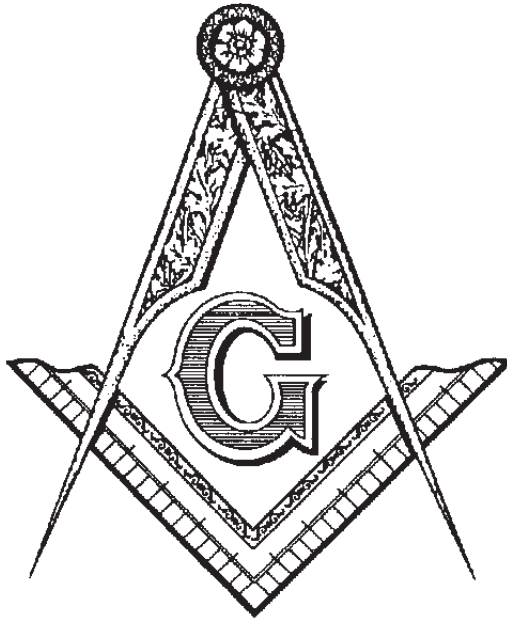


Summer 2005

Volume VIII: Issue #12

Fulton- Montgomery



News

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

The Fulton-Montgomery News

• Staff •

Editor: *Roger B. Steele*
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• 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

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The Staff welcomes all letters and submissions, reserving the right to edit for space and clarity. Material may be provided in any format including on diskette in text format or uploaded to “*rbsteele@nycap.rr.com*”. Contact the District Reporter or Editor for assistance.

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Any of the contents of this newsletter may be copied, quoted or reprinted with the permission of the Editor.

Checks payable to Fulton-Montgomery Masonic District

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489 Honeywell Crs. Rd.

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• A View From The East •

*by R.: W.: Claton D. Swain
DDGM Fulton-Montgomery District*



June 2005

Greetings Brothers,

As District Deputy of your District I am proud to report the district has had a very remarkable year. In this past year the district raised 17 new brothers to the rank of Master Mason. With a little coaxing many of our older members have returned to the sidelines. Some have accepted positions in their lodges and others are helping mentor the present brothers and officers. During the year the public response at most of the individual lodge functions assures me that Masonry in the Fulton Montgomery District is making a big comeback. The public is becoming aware of the good we do and the values we teach.

As most of you know it is my duty to visit all the lodges in the district each year of my term and inspect the books. During my inspections I found the books and other necessary items of each lodge to be in order, the lodge secretaries are doing a great job. The job these men do as secretary for our individual lodges and the fraternity is a very time consuming one. Let us all take the time to thank them for their commitment on our behalf. I particularly enjoyed and appreciated the companionship and hospitality extended to our District Staff Officer R.: W.: Leon Smith and myself. The attendance at these meetings was tremendous and the "Traveling Gavel" contest came down to the last meeting of this year between two outstanding lodges. Congratulations to Kennyetto lodge for winning this district honor. I know Amsterdam is planning to capture the title next year so be on your toes and watch out for the little guys.

During those visits I have had the pleasure of conveying the Grand Masters messages to you through a variety of subjects. We have talked about Leadership and learned that leadership begins at all the stations and places within our lodges. We have talked about Brotherhood and learned that brotherhood is an assembly of men banded together by a common interest. This is what our fraternity is, our belief in a God, charitable caring of others and brotherly love. We learned that all Masons are Masonic Public Relation Representatives at all times and should always walk and act as such before God and man. We learned that even the slightest miscue does not go unnoticed by the public.

We have seen that by doing for others our causes do not go unnoticed. The Justin Dager Fund and the Child ID program are

examples of the projects we do for our communities. By working toward the purchasing of a van for Justin and contributing many countless hours for Child ID the public has become aware as to who we are and what we strive for.

We learned Charity also begins at home when we were approached and responded to a request for portable radios for the Masonic Care Facility. I am pleased to let you know this effort is still continuing, more radios for the individual patient's use are being gathered for delivery. A second shipment will be made shortly.

Through the efforts of the District Membership Development and Retention Chairperson a most enjoyable dinner cruise on Lake George was had by many of our brothers, wives and families. He has three more trips planned for this next Masonic year. Watch for more details or contact your master.

