

Opening of 1963 Time Capsule

St. Johns-Ovid Masonic Lodge #105



The new St. Johns Masonic Temple ground-breaking was Sept. 24, 1962. The new Temple is located at 915 W. State St. St. Johns, Michigan.



MASONIC TEMPLE CONSTRUCTION STARTS—Ground was broken Monday morning for the new Masonic Temple to be erected on West State street, near the west city limits, in St. Johns. John Petro, worshipful master of the lodge, is shown (center) turning the first shovelful of dirt. Other lodge members active in the building project gathered for the brief ceremony. Left to right are: Herbert Houghten, Henry Dellar, Mark Eaton, Joseph Kubica, James Spousta, Floyd Parmelee, Petro, Kermit McAlvey, Fred Green, L. W. Wolf, Dorr M. Anderson, Irving Eaton, Ted Bedell, William Martin, Jr., John Spousta and Harold Burk. The two-story temple

building, which will cost in excess of \$40,000, is being erected on a large plot of ground donated by Mr and Mrs Dorr M. Anderson of St. Johns. James Spousta is chairman of the building committee and Henry W. Dellar is secretary-treasurer. Verne Bliesner of Lansing is general contractor for the project and many items of labor and material are being donated by members of the local Masonic orders. Financing of the project is being accomplished by a subscription campaign among members and friends of the lodge.

The time capsule was placed in the Northeast corner of the new Masonic Temple building, on October 5, 1963 by the following members listed in the article.

Sunday at the Baptist church on the street. Several ministers will take service, which special music.

details of the new church and the First Baptist St. Johns will section five of ang with congratulations from the who had a hand truction of the

is invited to at- vice, as well as service, which Rev L. P. Bur- pation, editor of Fellowship, the alical.

★ ★

l District

olidation Vote

the Reed school- tor township will s Nov. 4 to decide district will be e Lansing dis- gistration dead- y, Oct. 7. Those- tered are not re- gister.

school board de- cent meeting that n the neighboring be "in the best- terests of the dis-

Seek

ple

of Engineers or- vation Service, and discussed at. The drainage d the idea, how- was determined ag of some five be involved.

reats of litiga- Clinton county- vely opposed the any years, seem- ie up the project- ve years, howev- he Federal aid

PLE page 2

ons submitted throughout the year by the 36 community groups will be considered and an award for distinguished service to agriculture in the county will be presented posthumously to Mrs Roscoe G. Smith.

A table decoration contest between the community groups will be held and entertainment will be presented throughout the evening.

HE HAD been known to do this on at least one other occasion, according to Green and the slage was too fresh to form gas which might cause him to faint. The doors in the struc- ture are too small for anyone

See MAN BURIED page 3

business district solicitation be- gins.

ASSISTING Wabeke in can- vassing the business areas of the city will be the following workers:

Charles Barnes, William W. Barber, Edward Stephenson, John Rehmann, Don Mazzolini, Edward (Spud) Heathman, Bernard Feldpausch, Dr A. N. Saunders, Lester Blued.

JAKE WABEKE
Heads Business Drive

Raymond Elster, Mrs John O'Leary, Kenneth (Red) Dev- ereaux, Walter Pierce, Jr., Howard Korles, Lloyd Harris, Walter Schafer, Richard Rut-

See CHEST page 2

Johns, driver of the tractor, was removed to Clinton Me- morial hospital for treatment of a mangled foot and later removed to Sparrow hospital in Lansing. He is reported im- proving.

ARLAND CLARK, 32, of R- 1 Breckenridge, driver of the car, was s uninjured. He was ticketed for failure to stop in the assured clear distance and driving with improper license plates.

Three Alma men were injured at 7:30 p.m. Saturday when the car in which they were rid- ing went out of control on Wright road four miles south of Fowler and overturned in a ditch.

Treated and released by a Fowler doctor were Phillip E. Bigelow, 26, Kenneth B. Bige- low, 23, and Dean E. Clark, 26, all of Alma.

JAMES H. Johnson, 21, of Middleton, received minor in- juries when the car he was driving ran off Francis road just south of Jason road about 9 a.m. Sunday and struck a fence. Johnson apparently dos- ed off and lost control of the vehicle, according to sheriff's reports.

DeWitt township supervisor Fred Culy and his wife, Marian, were slightly injured about 1 p.m. Sunday when the car Mr Culy was driving collided with one driven by Ralph B. Leland, 44, of rural Ovid, at the intersection of DeWitt and Walker roads.

Sheriff's reports said vision was obscured by corn growing near the intersection and neither driver saw the other in time to avoid a collision.

A MOTHER and three of her children received minor in- juries at 5:30 p.m. Sunday when the car in which they were passengers was struck by one driven by Don G. Isbell, 38, of 701 Church street, at the in- tersection of M-21 and Grange road.

Isbell and George O. Olney, 45, of R-2 Fowler, driver of the other car, and one of Ol- ney's children, Joe, 10, escap- ed injury. Injured were Mrs Ol- ney and her three daughters, Eva, 17, Victoria, 9 and Pa- tricia, 4.

