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Elected to Lead the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 2008



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Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM

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GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

William L. Greene - November 2007

DATE	EVENT	SEMI-PUBLIC	DINNER	ATTIRE
November 1	MHC Investment Committee Meeting	N	N	S
	Meeting with Marriot Hotel on GL Session	N	N	C
November 3 8:30 a.m.	Wardens Seminar Ashlar Village, Wallingford	N	N	S
November 4 2:00 p.m.	New GL Office Building Dedication	N	REF	S
	Autumn Gathering Masonic Healthcare Center Auditorium	N	REF	S
November 7	Halleck Chapter No. 44, RAM, Guilford	N	Y	F
November 9	Veteran's Day at Ashlar of Newtown	Y	N	F
November 10 8:30 a.m.	CT-CHIP Awards Newington Shrine	Y	N	F
7:00 p.m.	DeMolay Grand Master's Class Masonicare Auditorium, Wallingford	N	Y	F
November 13	Ionic Lodge No. 110 North Windham	N	Y	S
November 17	Grand Lodge of Maryland	N	N	F
November 18	Grand Lodge of Maryland	N	N	F
Novemebr 22	Hapy Thanksgiving			



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Publisher

**THE GRAND LODGE
OF CONNECTICUT AF & AM**

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Grand Lodge Session Elects 2008 Leaders

by Carl G. Ek

The October 20, 2007 communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM produced little in the way of surprises. MWGM William L. Greene was received into the session, held in the New Haven Masonic Temple, and then received a large contingent of his predecessors. The altar was draped in memory of recently deceased PGM George W. Pangborn. Immediately thereafter, the delegates balloted on 7 brothers who would lead the Grand Lodge in the 2008-2009 term.

With the tellers busily counting, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment and WB Howard Orr, chairman of the Board of Managers of Masonicare, Inc. convened that corporation's 118th annual meeting. He noted that RW Ronald Thomas, Senior Grand Warden of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, would serve on Masonicare's Board. Masonicare elected three additional directors from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut - RW J. Arthur Carbonaro and MWPGM Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr. will continue on the Board, and WB Robert Simons of Meridian Lodge No. 77, Meriden was elected to join the group.

With the Grand Lodge back at labor, RW Deputy Grand Master Robert J. Stika presented the report of the budget committee. The craft was pleased to learn that there would be no need to increase any assessments in the coming year; as such, the budget passed easily.

A change of course occurred when the motion was made to continue candidate assessments at \$25 annually, with \$5 going to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial and \$20 to the Masonic Charity Foundation. MWPGM Walter E. Kaechele moved that the \$20 go instead to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc. After discussion, this change was approved. Similar action was taken for those affiliating with Connecticut lodges from other grand jurisdictions.

The report of the tellers showed the following results for the coming term of office: Grand Master, Robert J. Stika; Deputy Grand Master, Arthur H. Carlstrom; Grand Senior Warden, Charles A. Buck, Jr.; and Grand Junior Warden, James T. McWain. Elected to succeed themselves were Grand Treasurer Charles Maxson, Grand Secretary Robert Fitzgerald, and Grand Trustee Stanley S. Sheldon, PGM. These officers will be installed as a part of the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on April 6 and 7, 2008.



Brothers Stika, Carlstrom, Buck, and McWain after their October 20 election.

Going on to legislation, the Grand Master returned proposed changes to sections 2117 and 2118 to the Legal Affairs Committee for further review. Housekeeping changes in several sections were passed without debate, and it was agreed to remove numerical qualifiers to the number of lodges to be placed under the care of a District Deputy. At the request of the Grand Secretary, and in recognition of changes in technology, Section 2113, concerning the publication, distribution, and retention of Proceedings of the Grand Lodge, was modified.

MWGM Greene announced that Grand Chaplain and the Rev. David J. Williamson had accepted a pulpit in western Pennsylvania and would be departing from Connecticut before the end of October. RW Bro. Dave will remain as Grand Chaplain, but GM Greene appointed RW Past Grand Chaplain and the Rev. Craig McClellan as Associate Grand Chaplain for the remainder of his term.

RW Bro. Stika spoke about his coming term. He stated that he planned few changes, but would concentrate on improved communication through *Connecticut Freemasons* magazine and the improved web presence. He noted that in the 8th District, there were at least 19 men who have started their journey through Masonry after making contact through the Grand Lodge website.

Inspections will be allowed on any degree, but Bro. Stika, with the concurrence of MW Bro. Greene, stated that all inspections are to be completed by the end of April 2008. He also asked informally for interest in reactivating the Make-A-Wish dinners that were held earlier in the decade.

The closing speaker at the session was DeMolay Executive Officer and WB Harry E. Needham, III, who noted that three active or young Senior DeMolays had been raised in Connecticut in the last three days. He thanked the Grand Master and Connecticut Masonry for their continued interest in and support of Masonic youth, including the financial donations that made it possible to send 14 DeMolays to the Region I Leadership Training Conference in August. He reminded the craft that young men needed to learn about our organization so that they would have the interest in carrying on our work as they reach manhood years. Bro. Needham concluded by inviting all present to attend the annual DeMolay Grand Master's Class, honoring Bro. Greene, on November 10 at 7:00 PM at Masonicare.

With no further business to come before the Grand Lodge, the communication was closed at 11:20 AM, allowing the brethren outdoors to enjoy a warm and sunny morning.

Our Cover...

The inspiration for our cover comes from a 43-year-old photo by Robert Freeman. Our Grand "fab four" display a similar look of confidence, hope and dedication with which to lead our Grand Jurisdiction in 2008. "High Fidelity" takes on a new meaning when considered Masonically. We congratulate these brothers and thank them for the years they have already served.

Grand Master's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

October was an extremely busy, but very productive month.

It took 218 years, but we now have a beautiful Grand Lodge Office building. We moved into this new building about two weeks ago, and although your office staff is still sorting through the hundreds of boxes it takes to move, things are getting in order nicely. All are so pleased with the bright, spacious, and beautifully furnished building. Everything will be in order for the Grand Opening and ribbon cutting on Sunday, November 4. I have "unofficially" named the new Grand Master's office the "Wow Room." The first thing everyone says when they enter it is "Wow!"

The Nutmegger's Reunion on Cape Cod with Brother Steve McPherson and RW Carl Anderson of Masonicare was a great time. We able to meet and talk with many Connecticut brothers and their ladies that now live on Cape Cod.

I congratulate the officers that will be installed on April 7, 2008 to take over the business of our Grand Lodge. All my best wishes to RW Robert Stika, Deputy Grand Master, when he assumes the Grand East. I know the Grand Lodge will be in very capable hands

I also extend my sincere sympathies to RW Ronald A. Thomas, Sr., Deputy Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of

Connecticut, on the loss of his sister and niece in a tragic automobile accident. We all have you in our prayers and thoughts in this difficult time.

As we head into the Thanksgiving holiday, let us all take the time to thank God for the blessings that we have and our good fortune of being born or made Americans. I wish a Happy Thanksgiving to each of you, your family, and friends.

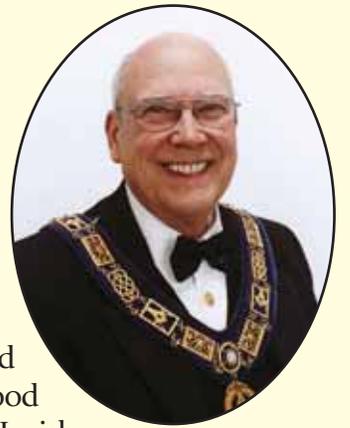
I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Lodge, Chapter, Assembly, or other meetings in the coming months.

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

Fraternally,



William L. Greene
Grand Master



Deputy Grand Master's Message

Election

Brethren, thank you for your vote of confidence by electing me to serve this Grand Jurisdiction as Grand Master for 2008-2009. I will do everything in my power to live up to your trust.

I would like to thank several people for believing in me and supporting me over the years. First and foremost, a gigantic thank you to my wife of 41 years, Sandy. Without her support and understanding I wouldn't even be in the fraternity. Next, I want to thank the members of Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34, Preston, and the Eighth Masonic District for their support. A special thanks to Brother Roger W. Read, MWPGM, for recommending me to replace him in the grand line.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Grand Masters I have served with for the past 8 years for their guidance and leadership helping to prepare me for this position: MW Brothers Leonard D'Amico, Gustaf Bodin, Walter Kaechele, Clifford Stamm, II, MW Joseph Howard, George Greytak, Charles Fowler and William Greene. Your assistance, guidance and advice have proven invaluable to me. Please keep it up, I will need all the help I can get.

