



Connecticut FREEMASONS

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JANUARY 2007

Out with the old ...



... In with the new!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007!



PAGE **5**
New Haven
Temple
Makeover



PAGE **7**
Ken Wade
Pierpont Edwards
Medal Recipient



PAGE **9**
Meriden
Rainbow Feeds
the Homeless

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Letters to the Editor-in-Chief and comments are welcome when sent to slaplace@ctfreemasons.net.

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Stuff-A-Bus



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Congratulations
Jeane and Joe



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"This is our Grand Lodge building"

When Grand Master Charles B. Fowler, Jr. stood in the auditorium of Masonicare at a recent gathering and declared, "This is our Grand Lodge building," he wasn't pointing to a rendering of the soon-to-be built Grand Lodge office. And he wasn't alluding to the soon-to-be demolished former offices or to the small, cramped, temporary Grand Lodge office down the street.

Indeed, Chuck Fowler was referring to the facilities and healthcare system that is Masonicare.

The beginnings of this multi-million dollar organization are both humble and noble. They date back to 1873, when the Grand Master of Illinois RETURNED \$332 from the funds and other supplies donated by the Masons of Connecticut to aid their worthy brethren, victims of the Chicago fire. Obviously, the \$332 couldn't be divided between the Connecticut donors, so it was invested, and added to, and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut came into being.

Under the leadership of Past Grand Master Luke Lockwood, a "Masonic Home" was planned. From its humble beginnings of 30 rooms and 18 residents on a working farm, Masonicare now has annual revenues of \$128 million and interacts with more than 3,000 residents or patients every day.

"It's almost mind-boggling today to think of a portion of a donation being returned," remarked Bro. Steve McPherson, president and CEO of Masonicare. "What's not mind-boggling,



The old Grand Lodge office comes down in this December 1 photo viewed from the rear parking lot. Here the excavator works its way through the print shop, heading toward the library and general offices.

however, is the philanthropic spirit and can-do attitude of Connecticut Freemasonry, which planted and nourished the seeds that have grown into what, today, is Masonicare."

Many Connecticut Freemasons may still have the quaint idea that the "Masonic Home" is a quiet rest home with rocking chairs on a front porch. They may not be aware of the tremendous growth that has placed Masonicare at the forefront of contemporary senior living in Connecticut. "With the exception of the Depression, new buildings have gone up in each decade from the beginning to present day," explained RW Bro. Carl Anderson, Vice President of Fraternal Relations for Masonicare.

Indeed, improvements to the Ramage building at Masonic

Healthcare Center, the expansion at Ashlar Village, and the building of a modest Grand Lodge office make Masonicare a seemingly never-ending construction site.

GM Fowler commented on the magnificent Grand Lodge buildings in other states, but compared those to the magnificence of Connecticut Masonic giving that has produced Masonicare. The addition of Ashlar of Newtown 20 years ago addressed the need in that part of the state. And the acquisition of Connecticut VNA (Visiting Nurses Association) addressed the growing need for home health care.

Annual donations averaging \$3 million yearly to The Masonic Charity Foundation have sustained the vision of the Connecticut Freemasons of 1873. The necessities of quality living, not covered by

state and federal aid, are provided through the Foundation.

With independent senior living at Ashlar Village, skilled nursing at Masonic Healthcare Center and Ashlar of Newtown, and the more than 400,000 visits registered annually with Connecticut VNA, Masonicare has gone far beyond the original imagination of our brethren of the 19th century.

Today, in the 21st century, as Masonicare extends its reach to every part of the state, Connecticut Freemasons can join with Grand Master Fowler and proudly state, "This is our Grand Lodge... building!"

ATTENTION: WORSHIPFUL MASTERS

The Connecticut Freemasons is once again collecting photos of 2007 Masters to include in a centerspread of a future issue. Last year we did it ourselves through visitations, District Deputy presentations, and third party requests. This year we need your help to get everyone included. Please send high resolution digital photos to news@ctfreemasons.net. Only appropriate photos will be printed, so join the "Worshipful Rogues Gallery."

Our Cover...

(top photo) The former Grand Lodge office in the middle of demolition. In its place a medical arts building for Masonic Healthcare Center is planned.

(bottom photo) The architect's rendering of the new Grand Lodge office slated to be completed fall of 2007. The new building faces easterly, towards Wallingford center.

Grand Master's Message

Fraternal Greetings and Happy New Year to all,

Muff and I hope you have had a wonderful holiday season just past. The New Year is now upon us, and I find myself wondering how I am going to get everything done in the few months I have left. But many lodges now or soon will have new Masters wondering how they are going to fill up the next year. Don't worry, brethren, it will be over before you realize it.

Big on our January calendar is the District Deputy training session, and right after that we head to Florida with Masonicare for the annual Nutmegger Reunions with our Florida brethren.

Many of you know that I was privileged and delighted to participate in the initiation of my son, Charles B. Fowler, III, in Washington Lodge No. 70 last November. I waited 19 years for that to happen. If all goes as expected, I will raise him a Master Mason at our Washington's Birthday celebration on 26 February. That, of course, will be the highlight of my year as Grand Master. Should you wish to join the crowd that evening, contact our Junior Warden for details and reservations for the dinner.

Also, as you may have noticed in the December issue, RW Jean P. Maheu and his Charity Creations company have decided not to continue publishing the *Connecticut Freemasons* newspaper. We thank Brother Jean for his initiative and vision in getting the paper started and for producing a quality product which was very well received by all the brethren. Without him, it would not have happened. As you can see from this issue, we have been able to carry on under the leadership of our new Editor-in-Chief, RW Grand Senior Steward Simon R. LaPlace. He is going to need all our help to maintain this prime communications medium to every Connecticut Freemason. And to ensure continued success, we need everyone of you to become a salesman of advertising to support the publication. Please advise Brother LaPlace of any potential advertiser(s) of whom you may know.

I remember one time hearing a man of the cloth take a negative view of Freemasonry. I don't remember why, but it was likely through ignorance or misinformation. I thought at the time, "I wonder if he realizes how many of his parishioners are Freemasons." Half

of the ushers were Masons, the Treasurer was a Mason, a third of the governing board were Masons, most of the best Lay Readers were Masons, and there were several others who supported the church in various other ways.



Sometimes the only time the clergy see Masons in action in their church is when your lodge attends in a body on St. John the Baptist Day in June, clothed as Masons. Unfortunately, that occurs only once a year, and some churches might not be visited in a decade or more. And we seem to have forgotten St. John the Evangelist Day in December, apparently because it is too inconvenient with the business of the holiday season. Brethren, we don't have to limit ourselves to the two St. Johns' Days – we can go to church anytime as a group, and it would be a great public relations thing to do. That is a very visible way to MAKE MASONRY MEANINGFUL to your church.

But more importantly, we can each individually go to church regularly and get involved with the work of the church. Just like Masonry, I doubt there is any church which cannot use more people taking an active part in its support, and not just financially. And we should not be the "Quiet Fraternity" anymore when we work in our church. Let the parishioners and the clergy know that you are a Freemason, and that your efforts in support of your church are a manifestation of the ideals of Freemasonry. It may not be quite so obvious, but that is also a very good way to MAKE MASONRY MEANINGFUL to your church.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. B. Fowler, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles B. Fowler, Jr.
Most Worshipful Grand Master

Ritual Seminar Scheduled

RW Grand Lecturer Bruce Bellmore has announced a ritual seminar to take place on Saturday, February 10 at the Masonic Temple at 285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven. The Committee on Masonic Education will coordinate with the District Lecturers to bring a ritual education class to the fraternity for the first time in several years. Coffee and donuts will be available at the 8:30 am registration.

Roast in honor of Bill Greene Announced

Set Saturday, February 24 aside for what promises to be a fun time teasing the "Grand Paparazzi". Social hour at 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm. Reservation deadline is February 15 and "roasters" are welcome to sign up with RW James Currier at 860-455-0242. This is open to the entire Masonic family. Directions, order form, and menu selections can be found at the Grand Lodge website at www.ctfreemasons.net.

The New Haven Temple Gets a Makeover

By MICHAEL L. CASTROLL

Who says Masons never change anything? Have you been to New Haven lately? If the answer is yes, you've undoubtedly seen some positive changes. Most recent is the overhaul of the second floor "Greek Room."

Dedicated in 1926, the New Haven Masonic Temple, located at 285 Whitney Avenue, was the showpiece of its day. Incorporated in the construction are many nuances which are priceless, as well as those which have become outdated over the years, and need to be refurbished or replaced, or simply updated. The original New Haven-built Eastern Elevator has new mechanicals, and a Stairglide, which eases trips for those with mobility issues, now functions nicely.

RW Brother Carleton V. Erickson was proud to boast of the accomplishments of the Temple Building Association thus far, and reveal a bit of what is in store.

Some who are familiar with the 'big room' on the second floor – the site of the last two Grand Lodge October communications – may remember evenings when the dust was kicked out from the rug. It was the dust of the original rug – if only it could have spoken! That rug has been replaced.



The new carpet in the Greek Room at 285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, features a shield surmounted by the square and compasses of the Masonic fraternity. The carpet was manufactured in Belgium and installed over the summer of 2006. A dedication of the refurbished room was performed by RW Brothers Bruce R. Bellmore and Bradley K. Cooney and Bro. Jordan T. Yelinek prior to the opening of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut's October communication.

The Valley of New Haven, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite and New Haven Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar, made significant contributions for the new rug, with the New Haven Masonic Temple Association kicking in the difference. And what a difference it makes! Almost everyone who sees it is impressed with its design

and craftsmanship, as well as its eye-opening presence. The hand-sewn seams make an optimum impression, which is what the Scottish Rite had hoped for.

Room lighting has been changed, as well. Fluorescence makes a notable, sharper, yet clearer and softer appeal to the beholder. It complements the new, improved sound system which has been slowly evolving. The footlights and other stage lighting have been repositioned to make the scenery stand out in a most effective way. The stage was refinished and rebuilt, as well.

The changes occurring in the New Haven Masonic Temple are ongoing. For the last five years the building and grounds have seen improvements which make a trip to that edifice most appealing. Highlighting the outer changes are a driveway now flush with the south entrance to the building, making it handicapped-accessible. A more noticeable outdoor addition are the impressive flagpoles which grace the front lawn.

