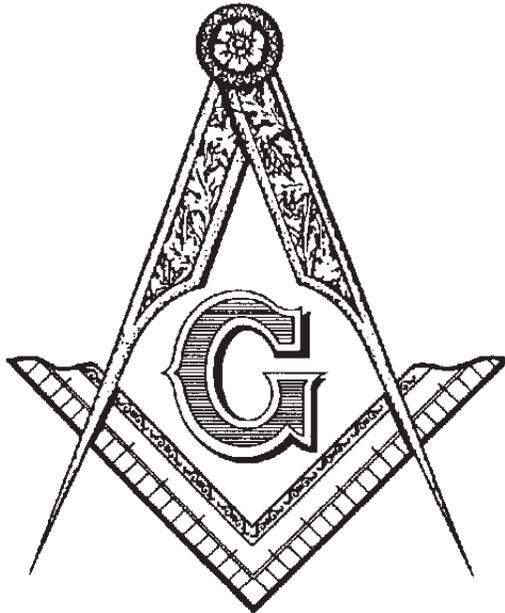


Summer 2008

Issue #23

# Fulton- Montgomery



Official Publication of the  
Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District  
Free & Accepted Masons  
State of New York

# The Fulton-Montgomery News

## • Newsletter Policy •

The Fulton-Montgomery News, published quarterly for the benefit of the Brethren of the Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District and their families, is the official publication of:

Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District  
Free & Accepted Masons

The Staff welcomes all letters and submissions, reserving the right to edit for space and clarity. Material MUST be provided in WORD format or mailed in the email body to "rbsteele@nycap.rr.com"

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# • A View From The East •

by R.: W.: William J. Dorn  
DDGM Fulton-Montgomery District



Greetings Brothers from the East,

I would like to introduce myself, William J. Dorn as your new district deputy grand master of the Fulton Montgomery district. It's important that everyone in the district and beyond knows about myself, my family, my masonic career, and what I hope to accomplish as your district deputy.

I am forty one years old and have lived in Johnstown New York all of my life. I have a degree in civil engineering and work for my parents in the construction business. I have been married for 15 years. My wife's name is Sheila and we have one son William (Billy) who is 12 years old. My hobbies are hunting, fishing, flying airplanes, and being in the great outdoors.

My masonic career began at St. Patrick's Lodge in April 04,1998 when I was raised to the degree of master mason. I was master of St. Patrick's Lodge in 2006-2007 and went back in as junior warden in 2007-2008. I was the district brother hood chairman for 2007-2008. I have taken the IDC coarse, Masonic development coarse, road to the east, and the LDC. I am a 32nd degree mason ,shrinker ,member of the Adirondack shrine club (which I am the 2nd vice president) and most recently became a member of the Royal Arch Masons (Sacandaga Chapter #116).

When this article was written the grand masters message was not received yet. When I submitted the application for the appointment of DDGM I was asked to answer a number of questions two of the most important ones are stated below with the answers that I wrote.

If appointed, what do you expect to accomplish in your district during your two year tenure? I will get the lodges to work together on public functions so that the general public knows what masonry is all about. To increase membership in all of the lodges in our district. By increasing membership you are increasing degree work, possibly new officers, workers to help at lodge events, increase in revenue and new ideas. The district needs to have a degree team. This has been tried in the past and hasn't been successful. As a district, we need to have a bring a friend night for the lodges. Open the lodges up to the communities and let the people know what free and accepted masonry is all about.

What we do for the people in our district that are not masons and on a state wide level. Each lodge and as a district needs to get involved in their respected communities. I would also like to include our families in more district events. Such as a district wide picnic, day trips to museums etc. More open meetings, more guest speakers, and public events. Most importantly , working together for the good of the craft. Remembering their obligations of the first ,second ,and third degrees. Harmony must be achieved in our district in order for its success.

