

Ocean State Traveler

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I am back from a week in Iowa for the meeting of Sovereign Grand Lodge and it was an amazing experience. First, I want to thank our two representatives of Rhode Island (Lodge & Encampment), John C. Beebe III and Barbara A. McLaren. You both did an excellent job keeping up with all the activities.

Congratulations to the Immediate Past Sovereign Grand Master Michelle L. Heckart of Iowa on having a great year and running an excellent session, at least she didn't have to use that large gavel she showed everyone at the beginning of the session. To our new Sovereign Grand Master, John S. Cupp, Jr. of Pennsylvania, as you start your new year I hope all goes well, good health and safe travels.. Welcome to Tom Calabrese of New Jersey as the new Sovereign Grand Warden and may his journey up the progressive line be an enjoyable one.

I also congratulate our own John C. Beebe III as the new Sovereign Grand Messenger. I know your duties are mostly only at the session, but still, it is an honor to have a Rhode Islander on the Sovereign suite. It was good to see Rhode Island's own George L. Glover III, Past Sovereign Grand Master, install the officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge for 2023-2024.

Although I did not attend the International Association of Rebekah Assemblies, I heard that they also had a great session with Ruth A. Earle of Michigan leading the way as President. Congratulations to the newly installed President Ellen Jean Whited of New York and may her year go as planned.

Now to talk about an Odd Fellow who takes the term "go the extra mile" literally. At the General Military Council after being led by General Commanding, Earl F. Wys of Illinois, General "Doc" Howard G. Malin of Maryland became the General Commanding of the Patriarchs Militant. He lives in Maryland, belongs to Patriarchs Militant in Virginia, and belongs to several organizations around the country. He is in the Grand Royal Arch Chapter and Council in Rhode Island. In October, if both are elected, I will be following him as Grand Patron and Associate Grand Patron respectively in Rhode Island's Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star. No matter where in the country, when he is needed, Doc finds a way to be there.

As far as Rhode Island is concerned at Sovereign, it touched my heart to hear Robert Kane, PGM mentioned as a past Sovereign Grand Chaplain at the memorial service. On a good note, our editor, Barbara A. McLaren received 3 awards for the publication of the "Ocean State Traveler". Rhode Island was mentioned in the report of donations to Hunger & Disaster Ukrainian relief; Canonicus Lodge #9 is included in a report for its donations to the Food Bank, Red Cross and Scholarships; Canonicus Lodge #9, Manufacturers Lodge #15 and Seaconnet Lodge #39 all got mentioned as having a net gain in membership. Congratulations to all and keep up the good work.

Now back to Rhode Island, I am not sure if everyone has heard that Peter Sousa, Past Grand Master is going into hospice care. Also, John and Ada Beebe came home with Covid. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers.

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GRAND PATRIARCH'S MESSAGE

Hi Patriarchs,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer because fall is slowly creeping up and soon it will be winter. I am having a good year at Harris Park watching boats go in and out to the Narragansett Bay.

On the other side we are having a lasagna dinner as my fund raiser on October 8th 2023 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Canonicus at a cost of \$15.00 per person with coffee and dessert.

Hope this notice finds everyone well and we will be getting back into the grind of meetings and brother & sister fellowship.

In Faith, Hope & Charity

Your Grand Patriarch
Frank X. Moitozo.

2023–2024 Grand Encampment Officers

Grand Patriarch	Frank X. Moitozo, PGM
Grand High Priest	Bryan F. King , PGP, GM
Grand Senior Warden	Disa K. Johnson, PPRA
Grand Scribe	Barbara A. McLaren, PGP, PGM
Grand Treasurer	George L. Glover III, PSGM
Grand Junior Warden	Donald E. McLaren, PGP, PGM , GCR
Grand Representative	Barbara A. McLaren, PGP, PGM
Alternate Grand Representative	Bryan F. King , PGP, GM
Grand Marshal	John C. Beebe III, PGP, PGM, GCR
Grand Inside Sentinel	Charles Rouleau, Sr., PGP
Grand Outside Sentinel	David B. Springer , PGP, PGM



Rhode Island WEB Page

www.ioofri.org

We **FINALLY** have an up to date WEB page thanks to our Grand Master and all his efforts.