Back on the second floor, the columns surrounding the

oval room have been repaired. Work has also modernized the restrooms, making two of them handicap accessible. All around the building, windows have been replaced, refurbished, repainted. Among the things yet to be done are improvements to the priceless and irreplaceable pipe organ, and modernization of the kitchen.

Carleton takes much pride in the building where he grew up – he was Master Councilor of New Haven Chapter, Order of DeMolay more than five decades ago – and where successive generations are constantly becoming aware of its importance to our craft. Carleton said, "...Masonry should work hard not to give up the building. As an architectural icon it bodes well for the presence of Masonry in New Haven. On a statewide level, it stands out among the other large Masonic centers yet in use."

New Haven should be proud to have such an edifice, indeed. Masonry in all of the other metropolitan areas of Connecticut has long since gone to the suburbs. 285 Whitney Avenue is an address of pride for all Connecticut Masonry.



The operator's station for the improved sound system in the Greek Room of the New Haven Masonic Temple allows one brother to control stationary and wireless microphones and other audio technology being able to see and hear the performances of cast members. This is especially valuable in the conferral of the degrees of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.

"I Do Solemnly Swear"

There's controversy brewing in Washington, D.C. Some news sources are claiming that newly-elected Congressman Keith Ellison, a Muslim, will take his oath of office with one hand on the Koran, Islam's holy scripture. Others, including Ellison's campaign manager, point out that members of Congress take their oath of office as a group and none of them have their hands on any book.

The custom of taking the oath of office (at least the Presidential oath) with a Bible dates back to Worshipful Brother George Washington's inauguration on April 30, 1789. Having been elected to serve as our nation's first president under the new Constitution, Washington left his home in Mount Vernon, Virginia,

and came to the nation's capital, New York City. He went to Federal Hall (on Wall Street) and entered the chamber of the Senate. The Vice President, John Adams, and other dignitaries escorted him out onto the balcony so that the ceremony would be as public as possible.

Brother Jacob Morton, who was Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge No. 1 (constituted in 1757) and Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York (chartered in 1781), made a quick trip to the lodge's meeting place and brought back the lodge's Bible. It was opened (presumably at random) to the forty-ninth chapter of Genesis, and Washington rested his left hand on it while he took the oath of office, administered by

Brother Robert R. Livingston, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in New York and Chancellor (chief judge) of the State of New York.

Although there do not seem to be any contemporary writings to confirm it, many historians believe Brother Washington completed his oath with words not found in the Constitution: "So help me God!" Then he bent and kissed the Bible, a custom which is still part of our Craft (although I doubt it was unique to Masonry in 1789). The President spoke briefly, and then led a procession to St. Paul's Chapel (the same one that became so famous in the days and months following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks) for worship.

Today, the Bible of St. John's Lodge No. 1 is brought out, by a team of lodge brothers for very special occasions, including the inaugurations of other Presidents. George H.W. Bush was the most recent President to take his oath of office on the St. John's Lodge Bible; his son wanted to do the same, but it was drizzling the day of his 2001 inauguration. The rest of the time, it is stored securely at Federal Hall.

Recently, while presenting Bibles to five newly-raised brothers in my lodge, I pointed out to them that the Volume



of Sacred Law resting on the lodge's altar is described in the Entered Apprentice Degree as part of the "furniture of the lodge." That means it is an essential item in the lodge room, but its purpose is primarily symbolic. Our personal and family Bibles, on the other hand, should not be furniture in our homes. We're supposed to read them and wear them out!

I invite you to make a New Year's resolution to do just that. Ask your clergyman for recommendations about the appropriate translation to read, and for a chart of readings to complete each day of the year (my personal favorite can be found at www.gcumm.org/Resources%202001/bible%20reading%20program.htm).

The tradition of presenting Bibles to newly-raised brethren originated, according to an esteemed Masonic historian, in Military Lodge No. 93 of Manlius, New York. I encourage your lodge to adopt this special custom, too. Heirloom Bible Publishers (800-676-2448) offers free presentation speeches, or you can use the talk about the Bible found in the Installation Ceremony.

The Pilgrims' pastor, John Robinson, once said, "The Lord hath yet more truth and light to break forth from His holy word." May the same be true for you during the new year.

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January 27 - District Deputies School

The permanent members of the individual districts have made their recommendations to RW William Greene, Deputy Grand Master. For those he has confirmed as District Deputies for the coming year, there will be a District Deputies School on Saturday, January 27 put on by the Grand Lodge Officers. There will also be an opportunity to take pictures of every team of District Deputy and Associate Grand Marshal. These will appear in a center spread of a future issue of *CT Freemasons*. The "School" will commence at 8:00 am at the Ashlar Village Activities Room.

Bro. Ken Wade – 50 Year Mason, Pierpont Edwards Medal Recipient

By MICHAEL L. CASTROLL

Once in a while, travelling in the path of the craftsman, you find someone who personifies all the title 'Master Mason' implies. Recently, I had the pleasure to renew the acquaintance of such a brother as this. He is WB Kenneth Frederick Wade.

Brother Ken was born in New London, Connecticut, on October 16, 1930, one of five children born to Ruth Harris and Richard Elton Wade. He married the former Loretta Southard on April 27, 1957 and that union has been blessed with three children and two grandchildren.

Ken attended local schools and graduated from Chapman Technical High School in 1950. He was consistently on the honor roll and a skilled participant in athletics. A three-letter man, his first love was always baseball. Here he excelled, as he was selected to the Eastern Connecticut Conference all-league baseball team in his sophomore, junior, and senior years. He was also named captain of his high school team in his senior year. Ken played semi-pro baseball in the Morgan Park League, and later on joined the Quaker Hill Mustangs.

His baseball career was extended as he played for the Air Force Base team while on active duty during the Korean Conflict. Although the war in Korea (and those on the basepaths) seemed to interrupt his education at the University of Connecticut, Ken always maintained a good eye toward his field of endeavor.

Following his honorable discharge from the US Air Force in 1955, where he excelled as a teletype and cryptographic operator, Ken went to work as a sales and service representative for the National Cash Register Company, with the title of Field Engineer. Ken retired in 1993, but every once in a while he'll get a call from the company, as no one else seems to have his knack or his expertise.

Even as a civilian, Ken just couldn't stay away from baseball! He participated in Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts when his sons were

active players, and coached their Little League teams. Even though his eyesight never deteriorated, he served as an umpire when his coaching days were over. Ken is also very active in helping the First Baptist Church of New London meet its financial obligations.

Ken's interest in Masonry was piqued by his father's membership. When Ken asked him for a petition, his father thought it best to put him off, saying he would be better off finding a fellow serviceman to sponsor him. Ken did just that. His petition was acted upon the same night Brainard Lodge No. 102 was to confer an Entered Apprentice Degree. Ken waited at the famous Crocker House while the lodge voted, and was sent for once the ballot cleared. Ken was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Brainard Lodge on November 13, 1956.

Ken immersed himself into the work of the lodge, became an officer, and served as Worshipful Master in 1966. He planned on being master during the centennial year of the lodge, but when a break came in the line Ken moved forward, leaving the honor of being the centennial master to WB George Mikulka.

Ken served as president of Brainard's temple association, and

was historian and secretary for 28 years. Ken told me that as his secretarial predecessor, the late MWBro. Christopher T. Wyld, moved up the Grand Line, it became exceedingly difficult for him to balance service to his lodge with service to the craft in general. Chris chose to step down just as Ken's brother-in-law, Del Huntley, was about to succeed to the East in 1978. Del asked Ken to be secretary just for his year. Twenty-eight years later, he finally retired from his post. That said, it bears mention that he continues to assist Brainard Lodge by maintaining the lodge website, as well as filling in wherever needed.

Ken's signature, defining all of his years in all of his endeavors in and out of Masonry, are his thank you notes. He attributes this phenomenon to his mother. She suggested he always say thank you, and ne'er is the day he will not. Whether as lodge secretary, historian, or secretary/treasurer of Brainard's famed Acacia Club, he has been cited by the Eighth District Past District Deputies Association



Worshipful Brother Kenneth F. Wade of Brainard Lodge No. 102, Niantic (right) accepts the congratulations of MWGM Charles B. Fowler, Jr. after being presented with both his 50 Year Pin as a Mason and the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.

for his accurate record keeping, bookkeeping, and his thank you notes. Ken is also a superb ritualist. This could have been foretold as his talents as a cryptographer were without question.

For all of his accomplishments, Ken was feted with a 75th birthday party given by Brainard Lodge. At this gala Ken's life in Masonry was celebrated, and the occasion was marked with the presentation of his 50-year pin. While everyone was conveniently gathered,

Worshipful Brother Kenneth F. Wade was presented with the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service by Most Worshipful Grand Master Charles B. Fowler, Jr.

See **KEN WADE** page 25



Connecticut Freemasons

of
Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125

The Officers, Brothers, and Families of Cosmopolitan Lodge #125 wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

Upcoming Events

January 17th Fellowcraft Degree	February 7th Entered Apprentice Degree
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Musings from the Grand Historian

Gary A. Littlefield

One hundred years ago, the membership of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut totaled over 20,000. According to a fact book in 1906, there were 1,011,547 Masons in the United States and about 440,000 elsewhere about the world. England listed 125,000 members. The Grand Master of Connecticut was George A. Kies, who later became the Grand Secretary.



Seventeen years ago, I wrote about Adam Craig, a brother from Warren Lodge No. 50 in Andover. Brother Craig was a physician in 1854. As a Mason he belonged to the lodge which existed then in Andover. He was fond of liquid refreshments and had a flair for dramatics. He would sometimes receive a call from the outskirts of town and would let his horse jog

along at an easy but somewhat fast pace until he came just within sight of the house. Then he would whip the horse and come tearing down the road. He would run in, make a hasty examination of the patient and announce it was lucky he got there when he did. He would dole out the required medicine and instructions and would rush out of the house, on to his next call, until he was out of sight of the house when he would resume an easier gait.

This was the time of promiscuous bleeding, when patients would come to the doctor's office and a pint of blood would be drawn from the body as a tonic for good health. One night, after the good doctor had a few glasses of liquid refreshment, a patient came to the door for that purpose. The doctor

fumbled for the vein, finally found it and the blood flowed into the bowl which the patient was holding. The doctor promptly fell asleep. When the bowl was full, the patient could not wake the doctor, so he got up and fell faint on the floor. In the next room, Mrs. Craig heard the thud, and rushed in to save the day, the patient, and the doctor.



