPH ENOS  
Theodore L. Taylor  
0447 FRANKLIN  
Lawrence Oleck  
0449 MANHATTAN  
Abraham Avedissian  
0458 SHEKOMEKO  
John E. Kading

0463 LAMOKA  
Robert E. Canfield  
0501 LIVERPOOL SYRACUSE  
Glendon A. Raymond

0797 SENECA  
Donald Blair Scrivens

0806 MATINECOCK  
Warren G. Kraft

0922 AMOS-FORT GREENE  
Gerald Hundert

1101 PARTHENON  
James G. Plackis

## 72 YEARS

0008 HOLLAND  
Francis D. Everett Jr  
0063 WANTAGH MORTON  
Thomas F. McTigue  
0093 CROSSROADS UNITED  
James Orlando  
0128 OGDENSBURGH-ACACIAN  
Donald F. Awan  
0154 ERAC  
Leland G. Comstock  
0233 PACIFIC  
Robert S. Frielich  
0252 ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS  
Peter Ninos  
0258 MACEDONIA  
Richard W. Funk  
0417 WADSWORTH  
William R. Colclough  
0487 NORMAL  
William J. Orr  
John H. Shaw  
0673 AVOCA  
Walter A. Mehlenbacher  
0799 ORISKANY  
William J. Vandyke  
Henry Wind Jr  
0875 HENDRICK HUDSON  
Ralph M. Douglas  
0892 QUEENSBORO  
George D. Blasch  
0913 HEIGHTS  
Charles H. Ryder  
0977 AMITYVILLE  
Herbert W. Steel

0039 OLIVE BRANCH  
Gerald R. Werner  
0046 HUGENOT  
Harold T. Meagher  
0073 CHARLOTTEVILLE  
Lloyd Williams  
0095 GENERAL SULLIVAN  
Walter T. Ersly  
0126 EASTERN LIGHT  
Harold G. Maider  
0127 LAKE CITY  
David M. Russell IV  
0132 NIAGARA LaSALLE  
Harold W. Cooper  
0168 CORNING PAINTED POST  
Charles H. Chase  
0178 CORNERSTONE  
Sidney C. Greenfield  
0250 WILLARD SYLVAN GROVE  
Andrew Torigian  
0273 FRANCIS LEWIS  
William A. Hurster  
0284 AMERICA  
Ernest C. Schlottmann  
0386 JORDAN  
Robert K. Hill Jr  
0406 HUMANITY  
David B. Lauster  
0435 ST. MARK'S-VESTAL  
Leslie H. Wilmarth  
0494 JEPHTHA  
Alfred Q. Kuntz  
0516 PARK  
James W. McDonald  
0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Harold Sobel  
0651 TRUE CRAFTSMAN'S  
Murray H. Schenker  
0699 HARMONIE  
Robert Clayton Heron  
0714 WIELAND  
John Arnold Eymer  
0758 BAY RIDGE  
Arthur T. Thompson  
0765 VON MENSCH  
John P. Dietzel  
0782 TRIUNE-OBED  
Justus Edward McCurdy  
0877 WEST POINT  
Robert H. Johnston  
0902 MOUNT MASADA-GALAXY  
Robert A. Baer

## 71 YEARS

0006 ST. GEORGE'S  
Lyle W. Hall  
Ralph P. Richter

1015 MOUNT SABATTIS  
Bazil S. Burns

## 70 YEARS

0005 MASTERS  
William H. Newton  
0040 OLIVE BRANCH  
Maynard H. Brown Jr  
0085 BETHLEHEM  
Frederick H. Crouse Jr  
0087 VAN RENSSELAER  
David E. Knight Jr  
0157 TRUMANSBURG  
Richard C. Stevenson  
0219 SUMMIT  
Charles Earl Moulton  
0252 ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS  
Robert L. Norton  
0309 HUDSON RIVER  
George R. Kohler  
0439 DELAWARE RIVER  
Donald Lee Haight  
0458 SHEKOMEKO  
Harry J. Jenkins  
0473 WHITE PLAINS  
William A. Grosso  
0483 ZEREDATHA  
Bertram L. Lubliner  
0486  
GOLDENRULE CLERMONT MCKINLEY  
Harry Colter  
0521 SULLIVAN  
Marvin Blumenfeld  
0524 MORNING STAR  
Gilbert Herbert Lovell Jr  
0552 HANCOCK  
George H. Elwood  
0563 CORNUCOPIA  
John Charles Boehm  
0649 ROBINSON  
James D. Heckman  
0737 GUTTENBERG  
Alfred W. Schermerhorn  
0751 LA UNIVERSAL  
Justo Yglesias  
0819 COMPOSITE  
Milton J. Bornstein  
0843 STAR OF THE EAST  
Bruce Collins  
0981 AMHERST  
James D. Collins  
1041 BROTHERHOOD  
Neil Sznitken

