

# Northland Masonic News

## May 2015

A Monthly Newsletter Serving Masonry  
in Northwestern Lower Michigan  
Electronic Copies at

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Northland\\_Masonic\\_News/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Northland_Masonic_News/)  
13360 S West Bay Shore Traverse City MI 49685-0064

Articles for the Northland Masonic News should be sent to Peter Hunt ([huntp@charter.net](mailto:huntp@charter.net)) and are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before the publication. If circumstances do not allow for meeting the 15<sup>th</sup> date, please let us know and we will hopefully be able to make accommodations.

Please notify Peter Hunt ([huntp@charter.net](mailto:huntp@charter.net)) of any change in the name and email address for the individuals delegated by your organization to provide your organization's monthly article for the Northland Masonic News.

We will no longer follow up on non-receipt of articles.



Benzie Area Lodge No. 444

Greetings Brothers:

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

In Brotherly Love

Doug Haines WM 231-631-211 c, 231-269-3112 h

[Robertdoughaines@gmail.com](mailto:Robertdoughaines@gmail.com)

Traverse City Masonic Lodge No. 22

Greetings Brethren:

Hello Brethren,

We have scheduled a MM degree for June 15th at 6:30 PM. We will raise three brothers that night.

It would be fantastic if we could fill all the roles for the degree work without having to double up. SW Keith has a partial list of positions spoken for and as soon as I receive the list I'll forward it.



We also have scheduled MM practice for June 8th at 6:30PM.

Fraternally, WM Mike

Michael Finazzo WM 269.207.1953

Harry Rodgers, PM Secretary (231) 929-1582

[hjrodgers3@gmail.com](mailto:hjrodgers3@gmail.com)



East Bay Lodge No. 264

Greetings Brethren:

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Steven P Wheelock PM/WM East Bay #264



EMPIRE LODGE NO 597

Greetings Brethren:

Hope all is well with you and your families. This month we are doing a Fellowcraft degree for our new members Mike Borkovich and Sonny Allsyworth. The degree work will be on April 20th at 6 pm. All are welcome to attend. The Entered Apprentice degree work went well thanks to everyone's effort. Other than that this is all we have going on at our lodge at this time.

Fraternally,  
Jamie Schichtel, WM Empire Lodge #597



Elk Rapids 275

Greetings Brothers,

Spring has Sprung. Finally the grass is no longer white but turning green. Get the lawn mowers out and put the snow blower in storage.

It's time to get back to Lodge and see the Brothers as they return up North. Glad to see Brother Jack is back and feeling better.

Grand Lodge is coming up shortly. If you're interested in attending, see the Secretary and he will assist you. It is at the Grand Traverse Resort this year so it isn't a long trip.

We had our annual Swiss Steak Dinner on the 18th and we want to thank everyone who brought up a dessert and helped serving and cleaning up. Thanks to Brother Eric for chairing the event and all the work Brother Doug did on this event. Good Job, Brothers!

I hope everyone is carrying a petition with you in case you see a friend who may be interested in joining our Fraternity. You don't ask them but give them a brochure telling about the Masons. Remember, we take good men and make them better.

The Worshipful Master is scheduling a practice every month to help us on our ritual and floor work. Practice makes perfect. We may not be perfect but when can always improve ourselves.

To our sick and shut ins, we wish you better health. If you need a ride to Lodge just call one of the officers and we will make arrangements. Have a safe and happy summer.

Fraternally yours,

Rick Banwell, JW  
Dave Kopkau, WM, Elk Rapids Lodge 275  
Bill Murphy, PM, Secretary 231.564.0487



TRAVERSE BAY AREA CHAPTER No. 147  
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Greetings Sisters and Brothers

By the time this newsletter reaches you, I will be back in Traverse City. I am sorry to miss the April meeting, but so goes it for this year. It makes MaryEllen one more month doing my job, and I do appreciate that, MaryEllen.

There are several important meetings coming up especially in June. In case you get this letter before the May meeting, here is what is happening at the May regular meeting. We will have a potluck at 6:00 p.m. with a speaker while we are having the potluck. Speaker will be Jackie Shanteau from Pathways. She will give us valuable information about all Pathways has to offer. We urge you to hear her. Some of the information will be immediately available to some of us and we surely want you to be aware of the advantages. Meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. as regularly scheduled.