Please state concisely why and how you feel that you would make a significant contribution as a grand lodge officer. Remark on what you think your best strength is and your weakest point. I feel that I could make a significant contribution as a grand lodge officer because in college some of my courses were on how to speak to the general public in a polite and meaningful way. Also on how to express myself without giving the ideal that I was demanding or insisting that it be a certain way. I feel that there are several different ways's to get something done. That is up to the individual person which way on how it is done as long as the final result's come out right and are satisfactory to all. I feel that I have the education and knowledge to make this happen not only from college, but also personal experience and Masonic experience. My weakest points are probably when someone asks me a question. I will tell them the truth or what I feel is the best for the situation. I don't sit on top of the fence and refuse to go on one side or the other. I will do what I feel is right and the best situation for the craft.

In order for me to succeed as your DDGM and the district to move ahead we must all work together as a team. I would like to introduce my team to you R.: W.: Thomas D. Krutz Grand Sword Bearer of the district V.: W.: John B. Morris Assistant Grand Lecturer of the district and most important of all, every single brother in the Fulton Montgomery district is part of my team. I look forward to working with all my brothers in the district for the next two years.

Fraternally, William J. Dorn DDGM



## • Lodge News •

St. Patrick's Lodge #4 F & A M  
P. O. Box 896  
22 North Perry Street  
Johnstown, New York, 12095-0896  
518-762-7015  
www.newyorkmasons.org  
By W.: Wayne D. Schermerhorn Master

Brethren:

Another Masonic year is ending; I would like to THANK all who have made my year as Master a tremendously productive one.

It has been interesting at times, however, the Lodge is in wonderful condition in its reconstruction work, membership and financially sound. Who could ask for more.

At the same time, Another Masonic year is beginning. More is what we need, the gains we have made over the past 3 years do need your help in mentoring, monitoring and Brotherhood. The work of the Craft is never done and we need to support those in chairs as well as the new Brothers.

Our reconstruction has been completed, at least for a while. We have future projects to plan for, including, paving the driveway and an elevator for handicapped – as well as SENIOR access. These are important and I feel it is necessary to complete BOTH of these projects BEFORE OUR 250th ANNIVERSARY in 2016 (besides, I will be 71 at the time and am looking forward to the elevator rides to Lodge and Coffee hour).

We will also be supporting our new District Deputy Grand Master for the Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District, R.: W.: William J. Dorn. A contingent will be accompanying R.: W.: Bro. Dorn, DDGM, at not only his visitations in the District, but to contiguous Districts, St. John's Day – June 21 and at other events developing. ALL Lodges are invited and encouraged to join St. Pat's Lodge # 4 on all visits.

There is newness as we begin this Masonic year / term. Join with us as we move forward in our District. The more we support the new DDGM and ALL the Lodges in the District, the more we will grow and the more "fun" we will again have.

"Fellowship" is contagious; it is, with Brotherhood, what we are all about.

On May 15, 2008, the following Officers were elected for the ensuing year, for St. Patrick's Lodge # 4 F & A M:

R.: W.: Robert L. Shell, Master

W.: Charles Nethaway, Sr. Warden

W.: Grover F. La Fountain, Jr. Warden  
W.: Wayne D. Schermerhorn, Secretary  
V.: W.: John B. Morris, Treasurer  
Bro. J. Robert Barr, DSA, Trustee – 3 year / Chairman  
June 5th – Installation of Officers of St. Patrick’s # 4; and  
Apron Presentation to R.: W.: William J. Dorn,  
District Deputy Grand Master.  
June 19th - STATED COMMUNICATION;  
June 20th – Charities Golf Tournament at Fox Run and  
Dinner at Dorn’s Grove.  
July and August – Lodge Recess – HOWEVER,  
Annual (District) Family Picnic, hosted by St. Patrick’s # 4 (with  
the District Lodges invited, will be held July 19th at Dorn’s Grove  
– Noon til ...  
August 14, 2008 – St. Patrick’s Lodge # 4 will begin a monthly  
RITUAL PRACTICE AND MENTORING PROGRAM at Lodge,  
7 – 8:30 pm. This will be held on the 2nd Thurs. of each month  
from August to May and will center on Opening to Closing Lodge,  
Degree(s) and Mentoring new EAs, FCs & MMs.  
September 13, 2008 will be the City of Johnstown 250th Anniver-  
sary Parade. The parade organizers have given a whole DIVISION to the  
Masons; St. Patrick’s Lodge # 4 and any Grand Line Officers will lead  
the Division, then Officers and Members of other Lodges, the Scottish  
Rite, York Rite and Shriners and Clowns. We will have classic cars – con-  
vertibles available – on a first come basis, for those unable to march.  
A re-enactment of Installation of Officers of St. Patrick’s Lodge  
will take place immediately after the parade concludes at Sir William  
Johnson Hall (on the front lawn, weather permitting).  
September 14th, will be an OPEN HOUSE and Dedication of the  
Renovations to St. Patrick’s Lodge # 4 F & A M. at 2 pm.  
Grand Lodge Officer(s) will be attending.  
Also: REMEMBER THE (36 CLUB) WED. AM COFFEE HOUR  
7:30 – 9 am, held in the Black Horse Lounge at the Lodge building;  
NOTE: Coffee Hour WILL BE HELD IN THE SUMMER Months.