1057 SPRINGFIELD GARDENS  
Robert A. Borchert

## 65 YEARS

0005 MASTERS  
Glenn R. Cropsey

0020 MOUNT MORIAH  
Otto Fuchs

0022 FRANKLIN  
Donald L. Perkins

0056 ST. ALBANS  
Arthur Harris  
Lee Hilton

0063 WANTAGH MORTON  
Donald A. Woolnough

0079 UNITY  
Bruce A. Van Evera

0112 STEUBEN  
Grant Simons

0124 AUBURN  
James R. Hollabaugh  
Harold C. Parker

0138 OTSEGO  
Howard C. Michaels

0150 SAUQUOIT  
Ronald E. Jones

0168 CORNING PAINTED POST  
Kenneth P. Bruielli

0178 CORNERSTONE  
Joseph Kessler

0204 PERFECT SQUARE  
Martin H. Rogers

0233 PACIFIC  
Leonard Rosendorf

0241 HARMONY  
Marvin Moskowitz  
William C. Ritter

0255 LIVING STONE  
William C. McGee

0290 MOUNT OLIVE  
Fredrick L. Hill Jr

0298 FISH HOUSE  
Thomas A. Perkins

0311 MOUNT ZION  
Elliott F. Marinstein

0342 WYOMING  
William T. Allcot III

0371 HERITAGE  
Dominic J. Santoro

0412 HOFFMAN  
Jerome Bernstein

0439 DELAWARE RIVER  
Guy F. Snyder

0447 FRANKLIN  
Harvey L. Lerner

0476 FAIRPORT-FLOWER CITY  
Stuart Bobry

0477 WILDWOOD  
James A. Rider

0494 JEPHTHA  
Walter L. Benning

0517 FRONTIER  
James H. Sweet

0545 COPERNICUS  
Thomas W. Hart

0581 WINFIELD  
Harvey A. Smith

0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Felipe G. Calzadilla  
Thomas E. Timothy  
Jason Weiner