As I stated at the Grand Lodge session, my motto for the year is 'MASONRY, LIVE IT.' Conduct yourselves according to the principles of our great fraternity so that the world will be convinced of the good effects of our institution.

Bob Who?

Some of you have met me, most of you have heard of me, but few may know me.

A brief history: born June 29, 1944 and raised in Kenosha, Wisconsin. I attended local schools until I joined the U.S. Navy in 1965 as a Data Processing Technician. I retired from the Navy in 1985 as a Senior Chief Petty Officer and went to work for several

different subcontractors of the Naval Underwater Warfare Center and General Dynamics. After being laid-off in 2003, I worked for the Preston Masonic Center. I decided to fully retire as of August 2006.

My Masonic career started in the spring of 1980 in Somerset Lodge No. 34, then located in Norwich. In the fall of 1980, I joined the Valley of Norwich, A.A.S.R. The next year I joined Nimrod Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R. and, thanks to Brother Duke, I became a member of the clown unit. I also belong to Sachem Chapter No. 57, O.E.S., the New London Masonic Club, New London Chapter No. 58, National Sojourners, Inc. and Fort Trumbull Camp, Heroes of '76. I am a twice Past Master of the lodge, past lodge secretary, Past Most Wise Master, Past Sovereign Prince, Past Commander-in-Chief, and secretary for the Valley of Norwich. I was District Deputy for District 8A in 1991-1993. I was appointed to the Grand Lodge line in 2000.

I have an adoring wife, Sandy. As I said, we have been married for 41 years. You would think that by this time she would know me to the point of not being fooled by me. Thank goodness she hasn't. I have two children, Bill Stika in Kent, Washington and Anne Clark, whom a lot of you may know through the Order of Eastern Star, DeMolay, and Rainbow.

Again, thank you for your vote of confidence.



Robert J. Stika
Deputy Grand Master



Grand Lodge Honors Willis E. Copeland, Jr.

by Michael L. Castroll

Willis. Need any more be said? Every one knows Willis. You've heard him play the organ, or the bagpipes, or a half a dozen other musical instruments. Additionally, Willis can take a ritual monologue and make seem as everyday conversation. Oh – that Willis!

WB Willis E. Copeland, Jr. was born in Montville, Connecticut on May 6, 1937. He says that great event was overshadowed by the Hindenberg disaster, when a zeppelin burst into flames in Lakehurst, New Jersey. If one's life might have been overshadowed by that event, Willis overcame the odds, big time!

On the sixty-third anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, 'D-Day' occurred once again. This time it was the Awards Night at Day Spring Lodge No. 30 in Hamden. A previous issue of *Connecticut Freemasons* reported the fanfare associated with the annual awards the lodge gives honoring the Police and Fire Departments of Hamden. The lodge recognizes public safety officers for their acts of heroism in the line of duty. What that article did not include was Willis E. Copeland, Jr.

Willis is well known in many byways of the craft, and built a career around tradition. When Willis went to work for the New Haven Railroad, he joined his father and uncles in what appeared a family business. Two of his sons went to work there, and the evolution of the old railroad system can be traced by researching Willis's genealogy. He was also active in the 4-H. His mother was a regional director, splitting the state with a man named James Royal Case. Such is fate!

As the son of a Mason, Willis found himself joining New Haven Chapter, Order of DeMolay, at about 15 years of age. At the same time, his mother promoted the idea that everyone should appreciate music, and encouraged him to take up an

instrument. Fate intervened. Someone said the degrees would be nicer if DeMolay had an organist. Willis knew how to play the piano, but he never played the organ. So, Willis started to tinker. Willis always tinkers! The rest is history. Willis not only became the chapter musician, but also became proficient in the ritual.

Anyone who knows Willis will say they never met anyone nicer, or with such a perpetual smile. Yet he makes the meanest Master Inquisitor you'll ever see! Go figure. Willis served in the chairs, becoming Master Councilor just before turning 21 in 1958. Willis was married at the time. He says he's not the first, and there have been others, but he may have been the last.

Willis became the father of eight. We've lost count of his grandchildren, and there is one great-grandchild. He's very proud to have been Dad, and then chairman, of New Haven Chapter when his four boys were involved. Grandson Jason Yarkosky served as Master Councilor 38 years after Willis, and yet another grandson was recently initiated in New Haven. For his contributions to DeMolay, Willis was created a Chevalier by the Supreme Council.

After taking time to settle himself and begin his seemingly



Willis Copeland receives the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze from Grand Master Greene at the June 6 Awards Night at Day Spring No. 30, Hamden.

unending family, Willis sought Masonic light in Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, where his father, several uncles, and his grandfather had served the craft, in 1964. Being a third generation member in the craft, and providing succession to the fourth, pleases him no end. Willis served Day Spring Lodge as Master in 1999. The next year, he was at the helm of Daytime Lodge No. 144 in Stratford, and

two years ago he was in the East at Masonic Lodge of Research.

Willis is an expert ritualist and a superb musician, a credit to his craft(s), in a society where one often goes unnoticed for one skill, by being typecast in another. He is found as often rehearsing the longest pieces of ritual as he is at the organ. Although he sometimes takes it on the chin for singing, his enthusiasm, and ability to involve others, is no less energetic. In fact, Willis is infectious; his zealous nature is contagious to all with whom he comes into contact.

Willis gives of himself, entirely and tirelessly. Whether playing the organ for a church service, a Veterans Day observance, or at lodge, or making the rounds with the Pyramid Shrine Pipe and Drum Corps raising money for Shriners' Children's Hospitals, Willis has a presence that can't be beat. He serves all of our appendant and concordant bodies just as well, and is well decorated for his contributions to all facets of Masonry. Is it any wonder that the Grand Lodge AF & AM of Connecticut bestowed upon WB Willis E. Copeland, Jr. the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.

Well done, good and faithful servant!



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"Would you be guilty enough?"

My wife's church recently assembled a committee to review the membership rolls. They looked at the names of everyone who had, at one time or another, joined the church. They then asked if each person was showing evidence of taking their membership seriously by being involved in the ongoing life of the congregation. Many members are very involved (they're the core group that every organization needs to prosper), some are only a little involved, but others were just names on the mailing list. This latter group was transferred to the "inactive rolls".

In a similar vein, when I filled out my ministerial profile (an expanded and fairly detailed résumé pastors use to seek a new pastorate), the form asked in what congregation was I a member, and then it asked me to list the extent of my involvement there.

Jesus once said, "Every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every

tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits" (*Matthew 7:17-20 NRSV*).

What got me thinking about this was that I'm moving to Pennsylvania, and I'm going to visit the lodge in my new hometown for the first time. Having never met me, the Worshipful Master will appoint an examining committee. They will check my 2007 dues card, administer the Tiler's oath, and then ask me the traditional ritualistic questions (see *Sections 5100-5106 of the Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations*, and "Examination of Visitors" in the Official Ritual to see how we do it here in Connecticut).

That's all well and good. But if this is like other visitor's examinations I've undergone over the years, I suspect they won't ask me (at least not until they see I have an apron case) about my involvement with Masonry. And it's too bad, because I have plenty of stories to share, and I suspect they'd be more revealing – about

what Masonry's ceremonies and teachings mean to me – than my simple recitation of the ritual.

If someone asked you about your involvement with Masonry, how would you reply? Would you speak of meeting regularly with your brethren to learn from them, and to teach them, how to be better men and Masons? Would you tell of serving your brethren, their widows, orphans, and neighbors in need? Would you explain how you live out Masonry's moral teachings in your day-to-day living, at work and at home? Or would you be limited to showing your dues card and a lapel pin?

November is when our nation celebrates people who put their beliefs into action. On the eleventh, we commemorate our veterans – men and women who put on the uniform of the armed forces and willingly put their lives on the line to defend our freedom.



Then on the twenty-second, we remember a group of people who rejected the parish system – where everyone in a defined geographical area was considered a church member in good standing, unless they opted

out – and instead declared that one's religious faith had to be evidenced by his or her living. The Pilgrims came to our shores and did just that – even after losing half of their company to death in just one winter, the survivors never lost faith in God, and found reasons to be thankful to Him.

