

The Sideliner

Master
Leo Synakowski

Wadsworth Lodge No. 417, F. & A.M.

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Under the Master's Hat

Worshipful Master

The start of my year has not been without some trials and tribulations. The Masonic movie night was cancelled suddenly due to technical problems. I hope to reschedule later in the year.

The Masters annual trip this year to the BigE in Massachusetts was a big hit with 43 brothers and their wives attending. Our bus driver from Hunter Motor Coach was very professional and turned out to be a member of the Eastern Star in Windham, NY. Total attendance for the BigE on that Saturday was over 164,000 people, making for a very crowded event. Apparently "Most" Worshipful Victor Stewart's camera had a technical problem so we did not end up with any pictures. However besides the great crafts and food available some of us did make the grandstand for the Elvis



Impersonator Show. Our buffet dinner was a great way to end the day and everyone quietly relaxed on the ride home.

Our annual awards night was another success. We ended up with a full room of participants and their families. Some of the highlights were two brothers to receive their 55 year awards and having three generations of the family of Jim Fuller to see their son Tom get his years of service award.

As most of you are aware I have started what I hope is my final treatment for my cancer. I am presently receiving radiation Monday through Friday for thirty day which will be ending on November 3rd. The prognosis is good but it will take 3 to 4 weeks to see the results. I have had to curtail my other Masonic events and duties

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UNDER THE MASTER’S HAT (CONT’D)

due to the pain and fatigue. I have made it a point to make the Wadsworth meetings. As always I hope this year will continue to be a success.

Fraternally,
Leo Synakowski
Master

Wadsworth Lodge 2015 – 2016 Trestle Board

August 9, 2015 SUNDAY	Lodge Picnic- Hendrick Hudson Park
September 9, 2015	Welcome Back Brothers Night, Discussion of plans for this year, read any petitions and business meeting
September 23, 2015	Masonic Movie Night, “The Freemason” Pizza and Wing Night Come and watch a never released masonic mystery movie.
September 26, 2015-SAT	Family Masonic Trip – Northeast Exposition and Fair, West Springfield Mass., \$20.00 per person includes bus admission and dinner.
October 14, 2015*	Years of Service Awards Night-Open meeting
October 28, 2015*	DDGM Visit
November 4, 2015	Degree Rehearsal, general discussion of floor work and duties Casual dress
November 11, 2015*	1 st Degree, Past Masters in charge
November 25, 2015	No meeting due to Holiday Observance
December 9 2015	Annual Holiday Party – Holiday toy drive, Family get together
December 23, 2015	No meeting due to Holiday Observance
January 13, 2016	2 nd Degree
January 23, 2016*-SAT	Special Communication for 3 rd Degree. Day time weekend degree due to winter time
January 27, 2016	Business Meeting
February 10,2016	Annual Brother Bring a Friend Night and Pool Tournament, Light Dinner and proceeds from pool tournament benefit the Brotherhood Fund
February 24, 2016	Education Night- “Masonic Etiquette” short talk by Bro. Michael A. Hernandez, St. George’s Lodge #6, and Annual Reports Night from the Treas., Sect’y, Trustees with Safe Deposit Audit.
March 9, 2016*	1 st Degree
March 19, 2016 SAT	Wadsworth Table Lodge-Dinner and Program-“In Defense of the Ruffians”
March 23, 2016*	Business Meeting
April 13, 2016	Move up Night, all officers elected and appointed and business meeting
April 27, 2015	2 nd Degree
May 11, 2016	3 rd Degree & Master’s Annual Report
May 25, 2016*	Annual Communications, Elections, Appointments and Installation of Officers
June 8	TBA

“*” Indicated Tuxedos to be worn

Sickness and Distress:

W.: Victor Stewart reported that Shirley's cataract surgeries are done with and she sees much better. However, she still has some issues with the myasthenia gravis.

W.: Leo Synakowski reports that the latest tumor is not new, but part of the original tumor. It is

now being treated with radiation. The treatments are daily and leave him severely fatigued at the end of the day.

He asks for our understanding as he fulfills his obligations as Master.

Glad Tidings:

Bro. Tim Martin's youngest daughter turned 26 last month.

W.: Leo Synakowski was involved in a head on car crash. Normally this would be in the preceding article, but since he was unhurt it is glad tidings. The car did not fare as well, it was totaled.