0595 SOCRATES  
Paul H. Griemsmann

0627 WALLKILL  
Clifford E. Eriksen

0664 AMICABLE  
Robert Mccullough Myers

0710 RIDGEWOOD  
Joseph G. Schulz

0718 ADONAI  
David S. Lent

0729 ANCHOR-ASTORIA  
Ernest A H Mackinnon

0750 SHAKESPEARE  
Edmund M. Berkowitz  
Victor Kulmala

0772 RESCUE  
Willard Anderson

0843 STAR OF THE EAST  
Frederick A. Notel

0867 DAMASCUS  
Malak G. Karkenny

0908 OLD TOWN  
Albert Pagac

0916 PHILADELPHIA  
Leon K. Canell

0922 AMOS-FORT GREENE  
Alfred Arnold

0923 TADMOR  
Wilfred Vollmerding

1041 BROTHERHOOD  
Daniel R. Wainick

1118  
LODGE OF THE UNITED SERVICES  
Stanley Moore

1126 SOUTH SHORE-LONG BEACH  
Joseph W. Lehr

1174 SCHENECTADY  
Armando A. Paoelli

1175 FELLOWSHIP  
Donald C. Reed

1193 TOWPATH  
Paul K. Beatenbough  
Frank E. Messoro

## 60 YEARS

0005 MASTERS  
Peter Rustam Kermani

0006 ST. GEORGE'S DEWITT  
Elson Frasier

0010 KINGSTON  
William Chas Brascher

0051 FIDELITY-HOBASCO  
Noel Desch

0056 ST. ALBANS  
Charles B. Halley  
William R. Rusch

0063 WANTAGH MORTON  
Sherman D. Greenlee

0079 UNITY  
James Fred Oeser

0082 PHOEBUS  
Donald Lee Higgins

0084 AMSTERDAM  
William Paul Strack

0087 VAN RENSSELAER  
Peter D. Tacy

0095 GENERAL SULLIVAN  
Edward P. Campbell Jr  
Robert D. Cornwell

0105 HIRAM  
Raymond H. Seth

0112 STEUBEN  
Archie W. Sprague

0124 AUBURN  
Edward K. Wills

0154 ERAC  
Leon Hayton Geil  
Frederick Warren Hand

0172 CHAUMONT  
Gerald D. Roberson

0178 CORNERSTONE  
Marvin S. Garelick

0182 KNICKERBOCKER  
Robert Paston

0193 ULSTER  
Harry E. Vickery

0201 GENESIS  
Robert C. Spahn

0217 GOUVERNEUR  
Gerald E. Lum

0231 CORNERSTONE  
William Brosi III  
David H. Feest

0241 HARMONY  
Robert Cohen  
Stuart B. Herman  
Robert M. Javeline

0259 SISCO  
Kenneth W. Carter

0264 BARON STEUBEN  
Richard D. Martin

0297 ALEXANDRIA  
Stanley E. Ward

0301 DUNKIRK-IRONDEQUOIT  
John William Whitehead Jr

0347 CLINTON-HAMPTON  
Dale Kenneth Cook  
Gerald Robert Matteson

0396 DEPOSIT FERDINAND  
Frank Schambach

0417 WADSWORTH  
Edwin W. Engelhardt

0433 FORT PLAIN  
Bruce J. Bauder

0438 MARATHON  
Paul A. Marsh  
Richard L. Pendell

0445 CASSIA  
Alfred F. Cypes  
0468 Rip Van Winkle  
William A. Darling

0473 WHITE PLAINS  
Harry M. Gardner #3

0474 BELMONT  
Gerald L. Mayo

0483 ZEREDATHA  
George Peshkin

0484 COLUMBIAN  
Jerard Arnold Schacher

0486  
GOLDENRULE CLERMONT MCKINLEY  
Marc V. Schnur

0501 LIVERPOOL SYRACUSE  
Lee I. Fetterly

0521 SULLIVAN  
Jack Zelanko

0524 MORNING STAR  
Karl F. Von Knoblauch

0538 WEBSTER  
Eugene Van Voorhis

0545 COPERNICUS  
Henry Jakob Behrens  
Henry George Boesch  
Walter Koch  
Robert H Muentener Jr

0548 LAURENS  
Harold L. Aldrich  
Gerald A. Rose

0555  
YORKTOWN-DIAMOND-THISTLE  
Arthur Klamka

0563 CORNUCOPIA  
Russell F. Horn

0579 PORTVILLE  
Robert C. Huddleston

0581 WINFIELD  
Kenneth W. Palmer

0589 NAURASHANK  
Lewis M. Silverman

0608 LESSING  
Heinrich W. Reich

0646 RED JACKET  
John T. Benton

0647 AURORA GRATA-DAY STAR  
Wilbur David Spearin

0695 ALCYONE  
Phillip R. Helder

0727 BUNTING-CHARITY  
Peter A. Lewis

0779 CLIO  
Kenneth R. Mullen

0797 SENECA  
Albert F. Downs  
Jack Allan Maltby

0808 GUIDING LIGHT-OLYMPIA  
Jerome M. Pollack

0814 SCONONDOA-SHERRILL  
Wayne Wood

0819 COMPOSITE  
Stanley H. Friedman

0826 SUTHERLAND  
Earl Charles Huckins

0837 HESPERUS  
Roger W. Sackett

0843 STAR OF THE EAST  