The Pilgrims left 17th century England to escape being persecuted. If your religious faith is outlawed, will there be enough evidence in your living, speech, and writing to convict you? And in many nations and religions, Freemasonry is illegal. If that happened here, would there be enough evidence of your Masonic involvement to put you in jail?

"Every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit ... Thus you will know them by their fruits"

Masonic Veterans Association

by Bill Bryce

In 1871, barely a year after Masons first met to create the Shrine, some Connecticut Masons got together to create an association known as the "Masonic Veterans". Membership was limited to those Master Masons with over 25 years of membership in masonry. Many mistakenly believe service in the armed forces makes a veteran, but with this group the requirement is Masonic, not military service.

The Masonic Veterans meet once a year for a dinner, short business meeting, and a social time with each other and their spouses. Traditionally they meet the first Saturday after Grand Master's Day for lunch. The leader is currently Venerable Master Philip Swain, Jr., and there is an Associate Venerable Master appointed for each of the nine Masonic districts in Connecticut.

Some of the Associate Venerable Masters read like a "who's who" throughout the state: "Skip" Sharples, Roger Read, Dick Bogart, Ken Cornell, Fred Stein, Bill Demetriades, and Irving Lieff, to name a few.

Twenty-five years a Mason and a five dollar dues payment are all the requirements to join. The Masonic Veterans of Connecticut hope to see you at their next meeting. For more information, contact Secretary Bill Bryce at 860-643-4384.

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MW George Pangborn Called Home

by Michael L. Castroll

The roll of the workmen has been called and yet another Master Mason has not answered. This wasn't 'any' Master Mason. This was Most Worshipful Brother George Washington Pangborn.

George W. Pangborn, Jr. was born on August 9, 1927 in Staten Island, New York. He attended local schools, graduating from McKee Vocational Technical High School. While in high school, he joined the Civil Air Patrol, then served in the United States Army during World War II.

After the war, George entered the business world. A graduate of New York's esteemed Pratt Institute, George was employed by several prestigious architectural engineering firms. One of these firms needed George at their Windsor office, so George was on his way to Connecticut. On his way, George married the former Jo-Ann Langley on June 2, 1956, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

The family grew, adding children Linda, Janet, and Robert. Linda and husband WB Arthur W. Stauff are the parents of four, including Brothers Samuel and Kenneth Stauff. Janet and Bro. William Crosscup, IV, are the parents of one, and Brother Robert and wife Mary presented George with a pair of grandchildren. Additionally, great granddaughter Abby met George at his 80th birthday party in New York in August.

Brother George W. Pangborn, Jr. began his Masonic career in 1961, being raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason on November 15, 1961 in St. Mark's Lodge No. 36, Simsbury. It didn't take George long to take an active role in the lodge. In 1962 he served as president of the Fellowcraft Club, and the following year he received his first appointment to the officer line of St. Mark's

Lodge. He served as Master in 1971, the 175th anniversary year of St. Mark's Lodge. He was also secretary of the lodge for 12 years.

After his year in the East was over, WB George served as president of the lodge's Past Masters Association and of the Fifth District Blue Lodge Council. In 1978-80, RW George served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy of District 5A. Always busy serving his brethren, George was chairman of the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture and Public Relations. In 1982, George received the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.

George's service to youth is well documented. He served as Dad Advisor and chairman of the Advisory Council for Thomas H. Desmond Chapter, Order of DeMolay. For his advisory service he received the Cross of Honor from DeMolay International. He also served as a Boy Scout advisor for Simsbury's Troop 76.

George sought further light in Masonry's appendant and concordant bodies; the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Shrine, Amaranth, and National Sojourners. He served as wife Jo-Ann's Worthy Patron of Hesper Chapter No. 71, Order of the Eastern Star. The Pangborns also participated in square dancing, and both George and Jo-Ann served their club as president.

In 1986, George was appointed to the Grand Lodge line, culminating as Connecticut's 148th Grand Master in 1994. During his term, the Grand Lodge office was internally rebuilt, creating a private office for the Grand Master and plural memberships were authorized.

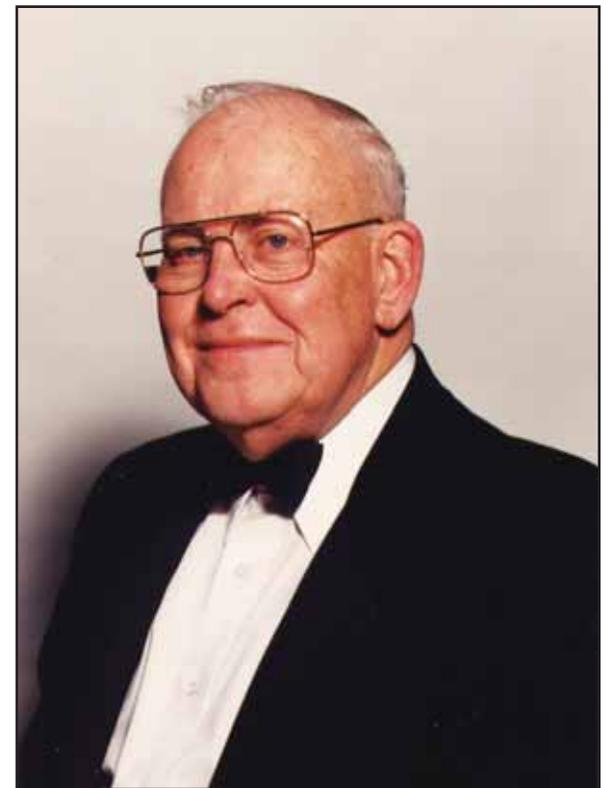
As an associate member of Philosophic Lodge of Research,

he revised the book of maps for the Grand Lodge. He also served as Grand Representative from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey near Connecticut. It is noteworthy that some of the most distinctive Masonic building signs were designed and crafted by George Pangborn – he was always doing something for his beloved craft.

After Jo-Ann's death, George relocated to Bethlehem with daughter Linda and husband Art. As his condition became frail, he moved in with son Rob and his wife, Mary, at their home in Maybrook, New York. There, surrounded by family, the lion went out quietly on October 4, being summoned to the

eternal presence of the Supreme Architect.

Personally chosen by Bro. Pangborn, MWPGM George S. Greytak led a Masonic service attended by over 65 brothers and nearly a dozen fellow Past Grand Masters. The funeral service the next day brought more brothers and additional Past Grand Masters to tender their final farewell.



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On October 4, Connecticut lost another Past Grand Master as MW George Washington Pangborn passed to the celestial lodge. Before and after his service in the Grand East in 1994 he served Masonry well from the time he was initiated in St. Mark's Lodge No. 36, Simsbury, in 1961 until his final days. This Grand Historian was privileged to serve with MW Pangborn and his devotion to Freemasonry will make a mark on Connecticut Masonry.



Several Grand Historian's columns ago I mentioned Bro. George L. Lilley, who was a member of Harmony Lodge No. 42, Waterbury. He was born in Oxford, Massachusetts in 1859 and was the first Governor in 100 years to die in office. Bro. Lilley came to Waterbury in 1881 and engaged in the mercantile business. He served one term in the Connecticut General Assembly and in 1902 was elected to Congress. He was reelected in 1904 and 1906. In 1908 he was elected Governor of Connecticut, passing

away only three months and 10 days after his inauguration. Bro. and Governor George Lilley had been a Mason for 22 years, having been raised on May 6, 1887.



One hundred and ninety years ago (1817), Solomon Cowles was in the Grand East for the May 14 session. Other officers were James Ward (SGW), John H. Lynde (JGW), Henry Champion, Grand Treasurer, and John Mix, Grand Secretary. A communication received from Deputy Grand Master Aaron Smith noted that he had relocated to New York City and could not be considered for any office in the Grand Lodge. James Ward became Deputy Grand Master. The petition for a lodge in Plymouth was rejected but a petition from brothers in Torrington was accepted and the lodge was designated Seneca No. 55. Three lodges were declared delinquent as they were not in attendance and were delinquent in their returns. Two offered reasons and their penalties were



remitted, but Mount Olive No. 52 had no excuse and penalties were charged. Village Lodge No. 29 was not permitted to hold meetings in both Canton and Barkhamsted despite their plea to do so. The October 15 session of the Grand Lodge was held in New Haven. Mount Olive Lodge No. 52 offered reasons why their previous penalty should be remitted and the assemblage agreed to remit the penalty.