R.: W.: Bill Ogren reports *"I got some good news today, I went to the Oncologist and he found that the swollen lymph nodes in my armpits were gone, the spleen had shrunk and the swelling in my legs has decreased. These are all good signs. Even though I only had 2 chemo treatments instead of the 4, I was supposed to have they did help. My white blood count was still very low but he was not too*

concerned at this time. That is what lymphoma does and it has not varied too much. He recommended we sit tight and watch it for a while to see what happens. He also said I no longer need to wear a mask when I go out and I can eat anything I want and told me a straight up Manhattan was fine. He also suggested not using the oxygen all day and use it at nighttime. I still have to go to the pulmonary doctor September 3rd and I don't know what he will find. God has come through again and I want to thank all of you for your prayers."

W.: R. Victor Stewart announced that R.: W.: John W. Scott was awarded the Honorary 33rd Degree by Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry at this year's annual conclave.

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. Daniel L. Lowenski

Became a Mason October 24, 2001

Passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on November 14, 2001

Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on February 27, 2002

Raised to the **Supreme Lodge on High August 25, 2015**

Please communicate sickness and distress and/or glad tidings. Brothers, we will never have knowledge to give support to our Brothers, their Widows or Orphans unless we communicate. Harmony is the support of all institutions, especially this of Our Great Masonic Lodge, Wadsworth #417.



Lodge News:

New Website

A new version of the Wadsworth website is now online at www.wadsworth417.org. The website has been set up by the new webmaster, Bro. Steve Conant, and is based on the previous site that was developed and maintained by Brother Bob Fickies, who now lives in Florida. Many thanks go out to Bob for all of his efforts on the previous site.

Dues Notice

Wadsworth **2016** Dues Invoice Notices have been mailed. Until you receive your new card, please remember that your *old* 2015 membership card expires on December 31, 2015 while the new membership card takes effect on January 1, 2016. Your membership payment should be mailed to me by the first Communication in December. Mailing of cards to you will be done over the last two weeks in December. If you have not received your card by January 1, 2016, please let me know immediately since this is your only verification for current membership.

Your **Wadsworth Lodge dues** this year are \$138 for Regular members or \$48 for Life members, because of the Grand Lodge increase of \$2. If you detect an error please contact me at (518) 817-9935 or timmartin12054@gmail.com

Holiday Gathering

This year's Holiday Gathering will be on December 9. This is an open meeting meant to bring family and friends together to celebrate the holiday spirit.

The trestleboard, list of officers and other information on the new site has been updated to bring it current. As time goes on further enhancements will be made to the site.

Please feel free to email Bro. Steve pictures and other items relevant to the valley that you would like posted on the site, and contact him if you have any questions, concerns or recommendations for the site. He can be reached at sconant2@nycap.rr.com or 518-598-1388.

Life membership is automatically granted to regular active members who attain 50 years of service to the Craft and/or reach the age of 75 years. When you return your payment please write your telephone number, home and e-mail addresses on the return invoice so I can verify my contact information.

We appreciate your years of service in Wadsworth Lodge № 417 and we will continue to work very hard to make your lodge inclusive with open lodge programming, support of district events, and being productive in membership growth and education. Your annual dues helps Wadsworth remain an active and vital part of the Albany area. Thank you again.

Fraternally,



Timothy M. Martin

As in past years there will be toy drive. Bring a new unopened unwrap toy for the drive. This year the contributions will be only on the night of the gathering. There will not be a box for collection during the month preceding.

Bell Ringing:

October 15, 2015

Dear Volunteers-

The Master has asked me to thank you all for answering the bellcall. We have

successfully filled the Bell Ringing Chart for **“OPERATION BELLRINGERS 2015”**. Please hang this chart on the refrigerator as a little reminder and know that the Salvation Army greatly appreciates

