

Northland Masonic News

September 2015

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

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) and are due by the 15th of the month before the publication. If circumstances do not allow for meeting the 15th date, please let us know and we will hopefully be able to make accommodations.

Please notify Peter Hunt (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



Traverse City Masonic Lodge No. 22

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Michael Finazzo, WM, 269.207.1953

Harry Rodgers, PM, Secretary (231) 929-1582

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

Hello Brothers:

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Fraternally yours

Jamie Schichtel, WM



Elk Rapids 275

Greetings Brothers,

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Fraternally yours,

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,

I am submitting this letter a little late-waiting until after our required initiation.

We are having a little fun at our regular September meeting coming up. I am not going to say what will happen but Susan (Worthy Matron) and I felt we were getting so much serious "stuff" done, we would relax after our regular meeting in September while having snacks in the dining room and have a little fun.

I do want to mention that we need folks to help out for our year 2015-2016. Please let MaryEllen Hunt know if you have a preference in what job you will do. We realize many of you cannot do some jobs and we will appreciate it if you would try to "move" out of your comfort zone and pitch in.

MaryEllen is scheduled for some hip surgery so will be laid up for a while. We need anyone who can step in and help us fill our chairs for the coming year.

Our initiation is over and we can at least say we had one.

Our School of Instruction has been scheduled for November 10, 2015 at our chapter including the chapters who met with us last year. I will try to name them in the next Newsletter, with more information included.

May the fall months be better for all of you. Bless each of you in your daily activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris J. Norton, Secretary PH: 421-5089

Susan Sporre, Worthy Matron PH: 342-3434

John Hansen, Worthy Patron PH: 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

Greetings Sir Knights

Our next conclave is September 2 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Our annual inspection will be combined with Cheboygan No 50 at 306 Stimpson Ave., Pellston, Michigan on September 17, 2015 starting at 10AM. Please RSVP to Recorder SK Carl John Peterson by SEPTEMBER 15 Address 17 McCoy Road, Gaylord Michigan 49735 989-350-3942 or 989-448-8378 cjpeterson50@gmail.com

Yours in Templary,

Mark Drake, PC Commander (231) 271-3404

Peter Hunt, PC Recorder (231) 421-4414 huntp@charter.net



TRAVERSE CITY CHAPTER NO. 102

Royal Arch Masons

YORK RITE

Greetings Companions:

Our next convocation will be at 7PM on September 2, 2015.

Respectively submitted,

John Snyder High Priest, (231) 362-2720, johnandbarb@outlook.com

Peter Hunt, Secretary, (231) 421-4414 huntp@charter.net



Valley of Traverse City



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

Brethren,

As you know, Masonic memberships have declined over the years, as has our Valley's membership numbers. This has resulted in increased dues, and the need to be as fiscally responsible as we can be. The Valley Board of Trustees has been taking steps over the years to keep our dues as low as possible. We have tightened and stretched our annual budgets over the past years to the point that there is little more we can cut. Now, we need your help more than ever!

I mailed out our dues notices in early June, each plainly stating a July 31 deadline. I want to thank all of you have already paid, but we have MANY who have not, even with six weeks' notice before the deadline. I know it is easy to forget about it, put it off until payday, or lose the notice on a cluttered desk, but now I would like to encourage those who have yet to pay this year's dues to please do so promptly. Each year, we lose more and more members, making us more reliant on the remaining brothers. But when dues are not paid, it is a great strain on our already limited resources. Let me explain...

This year's dues are set at \$74.25. But out of that amount, the Valley pays assessment fees to the Supreme Council and the Council of Deliberation, totaling \$30 per member, and that will increase automatically over the next 4 years. This means the Valley keeps only \$44.25 from your dues, one of the lowest, if not the lowest, rates in Michigan. But that is not the complete picture... every year we have more

and more members who do not pay, (for a wide variety of reasons) and by policy, we do not suspend members until they have fallen two years behind. At this point, the Valley is not only missing the revenue the dues bring in, but we have also invested \$60 (and increasing) in assessments for that brother, without any return on that investment. In effect, it costs the Valley \$60+ just to suspend a member for nonpayment of dues (NPD).

