Installation of Baron Steuben Officers 2013-2014

At the June 17th 2013 stated communication of Baron Steuben lodge, the 161st installation of lodge officers occurred. W Bruce Warcup Jr, having been duly elected at the May 20th, 2013 summoned communication, was installed as Worshipful Master for 2013-2014. The installing officer was RW Timothy Harwood, DDGM for the 2nd Oneida District. RW Andrew Getty, Grand Steward 2nd Oneida District, acted as Marshall. For a complete list of elected and appointed lodge officers, see page 2.

TRIVIA - Who are Cowans and Eavesdroppers? Answer page 4

Any man who thinks he can be happy and prosperous by letting the Government take care of him, better take a closer look at the American Indian. - Henry Ford - Founder Ford Motor Company, Industrialist, Freemason
## Baron Steuben #264 Officers 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
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<th>OFFICE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
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## District Grand Lodge Officers 2013-2014

Representing the Most Worshipful James E. Sullivan, Grand Master of Masons in the State of New York:

- **RW Timothy R. Harwood** - District Deputy Grand Master - 2nd Oneida District
- **RW Gleason “Red” Burkett** - District Deputy Grand Master - 1st Oneida District

Grand Lodge Staff Officer appointments:

- **RW Andrew Getty** - Grand Sword Bearer - 2nd Oneida District
- **RW Peter Locke** - Grand Steward - 1st Oneida District

Representing RW Robert W. Strang, Grand Lecturer of Masons in the State of New York:

- **RW Thomas O. Yager** - Assistant Grand Lecturer - 2nd Oneida District
- **RW Dennis Breheny** - Assistant Grand Lecturer - 1st Oneida District
From the Lodge Historian

In 1936, the 2nd Oneida District of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York was comprised of 12 lodges; Philanthropic, Boonville, Roman, Oriental, Baron Steuben, Remsen, Oriskany, Uriel, North Woods, Hathaway, Moria, and Liberty. The total number of Masons in the district was 3,220. The lodge with the most members was Oriental with 777 Master Masons. Membership of Baron Steuben was 152. W Alton Smith served as Worshipful Master; W Clyde B. Felshaw Secretary.

Beginning in the late 1960’s, membership in the Masonic fraternity began to decline precipitously. In response, many lodges, including some in the 2nd Oneida District, were forced to close or merge. In 1988, lodges in Boonville and Forestport (Uriel) merged forming Boonville-Uriel #165. In 1993, Utica’s Oriental merged with another Utica lodge, the 1st Oneida Districts Faxon #697, and formed Oriental-Faxon #224. In 1995, Liberty merged with Oriental-Faxon. Lastly, in 1996, the two lodges located in Rome, Roman and Hathaway, merged forming Roman-Hathaway #223.

RW Clyde Felshaw died on May 16, 1986, at the age of 92. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity for seventy-five years. He is buried at Evergreen Cemetery in the Town of Lee.
Memorial Day - Remember Their Sacrifice

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in the service of the United States. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on 30 May 1868. The first state to recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. It is now celebrated annually on the last Monday in May. Waterloo, NY was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966.

On Memorial Day 2013, nine brothers from Baron Steuben, led by the Worshipful Master, honored those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States. In addition, the lodge was presented with a new American flag by members of the American Legion (Lee Legion) post 1794.

Briefly Noted

- **Closed** - Pursuant to the lodge by laws, **Baron Steuben Lodge does not meet during the month of July**. Lodge will re-open for work and instruction August 5th. Also, the **Lodge will not meet on September 2nd in observance of Labor Day**.

- **Winner** - Baron Steuben won its second $25 prize from the Lake Delta/Mappa Selma 10/100 raffle. Thanks again to Bro. Bob Jones for buying the tickets on behalf of the lodge.

- **Visit** - The Official Visitation of RW Tim Harwood, DDGM 2nd Oneida District, to Baron Steuben #264 will occur on December 11th 2013 at the Lee Center Masonic Temple. Details to follow.

Answer to the Trivia Question - According to RW Robert Strange, Grand Lecturer for the Grand Lodge State of New York, a Cowan is an ancient Scottish word meaning “an ignorant Mason who puts stones together without mortar”. The word signifies one who would pass himself off as a Mason but does not have the knowledge possessed by true Masons.

A perhaps more interesting definition is provided in the *Masonic Quiz Book*, *A Masonic Primer* (PRC Publications, Copyright 1949). A Cowan is defined as one of the profane. This purely Masonic term is derived from the Greek word *Kuon*, or dog. In the early days of the church, infidels and unbaptized profane were referred to as dogs.

