



Legion of Honor News

By JOHN BOHLING

OK guys, up on the dugout steps! It's the top of the ninth for the Shrine year.

Parades are over; the last Ceremonial for 2009 just passed; daylight savings came and went; small utility bills are a thing of the past; and Thanksgiving leftovers are all gone.

All this means is, it's time to fire it up for a big finish to our year!

As far as the Legion of Honor is concerned, we have voted to make life members of our Vets who have reached the age of 85 or older. Our Unit is one of the junior ones at Aleppo, having been formed in 1991. As a result these Nobles are the trunk from which our Unit branched.

Those honored are: **Lester Butt, Frank Clark, Albert Hunt, Donald Leary, Harvey Miller, Neal Olsen, John Pacella, Charles Rivers Sr., Langham Staib** and **David Zide**. Congratulations to all!

Now from the good news to the not so good. Since our last issue, we have lost three members to the all-devouring scythe of time, and are now billeted within the Golden City.

Noble **Lewis Janzow**, who could tell you very clearly about the u-boat menace in the North Atlantic. **Arnie Sutcliff**, a retired Air Force veteran who could whip up the A.F. Verizon of S.O.S., that is, with hamburger not dried beef. Last, but definitely not least, Noble **Fred Green**, "Mister Fix-It." No longer will I hear his melodious voice call out "hey rackets" from high above the "cherry-picker."

Well done, good and faithful servants!!

On a happier note, we will have our Holiday Party soon to celebrate with our friends. We wish you all happy holidays and a prosperous new year!



Don't Forget To:



"Chuck-A-Buck"



THE LEGION OF HONOR during the Parade in Review at the November 14, 2009, Ceremonial.

Blue Lodge Happenings

...from page 26

Grin, snicker, and a little bit of OH WELL. Pentucket and AYL are friends, but it's always nice to be able to stick your friends in a good way.

About fifteen minutes after all the hub-bub dies down, I'm telling this story to Noble **Barry "Boo-Too" Patterson** and Noble **Tim Miller**. They get a good chuckle, but tell me not to worry. AYL's SD **Mike Settany** had been working a guy to join our lodge for a while, answering questions, inviting him to our events, the usual things. Mike asked his guy, do you know anyone in Masonry. He answers, yeah, I know **Wayne Standley Jr.** He's an officer (the current Master) of Pentucket. Mike calls Wayne, asks about his candidate, Wayne says Yes I know him, we were in the same college fraternity. I'll give him a call.

Less than an hour later, the new guy is committed to joining Pentucket. AYL lost a potential candidate to Pentucket, and they lost one to Ancient York. It's all good. The Masonic "tide" rises by two, and we have another great story to share. We're all still friends. I have a t-shirt that says Pentucket is the best lodge. I've even worn it once, but not where anyone in AYL can see it.

Have I ever told you, I like Table lodges? I do, if your lodge is having one, please invite me. I'd love to come, I'd even pay for my own ticket, I know, I'm shocked that I said that but it's true. William North Lodge of Lowell had one recently. AYL commits to a big block of tickets every year. They come to our cigar night and we go to their table lodge. It's all good. At this past table lodge, I got there early, wanted a seat in the middle of South Row. No particular reason, just I like the South Row. In Lowell, when you want to reserve a seat, all you do is tip your chair against the table. It shows that is spoken for. As my brothers showed up, they asked where I was sitting. Over there, see my camera bag on the table? Well, I wasn't counting, by the time I got to where my seat was supposed to be, I had sent a huge group of our new candidates over and there was no spot for me. Being late in the sitting down, all the other spots on the outside of the horseshoe was filled. Is that a seat at the head table? I used my District guest status and sat at the head table. Wor. **Joe Roux** followed the proscribed ceremony as only he can. Thank TGAoTU, that RW **Dana McAllister** and his Marshall **Steve Burton** have a sense of humor. One of the charity purchases will

be extra strong reading glasses for Joe. Sitting at the head table has its advantages, we get served first. I was seated next to **Jim Burke**. Jim is a cool guy; we call him FreeSpace at Lodge of Instruction. He is a member of every lodge in the District and is or has been an officer in most. He's always got stories. **Bob Bailey** from Thomas Talbot Lodge was on the other side, he's also got stories. Thanks William North for a great Table Lodge. Thanks to the Billerica Eastern Star for cooking.