Scottish Rite prides itself on being the fraternity that strives to care for its members, but we also must take care of our Valley. We currently (as of Aug. 15) have received less than 50% response from dues notices. Brothers, this is the money needed to run the Valley, present awards and recognition, and fund our reunions, among other needs. Our Treasurer, Bro. Grant Sowa, has and does work tremendously hard to maintain our budget, and the Valley has made the necessary sacrifices over the years to stay within that budget, but we need your prompt payment of dues to do this.

If you have already paid, I thank you once again, and if not, please, please, please, do so as soon as possible. If you have problems or issues that prevent you from paying, contact me (johntsees@att.net) or any Valley officer. We value and want to keep each and every member, and will always help a brother in need in any way we can. Here endeth the sermon.

REUNION UPDATE

Hopefully, by now you know the Fall Reunion is "On the Road" and will be held on October 3, at Petoskey Lodge #344, 405 E Lake St., Petoskey, MI, 49770.

We will be honoring WB Sam Wilcenski by naming the reunion and class in his honor, and we will also be honoring our 2 newest Meritorious Service Award recipients, Brothers Don Mills and David Champion. Congratulations Brothers!

Meal reservations are required.

Please contact me with your reservations ASAP (link below signature line).

Lunch will be \$10, banquet dinner \$15.

The Valley, through the efforts and work of Brother Bill Vaillancourt, has managed to get a block of rooms set aside for this fall reunion at the Odawa Casino and Hotel.

There are 15 rooms with 2 double beds, and 5 rooms with a King bed; all rooms are non-smoking. Room rates are \$117.00 per room, and that cost covers up to two (2) people. Each additional person per room is \$15.00 per person. Each guest will receive a voucher which includes free continental breakfast, \$10.00 in free slot play and \$5.00 in free Black Jack play. These vouchers are good for one week after they are handed out.

There is a shuttle that runs from the Casino to the hotel, and vice versa, beginning at 8am, since the Casino is about a mile away from the hotel. Checkout, unfortunately, is at 11 am, but there happens to be a Women's Show starting at 11 am at the Casino. The show will have vendors that will be selling cosmetics, health and wellness

supplies, jewelry, and various other products. There is free parking at the Casino, as well as free valet parking.

Reservations can be made by calling 1-877-4-GAMING, and tell them that our group code is Scottish Rite to get the discount. Reservations need to be in by September 2, after that any rooms not used will revert back to general inventory, and return to full price. So again, reservations for the group rate need to be in before September 2. The hotel is on highway 131 on the left as you enter Petoskey, the actual address is 1444 US 131 South, Petoskey MI, 49770. The hotel is about a five minute drive to the Lodge.

For more information about the Fall Reunion 2015, please visit the Valley Website at TraverseCityScottishRite.com. Mark October 3 on your calendars and come reunite with your brethren. See you in Petoskey!!!

Respectfully,

Your Brother in Light,

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

[mailto: johntsees@att.net](mailto:johntsees@att.net)



SALADIN SHRINE

Greetings Nobles:

Hope everyone is enjoying the summer weather. It was a busy season with two nice parades, the Cherry Royale and Anchor Days. Everyone who attended the July picnic that was catered by Noble Frank Sorna had a great time.

Our next meeting is the annual past presidents' and widows' recognition dinner. The meeting will be at the Traverse City Elks Lodge, 625 Bay Street, Traverse City, on Thursday, September 17, 2015. A cash bar will begin at 5:00 PM with dinner at 6:00 PM. These times have been moved up an hour from what we had in previous years. Widows of deceased Nobles are invited to this meeting. Please call in your reservation with the number of people attending to Ralph Hay no later than September 12 so we can give the restaurant an idea of the number attending. Ladies and guests are invited to this meeting. Nobles, wear your fez.

The club will again be selling nuts this fall. As soon as they arrive we will let you know, however; you can start taking preorders for the nuts.

Club officer elections will be coming shortly. We need to fill the office of First and Second Vice President. If you could spare some time and are interested, please contact one of the officers on the nominating committee. As a club officer you can learn a lot about the Shrine from a different perspective and make a positive contribution. Give it some serious thought.

Fraternally,

John Klumpp, President, 231-944-3300



Great Lakes Masonic High 12 Club No. 757

Greetings HI-12ers:

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



Rambling's from the District 4 BGP

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Bill Murphy, PM, BGP #4

District #6 BGP

AN ARTICLE WAS NOT RECEIVED

Fraternally, Jim C. Larson DDI 6

CHERRYLAND LUNCHEON CLUB

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