As a district we traveled to several neighboring districts to attend their District Deputy meeting. We created and presented a "Traveling District Trowel" to the Schoharie-Otsego District. We encouraged them to keep it moving and pass it to another district within the state to promote brotherhood and companionship amongst the districts.

The district had 15 brother's travel to New York City to attend the 224th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Many of the items to be heard and voted on were of second reading nature. Some passed, others did not and some were tabled for next year or returned to committees for further review. A proposal to eliminate the need for the use of titles was rejected soundly. Some districts were consolidated in areas for convenience reasons. Some fees for charters and diplomas were eliminated. The use of the Internet and e-mail was approved for use by all secretaries.

Next years district activities will include a district "Brother Bring a Friend Night" to be held late August or early September. Look around and see whom you can invite to learn about our fraternity now. Of course our Labor Day weeklong Child ID at the Fonda Fair is one of or/is the largest Child ID program held in the state. Many bodies are needed to be successful, contact your master and let him know you are willing to participate. It is important you come out and help your lodge on their "day at the fair" R.:W.:Keith Veitch, our AGL, has suggested a district wide drama team for the third degree. As we know each lodge will need to perform the third degree as per an edict by GM Fitje, this team will be available for each lodges use if need be. They will not do the degree for you but merely assist with the drama part. MW Don Chaffin informs me the web page for the district is almost ready. You can find it at www.newyorkmasons.org. If you have something to submit please get it to him so it may be included.

Brothers, as the old year closes and a new-year rises in

the east it has been my honor to be your District Deputy. I pledge to work hard for you in the coming year to keep our district progressing in the ways of Masonry. As we go forward with our new Masters and Officers let us all try to promote the values and ideals we have learned this year. There will be many fun times to be had within our lodges, our district and in other districts if you choose to get involved. I hope each of you will consider getting involved. Have a great summer.

Fraternally,

New York Masonic Child ID Program

The Child ID Program is so important for the community and it is a visible entity of what we do. The Fonda Fair this year we will give out helium filled balloons to the ID'd children. It may be a way for the kids to encourage their parents to let them get the ID done. This past year we ID'd 537 children at the fair, and I think we can do better than that this year. We will have a new tool this year. It will be a way for the child to receive an ID with a fingerprint and photo. As soon as I can make the arrangement we will have a training session on the machine. It is used a lot and in great demand, so the training session is hard to get scheduled. Other sessions held throughout the district were the Hagaman Firehouse, the Perth Firehouse, Mayfield School, St. Johnsville School, the St Mary's Institute in Amsterdam, Northville Elementary School, Edinburg School, and on June 17th and 18th we will be doing an ID at the Lexington Fair. I would like to thank all the people who participated in the many Child ID sessions throughout the district.

Fraternally Yours
Jeffrey Lanfear
Child ID Chairman



Schedule for Fonda Fair.

Tuesday 8/30 Fort Plain
Wednesday 8/31 Kenneyetto
Thursday 9/1 Fishhouse
Friday 9/2 St Johnsville / Canajoharie
Saturday 9/3 St. Pat's
Sunday 9/4 Amsterdam
Monday 9/5 Fultonville

This is the new schedule for 2005 . Masters if this doesn't work for your lodge it will be your responsibility to swap with a lodge for a day that does work.

I was told that it was unfair for the same lodges to keep getting the weekend and Holiday.

Now it will switch every year.

Jeff Lanfear

Child ID Chairman



Friendship and Brotherly Love

There are many words that we as Masons use that do not hold the same meaning as they did to our Masonic ancestors. This can be found in the implementation of certain words, such as, " symbolically and emblematically". There is, however, a word whose meaning has not been skewed. **Brother**. In becoming a Mason we have all attained the title Brother. Beyond a title, Brothers we all are in the same fraternity. We have all endured the same trials and taken upon ourselves the same obligations. Like all Brothers, past and present, we are all bound by our honor. Let us never forget that we are Brothers all working toward a common goal. As Brothers let us stand together to keep Brotherly Love and Friendship alive in us and this great fraternity of ours. Let nothing come between us for nothing can separate us.