Fraternally,  
W.: Wayne D. Schermerhorn, Master



Hamilton #79  
By W.: Jeremy "Jay" Krajewski, Master  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays  
(518) 922-7668  
wmchr1@aol.com



Amsterdam #84  
By R.: W.: Vincent Bialobok, Master  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays  
labvsb@capital.net



Fish House #298  
By W.: Todd Payne Master  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

Fishhouse Lodge is gearing down for the summer, but we do have some activities planned. We have extended our Masonic year 2 weeks this summer to confer the 3rd degree on our Fellowcraft, and will also be conferring the degree on 4 other brothers from the district to get them to 3rd degree before the summer recess. Fishhouse wishes to congratulate William Dorn Jr as he takes over the District Deputy position and we wish him well. We wish Tom Krutz and John Morris well as they head into their district positions also. The elected 'cast of characters' for Fishhouse lodge for the 2008-09 year is as follows:

WM: Todd Payne, SW: Stanton Weaver, JW: Lee Brenn, Sec: Alfred Graham, Treas: James Loweree, Trustee for the next three years: John Ille. In the fall, our appointed officers will be noted and congratulated. Fishhouse will be having its annual summer picnic held at the Edinburg Beach 'sometime in early August'. Sorry, the date won't be set until after this publication is out. Also, we want to remind everyone of our annual Chicken Barbeque fundraiser on Columbus Day Saturday. More info will follow in the fall. Switching gears to the district level, please mark your calendars for the Christmas Spectacular on December 13th. The show is going to be a good one. At this time there have been only 4 reservations made. I will be taking reservations all summer long, so feel free to contact me at any time. That being said, there are no reservations for the Lake George Dinner cruise, and without

a definite number of participants before lodges close this summer, that trip will unfortunately be cancelled. If anyone is interested in the dinner cruise, please contact me right away. Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer.

Fraternally  
W.: Todd Payne Master



Fort Plain #433  
By R.: W.: David Montanye, Master  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays

Brothers of Fort Plain Lodge,

On May 13th Lodge held their annual election of officers. Elected were: Bro. Christopher Hanley - Master, W.: Philip Hanley - Sr. Warden, R.: W.: Robert Parkinson - Jr. Warden, R.: W.: David Montanye - Treasurer, R.: W.: Keith M. Veitch - Secretary, and R.: W.: Roger Swartz - Trustee (3 years).

On May 16th, Bro. Christopher Hanley was invested with the Master's word, so he could be installed as Master of Fort Plain Lodge #433.

On May 27th, the following officers were installed by installing officer, R.: W.: Keith M. Veitch Master and R.: W.: Robert Mabie - Marshall: W.: Christopher Hanley - Master, W.: Philip Hanley - Sr. Warden, R.: W.: Robert Parkinson - Jr. Warden, R.: W.: David Montanye - Treasurer, R.: W.: Keith M. Veitch - Secretary, R.: W.: Roger Swartz - Trustee (3 years), Bro. James McGowan - Sr. Deacon, Bro. Zachery Miller - Jr. Deacon, Bro. Owen Dievendort - Chaplain, Bro. John Tooker - Tiler, Bro. Steven Smith - SMC and R.: W.: Edward Smith - JMC. Bro. John Tooker returned to Lodge after sustaining a broken hip during a fall at his home this past winter.