PRACTICE is scheduled for our MAY 19th meeting. We will practice our parts so as not to be embarrassed at our SCHOOL!!!!

REGULAR MEETING ON JUNE 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION JUNE 5th. Secretaries and Treasurers will be there at 5:00 p.m. for auditing our books. Snacks will be served between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. with SCHOOL starting at 7:00 p.m. PAST GRAND MATRONS AND PAST GRAND PATRONS SATURDAY JUNE 6th will be exemplifying the degrees. Some of us will be at the Temple in time for guests to arrive and register. Lunch will be served at noon. The meeting is at 2:00 p.m. Our Chapter will be hosting the gathering and it will be large so we need help making all the visitors feel welcome. Take a deep breath, mark your calendars and we hope to see you then.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris J. Norton, Secretary 1-421-5089

How many of you have knit or crocheted new baby caps??

Susan Sporre, Worthy Matron 342-3434

John Hansen, Worthy Patron 360-3579



SHERMAN CHAPTER NO. 197 OES

Hello Sisters and Brothers:

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Star Love,

Judy Schafer, Worthy Matron 510-7494

Ron Hamilton, Worth Patron 775-2617

Linda Hamilton, Secretary 775-2617



TRAVERSE CITY COMMANDERY NO. 41

To all Sir Knights  
Our next conclave will be at 7PM on May 6, 2015  
Yours in Templary,  
Mark Drake, PC Commander (231) 271-3404  
Peter Hunt, PC. Recorder (231) 421-4414 [huntp@charter.net](mailto:huntp@charter.net)



TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER NO. 102

Royal Arch Masons

YORK RITE

Greetings Companions:

Our next convocation will be at 7PM on May 6, 2015. 2015 dues notices have been mailed. A motion was made during our December convocation that we initiate the process of surrendering our charter and dissolving our chapter which requires the payment of any bills due and disposition of all tangible and intangible assets. Hopefully decisions can be made at our May 6, 2015 convocation regarding our chapter's status.

Respectively submitted,

John Snyder High Priest, (231) 362-2720, [jstarheel@reagan.com](mailto:jstarheel@reagan.com)

Peter Hunt, Secretary, (231) 421-4414 [huntp@charter.net](mailto:huntp@charter.net)



Valley of Traverse City



"We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members."

Dear Brethren,

I am happy to report that our Spring Reunion was a success, and enjoyable one. Although we initiated only one candidate, we had a wonderful turnout with brothers from all over the state attending. Brothers John Hansen, Tony Lake, and Archie presented a very great lunch and a truly wonderful dinner of smoke brisket, which was enjoyed by all. Congratulations once again to the reunion honoree, Brother Grant Sowa, 33°, MSA, Treasurer. We hope you enjoyed your day as much as we did, Brother Grant, Thank You again for all you do for the Valley, and the Rite. (The fact that there was actually a small profit should make him smile)!

With this reunion behind us, it is now time to focus on more pressing Valley business. I hope that you all received my letter a few weeks ago about an upcoming meeting, to discuss the Valley of Traverse City forming a Consistory. This meeting will be held at the TC Masonic Temple on May 30, at high noon. ALL members of the Valley, regardless of rank or degree are invited, but all Scottish Rite Masons are welcome to attend. The reason we have not specifically invited other Valleys is that this is still considered an internal matter, i.e., until we make a decision, there is little to discuss with other Valleys. We will provide a cold-cut lunch, so bring your appetite with you too.

Brethren, I cannot stress enough how important this meeting will be regarding our future as a Valley. There are many reasons for wanting to get a Consistory charter, not the least being it would help stabilize our fiscal concerns. It would also make us independent on other Valleys for Consistory work. I think the great reunion last fall, with a dozen candidates, also shows us that the convenience factor, of allowing us to completely initiate candidates in all four bodies, in one reunion, should not be over-looked.

We truly need you to attend, and voice your opinions and/or concerns about forming a consistory. Your Board of Trustees has been discussing this for the past several months, and the Consistory Committee formed to study the possibility, is in favor of this action. It must be stated in all honesty, that while the final decision will be made by the Board of Trustees and Valley Officers, they all recognize that without the support and commitment of the general membership, it would be fruitless to proceed. We have debated the pros and cons of forming a consistory, and will do so again at this meeting, but also want, and need, to hear from each of you! We will do our best to explain the process of forming a consistory, the timeframe we are contemplating, as well as what requirements will need to be met to receive a Charter. Initially, we will need to focus on being capable of competently conferring the 32°, Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, but we will also have the 19th through 31st degrees to confer for candidates. This alone should suggest to you how much work needs to be done, and the manpower that will be needed.