Fraternally,
Brother Jay Krajewski

• In Memoriam •

Bro. Harold Banta	<i>from his wife Norma</i>
Bro. Harold J. Harington, Fish House #298	<i>from his wife Dotty</i>
Bro. Dr. Robert Kemp	<i>from Bro. Dick Gugenberger</i>
Bro. Bill Tanner	<i>from Bro. Dick Gugenberger</i>
Bro. E.O. Christmas	<i>from Bro. Gary Harington</i>
Bro. George Harington	<i>from Bro. Gary Harington</i>
Rev. Bro. Newton Perrins	<i>from Bro. Elsworth Simpson</i>
Bro. Ernest D. Mugglin	<i>from Bro. Elsworth Simpson</i>
Harold E. Lake	<i>from Bro. Churchill S. Lake</i>
Lawrence W. Caster	<i>from his wife Jean</i>
Bro. William V. Hovey Fultonville 531	<i>from his wife Jeannette</i>

x

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

MASONIC FAMILY DAY AT WEST POINT! Saturday, October 1, 2005

From **7:00 am** – Masonic Parking at “K” Lot (\$5.00 per car in advance) Need a Lot Pass!

9:00 am Masonic Memorial Service at the George Washington Monument.

10:00 am – Parade of Cadets on the Plain.

LUNCH – Tailgate Party in “K”. Parking Area. (bring your own food and beverage)

Also Table and Chairs, Small Grill are allowed

1:00 pm – Football Game: Army vs. University of Connecticut at Michie Stadium
(\$31.00 per ticket)

Shuttle Bus Service available to and from Masonic Parking Area (‘K’ Area) **NO CHARGE**

Give yourself some extra time for security check.

Please make check payable to **Masonic Special Events** and mail to:

Louis H. Juers, State Chairman & Coordinator

Masonic Family Day at West Point

58 Schofield Street

Bronx, NY 10464-1530

Tel: 1-(718) 885-1865

Fax: 1-(718) 885-1868

e-mail: LOUTHEIMP@msn.com

NO REFUNDS POSSIBLE on unused tickets after September 18th. No tickets may be returned to West Point. They forbid the sale of tickets at the Stadium gates. **(Cut off DAY)** September 18, 2005.

Ticket #

Car Pass #

Amount: Ticket at **\$31.00** each for football game Car Pass at **\$5.00** per Car
(one car pass for every 3 football tickets if possible) Bus Pass **\$30.00**.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. THERE

• Lodge News •



St. Patrick's #4
By W.:, Master
1st & 3rd Thursdays



Hamilton #79
By W.: Carlton Scutt, Master
2nd & 4th Wednesdays



Amsterdam #84
By W.: Jeffrey Lanfear, Master
2st & 4rd Thursdays

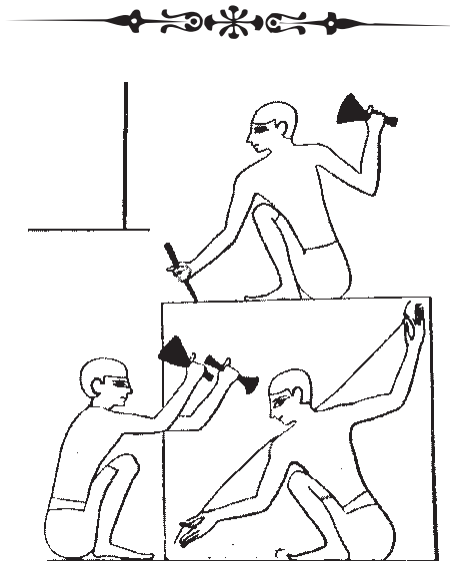
We can move ahead as Amsterdam Lodge is well set in its foundation of one strong lodge. The lodges that were merged were huge, not only in membership but in participation in the community. This will be the last time I'll refer to a merged lodge. I believe it's time to move ahead and bring the entire body together as one. We are a great fraternity with the potential of even greater things ahead. It is my belief that the Fulton Montgomery Masonic District can be the best district in the state and I would personally like to thank R.: W.: District Deputy Clayton (Skip) Swain for his leadership this past year. Skip took charge of the district and made everything we did from the Child ID at the Fonda Fair to the Justin Dager fundraiser with all the publicity, right through the trials and tribulations of the different lodges, and even found time for helping at the different Child ID's throughout the District. Thank You Skip for all you

did and may the coming year be as successful.