With the erection and impending ribbon cutting of new Grand Lodge offices, we welcome a new edifice in which all Connecticut Freemasons can take pride. The converted garage and poultry barn is no more. A building representing what Connecticut Freemasonry is trying to display stands proudly at the entrance to the Wallingford campus of Masonicare.



The Thanksgiving season of November offers the Masonic fraternity opportunities to reflect on what they are thankful for. There is no question that the insight of Masonic leaders of yesteryear helped to strengthen Connecticut Freemasonry for the last 250-plus years. From David Wooster to Pierpont Edwards to Luke Lockwood and George Sturges to Charles Ramage and Arthur Simpson, the leadership of Freemasonry has helped to make our great fraternity strong.

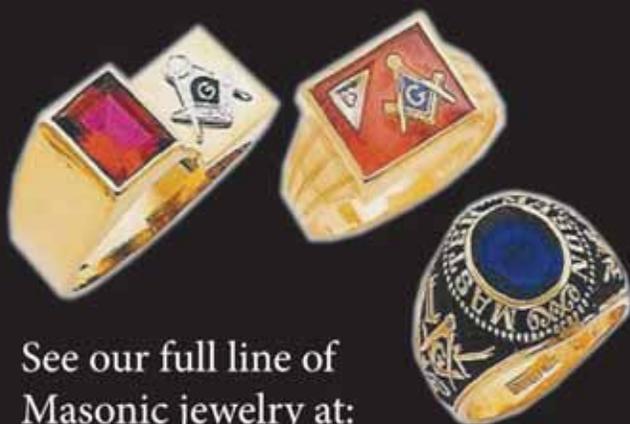


It was twenty years ago this month that my friend and Brother and Connecticut's eloquent Grand Historian, James Royal Case, passed to the celestial lodge above. My close Masonic association with him was only eight years, but I still recall the conversations we had as we drove from Lebanon to various points in Connecticut, his love for the fraternity and his knowledge of Masonry. This month I dedicate the column to the memory of both MW George Pangborn and RW James Case, legends in Connecticut Freemasonry.

We thank our Masonic brothers for their continued support



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Scottish Rite Confers 33° on Connecticut Masonic Leaders

Four Connecticut Freemasons were among a group of 174 selected to receive the 33°, the highest honor of Scottish Rite Masonry, in late August ceremonies held in Washington, DC. The recipients were chosen from the 15 states that comprise the 230,000 member Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States for outstanding service to Freemasonry or for significant contributions to humanity that reflect credit upon the fraternity. From left are: David R. Blythe, Sr.; Richard R. Jones, Jr.; Steven P. Schreck; and Arthur H. Carlstrom.

The joint session was also an opportunity for 47 Grand Masters (pictured below) from throughout the United States to gather for an historic photograph. Connecticut's own MW Bill Greene is prominent in the front row, seventh from the left.

Former Senator and astronaut John H. Glenn, Jr. was the keynote speaker at the joint session. The Northern Masonic Jurisdiction conferred the Gourgas Medal on Illustrious Brother Glenn for his distinguished service.



Valley of New Haven Presents "A Night with Abe"

by Michael L. Castroll

There are a number of theories as to Abraham Lincoln's possible membership in the craft. Many of them emanate from one of Bro. George Washington's adjutants, Benjamin Lincoln, who took Cornwallis' sword at Yorktown.

Also, Abraham Lincoln spoke at Masonic funerals, and was himself given the same rites by many lodges following his untimely death. Yet, he stated, "...though I am not a freemason, I hold that institution in high esteem." That particular quote and others were portrayed in the public degree, "A Night with Abe," staged by the Scottish Rite at the Valley of New Haven.

The concept for this production was the brainchild of Ill. Jack H. Stevens, MSA, 33°, chairman of the Family Life Program of the Valley. The production was preceded by dinner prepared in his usual manner by Sovereign Prince Robert J. DiPasquale. From soup to

demitasse, with multiple entrée choices, good food and fellowship filled the banquet hall at the New Haven Masonic Temple.

At 8:00 PM all were seated in the Greek Room for the program, directed by Ill. Robert D. Sherrick, MSA, 33°. Ill. Steven P. Schreck, MSA, 33° presented the prologue providing the background for the degree: President Lincoln was back in the White House following the dedication of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg after the great three-day battle there. Ill. Bradley K. Cooney, 33° played Abraham Lincoln to the hilt.

The first supporting character to appear was the secretary to President Lincoln, James Blair, extraordinarily played by Allan G. Meyerjack. He opened the door to President Lincoln's true feelings about Freemasonry as one about to take his Fellowcraft Degree and needing the night off. Lincoln had been considering "why he received

no response to his address" at Gettysburg as he empathized with the anguish of a mother who lost all five of her sons to the war when Blair arrived.

The President in seen in deep thought as he walked from the White House to visit the troops outside the city limits. During this sojourn, he is met by young Warrington Blair, whose wounded brother lay in an infirmary, a martyr of the Confederacy. "Warrie" Blair was played by Ill. Howard D. Turner, MSA, 33°, of the Valley of Norwich, and Ill. Bruce R. Bellmore, MSA, 33°, was Carter Blair, his wounded brother. The degree ends with President Lincoln visiting the wounded Confederate, and reiterating his Gettysburg Address. It was spine tingling.

Many of the events portrayed actually did happen, and others could have happened, but as the events were depicted, don't we wish they could have happened just that way?

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What is Masonry?

by Ken Baril

I often ask myself, "Why I am proud to be a Mason?" Then I contemplate those things Masonry has brought me. The feelings of warmth, friendship and potential comfort in times of distress are always with me, yet they seem more apparent in lodge.

Masonry takes those things within us that are weaker and more vulnerable and makes them stronger. It is a kind of storehouse of moral fiber, as well as a refuge from a seething world.

To be at lodge affords a time of tranquility and peacefulness, and this aspect of our brotherhood is most rewarding. In a society in which men may feel alone and alienated, it is comforting to be with others who share the same feelings.

More importantly, we are able to carry those feelings away from lodge and practice them in our daily living and dealings with others; to make brothers of all men, for we are all brothers in a broader sense. Masonry teaches we should attempt to live by these precepts, whether they are fully achieved or not. By their pursuit alone, successful or not, we have become better men; in effect, better Masons.

What do I bring my lodge in return? My dues are insignificant

and matter little in the larger realm. I do what I can for my lodge without thought of "repayment" and I know that if called on again I would perform to the best of my ability. That, I think, is the essence of Masonic teachings. We take from our fraternity and we give back; it is a sort of unending and open-ended life of ethics that renews itself.

What does Masonry do for my community? We must realize the Masonic order is primarily interested in the welfare of its own. Self-interest and self-perpetuation are its strengths and foundation. The presence of a Masonic lodge in any community is an asset. The teachings of our order do not lie strewn about the lodge-room floor when the Master has closed his lodge, to be picked up again like comfortable old clothes at the next meeting. They are dispersed into the community from the minds and hearts of all the brothers. In this way, the teachings of Masonry do indeed benefit the community.

Who is to say that a certain flower in a bouquet does not impart a particularly wonderful aroma to the bouquet, without whose presence the scent might be much less inviting? So it is with a Masonic lodge in any community. It enhances the "aroma" of communal living in a subtle but definite fashion.

This contribution even outweighs community events in which our lodges regularly participate. Reverence for our Creator and friendship for our fellow man are as permanent as the stars in heaven.

Finally, I ask myself again, "Why did I become a Mason?" My answer is the same as the mountain climbers; because Masonry was there and I felt its call; to become a better man, to be a more compassionate brother, and to be a more deserving servant to the Grand Architect of the Universe. What more could any man want to be, or ever hope to be?

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Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut President Jennifer A. King Recertified as a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE)

Jennifer A. King, president of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, has been recertified as a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) by CFRE International.

CFRE International is an independent organization whose sole mission is dedicated to the certification of fundraising executives by setting standards in philanthropy. Individuals granted the CFRE credential have met these standards, which include tenure in the profession, education, demonstrated fundraising achievement and a commitment to service to not-for-profit organizations.

Candidates for CFRE recertification had to

initially pass a rigorous written examination testing the knowledge, skills and abilities required of a fundraising executive.

Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, President and CEO of Masonicare, said "Jennifer's recertification as a CFRE is just one example of her dedication and commitment to Masonicare and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. Her ethical and professional demeanor, along with her outstanding leadership and fundraising skills, have been invaluable to Masonicare. Her efforts have helped us continue to be a leader in providing quality healthcare and retirement communities for seniors."