To be kind is more important than to be right

Many times what people need is not a brilliant mind that speaks but **a special heart that listens.**



You are cordially invited to attend a

RECEPTION & BUFFET

for

JOHN A. LAWSON III

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge

of Rhode Island

Independent Order of Odd Fellows

and

FRANK X. MOITZO

Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment

of Rhode Island & Connecticut

Independent Order of Odd Fellows

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Roger Williams-Rumford Grange Hall

125 North Broadway, Rumford, RI

Sponsored by

Canonicus Lodge No. 9, I.O.O.F.

R.S.V.P. by September 17th to:

Shirley Lawson

salawson58@verizon.net or (401) 439-2035

GRAND MASTER'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

We will be having the first official visitation of the Grand Lodge to Manufacturers Lodge #15 on September 6th 2023. They now meet at the Masonic Lodge at 1515 Ten Rod Road, N. Kingstown, RI 02852. Their meeting is at 7:00 PM, but the Grand Board should be there for 6:30 PM. At this visitation, I am asking people to bring school items for Meeting Street School. Our Grand Chaplain Jennifer Lawson is working with the school to schedule a time when we can go on a tour of their facilities. Keep your eyes out for emails and letters with further information. In addition to this, because of this visitation being at a Masonic Lodge and a good number of their officers and members are Freemasons, I have asked Douglas J. Grant, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Society of Free & Accepted Masons of the State of Rhode Island & Providence Plantations to accompany me to the visitation as part of my theme this year of working together with other fraternal organizations in the state. So, at the visitation, there will be no signs or passwords given.

To the other lodges around the state, I want to work with all of you to figure out the best installation and visitation schedule for everyone. Please contact the Grand Secretary as soon as possible so that we can schedule these dates.

This year I have a Grand Master's pins and I still have some left. They are \$5 each with the proceeds going to Meeting Street school, If you are still interested a pin, please contact me.

In Friendship, Love and Truth,
John A. Lawson III
Grand Master



2023–2024 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Grand Master	John A. Lawson, III
Deputy Grand Master	Michael J. Seger
Grand Warden	Thomas A. Gotauco
Grand Secretary	Barbara A. McLaren, PGM
Grand Treasurer	George L Glover, III, PSGM
Immediate PGM	Donald E. McLaren, PGM

2023–2024 GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

Grand Representative	John C Beebe, III, PGM
Alt Grand Representative	John A. Lawson, III
Grand Marshal	Eric D. Johnson
Grand Conductor	Claire A. Bergus
Grand Chaplain	Jennifer M. Lawson
Grand Guardian	Disa K. Johnson, PPRA
Grand Herald	David Springer, PGM

Ocean State Traveler

The International Press Association reviews the jurisdictional newspapers and awards certificates for the following categories: *Best use of Photography, Layout and Design and News Content*. The newspapers are also broken out according to how often published (monthly or by-monthly/quarterly) as well as if they are printed in house or outsourced. The Ocean State Traveler was honored to receive third place award for all three categories.



*Grand Encampment
of Rhode Island / Connecticut*
Independent Order of Odd Fellows



Fund Raiser

Sunday, October 8, 2023 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Canonicus #9 Lodge Hall

125 North Broadway, Rumford, RI

EVERYONE WELCOME

Tickets: \$15.00

Raffle

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE GRAND PATRIARCHS CHARITY –
Shriner's Hospital**