Lodge also gave out pins and certificates in recognition for years of service: W.: William S. Muehleck - 70 yrs., Bro. John J. Sutter - 55 yrs., Bro. John C. Swengel - 55 yrs., Bro. Owen Christman - 50 yrs., Bro. William D. Brust - 45 yrs., W.: Philip E. Hanley - 20 yrs., and R.: W.: Keith M. Veitch - 20 yrs.

On June 4th, ten Brothers of Fort Plain Lodge will be accompanying Bro. Michael Krug for his 3rd degree at Fish House Lodge in Northville.

Currently, the Lodge still meets at the Masonic Temple located on Mohawk St., Fort Plain. Although the owner would like to sell the building, he would like us to stay and take care of the building until a sale is imminent. Our mortgage will be paid in full in June and we will be looking

for a new home. During this summer, the new master, W.: Christopher Hanley would like to discuss financial and membership concerns regarding a possible merger with Hamilton and Fultonville lodges.  
Fraternally R.: W.: David Montanye

Fort Plain Masonic Lodge #433 members finish their 14th yr. of road clean up. Pictured are Roger Swartz, Robert Parkinson, Chris Hanley, Owen Dievendorf, Dave Montanye, and Keith Veitch. Missing is Stanley Carson.



— — — — —  
Fultonville #531  
By W.: Michael Krajewski, Master  
1st & 3rd Wednesdays Canajoharie Temple  
Phone (518) 922-8712

Brothers,  
Fultonville Lodge #531 had their Election of Officers on May 14, 2008. Elected positions as follows:

Master - W.: Jeremy (Jay) Krajewski  
Senior Warden - Bro. Myron (JJ). Terrell  
Junior Warden - W.: Ellsworth Simpson  
Secretary - R.: W.: Leon Smith  
Treasurer - Bro. Allen Taylor

On June 4, 2008 we had a Public Installation following food and refreshment. The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Brother Allen Taylor.

Fultonville Lodge puts on a Pancake Breakfast every third Saturday of the month at 8am. This is held at the Fultonville Reformed Church on the corners of Rte 5s and 30a.

We will not have a Breakfast in July.

On July 18, 2008 we will be having a Brooks Barbeque at 3pm, at the Fultonville Reformed Church.

Continued on page 17

**Thanks for supporting our bulletin !**

## • In Memoriam •

Lawrence W. Castler	from his wife Jean
Perston Simons	from his wife Beatice
Richard J. Sponable	from his wife Shirley
Bro. Robert Rounds, Fultonville #53	from his wife Elaine
Bro. Walter C. Coolman, Welcome Lodge	from W.: Bob & Bonnie Dietrick
Bro. Harold Banta	from his wife Norma
W.: Bro. Durant M. Friday St. Patrick's #4	from his wife Margaret
Harold Wilber Banta	from Unknown in Maine
Bro. Alvin V. Hichens, St. Patrick's #4	from his wife Edith
Bro. William V. Hovey, Fultonville #531	from his wife Jeannette

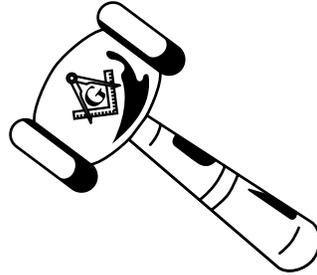
Remember a Brother. A \$10 contribution to the newsletter will keep their name in this column for 4 issues. Any Brother may be honored.



ompliments of:

John C. Swengle Fort Plain #433  
Dr. William S. Muehleck  
R.W. Janet M. Bronk Matron Chapter #208 O.E.S.

Help the Newsletter! A personal contribution of \$10 or more will help



## Traveling Gavel 2008

\_\_\_\_\_ Thus far, as of our last District Deputy meeting, the total points for the year received for each lodge attending District Deputy and M&O meetings are as follows;

St Patrick's #4	45 points
Hamilton #79	18 points
Amsterdam #84	32 points
Fish House #298	29 points
Fort Plain #433	30 points
Fultonville #531	21 points
Kennyetto #599	22 points
St Johnsville #611	6 points

Respectively Submitted,  
R.:W.:David Saltsman,



## Salty Dog Quiz on Masonic Balloting

TRUE or FALSE

- (1) A Ballot is a "Secret Vote"
- (2) Ordinarily "Ballot" "Meant" a round Pill used for a secretvote
- (3) The Demand for a ballot is undeniable.
- (4) When requested a ballot must be taken and cannot be postponed beyond a reasonable time.
- (5) Once a petition has been turned over to an Investigation committee it must be balloted upon
- (6) A demand for a re-ballot may be withdrawn at any time prior to the taking of the ballot.

