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Married to Masonry



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**Pierpont Edwards
Medal Awarded
to Steve Thal**



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**John Glenn
addresses
Scottish Rite**



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**MW Bill travels
to Pilgrim
Monument**

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**THE GRAND LODGE
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GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

William L. Greene - October 2007

DATE	TIME	DINNER	ATTIRE	LODGE/EVENT/LOCATION	
October 2	Tuesday	Y	F	Grand Lodge of Delaware	
October 3	Wednesday	Y	F	Grand Lodge of Delaware	
October 6	Saturday	8:00 a.m.	N	S	Master's Seminar
October 7	Sunday	1:00 p.m.	N	C	Learning Center Walk-A-Thon
October 7	Sunday	6:00 p.m.	Y	F	OES WGM/WGP Reception
October 9	Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Y	F	Brainard Lodge 102, Niantic, German Visitors, Fellowcraft Degree
October 11	Thursday	2:00 p.m.	N	S	CT Freemasons Foundation Meeting, Wallingford
October 12	Friday	5:00 p.m.	Y	F	Prince Hall Grand Lodge Banquet
October 13	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Y	F	Prince Hall Grand Lodge Annual Communication
October 14	Sunday	8:00 a.m.	N	F	Prince Hall Grand Lodge Installation
October 15	Monday	9:30 a.m.	N	F	Daytime Lodge 144, Stratford
October 15	Monday	6:00 p.m.	Y		Non-Shriner's Night, Sphinx Temple, Newington
October 16	Tuesday	11:30 a.m.	Y	S	MCF Donor Luncheon
October 18	Thursday	11:30 a.m.	Y	S	MCF Donor Luncheon
October 18	Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Y	F	Wolcott Lodge 60, Stafford, Awards Night
October 19	Friday	5:00 p.m.	Y	F	Daughters of the Nile Banquet
October 20	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	N	S	Grand Lodge Communication, New Haven
October 20	Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Y	F	Daughters of the Nile Program
October 21	Sunday	5:00 p.m.	Y	S	Past District Deputies Association Meeting, Ashlar Village, Wallingford
October 24	Wednesday	5:30 p.m.	Y	C	GLO Meeting, Wallingford
October 27	Saturday				State-wide Lodge Open House
October 27	Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Y	C	National Camping Travelers Turkey Roast, Mineral Springs, Stafford
October 28	Sunday	2:00 p.m.	REF	C	Amaranth Reception for Grand Master and Grand Commander, North Windham Lodge Hall
October 30	Tuesday	4:00 p.m.	N	S	Masonicare Board, Annual Corporate Meeting, Wallingford

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Married to Masonry: Women's Views

by Michael L. Castroll

The ritual of an appendant body asks the question, "which is the most powerful – wine, the king, or women?" Against this backdrop, the role of women in society – and in Freemasonry – has long been unsettled. We honor and care for the widows of our brethren, but our ancient craftsmen felt the need to keep women away from the workplace and at home, where they were to tend to the family.

When King Solomon ordered construction of the House of the Lord, he directed that only able-bodied men be employed. Is Masonry's prohibition of women as members related to our allegorical relationship to the building of Solomon's Temple?

In seeking to find out what today's woman senses about the craft she's not able to join, responses brought to light some common denominators, as well as some forthright surprises.

Sandie Greene is quite active in the concordant bodies. Even so, Sandie likes her supporting role, though she would rather Bill stayed home more often. Ann Stika-Clark, daughter of Deputy Grand Master Bob Stika, was impressed when Bob was in convalescence. She said, "Masonry is such a great support system." Bob's wife Sandy had a very different response. "I'm not a joiner, I'm a follower. Everyone thinks I am my husband and I'm not."

Then there's Melba (Mrs. Fred) Griffin, who said, "It was always a dark secret. But the men would dress up and I knew this was something special." Several years later she married Fred – who would initially let her think that the "G" in the center of his Masonic ring stood for 'Griffin' – and found out that all her positive suspicions were true. This concurs with the impression from the wife of a very active brother who felt Masonry offered "brotherhood/friendships, family values, commitment/dedication and service to others."

"What do I think my husband got/gets from Freemasonry?" repeated an unhappy wife. "Lots of stress from the politics and unethical behavior of some of the 'Masons.' Brotherly 'love' indeed! Disappointment and let down for all the effort he put into events to stimulate friendships that just didn't happen."

This lady continued, "Frustration, because he believes not many take the obligation seriously." Was there anything positive about Masonry this wife would offer? Fortunately, yes. "I've seen him handle the challenges and complications of a fraternity with dignity

and leadership – a quality he didn't know he had. For that, I am very proud of him ... in a way, perhaps the fact that it wasn't what he thought it would be like, was, in fact, good for him personally. He rose to the occasion. He has been able to handle conflict better and he values his real friends more."

"My husband worked his butt off for (his) lodge during his year as Master," she stated. "Precious time was spent away from home for a fraternity he holds dear to his heart. Unfortunately the organization he thought it 'was' and the organization that it 'is' are two different things."

The frustrations of leading a lodge are not left in the lodge building any more. Women hear the problems and the disappointments – and fewer of the successes – and draw conclusions from a perspective that often compares the reality against the ideal.

Citing his year as Master, this wife added, "As his wife, I was his sounding board, support unit, and assistant. Apparently, some Masons took umbrage and thought that I interfered too much. I think (husband) was taken back by that. We support each other and work as a team. I guess they are not used to that. I think that says a lot."

Perhaps this also demonstrates how many of today's Masons remain from the era when husbands and wives had different responsibilities in the family unit, and seldom did one cross over into the realm of the other. This is no longer the case in a society where both spouses generally work outside the home and share far more in the raising of a family. This kind of 'sharing' in a brother's Masonic duties may be seen – probably unfairly – as interference.

Hannah Schwartz, a New Haven schoolteacher with no fraternal status who has visited Masonic activities on only a couple of occasions has her own impressions about the craft. She thinks Masonic organizations should include women in more of their activities, and, perhaps, in the leadership of the lodges. "The ingredients that make the modern temple are a more spiritual and mental strength; the family unit is the strength for the modern temple."

This is contrasted with the thoughts of Lynn Scull, both wife and mother of brother Masons. "Masonry has given Russell, as well

as our son, Russell, II, a place to go where the women are not 'taking over' the leadership pool the way they are in Boy Scouting or other civic groups."

Lynn continued that her husband gained "insight into the nature of leadership, a chance for growth and opportunities for gaining self awareness... camaraderie with like minded men of all ages." She liked "knowing that Masonry means much to Russell and sharing that happiness that comes from knowing your spouse and best friend is a happy person."

Linda Accuosti thought it was a good idea for her husband, "to get out of the house once in a while and to associate with 'the guys,' especially seeing that most of the brothers ... tend to be honest, hard working, good natured, and good hearted young men."

At Tom Accuosti's installation as Master in 2006, he said "Back when I joined, I asked my friend Dave how much time I'd need to put into this, and he told me that I only needed to put in one or two nights a month. Dave, I think that Linda's going to be wanting a talk with you after the installation ceremony."

Women view our organization through the experiences of the men in their life. They are the ultimate critic of the successes and failures of Masonry. We can only hope for their comfort and support to allow us freedom to pursue our ideals. Their support, or lack of it, may be the true test of whether we are taking their good men and making them better.



Our Cover...

Our cover illustrates the intersection of two categories of obligation – the sacred devotion between man and woman, and the ardent attachment of men to Masonry. "Love, honor, and cherish" relate to both matrimonial and Masonic obligations, as do "faith, hope, and charity." Through the help of Sister Cindy Turner of Cakeworks, Etc., Hamden, and our talented graphic designers, we express gratitude for the indispensable women in a Mason's life.

Grand Master's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The autumn season is approaching and October is the month when God paints the landscape in a beautiful rainbow of colors.

I thank RW Wally Boice and MW Sam Walker for organizing the Grand Master's Golf Tournament and all the volunteers who worked the day. The weather could not have been better and I thank all the golfers who came out and supported this event. What a wonderful day it was.

When I was asked how ladies are involved in my Masonic life, I had to smile. Women have had such a big part of me being a Mason.

My Masonic career began 25 years ago when my daughter Susan joined Rainbow in Willimantic Assembly No. 26. Susan came home and wanted me to join "the Masons" so that I could attend her meetings. At that time a dad had to be a Master Mason to attend the meetings of Rainbow. My first reaction to her was that I wasn't eligible because I had thought that Masonry was a "labor union" for bricklayers. In addition, I wasn't really interested because I was a single parent who had a full time job, kids to care for, involved with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, dance lessons, Little League, and had a cute girlfriend named Sandie who lived in Salem, Massachusetts.

Well, Susan's grandmother, Mrs. Dorothy Brailsford, who lived in Rhode Island, heard about Susan joining Rainbow and was thrilled. Dorothy was a Past Worthy Matron of Eastern Star, a Past Royal Matron of Amaranth, and a member of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, so she knew Masonry and soon straightened me out on our fraternity.

She called WB Bob Stearns, Past Master of Eastern Star Lodge No. 44, who she knew through Amaranth, and he got me a petition and put me in contact with the Master of Uriel Lodge No. 24 in Merrow, close to my home. Soon I was a member of Uriel Lodge and put to work as a Steward. I also started working with Willimantic Assembly of Rainbow, and have to this day.

The young women of Rainbow and later the young men of DeMolay have been very special to me and a big part of my life. In the mean time, Sandie and I were married, and Dorothy got us involved with Climax Chapter No. 98, O.E.S, also meeting in Merrow. Shortly after, my daughter Donna was involved in a car accident and left a quadriplegic. Donna being over 18 years old was too old for the Shriners Hospital, but while talking with other parents with children in the same condition, I saw how wonderful the Shriners are and wanted to join them.

This brought about my membership in Scottish Rite. Then

came joining all the York Rite bodies, many other Masonic appendant groups, and with Sandie the Order of Amaranth, and the White Shrine of Jerusalem.

My lady Sandie is also fully involved in many of our Masonic Family groups. She is an untiring worker for all our Masonic Family and for our supported charities. Without her support, I do not think I could have become a Worshipful Master, never mind Grand Master. She helps with my calendar, points me in the right direction on the correct day, and makes sure I have a clean tux shirt to wear.

There are so many other women that have helped me so much in my Masonic life. You all know who you are, and I thank you so much for all your assistance. Yes, the ladies, young and old, have made a big impact on my Masonic career.

October 20 is the communication of our Grand Lodge. This is the day when we will elect those brothers who will lead our Grand Lodge for 2008-2009. In addition, we will receive certain committee reports and act on legislation changes that may be in order for consideration. This day is also the Annual Meeting of Masonicare Corporation. Remember, it is the duty and obligation of all lodges to be represented at this meeting. The meeting notice and proposed rules changes have been mailed to your lodge.

I hope that all lodges in Connecticut will participate in the statewide October 27 Open House. Please see more information on the Connecticut Freemasons website. If you have never visited the website, please do. You will find it very interesting and informative. Go to www.ctfreemasons.net and have fun.

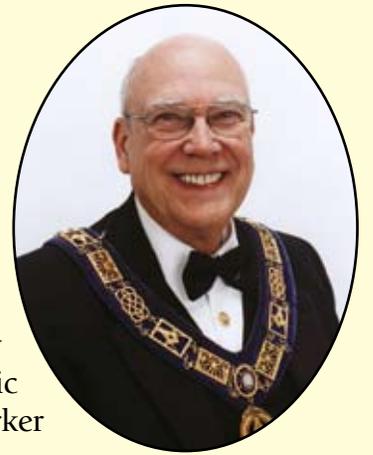
I am looking forward to seeing many of you in lodge, chapter, assembly, etc. meetings in the coming months.

God Bless you all,
God Bless our Masonic Family,
God Bless the United States of America.

Fraternally,



William L. Greene
Grand Master



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DeMolay Class
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Auditorium**

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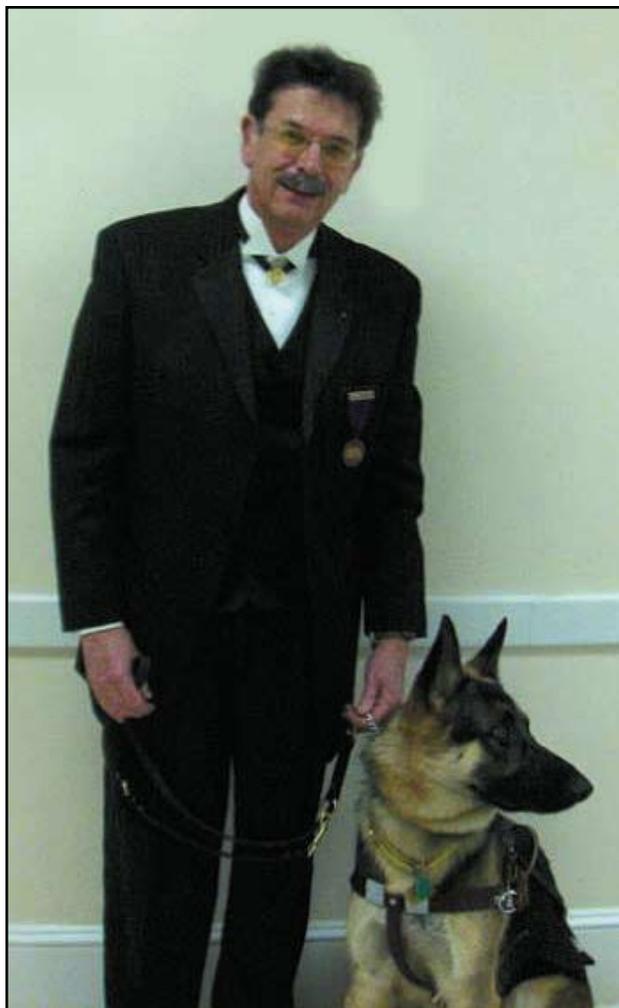
WB Stephen M. Thal, Revisited

by Michael L. Castroll

Very few brethren in this Grand Jurisdiction are unaware of who WB Stephen M. Thal is, but each has his own impression. "Isn't that the guy who accompanies his dog to lodge?" was one response. But spend a day with Steve, discussing everything from his life to our Fraternity. What emerges as a product of that day well spent brings to light who WB Steve Thal really is.