All assignments are at Crossgates Inside at Track and Trail on the Lower Level		
Saturdays, Begin 12 noon and end at 7 pm	Hours	Your Name (s) <i>two persons per slot</i>
Saturday, December 5	12 to 1	John Scott & Family 518-283-1168 (H)
	1 to 2	Doug Whitney & Family (C) 518-470-6705
	2 to 3	JoAnn & Ed Kosinski(H) 518-434-8425
	3 to 4	Bruce Susser(C) 518-265-6453 & Jon DePaula 518-522-0221
	4 to 5	Bruce Susser(C) 518-265-6453 & Jon DePaula 518-522-0221
	5 to 6	Steve Silverman 518-436-4922 & Nick Jacobia 518-852-1908
	6 to 7	Don Pitts 518-421-5033 & Nick Jacobia 518-852-1908
Saturday, December 12 th	12 to 1	John Scott & Family 518-283-1168 (H)
	1 to 2	Anthony & Laura Rodolakis 518-203-8676
	2 to 3	Doug Whitney & Family (C) 518-470-6705
	3 to 4	Kymir Pearson 518-426-1619 & Bruce Susser(H)518439-9405
	4 to 5	Nick Blais 518-210-9261 & James Susser 518-281-8460
	5 to 6	Jerry McCall(C) 518-275-9893 & Ray Gaul 518-355-1714
	6 to 7	Brandon Salo 970-335-8217 & John Lien 516-993-0602
Saturday, December 19 th	12 to 1	John Scott & Family 518-283-1168 (H)
	1 to 2	Andy Groff 518-361-4985 & Don White518-495-4549
	2 to 3	Doug Whitney & Family (C) 518-470-6705
	3 to 4	Brian Dupree 518-512-3048 & Ken Brown (H)518-650-5758
	4 to 5	Anthony & Laura Rodolakis 518-203-8676
	5 to 6	Brett Ingersoll 518-634-1015 & Tyvie LaFrance (518)-813-4321
	6 to 7	Anthony Sanchez518-330-2384 & Tyvie LaFrance(518)-813-4321

Around the District:

District Deputy Grand Master Visits

Berne	09/17/15	Wadsworth	10/28/15
Mt. Vernon	09/21/15	Van Rensselaer	11/12/15
Guttenburg	10/01/15	Bethlehem	11/17/15
Ancient Temple	10/06/15	Masters	11/23/15
Noah	10/13/15		

Masters and Wardens Schedule

Van Rensselaer	09/16/15	Masters	02/17/15
Mount Vernon	02/17/16	Ancient Temple	03/16/16
Noah	11/18/15	Guttenburg	04/20/16
Wadsworth	01/20/16	Bethlehem	06/15/16

District Consolidation

Grand Lodge is making an effort to consolidate Districts. The first thing that should be emphasized is that this does not effect any individual lodges and how they do business. It is an attempt to bring the number of lodges per district back to the proportions we had in our best years. The two years used for comparison are 1918 and 2014. In 1918 the Old 17th had 31 lodges and 11,192 brothers. In 2014 Albany District has 9 lodges and 972 brothers and Rensselaer-Schenectady District (R-S) has 9 lodges and 894. Under the proposed consolidation the new district would have probably 17 lodges and about 1800 brothers.

Although the districts will increase geographically the idea is that the demand for District Officers will decrease and the pool of possible candidates will increase.

There were two meetings held to discussed the merger and talk about what the name should be for the new district. There were no objections raised regarding the consolidation. The consensus at the R-S Meeting was that we should go back to the Old 17th. At the Albany meeting the brothers were split between the Old 17th and continuing with current names used by Grand Lodge of naming districts by their respective counties or the Albany Rensselaer Schenectady District.

Since it was R.: W.: Tim Smith's intent to put out a proposal to the lodges immediately after the meeting it was decided that the proposal would be two-fold. First are the brothers in favor of consolidation and second which of the names should be used.

The proposal will be presented at a stated communication of each lodge and a vote taken. A simple majority of the brothers present will pass the proposal in the lodge. A simple majority of the lodges in the respective Districts will decided the outcome of the proposal. If the proposal passes it must be read at the 2016 Annual Meeting of Grand Lodge and again at the 2017 meeting at which time it will go into effect.

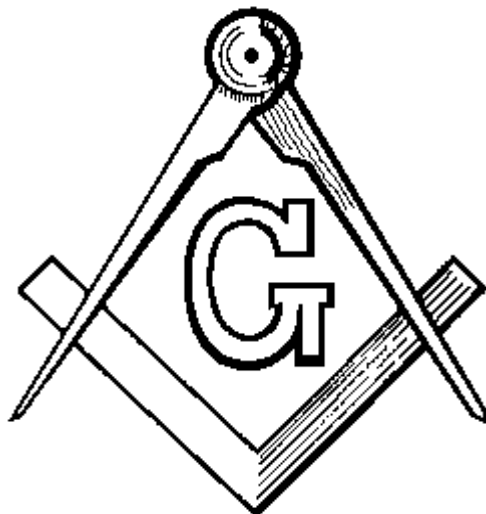
The internal workings of the two districts will then have to be ironed out.