Answers will be in the next NEWSLETTER

R.:W.:David Saltsman

Fultonville Lodge congratulates all of the newly Elected Officers.  
We hope everyone has a wonderful summer. See you in September.

Fraternally Yours,  
W.: Michael Krajewski



Kennyetto Lodge No. 599  
R.: W.: William Clizbe Master  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays  
Phone (518) 883-8448  
[www.newyorkmasons.org](http://www.newyorkmasons.org)

My brothers, with the recent installation of officers Kennyetto Lodge begins its 143rd year of Freemasonry in Broadalbin. I would like to thank R.: W.: Brad Broyles, V.: W.: John Morris, and W.: Wayne Schemerhorn who were the Installing Officer, Installing Chaplain and Installing Marshal, respectively, for our installation service. The occasion was all the more memorable for their excellent work. We are fortunate to have continued our existence uninterrupted while other Lodges of similar size have gone by the wayside or been consolidated into other, larger, entities. I credit this continued strength to the high degree of affection that our members hold for the Lodge and its history and their desire to see it thrive despite the changing attitudes and social mores that cause some to think our institution is quaint and out of touch with the times. I submit to you my brothers that there has never been a time more appropriate or necessary to our work. My personal bi-weekly visit to the workings of our Lodge provides a much-needed respite from the frantic pace of present day society. For those of you that don't have that respite, or for that matter, even know that you need it, I invite you to join us on any 2nd or 4th Wednesday in the month starting again in September, to kick back and enjoy some good humor, good food and good fellowship. There will be more in the next newsletter as to plans for September and beyond.

I am pleased to introduce our officers of 2008-2009: Senior Warden- W.: Roger Steele, Junior Warden- Bro. William Auty, Chaplain- Bro. Gary Harrington, Secretary- W.: John Sira, Sr., Treasurer- Bro. Todd Mercer, Senior Deacon- Bro. James Clizbe, Junior Deacon- Bro. William Coloney, Senior Master of Ceremony- W.: Richard Gugenberger, Junior Master of Ceremony- Bro. Christopher Clizbe, Tiler- Bro. Ronald DeRocker.

The officers will be meeting over the summer to finalize a Trestleboard for the ensuing year. It will include a rendering of the three degrees as we have several interested candidates who will be petitioning for

membership.

May God bless you and your families and keep you safe over the next few months until we meet again.

Fraternally R.:W.: William Clizbe Master



St. Johnsville #611

By W.: David Mosher Master

**1st & 3rd Thursdays**



### **Youth Committee**

By: W.: Michael Krajewski

518-922-8712

Brothers, Sisters, and Friends;

For this summer edition, I will make it brief.

Please support the Youth Groups in our District.

Our young men and women are very important for our future. In our times I feel more than any others, it is so important to help mold these individuals, for they are our future leaders. Believe it or not, they look continually for guidance, which is something that a lot of them cannot obtain. We should try to help any of the Youth Groups, not just DeMolay and Triangles, but also the Boy and Girl Scout Organizations, and any others that can be brought to mind.

My friends, we have an opportunity that not many people have in their lifetimes.

A good possibility would be for every Lodge to select an Individual to be in contact with any of the Youth Groups in their area, and see what kind of support we can give.

The Masons do have awards to give out for the Scouting Organizations.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout may earn. The Masonic Eagle Scout Award, which is presented to an Eagle Scout for recognizing the highest award a Boy Scout can achieve. These my friends, are just a couple of examples.

In our area we have St. Andrews Chapter of DeMolay, and also the Onistagrawa Chapter of Triangles. The Masons do sponsor these great

Organizations, but should also be there to support them. Please believe me when I say that when they see one of us show up at their meetings, their chests swell up with pride.

Please support our Youth, Believe me you won't be sorry.