No, Hollywood hasn't called yet, but when then MW Grand Master Chuck Fowler presented Steve with the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service, is it any wonder that the brethren were moved to tears of joy to hear of Steve's accomplishments? The biography made one brother opine that if Steve were the standard by which Pierpont Edwards medalists were to be judged, most would have to be turned back in!

Bro. Steve, who was the subject of a Connecticut Freemasons story last year, keeps himself very busy. He is still involved in CRIS radio (Connecticut Radio Information Systems, which provides news and other programming for the visually impaired), where he performs a number of tasks. Besides sitting on the Board of Directors, he hosts his own radio talk show called 'Focal Point.' One of his main topics of concern is identity theft. He recently spoke to the state



WB Stephen M. Thal and his guide dog Thor.

convention of Registrars of Voters on that very subject. He has taken and completed third and fourth certification courses for the Federal Emergency Management Act. He sits on Connecticut's state FEMA board and chairs the Special Needs Committee. The Capitol Region's Commission also has use of Steve's talents. He recently hosted their Strategic Planning Committee's forum called 'Playing It Safe.'

The more Steve immerses himself in service to others, the greater the demands he needs to meet for himself. Steve recently acquired new hearing aids as Steve's hearing has declined in the last year. His longtime Fidelco companion Odin was retired, and he is adjusting with a new guide dog, Thor. Thor is Steve's fourth guide dog, and he arrived on April 15th. Fidelco and Steve have had a decades-long relationship, and it's a learning experience just hearing about it. Dogs and people are matched up very carefully. They train together before the match is officially made. Then, there is a period of probation. (Where have we heard that phrase used before?)

To top things off, Steve has advanced his computer skills. Oh, yes. He also trains docents at the Wadsworth Athenaeum. One begins to wonder if all of these activities reach a boiling point.

What role does Masonry play in his life? Steve was quick with a response. He said, "Masonry has offered me a lot. Some very good brothers pointed me in the right direction."

Steve sums up his life this way: "God



The Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze is presented to WB Stephen M. Thal by then Grand Master Charles B. Fowler, Jr. (right) at the March Grand Lodge Communication.

gives everyone a life to live. It's up to us how we want to live it. Disability should not be emphasized over talents and abilities."

Based on his talents and abilities and the way he has lived his life it is only appropriate to recognize Brother Stephen M. Thal with the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.

My Masonic Dues Card

I hold in my hand a little scrap of paper 2 1/4 x 3 1/2 inches in size. It is of no intrinsic worth; not a bond, not a check or receipt for valuables, yet it is my most priceless possession. It is my membership in a Masonic lodge.

It tells me that I have entered into a spiritual kinship with my fellow Masons to practice charity in word and deed; to forgive and forget the faults of my brethren; to hush the tongues of scandal and innuendo; to care for the crippled, the hungry, and the sick, and to be fair and just to all mankind.

It tells me that no matter where I may travel in the world, I am welcome to visit a place where good fellowship prevails among brothers and friends.

It tells me that my loved ones, my home, and my household are under the protection

of every member of this great fraternity, who have sworn to protect and defend mine, as I have sworn to protect and defend theirs.

It tells me that should I ever be overtaken by adversity or misfortune through no fault of my own, the hands of every Mason on the face of the earth will be stretched forth to assist me in my necessities.

And finally it tells me that when my final exit from the stage of life has been made, there will be gathered around my lifeless body friends and brothers who will recall to mind my virtues, though they be but few, and will forget my faults, though they may be many.

It tells me that and a great deal more, this little card, and makes me proud yet humble, that I can possess this passport into a society of friends and brothers that are numbered in the millions.

"Women Should Ask, Too"

Columbia University professor Mark Carnes, in his outstanding 1989 book, *Secret Ritual and Manhood in Victorian America* (published, ironically, by Yale), relates a story from 1868 of a young Mason who, responding to his wife's criticisms of his lodge involvement, "allowed his wife to accompany him on 'lodge business.' The woman learned to her amazement that on lodge nights her husband had been delivering medicine to sick Masons and their families, doing chores for widows and orphans, and taking books to a cripple."

The good news is that I know many brothers whose Masonic activities are occupied with such endeavors. Some spend countless hours advising and guiding teenagers in DeMolay, Rainbow, Scouts, and other youth activities

to make good choices in life. Some devote their time to transporting, serving, and comforting children who are burned or crippled or sick. Some spend days at ballparks and nights at schools, fingerprinting, photographing, videotaping, and taking dental impressions from children in the hopes of saving the relatively few (but precious) who are abducted each year. Some reach out to the elderly, either through personal contact or through the management of our Masonic care facilities and programs. Those are just a tiny fraction of Masonry's charitable endeavors. On top of those, many brothers help enrich the lives of their fellow men by portraying or teaching our time-honored Masonic rituals. And then there's the unglamorous but necessary work of fundraising,

planning and organizing everything.

To be sure, it's not all work. We do get together to have fun with our brothers. But for most active Masons, it's more than just fun. We stay active because we want to live out our Masonic obligations and become better than we were yesterday.

If you're the wife, son or daughter of a Mason, and wondering what your beloved man is doing when he goes to Masonic functions, I hope you'll ask. Sure, he can't reveal the details of our ceremonies, but he certainly can give you an idea of what it's all about. And be sure to ask if you, like the young woman in 1868, can accompany your Mason sometimes and see firsthand what our fraternity is all about.

On the other hand, if the only way that you know your husband or father is a Mason is because you see this newspaper come in the mail or because he wears a Masonic ring, then I hope you'll encourage him to get involved. Being an active Mason benefits him, it benefits his brethren, and it will ultimately benefit your family.



The apostle James wrote, "Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."

The craft uses the tools of the stonemason and the words of great orators and authors to reinforce that timeless Biblical truth.

The August mailing from the Southern California Research Lodge, F. & A.M., includes a story about a salesman who breaks down on a remote country lane. A farmer in the adjacent field comes over and they discover that they're "brothers." The salesman is concerned because he has an important appointment in town. "Don't worry," says the farmer. "You can use my car. I'll call a friend and get your car repaired while you go to the appointment."

Off goes the salesman, and a couple of hours later he returns. Unfortunately, the car can't be fixed until a part arrives the next morning. "It's not a problem," say the farmer. "Use my telephone and reschedule your first appointment tomorrow, stay with us tonight, and we'll see that the car is fixed first thing."

The farmer's wife prepares a wonderful meal and they share a glass of fine single malt during an excellent evening. The salesman sleeps soundly, and when he awakens, there is his car, repaired and ready to go. After a hearty country breakfast, the salesman thanks them both for the hospitality. As he and the farmer walk to his car, he turns and asks, "My Brother, thank you so much, but I have to ask, did you help me because I'm a Mason?"

"No," was the reply. "I helped you because I am."

"Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."

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How To Plan For Your Open House

by Carl G. Ek

"Wow," you think to yourself. "What have we done? And how are we going to pull it off?"

At your September meeting, your lodge read the letter from MWGM's William L. Greene and Dr. Floyd E. Bagwell, Jr., in which they 'urged' lodges to hold open houses in their buildings on October 27. Everyone knows that 'urged' is Grand Masterese for 'do it!'

Now, with less than a month left let's look at what has to be done to make the day a success for the fraternity and for those who visit our buildings around the state.



What if you held a party, and nobody came? Same premise here – for an open house to be a success, people have to attend. So let's invite people to come.

One of the easiest things to do is to put up a banner on the building announcing, in bold block letters, "Open House Here October 27." This will get attention. People may be curious, perhaps intimidated, perhaps dismayed by the often large, windowless edifice that only seems to have visitors in the evening. You're opening the 'masoleum' to the public? That will attract attention.

You also want to take advantage of media outlets, especially the local weekly papers that blanket the smaller communities. Use the Grand Lodge's prepared news releases as a starting point for your own local efforts.

Play up local facts – how long your lodge has been a part of the town, well-known local members, public good that you've done, etc.

Explain the purposes of the Open House – to allow the public to see where Masons meet, to learn more about the good works of the organization. Emphasize that knowledgeable local members of the group will answer questions.



Staffing. Personnel. People.

They can make your Open House a success. They can also ruin the public's view of our fraternity.

It's always better to have more people on hand than you'll think you need. One should stay at the door as a greeter for everyone who walks in. He should have all of the visitors sign a guest book as a remembrance of their visit, and for possible follow-up at a future public event. Others can offer tours, be located in the lodge room itself to make brief presentations and answer questions, and some can handle the refreshments and literature table.

Make a good impression! That may mean a tie and jacket, or perhaps lodge shirts and a tie, or lodge polo shirts and khaki slacks. Some brothers may wish to wear, for display purposes, officers' aprons and jewels, especially those who will be in the lodge room answering questions.



So the next big question is, "What do we have to display?" For most visitors, the room where the Masons meet is probably of the greatest interest. Set it up fully, as if you were setting up for a stated communication. Open the Volume of Sacred Law on the altar, and realize that there's nothing improper about having the square and compasses placed on the VSL. Just be sure the brother staffing the lodge room is comfortable speaking about the symbolism of the 'furniture' of the room.

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Perhaps at a few set times, brothers could offer prepared presentations about the lodge offices and the conduct of meetings as guests occupy the sidelines. None of this is remotely 'secret' and we can alleviate many people's concerns about Masonry and its hidden nature.

Many buildings display collections of photos – Past Masters, and other memorabilia from prominent local members, and books and artifacts from the lodge's earliest days.

Be aware of the possible street value of items in your building. Things that are not a part of the event should be put away for cleanliness, and for safekeeping. Being hospitable doesn't mean being unaware.



Anything else? Yes, refreshments and parting gifts!

A good host provides for the comfort of guests, and here Masonry has long displayed great skill. Simplicity in refreshment

choices makes it easy for the brethren on duty to keep the tables well-stocked and attractive to all.

As for parting gifts, the most popular are paper. Lodges will be able to obtain from the Grand Lodge office three pamphlets: "Freemasonry in Connecticut," "Should I Ask?", and "I Have Heard that Masonry..." Of course, copies of issues of *Connecticut Freemasons* give visitors a broader view of Masonry and its affiliates around the state.



A lot to do? Yes. But there is much that can be gained as more community members learn that Masons are, in fact, their friends and neighbors, joined together by ancient obligations to try to make one another better.

If nothing else, we can hope that those with open minds about Masonry can come and learn that the world's oldest and largest fraternal organization really has nothing to hide!

PRIVATE COLLECTOR BUYING THE FOLLOWING:

All US or Foreign... Coins • Stamps • Paper Money

Paying at least 3 - 4 cents for wheat pennies

\$4 - \$6 for pre-1965 Half Dollars

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\$2-\$3 minimum for pre-1965 Quarters

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Also Silver Certificates, Two Dollar Bills,

Red-Blue-Brown or Yellow Seal Currency

Any postcards, old pocket knives, license plates,

auto, gas, oil, or motorcycle related advertising

Police, Fire or Military Emblems, Patches,

Badges etc, Pre-1970 toys

Especially WANTED

any Fraternal Swords

Masonic, paying minimum \$125 to \$3,000

K of C, paying minimum \$100 and up

Military Swords, Bayonets, Daggers,

Hunting Knives (especially Randall, Winchester, Remington)

Contact **Gerald Dooley**

PO BOX 552, Bristol, CT 06011

(860) 559-4948

For any brothers who called me during December,

There was a fire at the warehouse and I couldn't return your call.

This month we honor our ladies and women in Freemasonry. My wife Marcy is my love and my personal support in our Masonic fraternity. The night we got engaged in 1994, we went to a Masonic installation of officers in New Haven. Our dates after that consisted of attending Masonic functions. This column is dedicated to her and the many ladies of Connecticut Freemasonry who have supported Marcy, Logan and me in our Masonic journeys.



Mrs. Rhoda Hyde was the wife of a member of Asylum Lodge No. 57, Stonington (now Coastal Lodge No. 57). While the members met in the upstairs hall, she guarded the downstairs as a "tiler" and although there is no record of her ever entering a "tiled lodge," the jewel of all the Past Masters of Asylum Lodge has a silhouette of a woman honoring Rhoda Hyde for her steadfast work for the fraternity. Other lodges that have had women tilers, including Pawcatuck Lodge No. 90, which recently merged with Asylum and Charity & Relief No. 57 to become Coastal Lodge No. 57. This was not unusual as lodges met in homes, often on the second floor, and the wife of the host would often be downstairs and guard against intruders.