Although a year away, 2008 marks the centennial of the Masonic dedication of the final stone of the Bulkeley Bridge in Hartford (I-84 bridge). On October 8, 1908, the Hartford



Bridge (as it was then known) was dedicated in Masonic fashion. Grand Master Edward Fuller opened Grand Lodge with 110 lodges in attendance. Also attending was the Grand Master of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. After arriving at the bridge, the Grand Marshal made the proclamation and Grand Architect Morgan G. Bulkeley, for whom the bridge was later named, examined the work. In the space left open for the final stone was a metal box. Here were deposited articles of Masonic interest from 1908. In 1959, during remodeling, the box was uncovered and returned to the Grand Lodge.



In April, we will celebrate the 230th anniversary of the death of General and Brother David Wooster. His monument in Wooster Cemetery, overlooking the city of Danbury, will be adorned with wreaths from Masonic entities and a program will ensure that he is remembered with dignity and style. Smaller celebrations hosted by Union No. 40 have been held the last four years. Grand Lodge celebrations are held every five years and will make this event special for all. You will receive more information as plans progress.



2006 saw too many Grand Lodge leaders pass to the celestial lodge above. We lost Grand Masters Russell H. Milnes (1960), Merle P. Tapley (1971), and Arthur W. Kratzert (1985). Also leaving their earthly habitat this year were Past Grand High Priests Lawrence P. Urban and Herbert R. Olson, who were also Past Most Puissant Grand Masters. Past Grand High Priest Carl J. DelVecchio and Past Grand Commanders William Forrest and Harold Fransen were also brothers who worked for the betterment of Freemasonry. Their leadership will always be remembered in the annals of Connecticut Freemasonry.

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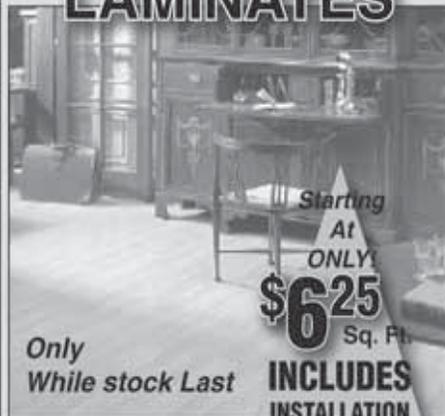
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Meriden Rainbow shares holiday spirit with guests from homeless shelter

By BARBARA BROOKS

On December 17th, Meriden Assembly No. 11 International Order of the Rainbow for Girls held their 5th Annual Homeless Shelter Christmas Party at the Meriden Masonic Lodge. Each year the assembly invites the women and children from Shelter Now in Meriden to a holiday celebration. The girls took great pride in wrapping gifts and decorating the hall in blue and white representing a "Winter Wonderland" theme.

A total of 40 residents from the shelter enjoyed a fabulous turkey dinner with all the fixings. Traditionally, all food is donated and prepared by the members and advisors of Meriden Assembly. After dinner, Santa made his grand entrance and gifts were distributed to all the women and children who attended. The smiles were worth a thousand words!



Members of Meriden Assembly No. 11, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls prepare to serve a holiday dinner for the residents of Shelter Now.

A special thanks to Toys for Tots, the Bjornberg family, and Smith & Hartford Lafayette Lodge No. 88, Bishel Hardware in Middletown Lady Washington Chapter No. 45 for their generous donations to this OES, Meridian Chapter No. 8 OES, holiday celebration.

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CORRECTION

Due to an editing error, the name of Joshua Tenner, State Junior Councilor of Connecticut DeMolay, was omitted from the Brotherhood Weekend story which noted new recipients of the the DeMolay Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award. Congratulations to Josh, and apologies to him and his family.

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Masonicare Survey Results Compiled

As you may recall, Masonicare mailed a survey to all members of the Connecticut Masonic Family this past summer.

The 16-page survey was designed to ask for your feedback on awareness of our services and programs, general assessment of our services if you have used them, as well as feedback about our communications, and any needed services that we don't currently

provide.

"We were very pleased to see that over 3,400 responses were received – that's a great response from the 24,430 that were mailed," said Bro. Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr., Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, a member of the committee that developed the survey.

Some of the findings from the survey include:

- 22% have used Masonicare

services, including Connecticut VNA, Ashlar of Newtown or Ashlar Village

- 87% of those rated the service(s) as "excellent" or "very good"

- 78% of the respondents were 65 years of age or older

- 66% were male

- 61% were married, 30% widowed, and the rest divorced or single

- 25% were from New Haven County, followed by 22% from out-of-state. 18% were from Hartford County and 11% from Fairfield. The rest were spread out among the remaining counties.

- 58% have been to the Masonicare campus in Wallingford and 29% have been to our Newtown

campus

- **And:** 78% read *Connecticut Freemasons!* This is a great endorsement for the publication and we are pleased to support this important means of communication.

There were very few suggestions for services not currently being offered and most of our respondents described themselves as being in good or excellent health.

"We want to thank each person who took the time to complete our questionnaire for your thoughtful feedback," said Bro. Stephen McPherson, president of Masonicare. "We want to continue to serve you and your loved ones as best we can, now and for many years to come."

The Respite Care Program at The Hearth at Lockwood Lodge

If you are the primary caregiver for someone with memory loss, you know what a difficult and sometimes overwhelming challenge that can be. Have you been looking forward to a family vacation, but just don't have someone who will care for mom or dad the way you do? Would you like to take some time away from the caregiver role to recharge and relax a bit – but feel guilty about leaving your loved one?

Realizing that more and more people are dealing with these issues, *The Hearth at Lockwood Lodge*, the memory care assisted living program at Ashlar of Newtown, has designed a unique *Respite Care Program* that will give caregivers the time they want and need to regroup, both emotionally and physically. You can leave your loved one in excellent hands, knowing that he or she will be happy and safe while you enjoy time for yourself and your family.

A minimum amount of two weeks is required for a stay at *The Hearth*. All of the amenities and benefits of Lockwood Lodge are available to guests, including a private apartment, meals served in the lovely dining room, and the therapeutic recreational activities designed especially for *Hearth* residents.

For additional information about Lockwood Lodge and *The Hearth*, or to arrange for a personal tour, please call Yvonne Bachand at 203-364-3127. Lockwood Lodge at Ashlar of Newtown is located at 139 Toddy Hill Road.

Lunch & Learn Programs to be Held at Curtis House in Woodbury

On Monday, November 13, Masonicare's Fraternal Relations Department and Ashlar of Newtown co-sponsored a very successful Lunch & Learn program for the community at the Curtis House in Woodbury. The topic, "Walk the Walk and Talk the Talk: Insights Into the Aging Process" was presented by Laura Laskey, RPT, a physical therapist with Rehab Associates of Connecticut. A complimentary lunch was

served, and a representative from Connecticut VNA was on hand to provide free blood pressure screenings.

This was the first in a series of Lunch & Learn programs to be held at the Curtis House. The next Lunch & Learn program is scheduled for Monday, January 15, 2007, at 11:30 am. David Santoro, MBA, OTR/L, Director of Masonicare Rehabilitation, will present a program on "Fall Prevention," which will include a free balance screening for all who attend. For further information, please call 1-877-4-AGELESS (1-877-424-3537).

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We welcome our new brothers to the fraternity.

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 Clinton T. Potter *Ansantawae* 89
 Kuruc Gokhan..... *Center* 97
 Michael A. Chaffee *Day Spring* 30
 Domenic R. Costello *Daytime* 144
 Thomas G. Sulier *Daytime* 144
 Michael Grimmer *Friendship* 145
 Eric H. Hoy *Friendship* 145
 Andrew S. Warren..... *Friendship* 145
 Ghassan A. Hamze..... *Housatonic* 61

Roland C. St. Amond..... *Jerusalem* 49
 Mark J. McClanan..... *Oxoboxo* 116
 Joseph C. Rodorigo..... *Shepherd-Salem* 78
 Kevin E. Coons..... *St. Luke's* 48
 Christopher A. Glenn *Temple* 16
 Eric W. Gunther..... *Temple* 16
 Ruben Rivera *Temple* 16
 Carl H. Schoenwald *Temple* 16
 David C. Holcomb..... *Warren* 51
 Carl R. Johnson *Wylls-St. John's* 4

Congratulations

We congratulate these brothers
 who have achieved 50 or more years
 of Masonic membership.

Kenneth A. Barrett *Valley* 36
 Glenn A. Bogardus *Composite* 28
 David W. Chase..... *Estuary* 43
 Ernest Clifford..... *St. Paul's* 11
 Arthur Director..... *St. John's* 2
 Acil A. Fradenburg *Jeptha* 95
 Robert A. Grillo *Hartford-Lafayette* 88
 Warren L. Hawks *King Hiram* 12
 Ransom Hungerford *Granite* 119
 William E. La Fontaine II *St. John's* 6
 Alva Rossi..... *Manchester* 73
 Fridolf J. Rusgaitis..... *Shepherd-Salem* 78
 Jack Segal..... *Hiram* 1
 Thomas K. Sturges *King Solomons* 7
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Basically, the group "registers" with CT Freemasons as a **Masonic Fundraising Unit** and receives a media kit explaining the program, with ad rates, order sheets, and demographics of the CT Freemasons newspaper. Then the **Masonic Fundraising Unit** can go to current advertisers and have them "assign" that ad revenue to the registered Masonic Unit. The **Masonic Fundraising Unit** will receive 15% of the cost of those ads in a rebate check from CT Freemasons. It's free to register and no extra charge for the advertisers. The minimum paid to the **Masonic Fundraising Unit** is \$500. CT Freemasons will track the assignments and update the group.

This program will run throughout 2007, but once advertisers are assigned they cannot be changed. This is a good

way for our advertisers to know our readers and a great way for our readers to know our advertisers. As new advertisers join with CT Freemasons they will be available for assignment, too!

There are several restrictions. The registered unit is required to obtain two **new** advertisers who are not already in the January 2007 issue. Their revenue must be the equivalent of 2 business card size ads for one year and can combine with the value of assigned ads.

House ads, such as Masonicare, CT Freemasons Foundation or boosters are not available for assignment. Registered units who advertise can assign their own ads to themselves and receive 15% toward their rebate check. **Masonic Fundraising Units** are distinct and cannot combine their assignments.