Don't forget, our Youth is our Future, and we as Masons can help mold both.

Fraternally,

W. Michael Krajewski – Youth Chairman

Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District

## **Camp Turk Committee**

Brothers and Friends,

This year's Camp Schedule is as follows;

Session 1 - Boys' Camp July 6, 2008 – July 26, 2008

Session 2 - Girls' Camp July 27, 2008 – August 16, 2008

Grand Masters Day will be on August 9, 2008. This will be a great opportunity to view Camp Turk.

At the present time there are still openings in both sessions.

Camping fees for Camp Turk are a Registration fee of \$100.00 and a Camping Fee of \$800.00. This, my friends is a great deal. If checked on the Internet alone, you will find this among the lowest costs.

We are hoping that throughout the state many of the Lodges will sponsor a child or maybe even a District to sponsor one to go to camp.

Brothers, you have a chance to put a smile on a child's face, and fill their mind with great memories.

Camp Turk is on the web. Just go to [www.nymasons.us](http://www.nymasons.us). All forms and information will be there.

If there are any questions, please contact me, and I will be more than willing to assist you.

Hope to see you, at either St. Johns Day on June 21, 2008 at which Camp Turk will have a booth, or at Grand Masters Day.

Fraternally,

W. Michael Krajewski Camp Turk Committee Chairman

Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District

## Fulton Montgomery Masonic Charities

As you all know the biggest fund raiser of our year is the Golf Tournament, to be held at Fox Run Golf Course again this year, with the dinner being held at the Pavilion with Prime Rib being the Main Course ... The date is June 20th with a shotgun start noon. There will be legal

beverages and hot dogs and hamburgers at the turn as well as just before you begin. The cost this year is \$75.00 per person to golf or \$300 per team. There is also a raffle running consecutively with the tournament with the Grand Prize being a 1 week stay in a Condo in Myrtle Beach. There are also 20 other cash prizes totaling \$2500. These tickets are only \$5.00 and the odds are great of winning. If you don't golf and want to attend the dinner that will be available for \$20.00.

Please attend this fund raiser and support a team and the district. Extra hands make for light work and we can always use the help. Funds raised will support the Scholarship Fund and other benevolences.

Thank You

Jeffrey Lanfear, President Fulton Montgomery Masonic Charities



Hiram-Union Chapter #53 welcomed District Deputy R.E. Ralph Rosenthal of the 12th Capitular District. A social and dinner was enjoyed by all attending. The chapter also has two new members and two waiting for degrees, new members are always welcome. We will close for the summer and resume labor in Sept. Pictured are R.E Ralph and E. High Priest Keith M. Veitch.



**Sacandaga Chapter #116**  
**1826-2006**  
**P.O. Box 136**  
**Northville NY 12134**  
**By R.E. Frederick A. Beitter**

DEDICATED

To the true masons of the Adirondacks  
With Great admiration!

Sacandaga Chapter is presently located in the village of Northville NY . With a present membership of 59. On occasion during the last 40 years has had a high membership number of the low 70's. And, though membership may seem small, in comparison, to other Chapters it maintains a level of dedicated members whom support it with zeal.

Sacandaga Chapter #116 was Chartered on February 9th 1826. The charter is still maintained by the secretary. And is a good state of repair. The original signer of the charter is the Most Excellent Esra Ames, The well know Grand High Priest of that era, whose dedication to the craft remains legendary. The first council consisted of Nathan B. Lobell, High Priest; Samuel Duncan, King; and Lemuel D. Sabin, Scribe.

Sacandaga Chapter drew membership from Golden Rule Lodge, #384, located in the village of Northville NY Golden Rule was chartered in 1823. And the meeting where held in the home of Daniel R. Potter, which was located on North Main St. at the site of the Star Theater.

On April 28th 1830, Golden Rule Lodge suspended labor and ceased to exist. This was due to the strong anti-Masonic sentiment of that period. This strong feeling was in fact the movement that had sprung from the episode known as the Morgan Incident.

Sacandaga officially ceased to exist. But, in fact, met clandestinely, in a building located in the woods near the hamlet of Parkville. Parkville was located on the old Wells road, some one mile north of the present Village of Northville.