Joseph Metcalf of Lebanon offered an upper room of his house for the meetings of Eastern Star Lodge No. 44 (they now meet in Windham). His teenaged daughter

was a tomboy. She became curious on a hot summer day, when the men rode to the house, and the horses were quartered outside. She climbed the thick branches of a nearby tree, and made her way toward the window, within earshot. One of the brothers noticed her, as he glanced out the window. She may have been issued a sharp reprimand by her father. There is no record in Eastern Star Lodge of any women being admitted, but the story is in the legends of the lodge. The foundation of the Metcalf home was the site of the bicentennial meeting of Eastern Star Lodge, and is now on state hunting property. Your Grand Historian, along with several other brothers and MWPGM Gail N. Smith, then Master, donned orange jackets and hats and journeyed into the woods, watching for hunters, and opened a lodge under the warm October sun.



There is a reference in Harmony Lodge No. 42, Waterbury, to Hart's Lodge No. 22, Woodbridge. A woman known as "Aunt Polly" was the wife of a member of the lodge. She kept the lodge room in good order. She saw many curious things and became desirous of knowing the secrets of Freemasonry. She had tried to get information from her husband, but was unsuccessful. Before a lodge meeting, she announced she would prepare the room and then visit a distant neighbor. When



the gavel sounded, a brother rose and told the Worshipful Master, "I feel that there is someone present in the room that is not a Mason and advise strict search." A brother discovered two small blocks of wood that kept up the cover of the box seats on each side of the room. He removed the cover and Aunt Polly was brought to light. She was escorted to the door by her husband, and the brothers, with her little bag of donuts. She never did receive any of the secrets of the fraternity!



There are many stories and legends about women gaining admission into lodges but not recorded by the secretary. It is very difficult to ascertain the truth. In the Eastern Star Lodge case, there is documented proof that the lodge met at the Metcalf home, and records indicate a daughter was born who would have been a teenager at that time.



During our first one hundred years, there were probably many female tilers who guarded our meeting places. Today, we meet in lodge buildings and tilers are members of the fraternity placed there to guard the doors.



The Grand Lodge met in New Haven on May 8, 1822. Lyman Law was Grand Master. Deputy Grand Master Thomas Cushing asked not to be continued as he was in feeble health. In his place rose Ralph Ingersoll as Deputy Grand Master. The same year Henry Champion of Colchester asked to be relieved of duties as Grand Treasurer and Laban Smith was elected. Discussion centered on a General Grand Lodge and delegates were sent to Washington, D.C. for a national meeting. Several times a General Grand Lodge has been proposed but never reached completion.

Lessons of Masonry Apply to Marriage

movablejewel.blogspot.com
by *Traveling Man*, August 31, 2007

The lessons of Masonry apply to marriage and I think that they make a man a better husband. My wife is always happy to see me go to Lodge and return because I have a renewed commitment to be a better man and husband.

Separate from what Freemasonry represents as an organization with their rituals and history, the group provides an arena for men from all walks of life to meet at the same level and discuss their beliefs and challenge each other for the better of their community.

by *the Wife of Masonic Traveler*, 9/18/2007

I believe my husband gets many things out of Freemasonry spiritually and educationally. He has found friendship and formed bonds with his fellow brothers. I feel he has grown

as a community member. For example, by challenging himself to be present and help host a booth at the local park during this past summer. He has gained more appreciation for his family because we have supported his many meetings, dinners, and various other events.

I think all of this and more has made him feel that outside of his daily job where he earns a living, he has made worthy attempts at giving back to the community, his local lodge and Freemasonry as a whole. And this has an immeasurable value to self because there is no quantitative measure in giving back to your fellow neighbor. It is the goodness you feel when you know you have and it has helped another and that is what Freemasonry has offered him.

Fred V. Miller, Jr.



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Connecticut Rainbow Grand Officers initiate new sisters



Kayla Rettburg, Grand Worthy Advisor of the Grand Assembly of Connecticut, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls and her corp of Grand officers held Grand Officer's Night in Branford on Saturday, September 22. After a potluck supper, three new sisters were initiated before a packed house. The recent summer visit to New Hampshire Grand Assembly inspired the laser stick light drill performed following the program. Pictured above are Kayla, top row center with crown, the Grand Officers and the new members of Meriden Assembly No. 11, Meriden; Southington Assembly No. 27 Southington; and Evergreen Assembly No. 44, Hamden.

Date set for Grand Lodge building dedication - Sunday, November 4



Since this September 13 photo the new Grand Lodge office building has been receiving its final preparations in anticipation of an October 4 occupation. The parking lot has been paved, carpet installed and new office furniture made ready. Above the front door, in the circular window, the glass is etched with the square and compasses. MW William L. Greene and his suite of Grand Lodge officers will dedicate the building on Sunday, November 4 at 2:00 p.m.

The Handshake

"Self-Made Man"

by Norah Vincent,
Penguin Books, page 25

Norah Vincent, describing her first meeting of men while she was disguised as a man:

"As he extended his arm to shake my hand, I extended mine, too, in a sweeping motion. Our palms met with a soft pop, and I squeezed assertively the way I had seen men do at parties... From the outside this ritual seemed overdone to me. Why all the macho ceremony? But from the inside it was completely different. There was something so warm and bonded in the handshake. Receiving it was a rush, an instant camaraderie that felt very old and practiced. ...It was more affectionate than any I had received from a strange woman ...On some level men didn't need to learn or remind themselves that brotherhood was powerful."

Please join us for the

Masonicare
Autumn Gathering
in the auditorium of
Masonic Healthcare Center

Sunday, November 4, 2007
immediately following the 2:00 p.m.
ceremonial opening of the new
Grand Lodge building

Social time, hors d'oeuvres
Recognition Awards
Tours of Masonic Healthcare Center

R.S.V.P. to Bro. Carl Anderson at 203-679-6917


Healthcare and Retirement Living
www.masonicare.org

A "First" in an Eastern Star Chapter in Connecticut?

by Pat Kalinauskas

MW William L. Greene, Grand Master, visited Temple Chapter No. 53, O.E.S., Manchester on September 12 to present widows pins to six widows from the two Eastern Star chapters, Temple Chapter No. 53 and Hope Chapter No. 60, that meet in South Windsor.

Traditionally, some lodges present widows with a pin to honor their deceased husbands.

For the widows in these two Star chapters, the special remembrance came from the Grand Lodge through the Grand Master, who is also an Eastern Star member



and a Past Patron of Climax Chapter No. 98 in Merrow. His lady, Sandie, and Pat Kalinauskas, Past Matron of Temple Chapter, assisted the Grand Master in the presentations.

The broken column pin was created as an emblem to symbolize continued concern for the widow of a Master Mason. It is given with the hope that she would wear it on all appropriate occasions, especially when traveling, so that she might be recognized, greeted, and assisted when necessary, by Masonic friends throughout the world. The pin represents a reminder of her ties to the

fraternity, where there will be gladness, and welcome her to friends to assist her in times of a continued association with need, to be with her in times of Masonry.



Front row, from left: Frances Arsenault, widow of Edmund Arsenault; Rosemary Livingston, widow of Harold Livingston; Meryon Miner, widow of Lewis Miner; Cecelia Johnston, widow of Murray Johnston; Dorothy Dimmock, widow of Ernest Dimmock; and Ruth Hackey, widow of Orrin Hackey. Back row, from left: Sandie Greene; MW Grand Master Bill Greene; Pat Kalinauskas; Pam Stone, Worthy Matron of Temple Chapter; and Peter T. Arnold, Worthy Patron.

Masonic Names Brandt Nursing Scholarship Recipients

A love of learning and a passion for nursing are common bonds shared by this year's recipients of Masonicare's prestigious Norma J. Brandt Nursing Scholarship.

A reception honoring the 2007 recipients — Melody Velazquez of Watertown, Andrea Austin of Stratford, and Amanda Edgerton of Plainville — was held August 31 at Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford.

"We are here today for two reasons: to honor the recipients, and to thank John O. Brandt, Jr., for supporting the scholarship fund," said Jennifer King, president of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, the philanthropic affiliate of Masonicare, through which the fund was established. "We appreciate all that Mr. Brandt has done — not only what he's done for Masonicare, but what he has done for the nursing profession as well."

The Norma J. Brandt Scholarship Fund was established in 2006 through a generous gift to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut from Brother Brandt in memory of his wife, Norma. Norma was a registered nurse who loved nursing and dedicated

her life to helping others. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and Order of the Amaranth. Bro. Brandt, a member of Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock, established the fund to provide individuals pursuing a career as a registered nurse with financial assistance towards their coursework.

"I am so pleased to be here for the second presentation of the Norma J. Brandt Scholarship," said Bro. Brandt during the luncheon attended by Masonicare executive management, members of the Masonic organization, and family members and friends of the recipients. "To the recipients of the scholarship, congratulations. I hope you love nursing as much as Norma did," he said.

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must either be a Masonicare employee, the child or grandchild of a Masonicare employee, or be affiliated with a Masonic organization, either as a member or as a child or grandchild of a member. Employees must be eligible for benefits and employed by Masonicare for a minimum of one year. Applicants must also demonstrate a commitment to the nursing



The 2007 recipients of the Norma J. Brandt Nursing Scholarship, from left, Andrea Austin, Melody Velazquez, and Amanda Edgerton, right, are shown with WB John O. Brandt, Jr.

profession and emulate Norma's "love of nursing, positive attitude and warm, giving nature." Applications for the scholarship are announced at Masonicare affiliates each spring.

Ms. Velazquez, a licensed practical nurse, has been employed by Masonicare affiliate Connecticut VNA for two years. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing through Excelsior College, Albany, New York. Ms. Austin, a

licensed practical nurse, has been employed by Masonic Healthcare Center for one year and is also pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing through Excelsior College. Ms. Edgerton, the granddaughter of RW Carl L. Edgerton of Ocala, Florida, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

This year, scholarships in the amount of \$1000 or more were awarded.

Historic Scottish Rite Joint Session

The historic first joint meeting of the Northern Masonic and Southern Jurisdictions of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite was held in Washington, DC from August 26 through 28. Connecticut's Grand Master MW William L. Greene joined 46 other Grand Masters of the United States. At the sessions, all 15 of the Grand Masters from the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction were present.

In addition, the Sovereign Grand Commanders of both the Northern and Southern Prince Hall Affiliates led delegations from their respective jurisdictions. Forty other Supreme Councils were represented by their SGC's or their representatives. Four Masonic Grand Masters from foreign jurisdictions were also in attendance.

One hundred seventy-four members of the Class of 2007 received the 33° on August 27. The Connecticut brothers receiving the 33°

were: David R. Blythe, Sr.; Arthur H. Carlstrom, MSA, RW Grand Senior Warden; Richard R. Jones; and Steven P. Schreck. Sidney W. Isenberg was granted a one year extension due to an employment conflict.

Candidates from Connecticut elected to become Honorary Members of the Supreme Council at the Annual Session in Providence, Rhode Island in 2008 are: Francis G. Way, Paul L. Chello, and Richard C. Memmott, Sr., RW Grand Tiler.

A video presentation from President George W. Bush, congratulating the

Rite for charity and dedication to principles was shown. The keynote speaker at the Joint Gala Banquet was former astronaut and Ohio Senator Illustrrious John H.



Illustrrious John H. Glenn Jr., 33°, who may be the most famous living American mason addresses the Joint Gala Banquet.



A rare photo of the Sovereign Grand Commanders of Scottish Rite in the United States includes the Prince Hall brothers.

Glenn, Jr., 33°, above left. The attendance was over 3300 members and their ladies.

The Southern Jurisdiction supports 110 centers in their 35 states dedicated to disorders in children, as well as 2 Scottish Rite Hospitals.

The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction's charitable endeavors include: research in schizophrenia; the National Heritage Museum in Lexington; Abbott scholarships for college students; and fifty-eight 32° Learning Centers for children diagnosed with dyslexia. The Connecticut Center is located in Waterbury, next to the Waterbury Masonic Center.

Women can be Ambassadors for Masonry

by Bonnie McWain

I am the wife of a Mason. When Jim and I were married I had no idea how much my life would change, and in so many ways, once the word "Mason" became a part of my vocabulary. I didn't know a great deal about the Masons.

I had family friends who were involved as Masons and Shriners, and through them I knew about Shriner's Hospitals and their wonderful work helping children. I knew a bit about the Masonic facility in Wallingford, not a great deal more.

And then I was a Mason's Lady – a title I take great pride in because I now know about this outstanding group.

I believe that living your life as it's meant to be lived involves giving back. That is a Mason, and at every opportunity who is what I share with those that don't know about Masons and the wonderful philanthropy of the Masonic order.

I would like to share some "snapshots" of what I've experienced.

I am lucky to have a wonderful group of friends who are Masons and a part of my daily life. I have traveled to other states with Jim

and met other Masons and heard their great accomplishments in their jurisdictions. I've seen first hand the successes of Connecticut Masons in so many areas. I've worked weekends at CTCHIP (Connecticut Child Identification Program) events, and parents have come up to me and thanked me for the wonderful service Masons have provided for their community.

I've walked the halls and delivered Christmas gifts to the residents at Ashlar of Newton and seen the care and concern of the staff that give our skilled nursing homes outstanding reputations. I have dear friends who live at Ashlar Village and can't say enough about the wonderful new lease on life, living in this beautiful facility. And I can go on and on....

