

News Release / Public Service Announcement / Community Event

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 30, 2012
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Secretary , St. Lawrence Masonic Charities
(315) 250-1765

MASONIC CHARITIES CITRUS SALE

Orders Due by February 15

The Annual St. Lawrence Masonic Citrus Sale is underway! As far back as 1977, the Masons of St. Lawrence County have raised many thousands of dollars to help support local community charities. Some beneficiaries have included food pantries, volunteer fire departments, rescue squads, Hospice, Habitat for Humanity, children's clinics, libraries, hospitals, and veterans groups.

For their annual Citrus Sale, Masonic Lodges in every community help out by taking orders for boxes of Naval Oranges, Florida Temples, and Red Grapefruit for delivery a couple of weeks later. An annual favorite is the Citrus Sampler. Samplers hold 24 Navel Oranges and 12 Red Grapefruit, and sell for only \$27.00.

Every Brother Mason from each of the 11 Lodges is involved during this drive, answering phones and collecting funds in preparation for the truckload that will arrive in early March. On the delivery day, they converge at the site en masse, and carefully unload the cargo and sort each box by Lodge. Once it is brought back to their community, they set about making deliveries to the hundreds of eager customers. With this assortment of juicy citrus from California and Florida, they hope to raise enough money to help support the many various charitable works that Masons do, all of which stays right here in St. Lawrence County.

Orders will be taken until February 15th. Once the orders are tallied and sent to the distributor the next day, a delivery date is set, and the Masons organize to unload and distribute the fruit. Delivery is expected on March 3rd. All this is organized by the dozens of dedicated volunteer Masons throughout the area.

The citrus is sold by the 2/5 bushel carton, and includes California Navels for \$18.00, Florida Temples for \$16.00, and Florida Grapefruit for \$17.00, and also the Citrus Sampler for \$27.00.

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St. Lawrence Masonic Charities is the central organization behind the fruit sale. Their various charities include funding for equipment and supplies for the popular New York Masonic Safety ID Program and Blood Drives held free of charge in local schools and at public events throughout the county, which are manned by many of the same Masons who help with fundraising. Other charities include storm relief centers, libraries, historical associations, and many more. The organization holds two major fundraisers per year, the Apple Sale in the fall and the Citrus Sale in February.

To order your fruit, contact any Mason or Lodge in St. Lawrence County, or any of the following members:

Massena:	John Schneider	250-1765
	Everett Hampton	769-3282
Norwood:	Howard Busch	328-4933
Parishville:	Glenn Collins	265-9196
Colton:	Carl Parrotte	262-2526
Waddington:	Darrin Corrigeux	769-2524
Edwards:	Eli Tracy	347-2283
Gouverneur:	Stephen Tharaldsen	287-4603
Canton:	Dave Paradis	265-6979
Hammond:	Tim Pitcher	324-5825

Please help the Masons help those in need here at home.

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