

CHAPTER XXXIV

ORGANIZATIONS

CHARITY LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

The history of Charity Lodge No. 18, F. and A. M., is given in detail in Volume I. For many years its meetings were held in the quarters above the Monadnock National and Savings Banks, but with the remodeling of the bank building it became necessary to find new quarters. By this time the First Baptist Church edifice had for some years no longer been used as a church but served as the Parish Hall of the United Church. The Lodge used the upstairs hall for its lodge room meetings until 1969 when it purchased the former Grange Hall on Charlonne Street, which was made into Jaffrey's Masonic Temple. The lodge has its lodge room in the upstairs hall. The Jaffrey Grange has a tenure in the downstairs hall for its meetings.

Charity Lodge is headed in 1971 by the following officers:

Worshipful Master, John Austin

Senior Warden, Edward Griffiths

Junior Warden, Stanley Wilson

Treasurer, Robert Bunce

Secretary, William G. Elliott

Senior Deacon, George Gordon

Junior Deacon, Donald Gordon

Chaplain, Edwin Godden

Tyler, Ernest Record

Senior Steward, Charles Oliver.

Junior Steward, Raymond Sebastian

SIGNET CHAPTER NO. 15, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

Signet Chapter No. 15, Order of the Eastern Star, has continued as an active organization for almost eighty years. Its early history is told in Volume II, pages 722 and 723. Its stated convocations are held regularly on the evening of the first Friday of every month, with the exception of July and August, when it is in recess. It was instituted on December 16, 1892. Today its meetings are held at the Masonic Temple on Charlonne Street. Mildred M. Hazleton is Grand Martha.

The 1971 officers are as follows:

Worthy Matron, Sharon Gordon
 Worthy Patron, George W. Gordon
 Associate Matron, Helen M. Barker, P.M.
 Associate Patron, Clinton G. Barker, P.P.
 Secretary, John B. Hazleton
 Treasurer, Eleanor L. Austin
 Conductress, Margaret C. Perkins
 Associate Conductress, Mildred M. Hazleton, P.M.
 Chaplain, Y. Edith Chapman, P.M.
 Marshal, Frederick G. Perkins, P.P.
 Adah, Patricia J. Gordon
 Ruth, Mildred E. Turner, P.M.
 Esther, Margaret L. Bunce, P.G.M.
 Martha, Anne Hermanson
 Electa, Irene C. Barker, P.M.
 Warder, Donald B. Gordon
 Sentinel, Eleanor M. T. Turner

MONADNOCK ROD AND GUN CLUB, INC.

The Monadnock Rod and Gun Club, Inc., was founded in January, 1947, with about a dozen charter members, but as the original charter has been lost through the years, their exact number and names are not presently available. The club has a dual purpose, social and sports. The first meeting was held on January 20, that year, at which Rufus S. Fenerty, III, William F. Smith, and Dana Perry, Jr., were named a committee to draw up the By-laws for presentation at the first regular meeting, January 30, 1947. At the latter meeting the By-laws were approved and accepted and the club's first officers were elected as follows:

President, Charles Howard, Jr.

Vice President, Rufus S. Fenerty, III.

Secretary, Ray Matthews

Treasurer, Charles Rice

Directors for three years, August Pelletier, Charles Chamberlain

Directors for two years, Dana Perry, Jr., William Smith

Directors for one year, Russell White, Merton Robare

The first committee assignments were made at the meeting as follows: Fish Committee, Alphonse Taylor, chairman, Raymond Sebastian, Forrest Simmons, Matthew Walsh, and Tracy Wilder;

Game Committee, Nelson Gill, William Ojala, Joseph Tremblay, John Sirois, and Roderick Duval; and Membership Committee, Arthur Ojala, Bertha Fish, and Walter Parker.

With the newly formed club thus organized there ensued no lack of interest and by February 15, 1947, meeting the total paid membership had reached 192, with two honorary members and three seniors. The membership in the club has been open to women as well from the very start. The rapid and spontaneous growth of the club was probably due to its closeness with the great out-doors and nature work in collaboration with Nature herself. From its very beginning the club's main interest has centered about the improvement of fish and game conditions, working in close affiliation with Conservation Officers John Martin of Keene, George Proctor of Wilton, John Frain of Antrim, John Lankhurst of Swanzey, and Kenneth Warren of Peterborough. Fish, especially bass and trout, have been stocked in various streams and ponds, pheasant chicks have been released from time to time, always with the assistance of those in higher authority, State and Federal.