On June 11th 1853, A new lodge was organized and Chartered as Fish House Lodge #298 and moved from the village of Northville to the Hamlet of Northampton. Which was located about 5 miles south of the village.

Sacandaga Chapter once again became public in 1853. And, moved in with the Lodge. The Chapter held its first election since 1830. The original officers had held their positions since going underground. A total of 23 years. The officers were; Again Nathan B. Lobdell was elected High Priest. Samuel Duncan King, and Eli Beecher, was elected Scribe in place of Lemuel D. Sabin who must have looked to his companions for a break in service to the craft.

The Chapter held its meeting in Northampton until July 12th 1893. When the Grand Chapter in Buffalo, NY granted special dispensation to move the Tabernacle of the Chapter to Northville. This was a year after Fish House had returned to the village and rented the Third floor of the Brown Block there.

While located in the town of Northampton. Both bodies had lost there Historical records and early minutes to a fire while they were in storage for movement to the new lodge building.

With the help of old records and old programs I will attempt to recreate some moments of time and, Masonic companionship.

On the afternoon of January 8th 1873, the Chapter installed its officers. The chapter recessed for dinner returned to labor acted upon annual reports, And then conferred, the Marked Master, Past Master, and the Most Excellent Master degrees. Minutes do not note the number receiving the degrees or the time of closing.

The High Priest, was authorized to purchase swords for the chapter in January 13th 1875. These are, the swords that are still used by the Chapter today. The Straps were replaced in 2004 at a cost of 150 dollars. The original cost was 40 dollars.

As is the case today, collection of dues was essential. Often creative finances were done. And the charity of the individual companions, was essential to operate. At the annual convocation of 1880, the High Priest J.H. Partridge paid the Grand Chapter dues for 1881. He was repaid the balance of funds in the treasury, and given a three day note for the balance. On December 26th 1883, a motion was sustained that the secretary notify all companions whom were two years in arrears that, dues must be received by the next convocation . Upon the next convocation 17 were stricken from the rolls.

Some seven years later in 1887 E. Companion Partridge presented the note previously mentioned for payment. The amount was 6.50\$. He asked that the balance be applied to his dues. On motion passed, the secretary, was ordered to issue a receipt for 13 years dues at .50 per year. This deal only lasted for the next year as dues were raised in 1888 to \$1.00 at that annual convocation.

At the annual meeting in 1892 Thomas Brown was elected to Scribe. He was 102 years old, and was reputed to be the oldest mason in Fulton County.

In January 29th 1895 at the annual convocation, a committee that was formed to review the record of the chapter companions, they reported that;

From all the data that they could recover they understood the following;

19 companions were not in good standing. One was suspended in December 26th 1883, and there was no record of his reinstatement. Three did not appear on Grand Chapter registry, and two of these are not in good standing. Four companions died between, 1872 and 1890. And the Chapter had paid Grand Chapter dues all that time. Companion L.B. was stricken from the rolls in 1888, and should have not been. He having paid dues regularly, and is presently in good stead. The audit showed 28 companions in good standing. And one companion has been paying dues at the rate of .50\$ a year since he had never been notified since 1888 that dues were \$1.00. It was companion L.B. His debt of \$3.00 was discharged, the committee report was received and the committee discharged. Companion L. B. was restored and he received full membership. And one can imagine a notice of the dues increase.

In April 22nd 1896, E. L.N. Johnson chaired a committee to obtain money, for the purchase of Robes. He reported that he had collected \$125 from 17 companions and paid it to the treasurer. The treasurer was then ordered to pay over to E. Companion B.C. Sandford \$250 in full payment of the Chapter Robes.

Sacandaga Chapter for many years was the smallest chapter in New York State, but, then as today, what they lose in size they make up for in Sprit. Both in Masonic, and in fellowship. In the early days companions were spread out in a rural area with horses and buggies being the main mode of transport. Once winter arrived sleighs became the only mode of travel. With distances of ten to fifteen miles great care was taken to provide for attendance. A rumor persists that convocations were held on the night of the full moon to afford the best conditions for travel.

Sacandaga , received its first honor on March 3rd 1916 E. companion Edgar J. Palmer received a commission as the Grand Representative of New South Wales near the Grand Chapter of New York. He served for three years with distinction.