Jennifer A. King

LEARN HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR ASSETS:

Ashlar of Newtown/Lockwood Lodge Hosting Free Educational Seminar

Ashlar of Newtown, Masonicare's skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility on 139 Toddy Hill Road, and its adjacent assisted living community, Lockwood Lodge, are hosting a free informational seminar for the community on **Thursday** evening, November 8, from 6 to 8 pm.

Most people know that in today's financial climate, it is especially important to minimize the danger of losing personal wealth and assets should the need for long-term care become a reality.

Attorney Fowler-Cruz, who has been designated a Certified Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation, will discuss the importance of "Asset Protection Planning Should You Need Long-Term Care." Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

Attorney Fowler-Cruz of Cohen and Wolf, PC, will offer sound, practical advice and answer questions on a broad range of

important subjects, including:

- Legal techniques you can use to protect assets
- Strategies for protecting your home
- Planning strategies for the disabled
- Spousal protection under Title XIX
- The role of long-term care insurance in estate planning

Seating for this important seminar is limited, so if you would like to attend, please RSVP by **November 2** to Margaret O'Neill at 203-364-3211.

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DISTRICT No. 1

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

Monroe Masonic Lodge Presents Laptop Computer

by Maury Heim

On August 13, the members of Washington Lodge No. 19, Monroe, presented a Lenovo Laptop computer to Joel Santiago (holding his laptop). Joel is surrounded by the brothers of the lodge and has his arm around his birth brother.

Washington Lodge No. 19, with the assistance of Masuk High School, selects a worthy candidate each year for the award

of a laptop for college. The school helps the lodge select a computer with software which will be most compatible for the college the student will attend.

Joel is a 2007 graduate of Masuk High School and is attending Naugatuck Valley Community College, majoring in nutrition science. He was originally presented with a certificate at the May awards ceremony at the high school.



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*For any brothers who called me during December,
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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

Connecticut Colonials at Labor in Alexandria

by Dave Liedlich

King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury, with dispensation from the Grand Lodges of Connecticut and Virginia, put on an Entered Apprentice Degree at Alexandria-Washington Lodge No. 22, Alexandria, Virginia, at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, using Connecticut ritual. The September 29 date was set to coincide with a military encampment of the Continental Line at Mt. Vernon, Virginia. The Continental Line is the premier American Revolutionary War organization whose primary

goals are to guide and coordinate military re-enactment units, promote historical accuracy and increase public interest, in the roots of United States history.

Bro. Albin Weber, also a Revolutionary War re-enactor, is a long-time friend of King Solomons Worshipful Master David Liedlich. Brothers from 8 different Connecticut Lodges, some in camp at Mount Vernon, took part in the degree. Bro. Weber wanted to take the opportunity to join Masonry while WM Liedlich sat in the east at King Solomons.

RW Mike Sutilla, District Deputy 1-B, long a Revolutionary War re-enactor, had the idea to make it happen while the re-enactors were at George Washington's home.

Others who traveled to Virginia specifically for the degree donned Revolutionary War uniforms.

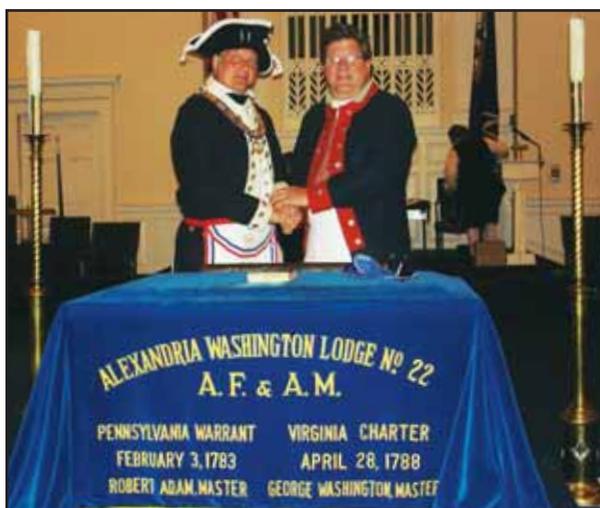
Bro. Douglas Wood, Senior Warden at Alexandria-Washington Lodge No



The Connecticut Colonials in Alexandria: (front row, from left) WB Richard Swartout, RW Mike Sutilla, Bro. Albin Weber, WB David Liedlich, Bro. Walter Mazursky, RW and Dr. Craig McClellan; (middle row, from left) WB Barry Buzzell, Bro. Peter Aliferis, Bro. Ted St. Amand; (back row, from left) WB Greg Schroder, WB Tim Quinn, VW Lem Johnson.

22, was present to observe the degree, and assist the brethren setting up. "Tis the Ritual that was the glue for the evening, and the Friendship of the Brothers that made it such a pleasant experience" wrote Bro. Richard Swartout, Madison Lodge No. 87, Madison.

During the weekend the visitors took a moonlight walk of Mt. Vernon carrying candle lanterns, which proved to be a very moving experience. These same conditions as George Washington lived left all with a deeper understanding of both Freemasonry and the Revolution.



RW Mike Sutilla and Bro. Albin Weber at the Alexandria altar.

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

The Masonic Service Association – Serving West Haven

by Michael L. Castroll

The Fourth Masonic District has been taking advantage of a gold mine in their midst. It is called the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC). The panning is done through the Masonic Service Association's VA Hospital Visitation Program. The gold is still there, but the glitter often gets overlooked. Recently, Bro. Marcus White of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 retired as the local MSA representative after nearly 10,000 volunteer hours of service. It's time the story was told, as there was never any intention to make this

program another Masonic secret.

When our nation was in her genesis, Masons throughout the fledgling nation approached General George Washington with a proposal that the new nation have her own Grand Lodge, and that he serve as the national Grand Master. He politely refused, saying "the states are each sovereign and the grand jurisdictions within them should serve the brothers therein." And so it remains.

Skip to the end of World War I. There was a hue and cry from several Grand Lodges appealing to the federal government

for veterans' assistance. The government response was to say, "We can't talk to so many jurisdictions. We will hear the pleas of those jurisdictions through one representative body." The Masonic Service Association was born in 1919 to fill that need.

After World War II, the federally owned William Wirt Winchester Tuberculosis Sanitarium in West Haven, which had also housed some veterans, was converted into a full-time Veterans Hospital, opening its doors

see **MSA IN WEST HAVEN**, page 15

District 4 Team Confers the PC Degree in District 7

by David O. Stern

Brotherhood is a word with many meanings. To some it is one-on-one help when your brother needs a favor. To others it is one lodge allowing a candidate to have his degree performed in another lodge or by sending brothers to fill in parts of degrees that a particular lodge may not be able to cover.

To the brothers of the Fourth District's Perfect Craftsmen Degree Team, it meant leaving its cozy central Connecticut stomping grounds and setting out for the wilds of Haddam. Why Haddam? The Seventh District's Blue Lodge Council was meeting at Granite Lodge No. 119, which is located in Haddam. The Seventh District had not offered its lodges the chance to partake in the Perfect Craftsman Degree in a number of years. It heard that the Fourth District had a team presenting the PC degree under the direction of

RW Lew Bither (yes, that Uncle Lew). When contacted, Uncle Lew of course accepted the Seventh District's gracious invitation to portray the degree and off we went to Haddam.

Team members from seven different Fourth District lodges traveled to Haddam and conferred the PC Degree on 33 brothers representing most, if not all, of the nine lodges in District 7. Several sitting Worshipful Masters and past and present District Deputies sought this additional light, and did another pair of well-known luminaries: RW Grand Marshal Simon LaPlace and Worshipful Guide Dog Thor, who was accompanied by WB Stephen Thal.

Those of you that have not yet received the Perfect Craftsman Degree are probably wondering how you can. The answer is simple. The Fourth District's PC Degree team will be happy to

take its show on the road again. All lodges or Blue Lodge Councils need to do is contact Uncle Lew

(RW Lewis P. Bither) during the day at (860) 349-1715 and arrange a mutually agreeable date.



The Fourth Masonic District Perfect Craftsmen Degree Team. At the center rear is WB James V. Cesario, Jr., who presides as the Master Overseer of the team. Timekeepers RW Bros. Bill Demetriades and Charlie Buck are third from left and right, and team organizer RW Uncle Lew Bither is fourth from left.



The 2007 class of 33 Perfect Craftsmen from the 7th Masonic District.