Register now! Become a CT Freemasons **Masonic Fundraising Unit** and start scouring this issue for advertisers to assign to your unit! Keep your eyes open for new advertisers throughout 2007 who are not assigned. Request a registration form and details by e-mailing ads@ctfreemasons.net today.



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DID YOU VOTE?

There are 3 polls on the Grand Lodge website (www.ctfreemasons.net) asking visitors to the site to vote on several topics. Since the Semi-Annual Communication on October 21, the two polls have collected the opinions of 134 voters about the assessment increase and 86 voters about what a trestleboard is.

The results are in and the tally is:

What is a Trestleboard?

Contains Everything.....	81	.....	94.2%
Only a Calendar	3	.....	3.5%
Only the Master's Message.....	2	.....	2.3%

Are you in favor of the proposed increase in dues to support initiatives like the Paper and ECOMM?

Yes, I am in favor of the proposal.	90	.....	67.2%
No, I am not in favor of the proposal.	44	.....	32.8%

Now is your chance to vote on two new questions! The results of the new poll will be printed in the next issue of the CT Freemasons. Submit a question for future polls to news@ctfreemasons.net.



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New Haven DeMolays Help to Stuff-A-Bus

By DAVID O. STERN

Saturday, November 18 dawned bright, clear, and cool, and most teenagers would

have taken advantage of this perfect weekend day by playing soccer, basketball, or video games. But not New Haven Chapter, Order of DeMolay, for today was radio station WKCI-101 FM's sixteenth annual 'Stuff-A-Bus' – and once again the chapter was there to help. The popular KC-101 uses its airwaves to solicit donations of turkeys and non-perishable food for the Connecticut Food Bank, headquartered in East Haven. The results are stunning.



New Haven DeMolay participants for the sixteenth annual KC-101 'Stuff-A-Bus' in Hamden on November 18 pose with the chapter's own donation to the event: 393 pounds of frozen turkeys to help feed the hungry. Standing from left are Assistant Chapter Advisor Bill Rompe, DeMolays Joe Jones, Quincy Cutchin, chapter Master Councilor Ben Stern, and Chris Rompe; advisory Chairman David O. Stern, and advisor Dori Stern. Kneeling in the foreground in DeMolay Patrick Luce.

From Noon to 6:00 pm, New Haven Chapter members and advisors were at the Hamden Mart on Dixwell Avenue, helping. The young men helped donors unload cars, helped pack the turkeys and drygoods into refrigerated trucks and tractor trailers, and, not being satisfied just to help, used some of the chapter's own money to buy thirty-two turkeys to donate to the cause. (One statistician determined that the donation came to 393 pounds of

turkeys – and that did not count the weight of the advisors present.)

It was a long day, but there was time for fun – including being interviewed on the air by KC-101's Michael Maze. The work was worth it. In the nine hour collecting day, DeMolays helped harvest over 1,400 turkeys (the Food Bank needed to get a second refrigerated truck!) and 13,000 pounds of dry goods. It was a typical day of service for New Haven Chapter, Order of DeMolay. WKCI has asked us back again next year to help, and the chapter hopes to see you there.



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DISTRICT No. 5

(a) RW Richard R. Jones, Jr., DD • WB Theodore L. Hasty, AGM
(b) RW Robert C. Tatters, DD • WB Richard Arnold, AGM

A Haitian Degree comes to Sequin-Level No. 140

Submitted by TOM ACCUOSTI

On Thursday, November 16, the brothers from Connecticut's newest lodge, Universal Fraternity

No. 149, treated their brothers of Sequin-Level No. 140 to dinner and a play.

The "play" of course, was a well-

performed Master Mason degree, in which the officers of Universal-Fraternity assumed the chairs for the evening. Done in Connecticut form, the brothers added several small touches of Haitian influence, giving the onlookers a new and different perspective on the drama of Hiram. Fascinating as the degree was to watch, the event was even more impressive when one considers that in the last year, our new brothers not only had to learn ritual in Connecticut form, but also to give the degrees in English instead of the French customarily spoken in Haitian lodges.

Preceding the dinner was a short flag presentation at which the Haitian flag was presented and displayed with the collection of other flags at Sequin-Level. Afterwards, the brothers joined in singing the Haitian National Anthem.

A degree without dinner is like

a day without orange juice, and not content with displaying their ritual skills, several of the officers of Universal Fraternity showed up at Sequin-Level early in the afternoon to show off their culinary skills. They prepared several traditional Haitian dishes, and steaming pans of seasoned rice and beans accompanied various trays of chicken, pork, and seafood; more than enough to serve the 90 brothers in attendance for the ceremonies.

The evening ended with RWB James T. McWain, Grand Junior Deacon, and MWPGM George S. Greytak congratulating the members on their degree work. Certainly it was a wonderful example of how Freemasonry crosses the borders of language and culture.

For more pictures and information on the event, please check the website:

<http://masonictao.blogspot.com/2006/12/haitian-degree.html>



DISTRICT No. 6

(a) RW Albert B. Morelli, DD • WB Roger J. Letendre, AGM
(b) RW Dwight C. Mertens, DD • WB John DiCioccio, Jr., AGM

Scottish Night in Honor of Franklin J. Davis Jr.

By HERBERT E. GROMMECK

Good Intent Chapter No. 17, Order of the Eastern Star, of South Glastonbury, celebrated a Scottish Night to honor Past Patron and Past Associate Grand Marshal Franklin J. Davis Jr. OES Members dressed in their best Scottish outfits and enjoyed a delicious dinner of meat pie, potatoes, turnips, and peas prepared by Brother Fred Schmalz. Frank has been the Grand Representative to Scotland for the Eastern Star Jurisdiction of Connecticut for the last two years and gave his report during the meeting. Past Grand Matron Jean Anna Pudlo, who presented Frank with his Grand Representative commission to Scotland in 2004, was present to help celebrate this occasion.

Pictured on right are a few of the attendees (front row L to R): Russell W. McClelland, PGP; Worthy Matron Ruth U. Grommeck; Jean Anna Pudlo, PGM; Isobel Brousseau, PM; Worthy Patron Herbert E. Grommeck, PGP; Franklin J. Davis Jr., PP; and Frederick W. Schmalz, PGP.



And the walls come **TUMBLING** down



Pictured above: The team gets ready



Pictured right: Marje Chick, pinch hitter



Pictured right: DGM Greene in the on-deck circle



Pictured left: Strike three, Russ



Pictured right: Grand Lodge line-up



Going, Going, Gone!

CTCHIP Purple Pack is Operational!

By A. SCOTT DEAN

The innovative Purple Pack equipment has been implemented into CTCHIPSM and increased to one set for each of the nine Masonic Districts. There are several new components including DVD camcorders and DNA cheek swabs.

The centerpiece of the Purple Pack is the DVD-RAM camcorder that produces a mini-DVD. This featherweight DVD camera generates a digital photo and the recorded interview on a 3-inch mini-DVD that can be transferred from the camera directly to the DVD player. No more bulky VHS tapes! Audio/video quality control will be done at the camera. Our new camcorders are all identical units and insure the compatibility of operators from one unit to the next. Almost anyone can learn to set up and operate these

camcorders in a short time.

A new Purple Pack sticker labeling system, unique in design with the registration form on the back, has been successfully implemented. The registration forms will now be collected at the checkout station.

In addition, the packing of all the components has been reduced in size to 3 pieces of luggage plus a tripod bag. No longer will a truck be required to transport the equipment setup. This means that anyone with a motor vehicle can transport the equipment to an event.

The fingerprint and dental box contains newly designed fingerprint cards (purple, of course) and will hold 300 Toothprints[®] in addition to the Nitrile[®] gloves. The Nitrile gloves will now be supplied by CTCHIPSM as a material replenishment item. These gloves

will not stick to the toothprint wafers, as latex gloves did.

In addition, a new identifying item has been added – the cheek swab for DNA. Dentists and RDHs will handle the cheek swab collection as well as the dental impression following the Toothprints[®] protocol. Trained Connecticut Masons will also be able to collect DNA samples utilizing the cheek swab in the absence of a dental professional.

The camera box has 3 DVD-RAM camcorders along with the power cords and microphones. The simple system involves attaching the power cord to the camera and plugging in the microphone. Connect two wires and you're done! Each set has three camcorders and associated components, three backdrops, laminated name sheets (new), dry erase markers (new), and tripods.

Setup is accomplished in a half hour and allows more time for training on the equipment.

An addition to the Purple Pack sets is a set of six 18 x 24 inch signs with the CTCHIPSM long logo in full color to provide directions for people at an event. These signs, along with new 8-foot banners for each Purple Pack set, have been produced and color printed by Gerber Scientific Products of South Windsor, Connecticut and donated to CTCHIPSM.

A reminder to our readers that CTCHIPSM and Connecticut Child Identification ProgramSM are registered service marks owned by the CT Freemasons Foundation.

One more thing; Masonic volunteers are desperately needed to assist with CTCHIP events. Please make an effort to volunteer at one of the events listed on the calendar at www.ctchip.org.

The Purple Pack is Here!



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- Cheek swab
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The Connecticut Child Identification Program (CTCHIPSM) is sponsored by the Freemasons of Connecticut and by donations to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation.

The CTCHIP program is recognized by National Center for Missing and Exploited Children as one of the most complete child recovery and identification programs in America.

Visit www.ctchip.org

DISTRICT No. 7

(a) RW Edgar M. Valenti, DD • WB William V. Baroni, AGM
(b) RW Jean P. Maheu, DD • WB Ronald A. Pearl, AGM

Solar Lodge's "Traveling" Trailer

By ED SMITH

Solar Lodge No. 131 brought its traveling trailer around to several fairs this year selling homemade

pierogies and seafood and lobster bisque. Their homemade food was an outstanding hit, bringing satisfied customers back for seconds and

thirds. The brothers all had a great time and it showed to the fairgoers. Their proceeds will be used to buy new pierogi making equipment so they won't have to spend the 500 man hours making their specialties. For a small lodge of 54 brothers, of whom only 33 live in state, 20

brothers put forth the effort to make their venture successful. They got to know each other real well and had a blast doing it. Watch for the trailer next summer, on the road to up to 7 fairs, and give a toot or stop by for some of the best pierogies and bisque ever.