Brethren we will have one meeting in June on the 14th when we will close out for the summer. We will also install two special trustees and our organist who because of work commitment couldn't make it on the night of installation. All brothers are welcome to come to that meeting. I look forward to a great year because of the leadership we had with W: . William Brinski this past year. I would at this time, like to thank all the Brothers who put their trust in me for the leadership of the lodge this coming year. I believe we will have another great year. I would like to have a pancake breakfast or even a supper for the community as a partner to raise funds not only for the lodge and building funds but for a needy organization in the community. We can have a recognition night on one of our non meeting nights to recognize volunteer organizations such as the volunteers of St Marys Hospital and even Amsterdam Memorial Hospital. There are many things we can do. If you haven't attended a lodge meeting in a while and you need a ride because you don't drive at night, call a Brother. We'll get you a ride to Lodge if I have to pick you up myself. This is your Masonry, don't not participate in the great things we can do with this great fraternity. Participating in your Lodges is a great show of

Support to the newly elected Masters.

Thank You and May the Master of the Universe watch over you all.



continued on page 16 thank you

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Thanks for supporting our bulletin !

Fish House #298
By W.: Lee Brenn, Master



Fort Plain #433
By W.: Robert Parkinson, Master
2nd and 4th Tuesday

Offices for 2005-2006 are as follows:

W.M	W.: Robert Parkinson
S.W.	R.: W.: David Montanye
J.W.	R.: W.: Robert Elliott
Tres.	R.: W.: Roger Swartz
Sec.	R.: W.: Keith Veitch
S.D	R.: W.: Edward Smith
J.D.	Bro. John Tooker
Chaplin	Bro. Owen Dievendorf
Tiler	W.: John Dunham
Marshal	R.: W.: Robert Mabie

Years of service awards were given to the following brothers on April 12th:

20 Years, W.: John Dunham, Bro. Larry Johnson

25 Years, Bro. Ronald Dygert, Kenneth Nellis, Bro. Donald Mabbett and Bro. John Nichols

30 Years, Bro. Carl Shults, Bro. Jan Cronkhite, Bro. Walter Marosek and Bro. Richard Wilson

40 years, R.: W.: Robert Mabie, Bro. Richard Subik, Bro. Allen Diefendorf, Bro John Elwood and Bro Wilfred Bowley

55 Years, R.: W.: Roger Swartz and Bro. Robert Wagner

We have just started our 11th year of road clean up. We are also starting our 3rd year of helping R.: W.: Dave Saltsman with the newsletter.

R.: W.: Edward Smith will be our brotherhood chairman again. He has done a great job these past years. Thanks Ed!

Fraternally,

R.: W.: Robert Parkinson, Master



Fultonville #531

By W.: Hunter Cole-Hatchard, Master

1st & 3rd Wednesdays

922-5006

Brothers,

Another Masonic year is coming to an end. This has been a fruitful year with the addition of 3 newly raised brothers. We are eagerly looking forward to the warmth of summer and the beautiful colors that nature will surround us with. Of course that means that we will all be busy with the joys of endless yard-work. That means we will all also be looking forward to Masonic activities to become involved with. From the looks of things there will be plenty of opportunities for us all. One event our lodge will have is our annual summer Brooks chicken & ribs barbecue. This will be held on Friday, July 8, 3:30 till 7pm. We hope it will be a beautiful day and that you all can make it.

Our trestleboard is quickly filling up for the following year. We are planning both fun and educational programs for the 2nd meeting of every month. We are hoping to get all of our members involved with these activities. We look forward to the upcoming Masonic year and wish our newly elected master, W.: Hunter Cole-Hatchard, the best of luck.

Fraternally,

Brother Jay Krajewski

Please see next page

True Brotherhood

I believe for ages we have acted and never fully comprehended or thought upon our actions. We do intend in our Masonic teachings to let Masonry show its new yet old virtue in its true form.

I entered this district some sixteen years ago. I went to Fort Plain Lodge to the District Deputy meeting. The brothers had to know of my coming, for my ears upon entering the lodge told me I was hearing a dear old friend from a lodge in Newburgh. It was non-other than Rob Roy Boyd who introduced me to two other brothers all of which, my self included, were members of the Tall Cedars of Lebanon.