Olney, who was driving south on Grange road, told sheriff's

See WRECKS page 2

THREE EVENTS SCHEDULED

Masonic Temple Dedication Saturday

St. Johns Lodge No. 105, F & AM, will change its loca- tion for the first time in nearly a century Saturday when it moves into the new \$80,000 Ma- sonic Temple on West State street, across from Sealed Power Corp.

Lodge members are hard at work this week putting the fin- ishing touches on the interior of the building in preparation for a cornerstone laying cere- mony, dedication banquet and dedication ceremony to be held Saturday afternoon and even- ing.

Newton S. Bacon of Niles, Most Worshipful Grand Mas- ter, will lay a stone bearing the Masonic emblem in the northeast corner of the build- ing in a ceremony scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. Saturday. He will be assisted by Frederick C. Green, Worshipful Master of the St. Johns lodge.

THE DEDICATION banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m., with Dorr M. Anderson serving as master of ceremonies. Ladies of the Eastern Star will pre- pare the meal, which will be served by local Boy Scouts.

The dedication ceremony will begin at 8 p.m., conducted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, assisted by local Past Masters Frank D. Coykendall, A. Gayle Vanconsant, Kermil McAlvey and John L. Petro.

Ground was broken for the new temple Sept. 24, 1962. John L. Petro, worshipful master at the time, turned the first spade- ful of earth. The Vern Bliesner Co. of Lansing did the cement work on the block and brick veneer building, and most of the remainder was done by member volunteers.

THE TEMPLE contains a

large meeting room and an en- tryway lounge on the ground floor, a kitchen, dining room and storage in the basement. A circular drive leads into a large parking lot at the rear. Heat is furnished by a gas- fired hot water furnace.

The building site, a 410 by 212-foot lot, was donated by Dorr M. Anderson.

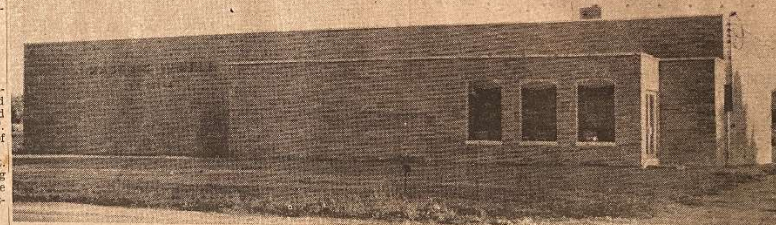
James C. Spouta is general chairman of the Masonic Build- ing association, with Henry W. Dellar as executive secretary. Master Builders were John Spouta, Henry W. Dellar, Irving M. Eaton and Joseph Spou- sta.

THE FIRST meeting of the St. Johns lodge was held Dec. 3, 1957. The charter was issued Jan. 4, 1958. The lodge was moved into the second and

See TEMPLE page 2



HENRY W. DELLAR
Spearheads Temple Building



TO BE DEDICATED SATURDAY—The new St. Johns Ma- sonic Temple shown above will be the scene of dedication ceremonies Saturday afternoon and evening. Officers of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Michigan and local lodge

officers will take part. The \$80,000 building, located across from Sealed Power Corp. on West State street, has been under construction for the past year.

ORVIN D. FORBES

Orvin D. Forbes, 25, of 411½ N. Ottawa street, was sen- tenced to a year in the county jail Friday for the brutal beat- ing of Mrs Ethel Haan, 38, of Lansing, who was found in a ditch on Townsend road the morning of July 22.

Mrs Haan spent nearly two weeks in Clinton Memorial hos- pital recovering from several broken ribs, a punctured lung and numerous bruises. Forbes admitted the beating after he was arrested July 30 and ques- tioned by sheriff's officers.

Circuit Judge Leo W. Corbin passed the sentence subject to a request by the State De- partment of Corrections to re- turn Forbes to Jackson prison to serve the remainder of a 4½ to 5-year sentence he re- ceived in 1961 for breaking and entering in the nighttime.

FORBES, A former city employee, served two years of the sentence before he was paroled from Tonia prison last June. He has been held in the county jail on \$2,500 bond since his arrest. Corrections Depart- ment officials have indicated that he will be sent to Jackson as soon as arrangements can be made.

Forbes was originally charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than the crime of murder, but the charge was later reduced by Assistant Prosecutor Norman J. White. St. Johns Attorney Jack Walker acted as court- appointed defense counsel.

Driving Charge Costs Fowler Man \$94.90

Evert L. Sigatoose, 32, of R- 1 Fowler, was fined \$75 and \$19.90 costs when he pleaded guilty before Justice Alba F. West Saturday on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

Sigatoose was arrested in St. Johns early Saturday morning by Officer Russell Doty. He paid the fine and was releas- ed Saturday.

Auction Sale—Saturday Oct. 5 1:00 p.m. in Westpalms, complete line household goods including an antique chest of drawers, Mary Meyer, Prop., August Kramer, Auctioneer. —Adv. 23-3p

The time capsule was retrieved on Oct 9, 2021 by the following members: Left to right, Nick Hunt, Dennis Demaray, Devyn Swezey, Robert Blackwell, Dennis Keel, and Tim Jennings.