But, first and foremost, I know my husband, Jim, is a better person because he is a Mason. Being a Mason is a way of life that goes far beyond the lodge room – it affects the lives of his family, his friends, and most importantly, it affects the lives of so many others who benefit from the help and support of Masons.

That giving, that positive influence, so

far reaching, is what I want to make sure continues, not just for the present, but in the future.

That's why I take the opportunity to share my "snapshots" of Masonry whenever I can. I'm sure you have many "snapshots" of your own. I hope you take the opportunity to reflect on what Masonry has meant to you, to your husband, and to the lives of others you know.

You don't have to give a speech, just be willing to share these thoughts whenever the chance arises. Be an ambassador for Masonry!

I remember a quote by Charles Reade from a Masonic calendar.

*We sow a thought and reap an act;
We sow an act and reap a habit;
We sow a habit and reap a character;
We sow a character and reap a destiny.*

This is what Masons do – they sow thoughts, acts, habits, and characters and have reaped a destiny. I want that destiny to continue, and so in my small way I help this happen by sharing with others what I know and how I feel about the Masonic fraternity. I hope you will do the same.

**REGULAR COMMUNICATION OF THE
MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE
A.F. & A.M. of CONNECTICUT**

A Regular Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut will be held at the **New Haven Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Ave., New Haven, Connecticut** on Saturday, October 20, 2007. **The formal opening will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m.** Please note it is anticipated that the session should close at approximately 12:00 noon. Luncheon will not be available.

This Regular Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut is called for the purpose of electing Grand Lodge officers for the year 2008. In addition we will receive certain committee reports, act on any legislation changes which may be in order for consideration and other issues as directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother William L. Greene. Section 8203 of our Masonic Law does permit action on changes to the Rules and Regulations which are raised from the floor or presented in Committee Reports at the meeting without prior notice to the craft.

Registration of delegates will begin at 8:00 A.M. All Brothers attending must present a 2007 dues card. Please note: **All voting delegates must register at the registration table.** Registration will be by Lodge number as designated by posted signs in the area.

Should you not be able to attend in person as a principal officer of your Lodge, or should you wish to proxy your vote on behalf of your lodge so you can vote on your own behalf, if eligible. If your proxy form is not properly filled out and signed by you, it will not be accepted at the session. Each officer or his proxy should bring the appropriate apron and jewel of his respective office. Sections 2300 and 2301 of our Rules and Regulations state that a Roll of Lodges is to be called during a Regular Communication. Please note the related consequences of those Lodges not having proper representation at this Communication. Coffee and pastry will be available at the Temple starting at 8:00 A.M.

Wallingford, Connecticut
September 14, 2007

*With my fraternal best wishes,
Robert G. Fitzgerald
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary*

Eastern Star Charity Foundation Recognized for Its Generosity

The Eastern Star Charity Foundation (ESCF) has been a good friend to Masonicare for many years. In the past 20 years alone, ESCF has contributed more than \$5,000,000 to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, the philanthropic affiliate of Masonicare, to help fund the various programs and services provided by the Masonicare affiliates.

On Saturday, August 4, The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut hosted a special recognition luncheon for the ESCF Board of Directors to thank the organization for its long-standing generosity to Masonicare. The luncheon was held in the auditorium at Masonic Healthcare Center (MHC) in Wallingford.

"The Eastern Star Charity Foundation of Connecticut continues to be one of our most generous contributors," said Jennifer King, president of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. "The impact of their generosity has been tremendous over the years, brightening the lives of hundreds of residents of both Masonic Healthcare

Center and Ashlar of Newtown. Through their charity and their friendship, The Eastern Star Charity Foundation has inspired so many members of the Masonic family to show their support of Masonicare — and, for that, we are truly grateful."

ESCF is the Foundation's most significant outright major gift donor, contributing in excess of \$300,000 each year. In February 2007, the organization contributed \$355,000 to MCF, including \$300,000 for the care of Eastern Star residents at Masonic Healthcare Center and Ashlar of Newtown (AON), \$29,000 to the MHC Quality of Life Fund, and \$26,000 to the AON Quality of Life Fund.

During the August 4 luncheon, William Piper, president of Masonic Healthcare Center, surprised the group by unveiling a replica of a plaque that will be ordered and placed outside a new family lounge when it is completed. The text on the plaque will read, "Given by The Eastern Star Charity Foundation August 4, 2007."

In September, a special



Dignitaries at the ESCF luncheon were (front row, from left): Sisters Jean Jeanfavre, ESCF Secretary; Martha Jane Schmalz; and Mildred Ross; (second row, l-r): Brothers Carl Anderson, Masonicare vice-president for Fraternal Relations; William Jeanfavre; Sisters Suzanne Dana; Lorraine Dengler, ESCF Treasurer; Joyce L. Armonath, Worthy Grand Matron, Order of the Eastern Star of the State of Connecticut; Brothers Ed Willard; Frederick Schmalz, ESCF President; Sister Elaine Armonath; and Bro. Gerhard von Boehn, Finance Chairman; (back row, from left): Eloise Mongillo, MCF Director of Development; Alison Koons, MCF Planned Giving Coordinator; Jennifer King, MCF President; William Piper, MHC President; MWPGM Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr.; MW William L. Greene; Bro. Stephen McPherson, President and CEO, Masonicare; and WB J. Arthur Carbonaro, Chairman, MCF.

dedication ceremony was held at Ashlar of Newtown to recognize ESCF for its support of Ashlar of Newtown and its Quality of Life Fund. The Quality of Life

Fund provides for the special needs of residents and patients at Masonicare affiliates when no other funding sources are available.

Out and About with the Eastern Star Grand Family

by Eleanor Carbonaro

The Eastern Star Grand Family is still on the go. The home chapters of our Grand Martha, Grand Chaplain, and Grand Sentinel are on the inspection schedule for October. Receptions will be held for these officers in their respective chapters on those nights. Also going to the meetings will be stuffed frogs and turtles, the fun emblems of our Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron. They will be available for purchase along with ESTARL jewelry. The proceeds will provide revenue for our Grand Chapter.

On October 7, there will be a reception for the Worthy Grand Matron and Worthy Grand Patron at the Villa Capri in Wallingford. Mid-month, some of the Grand Family will be going to Quebec and Rhode Island for their Grand Chapter sessions. These two events will wrap up the Grand Chapter session schedule for the year. The end of October will find some of the Grand Family in Fredericton, New Brunswick for an International Weekend for members of the Order from the New England states and the Canadian provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. This promises to be an exciting getaway weekend. If you are interested in

attending any of these "away" events, please contact Grand Sentinel Carl Larson.

Since this is October, there will be several Halloween parties and even a Masquerade Ball taking place at various chapters around the state. Members of the Grand Family may attend some of these events. If they do, how will you know? They might be in disguise. There will also be a Visionquest Seminar hosted by Sachem Chapter in Preston on October 10. PGM Ruth Songhurst is scheduled to be the speaker.

By now, the rescheduled first Annual Eastern Star Golf Classic will be over. Let's hope that everyone's hard work paid off and the event was a success. WGP Paul really put a lot of effort into this event. Maybe some of our readers were the winners of some of the prizes. Brother Paul wants to remind everyone about donating gift cards for grocery stores and pharmacies. These will benefit the families of our servicemen and women in Iraq.

WGM Joyce announced that the Porta-Cath pads made by some of our members will soon be delivered to several cancer treatment places around the state. Name tags will be sewn in before delivery, identifying them as gifts from the Order of The Eastern Star. Sister

Joyce's Watering Can pins will continue to be available at all the inspections. The proceeds go to the Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Fund. Susan G Komen developed breast cancer in her early thirties. Despite heroic efforts, she died three years later.

Her sister Nancy started the fund in Susan's memory. Please show your support for Sister Joyce's project by purchasing some of these pins. They make lovely gifts (the holidays are almost here), especially if you know someone who loves gardening.

Called to the Celestial Lodge

We offer our condolences to the families and friends of these brothers who have been called by the Grand Architect of the Universe.

Samuel G. Greer	America-St. John's 8
William Schrader Jr.....	Ansantawae 89
Robert L. Corbin.....	Composite 28
Andrew J. Marion	Composite 28
Philip D. Anderson.....	Corinthian 103
Harold Cohen.....	Cosmopolitan 125
Adrien F. Adam Jr.	Evening Star 101
William T. Spargo Jr.....	Frederick-Franklin 14
James A. Brown	Hiram 1
David T. Britland	Moosup 113
William Noyce Jr.....	Oxoboxo 116
Robert C. Spearrin.....	Somerset-St. James 34
Russell M. Bocuzzi	St. John's 6
Ivan W. Anderson	Union 31
Johnny C. Evers	Union 31
Frederick J. Mildren.....	Valley 36
Herman L. Nickse	Valley 36
Richard H. Keeton.....	Washington 19

Happy Birthday, George Pangborn!



When MWPGM George W. Pangborn turned 80 over the summer, the Pangborn and Stauff families held an open house at son (and Brother) Rob and Mary's home in Maybrook, New York. Children, grandchildren, and even first great-granddaughter Abby Rinaldi were present from Michigan and the Carolinas to celebrate the milestone. Here, shown with George (center) are a pair of Past Masters of King Solomons Lodge No. 7, Woodbury – on the left, RW Craig T. McClellan, Past Grand Chaplain, and at right, WB Marc Cohen.

Freemasonry's Impact

by Deborah K.L. LaPlace

A short time after my husband became a Freemason I was driving to school, working over a math proof in my head and suddenly thought of a solution. I pulled onto the shoulder to write out my idea. I sat for a couple of minutes, head bowed over my work, when there was knock on the window.

"Are you OK?" asked the man standing by my car.

I was a little unnerved. Why would a stranger pull over? One hears horror stories. Then I saw the square and compasses on the bumper of his car and I knew I was safe.

"Yes, I'm fine." I responded.

He got back in his car and drove away. I never got a chance to thank him.

What do I get out of Freemasonry? The knowledge there are good men quietly working to make the world a better place. I want to thank all of you.

Junior Volunteers Helped Organize "Dancin' in the Moonlight" for Masonic Healthcare Center Residents

One hundred residents of Masonic Healthcare Center received personal invitations to attend an afternoon event that was definitely out of the ordinary. A "Dancin' in the Moonlight" formal, hosted by Masonic Healthcare Center's Junior Volunteers, was held in the auditorium at the Center in late August. The original plan was to hold the event outdoors on the second floor balcony, but since the weather didn't cooperate that day, it was moved indoors.

The rain definitely didn't dampen the spirits of the residents or volunteers, however. The young volunteers and several staff members from the Therapeutic Recreation Department worked together to transform the auditorium into a wonderland filled with plants laced with sparkling mini lights, with

shining, metallic stars and moons suspended from the ceiling and decorating the walls. Tables were dressed in a teal, royal blue, and light blue color scheme, with matching balloons rising from the center of each table.

The excitement was evident as each resident was personally greeted at the door and presented with a wrist corsage or a boutonniere hand made by volunteers. The junior volunteer wait staff, dressed in black and white, served "cocktails" and wonderful desserts to residents as they enjoyed live entertainment featuring "Big Band" hits of the 1940's. The residents were delighted to see many of the young women dressed elegantly for the occasion in their lovely gowns worn recently to high school proms and formal events. Special pampering was available for

residents that morning, with particular care and attention given to their wardrobe selection.

An assortment of lovely costume jewelry, donated especially for the occasion, was available for the residents' choosing. For those who requested a manicure, one was provided compliments of junior volunteers.

Special kudos go out to Volunteer Services, the dedicated junior volunteers, and recreation staff members who put so much time and effort into planning and executing this wonderful event for the residents.

To learn how you or a family member can become a volunteer



Masonic Healthcare Center residents Mary Stannard and Margery Butler enjoy a wonderful afternoon at the recent "Dancin' in the Moonlight" formal at Masonic Healthcare Center. Recreational therapist Noreen Schmidt and clinical nurse manager Katie Nardi stop by their table and take a moment to pose for the camera.

or junior volunteer at Masonic Healthcare Center, call Rosemarie Preneta, Director of Volunteers, at 203-679-5744.

DISTRICT No. 1

- (a) RW William R. Deickler, DD • WB Frederick J. Clark, Jr., AGM
(b) RW Michael J. Sutilla, DD • WB Christopher G. Finalis, AGM

Daytime Lodge Recognizes Turkey Trot Supporters



WB's David Urban (race director), Brian and Lisa Stockbridge, and WM Bruce Swan display the plaque presented to Stockbridge's Cheese Cake and Delectables at the grand opening of the new Shelton store. Brian and Lisa Stockbridge have provided cheesecakes for the annual Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot Road Race since 2001.

by Bruce Swan

Since the first annual Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot Road Race in Stratford in 2001, the generosity of Brother Brian Stockbridge and his wife, Lisa, could be counted on. Lisa and Brian are owners of the award-winning bakery that bears their name: Stockbridge's Cheese Cake and Delectables. Their bakery has received the "Best Cheesecake of Connecticut" award from Connecticut Magazine annually since 2003.

The 5K road race, sponsored by Daytime Lodge No. 144, Stratford, is a fast race that begins and ends at the Scottish Rite Theater on Main Street. Since 2001, runners, organizers, and supporters have enjoyed freshly baked cookies, brownies, and, of course, cheese cake!