By the time the club had been in existence for three months, a movement was started to locate a suitable site and in June, 1947, Alec Calder was named to investigate the procurement of a suitable piece of land. That month the members started a building fund under the immediate direction of a nine-man committee consisting of Frederick Butler, Nelson Gill, Arthur Hunt, Edward Desmarais, Herbert Harris, Leslie Underwood, Fred Fish, Joseph Babneau, and Harry Bruno. Donations from all local businessmen were solicited, and for many years the club added such sums as its finances permitted. Turkey raffles and other features were held as fund-raising activities. In January, 1948, Frederick Butler was named chairman of the Building Fund Committee. Offers of land sites were received from Roderick Duval and D. D. Bean.

In addition to the club's immediate interests, social and sports, it developed early an interest in providing activities for the children of the town. One of the earliest of these was the sending of a Jaffrey boy and girl, Rodney Perry and Svea Johanson, to the Conservation Camp. After the opening of the trout season the club holds a fishing derby for the children at their privately stocked pond on their recreation area. Other events for children sponsored by the club include trips to ball games, etc.

The club was incorporated under the laws of the State of New

Hampshire in 1949, and two years later it started holding its meetings at the Monadnock Rod and Gun Club building at 22 Peterborough Street. This is a social club privately operated by Robert F. Lambert.

In 1963 the Monadnock Rod and Gun Club bought thirty-five acres of land from Leo Deschenes for \$1,200.00, which is used as a recreation area. This tract of land is located just over the line in Peterborough and has been and continues to be developed extensively through the hard work of the club members. They have built a trout pond surrounded by a grassy picnic area, a trap shooting range, horseshoe pits, an large pavillion, trails for conducting field dog trials, a cannon range upon which the annual New Hampshire Championship Cannon Shoot is held, and in 1971 a flush toilet building was erected and a 40-foot flag pole added distinction to the recreation area.

The present officer of the club are:

President, Vincent Pomponio

Vice President, Robert F. Lambert

Secretary, Daniel Field

Treasurer, David Vinal

JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB

With so many of the younger women of the town being employed days, they were unavailable for membership in the Jaffrey Woman's Club, then the East Jaffrey Woman's Club. On Thursday, January 10, 1934, more than a dozen of them met at the home of Ella Griffiths to organize a Junior Woman's Club. Jane Parker, wife of Reverend G. Gerald Parker, pastor of the East Congregational Church, and Mrs. Griffiths were appointed advisors to the junior club and officers were elected as follows: President, Marjorie Frost; vice president, Dorothy Perkins; secretary and press representative, Anna Eaton; treasurer, Ida Cushing; directors, Abbie Shea, Mary Hurley, Margaret Cournoyer; membership committee, Louise Busi and Grace Cunningham.

The meetings were scheduled for the evenings of the first and third Mondays of each month. The club was the forerunner of the Jaffrey Community League.

JAFFREY COMMUNITY LEAGUE

The Jaffrey Community League is a civic, charitable, and cul-

tural organization with membership open to all women. It is dedicated to the promotion of these phases of community life, along with various service projects. The meetings, which now are held on the evening of the second Tuesday of the month from October through May, were formerly held at the Cutler Memorial Clubhouse, but are now being held at the Civic Center. The present officers are as follows: President, Joyce Bryant; first vice president, Sherri Gordon; second vice president, Carolyn Christian; secretary, Lorraine Ascani; treasurer, Catherine Wise; assistant treasurer, June Edwards.

JAFFREY WOMAN'S CLUB

(Cont. from Vol. I.)

After the change in the name of the east village from East Jaffrey to Jaffrey, the Woman's Club also adopted the newer designation, dropping the "East" from its name. It thus became The Jaffrey Woman's Club.