DISTRICT No. 8

(a) RW Frank E. Rich, Jr., DD
WB Gerald F. Cross, AGM
(b) RW Francis E. Rebman, Jr., DD
WB I. William Clark, AGM

By CHRIS WARE

At their famous "Cathedral Table Lodge" held November 17 at Wooster Lodge No. 10 in Colchester, attendees delighted in a delicious game dinner. Venison, squirrel, duck, ostrich, turkey, and bluefish were among the exotic choices. This 13-toast dinner was open to Masons and their guests and Wooster has found many prospective members from this feast. As WB Chris Ware put it, "We had everything from goose to moose." Brothers even came from outside the 8th District, knowing it was well worth the drive for great food and great fellowship.

DISTRICT No. 9

(a) RW Michael B. Dodge, DD • WB Gregory H. Paine, AGM
(b) RW William F. Lott, DD • WB Richard W. Ames, AGM

Shrine Entered Apprentice Degree Team

By PAUL WATSON

On September 9, 2006, Uriel Lodge No. 24 hosted the Shrine Degree Team, which portrayed the Entered Apprentice Degree. MWGM Charles B. Fowler, Jr., in recognition of the attendance of the Shriners' team, was wearing a fez and indicated his preference that all Nobles wear their fezes while the lodge was at labor. Twenty-five visiting Shriners were introduced. The following Nobles comprised the degree team: WM - RW Mike Hanis; SW - WB Ronald G. Ireland; JW - WB Lewis G. Bradley; Treasurer - RW C. Lawrence Schiller; Secretary - Scott E. Bates; SD - RW Jean P. Maheu; JD - James Furphy; SS - RW Robert Michalke; JS - Vinnie Matozzo; Chaplain - WB Frederick J. Kaeser; Marshal - WB Herbert E. Klei; Organist - RW Lewis Bither; Tiler - Howard Pinkham. The candidate, Erik Williams of Coventry, was met by RW Jean Maheu at the door and presented a Portal Lecture. The candidate was received in due and ancient form and obligated as an Entered Apprentice. The apron lecture was presented by WB Carl Snow, a sixty six year member of Uriel Lodge, the working tools by WB Lewis Bradley, the first section of the Stewards lecture by RW Robert Michalke and RW Lewis Bither, the second section Stewards lecture by WB Frederick J. Kaeser and the third section lecture was rehearsed by Most Worshipful Charles B. Fowler, Jr. The



candidate was exhorted to the charge of the degree by RW Richard Paquette. At the conclusion of the degree, the lodge was called to refreshment for a brief period for pictures.

Putnam Lodge No. 46 Fumigation Crowd



The East at Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock, was a little crowded at the lodge's December 2, 2006 Annual Communication. Of the 26 men in the photo, 24 hold the title 'Most Worshipful' – either a sitting or Past Grand Master – or 'Right Worshipful' – a permanent member of a Grand Lodge. And there were others who did not fit into the photo! So it's no wonder that retiring Worshipful Master Richard Booth (front row center, wearing a suspended square) looks a bit apprehensive as he stands between Connecticut MWGM Charles B. Fowler, Jr. (fourth from left) and Connecticut Prince Hall MWGM Dr. Floyd Bagwell prior to retiring for the traditional oyster stew lunch. Seven different Grand Lodges are represented.

Father-Son Masters



When WB Barry Kromer (front left) became Worshipful Master of Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock, on December 2, 2006, he had the pleasure of being welcomed into office by his son Geoffrey (front right), also a member of Putnam Lodge. This year, though, Geoff serves as Worshipful Master of Caleb Butler Lodge in Ayer, Massachusetts, so he has a bit of seniority on his dad this term.

Shown with the father-and-son Masters are (top row, from left) RW Michael B. Dodge, District Deputy 9A and secretary of Putnam Lodge No. 46, and RW Ernest A. Bean, District Deputy Grand Master of the 14th Masonic District of Massachusetts, in which Caleb Butler Lodge is located.

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The Valley of Norwich

15 Route 165, Preston, CT 06365

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

March 10, 2007 10:00 am
4°, 5°, 14° Lunch

April 7, 2007 10:00 am
16°, 18° Lunch

May 5, 2007 9:30 am
22°, 31°, 32° Dinner

May 17, 2007 6:30 pm
Annual Meeting Dinner

Robert J. Stika - Valley Secretary
Preston Masonic Center office (860) 889-4195
Email address: rstika@hotmail.com



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CT Masons Receive 33° Honors



(from left) Illustrious Brothers Gustaf R. Bodin, 33°, Jack H. Stevens, MSA, 33°, Howard D. Turner, MSA, 33°, and Joseph B. Cyr, MSA, 33° are the newly created Sovereign Grand Inspector(s) General and Honorary Members of the Supreme Council. Gustaf Bodin is a Past Grand Master of Masons in CT, and Jack Stevens, in addition to working in the Valley of New Haven has presided over all York Rite bodies. Howard D. Turner is Treasurer and has presided over the Lodge, Council and Chapter, in the Valley of Norwich and is 1st Lieutenant Commander of Connecticut Consistory while Joseph Cyr is Past Master of Harmony Lodge No. 42, Waterbury and past officer in the Valley of Waterbury.

CONGRATULATIONS Jeane & Joe



The Grand Lodge Holiday Party was a special time for the Grand Masonic family to get together. The December 3rd event, held at Ashlar Village, was particularly noteworthy with the announcement by Grand Master Fowler of the engagement of Jeane Jarusik to our own Past Grand Master Joe Howard. A round of applause greeted the surprised guests. A June wedding is planned. Congratulations to two of our favorite friends!

Wanted - To Buy:

For private museum collection -

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Masonic Coins,
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Masonic Jewelry
& Masonic Toys.

Will pay much more than dealers for select items

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Freemasons in ASIA Need:

Any Lodge Contents, Masonic Furniture & Regalia. Now filling a container for shipment to Grand Lodge of China in Taiwan.

Call us to arrange pick-up of items

Contact Gerry Dooley
P.O. Box 552 Bristol, CT 06010
(860) 559-4948

Thank you to the many Brothers and families who have responded to these ADS

New Grand Lodge website brings news and info

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut website, www.ctfreemasons.net, has undergone a tremendous change both in look and content. Since the October 21 Semi-Annual Communication, timely information has been available. Not only Grand Master Fowler's messages and calendar, but also the monthly accounts of the Grand Chaplain and Grand Historian have been updated regularly.

Recent news has included the demolition of the former offices of the Grand Lodge, as well as the Cornerstone Ceremony at the new offices of The Masonic Charity Foundation. Lodge flyers announcing set-back tournaments, Table Lodge dinners and dances, some of which might not have been published in the *CT Freemasons*, have all appeared.

The recently compiled Policy and Procedures Manual is viewable in pdf format and easily downloaded and printed, as foretold in the November

issue of *CT Freemasons*. Now ceremonies for installations, balloting, funerals, and Table Lodges are available to all, as well as suggestions for by-laws and introductions.

WeblinksforConnecticut Masonic appendant bodies are easily found. And every Grand Lodge in the United States is also listed with their home page a click away. "Medals and Awards" has a description and image of some of the honors bestowed by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

The Deputy Grand Master has access to update his calendar and, like the Grand Master's calendar, is not limited to the current month. Similar lodge calendars can be found in the directory of lodges. With the theme "No Lodge Left Behind," the Grand Lodge website has a template for every Connecticut lodge to notify their brethren of activities. It is believed



Connecticut is the only Grand Lodge to offer each of its constituent lodges an individual website.

Many potential members have been attracted by information about Freemasonry and they can easily inquire and be directed to an appropriate local lodge. The Electronic Membership Request committee keeps a log, tracking

from the initial query to conclusion. This important feature of the Grand Lodge web site handles eight to ten responses each week.

More features will be added, such as issues of *CT Freemasons*, to make the Grand Lodge of Connecticut website vital, dynamic, and informative. Check it out at www.ctfreemasons.net.

MASONICARE TV SPOT – “THE NEW OLD” – FEATURES SEVERAL RESIDENTS OF THE CONTINUUM

Have you seen the TV advertisement highlighting Masonicare and the vitality and spirit of today's older adult? It debuted in November and is now airing on several TV channels throughout Connecticut. As the leading provider of healthcare and retirement living communities for seniors, Masonicare's goal is to spread the word about the continuum and show that the organization understands and respects that remarkable spirit.

The ad features 38 residents, one employee and one child of an employee. The TV film crew spent two full days at Masonicare in Wallingford, filming in various spots around the campus. Made by merging several quick scenes and cuts from the footage, the

commercial is energetic and fresh – with viewers noticing something new and intriguing each time the ad is seen.

All residents were invited to a special cast party complete with wine, hors d'oeuvres, and of course, a red carpet. Every "star" was presented with a chocolate Oscar and either a DVD or VHS of both the 30 and 60-second versions of the commercial.

Margaret Steeves, Masonicare's Vice President for Marketing, thanks everyone involved in the filming for making the ad a resounding success. "This TV commercial is a tribute not only to the residents who participated in the filming, but to every senior who enjoys life by making the most of each day."



Notes from the Valley of New Haven: Petitions and Winter Picnics

By **MICHAEL L. CASTROLL**

Happy New Year to all from the Valley of New Haven! All of us in the Valley hope you enjoyed a very happy, healthy, and prosperous holiday season.

Now it is time for us to get back to labor, and labor we must. Our first stated meeting will occur on Monday evening January 22 at 7:30 PM. One week later, on January 29, the Valley of New Haven will confer the Fourth Degree. The Valley degree schedule will run through the end of March, so stay tuned for dates of upcoming degrees.

However, it's never too early to get petitions signed and in – get involved. Those faithful brothers know the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction membership program provides that every Sublime Prince who recommends five candidates will receive a black cap as your reward. Let's make

our secretary order more black caps! And remember: petitions for the Spring Class must be in by the middle of February.

Speaking of February, wouldn't that be a nice time to have a Winter Picnic? Don't laugh! This one features clowns, puppets, games, and prizes. Your favorite picnic food will be served with no ants, and you're invited to top it off by making your own sundae. This is an event opened to kids of all ages on February 17, from 1 PM to 4 PM at the New Haven Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue.

All you have to do is make a reservation with Ill. Jack H. Stevens, 22 Tra-Mart Drive, Uncasville, CT 06382. You may call him at (860) 848-7586 or e-mail him at <Stevensjh33@aol.com>. And there's no charge for a great time!