Chef Brian Stockbridge – known in Daytime Lodge as Worshipful Brother Brian Stockbridge – recently relocated his bakery to Shelton.

At the September 15 grand opening, Brian's lodge presented Lisa and Brian with a plaque thanking them for their generosity and support each Thanksgiving Day.

Daytime Lodge also extended hope for the continued success of Stockbridge's Cheese Cake and Delectables. The Stockbridges accepted the plaque and plan to display it proudly.

A ribbon cutting by Lisa, Brian, their daughter Brianna, and Shelton mayor Mark A. Laretti officially opened the store. As the ribbon was cut, the sun came out to match the warmth felt by all present.

DISTRICT No. 2

(a) RW Frank W. Bauer, DD • WB Thomas L. Sullivan, Jr., AGM
(b) RW John B. Stack, DD • WB Gordon R. Burritt, AGM

Grand Master Leads Masons in Newtown Labor Day Parade

The Newtown Labor Day parade is the largest Labor Day parade in Connecticut and again, the Grand Master led a large contingent of Masons through a crowd of applauding residents. Brothers from other lodges and DeMolay joined Hiram Lodge No. 18, Sandy Hook, and King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton brothers. Here MW Bill Greene (with top hat) is flanked by a DeMolay, MWPGM George Greytak and other Grand Lodge officers. King Hiram's antique truck carried the few who were unable to march, but joined their brothers, nonetheless.



DISTRICT No. 4

(a) RW Robert C. Moon, DD • WB Charles W. Rome, AGM
(b) RW Bruce Padula, DD • WB James J. Pyskaty, AGM
(c) RW Bradley K. Cooney, DD • WB Edwin F. Dingus, AGM

Cosmopolitan Lodge has a Moving Experience

by David O. Stern

Another Saturday for sleeping in, playing golf, fishing, or moving.

Moving? Hold on! Remember the old matching gaming where one thing doesn't belong? How does all the work involved in moving get mixed in with the other more relaxing and clearly more fun things we could be doing? It gets mixed when you are a brother in Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 and

you ask for help.

So one Saturday in August, instead of sleeping or golfing or fishing, brothers from Cosmopolitan Lodge helped Brother Stephen Smith and his family move to their new home. It had to be done on that particular Saturday because the following weekend Steve was leaving for Kuwait. Steve is a Navy Reserve Lieutenant Commander who has been called up to active duty.

Brothers came with their pick-up trucks and cars, SUV's and vans. Some were experienced movers, having started house moving as a part time job when in high school. Some were a bigger help by driving, organizing, planning, and packing, leaving the moving to those better skilled. The glassware was packed, the entertainment center and the dressers and the beds

taken apart, and the couches, chairs, washing machine, and dryer moved. The Cosmopolitan brothers moved all the furniture and boxes that needed moving.

When they were done, Brother LCDR Steve knew two things for sure – he knew that his family was settled into their new home and, more importantly, he knew that the brothers of Cosmopolitan Lodge were there for his family for whatever they needed.



Bro. and LCDR Steve Smith of Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 and the US Naval Reserve pauses for a moment as brothers of his lodge descended on the family to help them move to their new home a week before he was to report for active duty. Awaiting further orders (or perhaps a ride?) on the tailgate is WB David Berger.



Grand Master's 2007 Golf Tournament

Photos by MW Bill Greene



Notes from the CTCHIP State Committee

The past few months have been a very busy time for the CTCHIP state committee, with numerous matters being discussed and new policies explored.

WB Peter Boychuck deserves a round of applause for getting CTCHIP to become the premier child identification program in the nation. Five years of long hours and sincere dedication have made CTCHIP a proven service. He has now taken a lesser role in assisting the committee, replaced by WB Carl Mossberg, director and WB Ken Greenhill, associate director, of CTCHIP. Peter will oversee improvements to our website in the coming months.

One project of the CTCHIP state committee is to improve the "Purple Pak" by making it

slightly larger and stronger.

Discussions regarding continuing Toothprints® have concluded; we will continue to collect dental impressions as well as cheek swabs at all CTCHIP events. There are weekends when Registered Dental Hygienists are not available to perform this service. Mary Boudreau, Executive Director of the Connecticut Dental Hygienists Association (CDHA), and CTCHIP Committee members are exploring the development of a training program for Masons to supplement this part of the program.

CTCHIP will maintain control of all events and Masons will always be present during an event. This ensures

that the program will maintain its integrity. Civic and commercial organizations are reminded that CTCHIP and the Connecticut Grand Lodge of Masons are the sole sponsors of CTCHIP events. We will encourage those organizations to be hosts of an event, not sponsors. In addition, we should be mentioning the need for funding wherever possible.

Events held at banks and car dealerships must promote masonry as much as it does for the business which is holding it. These events appear only to be an attraction for customers to their enterprise. The committee suggests these events should be discouraged.

Parents continue to try to play

the DVD-R's on their DVD players at home with no success. We must be diligent in emphasizing that regular DVD players will NOT play the mini-DVD-R produced at CTCHIP events.

Volunteers have stepped up to serve as new district coordinators and equipment quartermasters for the district 1, 4, and 7.

A CTCHIP event instruction manual is being written to update station procedures. This package will include instructions for each CTCHIP station, including a scripted checkout station. Also, the committee suggests that height and weight of the child be made separate station, to relieve congestion.

CTCHIP Needs Your Help!

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- (b) RW Bruce Padula, DD • WB James J. Pyskaty, AGM
- (c) RW Bradley K. Cooney, DD • WB Edwin F. Dingus, AGM

60-Year Mason Receives 60-Year Legion Certificate

by Robert D. Sherrick

In late July, several brothers of Ansantawae Lodge No.



Sixty-year Mason and sixty-year American Legion member Robert 'Bing' Millar and wife Ruth proudly display his certificate noting his long service to the Legion.

89, Milford, were present for the presentation of a 60-Year Membership Certificate in the American Legion to Brother Robert N. 'Bing' Millar by members of Post 34 of Milford. It was only a few months earlier that Bro. Bing received his 60-

year Masonic membership pin at Ashlar Village, where he and wife Ruth reside.

Bro. Bing recalled many of the events of 1947 as he expressed his appreciation for the certificate and Legion cap presented to him.

All enjoyed the many 'war stories' that spread throughout the room.

It was noted that many members of Ansantawae Lodge have been members and commanders of Legion Post 34 across the decades.

DID YOU Vote?

Results are in! There are 2 polls on the Grand Lodge website (www.ctfreemasons.net). Since August 16, the polls have collected the opinions of 72 voters if they would support their lodge's Open House, and 81 voters if they would receive this publication by e-mail only. The results are in and the tally is:

Will you help your lodge support the October 27 Open House?

Yes.....6286.1%
No.....1013.9%

Would you receive your issue of Connecticut Freemasons publication by e-mail only?

No.....4555.6%
Yes.....3644.4%

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- (c) RW Bradley K. Cooney, DD • WB Edwin F. Dingus, AGM

A Cosmopolitan Tradition – the “Ladies at Table” Dinner

by David O. Stern

“Ladies at Table” – an interesting term, but what does it mean?

First and foremost, these are evenings to celebrate, congratulate, and show that we Masons appreciate the contributions to our work of “ladies” in general, and

more especially our ladies in particular. Masons decided that a public recognition of how Masons’ ladies contribute to society and our ability to function as a fraternity was necessary.

Masonic lodges hold tiled “Table Lodges” for the craft. That tradition claims to have roots in France of the mid-18th

century. While Table Lodges can be suitably celebratory, they are tiled lodges open to Masons only, and not at all appropriate for our goal of celebrating with our ladies.

In recent years Connecticut Masonry borrowed Vermont’s tradition of “Ladies at Table” dinners. These evenings, without the formality and structure of a traditional table lodge, are open to our ladies. The evening allows them

have a glimpse of our workings and provides a venue for our celebration of them.

This past September 5, Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven, continued its long-standing tradition of hosting a “Ladies at Table.” With nearly 50 brothers, ladies, family members, and friends, Cosmopolitan Lodge again toasted their ladies’ health, recognized their accomplishments, and let them know their gratitude.



Enjoying the “Ladies at Table” are from left, Estelle and Dori Stern, mother and wife of WB David, Aerielle Smith, daughter of recent US Naval Reserve call-up Bro. and LCDR Stephen Smith, and DeMolay Past Master Councilor Ben Stern.



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DISTRICT No. 5

(a) RW Richard R. Jones, Jr., DD • WB Theodore L. Hasty, AGM
(b) RW Laurence E. Hangland, DD • WB Philip B. Swain, Jr., AGM

Unity Awards Span the Decades

by Carl G. Ek

When Unity Lodge No. 148 of New Britain held its Awards Night in mid-September, the attendees spanned the years from an 8 year old Cub Scout to at least three nonagenarians.

Cub Master David Kall and Cub Scout Ben Kall of Pack 41, Berlin presented Unity WM Curt Holtman with a certificate of appreciation for the use of the New Britain Masonic building for the Scouts' Pinewood Derby for the last several years.

After various service awards, WB Raymond Rich, father-in-law of Junior Steward Fred Stoddard, received his 60 pin, wife Marie doing the honors. 50 year pin recipient RW Bro. William A. Bonney, Sr., still serves as Unity Lodge's organist. Brothers Rich, Bonney, and attendee RW Ralph E. Holmstrom, Unity Lodge's senior Past Master in terms of service from 1949, have all achieved their mid-90's!

After remarks from many of the recipients and Grand Junior Deacon Gary Arseneau, WM

Holtman thanked all present for their attendance and participation and invited all to resume the fellowship of the evening with dessert in the dining hall.



Cub Master David Kall (left) and his son, Cub Scout Ben, presented a certificate thanking the Masons of New Britain for their continuing generosity. Receiving the plaque is Worshipful Master Curt Holtman.



From left: Ruth and Marie Rich, sister-in-law and wife of WB Ray Rich; RW Ralph E. Holmstrom, Master in 1949 and 64 year Mason; WB Raymond E. Rich, Master in 1962; and RW William A. Bonney, Sr., Master in 1967. The young man in the photo is Ralph Holmstrom at 94! Bro. Bonney checks in at 95, while Bro. Rich is 96. The ladies? We know better than to ask!

Sequin-Level Brings Granite Lodge TriLodge Golf Open a Success Big Tent and Big Hearts



The big hearted brothers of Sequin-Level Lodge 140, Newington came to Haddam River Days held on September 8 at Haddam Meadows State Park. They set up their big tent, then returned in the afternoon to retrieve it, so that Granite Lodge No. 119, Haddam could run a CTCHIP event. September was a busy month for the Seventh District, as the first three weeks saw four events. Granite Lodge repaid the Newington generosity with a donation. A total of 58 children were processed and received "Purple Packs."



September 6 was a beautiful day for golf, and Quarry Hill Country Club, Portland provided a challenge for participants in the first TriLodge Open. Warren Lodge No. 51, Portland, Washington Lodge No. 81, Cromwell, and Granite Lodge No. 119, Haddam, planned a full day, from breakfast through dinner. Here WM Bill Perruchio, Warren No. 51, stands (or sits) watch for the hole-in-one cup which would award the lucky golfer with a new truck. Unfortunately the closest anyone came was a foot away from the hole. Better luck next year.

Here is a message sent to the brothers of **Anchor Lodge No 112, East Hampton**, who have been sending packages to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan:

Thank you all once again for another amazing show of caring for Soldiers! This is the second box that I have received, and being the good Platoon Sergeant that I am, I have passed most of the goodies out to be enjoyed by the guys. They certainly do appreciate that effort that goes into not only shipping these out, but the fact that we can see it isn't just random items thrown in a box, but treats that can be appreciated by all. My hats go off to you all for the superb job that is being done there. I come home to do Mid-tour leave (11 months into my tour) in September, and will be home for about 18 days. I can't wait to stop by and personally thank you all for what you have done. I also thought it was extra special because your box arrived on August 31, which coincidentally is also my birthday, so it was an even more special occasion! Keep up the fantastic work; we all love you for it!

Battalion Mortar Platoon Sergeant
"Hellstorm 7"

"How to Find Services, Programs and Benefits for Seniors" Topic of October 4 Lunch & Learn Program in Meriden

RW Richard Memmott, Director of Masonic Community Services, Masonicare's statewide outreach program, will present a Lunch & Learn Program entitled "How to Find Services, Programs, and Benefits for Seniors." The free program will be held on **Thursday, October 4, at 11:30 a.m.** at the Meriden Public Library, 11 Miller Street in Meriden.



Bro. Memmott will offer sound, practical advice that can help seniors navigate today's ever-changing maze of programs and services, including healthcare services, various housing options, insurance programs such as Medicare, Medicaid and Medicare Part D, caregiver assistance programs, state and federal programs, support groups and more.

The presentation will begin at 11:30 a.m., with a complimentary light lunch provided following the program. If you would like to attend this free program, please make a reservation by calling 203-238-2344 by **Tuesday, October 2.**

Masonicare provides several Lunch & Learn programs throughout the year as a public service for seniors and their caregivers. This program is one of the first programs in the series currently being arranged by Masonic Community Services for the 2007 - 2008 season.