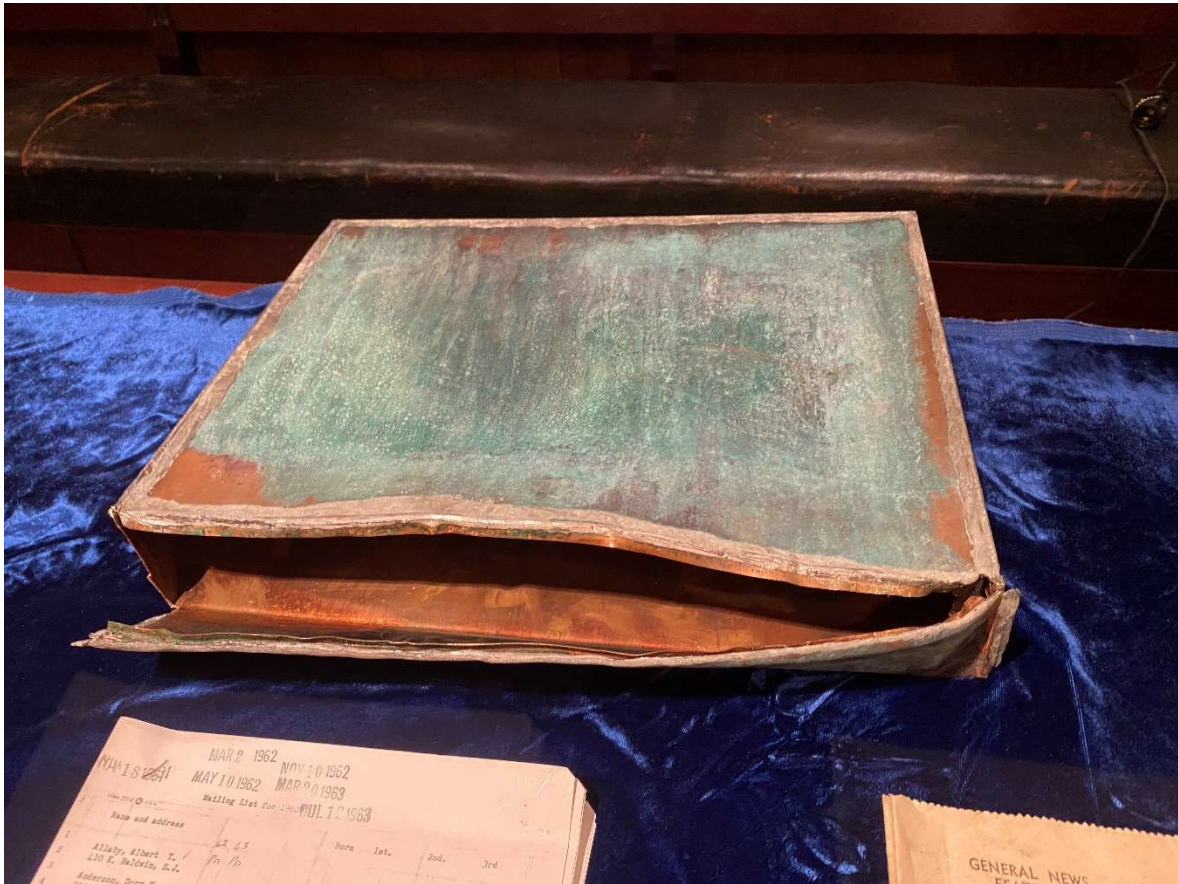
The time capsule was opened at a regular lodge meeting held on December 5, 2022.



Lodge members present at the opening were as follows: Front row Left to Right, Dennis Keel, Tim Jennings, Kim Powell, Robert Blackwell, Justin Longoria, Devyn Swezey, Clare Applebee, Glenn Ernst. Back row, Left to Right, Ronald Woodruff, Robert Conley MWPGM, James Pipes, Douglas White, Jim Peck, Nick Hunt. Not pictured, Mark Crosby, Bill Boyd, Gary "Doc" Bowdler.



The time capsule is a hand-made rectangular box, 16" x 12" x 3". It is made out of copper sheet metal and soldered together on all edges. Probably made at Burton mixer by one of the Spousta brothers.



The contents of the time capsule was as follows:

1 set of Blueprints for the building dated April 28, 1960. Drawn by M. Williamson. 8 sheets 24" x 36".