Reservations no later than October 1, 2023

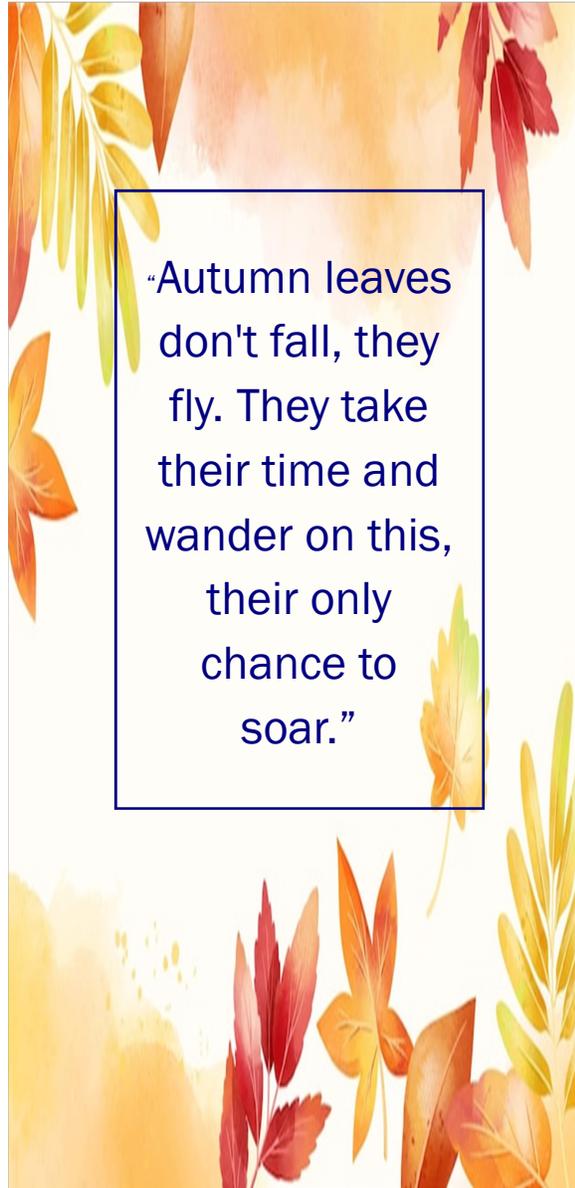
**ALL RESERVATIONS TO GEORGE GLOVER
401-499-8216 (C) georgeglover@verizon.net**



Marcel Bavoux	5
Eric Johnson	9
John Lawson, III	15
Leon Volpini	15
Robert Howard	23
Thomas Warren	23



Scott Jamieson	5
Jane Jerauld	10
Cole Gomes	14
Denise Bodreau	17
Kevin Foley	26



“Autumn leaves don't fall, they fly. They take their time and wander on this, their only chance to soar.”



IN OUR PRAYERS / THINKING OF YOU



Gordon Taylor
Ada Beebe
Peter Sousa

Al Edler
Nancy Edler
Nancy Gombeyski
Karen Hawkins

Deare Warren
Charles Igo
Those with COVID



SOVEREIGN GRAND LODGE

Des Moines, Iowa

August 21–24, 2023

This year Rhode Island was very well represented with 8 in attendance: Grand Master John A. Lawson III; Grand Chaplain Jennifer M. Lawson; Grand Secretary Barbara A. McLaren; Grand Treasurer, PSGM George L. Glover, III; Grand Representative John C. Beebe III; Immediate Past Grand Master, Donald E. McLaren; Sister Ada Beebe, and Sister Susan L. Charpentier.



Sunday evening the Grand Master John A. Lawson, escorted by his wife, Grand Chaplain Jennifer M. Lawson had the honor of presenting the Rhode Island Flag. What a lovely couple they make.

The session progressed smoothly under the guidance of Sister Michelle Heckert, Sovereign Grand Master. Business was transacted daily with a few code changes and updates. Our Grand Representatives, Brother John Beebe from the Grand Lodge and Sister Barbara McLaren from the Grand Encampment were diligent in working for the good of the Order.



Wednesday night, our own Brother PSGM George L. Glover, III; had the privilege of installing the Sovereign Grand Master, Brother John S. Cupp, Jr. and the officers of the Sovereign Grand Lodge for the term 2023—2024. Oh, speaking of Officers, our own John C. Beebe III was installed as Sovereign Grand Messenger. Sister Ada Beebe was his escort and his niece, Sister Susan L. Charpentier was his bible bearer. Our northern friend, Ed Copping of Quebec was installed as Sovereign Grand Guardian.





