



Issue #7 - September 2026
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Caro Royal Arch Chapter #96
Thumb Council #90
St. George Commandery #52
Mount Moriah #226 | Hubbard Winsor #420

Roadside Wrap-Up

As the Autumn leaves begin to turn, our Thumb York Rite Companions and Sir Knights gathered for our final roadside highway cleanup of the year, bringing a successful close to our seasonal community outreach. Although our dedicated crew was modest in size, with five hardworking members stepping up to serve, our collective effort made light work of the stretch. Thanks to the thorough job done during our previous outing, the roadside was in remarkably good shape, leaving us with a light load and a short morning's work.

In total, the crew collected just two to three bags of trash along the route, a testament to how well-maintained the area has remained over the past

several months. It was a rewarding way to wrap up our stewardship efforts for the season, combining fellowship, crisp fall weather, and a shared commitment to keeping our local community clean. A *sincere* thank you goes out to the five brethren who gave their time to represent the York Rite and finish out our year on such a positive note.



Photo by Sister Isabella Albin

Evolution or Extinction?

The Future of Freemasonry

The survival of Freemasonry depends on the bridge built between generations. For older Freemasons, supporting the younger generation is not merely a gesture of goodwill—it is a vital responsibility. To keep the Craft alive, senior brethren must be willing to meet younger members on the level, compromise on outdated administrative habits, and embrace new ideas. If Lodges refuse to adapt to modern realities and changing cultural dynamics, they risk fading into obscurity, leaving behind empty Temples and lost potential.

Evolution does not mean abandoning the ancient landmarks; it means breathing new life into them. The core philosophical principles, sacred Brotherhood, and rich traditions of Masonry must remain intact, acting as the firm foundation upon which innovation is built. By encouraging younger Masons to take on leadership roles, integrate modern technology, and introduce fresh approaches to community engagement and fellowship, older members can help forge a vibrant future. By balancing the preservation

of tradition with the courage to evolve, the fraternity ensures that its light will continue to shine for generations to come.



Photo by Sister Isabella Albin

Spaghetti and Sentiments

On behalf of Caro Chapter #96, we extend our sincere gratitude to Excellent Companion Terry Baker for joining us at our recent Convocation. The evening began on a fantastic note as Companions gathered over a wonderful spaghetti dinner, sharing great fellowship and (*continued on next page*)

warm conversation. Following the meeting, EC Baker delivered an educational presentation, offering insightful notes and perspective that left everyone inspired and better informed. We truly appreciate his time, dedication, and valuable contributions to our Chapter, and we look forward to welcoming him back again soon.

Following the closing of our Convocation, we allowed some extra time for a Mark Master Mason practice as we continue to get our footing for the upcoming Mark Master Mason degree.

Words from the Worshipful

WM Jack Ruby - Hubbard-Winsor #420

As we roll into the Fall season we continue to meet at 6:30pm for a meal before our 7:30pm meeting on the third Monday of the month.

This month we enjoyed some of Bro. Jason's chili and cornbread. Even if you can't stay for the meeting, come on out for supper and catch up with your Brethren!

We are glad to announce a local contractor has been signed for the exterior refresh of our Temple and work is scheduled for this Fall. Interior

improvements will start as soon as he buttons up the outside. If you can lend a hand with painting, fetching and hauling, bringing refreshments, being a cheerleader, come on down to the Lodge. Bro. Brent will be communicating with us about work parties via email from the Secretary.

We are pleased that the Officers continue to do their work without books, and an opportunity to really shine comes in October – Officer Advancement Month. Officers will advance to the station they anticipate to occupy following our annual election in November and Installation in Dec.

Come out to Lodge and see all we've been up to, you certainly are missed!



Fall is for Fellowship in the Lodge!

Refreshing our Relief

Relief is one of the most enduring tenets of Freemasonry, and for generations, lodges have generously supported worthy causes. Yet, it is remarkably common for a Lodge Charity Account (LCA) to run on autopilot. Year after year, the same checks are approved and mailed to the same established organizations. While these groups are undoubtedly doing good work, running a lodge's charity on a loop can cause the brethren to overlook the pressing, emerging needs right outside their own doors.

Communities evolve, and so do their challenges. By actively seeking out new local ventures, a lodge breathes fresh life into its philanthropic efforts. Think about the immediate area surrounding the temple—whether that's right here in Caro and the wider Tuscola County / Thumb region, or wherever your Lodge's charter is hung. Grassroots nonprofits, new community outreach programs, and even highly specific local infrastructure projects can immensely benefit from a targeted infusion of Masonic relief. Directing funds to these fresh avenues

not only maximizes local impact but also elevates the public visibility of the lodge within the community.

Breaking the cycle of simply rubber-stamping the annual charity budget starts with engaging the membership. At the next regular communication, challenge the officers—from the Senior Deacon to the Worshipful Master—to each bring forward one new local cause for consideration and discussion.

When a lodge like Mount Moriah, Hubbard-Winsor, or any other dedicated group of Masons, actively engages with the current, specific needs of their hometown, the act of giving transforms from a routine line item into a dynamic, hands-on extension of our obligations. By redirecting our focus to new ventures, we ensure our charity remains as active and vital as the communities we serve.