See you in the Valley!

ATTENTION MASONS

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

THE VALLEY OF NEW HAVEN

Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven

January 29, 2007	4th Degree
February 12, 2007	8th Degree
February 26, 2007	14th Degree
March 5, 2007	16th Degree
March 19, 2007	18th Degree

Contact Vern Cleaves at (203) 269-0336 or any member of the Valley.
We would like to know how many will be attending
so we may have some refreshments.

Lodge Secretaries' Round Table

*Join the Grand Secretary for a
general discussion with ideas and tips.*

**Sunday, January 7
2:00 pm**

Walker Conference Room, Masonic Healthcare Center

From the desk of David R. Blythe, Sr., Valley Secretary: Valley of Hartford News

On November 21, 2007 the Valley of Hartford, AASR presented the 19th, 31st, and 32nd Degree on Consistory Day for our latest group of candidates seeing to become Scottish Rite Masons. With the presentation of these degrees, John F. Bailey, Justin A. Duffy, Jeffery A. Flynn, James R. Hindman, Duane L. Hinkson, Melvin Johnson, Geronimo S. Mamaclay, John Tettman, Gary Rosansky, Gary Waterhouse, and George A. Zack all have completed their requirements to be classified as 32° Degree Scottish Rite Masons. Each of these members were part of the Fall Class of 2006 which was named in honor of Ill. Charles B. Fowler, Jr., 33°, Grand Master of the State of Connecticut.

SPRING 2007 SCHEDULE:

February 22

Candidate Information Night and Public Degree

March 1

Presentation of 4° and 8° by Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection

March 15

Presentation of 14° by Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection

March 29

Presentation of 15° (F) & 16° (V) by Hartford Council, Princes of Jerusalem

April 12

Presentation of 18° by Cyrus Goodell Chapter of Rose Croix

April 22

Presentation of 27°, 31°, and 32° on Consistory Day by Nathan Hale Consistory

May 3

Valley of Hartford Annual Meeting

May 11

Workers Appreciation Night

Public Degree /

Candidate Information Night

On Thursday, February 22, the Valley of Hartford will present a Public Degree at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, 207 Deming Street, Newington, for a class of new candidates on information night. On that night the Valley of Hartford will be presenting the Abe Lincoln public degree.

All Master Masons wanting to learn more about the Scottish Rite, also their ladies and current Scottish Rite members, are welcome to attend. A social will follow at the Sphinx Shrine facility. For more information contact the Valley Secretary at the Scottish Rite offices: (860) 666-0712

The Valley of Hartford now has a website that contains all the basic up-to-date information you need on upcoming activities and the schedule of degree dates for the coming 2006-2007 Valley year.

Valley of Hartford Website:
<http://www.way2go-home.com/VHtfdAASR.html>



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE

The Valley of Hartford

207 Deming Street, Newington, CT 06111

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

Where the principles of Masonry and Brotherhood
are taken to the next level via live theatrical
presentations in often historical costumes.

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

If you are a Master Mason, in good standing, you can become a member of the Scottish Rite and Experience the fullness of the Scottish Rite Degrees

Our next class is being formed up now and will start on February 22, 2007

For more information
Please contact David Blythe Sr., 32°, Valley Secretary, at the Scottish Rite Valley
Office (860) 666-0712, or at Email address: sect@snet.net

For up-date information regarding us...
Visit the Valley of Hartford website @ <http://www.way2go-home.com/VHtfdAASR.html>

Craft at Labor...

Entered Apprentice Degree

January 3, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, Sojourners Degree Team

January 4, Friendship No. 145, Manchester

January 16, St. Albans No. 38, Branford, 6:15 dinner, Inspection

January 16, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 dinner

January 16, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, Inspection

January 27, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock

Fellowcraft Degree

January 17, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven

January 22, Washington No. 70, Windsor

Craft at Refreshment...

January 2, Tuesday, St. Albans No. 38, Installation

January 3, Wednesday, Union No. 5, Stamford, 7:30, Installation at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 20 Forest St, Stamford

January 3, Wednesday, King Solomons No. 7, Woodbury, Honor Past Masters Night

January 3, Wednesday, Hiram No. 18, Installation

January 3, Wednesday, Corinthian No. 103, Memorial Service

January 3, Wednesday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, 6:30, paid up members dinner

January 5, Friday, Wednesday, Wooster No. 10, Installation, Dinner at 7:00

January 5, Friday, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, Installation

January 6, Saturday, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, Installation

January 6, Saturday, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 4:00, Installation, Dinner following installation

January 6, Saturday, Widow's Son No. 66, Branford, 5:30 Installation, Reception to follow

January 6, Saturday, Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, 6:00, Installation

January 6, Saturday, Shepard-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 6:00 Installation

January 6, Saturday, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, Installation,

January 6, Saturday, Madison No. 87, Madison, 3:00 Installation

January 6, Saturday, Orange No. 143, Milford, a2:00 Installation

January 7, Sunday, Somerset-St. James No. 34, 2:00 Installation

January 7, Sunday, Fayette No. 69, Ellington, Dinner at 3:00, Installation at 5:00

January 7, Sunday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, 2:00 pm Installation

January 8, Monday, St. Peters Lodge No. 21, New Milford, 6:30. Blue Lodge Council

January 8, Monday, Washington 70, Windsor,

Presentation Robert O'Decker's Trip to the Holy Land

January 9, Tuesday, Fayette No. 69, Ellington, Annual Meeting

January 10, Wednesday, Ark No. 39, 8:00 Installation

January 15, Monday, Wylly's-St. John No. 4, West Hartford, Program put on by DeMolay

January 15, Monday, Hartford-Lafayette No. 88, South Windsor, Installation

January 18, Thursday, Friendship No. 145, Manchester, 7:30 Table Lodge, MWGM Charles B. Fowler, Jr., Speaker

January 25, Thursday, Friendship No. 145, Manchester, Masters Club Meeting, Grinders

January 27, Saturday, 6:30, St. John's No. 2, Middletown, Blue Lodge Council Table Lodge

January 30, Tuesday, Moriah Lodge No. 15, Brooklyn, 7:00 Dinner, Blue Lodge Council

January 30, Tuesday, Composite No. 28, Suffield CT, Blue Lodge Council

Traditions are important.

Change—simply for the sake of change—has no benefit.

By **PAUL TAPPENDEN**

However, for over a decade now our numbers have been falling and yet we still get people bleating "Don't change a thing! That's not how it's done! We don't do it that way!" They claim they are defending the fraternity by maintaining the traditions.

Are they really defending Masonry? Or are they purely and blindly hanging on to "their way" of doing things without stepping back and looking at the consequences?

"Change" has continually been taking place in our fraternity. Any Past Master will gladly tell you what he "started" in his year. Have these not all been changes? Were they not done with the good of the lodge at heart? Of course, they were! Let's look at some examples.

In the past, the lodge used to have to be opened on the EA degree then the FC degree and then finally on the MM degree. After all the business was done they would then have to close on the MM degree and then close on the FC degree and then finally the EA Degree. Does any body see the point of that? Obviously, somewhere along the line, someone had the backbone to say "Hey, this serves no purpose," and now we open on the relevant degree for the evening. *A simple change serving a logical purpose.*

If you read our ritual books, it is the Master who is supposed to give nearly all the lectures and charges to the candidate. We no longer do this. *Another change!* Probably because someone somewhere said that it would be better for the candidate, and the lodge, if the workload was

shared. This way the candidate may get the quality of presentation he deserves.

I will bet anybody, at some point in the past the Senior Deacon used to bring the candidates all the way from the Senior Warden in the West to the Master in the East during the degree work; now we take a short cut and go to the altar. *That is also a change.*

At some point in time, not even the coveted 'ritual in code' was handed out. The candidate had a mentor and he had to learn everything from memory. *Again change.*

Someone very proudly told me that in "his year" he had all the ashtrays removed from the lodge and made it a no smoking place. Ben Franklin was a smoker—would he have approved this? Hmmm. However, for us at "our" time, this

was a good *change*.

In recent history, someone removed the words 'free born' from the ritual. This makes sense because in this country all men are now free born. It is no longer relevant.

This list could go on and on. When done for the right reasons *change* is a natural evolution for survival. As long as we keep the tenets and principles of Masonry at the core, we will always be an *Ancient* (but alive) Fraternity with a rich history to proudly look back on. As long as we keep our morals and standards high, we will continue to be the fraternity of George Washington and Ben Franklin — and of the future.

The main reason people leave is *not* because of what it costs,

See **TWO KINDS OF FOOL**, page 25

Ashlar of Newtown Teams Up with Rehab Associates of Connecticut

Ashlar of Newtown, now providing care to patients in both our Inpatient and Outpatient Rehabilitation programs." Ashlar of Newtown's Short-term Rehabilitation program provides a broad range of on-site rehab services to help individuals recover their highest level of functioning following surgery, illness or injury. With this partnership, Ashlar of Newtown

Lunch & Learn Series at Senior Center Kicks Off in February

Jean Pudlo, Masonic Community Services Representative and David Santoro, MBA, OTR/L, Director of Masonicare Rehabilitation, have developed a series of Lunch & Learn Wellness Programs to be held at the Monroe Senior Center in 2007.

The six part series will begin with a program entitled "Fall Prevention" scheduled for **Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at 11:30 am** David Santoro will provide tips and discuss various safety measures and devices that can prevent falls in the home.

Other programs will feature timely topics such as Living With Arthritis and Improving Memory, and will include a complimentary lunch for all attendees. Jean and David are working with Sharon Gesek, Director of the Monroe Senior Center, to finalize the schedule and topics for the remainder of the series.

The full schedule of Lunch & Learn programs to be held at the Center will be published in the February issue of Freemasons Newspaper. If you would like information about the February 20 program or are interested in attending and would like to reserve a space, please call Jean Pudlo at 1-877-4-AGELESS (1-877-424-3537).

Masonicare's Lunch & Learn Programs in Wallingford & North Haven in January

Lunch & Learn Programs are sponsored by Masonicare as a public service to the community and are organized through Masonic Community Services. The programs are free, but attendees are asked to make a reservation, as a complementary lunch is provided. If you are interested in attending or would like to learn more about the seminars, please call toll free 1-877-4-AGELESS (877-424-3537) for additional information or to make a reservation.