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

MSA in West Haven...

(continued from page 13)

in 1950. As the years passed, many of the arriving in-patient vets were brother Masons. This was noted by WB Carl Von Allmen of Annawon Lodge No. 115 of West Haven in 1971. He seized the opportunity to provide the Masons of the Fourth Masonic District a means for serving our veterans and other disabled brothers in the process. (No doubt our own MWPGM Conrad Hahn was quite pleased with the reaction by the district as he was serving as Executive Secretary of the MSA at the time.)

Since that time, MSA hospital visitors have been at their post at the VAMC in West Haven, tending to the needs of brethren, and acting as hosts for the lodges who



come every Sunday to escort ambulatory patients to church services. At one time, there were more than 50 patients to bring to the chapel in Building 2. Then reconstruction sent many of the long-term residents to neighboring convalescent homes, and the chapel was dismantled and put in storage. Now there is a new chapel but far fewer inpatient veterans to serve on Sundays.

Over the years, WB Warren Adams, Bro. Marcus White, and I have followed Bro. Von Allmen as representatives of the MSA at the West Haven VA, with a supporting staff including Brothers Curt Manseau, Chester Trueheart, WB John Mari, and Bro. Gerry Paolillo. RW Bro. "Uncle Lew" Bither has been most gracious in sending reminders to the Masters of the lodges whose obligations

are on the horizon for visitation, and faithful brothers regularly show up with contingents from their lodges. Reverend and RW Bro. Earl T. Williams lent support from his pulpit at the Masonic Home.

It has long been a tradition for the Most Worshipful Grand Master to attend at least one VA service, but that, as well as the lodges and their numbers, have been waning for the past dozen years. After a long-time chaplain retired a few years ago, getting and keeping Protestant chaplains has been a task. At the end of June, West Haven's most recent chaplain moved to another VA in Michigan. Without a chaplain, a hiatus in Sunday visits was called, but one is promised to be forthcoming. Maybe there'll be a Christmas present...

If you have a chance to make a lodge visitation to the West Haven VAMC, don't shirk the opportunity. All you'll feel is good.

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

Open House in Unionville

The Unionville Festival, on September 30, was the perfect opportunity for Evening Star Lodge No. 101 to let visitors tour the lodge room and ask about Freemasonry. Hundreds of local residents, businesses, and civic organizations gathered in the center of Unionville, where the lodge is situated.

Lodge members staffed a booth and invited guests up to the lodge room, offering conversation and pamphlets and answering questions about the mission of Freemasonry. The annual event is sponsored by the Tunxis Hose Company and brought together the community under sunny skies. Pictured here, WB Doug Ross (left) and RW Fred Taft discuss Masonry with

an interested couple.

On October 27 over 55 Masonic temples including all Prince Hall lodges were open to the public as part of Grand Masters' Greene and Bagwell's invitation to the public.

Packets of informational handouts were made available at the Grand Lodge Communication in New Haven.



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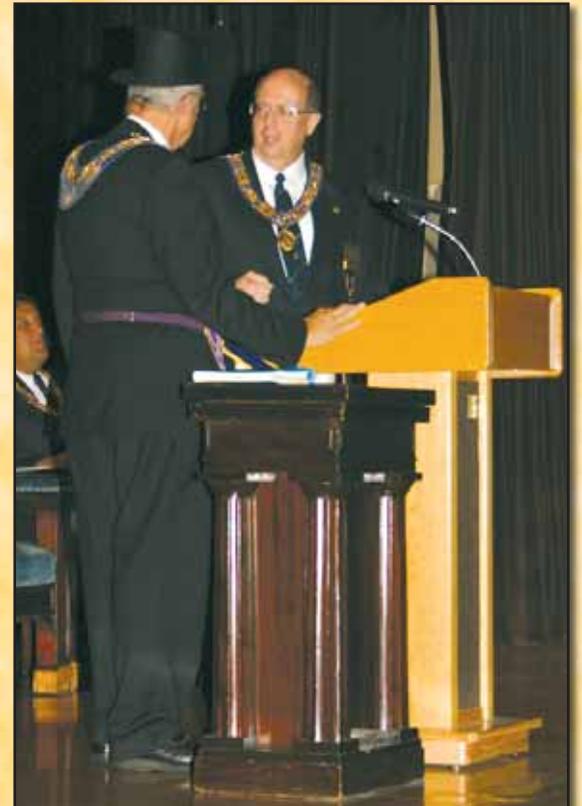
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October 20 Grand Lodge Communication

Top left: Introduction of the Past Grand Masters of Connecticut

Top right: Brother William L. Greene, Most Worshipful Grand Master

Middle left: Brother Robert J. Stika, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master

Middle center: Reverend and Brother David J. Williamson, Right Worshipful Grand Chaplain

Middle right: WM Greene thanks RW Williamson for service to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut

Bottom: Free lemonade courtesy of Meriden Assembly No. 11, Order of the Rainbow for Girls

Connecticut Freemasons Foundation

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc. was established in 2004 to support the good works of Masonry by helping to make our communities better places in which to live. To that end, donations go to two funds of the foundation.

The first fund is for CTCHIP (Connecticut Child Identification Program). With the help of your donations, we have upgraded the identification packet which parents receive to the new "Purple Pack." This small, easy to carry and readily available packet is becoming recognized by law enforcement personnel as the most comprehensive child identification tool that they can use to find lost or missing children. Brothers across the state have donated their time at events producing thousands of "Purple Packs," which consist of fingerprint cards, a DVD disc with a recorded interview and photos, saliva swabs and toothprint wafers.

All items included in the "Purple Pack" are completed by

teams of brothers and given to parents at no charge.

Money donated to the Foundation for CTCHIP is used directly to purchase new supplies and equipment. There are now two central inventory locations to service the nine sets of equipment across the state. Recently the event at the TV-30 Health and Safety Fair at the Hartford Convention Center gave away hundreds of "Purple Packs," and at the same time, promoted the good works of Connecticut Freemasonry to thousands of visitors there.

All other donations to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation are deposited into a permanent endowment fund, which has grown to over \$800,000. Only the earnings from this invested money can be used for gifts to charitable purposes, educational causes and training as approved by the Grand Lodge. The board of directors consists of five Master Masons, the Grand Master and

the Deputy Grand Master.

Each year the Grand Master recommends where these earnings should be distributed. This year there are several recipients.

The 32° Masonic Learning Center in Waterbury provides free tutoring for children to overcome the barrier of dyslexia. The Masonic Service Association provides phone cards for service members overseas. The George Washington Masonic National Memorial continues to promote the virtues, character, and vision of the Father of Our Country.

The Masonic Renewal Committee is dedicated bring about the renewal of Freemasonry as an active, viable and relevant institution. The Governor's Prevention Partnership mission is to assure that Connecticut kids are safe, successful, and drug-free.

Earnings from the Foundation also go directly to the Shriners Boston Burns Hospital and the Shriners Springfield Orthopedic Hospital. The two medical

centers assist Connecticut children by provide specialized pediatric care at no charge. Other allocations will go to Masonichip support committee and the National Masonic Foundation for Children.

In June of this year, Grand Master Greene sent each Connecticut Freemason a request for support of the Foundation, along with two decals as thanks for supporting Connecticut Freemasonry. As we pass the half-way point of this year long appeal, won't you consider making a donation, if you haven't already? Or if you have previously designated your donation to one fund, won't you consider supporting the other at this time?

Donations may take the form of direct payments, or deferred as an estate bequest, or even as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy. The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.



God Bless America!



Connecticut Freemasons

Connecticut Freemasons Foundation Inc. P.O. Box 69, Wallingford, CT 06492

Yes, I want to help support the charitable and educational works of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. Enclosed please find my/our contribution of:

- \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000
 CTCHIP Grand Lodge Permanent Endowment Fund

Please make your check payable to: Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Friendship Tuscan on the Road

by Jim Wilson

September 28, 29, and 30 are three days that a Masonic lodge in the city of "Brotherly Love" will remember for a long, long time. Friendship Tuscan Lodge No.145, Manchester, made their annual lodge trip to Philadelphia this year to visit the apartments of Hackenburg - Mt. Moriah Lodge No.19.

Planning started in October 2006 when Friendship Tuscan was authorized to contact the secretary of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge. Contacts were established with Hackenburg - Mt. Moriah Lodge No.19.