1 LSJ Newspaper dated October 3, 1963 containing an article about the dedication of the temple building.

1 Clinton County Republican Newspaper dated October 3, 1963 with an article about the dedication.

1 Masonic World newsletter dated October 1962

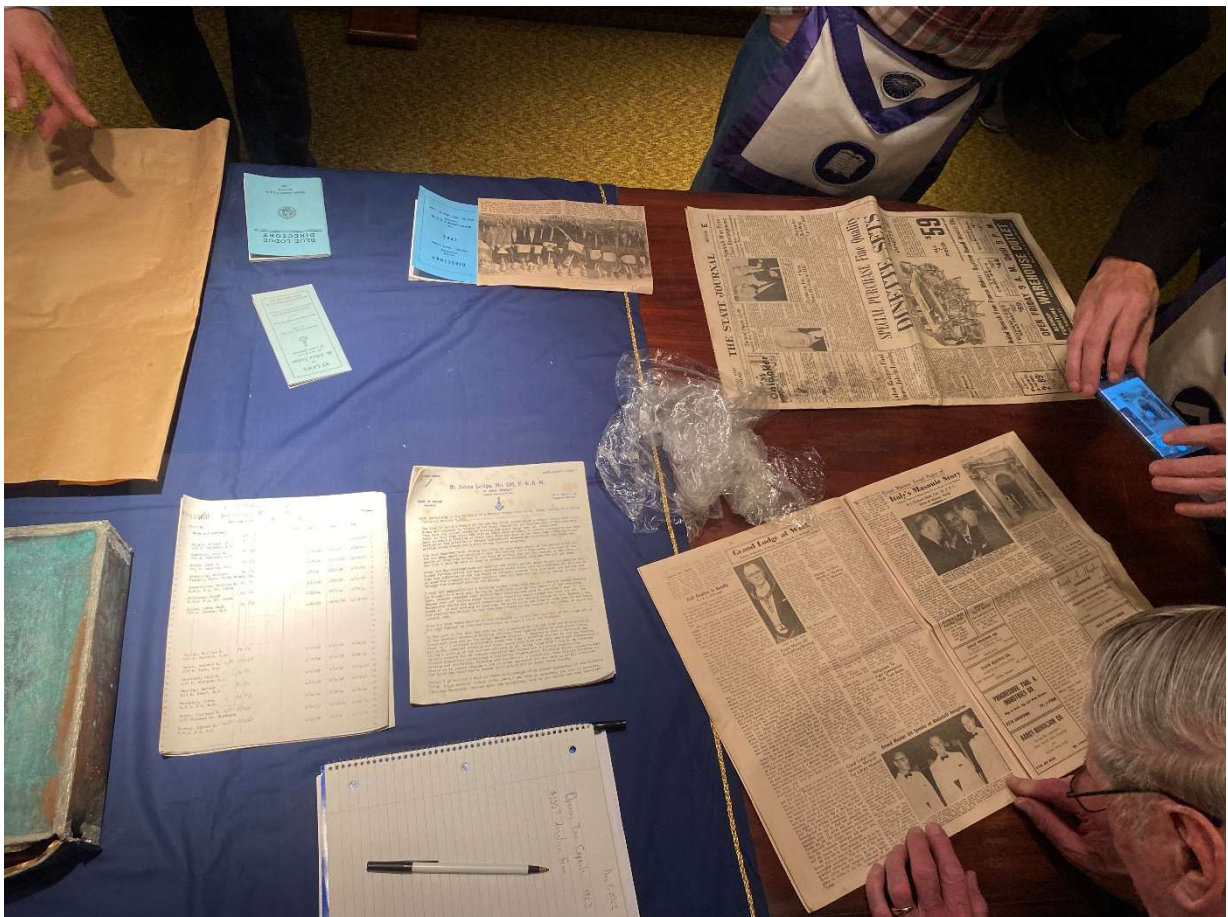
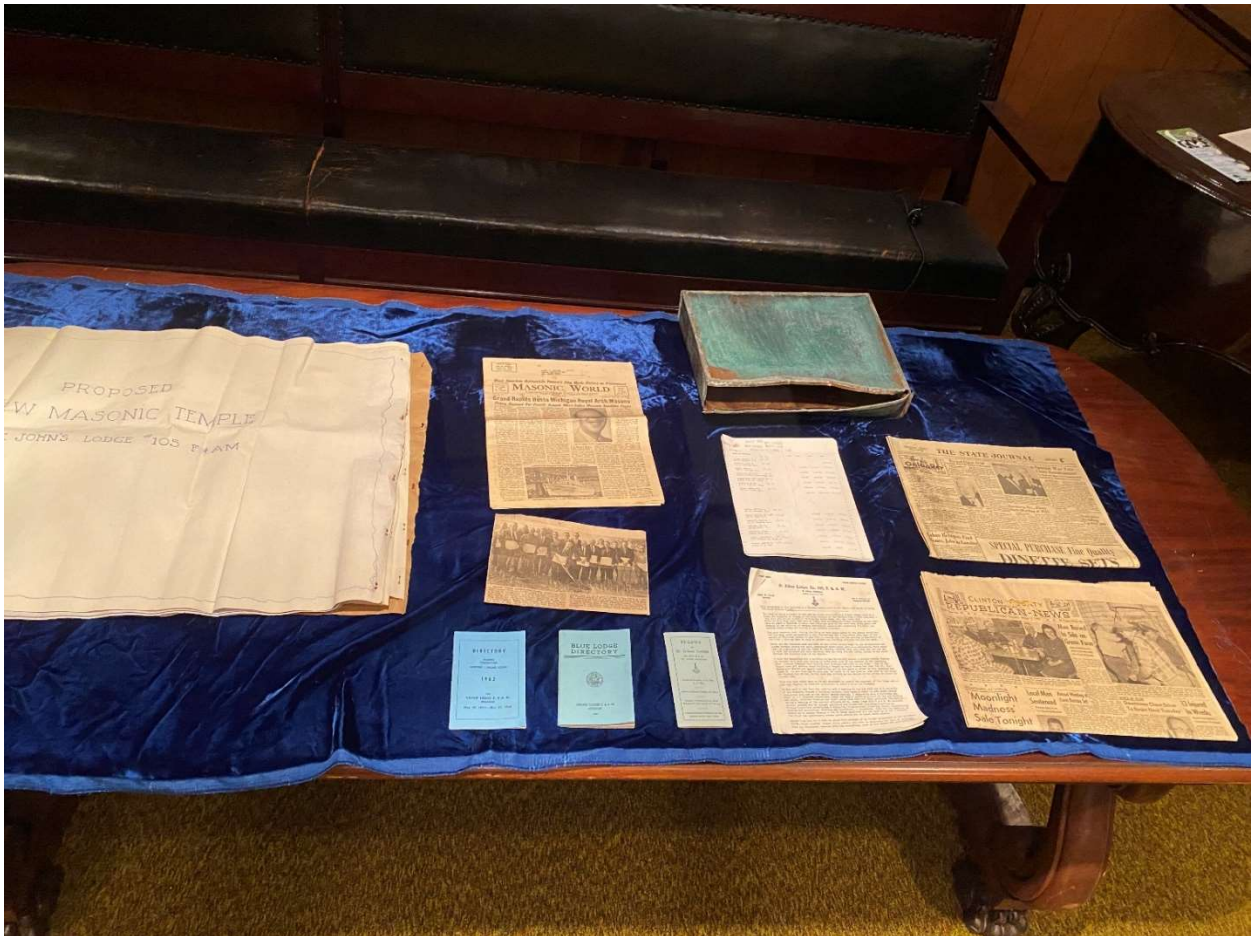
1 Copy of By laws of St. Johns Lodge #105