Disa K. Johnson
Noble Grand

Claudia A. Horton
Secretary



Mizpah Rebekah Lodge No. 22

125 North Broadway, East Providence, RI 02916

Mizpah Rebekah Lodge No. 22 hosted a Rebekah Degree Rally on Tuesday, July 25, 2023. The Rebekah Degree was conferred upon four candidates from three different lodges. The Noble Grand, Disa Johnson, turned the lodge over to the degree team who proceeded to open the lodge at 7:00 pm and then conduct the Rebekah Degree.

The Degree Team consisted of:

Noble Grand – Claudia A. Horton
Vice Grand – George L. Glover III
Chaplain – Disa K. Johnson
Past Noble Grand – Fran M. Kane
Secretary – Stella L. Moitozo
Warden – John A. Lawson III
Conductor – Michael J. Seger
Right Supporter Noble Grand – Jennifer M. Lawson
Left Supporter Noble Grand – Fran M. Kane
Right Supporter Vice Grand – John C. Beebe III
Left Supporter Vice Grand – Barbara A. McLaren
Inside Guardian – Mark R. Howard
Outside Guardian – Frank X. Moitozo

The four candidates who received the Rebekah Degree were:

Claire A. Bergus – Mizpah Rebekah Lodge No. 22
Elizabeth Sova Aleszczyk – Mizpah Rebekah Lodge No. 22
Susan L. Charpentier – Reba Rebekah Lodge No. 12
Erik Fearing – Magnolia Rebekah Lodge No. 55 (MA)

Following the conferral of the Rebekah Degree, Noble Grand Disa Johnson proceeded to move into Good of the Order. Under Good of the Order, she recognized Brother John C. Beebe III, Noble Grand of Excelsior Lodge No. 49 and Elizabeth Sova Aleszczyk, Noble Grand of Franklin Lodge No. 23 in Massachusetts. She then had the Warden lead the lodge in the honors of the order for Brothers Donald E. McLaren, Frank X. Moitozo, Erik Fearing, and John A. Lawson III. Following the conferral of the honors of the Order, she called on Brother Donald E. McLaren, President of the Past Grand Officers' Association of Rhode Island; Patriarch Frank X. Moitozo, Grand Patriarch of the Grand Encampment of Rhode Island/Connecticut; Brother Erik Fearing, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; and Brother John A. Lawson III, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, who all brought greetings from their respective groups.

The Noble Grand, Disa K. Johnson, then proceeded to close the lodge at 8:30 pm, after which a delicious collation was enjoyed by all in attendance.



LODGE DIRECTORY



HARMONY LODGE # 5
 96 Slocum Road
 N. Kingstown, RI 02852
Thomas Gotauco, GW, Sec
772 Fletcher Road
No. Kingstown, RI 02852
 Meets: 2nd and 4th Thursday
 7:00 PM

CANONICUS LODGE # 9
 125 N. Broadway
 Rumford, RI 02916
 Jennifer Lawson, Sec.
 125 N. Broadway
 Rumford, RI 02916
 401 489-8132
 Meets: 2nd and 4th Friday
 8:00 PM

**UNITED BROTHERS
 LODGE #13**
 178 High Street
 Bristol, RI 02809
 Frank Moitozo, PGM, Sec.
 64 Salisbury Street
 Rehoboth, MA 02769
 508 336-6912
 Meets: 1st. Tuesday 7:00 PM

**MANUFACTURERS
 LODGE # 15**
1515 Ten Rod Road
N. Kingstown, RI 02852
 Harold Nonnenmacher, Sec.
 115 Holiday Court
 Wakefield, RI 02879
 401 782-6004
 Meets: 1st Wed and 3rd
 Thurs 7:00 PM