As time progressed three of your brothers from Fort Plain came to know Rob Roy as I did and grew to love him. He would make you laugh, cry and maybe sometimes he could be cantankerous but he had a heart of Gold and was most of all Rob Roy himself. Who was he you ask, he was a brother who took care of his mother all his life and never married. Never asked for much out of life only for the love of his Brother Masons. I became aware of the thoughtfulness of the brothers of Fort Plain through the members of Fort Plain and by Rob Roy himself.

When I took him to his last Tall Cedar Convention at Niagara Falls, about two years ago, he confessed to me of his happiness and undying love for RW Keith Veitch, W Robert Parkinson and W Philip Hanley his brothers in Fort Plain. These brothers not only cared for my brother Rob Roy but also saw to his every need. They took him to meetings and dinners, saw to his attire and helped admit him into the Wiley Home at our Masonic Care Facility.

To you my three brothers my heartfelt thanks and to all brother masons who knew Rob Roy we have suffered a great loss. Brothers let us ponder and reflect on the time we have with one another. Do we not as brothers, on the closing of every meeting “impart upon the square? So should we my brothers ever meet, act and part”. The Chaplain reads and I quote “to realize the beauties of our time honored institution for one another”

In closing it is a rarity other than brotherhood alone that we take the time to do what these three men have done.

Fraternally and sincerely, Hunter

Kennyetto Lodge No. 599
W.: Roger B. Steele, Master
2nd & 4th Wednesdays

Well it's been a great year for Kennyetto Lodge No 599. We have accomplished so much working and having fun together. We have put up walls, and brought down barriers. We have night of awards where we honored the people of our village as well as our own lodge brothers. We initiated, passed, and have 6 Brothers to be raised in September.

Our line is as follows:

Master	W.: Roger B. Steele
Senior Warden	Bro. Robert Jackson
Junior Warden	Bro. Richard Gugenburger
Secretary	W.: John Sira
Treasure	R.: W.: William Clizbe
Chaplin	Bro. Gary Harrington
Senior Deacon	Bro. Steven McGllis
Junior Deacon	Bro. Jason Gardenier
Senior Master of Ceremonies	Bro. Paul Decker Sr.
Junior Master of Ceremonies	Bro. John Mahoney
Steward	Bro. Steven Sparks
Steward	Bro. William Auty
Tiler	Bro. Ronald DeRocker

Thank you everyone for a wonderful year. Have a great summer and I'll see you in the fall.

Fraternally,
W.: Roger B. Steele



St. Johnsville #611
R.: W.: Jacque Mosher Sr., Master
1 st & 3rd Thursdays

On April 7th and 8th St. Johnsville Lodge #611 conducted a Child ID clinic at the St. Johnsville Elementary School. We did IDs for 95 children. The event was organized and run by Brother William Finch. Several Brothers and acouple wives helped.

M.: W.: Don Chaffin II became a member of our lodge on April 21st of 2005.

On May 7th we raised five brothers in the lodge. Brother Bernie Brandow, Brother Ernie Gee, Brother Greg Sova, Brother Chris Weaver, and Brother Donald Wilder. We would like to thank Brother Bob Smith, Brother Bob Lindholm and Brother Dave Montanye for helping us.

Election of Officers for 2005-2006:

Master R.: W.: Jacque Mosher Sr

SW Bro David Mosher

JW Bro Eric Dunn

Treas Bro Ronal Hezel

Sec Bro William Farber (chief002@citlink.net)

Submitted by William A. Farber, Secretary

PS: Our new Brother Don Chaffin is setting up a Lodge Website for Lodge 611.

I was going to do it BUT since I am a walking computer virus and have not advanced past the Power On and Off button, Don decided to do it.

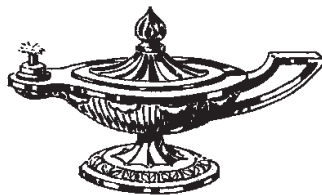
”Who’s The Man”

From the Editor’s Desk

Roger B. Steele

This column was to contain a brief resume of the new brother from Fort Plain. I didn’t have a extra 4 pages to devote to this cause so if anyone wishes a copy i will gladly send it to them.