The club has a record of fifty years of continued service to the community, having sponsored many a project for its betterment. Among the significant projects of the club was the institution of the annual "Clean-Up Day" on the first Saturday in May, which was carried on by the club for many years with the cooperation of the town highway department. The planting of the new "Village Elm" in 1935 on the village green, under sponsorship of the Woman's Club with the Girl Scouts of Jaffrey, perpetuates in a way an old beloved landmark in the center of the village. While these two projects were of community-wide interest, the club has sponsored numerous other projects in various fields of activity. As stated in Volume I, the club was the outgrowth of a reading club started in pre-World War I days, and for many years after its organization as The East Jaffrey Woman's Club in 1921, it maintained a Reading Circle which was for many years under the direction of Grace (Pierce) Sterling.

The meetings of the club were held at Library Hall until 1939 when the Universalist Society of Jaffrey conveyed their former church edifice to the club for a meeting place. After the necessary alterations, the club moved into their new quarters which has remained its home to the present time.

JAFFREY OUTING CLUB

Organized in 1931 by a group of public spirited citizens, the

Jaffrey Outing Club remained an active organization for over three decades. Its main purpose was the development of winter recreation facilities in Jaffrey. (See Volume I.) Prior to World War II the Outing Club acquired the so-called Carey farm in the south part of Jaffrey and winter sports were carried on there for some time. During the war the club offered the use of the fields on the farm to local residents where they might plant "Victory Gardens." Many accepted the offer.

More recently, however, interest in its winter sports program began to wane, but for some years the club held onto the Washington's Birthday weekend for its annual winter carnival, even after the sports activities were discontinued. After its abandonment of the holiday weekend, the practice was continued by class sponsorship at Conant High School. The club has now disbanded.

Other clubs that are no longer in existence include the Jaffrey Service Club which was organized in 1925 by local business men and public spirited citizens. Other men's clubs that had their day during the past three decades but no longer are in existence include the Civitan Club and the Civic Club.

With its diminishing membership, the Jaffrey Rebekah Lodge joined the Peterborough Rebekah Lodge several years ago, and no more meetings were held locally.

JAFFREY GUN CLUB

The Jaffrey Gun Club was organized in the summer of 1932 by Ray A. Peavey and Charles E. Chamberlain, and soon after became one of the most active skeet clubs in the State of New Hampshire. The shooting range was located beyond Squantum Village and was open from May to September. The membership in the club included many prominent year-round and summer residents of Jaffrey.

The officers of the club were the same persons throughout its existence: President, Charles E. Chamberlain, and secretary and treasurer, Ray A. Peavey. Following Peavey's removal from town in 1939 the club continued to function until its dissolution during World War II. During its years of activity it accumulated a surplus of some \$600.00, which, upon a vote of the members, was donated to the local ambulance fund. The clubhouse was purchased by Dr. Franklin W. Sterling and is today the tool shed at his home on Harkness Road.

JAFFREY GRANGE

Even with the ever changing pattern of living and social conditions today, a group of Jaffrey Grangers are still loyally supporting the fraternal, social, and charitable purposes of Jaffrey Grange No. 135, Patrons of Husbandry, which has been a recognized influence in the community since its institution in October, 1888. This influence has always been felt strongly and for many decades aspirants for local and regional offices and sponsors of various projects eagerly sought the backing or support of the Grange members as sureties of success. But, in recent years, interest in its home economics and its educational programs in agriculture have diminished, coincident with the decline of farming and farms. There was a time when Jaffrey abounded in farms of varying sizes and nearly every family belonged to the Grange and the organization became famous for its plays, suppers, and annual fairs. Today, like many other organizations many of the old-timers are gone and the acquiring of new blood is increasingly more difficult.

The glory of Jaffrey Grange was reached in the 1920's, when enthusiasm ran high and the members launched a building program of their own after years of changing meeting places. (See Volume I, PP. 727-8.) The new building was dedicated in 1926, and, for forty-three years until 1969, Grange Hall on Charlonne Street was a recognized landmark. In the latter year it was sold to Charity Lodge No. 18, F. and A.M., and is known by its new designation of Masonic Hall. However, the members of Jaffrey Grange still hold their regular bi-monthly meetings in the lower hall of the building and enjoy the tenancy in the building as long as the order exists.