GRANITE LODGE # 33
 178 High Street
 Bristol, RI 02809
 John A. Lawson, GM, Sec.
 120 Wilson Street
 Rumford, RI 02916
 401 434-1491
 Meets: 3rd Wednesday
 11:00 AM

SEACONNET LODGE # 39
 8 Commons
 Little Compton, RI 02837
 John A Lawson, GM, Sec.
 120 Wilson Street
 Rumford, RI 02916
 401 434-1491
 Meets: 3rd Wednesday
 1:00 PM

EXCELSIOR LODGE # 49
 81 Sprague Street
 Portsmouth, RI 02871
 Deare Warren, PGM, Sec
 120 Water Street
 Portsmouth, RI 02871
 401 683-3056
 Meets: 2nd and 4th
 Wednesday 7:00 PM



REBA REBEKAH LODGE # 12
 178 High Street
 Bristol, RI 02809
 Nancy Edler, PPRA, Sec.
 55 Sea Breeze Lane
 Bristol, RI 02809
 401 253-9917
 Meets: 1st Thursday 7:00 PM

**MIZPAH REBEKAH
 LODGE # 22**
 125 Broadway
 East Providence, RI 02916
 Claudia Horton, PNG, Sec.
 16 Smith Street
 Bristol, RI 02809
 401 253-6524
 Meets: 3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM

**NOTE CHANGES IN
 LODGE DIRECTORY**

**WAMPANOAG
 ENCAMPMENT No. 23**
 125 N. Broadway
 East Providence, RI 02916
 Michael Seger, DGM, Scribe
 46 Hope Street
 Rumford, RI 02916
 401 434-7401
 Meets: 4th Friday 7:00 PM

**MASSASOIT
 ENCAMPMENT # 8**
 178 High Street
 Bristol, RI 02809
 George Glover, PSGM
 Financial Scribe
 15 Jaclyn Drive
 Coventry, RI 02816
 401-828-8216
 Meets: 3rd Thursday 7:00 PM



CANTON PROVIDENCE #1
 125 N. Broadway
 East Providence, RI 02916
 George Glover, PSGM, Clerk
 15 Jaclyn Drive
 Coventry, RI 02816
 401 828-8216
 Meets: 4th Tuesday, 7:30 PM

**Grand Secretary Office
 Hours**
**For September and October
 are on back page**
 10 AM—4 PM
 178 High Street
 Bristol, RI 02809
 401-253-9540
 Glri-2@hotmail.com



DATES TO REMEMBER

September 2023	
6-Sep	Grand Officers Night - Manufacturers Lodge No. 15, 7 PM. 1515 Ten Rod Road, North Kingstown, RI
10-Sep	Annual Steak Fry, Excelsior Lodge, Sprague Street, Portsmouth, RI
Sept 22 - 23	Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Southbury
24-Sep	Reception for Grand Master John Lawson and Grand Patriarch Frank Moitozo, Canonicus Hall, Rumford, 2 PM
October 2023	
October 8	Grand Encampment Lasagna Dinner Fundraiser, Canonicus Hall, Rumford, 2 PM
October 20 - 21	Grand Lodge of Maine, Waterville
October 27-28	Testimony John Cupp, Sovereign Grand Master, Pittsburgh, PA
Other Events	
11/11/2023	Grand Encampment of Maine, South Portland, Maine
3/19/2024	Mizpah Rebekah Lodge No. 22, Grand Officers Night
3/28/2024	Canonicus Lodge No. 9, Grand Officers Night

NOTE!

Grand Secretary Office Hours

For September and October will be Wednesday's with the following exceptions:

Thursday, September 9th, Thursday September 28th, Monday October 9th,
 Monday October 16, Thursday, October 26.

Please call before visiting the Grand Lodge Office as these dates could change.

FROM THE EDITOR

The Ocean State Traveler is published bi-monthly by the Grand Lodge of The State of Rhode Island. Want to see news from your lodge? E-mail me with any information and photos and I will try to get the articles in the next edition. Deadline for submission is the 15th of each even numbered month (February, April, June, August, October and December).