Do to things that have happened in this electronic world this Newsletter is later than it has ever been. Without a backup computer and the loss of some material, we are moving on. I am sorry for any inconvenience that anyone has occurred because of the tardiness of this newsletter and I hope that it never happens again.





A Chevalier investiture was presented on March 12, 2005 at the Amsterdam Masonic Center and I was fortunate enough to be invited. Three young men from our local, St. Andrew's Chapter, were invested with this high award for DeMolay. They are Joshua R. Brusoe the State Master Councilor, not yet 21 years of age, Benjamin Johnson, and Stephen Romano both who are of legal age. A little background on this award for those of you (like me) that have never heard of it before. This award was designed to recognize those outstanding young men who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. This is the highest award that any DeMolay can receive and some would consider it being next to being knighted. In this investiture, all of the chairs are filled with past recipients. The young men were conducted by Brother Peter Brusoe the acting marshal who did an outstanding job. The program was lively and to the point with lots of ceremony involved to keep all interested.

The reason I said that Ben and Steve were of legal age, is because I again was present at the raising of these two brothers to the degree of Master Mason on the following Saturday in Fultonville. This was the first third degree that they have had in this lodge for some time and as all brothers



Brother Royal P. Taylor Amsterdam No. 84
Mrs. Norma Banta

Help the Newsletter! A personal contribution of \$10 or more will help defray the expenses and we will publish your name in this spot for four issues.

From Your Staff Officer

*By R.:W.: Leon C. Smith
Grand Steward/ Staff Officer,
Fulton-Montgomery District*

With the closing of the Masonic season, I want to congratulate all of the Lodges for a successful year of Masonry. Every Lodge put on a second degree and is preparing to confer a third degree during the next Masonic year. Every degree is an educational event for those Brothers who participate or observe. It's a way to renew your obligation, and a reminder of that which sets Masonry apart from all other organizations.

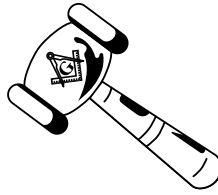
A Masonic Development Course will be scheduled for the district in the fall, and a Road to the East course will be held during the winter. Please plan to participate in these to help you to further your knowledge of the Craft.

As always, I have a supply of the booklet, "Masonic Etiquette" and have been distributing them at District Deputy Visits. This booklet explains how we, as Master Masons should relate to one another with courtesy and respect in order to sustain unity and harmony within the craft. I will have a supply with me at all D.D. visits this coming year and will give one to any Brother who asks.

I wish you all a pleasant and restful summer and look forward to renewing friendships and fraternal companionship with the upcoming Masonic year.

Fraternally, R.:W.: Leon "Lee" Smith

Visit us at www.newyorkmasons.org



The Fulton-Montgomery Traveling Gavel
R.:W.: David Lee Saltsman Chairman

Point System:

Master and Officers meetings, each Master = 5 points,
officers = 2 points
District Deputy Meeting, each Master and Officer = 2 points,
Brothers = 1 point
Total for each gavel award is found by adding all achieved points during
a 30-day period (one M&O meeting and one DD Meeting).

Example:

M&O Meeting

Master (5 pts)
Officer (2 pts)

District Deputy Meeting:

Officer (2 pts)
Brothers (1pts)

Total points = 10 points

The total points accumulated for the year 2004-5 through the Fish House District Deputy meeting in May are as follows;

St Patricks #4.....	88 points
Hamilton #79.....	127 points
Amsterdam #84.....	238 points
Fish House #298.....	179 points
Fort Plain #433.....	194 points
Fultonville #531.....	161 points
Kennyetto #599.....	257 points
St Johnsville #611.....	167 points

Congratulations go to Kennyetto Lodge, the Traveling Gavel winner for this year.

Thank you to all who participated, our attendance at both DD and M&O meetings has been tremendous. Let's keep up the great work and good luck for next year.

Support Your Brotherhood Fund

Postmaster!! Time Valued Material Inside

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NEWSLETTER
489 Honeywell Crs. Rd.
Broadalbin, NY 12025

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MAYFIELD, NY 12117

Remember, Being a Member is More Than Just Paying Dues!



Visit our new web page (*under construction*)
at www.newyorkmasons.org