1 Lodge membership roster for 1963

1 Blue Lodge Directory for 1963

1 Directory of Boards, Committees, and Officers of Grand Lodge for 1963

1 Letter written by Henry W. Deller, Lodge secretary, listing the chronology and data pertaining to the building of the temple from start to finish.



NORTH CLINTON AVENUE

MASONIC TEMPLE

St. Johns Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M.

St. Johns, Michigan
Chartered January, A. D., 1858

406 E. Buchanan St.
Telephone 224-2466

HENRY W. DELLAR
Secretary



Data pertaining to the Building of a Masonic Temple here in St. Johns, and which is being
Dedicated October 5, 1963

The idea to build a Temple of our own was first conceived on a chance remark made by a woman who happened to belong to the local Chapter of the Eastern Star - "She remarked, - 'why dont you build- surely if Belding and Grand Lodge can, St. Johns can!'" Prior to this time there had been at least four attempts to obtain interest in the members to start a building of their own. This has gone on for more than sixty years and because of the politics of certain influential members who apparently for their own selfish needs always put a stop to any further progress.

One must remember that during the fifty or more years ahead of the second World War, not too many owned automobiles - only the wealthy few - this meant that most of the people of this Town worked in one form or another for the few wealthy or Merchants of the Town - this ~~xx~~ made it easy to smother any building plan the few did not want.

After the War finished more and more of the little people began to own automobiles and looked further afield for work, especially where wages were more attractive. This meant that the influence of the few began to dwindle, however they were down but not out and so when the proposal for this building came up, they did not openly oppose it but work-through the distaff side of the Masons.

I took the suggestion for a building to the Worshipful Master - Brother Kermit McAlvey he thought it a good one. During my talks with some of the members of the foregoing idea, someone remarked that Brother Dorr Anderson had said at one time "that if the Masons ever got serious about building a Temple he would donate the land for it". The Worshipful Master and myself immediately got on the phone and called up Bro. Anderson and asked if it was true and he said yes. We asked if he had time to come over to the House and discuss the matter, he did come and offered us the choice of two sites, we chose the present one.

With the land taken care of it was necessary to obtain the approval of the lodge and at the next Regular we obtained permission to start a drive for Pledges.

In the past it had been the rule to call a meeting to try and find out if a majority of the brothers favored a building project, this usually ended up with about twelve interested ones and so the matter became dropped. I personally went a different way about it - I obtained approximate costs for such a building similar to the one Belding had built, obtained drawings and their costs from them and other pertinent information called a meeting of the current officers of St. Johns Lodge #105 F & A M. We selected certain members who we thought qualified and formed the following Committee's: Finance Committee; Advertising & Publicity; Construction; Plumbing; Steel; Carpentering; Grading and excavating; Painting and Electrical. - incidently, they did not function as simple as it sounds because a lot of those appointed did not show up at all - however the first two committee's became quite active for at least three months.

Before I go too far I wish to state that, because of my former background in the Building field, which covered almost fifty years I was able to entertain the idea of building. This was necessary, because with few exceptions, none of the others had much knowledge.

NORTH CLINTON AVENUE

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St. Johns Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M.

St. Johns, Michigan

Chartered January, A. D. 1898

406 E. Buchanan St.
Telephone 224-2466

HENRY W. DELLAR
Secretary



and that if we did get started building I would eventually be saddled with the job of engineering and advising non-skilled persons what to do. This is how it did happen.