In early April, WM John DiCioccio, Jr., and JW Jim Wilson traveled to Philadelphia. They met with WM Gil Stein and SW Michael Feldsher and plans were set. A hotel was selected, dates set, and plans for activities discussed in detail.

In late June, Jim Wilson and his lady Nancy traveled again to Philadelphia to make the

final plans. Enough reservations to fill a 55 passenger bus came from Canada, Bermuda, New York, as well as Connecticut brothers. Friendship Tuscan Lodge No.145 was accompanied by Grand Master William Greene, and his lady Sandie as well as PGM Charles Fowler and his lady Muff.

The lodge did a full Hiram Legend of the Master Mason's Degree to a full lodge room for their own candidate, Bro. Michael Duncan. The historic "Egyptian" lodge room was the setting.

The visiting brothers were delighted as most had never seen this degree portrayed as it was by Friendship Tuscan Lodge. The ladies enjoyed the Broadway play, "Menopause, the Musical" while



Brothers and their wives from Friendship Tuscan Lodge No.145 in front of the Masonic Temple in Philadelphia on the annual Lodge trip, September 28 – 30, 2007. Please notice the Brother on the sidewalk, so overcome with the Beauty and Magnificent of the Temple that has been constructed by the workmen from the quarries.

photo courtesy of Bro. Andrew Warren

lodge was in session.

Saturday was a day for touring Philadelphia, including the entire Masonic Temple, and parts of the "Heritage Trail." A banquet at the hotel hosted 77 brothers and ladies. Friendship Tuscan Lodge has been invited to

visit a lodge of Scottish registry in Bermuda, to join in friendship with a lodge from Utica, NY, and even to visit Canada. Their annual trip to a different lodge in a different jurisdiction has lots of opportunities for the next coming years.



MW Bill Greene joins the cast of Friendship Tuscan No. 145 as they display Connecticut ritual in the "City of Brotherly Love."

DISTRICT No. 7

(a) RW Edgar M. Valenti, DD • WB William V. Baroni, AGM
(b) RW Richard E. Backe, DD • WB Michael W. Moody, AGM

State Police Team to Visit Middletown

by Dana Brochu

WM Dana Brochu, St. Johns Lodge No. 2, Middletown, reminds those interested in attending the Master Mason degree performed by the State Police Degree Team, on Saturday, November 17 to make a

reservation for lunch. The degree will start at 10:30 a.m. then break for a roast beef lunch, and resume for the second half. Cost of the meal is \$10. WB Brochu can be contacted at dabro60@gmail.com or 860-214-6041. The Masonic hall is handicap

accessible with a spacious elevator.

This unique event will raise several police officers from various lodges across Connecticut by this special degree corps which limits its appearances to their law enforcement brothers.



DISTRICT No. 8

(a) RW William L. Milton, DD • WB David M. Costner, AGM
(b) RW Francis E. Rebmann, Jr., DD • WB I. William Clark, AGM

Brainard Lodge Hosts German Brothers

One of the most interesting presentations from the Eighth District is Brother Axel Mahlke's explanation of the differences between German and Connecticut's Freemasonry. He accompanies a Power Point slide show with an informative commentary describing ritual, make-up, and a recent visit to his father's lodge, Friedrich Zum Weissen Pferd Lodge (White Horse Lodge) of Hanover, Germany.

On October 9, Brainard Lodge No. 102, Niantic, was host to a visit from the German lodge for the Fellowcraft Degree. With Grand Master Bill Greene and his visiting father looking on, Senior Deacon Mahlke superbly presented the Middle Chamber lecture. In this photo, Bro. Axel stands behind his father and the visitors of Friedrich Zum Weissen Pferd Lodge, along with Brainard Worshipful Master Stan Price (left). Many of the German brothers were accompanied by their wives for their week-long visit to the United States, enjoying touring and a Ladies at Table dinner on October 12.



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No. 49 RAM**

Saturday, December 17

**Annual Christmas
Sing-a-long**

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featuring the Grand Master,
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Most Puissant Grand Master,
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Putnam Lodge Has a Very Successful Year

by Michael B. Dodge

For many lodges, receiving 23 petitions in one year would be an accomplishment all to itself. At Putnam Lodge No. 46 in South Woodstock it was just the beginning! WM Barry L. Kromer, the first Past Master to serve a second term in the East since MW Stanley S. Sheldon, Jr. in 1986, had a year to be proud of, even if the lodge hadn't raised so many new members!

WM Kromer's year began in December at Putnam Lodge's Annual "Fumigation," where he was installed by MWPGM Sheldon, WM Barry's son Geoffrey, WM of Caleb Butler Lodge in Ayer, Massachusetts, was on hand for his father's installation. WM Barry's first act was to commission Masonic Christmas ornaments which were sent to all the lodge widows.

The work of the year started off with a double class of candidates in January, February, and March. In February the lodge also hosted its first Ladies at Table program. With the kitchen recently approved by the Health Department, the lodge held its first public dinner in April – a Southern Barbeque that raised \$1,300.00 for the lodge

educational award programs. More meals followed: a Mothers' Day breakfast, a breakfast Car Cruise (which also raised money for the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford), and the lodge now hosts the monthly meetings of the local Lions Club.

In the community the lodge was visible working and supporting the "Jog with Judy" fundraiser (a fundraiser for the Woodstock Schools), the Eastford Recreation Commission's winter pancake breakfast and "Breakfast with the Easter Bunny", and the Woodstock Recreation Commission's annual Memorial Day Road Race. The lodge also presented two \$500.00 educational awards to graduating seniors from Woodstock Academy.

Most of the degree work was done at Special Communications, and on the Stated Communications lodge brothers enjoyed programs on Alaska, the Quinebaug-Shetucket National Heritage Corridor, and the Massachusetts Masonic Home in Charleton, Mass. Members from lodges throughout Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island visited the lodge, as well as some travelers from California, Florida, and Texas. All were welcomed



Motorcycles line up to park at Putnam Lodge at the Labor Day weekend's Woodstock Fair.

with brotherly love and affection.

A second double class of candidates was held in May, June, July, and August as well as a lodge tag sale, an ice cream social, and the annual lodge family picnic. Members of the lodge joined Moosup Lodge No. 113 to march in the Moosup VJ Day parade. September saw the lodge participate in one of its largest fundraisers – parking motorcycles over Labor Day weekend at the Woodstock Fair. WB (and ME Grand High Priest) William K. Barr visited the lodge in September to present his "Conn-Oddities" slide show, and the lodge also started its final class of candidates. The lodge also participated in the "Artists in the Country" art show which raises money for the Eden Institute for Autistic Children's Wawa Education and Retreat Center in Chaplin.

October saw the lodge sponsor two open houses – one on October 13 to correspond with "Square and Compasses Day" in Massachusetts and the state-wide open house in Rhode Island, and the other on October 27 to coincide with the open house

program in Connecticut. Lodge members were instrumental in a fund-raiser benefit for one of their own, WB Elias G. Farquhar, Jr. who has been stricken with two rare forms of lymphoma. Lodge brothers cooked food for over 200 people for the benefit, which raised more than \$20,000.00 to help offset WB Farquhar's medical costs. As if this wasn't enough, WB John S. Rhoads (AGM 9A) and WB Theodore C. Rugar presented a program on home beer making at a stated communication. Also, the lodge held another tag sale on October 20, and staged its Tenth Annual Halloween Table Lodge on October 27.

November will see the lodge raise its last group of candidates, hold a special program to honor our Masonic military veterans, and support our Order of the Eastern Ladies by preparing lunch for their annual Christmas Bazaar fundraiser. WM Barry's year will end the way it began – at the annual Fumigation, where his son Geoff, now a Past Master, will be waiting for him on the sidelines.

Oh, and the lodge already has 4 petitions for 2008...



Front row features four of the many new brothers who have joined Putnam Lodge No. 46 during Worshipful Master Barry Kromer's year. Pictured are brothers from sister jurisdictions and other Connecticut lodges.

Moosup Lodge No. 113 Exposes the "Secrets of Freemasonry"

by Michael B. Dodge

On Columbus Day, October 8, Moosup Lodge No. 113 hosted a unique program for the public. Every autumn the Quinebaug-Shetucket National Heritage Corridor sponsors "Walking Weekends." The walks vary in length and take place throughout the "Last Green Valley" created by the Quinebaug and Shetucket rivers in northeastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts. This year over 90 different, unique walks, covered topics varying from nature walks and tours of old textile mills to walks along Norwich's storied streets and Victorian-era homes and visits to the graves of some of Connecticut's most famous residents.