Masonic Community Services is a vital resource that helps people throughout the state identify and obtain a variety of health and social services that are available through Masonicare as well as in their own communities. **The program is free to any Connecticut resident.** A Masonic Community Services representative will call or make a confidential, personal home visit if requested to offer advice and valuable information. For additional information about the program or to learn how it might be able to assist you, a loved one, or one of your friends or neighbors, please call 1-877-4-AGELESS (1-877-424-3537).

Grottoes Gather in Groton

by Carl G. Ek

Members of Grottoes throughout the region gathered in Groton in mid-September for the 79th Annual Convention of the New England Grotto Association (NEGA). The weekend events were under the direction of NEGA President Bruce Liebman of Hejaz Grotto in New Haven and his wife, Ladies Auxiliary President Kate Liebman.

The Grotto – formally the Mystic Order of the Veiled Prophets of the Enchanted Realm – is deemed a ‘playground of Masonry,’ and the NEGA visitors had the opportunity to enjoy their visit to Connecticut. On arrival Friday afternoon, September 7, the group journeyed to the USS Nautilus Submarine and Museum for a tour of the country’s first nuclear powered submarine. The planned dinner that evening was at the Mohegan Sun Casino, although attendees were free to dine on their own.

The formal business of the session took place on Saturday morning after the breakfast buffet. Prophet Liebman, a Past Monarch of Hejaz Grotto and Past District Deputy of the Supreme Council of Grottoes, presided over the business meeting and election. Members of NEGA – composed of ten local Grottoes in Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts – elected Jack Bell,

a Past Monarch of Epac Grotto in Centerville, Massachusetts, to serve as president in NEGA’s eightieth year. Simultaneously, Kate Liebman presided over the ladies meeting at which Carolyn Bell was elected her successor.



Distinguished guests pause at the 79th Annual Convention of the New England Grotto Association, held in Groton. Front row, from left: retiring president Bruce Liebman of Hejaz Grotto, New Haven; Lady Carolyn Bell, incoming president of the Ladies Auxiliary; incoming president Jack Bell of Epac Grotto, Centerville, Massachusetts; and Grand Master and Prophet William L. Greene. Back row, from left: Lady Kate Liebman, outgoing ladies president; Lady Rosie Lattin, wife of the Grand Monarch; Lady Sandie Greene, wife of the Grand Master; and Grand Monarch Samuel Lattin of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Business accomplished, the group departed for the Mystic Aquarium & Institute for a guided tour of the facility and the sea lion show. Following Mystic’s attractions, several of the Grotto party strolled to Mistick, as in the Olde Mistick Village, to enjoy the crafts and retail attractions.

The highlight of the weekend was the grand banquet and installation, followed by an Americanism presentation by the National Sojourners. Connecticut Grand Master and Prophet William L. Greene and Lady Sandie and Grand Monarch of the Grottoes of North America Samuel Lattin and Lady Rosemary were received to much applause before dinner. After the repast, prophets and their ladies adjourned to witness the installation of the new association president.

Before the installation, the Presidents Liebman presented Sam and Rosie Lattin with Enchanted Lanterns to signify



gifts made in their name to the international Grotto charity to benefit dentistry for the impaired. Grand Monarch Lattin then installed Past Monarch Bell; Lady Carolyn had already assumed the reins of the ladies group at the morning meeting.

The formalities of the weekend were concluded by a stirring presentation entitled “Building the Flag” as performed by members of New London Chapter No. 58, National Sojourners. This group brings together past and present members of the uniformed services of the United States to help develop patriotism and Americanism throughout the nation in Masonic and other settings. Members of the team dress in colorful colonial uniforms representing various branches of the military in pre-Revolutionary days.

Their presentation traces what we recognize today as ‘Old Glory’ from the various battle flags of the colonies through local specialty flags – a matter of special pride is a southern Connecticut banner which featured not only 16 stars but also 16 stripes! – to the 50 star, thirteen stripe flag we salute today. Historical nuggets abound throughout the presentation, which was narrated by Bro. Chuck Clark. The presentation was capped by an oration entitled, “The Flag Speaks,” delivered by Bro. Burton Turner. This amazing review of the flag’s place in history, literally from the halls of Montezuma to the sands of Iwo Jima and now to the deserts of the Middle East, was greeted with a standing ovation at its conclusion.

After changing from their formal attire, prophets and ladies took the opportunity to again enjoy one another’s company at the NEGA Hospitality Room as a harmonious weekend ended.



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Connecticut's Masonic Research Lodges

by Ronald M Goldwyn

This state is fortunate to have two very special Masonic lodges – Philosophic Lodge of Research and Masonic Lodge of Research. The title 'Lodge of Research' is Masonically very young. The first such lodge was Quatuor Coronati Lodge No. 2076 of London, England, constituted in 1886. Within a decade the Lodge of Research No. 2429 of Leicester, England was chartered. In the United States, the first lodge of research was formed in 1931.

Grand Master Charles Henry Johnson, of New York, chartered the first such lodge, and then served as its Master for the next 16 years. As the only such lodge it assumed the name the American Lodge of Research. RW James Royal Case (1966) and myself (1987) are the only two Connecticut Masons to have served as Worshipful Master of this distinguished lodge.

When a Mason joins a research lodge, he does so because he still searches for light. Not all members are researchers or writers, yet each thirst for knowledge.

The Lodges of Research in Connecticut are less than seventy years old. They are charged to conduct Masonic research, hold discussions, and gather and preserve Masonic information. They maintain a library, and supply papers and speakers at the request of other lodges.

In Connecticut there are classes of membership. "All officers of a research lodge must also be a member of a regular lodge in this jurisdiction." (Section 3702) Where grand jurisdictions don't permit dual membership, membership in a lodge of research is the one exception.

The by-laws of Connecticut's Lodges of Research impose conditions on membership. To

vote and hold elective office a brother must be of Active (Research) status. This status must be earned by writing and delivering an original Masonic presentation on a Masonic subject of his choice. Until this is done a brother holds Associate membership. This encourages members to do Masonic research. The first paper accepted by Masonic Lodge of Research (written by Ms. Susan Loria) was entitled "Preparing a Research Paper."

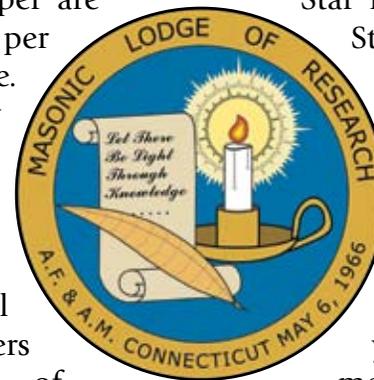


A copy of the entire index of papers of the Masonic Lodge of Research's library is available to any Mason for \$1;

reprints of each paper are available at 15¢ per page plus postage. Emailing may also be arranged. Included in the dues of Masonic Lodge of Research is an annual journal of presented papers and other items of interest sent electronically to the membership.

Membership in Connecticut's Lodges of Research is open to any Master Mason and applications for affiliation are available from the secretary of each lodge.

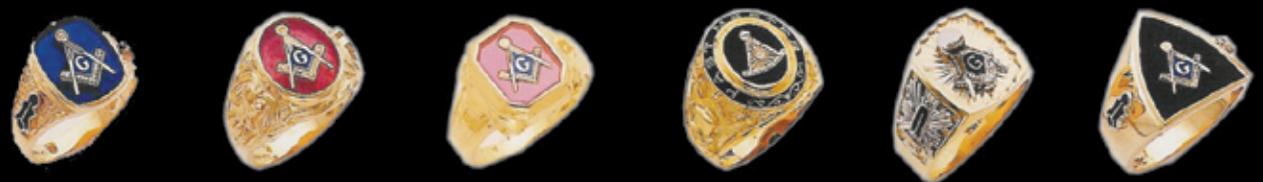
Philosophic Lodge of Research meets on the third Friday of February, April, September, October, and December in the Masonic Eastern



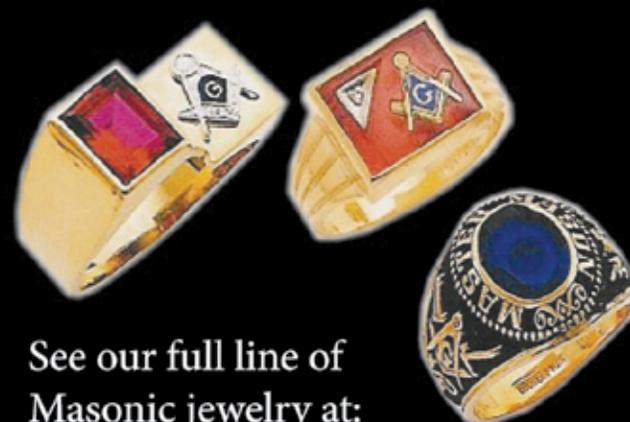
Star Building, 324 Main Street, Cromwell. The secretary is RW Richard Backe, PM, PO Box 207, Rocky Hill, CT 06067; (860) 529-3839; fatheroftriplets@yahoo.com. All meetings are preceded by a dinner, for which reservations are appreciated.

Masonic Lodge of Research meets on the fourth Wednesday of February, March, May, September, October, and December in the New Haven Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven. The secretary is RW Ronald M Goldwyn, PM, 46 Elder Street, Milford, CT 06460; (203) 874-3049; cleanwake@optonline.net.

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October 2, Tuesday, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 2, Tuesday, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 2, Tuesday, Brainard No. 102, Niantic
October 3, Wednesday, Estuary No. 43, Old Saybrook, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 15, Monday, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, Step Up Night
October 15, Monday, Federal No. 17, Watertown, JW Jan Guidess in the East
October 24, Wednesday, Granite No. 119, Haddam, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 25, Thursday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. pot luck dinner, Past Master's Night

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

October 2, Tuesday, Moosup No. 113, Moosup, Part I
October 3, Wednesday, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 3, Wednesday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven
October 4, Thursday, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven
October 9, Tuesday, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Fraternal Visitation zum Friedrich zum Weissen Pferd Lodge (White Horse Lodge) of Hanover, Germany, tickets by invitation
October 9, Tuesday, Moosup No. 113, Moosup, Part II
October 13, Saturday, Uriel No. 24, Merrow, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 16, Tuesday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, Mark Korchman in East
October 17, Wednesday, King Solomons No. 7, Woodbury
October 17, Wednesday, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury
October 17, Wednesday, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Move Up Night-SW in the East
October 17, Wednesday, Somerset-St. James, 34, Preston
October 18, Thursday, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury
October 18, Thursday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester

October 19, Friday, Wooster, 10 No. Colchester, 7:00 p.m. dinner, WB Gerry Cross in East
October 22, Monday, Washington No. 70, Windsor, JW M. Page in the East
October 22, Monday, Annawon No. 115, West Haven
October 22, Monday, Silas Deane, 147, Newington
October 23, Tuesday, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 23, Tuesday, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 23, Tuesday, Unity, 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 24, Wednesday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock
October 24, Wednesday, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:00 p.m. dinner
October 25, Thursday, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, dinner reservations with Dennis Cyr
October 25, Thursday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 7:00 p.m., Day One of three day Fellowcraft Festival
October 26, Friday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 7:00 p.m., Day Two of three day Fellowcraft Festival
October 27, Saturday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 9:00 a.m., lunch, Day Three of three day Fellowcraft Festival

MASTER MASON DEGREE

October 4, Thursday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. potluck dinner
October 15, Monday, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 6:15 p.m. dinner
October 16, Tuesday, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 17, Wednesday, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook
October 17, Wednesday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 6:15 p.m. dinner, reservations required with JW Roger Jackson
October 18, Thursday, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven
October 19, Friday, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner
October 25, Thursday, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Craft at Refreshment...