On presentation of the figures I had obtained as to the total minimum cost and how much funds must be raised, either in pledges; cash; labor and materials the two committee's suggested that I procure from the printers, Pledge Cards and envelopes also that a letter appropriate to our aims be drawn up, which was done there and then. These instructions were followed. This called for a Pledge of kind money or money on demand. We received from this appeal approximately answers from 75, the amount from each was encouraging however, we could not make a decision with such a small amount, - incidentally, some of the first pledges made have never been honored to this date - and so it was decided to make another appeal, giving more information as to what it would cost to buy the building we had rented for more than fifty years, the costs necessary to bring it up to a proper condition for habitation and appearance. It was figured that the old building would total \$100,000.00 whereas the new temple would require an outlay of 46,000.00 plus free labor and materials bought at wholesale or 10% over cost to complete. Of course had we decided on the old building we would have had renting of Stores on the street floor to our credit on the otherhand we would have had a large City Tax to content with high insurance the burden of vacancies repairs to keep the building up and the heating of same. The new Temple would cost less to heat; maintenance almost nil; no City Taxes have a parking Lot of our own and away from the noise and bustle of the City Street.

To this appeal we received more pledges and cash making a total of 13,900.00 (approx) to this about 101 out of 285 members subscribed. To this amount we added the cash derived from the sale of the Lodge Bonds in their Building Fund, the Temple Association gave their Bonds etc; we received some money from a legacy from the estate of a former member; we sponsored a Circus which netted \$534.00, this gave us a grand total of \$19,748.00 of all types of pledges; I almost forgot, the O. E. S. gave us \$500.00 in Bonds of this amount. We called a general committee meeting and from that meeting it was decided that three of the Brothers, James Spousta; Henry Dellar and Floyd Parmelee should negotiate a loan from the local Bank in the amount of \$20,000.00, in this we were successful and so the building was ordered started.

With the decision made I was requested to seek firm bids on the main construction and foundation. We had one bid from the one who had given us one before and he had cut it from a tentative \$25,000.00 to \$21,700.00 which was quite a drop. Another Contractor from Lansing requested to allow him to bid, you will understand our surprise when his bid was opened and his offer was \$17,875.00, it was decided to let the job to him. A steel roof bid was sought and accepted, the Ground was broken the third Monday of September 1962, the roof was put on the end of November (we had a wonderful dry Fall, otherwise it would have been stopped) the heating Plant was in by the end of January, 1963 and we moved the entire furnishings from the old Temple and vacated same on February 1963. The Templers held the first Installation in the building soon after.

Getting back to the period of construction. At the beginning we had a lot of the brothers willing to help and did when we set up the steel beams and posts also the laying of the wooden joists and sub floor - they worked evenings with flares; Saturdays and parts of Sundays.

One thing we did not bank on and that was that St. Johns now came under Michigan State

St. Johns Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M.

St. Johns, Michigan
Chartered January, A. D., 1854406 E. Buchanan St.
Telephone 224-2466HENRY W. DELLAR
Secretary

Building Code, up to three years ago the only code we were subject to was local which was not much more than do as you please so long as the walls stood up. This almost stopped the project because although we had four or more Plumbers in the Lodge none of them were licensed Plumbers nor were there any licensed Journeymen. This caused us to fish around for someone to obtain a permit to install the plumbing. After a lot of trouble and unexpected expense we finally made it.

Before going on further with this story I ~~must~~ should mention that we had three members of the local Commandery who seriously opposed the construction and did so to such an extent that they campaigned throughout the Orders, especially through the Wives of our members, spreading dissatisfaction, mostly untruths or suggestive untruth to do all in their power to stop the building, infect one of these who was a member of the Temple Board, when we had decided to break ground, forgot himself and said at that meeting - "If they intend to stop it, they will have to work fast". The names of the three men are; William D. Bailey; Basil K. Southwell and Albert E. Garey.

When the masonry was built up to the first floor level and it had been agreed the brothers would install the Steel Posts and Beams also the wood joists and sub-flooring there was there was quite a number anxious to help. The Spousta family took charge of the ~~small~~ steel work and with the aid of a dozen more or so did finally get that part brought to fruition.

We had another bad set back. The only member of our Lodge who be classified as a builder was Brother Harold J. Burk who was one of the chief supporters of the project, in fact he was appointed head of the construction division. He came to me during the second week of the construction and informed me that he was afraid he could not spend any time on the work because he would be too busy. This was brought about because his Wife ordered him not to. One of our Lady's overheard the wife of ~~the~~ member William D. Bailey tell Mrs. Burk that she would be a fool to allow her husband work on the building, that he would do all and get no credit. He himself is a good "Joe" and I feel sorry for him now, but I certainly did not at that particular time.

It was at this time I was compelled to assume the position as director and consultant in all phases of the Building trade. I acknowledge that I felt myself qualified. I had spent more than forty years in most fields of the Trade, but all this added on top of Executive Secretary; Chairman of the Purchasing Committee placed a heavy burden on me.

It was decided at the regular Board meeting that we would vacate the old quarters and move into the new February 28, 1962. We obtained Special Dispensation to hold Communications in an unfinished building from the Grand Lodge.