Personally, I have no doubt that this is feasible. I believe that it will bring back inactive brothers who simply got tired of seeing the same degrees, and doing the same things, at each reunion. If we decide to proceed, we will have plenty of work for all. We have brought in over two dozen brothers over the last couple years, and have had little for them to do... that would no longer be the case. For us to succeed in this, we will need to ask, and expect, a lot more work from a lot more members, which it is why it is so vital for you to try to attend this meeting. We understand it is a lot to ask so many to travel so far to attend, but without YOUR support, it would be foolish to move forward on this. If there is no possible way for you to attend, please contact me (at [Johntsees@att.net](mailto:Johntsees@att.net)) with your comments, questions, and/or concerns, and I will present them at the meeting so your opinion(s) can be heard. We have set no end time for this meeting to ensure that anyone who wishes to comment will be able to do so.

PLEASE mark your calendar for Saturday, May 30, Noon, at the TC Masonic Temple...

See you then and there!

"We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic obligation to care for our members."

Respectfully, Your Brother in Light,

John T. Sees, 32°, Exec. Secretary, Valley of Traverse City



## SALADIN SHRINE

Dear Nobles:

The Vidalia onions have been ordered and should be here soon. Check with one of the club officers on their status. The May 21 regular meeting will be at the Elk's Lodge in Traverse City. Social hour begins at 6:00 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM. Nobles please bring and wear your fez. Ladies and guests are welcome. Hopefully we will have the new pocket calendars.

There will be a Shrine Ceremonial on May 16. At this time there is no location but should be available soon. If you know of any Masons who would be interested in joining the shrine get them an application. The completed application needs to be sent to Grand Rapids as soon as possible so their fez can be ordered.

As most of you probably already know, the Temple building on East Paris has been sold. Saladin Temple has moved to a temporary new location in the Masonic Building in downtown Grand Rapids.

Fraternally,  
John Klumpp, President, 231-944-3300



Great Lakes Masonic High 12 Club No. 757

Greetings HI-12ers:

Our April 2015 meeting was not held. Due to lack of membership, the status of our club is uncertain.



## BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES REPORT BGP 6

Masons. Live better.

### Jacob's Ladder

Symbol of hope, faith and charity in most rituals. The Revised Edition of the Bible reads "love" in place of "charity" which makes the Masonic ritual of Jacob's ladder more understandable. The "charity extends beyond the grave through the boundless realms of eternity" seems an overstatement, if charity is thought of in terms of putting a ten cent piece in a blind beggar's cup. But if it is "love" which extends through eternity, the conception is at once beautiful and Masonic, since brotherly love is one of the great teachings of Freemasonry.

The use of a ladder or steps as a symbol of a climb towards perfection in another and better land is older than the Bible and its adoption in the American Masonic system has the respectability of a venerable antiquity as a symbol.

Fraternally;  
Jim C. Larson BGP#6

District #4 BGP Article for April 2015

Rambling's from the District 4 BGP

The weather is finally breaking so there is no reason we can't make it to Lodge. Maybe even go visiting some other Lodges. It is fun, you meet new Brothers, have a good meal and some good fellowship. Don't forget about the Traveling Gavel. It is now sitting at Elk Rapids #275. After Bellaire got it the Brothers at Elk Rapids went and got it back. Is it your Lodges turn? You only need four Brothers visiting the Lodge to obtain it and take it home.

Grand Lodge is fast approaching and if you would like to attend and observe the business part, the elections of the Grand Line of Officers and the installation all you have to do is be a Master Mason and register (on line) and you can stop by. There is no charge to attend.

I have been attending a lot of Lodges recently and it is good to see some of the Brothers practicing their work trying to become proficient. It is worth the goal, keeping working at it.

Enjoy your summer and be safe.  
Bill Murphy, BGP #4

CHERRYLAND LUNCHEON CLUB  
Noon with Ladies      Second Monday  
The Cottage, Munson Ave.    Traverse City