My lodge has brought so many men on board that we are looking for projects for them to do. I'm not sure where I read it, probably in Graeme Marsden's Rural Lodge Newsletter, in order to retain new members you have to engage them. We are trying to do just that. One of our most successful projects was our Murder Mystery Dinner. Bro. Mike Settany and newest Noble **Kevin Waterhouse** have been Masons for less than a full year. They came up with the idea, and made it work. They bought a bare bones script online, booked a Haunted local restaurant, sold a bunch of tickets.

The Haunted restaurant is the Country Tavern in Nashua NH; it has been featured on Ghost Hunters. You couldn't ask for a nicer place to hold an event. Kevin and Mike fleshed out the script, Mike Greeley sold a couple of table's worth of tickets, and he was the crooked accountant. As we entered the room, some of us were handed scripts with our lines highlighted in yellow. I got to be Jean the family physiologist, and Illustrious **Steve Eriksen**, Aleppo Past Potentate, was Fabio the pool boy. The meal was terrific, the acting not so much. IT was a BLAST. The cast was ad-libbing, the audience was adding their two cents, it was great fun. We got to read our parts, my daughter's boyfriend **Mike Taylor** turned out to be the murderer. Mike is a member of Pentucket, told you the lodges are close. Steve, as the pool boy, had affairs with every woman in the cast and was a prime suspect. I turned out to be a woman, guess I should have read the script closer. We were then treated to a tour of the haunted restaurant. I won't tell you the story, but the owners of the place swear it's all true. Can't wait to see what our new guys come up with next. I'm hearing something about a costume party or prom for

Valentine's Day

Ancient York's biggest event of the year is our cigar night. No, we did not copy Aleppo's, Ill. Steve Eriksen and Barry Patterson brought the idea from AYL to Aleppo. It seems to be working, other lodges in other districts are also holding cigar events. Some hold it as fund raiser, some have it as a fellowship night, all are good excuses to get together and have a good time. We have a good set up. We hold the cigar smoke upstairs in our Game room. We open all the windows and have fans pulling the smoke out. I've never gone outside during the event but I bet we look like the place is on fire with all the smoke coming out the windows. For dinner, we move to our dining hall downstairs, we leave the smoking upstairs because Lowell DeMolay does all the cooking and serving. **Doug Hanks** and **Jeff Northrup** served up a super prime rib dinner. I had a couple of pieces of cow. The first was medium rare, and the second smaller piece was so rare we thought it could have gotten up and walked off the plate. Oh yeah, thanks to Doug's daughter **Jen** for pitching in to help. She just got "home" from seven years of living in London. Does anyone have a job for an experienced bar manager, Jen is job hunting.

My friend and co-worker, Wor. **Peter Macdonald** is the Master of Elliot-Hyde Park Lodge. His lodge just merged with Constellation lodge. It's been fun watching the workings of the naming committee. They have cut the potential names down from 150 possible to a more manageable thirty. It's amazing how many phone calls he gets with brothers trying to promote their choice of the merged lodge's name.

Please say a prayer for our brothers **Scott Hume, Chuck O'wrl** and **Archie Campbell**. They all have health issues and can use all the positive thoughts you can offer.

This is where I need to end, there are a lot of holiday events coming up. I'm going to try to get to as many as possible. I'm looking forward to the Aleppo New Year's Eve party; I hear is a good time. We have plans to go to a reading of A Christmas Carol at a lodge in Woburn with our friends from St John's Lodge in Boston, Jeff and Sarah. They are always fun to hang out with. Masonry brought us together and I'm always thankful for that.

See ya soon, Ralph J Reed III, Ancient York Lodge Lowell, Aleppo Shrine

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