There was quite a flurry of activity to get certain work done, which was done by the few faithful. Soon after this was done work almost stopped. The Lights were on a temporary footing, the heating was not quite complete but was livable. Then the Commandery decided to use the rooms for their Installation, in some respects this helped because members of the Commandery had to get busy on their own and make things presentable. After this affair work did stop. The Farmers of our order which were many and were our best supporters had to start getting their fields in order. In May 1962 it was decided to make a fresh start and try to get the ceilings started. One Brother offered to put up the Grid Work

St Johns Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M.

St Johns, Michigan

Chartered January, A. D., 1938

406 E. Buchanan St.
Telephone 224-2466HENRY W. DELLAR
Secretary

if he received sufficient help during the Summer months by using every Friday evenings from six to nine thirty P.M. this was Brother Doyne Heuer our pro tem Junior Warden. This was slow work, it caused me a lot of extra work also callin up men to get their help and also helping with the work. We received quite a help from Brothers; Merlin Burk; Kenneth Pyle; Bill W. Webster; Lloyd Atkinson - this Past Master has helped in all phases of the work from start to the finish of the building without complaining. Oh; for more like him, - John, Joseph and James Spousta contributed some time, but these took of on most Friday nights to their Lake Cottages until Sunday night so their help could not be depended upon, even the one in charge skipped some Fridays.

About the same time I decided to start a Tuesday Afternoon working party. This was the best thing I ever did because there were four or five Oldsters who thought that if I could instruct them they would be only too willing to come every Tuesday. I am Semi-retired and made arrangements with my Boss to take every Friday Off. It was at first slow progress but as I was able to do the work myself they began to catch on, in fact they began to take quite an interest in the work and soon began to come in other days by themselves. Whereas before I was pushing them they soon began to push me, with such remarks as "what's next". The names of these are Brothers; Frank D. Coykendall 75 years; A. Gayle Vauconsant 66 years; Merlyn R. Black, Sr. 66 years; myself 69 years. One other who worked afternoons and would come anytime when called in the mornings - Russell Welsh, this brother had done quite a lot of work in the early stages of the building.

Up until two weeks ago nothing further had been done on the Electrical work. It was at this stage when Bro. Black said would I consent if he went and talked to his relative, Bro. Charles L. Zigler - who had helped Bro. Irving Eaton who was the chairman of that section of the construction - and asked him to come in and complete the downstairs lighting, naturally I agreed and in less than a week the downstairs was finished. At this time Brother John N. Williams who had also done a small amount of the temporary lighting came to me and said that after Labor Day he would be through with his Boy Scout activities and would get the main floor started and that if sufficient help could be had that he would get the lighting completed by Dedication Day. I did not at that time believe he could make it but he has with lots of free help from brothers: Fred Hansen; Lloyd Atkinson; Wilbur Thurston; Otto Thurston; Merlin Burk; John Petro; John Spousta; Merlyn Black; Gayle Vauconsant; myself; Irving Eaton; Jack Allen; George Black; James Spousta; Gerald Pope; Marvin Bissell; Kermit McAlvey; and several of the sons of the members. also Russell Welsh and his Son; Frank Coykendall.

The cement work at each of the entrances was ~~done by~~ donated and done by Russell Welsh; Merlyn Black and Frank Coykendall.

If it had not been for the faithful few whose names are mentioned above the work would have gone on for years. I wish to state that one Lady, Mrs. Charles Dickinson has been a great help in obtaining funds and getting certain of the men folks to contribute their labor.

After all the promises of those who never did intend to contribute the money pledged or labor pledged and those obstructionists who did all in their power to slow the job

St. Johns Lodge, No. 105, F. & A. M.

St. Johns, Michigan
Chartered January, A. D., 1858HENRY W. DELLAR
Secretary406 E. Buchanan St.
Telephone 224-2488

down, I am happy to have played my part in furthering Masonry in Clinton County and especially St. Johns, to help future generations yet to come to enjoy Masonry ~~what~~ for what it means to this Country of ours and as it has done ~~xxx~~ in the past centuries.

Lest I forget, I must not forget the free labor that was contributed by one of our Fellowcraft - Brother Arthur J. Cornell who installed most of the rumbering fixtures.

Fraternally yours,

Henry W. Dellar, Secretary Blue Lodge and
President of the St. Johns Temple Association

P.S. I must thank Brothers Raymond ~~Lsk~~, Eick; Albert Northouse; Mitchell Hyler; Clifford Lambert for their part in Painting and Tile Laying.

St. Johns-Ovid Masonic Lodge #105 charter dated December 3, 1857. Note: St. Johns merged with Ovid #127 in 1999.

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At the first communication of St. Johns. Under Dispensation. Granted by the Grand Lodge Sept. 23. 1857 being the 3rd day of December 1857. A.D. 5357.

Officers present.

Bro. Geo. J. Mead Sec. Pro	Bro. Timothy Baker W. W.
" H. C. Hodge Treas. "	" W. W. Branard S. W.
" Geo. Richmond Tyler "	" H. C. Leach A. W.
	" John Ransom S. D. Pro.
	" J. J. Conn S. D. "

Visiting Bro. P. B. Waight of Nova Scotia N^o 34
 Bro. Austin of Detroit N^o 32. Bro. A. W. Crawford
 of Lansing N^o 33. also Bro. C. A. Laub.