The programs scheduled for January are listed below:

- **Stress Management**
Thursday, January 11, 2007, 11:30 am
Masonic Healthcare Center auditorium
By Javier Salabarria, MD, Psychiatrist and Medical Director
Geriatric Medical/Psychiatric Program
Masonic Healthcare Center
- **What is Low Vision? How Do I Find Help?**
Thursday, January 25, 2007 at 11:30 am
North Haven Memorial Library
By Jean Festa, MPH, OTR/L
Director, Outpatient Rehabilitation Services and
Audiology & Low Vision
Masonic Healthcare Center

can now call upon the additional expertise of the licensed, caring and experienced therapists and professionals affiliated with Rehabilitation Associates of Connecticut. Located in Fairfield, Rehabilitation Associates was established in 1979 and provides services to individuals from towns in and around Fairfield County.

Joel Feigenson, MD, a noted neurologist and rehabilitation physician in Fairfield County, is the program's medical director. He noted, "This partnership gives anyone needing comprehensive physical, occupational, or speech therapy even more reason to choose Ashlar of Newtown for their rehabilitation and recovery."

A new treatment space is being created directly on the rehab unit so that patients and staff can make the best use of treatment time and families can observe the progress of their loved ones.

In addition to the inpatient program, comprehensive physical, occupational, and speech therapy are now being offered to individuals

on an outpatient basis as well. The outpatient program provides continuity of care for individuals needing additional outpatient therapy following discharge, and also makes comprehensive outpatient therapy available and convenient for individuals coming directly from the community.

Ashlar of Newtown's Short-term Rehabilitation program provides therapeutic, medical, and holistic support for its patients. It promotes patient and family education and encourages the family's involvement in the patient's rehabilitation therapy. In addition to its core therapies of physical, occupational, and speech therapy, treatment can include specialties such as music and recreation therapy, relaxation and stress reduction activities, spiritual services, and counseling.

If you'd like additional information about the inpatient or outpatient rehabilitation programs at Ashlar of Newtown, call 1-203-364-3211 or visit Masonicare's web site at www.masonicare.org.

2007 Florida Nutmegger Reunions Slated

Bro. Charles B. Fowler Jr., Most Worshipful Grand Master of Connecticut, will be attending three Nutmegger Reunions to be held in Florida in late January and early February 2007. Sponsored by Masonicare, the annual reunions are excellent opportunities for Connecticut Masons and the Masonic family who are living in or visiting Florida to socialize and get an update on the latest happenings at Masonicare.

The dates and locations of the reunions are as follows:

January 30 - Marion Dunn Lodge in Ocala

January 31 - Hilton Garden Inn in Fort Myers

February 1 - Timber Green Country Club in New Port Richey

The Ocala reunion will be hosted by MW Brothers Norman L. Getchell and John Gonsalves, and RW Brothers Gus D. Lawrence and John Blennerhassett will host

the New Port Richey reunion.

The reunions will include a luncheon and informative programs about Masonicare presented by Brother Steve McPherson, President and CEO of Masonicare, and RW Brother Carl Anderson, Vice President for Fraternal Relations for Masonicare.

The cost of the luncheon is \$10 per person. In addition, if any brother believes he is eligible for a fifty-year pin and would like to attend one of the reunions to receive his pin, please contact Brother Norman Getchell 1-352-861-4330 or Brother Carl Anderson at the number below.

Invitations were mailed in late December. If you would like additional information about the seminars or to make a reservation to attend, please contact Brother Carl at 1-877-424-3537 or at 1-203-679-6917 or email canderson@masonicare.org.

Letters to the Editor



Corinthian Lodge No. 103, A.F.&A.M.

P.O. Box 63
North Haven, Connecticut 06473

As a side note, I think the paper is doing a great job with the articles and pictures and wish all of you at the paper much success in the future. The paper is really the public face of the Grand Lodge and in many cases is the only contact many brothers have with the Grand Lodge. It is also important for the public to see the many and varied Masonic activities that take place in our state all the time.

Thank you for all your efforts.

Nick Iannone
Junior Warden
Corinthian Lodge #103

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Thank you, Nick. Good Luck on your Scotland trip! (see page 30)

11-26-06

T

Mr. Stephen Thal

Great Magazine!
Can this be down-
loaded on the internet?

It would allow my
computer to read
the articles -

Thanks. Happy
Holidays to all

W+P

Stephen Thal

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Thank you, Stephen. We've brought you a disc with pdf's. We hope to be able to post all the coming issues of *CT Freemasons* on the Grand Lodge website www.ctfreemasons.net.

Two Kinds of Fool...

(continued from page 23)

but they feel it simply is NOT WORTH what they pay. Like any "want" in life, you will find the money if you really "want" to belong/join. If people thought it was worth being a Mason they would find the money. We need to make our lodges WORTH something. We need to make them a place where a man wants to be at the end of the day. If he was getting the fellowship and brotherhood we boast about he would want to continue his membership. People join rugby clubs, football clubs and gyms to get the camaraderie they used to get in the Masons — and pay a much higher cost to belong.

Masonry is not going to the dogs, the teachings and moral codes have **not changed**. What Masonry stands for has **not changed**. What it means to be raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason has **not changed**. And, quite frankly, the way we are *supposed* to act towards each other has **not changed**.

I am proud to be a Mason. I am Proud to be part of an ANCIENT craft and be a member of the fraternity of George Washington and Benjamin Franklin.

I look back at our history with pride. I look forward to our future with hope and open eyes.

Ken Wade...

(continued from page 7)

When first I visited old Brainard, then on Green Street in New London, Ken was the first to greet me and the last to bid me good night. As he showed me the way to the highway he pointed across an open lot — on the other side was Union Lodge No. 31. Today the two lodges meet independently in Niantic, courtesy of Bay View Lodge. Ken fears that if there is a merger among the three lodges, the traditions that make each lodge so distinct will disappear.

Although there is a constant evolution within our fraternity, there is one thing that remains constant, and that is our survival instinct. Ken Wade personifies our ability to survive.

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Leslie R. Bittner	Silas Deane 147
John A. Bouchard Sr.	Amos Beecher 121
Matthew P. Campione	Meridian 77
Daniel D. DeYeide	Union 5
Roger F. Friend	Seneca 55
Joel P. Garofalo	Union 40
Francis E. Gorman	Composite 28
Fred R. Hennig	Bay View 120
George L. Howe	Liberty-Continental 76
Louis L. Huffmire	Composite 28
Lyle L. James	Ansantawae 89
Alfred G. Jarvis	Wyllys-St. John's 4
Raymond E. Lynn	King Solomons 7
Paul L. Matejek	King Hiram 12
Cecil C. May	King Hiram 12
Richard H. Meiklem	Somerset-St. James 34
John Molochko	Corinthian 104
Eric A. Osterling Jr	St. John's 2
Theodore O. Palm	Temple 16
Frederick J. Pistel Jr.	Valley 36
Harold E. Rathbun	Coastal 57
John Rogers	Fayette 69
Earle P. Rowe	Union 5
John R. Russo	Wooster 79
Edmund Schneider	Composite 28
Gustave G. Schneider	Ashlar-Aspetuck 142
Reed F. Shields	Jerusalem 49
Aaron Sisitzky	Washington 70
George N. Stamboulis	Hartford-Lafayette 88
Joseph W. Steele Jr	Somerset-St. James 34
Albert A. Stoffan	Silas Deane 147
Everett B. Sylvester	Corner Stone-Quinebaug 122
Ernest J. Trueman	Uriel 24
Ernest E. Weeks	Uriel 24
Martin L. Willis	Somerset-St. James 34



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January 2007

Date	Lodge-Event-Location	Attire	Public	Time	Dinner
January 1, Monday	HAPPY NEW YEAR				
January 2, Tuesday	Washington Commandery 1 KT	U	N	7:30 pm	REF
January 3, Wednesday	Pythagoras 17 RAM, Royal Arch Mason degree	F	N	7:30 pm	N
January 3, Wednesday	CT Freemasons Foundation, Steve McPherson's Office	C	N	3:00 pm	N
January 4, Thursday	Washington Lodge No. 70, Installation Rehearsal	C	N	7:00 pm	N
January 5, Friday	Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, Installation of Officers	F	SP	7:00 pm	REF
January 6, Saturday	Washington Lodge No. 70, Installation of Officers	F	SP	6:00 pm	Y
January 8, Monday	Washington Lodge No. 70	S	N	7:30 pm	REF
January 9, Tuesday	Wolcott 1, R&SM, Roslyn Chapel Presentation	S	N	7:30 pm	REF
January 16, Tuesday	Washington Commandery 1 KT	U	N	7:30 pm	REF
January 18, Thursday	Friendship No. 145, Manchester, Table Lodge	F	N	6:30 pm	Y
January 21, Sunday	Committee on Sessions	C	SP	2:00 pm	N
January 22, Monday	Washington Lodge No. 70, Fellowcraft Degree	F	N	7:30 pm	REF
January 23, Tuesday	Grand Lodge Officers Meeting	C	N	5:30 pm	Y
January 27, Saturday	District Deputy Training , Ashlar Village	S	N	8:00 am	N
January 27, Saturday	Committee on Awards, Ashlar Village	S	N	1:00 pm	N
January 28, Sunday	Nutmegger Reunions, Travel Day	C	Y	8:00 am	N
January 29, Monday	Nutmegger Reunions, Travel Day	C	Y	8:00 am	N
January 30, Tuesday	Nutmegger Reunions	S	Y	8:00 am	N
January 31, Wednesday	Nutmegger Reunions	S	Y	8:00 am	N

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Masonicare Employees Participate in "School at Work" Program

At a special graduation ceremony held recently in the auditorium of Masonic Healthcare Center, sixteen Masonicare employees celebrated their successful completion of the School at Work (SAW) educational program offered by Masonicare. Coworkers, family members and friends joined the graduates to recognize their hard work and the time they spent to complete the 8-month course.

The SAW program, "Building a Career in Healthcare," is made possible by grants from the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. It's designed to help employees, in the convenience of the workplace,

improve basic skills and increase their knowledge of the healthcare field. Grant money was received from The South Central Connecticut Workforce Alliance, who subsidized the program at Masonicare and four other healthcare facilities.

The 16 employees attended classes on their own time and received an educational stipend upon completion of the course.