A Quiet Feast

The Best Laid Plans of Mice and Masons

When you spend days in the kitchen preparing to feed 200 people, you visualize the hall filled with conversation, laughter, and the clinking of silverware. That was the vision for the Heroes Dinner on September 12th—a free, open invitation extended to the veterans, medical professionals, law enforcement officers, firefighters and anyone who tirelessly serves our community. It was designed to be a simple, heartfelt "thank you" served up on a plate.

But sometimes, reality doesn't align with our best intentions.

As the doors opened and the evening progressed, the anticipated crowd never materialized. Out of the 200 portions carefully prepared and ready to serve, only four guests walked through the doors. Understandably, it was a deeply disappointing turn of events. When you pour that much time, energy, and care into a community offering, seeing a room full of empty chairs is a heavy feeling. It is hard not to wonder why the invitation didn't resonate, or why the people we

hoped to honor couldn't make the time to attend.

However, even in the quietest halls, there are silver linings to be found.

The four individuals who did make the time to attend were fellow Masons, and their presence turned a quiet room into a space of genuine fellowship. We shared a wonderful meal, broke bread together, and enjoyed the kind of camaraderie that makes this community special.

Furthermore, the evening was far from a total loss. Thanks to the remarkable generosity of the few who were there, we managed to generate over \$165 in donations. That is a testament to the character of the brothers who showed up to support the cause or donated towards it. And for those worrying about the mountain of prepared food—rest assured, not a single bite went to waste. Every extra portion found its way to a good home, ensuring the effort in the kitchen still nourished people as intended.

The September 12th Heroes Dinner wasn't the bustling, packed house it was meant to be, and the disappointment of that quiet evening still lingers. But it was a reminder (cont.)

that true relief and charity aren't always measured by headcounts.

Sometimes, they are measured by the quality of the company, the funds raised for a good cause, and the simple act of making sure good food doesn't go to waste.

To the local heroes who couldn't make it: the appreciation for your service remains, even if we couldn't share a meal this time around. And to the four brothers who sat down at the table—thank you for your time, your donations, and your company.



The International Order of the Rainbow for Girls (IORG) offers a fantastic opportunity for the daughters and granddaughters of Master Masons to build confidence, leadership skills, and lifelong friendships. Through engaging service projects and meaningful ritual work, Michigan Rainbow provides young women with a supportive environment to grow into tomorrow's community

leaders. Encourage the young women in your life to explore IORG today and help them take their first steps toward an empowering future.

New Hope - New Officers

By Sister Isabella Albin

On Thursday, September 24th, New Hope Assembly #61 had a wonderful evening as we installed two Officers for the ensuing term. The evening was filled with friendship, laughter, and excitement as we came together to celebrate our Rainbow sisters and begin a new term.

We started with a fun social hour, enjoying snacks, visiting, and catching up before the installation. It was a wonderful way to spend time together and enjoy the special bond of our Rainbow family.

During the installation, we proudly welcomed Bianca as Sister Immortality and Isabella (me) as Sister Drill Leader. Both Sisters stepped into their new roles with enthusiasm. I also had the opportunity to learn the reins of my new position, and I am excited to watch us grow throughout our terms.

We ended the evening with news, smiles, and plenty of (cont.)

positive energy. It was heartwarming to see everyone supporting and encouraging one another as we begin this new chapter together.

Congratulations to Bianca on her new position! We are so proud of you and look forward to all the fun, friendship, service, and memories this new Rainbow term will bring. 🌈



Representing Rainbow on the Roadside

Free Advertisement

Whether you have an insightful article to contribute, an important update to share, or a special gathering you want everyone to know about, we are here to help you get the word out. All you need to do is reach out and send us your details; our team will handle the rest to bring your submission to life and ensure it reaches our readers. Contact us today with your ideas, and let's make it happen together!

editor@thumbbyorkrite.org

Brotherly Love

Brethren, as we go about our busy daily lives, let us remember our fundamental commitment to Brotherly Love by actively reaching out to check on one another. I ask each of you to take a few moments this week to call or message the Brothers you haven't seen recently to ensure no one is falling through the cracks or quietly struggling with health issues alone. A simple conversation can make a world of difference, helping us maintain our strong bonds of fellowship and ensuring our Masonic family remains fully connected and supported during times of need.



Honorary Event Chair
MOST WORSHIPFUL
GRAND MASTER
Michael Roberts

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE WITH HIM AT

Dueling for Dyslexia

A DINNER & DUELING PIANO EVENT



PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE

 **Children's Dyslexia Centers of Michigan**
Helping provide life-changing dyslexia tutoring for children.

EVENT DETAILS

WHEN

November 6, 2026
5:30 pm to 10:00 pm

WHERE

Saginaw Lodge #77
2655 N. Center Rd,
Saginaw, MI 48603

TICKETS

Advance tickets \$75
Purchase at

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/was3a2h/lp/b95eea1c-427f-4197-9485-651836b53113>



SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

PLATINUM

Event recognition, table for 8 and funding for two children's tutoring for a year
\$11,500

GOLD

Event recognition, table for 8 and funding for one child's tutoring for a year
\$6,500

SILVER

Event recognition and table for 8
\$1,500

SEND PAYMENTS TO:

Michigan Scottish Rite Fund
907 Monroe St.
Dearborn, MI 48124
Memo: "Dueling"

QUESTIONS? CONTACT

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