The ☐ was then opened in the Master Masons Degree. On motion of Bro. H. C. Hodge it was moved that this ☐ accept for its Constitution & By Laws the form given by the Grand ☐ with our acceptance viz: That master masons in good standing may be admitted on application at any regular communication of the ☐ which motion was carried.

On motion of Bro. Hodge it was moved that a committee be appointed to draft a Constitution & By Laws for this ☐ which motion was carried.

On motion of Bro. Leach it was moved that such committee should consist of three which motion was lost. On motion of Bro. Hodge it was moved that such committee consist of one which motion was carried. Bro. H. C. Hodge was appointed such committee.

On motion of Bro. Hodge it was moved that the first regular meeting of this ☐ be on the 1st Monday or on next preceding the full moon which motion was carried. Bro. Crawford & Richmond Laub petition being presented. By Bro. Hodge it was moved that they be referred to a committee consisting of three which motion was carried. Bro. Leach Branard & Ransom were appointed such committee also petition of W^o H. Meade to become a member of this ☐ which was referred to same committee.

Original St. Johns Masonic Temple at 29 1/2 Clinton Avenue above Allison Jewelry/Hicks Dry Goods, currently Main Street Cafe. Dedicated Oct 11, 1909. The Lodge meeting place from 1857 to 1909 is unknown at this time.



Picture of inside of original Temple building.




The St. Johns-Ovid Masonic Lodge #105 officers for 2023 are as follows: WM Dennis Demaray, PM, SW Tim Jennings, JW James Pipes, SD Nick Hunt, JD Kim Powell, Treasurer Mark Crosby, PM, Secretary Dennis Keel, PM, Chaplain Ronald Woodruff, PM, Marshal Clare Applebee, PM, Tiler Eddie Light, Acting Tiler Glenn Ernst, Stewards Justin Longoria, Devyn Swezey, Robert Blackwell, Jim Peck.



Dennis Demaray	Worshipful Master
Tim Jennings	Senior Warden
James Pipes	Junior Warden
Mark Crosby	Treasurer
Dennis Keel	Secretary
Nick Hunt	Senior Deacon
Kim Powell	Junior Deacon
Clare Applebee	Marshal
Robert Blackwell	Senior Steward
 <i>Not pictured</i>	
Ronald Woodruff	Chaplain
Eddie Light	Tiler

2023



**St. Johns-Ovid
Lodge #105**

For more information contact the Grand Lodge of Michigan at:

<https://michiganmasons.org> or

<https://michiganmasons.org/about-michigan-masons/>

The Temple rededication ceremony and reinterment of the time capsule took place on Oct 21, 2023, at 3:00 PM.

MWGM Larry Judson presided over the ceremony.



WM Dennis Demaray presented the working tools to Secretary Dennis Keel.



The following Grand Lodge Officers of Michigan attended in full regalia. Left to right in the photo below were Mark Gonyea GS, Gerald Millar GS, Terry Troutt GJD, David Boring Grand Treasurer, Thomas Braun GL, James Huff JGW, William Sauget SGW, Larry Judson Grand Master, Eugene Abbaticchio DGM, William Finkel Grand Secretary, Roger Moore Grand Tiler, Butch Redinger GS, and Craig Lehrke Musician.

Officers in the second photo below were left to right, Gerald Millar, Terry Troutt, Mark Gonyea, Thomas Braun, and David Boring.

Members of the audience donned appropriate rain gear for the inclement weather.





The following St. Johns-Ovid Lodge members attended the ceremony: Dennis Demaray WM, Mark Crosby Treasurer, Dennis Keel Secretary, Nick Hunt Senior Deacon, Glenn Ernst Acting Tiler, Robert Crosby PM, Rev. Stephen Weinberger, Jonn Demaray PM, John Williamson, Devyn Swezey Steward, and newly made Master Mason Ryan Lynch.



The following items were included in the 2023 time capsule as follows:

One 1857 U.S. penny, one 2023 Liberty Silver Dollar, one 1957-D Franklin half dollar, one 1958 Franklin half dollar, one copy of the 1867 By-Laws, one recent copy of the St. Johns-Ovid #105 By-Laws, one Masonic medallion, one copy of the last Clinton County News published on March 26, 2023, one copy of the Lansing State Journal dated October 15, 2023, one copy of The Wall Street Journal dated October 16, 2023.

Print publication to cease

Today is the final edition of the Clinton County News. It's been a good run and we'll miss the weekly distribution. Please turn to the Lansing State Journal and www.lsj.com for your local community news.

Stephanie Angel, editor
sangel@lsj.com



Respectfully submitted by:

Glenn Ernst, PM, St. Johns-Ovid Lodge #105 F.& A.M. of Michigan

Clinton County Historical Society Director/Trustee

Editors note: On November 22, 1963, one month after the Masonic Temple dedication, our 35th President of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy, was assassinated in Dallas, Texas during a presidential motorcade. The course of history was changed forever.