Joseph Sebring Hull Jr

0934 JOSEPH WARREN-GOTHIC  
Howard Elakman  
Morton A. Frankfurt

0948 SWEET HOME  
Jacob Yellen

0956 SPARTAN  
Robert D. Kainen  
Myron C. Rosenstein

0968 PHILO-MOUNT SINAI  
Harry Paston

0977 AMITYVILLE  
Charles J. Junz

1101 PARTHENON  
Charles Kirkiles

1118  
LODGE OF THE UNITED SERVICES  
William M. Yellin

1180 DRUMLIN SQUARE  
Oliver T. Amesbury

1185 WESTERN STAR  
Ronald O. Barrett  
John J. Byrne  
Francis C. Focht  
Norbert F. Meyer  
Peter Stevanoff

**55 YEARS**

0006 ST. GEORGE'S  
Marvin E. Rodgers Jr

0011 THE LODGE OF ANTIQUITY  
John P. Praides

0023 HANCOCK-DIRIGO-ADELPHI  
Irwin H. Markowitz  
D.D.S.

0033 GENEVA-ARK  
Charles R. Jenkins  
Daryl N. Smith  
Edwin F. Watling

0034 COURTLANDT  
Phillip Bardua

0047 UTICA  
William G. Galle Jr

0056 ST. ALBANS  
Robert W. Messler Jr  
Daniel Perry

0065 MORNING STAR  
George E. Brasted

0073 CHARLOTTEVILLE  
Darryl P. May

0095 GENERAL  
Sullivan Carl A. Raatz

0109 INSPIRATION  
Royden F. Guess  
John W. Laymac

0112 STEUBEN  
Leroy C. Turner

0124 AUBURN  
Robert W. Shaffer

0136 HIRAM  
George A. Rood

0154 ERAC  
Frank Kelsey

0159 PULTNEYVILLE  
Ruric L. Strickland

0168 CORNING PAINTED POST  
Kenneth A. Burket

0172 CHAUMONT  
Leslie D. Daye

0175 OXFORD  
John N. Dexheimer

0178 CORNERSTONE  
Ronald J. Cummings

0223 ROMAN-HATHEWAY  
James Christodolou

0224 ORIENTAL-FAXTON  
Ronald G. Hirst

0230 UNIVERSITY  
Frederick D. Gibson  
Frank E. Smith  
Roger L. Snyder  
Ward E. Votava

0231 CORNERSTONE  
Douglas Mackenzie

0232 KING SOLOMON-BEETHOVEN  
John Whitlock Kessler

0252 ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS  
James S. Cochran

0285 GEORGE WASHINGTON  
Joseph Gayol

0290 MOUNT OLIVE  
George G. Bowen

0294 CANANDAIGUA  
Frederick C. Frankish  
Robert B. Meyer

0308 SENECA LAKE  
David F. Heusler  
Rene Reynolds

0313 STONY POINT WAWAYANDA  
Robert J. Kolb

0320 UNION STAR  
Kenneth E. Buckland  
John Pete Yendell

0358 ANCIENT LANDMARKS  
Glenn W. Losel  
James E. Patterson

0383 NORTHERN AURORA  
Gerald A. Race

0393 WADDINGTON  
William A. Dailey  
David R. Nichols

0403 BALDER-GREENPOINT  
Roger A. Magnussen

0432 RHINEBECK  
Revilo Merrihew Jr

0434 PLEASANTVILLE HIAWATHA  
Geoffery Douglas Yorke

0435 ST. MARK'S-VESTAL  
Darwyn L. Tiley

0438 MARATHON  
Fred M. S. Downs

0462 ATTICA  
Jerold A. Brade

0468 RIP VAN WINKLE  
Henry L. Coons

0486  
GOLDENRULE CLERMONT MCKINLEY  
Martin A. Danoff

0501 LIVERPOOL SYRACUSE  
Richard A. Martin

0521 SULLIVAN  
G. Rockwell Hill

0550 HANNIBAL  
Dwayne R. Adsitt

0551 RANSOMVILLE  
Jon R. Schweitzer

0552 HANCOCK  
Edward A. Thiele

0565 GUIDING STAR-ANGLE  
William Green

0575 OLIVE  
Claude Elliott Dougherty

0584 ASHLAR  
James D. McClay

0616 CAZENOVIA  
Robert James Bedell  
William Owen Evans  
Paul Frederick Paffendorf

0648 MEMORIAL  
Ronald H. Leclair

0653 JOHN JAY  
George B. Merritt

0671 WAPPINGERS  
Russell D. Williams

0694 BLAZING STAR  
Richard G. Mann

0701 BEACON LIGHT  
Robert M. Clark

0712 PELHAM  
Dennis L. Fowler  
Stanley M. Klingsberg

0751 LA UNIVERSAL  
Manuel Rios

0753 JUSTICE  
David L. Bobrow

0779 CLO  
Harry J. Dehollander

0785 NIAGARA RIVER LODGE  
Gordon E. Johnston

0796 DOLGEVILLE  
Robert C. Bills

0797 SENECA  
Charles B. Daly II

0806 MATINECOCK  
George E. Capek

0820 ON DA WA  
George J. Marshall Sr

0863 DUNWOODIE  
Jay P. Hochstaine  
