

AMICABLE LODGE No. 664 F&AM  
Utica Masonic Hall  
Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501  
Meetings: First & Third Tuesdays

December 7, 2011 Newsletter

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Brothers,

Merry Christmas and hope a happy new year follows. The New Year has begun for the lodge after a wonderful summer in Central New York. The lodge has conducted a first degree on November 15, 2011 to initiate four new brothers. The master work was conducted by SW Richard Jones and the historic lecture by Senior Deacon Michael Kem. The charge was performed wonderfully by Brother Anthony DiBrango. W Donald Backman presented the newly initiated EA masons with their aprons and the working tools presented by RW Norris Ellinwood. The Q&A was conducted by Brothers Marshall Brian Moore and Senior Master of Ceremony Dan Williams and the whys and wherefores by JW Zain Haider and myself, W Jim Nagy. The degree work was splendid and as can be seen by the participants – performed by many new brothers. I am proud of the participation spirit exhibited by so many.

The second degree is scheduled for first Tuesday in January – January 3, 2012. Please come out and support your brothers and meet the new brothers. The parts will be assigned shortly, so please call or email me by the next communication on December 20<sup>th</sup> (the Christmas party) if you are interested in presenting the working tools, performing the Q&A, the charge or even the historic lecture.

The new officers are performing their tasks with efficiency and energy. The seats are full each communication but seeing more faces on the sidelines would be a joy to the newer brothers making their way up the chairs. Please come down to the Utica Masonic Hall at 251 Genesee Street in Utica, NY if you are available. If you need a refresher on the work, any brother would be honored to assist and perhaps they will learn something new in the process.

Also, I am requesting volunteers to perform secretary and chaplin duties for next year. The current office holders have performed these duties for numerous years and deserve well earned rest from those duties. Please call, email or talk to me about your interest in either or both positions. I would request that if interested, please let me know ASAP; as I would like the new secretary to be the assist secretary this year to learn the requirements of the secretary office.

Lastly, the lodge hosted the Grand Lecturer Convention for the first Oneida District on Thursday September 8, 2011. The lodge room was full and had exciting interaction with the RW Grand Lecturer Charles Toombs. The night was started with dinner of meatloaf and all the fixings from the daughters of the Nile. Their support is always appreciated, especially after a wonderful meal.

### **SICKNESS and DISTRESS**

Since the last newsletter, there have been some sad tidings to report.

- Trustee John D'Amore father-in-law (James E. Jordon) passed away on September 27, 2011.
- RW Norris Ellinwoods' brother (David A. Ellinwood) passed away on November 24, 2011.
- Brother William Richards' brother (Scott D. Richards) passed away on November 12, 2011.

The sympathy and condolences of the brothers goes to those brothers and their families.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

The lodge Christmas party will be December 20, 2011 starting at 6pm. To keep costs down, it will be held at Utica Masonic Hall on Genessee Street in Utica, NY. Wives, children, family and friends are invited to attend the festivities. Each family should bring a dish. The lodge will provide beverages and one meal item. It is requested that each attendee bring an unwrapped gift for a boy or girl to provide Christmas spirit to those children who may have to go without. Those who donate a toy will receive an entry to charity raffle to be drawn during the party. Otherwise, cost is free – please come and have some Christmas cheer with your brothers.

In addition, the all Masonic Holiday Party will again be held at Harts Hills Inn in Whitesboro, NY on December 16, 2011. RSVP by December 10 to Ziyara Shrine office at 315-732-5328 or online at <http://shop.ziyarashriners.com> Last year was great time. Cost is \$30 per person for dinner and entertainment.

## OTHER BUSINESS

For those with internet connectivity, see Website at <http://www.amicable664.org> or the FACEBOOK group page for updated trestle board information, contact information and current on-goings and events of the lodge. The site will be updated every Sunday starting July 31<sup>st</sup>.

Also check Oneida County Mason website at <http://www.ocmasons.org> or FACEBOOK group page for updated DDGM visitation schedules, POCs and list of events covering both Oneida districts. The available calendar provides information on all Masonic events in the Oneida and Herkimer districts – extremely helpful.

DATE	TRESTLEBOARD - EVENT		
December 20	Holiday Party/ BBAF (At Lodge)		
January 3, 2012	Second Degree – Open at 7pm		
January 17	Past Masters Night / Walk About Lodge		
February 7	Third Degree – Open at 7pm		
February 9	Masonic Care Community Visit		
February 21	First Degree Rehearsal/ fundamentals		
March 6	First Degree – Open at 7pm		
March 20	Awards Night / Dinner / Widows recognition		
April 3	DDGM – Social at 5:30 / Dinner at 6pm / Message around 7pm		
April 17	Second Degree – Open at 7pm		
May 1	Move-up night/ Grand Lodge (Walk About/ Overview Lodge)		
May 15	Annual Meeting		
May 17	Third Degree – Open at 7:00pm ( <b>Special Communication</b> )		
June 5	Installation		
OFFICE	NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL
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