The present officers of Jaffrey Grange are as follow:

Master, Philip C. Tremblay
 Overseer, Wayne Wheeler
 Lecturer, Louise Tremblay
 Assistant Steward, John S. Whipple, Jr.
 Steward, John Whipple, Sr.
 Chaplain, Hazel Murray
 Treasurer, Edward E. Griffiths
 Secretary, J. Cleo Lambert
 Gatekeeper, Stephen Tremblay
 Ceres, Olive Bourque
 Pomona, Alice Doud
 Flora, Lydia Morin

Lady Assistant Steward, Anna Whipple

Pianist, Freda Lambert

Executive committee, Louise Tremblay, Anna Whipple,
and Margaret Fish.

JAFFREY TOWNSEND CLUB

During the Townsend Movement in the 1930's and 1940's a Townsend club was formed in Jaffrey, with Estella Clark as president. The members held their meetings regularly at homes of the members. The club was discontinued after the abandonment of the national Townsend Movement.

JAFFREY LIONS CLUB

Under the leadership of Frederick J. Butler and C. Francis Wozmak, M.D., a committee was responsible in organizing the Jaffrey Lions Club. Lions International granted a Charter dated May 28, 1952. The following names appear on the Charter as Charter Members:

Frederick J. Butler	James A. Sullivan
Arthur F. Gelinis	Raymond Albert Moore
J. Homer Chouinard	William I. Wade
Frank W. Faery	Robert P. Haynes
Richard Stoughton, Jr.	Bernice J. Wolff
Charles E. Chamberlain	Franklin W. Sterling, M.D.
Walter Ogrodnik	Delcie D. Bean
Roland F. Thoin	Vernon J. Bean
D. D. Bean, Jr.	I. R. Nelson
Karl J. Boutwell	C. Francis Wozmak, M.D.
William L. Shearer, III	Jacob A. Abbott
George Prescott Duncan	Robert T. Bennett
Charles J. Letourneau	Dick Robert Eaves
Clarence F. Coit	Reynold A. Belletete
Raymond A. Moore	Elson S. Herrick
Robert D. Taylor	Leonard St. George

The newly organized Lions Club of Jaffrey was sponsored by the Lions Club of Peterborough at its first meeting, June 14, 1952.

The following Lions have served as presidents: Frederick J. Butler, 1952-53; Vernon J. Bean, 1953-54; C. Francis Wozmak, M.D., 1954-55; I. R. Nelson, 1955-56; Arthur F. Gelinis, 1956-57; Leonard O. Kirschner, 1957-58; Milton I. Morse, 1958-59; Richard H. Dono-

van, 1959-60; Donald E. Proctor, 1960-61; Byron E. Higgon to Nov., 1961; Glenn A. Hunt, Nov., 1961-2; Glenn A. Hunt, 1962-63; Raymond A. Moore, 1963-64; John G. Heil, 1964-65; Sydney F. Austin, 1965-66; Copeland M. Draper, 1966-67; Charles Hamilton, M.D. 1967-68; Harold H. Goodman, D.D.S, 1968-69; George W. Dishong, 1969-70; Francis LaFreniere, 1970-71; Bernard J. Hampsey, 1971-72.

The following Past Presidents were appointed and served as Zone Chairman on the District Governors Cabinet: Milton I. Morse, 1959-60, Glenn A. Hunt, 1962-63, Harold H. Goodman, 1969-70.

The first meetings of the club were held at Perry's Diner for several years, after which the ladies of the United Church took good care of the Lions at the Parish House until its demolition. At present the meetings are on the second and fourth Thursday evenings at the Old Forge in Rindge.

JAFFREY BOARD OF TRADE

A group of business and professional men saw the need of a non-profit organization during the 1950's for developing the commercial, civic, financial, charitable, and other interests of the Town of Jaffrey. After a well attended meeting at Perry's banquet hall, a Jaffrey Board of Trade was organized and has been functioning to the present time. For some years, the Board of Trade sponsored a Jaffrey Jubilee, including a well participated parade. It has also sponsored Fourth of July celebrations. Among its other service projects are replies to inquiries regarding business, real estate, professional help, and the like. Meetings are held about four times a year, with the annual meeting in March. The present officers are: President, Glenn Hunt; vice president, James Butler; secretary, Mrs. Glenn Hunt; treasurer; Mrs. Glenn Hunt.