Michael K. Holstein

0877 WEST POINT  
Dwight E. Beach Jr

0892 QUEENSBORO  
Robert W. Froehlich

0896 TULLY  
David R. Alsip

0913 HEIGHTS  
Delbert D. Edkin

0925 TYRIAN  
Robert L M Zolczer

0956 SPARTAN  
George W. Wecklein

0970 JOHNSON CITY UNITY  
Albert J. Hedeon

1016 FLORAL PARK  
John A. Newark  
Ronald W. Rebehn

1037 VICTORIA SEA GATE  
Leonard Tashman  
Joel P. Wiesen  
Stuart R. Zaikov

1101 PARTHENON  
Anthony Gegelys

1129 HELLENIC - PLATO  
Paul P. Hatzikyriakos  
Marinos A. Petratos

1134 DONGAN PATENT  
Christopher Steele Esq

1139 EVERGREEN-  
BROTHERHOOD-NEW HYDE PARK  
Arnold Horn

1175 FELLOWSHIP  
Dennis P. Goergen

1188 RENAISSANCE  
Robert D. Kessler

UD "LAND SEA & AIR NO. ONE"  
Donald Carl Moss

**50 YEARS**

0003 MOUNT VERNON  
Kenneth H. Clements

0006 ST. GEORGE'S  
Donald J. Denure

0009 UNITY  
Martin G. Preston

0011 THE LODGE OF ANTIQUITY  
Raymond Edward  
Kreuscher  
Dale A. Tynan

0023 HANCOCK-DIRIGO-ADELPHI  
Mark J. Goldman  
Edward J. Silverman

0040 OLIVE BRANCH  
Cary A. Selby

0041 SYLVAN  
Robert Alan Defendorf

0056 ST. ALBANS  
Peter Strates Skalkos

0073 CHARLOTTEVILLE  
Charles L. Evans

0083 NEWARK  
Frederick E. Trowbridge

0096 MOUNT HOPE-PHOENIX  
Warren B. Ladd  
Dale E. Prouty

0105 HIRAM  
Robert J. Catalano

0128 OGDENSBURGH-ACACIAN  
James Arnold Mix

0131 MYRTLE-JEFFERSON  
George A. Roy

0132 NIAGARA LaSALLE  
Ronald McCormick

0145 MOUNT MORIAH  
William A. Stevenson

0146 WESTERN UNION  
Richard James Sullivan Jr  
Cecil Carl Washbon

0154 ERAC  
Donald J. Brugger  
John Edward Kennedy

0159 PULTNEYVILLE  
Lee L. Collier

0196 SOLOMON'S  
Donald B. Schwer

0199 HARMONY  
Friedrich Bischanka

0230 UNIVERSITY  
Timothy S. Randall  
Franklin Russell

0252 ENCHANTED MOUNTAINS  
Charles William Fisher

0256 FORT BREWERTON  
Leo J. Soeder

0258 MACEDONIA  
Robert M. Richardson

0283 BEACON  
Arnold Hansen  
Murray M. Venus

0284 AMERICA  
John Wade Trieller

0311 MOUNT ZION  
Richard W. Keeler Jr

0320 UNION STAR  
Jack Nau

0342 WYOMING  
William J. Rieg

0379 OAKLAND  
William Eastman Wallace

0381 HUGUENOT  
Michael J. Keiser

0398 HOME  
Richard A. Kidwell

0412 HOFFMAN  
Raymond N. Baker  
Robert L. Clawson  
Hans W W Hansen

0417 WADSWORTH  
William S. Fancher Jr  
Alan S. Lasker

0438 MARATHON  
Keith C. Goodenough

0470 CORTLANDVILLE  
Robert Crocker Howe

0472 TRITOWN  
Bradley Paul Perkins

0473 WHITE PLAINS  
William Ron

0513 MASSENA  
Marwan Daye

0521 SULLIVAN  
William Galligan

0524 MORNING STAR  
Vernon Donald Stephens

0545 COPERNICUS  
Wilhelm Elfers  
Hans Kalb

0573 DE PEYSTER  
Dean A. Hilborne

0586 ADVANCE SERVICE MIZPAH  
Lawrence Yodice

0608 LESSING BERND  
Norbert Messing

0646 RED JACKET  
George E. Chapman

0677 REMSEN  
Daniel Anthony Caputo

0754 NOAH  
Marvin D. Ruch

0758 BAY RIDGE  
Robert J. Barkus

0791 LIVINGSTON MANOR  
Marc Robert Freedman

0837 HESPERUS  
James L. Kiser

0849 NORTH WOODS  
William Park  
Stephen Charles Park

0877 WEST POINT  
Frank B. Hutto

0879 CHARLES W. CUSHMAN  
Arnold P. Boyce

0892 QUEENSBORO  
Kenneth A. Mueller

0896 TULLY  
Terry C. Wood

0912 GREAT KILLS  
John H. Chapman  
Edward L. Rassmussen

0942 UNITED LODGE  
Joseph J. Iaropoli

0950 KONOSIONI  
Rolf Dieter Ziemer

0970 JOHNSON CITY UNITY  
Anthony T. Calisi

1000 PUBLICITY  
Donard Murphy Jr

1057 SPRINGFIELD GARDENS  
Dennis T. Kotch

1118  
LODGE OF THE UNITED SERVICES  