Deputy District Grand Master

R.: W.: Eric Benson announced at the Albany District consolidation meeting that he has been offered a position that he has long sought. Unfortunately it is in Seattle, therefore he has tendered his resignation as DDGM effective October 31st.

DD Visits

R.: W.: Tim Smith, DDGM of the R-S District, will be covering the last three DDGM visits in the Albany District.



Poet's Corner:

"WHAT MAKES A MASON?"

What makes a man a Mason, O brother of mine?
It isn't the due guard, 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 the 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 obligation are true --
Tis that, brother mine, makes a Mason of you.
Secure in your heart you must safeguard and trust,
With lodge and with brother be honest and just,
Assist the deserving who cry in their need,
Be chaste in your thought, in your word and your deed,
Support he 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 of vices with courage apply;
Your walk must be upright, as shown by the plumb,
On the level, to bourn 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.

AUTHOR: George M. Free

“Best wishes to you my brother

May the future bring you peace and joy...”



Award's Night 2015:

We met on a lovely Fall evening for a meeting of fellowship and organ music. W.: Charles Semowich treated us to a number pieces including an improvisation of his own.

Of the 27 guests eligible to receive awards this year, there were nine who came or arranged for

recipients to stand in for them. We also had a hold over from last year. Constantine Yavis could not make the meeting last year and received his 55 year award from R.: W.: Eric Benson.

One of the recipients was Thomas Fuller and the Fuller clan was well represented for the occasion.



Five year award to B Robert Joel and Anthony Rondolakis



Forty Years R.: W.: William Ogren and W.: Joseph Pozefsky



Thirty Years Thomas P. Fuller, Paul Baum and Stephen J. Garry

Award's Night 2015 Cont'd:



Fifty-five year Award to Theodore Kondoprias.



Forty-five year Awards: Bro. Garry accepting for Clifford. W Coughlin and Ralph Edgell accepting for William J. Fincke.

Award's Night 2015 Cont'd:



Rev. Constantine Yavis receiving his Fifty-five year Award.



The Fuller Family

Tales of the Ring

A Brother was traveling in France. On arriving in a small village he found himself in need of a restroom. He went into one establishment and the proprietor informed him that their restrooms were only for the employees.

He then went into the local Café. But alas the Maitre de said the restrooms are for the customers, please take seat and we will be right with you. The Brother was not sure he could wait that long and left.

He went into the next establishment on the street and alas was greeted with similar news that their restrooms were private.

Our Brother was not getting quite desperate. He went back out on the street and gave the Grand Hailing Sign of Distress. Almost instantly, he was

greeted by a gentleman who asked him “How may I help you my brother?” The man explained his situation. His new found friend and brother took him back to the Café. Walked right in waved at the Maitre d said “Bon jour Jacques” and walk to the back of the restaurant to the men’s room with his new friend in tow.

The brother who related this story went on to explain that our traditions and customs do vary to some degree from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and from one country to another. However, they are similar enough that you can expect that you will find a brother and assistance no matter where you might travel.



Parting Shots:

Brothers with Birthdays in September and October			
Theodore Kondoprias	September 8, 1936	Richard Dale Harvey	September 18, 1957
William E. Ogren	September 24, 1938	Brian G. Chamberlain	September 10, 1960
Peter L. Van Kempen	September 2, 1944	Sanjay Chopra	September 28, 1964
Denis M. Jones	September 5, 1946	Douglas S. Kantrowitz	September 7, 1971
Paul F. Bailey	September 28, 1946	Cullen Kasunic	October 6, 1980
William J. Fincke, Jr.	September 12, 1948	Patrick J. Strahan	September 4, 1983
Charles John Semowich	October 10, 1949	James Wilson Susser	September 17, 1984
	Kymir Pearson	October 30, 1991	

If your birthday does not appear in the list we apologize, but it is because we do not have the information in our records. Please contact Tim with your birth date.