October 1, Monday, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, presentation by Entertainment Committee
October 1, Monday, Federal No. 17, Watertown, dinner at 6:30 p.m., Ladies Night
October 2, Tuesday, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, "A Laudable Pursuit"
October 2, Tuesday, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner, DeMolay Degree
October 3, Wednesday, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, Eighty Years of Firefighters in Glastonbury - Pete Cowles, Deputy Fire Chief
October 3, Wednesday, King Solomons No. 7, Woodbury, RW Craig McClellan: "Pythagoras: Genius of Freemasonry"
October 3, Wednesday, Union No. 5, Stamford, Robert Burns Night, Poetry of Sir Robbie Burns and haggis
October 3, Wednesday, Somerset-St. James No. 34,

Preston, dinner at 6 p.m., Ladies at the Table
October 4, Thursday, Warren No. 51, Portland, 6:30 p.m., Master's Picnic
October 4, Thursday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:15 p.m. fish dinner, Program - Masonicare Friendly caller training program
October 5, Friday, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, dinner at 7:00 p.m., Awards night
October 5, Friday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 11:30 a.m. lunch, Widows Luncheon at the Shrine
October 6, Saturday, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:00 p.m. Wine Tasting Night
October 6, Saturday, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 10 a.m., Groton Fun Day, food sales
October 7, Sunday, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 12:00 noon, Dyslexia Walk, Masonic Learning Center for Children

October 7, Sunday, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 8:00 a.m., NYC Motorcoach Trip, full day in New York City-Italian Theme
October 9, Tuesday, Moosup No. 113, Moosup, 1:00-6:00 p.m., Blood Drive
October 12, Friday, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Ladies Night at the Hartford Club, contact Monty Fitzpatrick for tickets.
October 12, Friday, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner, "Ladies at the Table" Connecticut 2nd Dagoon's presentation
October 13, Saturday, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 2nd Annual "Ladies at Table"
October 13, Saturday, Union No. 5, Stamford, 9:30 a.m., Tag Sale Fund Raiser for CTCHIP
October 13, Saturday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, 5:00 p.m., Octoberfest
October 15, Monday, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Past Masters Assoc. Meeting, Oasis Restaurant, Bristol
October 16, Tuesday, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Ladies night/ Fall Festival, Doug Parkhurst: Presentation on Masonic Presidents
October 16, Tuesday, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:00 p.m., JLQ Fellowship Night (friends welcome)
October 16, Tuesday, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. light supper, Officers' meeting, cards, darts, and pool
October 17, Wednesday, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Past Masters dinner at Hawthorne Inn
October 17, Wednesday, Union No. 5, Stamford, 8:00 p.m., Movie Night: "The Man Who Would Be King"
October 18, Thursday, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Annual Awards Night
October 18, Thursday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 5:30 p.m., Lions Club Dinner
October 18, Thursday, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 5:00 p.m., Annual Pasta Supper at Nuchie's
October 19, Friday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:00 p.m., UCONN/Louisville football, manage refreshment stand
October 20, Saturday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, Oktoberfest, program by WB John Rhoads on beer making
October 20, Saturday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 8:00 a.m., Tag Sale
October 20, Saturday, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 5:00 p.m. dinner, Annual Steak Utility Dinner
October 20, Saturday, Composite No. 28, Suffield, Oktoberfest Table Lodge - "Bring a Friend"
October 21, Sunday, Estuary No. 43, Old Saybrook, 5:00 p.m. dinner, "Ladies at Table," cocktails at 4:00 p.m. at Dock 'n Dine Restaurant, Old Saybrook
October 22, Monday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Blue Lodge Council
October 22, Monday, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, History of Evening Star Lodge
October 23, Tuesday, King Solomons No. 7, Woodbury, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Fellowcraft dinner
October 24, Wednesday, Masonic Lodge of Research, New Haven, selection of next J.R. Case Fellow
October 27, Saturday, Federal No. 17, Watertown, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Steward's Dinner, at Earl's house
October 27, Saturday, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, Yankee Pot Roast Dinner, Open to the public!
October 27, Saturday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 11:00 a.m., UCONN/South Florida football, manage refreshment stand
October 27, Saturday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 10th Annual Halloween Table Lodge

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Valley of New Haven, A.A.S.R. News *by Michael L. Castroll*

The Valley of New Haven is in full swing once again. Yet even with the best preparations there always seems to be a glitch in the system. The Ninth Degree had everything set to go until a lead role and a cast director were missing due to work-related scheduling conflicts. However, everything has been put back together, and the degree (the Master Elect of Nine) will

be conferred at 285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, with our own cast on Monday evening, October 22. The director for the degree is Bro. Richard A. Eppler, 32°, MSA. Please let him know if you have an interest in taking part in the degree.

Congratulations to new Illustrious Brother Stephen P. Schreck for his attainment of the coveted 33° in August. Nominee

Sidney W. Isenberg had to hold over until next year.

Our Supreme Council also announced the nomination from the Valley of our Thrice Potent Master, Bro. Paul L. Chello. Both expect to take their 33° at the next annual session of the Supreme Council.

As you can see, my brothers, good service does not go unnoticed, but the ranks are

always too thin. Take advantage of our opportunities to expose others to the mysteries of the Scottish Rite. Don't be afraid to carry petitions and offer them to those who will learn and help! To borrow a phrase from another profession, "you can't sell from an empty wagon!" No, that's not a line from the Eleventh Degree, but it's a good one!

See you in the Valley...

Valley of Hartford, A.A.S.R. News *From the desk of David R. Blythe, Sr., Valley Secretary*

A thank you to our ladies:

I would like to reflect on the support that my lady has had for me, and my journey through the various Masonic bodies. I suspect every one of us has a similar story to tell. So to all you fine ladies out there, our deepest thanks go out to every one of you for your personal support of us, whether it be as an officer, or just a member of the Blue Lodge, York Rite, Scottish Rite, or Shrine, and for all the other things that you do for your family and our fraternity.

Much like being a police officer, fireman, or a war veteran, the Masonic fraternity is like a "Band of Brothers," each doing what he feels in his heart is the best he can do for his family, his community, and his country, in God's eyes. Without you ladies, and the love and support of our other family members, our beliefs and duties to our fellow man might not be complete.

Many women belong to the Amaranth, the Eastern Star, Daughter of the Nile, Shrine Ladies Club or another body associated with a particular body of Masonry. In the Scottish Rite there is no equivalent organization. But

I have seen the ladies of our Scottish Rite members pitch in and help run dinners for our candidates, be present when we hold a public degree, and help out in many other ways. To each of you, we here at the Valley of Hartford say, "Thanks for your support and what you do for us, every time you are called upon to support our fraternity, or to sit home alone while we go about our duties as officers, and members."

Have you attended a Scottish Rite degree lately? Have you seen the updated changes to some of the degrees? Have you had a chance to renew old acquaintances or joined in fellowship with your brothers lately? Would you like to be active in the degree work, either on stage or behind the scenes?

Why not come out and join us for the fall of 2007.

All degrees, except Consistory Day, start at 7:30 p.m. On Consistory Day the program will start at 9:30 a.m. On October 11, October 25, and November

1, dinner at the Sphinx Shrine Facility will be served at 6:00 p.m. – dinner reservations are required. Contact the Valley Secretary at (860) 666-0712 for more information.

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ATTENTION MASONS

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Upcoming Degrees

- 14° — October 1, last date for fall petitions
- 9° — October 9 (rescheduled)
- 15° — October 15
- 18° — October 29

All degree meetings are preceded by dinner at 6:15 p.m.

Consistory Day

Valley of Hartford • November 17

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.



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REMAINING FALL SCHEDULE FOR VALLEY OF HARTFORD

- Thursday, Oct. 11th - *Portrayal of the 14th Degree*
- Thursday, Oct. 25th - *Portrayal of the 15th & 16th*
- Thursday, Nov. 1st - *Portrayal of the 18th Degree*
- Saturday, Nov. 17th - *Consistory Day*
All CT Valleys taking part in 25°, 31° and 32°

For more information Contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary, at the Scottish Rite Valley Office (860) 666-0712, or at email address: sect@snet.net.

For more information regarding the Valley, or to see our upcoming schedule, visit our Valley of Hartford website www.way2go-home.com/VHtfdAASR

Pilgrim Monument Rededicated at Provincetown

Brother Skip Stamm, a 59-year member of Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, Massachusetts. He heard of the 100 year anniversary re-dedication of the Provincetown Pilgrim Monument held August 20 from his mailman at the Cape,

who is a current District Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Brother Skip invited his son, PGM Chip Stamm, and MW Bill Greene to be his guests and join in the celebration.

The plan was to re-enact the 1907 flotilla that brought

President and Brother Theodore Roosevelt to Provincetown to lay the cornerstone August 20, 1907. In place of the eight battleships which accompanied President Roosevelt, vessels of re-enacting Masons and guests departed from the north shore to form a flotilla at the entrance of Provincetown harbor. Cannons sounded and the vessels were escorted into the harbor. A procession headed by the Marlborough, Connecticut Fife and Drum Corp marched the one and a half miles to the monument.

Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, Most Worshipful Jeffrey B. Hodgdon, and a suite of distinguished Masons helped coordinate the events with the Cape Cod Pilgrim Memorial Association and the Pilgrim Monument and Museum and re-enacted the cornerstone ceremony. Senator John Kerry commented on the importance of the Mayflower Compact, which was composed while at anchor in Provincetown Harbor, "We are a great nation because of what

began on this spot."

Provincetown resident Frances Raymond, 102, attended both ceremonies, a century ago and the centennial this year. He remembered his sister telling him of the long parade in 1907.



WB Clifford Stamm, Sr. (left), and MWPGM Chip Stamm, II (right), accompany MW Bill Greene on the ferry to Provincetown.



The Provincetown Pilgrim Monument cornerstone was rededicated on August 20 by the Grand Master of Massachusetts Jeffrey Hodgdon. A parade of Masons and dignitaries included a Connecticut delegation led by MW Bill Greene.

Amaranth finds where Wayne, Maine is!

by Christina Hackett

On Friday, July 13, nine Amaranth members of the former Charity Court No. 17, Suffield (now merged with Westwood Court No. 5, Meriden) traveled to Wayne, Maine for the weekend to visit Honored Lady Helen Bidwell Green. Those who made the trip were: Ethel Brown, Judy Brewster, George Dumas, Chris and Diane Hackett, Marjorie McBride, Leslie Nielsen, Vinnie Naegeli and Judy Riley.

Through telephone conversations it became apparent that this would be quite a highlight for Honored Lady Helen, now residing in Florida. This was the first year in several that she was able to make the trip to Maine. She has "caretakers" with her around the clock, all week long. Her hair may no longer be red, but when it came time for swimming it was the "same old Helen"!

Honored Lady Helen was initiated into Charity Court No. 17 on June 17, 1935. She is one of the few Connecticut Amaranth members with over 70 years of service. Well known throughout the state, Helen is missed by many.

In her earlier years she was very active. She served Charity Court as Royal Matron in 1946 with John Ewing, in 1982 and 1983 with her husband, Sir Knight Delmar and in 1984 she served with Sir Knight Charlie Holley.

Honored Lady Helen served our Grand Court as Grand Royal Matron in 1952 – 1953 with Sir Knight Robert B. Porter. It was during this time, she established the Henry P. Wirth Fund to aid and assist needy members – a fund which has been used by many.

Oh, by the way... we did find Wayne, Maine. We seemed to travel forever, but it was only five hours from Connecticut. Wayne, Maine is between Pocasset and

Androscoogoin Lake on Route 133. Residents there need to travel to Lewiston or Auburn to find a big city. Connecticut Amaranth thanks Honored Lady Helen for a chance to find out where Wayne, Maine is.



Front, from left: Marjorie McBride, Judy Brewster, Judy Riley, Chris Hackett; Middle row, from left: Helen Green, Ethel Brown; Top, from left: Leslie Nielsen, Vinnie Naegeli, Diane Hackett, George Dumas.

Doctor of Smiles

The reach of Connecticut Freemasons and masonry can be amazing at times. Last year an article pertained to the Grottoes Doctor of Smiles Program, a Masonic Charity whose primary purpose is providing dentistry for special needs children. Hejaz Grotto of New Haven, recently had appointed Prophet David Cole as their local 'Doctor of Smiles'.

In March, a family in Connecticut, after reading the article contacted Hejaz Grotto through their 'Doctor of Smiles' in hopes that their son would be sponsored. Having met the requirements of the Humanitarian Foundation Hejaz Grotto was glad to work with the family, helping them receive the assistance they needed. Dental care for individuals with special needs is the answer to a long-standing medical need. By virtue of their special needs, many children cannot receive traditional dental services. The Grottoes have diligently labored to provide the necessary funds toward improvement in the oral health of these special children.

The Grottoes of North America offers this service to those afflicted with the following conditions:

- Cerebral Palsy
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Mentally Challenged
- Dental Care for Organ Transplant Children

The Grottoes' dental service is rendered free of charge to any child with one of the above conditions, up to the age of eighteen, regardless of race, creed or color.

This service is comprehensive in all aspects of dentistry, except orthodontics, major jaw surgery, implants or facial injury corrections. The family does not need to fit into any specific financial category. However, if the patients carry hospital or dental insurance that will defray any portion of the expense, the Grottoes of North America will act as the secondary carrier. We also do not assist if the child is entitled to Medicaid/Medical Card benefits.

Children are sponsored by a Grotto, usually coordinated by an

individual designated by the local Grotto as a 'Doctor of Smiles'.

For Hejaz Grotto our Doctor of Smiles is Prophet David Cole. If you know of any family that may wish to find out more about our program please forward them the following contact: WB David Cole, 203-214-4867/

We welcome our new brothers to the fraternity.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Dana B. McIndoe.....Ark 39 | Monty R. Wilson.....Moosup 113 |
| Charles J. Fitch.....Moosup 113 | Armand F. Bruneau.....Putnam 46 |
| Jared A. Labonte.....Moosup 113 | Bernard E. Cooney.....Putnam 46 |
| Steven R. Long.....Moosup 113 | James R. Edwards.....Putnam 46 |
| Kenneth D. Trubee.....Moosup 113 | Joshua Rimany.....St. Luke's 48 |
| Travis J. Vandale.....Moosup 113 | Zachary A. Kosan.....Union 5 |
| Leonard D. Whitsett.....Moosup 113 | |

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate this brother who this year achieved 75 years of Masonic membership.