James C. Frazier

1127 SMITHTOWN  
Richard A. Little

1170 ALLIED  
George Alvin Harrison

1172 JOSE RIZAL  
Arsenio P. Assin

1185 WESTERN STAR  
David R. Durfee Sr  
Brian J. Hindle

1186 KEN-TON  
Edward R. Trosin

## Guiding Light-Olympia's Fun Degree

On Thursday, May 12 Guiding Light-Olympia Lodge.808 conferred the Water Buffalo Degree. The brethren in attendance included MW Grand Master Richard Kessler. (Rumors of the East being reduced to a pile of Rubble and Pebbles from a somewhat-too-fervent Bam-Bam of the gavel by the Grand Master are greatly exaggerated.)

In true Flintstones tradition, those in attendance learned the grips and words of our ancient geological past, as all preceding Pleistocene Brothers have done before us. The event raised \$1,000, which is to be donated to The Battle Within Foundation. Congratulations are due to the newest members of the Herd.



# Grand Secretary's Golf Tournament

What a day, what a day, what a day! There were 144 golfers who came to Cold Spring Country Club in Huntington, NY for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Secretary's Golf Classic, the premier Masonic golf event in the Tri-State Area. We had a picture-perfect day for golf, temps in the mid- 80s and a breeze off the Long Island Sound. With Oheka Castle as a backdrop, it looked like something out of a movie.

The staff at Cold Spring Country Club, under GM Matt Tucker, could not have been nicer. Every detail was taken care of. This year we utilized a digital online check-in system that was generously donated by EventHub and Larry Battaglia.

Every golfer received a blue tote bag, a FootJoy pullover, a sleeve of OnCore golf balls and a rocks glass sponsored by our Grand Master MW Richard J. Kessler. The OnCore balls are the official golf ball of the Grand Secretary's Golf Classic and we thank Bro. Nasser Sutherland for this. We also thank RWs Angel Ruiz, Marshal Shichtman, Richard Giordano, Jordan Kaplan and Bro. Juan Blanco for helping check in the golfers.

Breakfast was full-service, complete with French toast, fresh fruit and omelets and eggs cooked to order, as well as an assortment of juices and coffee. All golfers had free use of the driving range, chipping area and putting green. Very special thanks go to Fouad Kashouty and Nasir Dakrat, from Hiram & Solomon Cigars, for having cigars on hand. We look forward to having them back next year.



This year we welcomed special guest Dennis Walters, a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame. Dennis has been paralyzed from the waist down since 1974. He is a USGA Adaptive Golf Open Winner in the seated division. Dennis put on a hitting exhibition, with his dog Gussie. He gave this advice: If you have a dream or a goal, go after it; and if you make that dream or goal go after a new one.



Cold Spring County Club Director of Golf James Weiss had plenty of on-course contests including a men's and women's

long drive, won by Jimmy "Trigger" Trangali and Vivian Massero. We had four closest-to-the-pin contests, as well. The main hole-in-one prize was \$25,000, again sponsored by Ruiz Home Improvements and Bro. Jose Ruiz of Ridgewood Lodge 710.

Each foursome was assigned a forecaddie; they wore caddie bibs with the Grand Lodge logo on the front and our caddie sponsor on the back. The caddies and bibs were sponsored by the MMRI and we thank them for the generous support.