The term Eavesdropper is taken from the punishment to be inflicted on a detected Cowan; To be placed under the eaves of a house in rainy weather, till water runs in at the shoulders and out at the heels.
On June 3rd, 36 Master Masons attended a traditional Masonic Table Lodge, at the Lee Center Masonic Temple. ME Michael T. Dunn, past Grand High Priest RAM, ensured that proper masonic etiquette and decorum were maintained. ME Dunn also directed attendees in the proper execution of the 7 traditional (and many non-traditional) toasts. In addition, RW Timothy Harwood, DDGM 2nd Oneida District, presented a Master Mason certificate to newly raised Brother Bradley Bliss. Also in attendance was RW Andrew Getty, Grand Steward, 2nd Oneida, and Masons hailing from jurisdictions in California and Maryland. Refreshments were provided by members of Lake Delta/Mappa-Salma Chapter #193 Order of the Eastern Star.

Special recognition, appreciation, and congratulations to Mrs. Mary Jo Armstrong, who allowed her husband to celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary during the evenings festivities. That, my Brothers, is true love.

Thank you Steve for a great year.

The Keystone Kops are on the loose.

Members of the Lee Center Keystone Kops have marched in several area parades in 2013. The Utica St. Patrick’s Day, New Hartford Memorial Day, and Parade of Champions in Canastota have all seen the Kops comically searching for their escaped prisoners. The Keystone Kops are a Ziyara Shrine Unit. The Shrine is a Masonic fraternity based on fun, fellowship and the principles of brotherly love, relief and truth. If you are interested in becoming a Shriner, or maybe a Keystone Kop, contact the Kops Unit President, Bro. Ross Stoltz.

Back Row: Bruce Warcup Jr., Wayne Towne II, Ross Stoltz, Steve Armstrong, John Smith,
Front Row: Mike Kelly, Wayne Towne III, Jared Vollmer, John Sargent
Brother Spotlight – Bruce Warcup Jr.

Worshipful Master Bruce Warcup Jr. was born January 12th 1981 in Rome, New York, the only son of Bruce and Diane (Calenzo) Warcup. He was educated in Rome City Schools, graduating from Rome Free Academy in 1999. In 2002, he graduated from Mohawk Valley Community College with a degree in Criminal Justice. He also attended Utica College of Syracuse University. Since 2001, he has been employed by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services as a Youth Division Aide. On March 22nd, 2006, he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at Baron Steuben Lodge. He served as lodge secretary from 2009 to 2011 and Worshipful Master in 2008 and 2013. He is currently a member of Darius Chapter #144 Royal Arch Masons. Bruce was created a Noble of Ziyara Shrine in 2009 and is a charter member of the Lee Center Keystone Kops Unit. He enjoys playing golf and bowling in his free time.

Upcoming Events

5 August - Lodge of Remembrance/Widows Appreciation Night at Baron Steuben Lodge.

19 August - Summoned Communication. Ballot regarding returning lodge meeting nights to 2nd and 4th Wednesday’s. Summons and ballot information will be mailed separately to all lodge members.

31 August - Oneida District Masonic Safety ID program at the New York State Fair. If you wish to support this event, contact the lodge secretary as soon as possible.

03 September - Master Mason night at the Lee Center Masonic Temple. Hosted by Lake Delta/Mappa-Selma Chapter #193 Order of the Eastern Star, the evening includes dinner, a short program, and the very entertaining annual mystery gift auction. Dinner begins at 6:15 PM.

September - Baron Steuben Annual Awards Banquet. The banquet will be held on a non-meeting night at a local area restaurant. Details to follow.

From the Secretary’s Desk

Brothers-

We are all familiar with the old saying that “Committees are where good ideas go to die.”. How about "A committee is a thing which takes a week to do what one good man can do in an hour.”? Often, these adages prove frustratingly accurate. Nevertheless, I am hoping that a few of you will agree to become chairmen for one of several important lodge committees. Fundraising, Brotherhood Fund, Benevolence, Banquet, and Building are all in need of responsible chairmen. Regarding committees, remember that the chairman is not supposed to do all of the work himself; his job is to ensure that the work of the committee gets done. If you are interested in overseeing or supporting a committee please contact myself or W Bruce Warcup Jr. ASAP.

Have a very enjoyable and safe Summer, John

From its origin to the present hour, in all its vicissitudes, Masonry has been the steady, unvarying friend of man.
- Rev. Erastus Burr