Hilda DeLucia, Director for Employee Development and Service Excellence for Masonicare, facilitates the program and serves as the job coach. Ms. DeLucia said Masonicare is committed to offering their employees opportunities to advance their job and educational opportunities.



Standing L to R: Facilitator Hilda DeLucia, Ruth Calabrese, Lynne Lombardi, Brenda Brunell, Olivia Kern, Elzbieta Mucha, Barbara Zielinski, Karen Rudewicz, Jaye Richello, Amy Pelkey, Phil Searcy, Elena DeLeon, Sheila Ellison, Jayne Church and Susan Vaillancourt. Seated L to R: Alice Burney, Instructor Nancy Wailonis, and Eddie Whitfield.



Front Row: L to R: WB Jon-Paul Venoit, President of Ashlar Village; Elizabeth Bunnell (Ashlar Village Resident who named Notch Hill); Hilde Sager, Director of Marketing for Ashlar Village; Bro. David Gessert, Chairman of the Ashlar Village Board of Directors; Back Row: L to R: Bro. Stephen McPherson, Masonicare's President and CEO; Rev. and Bro. Donald Allen, AV Chaplain; Bro. Charles B. Fowler, Most Worshipful Grand Master; Bro. Don Griffith, AV Association President; Bro. Howard Orr, Chairman of the Masonicare Board of Trustees; Gerry Menhke-Architect from EGA, and Norm Fournier of CE Floyd, Contractor

Construction Begins on Notch Hill Apartments at Ashlar Village

After more than two years of planning, numerous approvals, and hard work on the part of many people, a much-awaited groundbreaking ceremony was held in November to celebrate the start of construction on the new Notch Hill Apartments at Ashlar Village.

The continuing care retirement community is now marketing the 78 comfortable, spacious apartment homes, which are the second phase in the expansion plan. The lovely apartments, with many enhanced amenities, are

being situated to take advantage of the 168-acre campus' natural beauty. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2007.

Ashlar Village President WB Jon-Paul Venoit, who thanked many people by name for their vision and strong support of the expansion, said, "It is certainly an exciting time for Masonicare, the Masonic family, residents, staff, those looking forward to the completion of their future homes, and for the community at large."

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Grand Monarch Visits Gaylord Hospital



Grand Monarch of the Supreme Council, Grottoes of North America Richard L. Faust of Scituate, Massachusetts takes a spin on an adaptive golf cart during a recent tour of Gaylord Hospital, Wallingford. The cart was paid for through a donation of Hejaz Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R. of greater New Haven. Among the members of the Grotto taking the tour were (from left): Prophets Christopher J. Earle; Robert Tombank, Past Monarch; Ronald M. Dworkin, Past Monarch and Hejaz secretary; Bruce Liebman, Past Monarch, Hejaz treasurer, and president of the New England Grotto Association; Stephen B. Goldberg, outgoing Monarch; Mr. James J. Cullen, president and CEO of Gaylord Hospital; Prophet Albert H. Ariail, incoming Monarch of Hejaz Grotto; and Mr. Todd Munn, therapist and director of Gaylord's Sports Association.

For full story and more photos visit www.ctfreemasons.net.

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Committees

Community Action: Regular schedule: Third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm. MHC.

Legal Matters: Regular schedule: Second Saturday of the month in the Walker Conference Room at MHC. Except in July and August when meetings are called only on necessary business.

Strategic Planning: Semi-regular schedule: Second Monday at 7:30 at MHC.

Fraternal Relations: Irregular schedule: Meets as needed utilizing e-mail and telephone to transact committee business.

Honors and Awards: Meets only once a year. The next meeting will be on 27 January following the District Deputy Training Session, probably about 1 pm. Nominations for the Pierpont Edwards Medal, the Service

to Youth Award and the David Wooster Medal should be in the hands of the Grand Secretary by January 15.

Archives Committee: Irregular schedule: No meetings are scheduled.

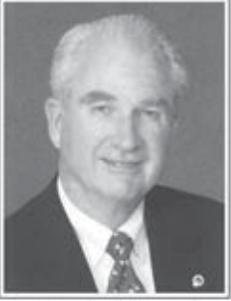
Publications Committee: Irregular schedule: No meetings are scheduled.

Sessions Committee: January 21, 2:00. Place to be determined. Masonicare Campus

Ritual and Ceremonies Committee: Semi-Regular Schedule, usually the second Tuesday. None scheduled yet for January.

CTCHIP Committee: Regular schedule: Third Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. on the Masonicare Campus.

Districts Committee: Next meeting, January 30, 7:00 pm, MHC Boardroom.



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Grand Master's Class 2006:

GM Fowler Honored by DeMolay State Chapter

By CARL EK

Connecticut DeMolay has hosted an annual Initiatory Degree class named in honor of the sitting Grand Master of Masons for more than a half century. The 2006 class honoring MWGM Charles B. Fowler, Jr. did not fit the mold of the classes of

prior years.

Yes, a pair of young men were initiated into DeMolay, pushing statewide net growth even higher. Yes, a large turnout of Grand Lodge officers accompanied the honoree – and among that suite were Senior DeMolays Art Carlstrom, Charlie Buck, Simon

LaPlace, Rev. David Williamson, and PGM Ken Hawkins. Yes, eleven Connecticut members of DeMolay International – Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III and Active Members Scott A. Bishel, Carl G. Ek, Russell W. George, and Eric J. Pogg; Deputy Members Gordon M. Candee, Deputy Executive Officer, and John G. Saitta; and Honorary Members Buck, Carlstrom, Dwight N. Dewey, and even honoree Fowler himself – were in the room for the class.

And yes, the guest of honor needed no introduction to DeMolay.

A Past Master Councilor in his native Washington state, Chuck served as State Master Councilor in 1956.

In addition to his Honorary Membership in DeMolay International, he is the recipient of the Legion of Honor, Cross of Honor, and Degree of Chevalier. Even the DeMolay Medal of Appreciation – usually presented to a Grand Master at his class – has been given to Chuck in recognition of more than half a century of service to DeMolay.

So what to do? Chuck Fowler provided the solution, taking a cue from his predecessor, MWPGM George S. Greytak, now the State Chapter Dad of Connecticut DeMolay. At Conclave 2006, Chuck announced that the DeMolay who was the sponsor of

the most new members initiated from that mid-July date to the November 11 Grand Master's Class would be awarded a DVD player that he would personally provide.

After the degree work and a number of congratulatory remarks to Bro. Fowler, he and executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III, assisted by State Master Councilor Harry E. Needham, IV, who presided at the degree, found two DeMolays who had sponsored three new members in the 4-month contest window. State Junior Councilor Josh Tenner, immediate Past Master Councilor of Edward W. Slade Chapter, Wallingford, and Nicholas Ferrigno, Senior Councilor of Sleeping Giant Chapter, North Haven, each left with a new DVD player – and a bigger chapter!

Bro. Fowler commended the State Officers on their excellent degree work, assisted in presenting his own Grand Master's pin and the Connecticut DeMolay pins to the class, and offered his appreciation to the organization that had gotten him started on the path that has led him to the position he now occupies as the head of Connecticut AF&AM Freemasons. The well-filled room gave standing evidence of their appreciation of this most special Senior DeMolay, the Grand Master.



At DeMolay Conclave 2006 in July, MWGM Charles B. Fowler, Jr. announced that he would personally reward the DeMolay who sponsored the most new members from that time until Grand Master's Class with a DVD player. Enjoying the moment at Grand Master's Class are (standing, from left) State Master Councilor Harry E. Needham, IV; Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III; Grand Master Fowler, holding the box, and awardee Josh Tenner, State Junior Councilor, from Edward W. Slade Chapter, Wallingford. Not shown is recipient Nick Ferrigno, the Senior Councilor of Sleeping Giant Chapter, North Haven, who also sponsored three new members and received a DVD player from MWGM Fowler. Seated on the level is State Senior Deacon Manny Peters; seated in the East is Bro. Paul Tappenden, Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge No. 70, Bro. Fowler's home lodge.

Amaranth member named Middletown Police Chief

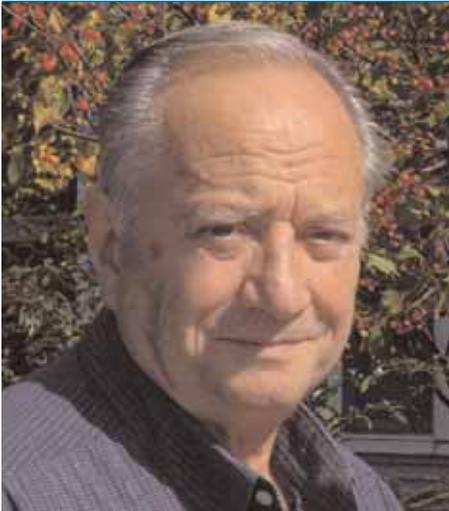
Lynn Baldoni, wife of Bro. Scott Bishel of Wooster Lodge No. 10, Colchester, and Past Grand Royal Patron of the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth, was sworn in as the Chief of Police of the Middletown Police Department during a "standing room only" ceremony in the Town Council Chambers on Monday evening, October 23.

Chief Baldoni joined the department in 1983, was promoted to sergeant in 1992, lieutenant in 1995, captain in 1999, deputy chief in 2004 and acting chief in July of this year. She is a member of Westwood Court No. 5, Order of the Amaranth in Meriden.

Ms. Baldoni is the fifth woman to hold a municipal police chief position in the state of Connecticut. During her remarks, she declared the accomplishment "the pinnacle of her career."

Lynn Baldoni is presented with her Chief's badge by her uncle, Robert Baldoni. Her husband, Scott Bishel (left) and cousin, David Terni, a Waterbury officer (far right) look on.





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Great River Park, East Hartford, Connecticut

Registration: 8:00 a.m.

The Walk: 10:00 a.m.

\$25 Walker Registration Fee

Proceeds from The Walk will benefit the **Quality of Life Funds of Masonic Healthcare Center, Ashlar of Newtown, and Connecticut VNA**. These funds provide important support to meet the needs of our residents and patients when no other funding source is available. Walkers may designate their support for the Quality of Life Fund of their choice. Registration materials will be available in January of 2007.

For more information, please contact **Eloise Mongillo** at The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut at **203-679-5585, 800-562-3952, or www.masonicare.org**.