The team of MW Carl J. Fitje, RW Walter Wasnieski, Bro. Eric Fitje and Richard Nicholas came in first with a score of 57. The Low Net Team was Bobby Reichelt, James Trangali, Chris Doyle and Don Niem. Chris Sortino would be \$25,000 richer if his tee shot on 17 rolled another 22 inches. That was the shot of the day.



The cocktail hour and dinner were upstairs at the main ballroom. Raw oysters and clams, shrimp, plenty of passed hors d'oeuvres and an open bar; a full buffet with carving stations of steak and turkey, dishes of salmon, vegetables and pasta; two table set-ups of every type of dessert: if you went away hungry you have some appetite.

Raffle prizes included a box of Cuban cigars, golf lessons from some of the best local PGA Teaching pros in the metropolitan area, gift certificates to some of the best restaurants on Long Island and three beautiful pieces of jewelry donated by Bro. Joe Palmeri of Gemelli Jewelers in Maspeth, NY. We also had an accompanied threesome to Friars Head and the Creek Club and tickets to the 151<sup>st</sup> Open Championship at Royal Liverpool. Frank Vollaro of Long Island Silent Auctions was on hand with various items, especially Masonic-related items.

During dinner we presented gifts to some of our charities. A check to the Trustees of the Masonic Hall & Home for \$14,000 was accepted by Trustee RW Michael Siegel. RW Pat Imbimbo, Director of the MMRI, accepted a check for \$8,000, one-half of which will go to the MMRI Autism Project.

We donate to charities outside of Freemasonry but these must align with Masonic beliefs of charity and help those less fortunate. The Golf Classic Committee made a donation to the Guttstrong Foundation for \$3,000. This charity awards scholarships to the Long Island Caddie Scholarship



Foundation. The Guttstrong Charity is in memory of Jeff Guttentag, who lost his life in 2020 to COVID-19.

Our last check was presented to Grand Master Kessler for the Battle Within Foundation. This charity raises awareness of veteran suicide. At one recent point, twenty-two US Military veterans took their own life daily. The number is down to approximately eighteen and we will not be happy until it stands at 0. This donation was in memory of Joanne Kessler, our dear departed First Lady. We will also donate to the Livingston Masonic Library and Caddie For a Cure, another of our outside charities.

We thank our Deputy Grand Master RW Steven A. Rubin and his team for playing and for bringing their lovely ladies for dinner. Thanks, too go to RW Bob Hogan, Senior Grand Warden and RW Peter Stein, Junior Grand Warden, for driving to support this spectacular event. We were pleasantly surprised when MW James Sullivan, PGM, came to spend the day with us in fellowship and laughter; his presence made the day even better.

A special thank-you goes to the vendors of Grand Lodge, especially G&G Electric, Murray & Sena Consulting Group,

ADCO Electric and Harvard Maintenance. All sponsored holes and brought golfers to play. A number of Masonic Lodges either sponsored or brought players. We thank the Ridgewood Masonic Temple Guild, who for the twelfth year in a row sponsored the banquet. Thanks go to Reliance Lodge No. 776 for their generous donation.

We thank RW Stewart McCloud for joining us again and RW Gerry Messina from the 9<sup>th</sup> Manhattan District. We cannot forget a big, special thank-you to RW Robert Stein and the Masonic Yacht Club. Year after year they support the event with golfers and prizes. They help make the Grand Secretary's Golf Classic a hit every year and I thank all for the support and generous donations.

Save the date. Next year it will be Monday, June 19 for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Secretary's Golf Classic at Cold Spring Country Club in Huntington, NY. Be on the lookout for the flyer in coming issues of the *Empire State Mason*. Also remember to get your Lodges and Districts involved by becoming one of our sponsors. Remember: a bad day of golf is better than a good day at work—especially when it is all for charity.

# GRAND LECTURER



RW RICHARD FRIEDMAN,  
GRAND LECTURER  
richddgm1@gmail.com

My dear Brothers, it has been great to be among you again. So far in my conventions I have been impressed with the Brothers who are coming out to learn and deepen their understanding of Freemasonry. It is also inspiring to meet so many Brothers who are keeping the flame of excellent work alive. I think many Brothers do not want us to adopt mediocrity in the ritual as a standard. Our standard in New York is excellence.