During the winter of 1927-28 Fish House purchased the former Cole Block on South main St. and began to alter the building. As the third floor had been occupied by Forest Park Lodge No. 800 I.O.O.F.

On June 18th 1928 the formal dedication of the building was held and Fish House #298 , Sacandaga #116 and Juanita Chapter #246 O.E.S. moved into the new site.

On May 12th 1926 Sacandaga Chapter celebrated its 100 years, R.E. John O'Brien Grand Royal Arch Captain was principal speaker. The council was E. William A. Foote High Priest, Hiram C. Denton King, and Hiram J. Allen Scribe. The officers were as follows: Arthur W. Heath Sec., Lee S. Anibal, Treasurer, William Strobel, Captain of the Host, Ray R. Seidel Principal Sojourner, Seymour R. Brownell Royal Arch Captain, George C. Fryer First Vail, Robert H. Hoke Second Vail, Dr. J. Edward Grant Third Vail, and James Carpenter, Hiram J. Allen and William Stobel Trustees.

On September 26th 1951 the 125th celebration took place. The ceremonies were attended by the then Grand High Priest Royal Arch Masons State of New York, M.E. Robert L. Donovan, The dinner was attended by Sacandaga companions and past Right Excellents of the district. At the conclusion of the convocation a commemorative coin was presented to all attendees.

On February 9th 1976 Sacandaga Chapter celebrated 150 years; the event was somewhat different than the celebrations of today with the day starting off with a communion Breakfast at the First Presbyterian Church. The welcome and address was given by E. Frank G. Pribel High Priest of the Chapter. A Short rededication program was presented by R. E. Milo Brown D.D.G.H.P. of the 12th capitular district. A meritorious Award was given to Companion James Lashway. E. Herbert Cory spoke on the history of Sacandaga Chapter.

After almost two decades of quiet companionship Sacandaga became involved in and consolidation. The group who chose this consolidation was Johnstown Chapter #78. On January 12th 1994 the M.E. Edward R. Trosin, by virtue of the power and authority of his office. Did approve and authorize the consolidation of the two Chapters. To remain in Northville, and continue as Sacandaga Chapter #116. The officers were ordered elected and installed. Immediately, after the consolidation ceremonies. The ceremonies were presided over by M.E. Courtland M. Andrews, who was assisted by R. E. John Mc Laughlin.

On the 23rd of September 2001 Sacandaga Chapter celebrated 175 years of York Rite excellents. The ceremonies were presided over by the Grand High Priest of the state of New York, M. E. Donald Lounsberry, The Grand Line sat in The offices of the Chapter. The High Priest of Sacandaga Chapter E. Frederick A. Beitter, performed and public opening. That was followed with a lesson in chapter protocol for the present guests.

After the rededication ceremonies the entire crowd proceeded to the Inn at the Bridge for a wonderful dinner and fellowship with all.

In Spring of 2002 and then again that fall Sacandaga received harsh news R. E. Robert Russell passed after having been the secretary of both Fish House Lodge and Sacandaga Chapter for over 30 years. That fall his brother R.W. & E. Murice Russell also passed. Both Brothers and Companions had dedicated themselves faithfully to the craft. And are still held in high veneration.

At the time of this date Sacandaga Chapter is 180 years old and continues to hold high station in the State and the 12th capitular district.

With fevency and zeal,  
R.E. Frederick A. Beitter

With notes from; R.E. Robert Russell, E. Herbert G. Corey, R.E. Edward D. Call, and for true dedication. The council of 1826 E. Nathan B. Lobdell, Samuel Duncan, King and Lemuel D. Sabin Scribe  
September, 2006

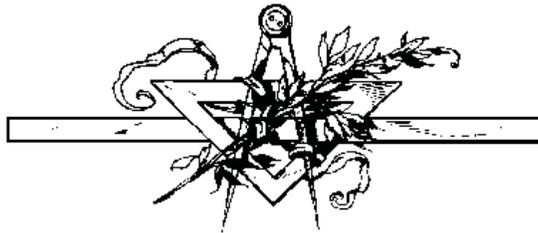
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