Gunnar F. Selmquist.....Adelphi-Momauguin 63

We congratulate these brothers who this month have achieved 50 years of Masonic membership.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Albert F. Anderson Jr.....Union 40 | Andre S. Janet Jr.....Valley 36 |
| Raymond K. Bjorkman.....Manchester 73 | Roland W. Labroke.....Columbia 25 |
| David W. Chase.....Estuary 43 | Charles E. Lower.....Wooster 10 |
| Leonard S. Cohen.....St. John's 6 | Charles R. Lundberg.....Fidelity-St. John's 3 |
| Robert F. Condon.....Evening Star 101 | George G. Scott III.....America-St. John's 8 |
| Parker B. Creep Jr.....Widow's Son 66 | Gurdon H. Slosberg.....Somerset-St. James 34 |
| Albert E. Dexter Jr.....Old Well 108 | Paul R. Stoddard.....Trumbull 22 |
| Warren O. Endriss.....Corinthian 103 | John N. Thomas.....Somerset-St. James 34 |
| Edward Henson.....Liberty-Continental 76 | H. Norman Westby.....St. Paul's 11 |
| David H. Holcomb.....Valley 36 | |



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Another Side to the Shriners

by Eleanor Carbonaro

The Pyramid Shriners Pipes and Drums from Milford, founded in 1971, and the Sphinx Highlanders Pipe Band from Newington, founded in 1966, met for a joint practice session on August 22. At practice sessions, the members rehearse for events and practice the songs they already know. Songs are committed to memory since the bagpipe, unlike other band instruments, is not suitable for holding sheet music.

Both bands have been highly visible in our state and the East Coast. The monies they receive for their performances benefit the Shriners Hospitals for Children. On several occasions, the bands have joined with other fraternal organizations to co-sponsor fundraising events that benefit children with life-threatening illnesses that are not treatable at Shriners Hospitals.

Both bands are looking for men and women to be pipers and drummers, and children as young as seven may join. Free training

is provided. Membership in the Shrine or a relation to a Mason is not required.

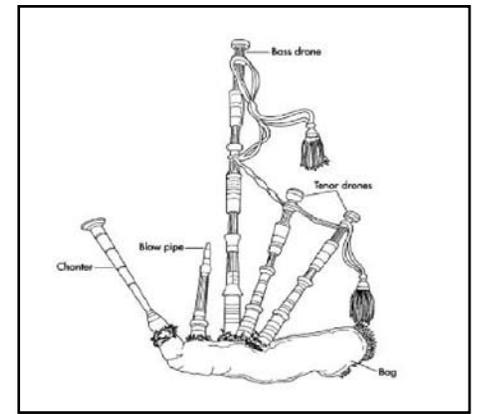
The bagpipe is a wind instrument with a number of pipes and a bag. The melody pipe, or chanter, has finger holes to help produce the tune. Three other pipes, called drones, have bass and tenor pitches. They are called drones because they produce only single notes that are tuned to the chanter. Each drone must be tuned separately. The piper puffs air into a blowpipe that fills the bag. The bag is held by the player between the side of the chest and arm. The piper's lungs and diaphragm provide air and air pressure to make the reeds vibrate in the chanter and drones to produce one melody and three harmonies with one instrument. When the piper needs to take a breath, squeezing on the bag provides the supplemental air supply to keep the bagpipe playing its continuous sound. The five pipes join the bag at wooden sockets

called stocks. Some bagpipes are heavily ornamented with sterling silver fittings, velvet or tartan bag covers and braided silk cords. The colors match those of the Scottish clan (family), military regiment, or other organization to which the piper belongs. Both Shriner bands have adopted the Ancient Mackenzie as their band tartan, and it is used to make their kilts.

Although the most familiar bagpipe is the Scottish Great Highland bagpipe, many cultures around the world use different forms as folk instruments. The oldest reference to bagpipes appears in Alexandria, Egypt, in about 100 B.C.

The Highland bagpipe is a large instrument. Five stocks for the three drones (two tenors and one bass), the chanter, and the blowpipe are tied into the bag. The blowpipe is long, so the piper can both play and march with his head erect. The drones, spread apart like a fan from the piper's left shoulder, are held apart by decorative silk cords; the bass drone is the one resting on the piper's shoulder. The chanter has nine holes including one double-valve hole and eight fingered holes. It is a wide conical bore (like a clarinet) that produces a penetrating, loud sound.

The sound has migrated with British imperialism, settlement and immigration, and with



Scottish regiments to almost every part of the world. In some places, it has become so popular that it has pushed aside native folk instruments. Piping schools, Scottish Highland Games including pipe band contests and highly trained manufacturers of Great Highland bagpipes can be found in many countries.

Interest in the bagpipe is growing steadily especially in the United States and Canada, the two largest markets in the world. Ethnic interest is prompting people to study pipe-playing because of its connection to family history. Still more players are attracted by the sound of the pipes and the feelings they stir. Pipers are encouraged by the many pipe band associations throughout the United States and Canada that provide lessons, encouragement, and a ready audience.

If you are interested in joining or would like to hire the bands, please contact Jeff Dyer at Jedubpm@aol.com or Gary Jensen at Gjensen6@mac.com.

Musical Installation



Does this look like an installation? Maybe in Hawaii! However, on August 18, the officers of the Valley of New Haven, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite were installed by a quartet of members who 'sang' the installation ceremony. The very informal ceremony, held at Ashlar Village in Wallingford, was punctuated by a number of funny songs with special lyrics to fit the occasion. After the formalities (?) were completed, the members, families, and friends enjoyed a fine dinner. Shown is the installation of Sovereign Prince Robert J. DiPasquale (left) being done for (or is that 'to') him by Brothers Randy S. Stevens, Jordan T. Yelinek, Bradley K. Cooney, and Bruce R. Bellmore. (All but Bro. Yelinek are 33° Scottish Rite Masons.) Installed in a similar light-hearted manner were Thrice Potent Master Paul L. Chello, a nominee for the 33°, and Most Wise Master Randy – or is that Scott? – Stevens. (Submitted by Ill. Robert D. Sherrick, 33°.)

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Attendance at lodges beyond the U. S. A. & Canada

by Robert G. Fitzgerald,
Grand Secretary

In the Grand Lodge office, we receive regular mailings from many of the Grand Lodges with which we "are in Amity," another way of saying we recognize each other. Each Connecticut lodge secretary receives annually a publication called "List of Lodges Masonic" which indicates what other Grand Lodges we recognize and in what countries.

The United Grand lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of England (UGLE) is one such Grand Lodge. In the "call" to its next Quarterly Communication, the report of the Board of General Purposes caught our eye as it was giving particular attention to the subject of attendance at overseas lodges of other jurisdictions. The advice below is taken primarily from that report, but has been modified so as to apply to Connecticut Freemasons of this jurisdiction.

First and foremost, it must be realized that the only Masonic visitation which is possible is to lodges which are members of Grand Jurisdictions which the Grand Lodge of Connecticut recognizes. Only brethren who are members of lodges under recognized jurisdictions may visit Connecticut lodges and vice versa.

Generally, they must produce a certificate (i.e., a Grand Lodge certificate or other documentary proof of Masonic identity provided by their Grand Lodge), should be prepared to acknowledge that a personal belief in T.G.A.O.T.U. is an essential landmark in Freemasonry, that they have the necessary esoteric "masonic knowledge" and should be able to produce evidence of their good standing in their lodge (a dues card).

When you are thinking about travel, reference to the "List of Lodges Masonic" should help

in determining recognition, but double checking with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut office is still advised. The continuing growth in overseas travel brings with it an increase in visits by our brethren to lodges of other jurisdictions, and we welcome this trend.

From time to time, brethren become involved with Masonic bodies which the Grand Lodge of Connecticut does not recognize, e.g. in visiting a jurisdiction which, quite legitimately so far as it is concerned, accepts as visitors brethren from Grand Lodges which are not recognized by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. In this connection, brethren are reminded that it is part of their duty as members of Connecticut Grand Lodge not to associate Masonically with members of unrecognized jurisdictions, and should such a situation occur, they should tactfully withdraw, even though their visit may have been formally arranged.

To avoid this danger, and potential embarrassment to hosts, brethren should not attempt to make any Masonic contact outside the United States and Canada without having first checked (preferably in writing) with the Grand Secretary's office in Wallingford, that there is recognized Freemasonry in the country concerned and, if so, whether there is any particular point which should be watched. We will pave the way for visits and provide appropriate letters of introduction.

Brethren should be aware of the Masonic convention that communications between Grand Lodges are conducted by Grand Secretaries. They should therefore not attempt without permission to make direct contact with the Grand Secretary of another Jurisdiction. This does not preclude direct contact on a purely personal level between individual brethren under different Grand Lodges.

Second Reunion of Rehab "Graduates" Held Recently at Ashlar of Newtown

In May 2004, Ashlar of Newtown dedicated a new short-term rehabilitation program at the skilled nursing facility on Toddy Hill Road. Since that time, scores of patients have benefited from the positive, encouraging environment and attentive medical and personal care they received from the professionals who staff the 30-bed rehab unit.

To celebrate the success of Ashlar of Newtown's rehabilitation program, all former and current patients and their families were invited to attend the first "reunion" in August 2006. It was so well received that the second rehab "reunion" was held on Saturday, August 11, to give "graduates" the opportunity to reconnect with other patients and the employees who played a major role in their rehabilitation. The Sixth Annual "Going Back in Time" Classic Car Show and Sock Hop, hosted by the Classic Nights Car Club of Monroe, was held on the grounds that same day so that all reunion attendees could enjoy that as well.

According to Joel S. Feigenson, MD, Medical Director for Rehabilitation Services at Ashlar of Newtown, both

patients and staff enjoyed the camaraderie and the sharing of "success" stories by many of the patients. "It was wonderful to see our former patients and hear how they've be doing since 'graduating' from the program. We are very pleased with the great response and the positive comments we received from all who attended."



Laura Laskey, Rehabilitation Services Manager, and former rehab patient Leona Reynolds of Bethlehem and her daughter, Kathy Doherty, enjoy the recent "Reunion" at Ashlar of Newtown.



Peter DelFranco of Bridgeport, a former rehabilitation patient at Ashlar of Newtown, returned to visit with staff and fellow rehab patients at the recent "Reunion" in Newtown.

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Evergreen Found in White Mountains

by Carl G. Ek

It all started at dinner after teaching a karate class at her father's school. Then Worthy Associate Advisor of Evergreen Assembly No. 44, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Hamden, Darcy Needham proposed a major event for her term. She would take her entire membership to an out-of-state Grand Assembly!

Initiated into Rainbow in 2002 at the Supreme Assembly session in Florida, Darcy had since attended supreme sessions in New York, Colorado, and Oklahoma. During her progress through the offices of her assembly, she had attended more than 30 non-Connecticut Grand Assembly sessions – including multiple visits to the other five New England states, as well as trips to New York, New Jersey, Virginia, and Canada.

As a veteran visitor, Darcy made friends and enjoyed her travels wherever she went, but knew that only a few members of her assembly had ever seen how Rainbow operates outside of Connecticut. She wanted to share her enjoyment with all the members of her assembly.

Darcy set to work planning a trip to the Grand Assembly of New Hampshire in early August. A budget for the cost of the excursion, including transportation expenses, evolved. How would these funds be developed?

With the permission of MWGM William L. Greene, a strong supporter of Masonic youth activities, Darcy sent 50 car wash tickets each to greater New Haven Masonic organizations. Groups were asked to consider a donation of \$5 per ticket to help support the June 10 fund raiser, held at Moon Cutter, the Hamden business of RW District Deputy 4A Robert C. Moon, and family.

Hiram Lodge No. 1, Trumbull Lodge No. 22, Wooster Lodge No. 79, and Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 of New Haven, Adelphi Momauguin Lodge No. 63, North Haven,

Unity Lodge No. 148, New Britain, and Alice Chapter No. 76, Order of the Eastern Star, Hamden responded and members and advisors sold tickets. The trip was now certain to go forward.

On August 3, 14 members of Evergreen Assembly and four advisors set out for Nashua, New Hampshire in cars decorated with a minimum of six 'smiley-face' magnets each, representing Darcy's mascot. They were accompanied by the Connecticut Rainbow Supreme Deputy, Mom Anne K. Needham, and, coincidentally, Darcy's mother. The group joined with more than two dozen other Connecticut Rainbow members and advisors in New Hampshire.

Only a few members of the Hamden group had traveled out of state previously, though all the members had attended Connecticut Grand Assembly sessions. All were amazed by the differences.

"I loved the assembly drill competitions," enthused Kim Cavallaro, Evergreen's Rainbow flag bearer. This is in contrast to Connecticut, where there are ritual presentations, including initiation, but no drill work. Christina Avino, assembly Immortality, said, "It was amazing. The drills were so cool!"

Jenn Sidorick, assembly Rose Lecturer, mirrored those of other Evergreen members. "It was a blast! We had the most fun at New Hampshire, there were so many girls from my assembly." She concluded, "And I love the glow sticks" –



A half-dozen members of Evergreen Assembly No. 44, Order of Rainbow, Hamden, make short work of a car they washed in June as part of the necessary fundraising for the assembly's visit to the Grand Assembly of New Hampshire in August. Group ticket purchases by several area Masonic bodies made it possible for 14 Rainbows and four advisors to attend the out-of-state session.

something apparently not seen in Connecticut, but a part of the drill programs.

Darcy's impressions? "It was worth it! All the girls got to have a new experience, everybody had a great time. It's bringing the assembly together more." Perhaps the greatest compliment came from one of the travel troupe: "Let's go again next year!"

DeMolay Front Line Takes on All Challengers



At an advisors meeting at the 2007 Connecticut DeMolay state Conclave, it became clear why there are no 'advisor vs. DeMolay' football games. At least 28 advisors are hiding behind the 8-man front wall of some of the more substantial advisors in Connecticut – though some in the rear are solid candidates for advancement to the front row!

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