Most of you know me by now and I visit all of you who have AGLs and have conventions. I am completely aware of the issues you face in manpower, attendance and financial concerns. Please know that accomplishing whatever elements of these goals is a victory. It means you care and you are not using excuses to not attempt to improve yourself in Masonry. So adjust what you need to to your direct circumstance.

What is my definition of ritual excellence?

- Brothers who are enthusiastic about the ritual and do not see it as a chore or a burden.
- Proficiency through the Degree process that is over 90% accurate.
- Very well attended rehearsals that are enthusiastic learning centers.

Work that is over 90% accurate throughout the Degree and in every chair.

Presenters of the work who understand the ritual enough to attach feeling and emotion to it. Think how different the description of music would be with no emotion.

Districts are working hard to come back, and that is variable. Do we have Districts in real trouble in the ritual? Sure. But if we look around our communities and our world, the pandemic

had one of the most galvanic impacts of any illness in so many ways—not least of which seems to be an apathy that is out there cutting across most things.

Masonry is not an electronic thing. It is a personal thing between men that can never be fully developed on Zoom. The Masonic experience that we talk about begins with brotherly love and connection. That opens the door to learning the ritual, philosophy and all that is connected. Or it opens the door to a cook for the barbecue next month; or the Brother who paints the ceiling; or the Brother who gets to Lodge early to make sure the refreshment is all set and the Lodge room is prepared.

We have got to get hold of all our Brothers and invite them to the next Degree. Tell them how much we and the candidates need them there.

One thing was true pre- and post-pandemic and this creates a challenge for you. Lodges and Districts where the ritual is highly regarded, understood as the foundation of all Masonic education, understood as our language and mostly understood as a wonderful blueprint to live a really great life if we incorporate it daily, continue to grow and thrive to the degree that they can. You Brothers know the rest of the story. What do you choose?

Whatever that is, never forget that your most important task in our Fraternity, that transcends age, rank, title, geography and all else is this. Love your Brother, and each of you will earn respect for each other and live according to that beautiful Blue Book.

Gung HO

## Traveling Gravel at Shekomeko Lodge 458

Shekomeko Lodge 458 is proud to be in possession of the Mid-Hudson District's Traveling Gavel. Shekomeko is the largest Lodge in the Mid-Hudson District and continues to be one of the most active, whether it be volunteer efforts in the community, ritual perfection or being the true emblem of Brotherhood and support for each other and our families.



Announcing the  
**Seventy-Sixth Annual Metropolitan Region's**

**Masons & Families Dedication  
Service & Breakfast**

Sponsored by the  
**MASONIC BROTHERHOOD FOUNDATION, INC.**

Hosted by  
**2021-2024 METROPOLITAN REGION  
DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTER'S ASSOCIATION**

**SUNDAY MORNING**

**MARCH 5, 2023**

at

**MARINA DEL REY**

One Marina Drive

Throgs Neck, Bronx, NY 10465

**GUEST SPEAKER**

**Brother Steven Christopher Stefanakos**

33<sup>rd</sup> Degree-Valley of Rockville Centre  
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite - N.M.J.  
Police Officer and 9/11 First Responder

Seating will begin promptly at 8:30 AM

The site offers easy access from major highways and **VALET PARKING**. The Service of Ecumenical Worship will be led by our Grand Chaplains at 9:00 AM, and immediately be followed by the Breakfast Program.

Tickets are available for purchase at \$45.00 per person online at:

**[events.nymasons.org](https://events.nymasons.org)**

**LAST DAY TO BUY TICKETS: MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

For Group Sales on behalf of Lodges and Districts, contact your District Deputy Grand Master.

Tickets **MUST** be purchased in **ADVANCE**. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**. Seatings is Limited.



# BENEFIT DINNER

*for* The Joanne Kessler  
Children's Dyslexia Center

**January 28, 2023 @ 5:30 pm**

*Join with hundreds of Masons as all proceeds will support the first Children's Dyslexia Center in the Grand Lodge building.*

**Hosted By:**

The Trustees of  
The Masonic Hall and Asylum Fund

**Location:**

Grand Lodge  
71 W 23rd St.  
New York, NY 10010

Please forward payment to:

Masonic Brotherhood Foundation  
71 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10010

For questions contact  
the Trustees Office at:

(212) 741-4520



*Please remove and send with payment - \$150 Per Ticket*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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