After a presentation at a 9th District Blue Lodge Council meeting by the Heritage Corridor, the brothers of Moosup Lodge felt they had a story to tell. WB Brian N. Keith researched the history of the village of Moosup (in Plainfield) and the history



of Moosup Lodge No. 113. He discovered that both were closely tied to the expansion of the railroads in the late 19th century. From the local historical society and the Connecticut State Historical Society, WB Keith was able to obtain many valuable photographs and pertinent information.

The walk began on an old railroad bridge over the Moosup River. The sun was shining and the day was warm, creating a wonderful setting for the walk.

Mr. Bill Reid, the Heritage Corridor's Director for External Affairs, thanked the lodge for participating and noted that this was the first Walking Weekend where the tour guides wore tuxedos! WB Keith then took over, explaining the importance of the railroad in the late 19th century as the main means of transportation for both people and goods, and how the burgeoning textile industry along the Moosup River benefited from the railroad depot in town. WB Keith also explained the influence of rail lines in the location and formation of Masonic lodges around the state. The walk continued a half-mile along what had been the railroad bed 125 years ago, and WB Keith pointed out landmarks along the way while displaying copies of the old photographs (left).

The devastating impact of a series of fires in the village was also detailed, impacting the lodge as the original meeting place was destroyed by one those fires in the 1890's.

The group of 65 walkers then entered the lodge building and went upstairs to the lodge room. WB Keith briefly explained the history of Freemasonry and as a special treat he recited a Masonic "lecture" he had written, a variation of the Entered Apprentice apron lecture. WB Keith's lecture did an outstanding job preserving the feel and message of that lecture while still preserving the secrecy of our ritual. Following the lecture WB Keith entertained inquiries from the walkers, and many good and well-thought out questions were posed and answered.

The program concluded with light refreshments in the lodge collation room, where many of the walkers took the opportunity to speak with the brothers of Moosup Lodge and had many of their questions about our fraternity and the lodge answered. All the brothers felt the walk was a resounding success, and plan to host a similar event next autumn.

VJ Day Parade Brings Out Brothers to March

On August 12, Moosup Lodge No. 113, Moosup, marched in the last parade held annually in the United States recognizing VJ Day and the defeat of Japan ending World War II. Brothers marched the mile and a half route with members from Putnam Lodge No. 46, Putnam, and were greeted by service veterans who lined the route, some of whom came into their ranks to shake hands.

Moosup Lodge was the only Masonic group to march in the two hour parade down the Main Street of Moosup, and was the first time

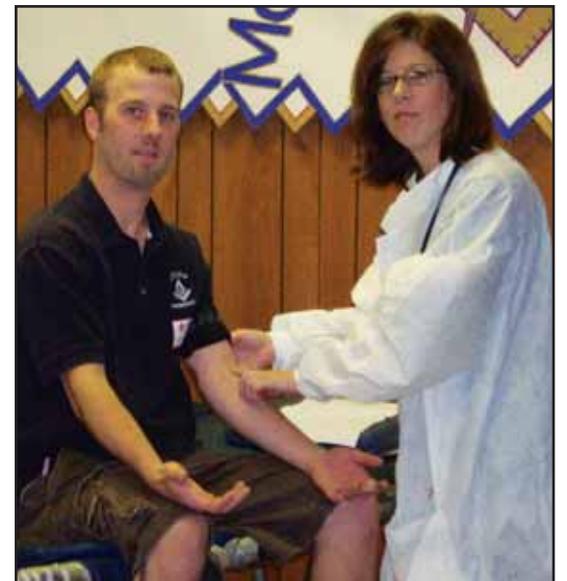


the group had marched in six years. This photo shows the brothers before the parade with the lodge banner - red, white, and blue, of course.

Worshipful Master Maxim Saves Lives at Blood Drive

by Chris Maxim

"The blood drive went so well it was a wonder they even needed us there," said WM Chris Maxim of Moosup Lodge No. 113, Moosup. He and five other brothers, along with Rainbow girl Patty Flounders, helped the Red Cross collect 22 units of blood on October 9, enough to save 66 lives. WM Chris (preparing to donate, on right) also remarked the event was so easy to do, with the Red Cross efficiently handling the promotion, he didn't understand why other lodges haven't held blood drives of their own. This blood drive was the first for Moosup Lodge and now they have a record to try to break next year.



"Gaming for Giving" Returns for Year 2

by Shane York

At the heart of everything that is Masonic we find a group of people who are ready and willing to help their community. Last year, Bro. John Forish of Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78 in Naugatuck had an idea to help others while having fun at the same time.

Starting with a small idea that quickly grew, Bro. Forish organized the first 'Gaming for Giving.' The event's tag line was 'Raising money while having fun!' and the event became a very successful fundraiser.

As the scope of the event increased from a small gathering to statewide charity event, Bro. Forish enlisted the help of several other brothers, including David O. Stern, Jay Babcock, and Shane York, among and many others.

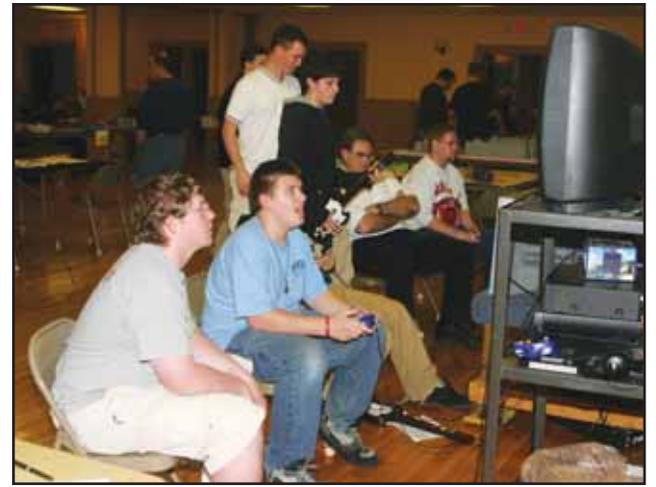
Last year's Gaming for Giving raised over \$3000 in donations and toys for Toys for Tots while seeing at least 65 people walk through the doors and have a good time. Connecticut DeMolay also participated by selling snacks to raise money for the 32° Scottish Rite Masonic Learning Center.

After a startlingly successful first year, it was decided that this would become an annual event. Thus, Gaming for Giving 2007 will be held on November 10 at the New Haven Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue, under the sponsorship of Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125. The entrance fee is a new unwrapped toy or a \$10.00 donation.

Fan favorite of video games including Guitar Hero, role-playing games run by Bro. Babcock, and miniature gaming will be back, along with

many other boards games. New this year, Gaming for Giving will serve a full dinner. Also, Connecticut DeMolay will be back selling snacks and sodas.

Come join us help Toys for Tots on November 10 from 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM. For more information please visit www.gamingforgiving.com. If you cannot attend but would like to donate to Toys for Tots through Gaming for Giving, you can do so on the registration page at the website. For further information, please email charity@gamingforgiving.com.



Jailbird Bob serves his time



On Tuesday, October 16, the MDA sheriff showed up at Grand Lodge offices.

Grand Secretary Bob Fitzgerald was "arrested" and hauled off to La Scala Restaurant, Wallingford, to do his time. He spent his time doing good for the Muscular Dystrophy Association fundraiser.

MDA periodically "arrests" volunteers in a mock jail until "bail" can be posted. The Grand Secretary was released back to our care.

Thanks for caring, Bob.

Fundraising Bus Trip to Mohegan Sun

The Connecticut Majority Association is an association consisting of majority members of the International Organization of the Rainbow for Girls. Their goals are to serve the Connecticut Grand Assembly, aid in the growth of the Masonic family, and provide opportunities for personal and professional growth among its members.

The association is hosting a fundraising bus trip to Mohegan Sun on Saturday, December 1. There will be two buses leaving from commuter parking areas in Branford Middletown. All proceeds go

towards scholarships awarded by the Connecticut Majority Association Scholarship Committee.

All Masonic organizations and families can take



part. The trip is limited to those least 21 years old, and not an active member of Rainbow or DeMolay. Valid identification is required. The cost is \$30.00 per person, pre-paid and

non-refundable. Reservations and payments are due before November 16. Make checks payable to CMA. Tickets can be purchased at Rainbow events or by email to cma_scholar@yahoo.com. Please include all contact information as the tickets will be mailed. Space is limited and sold on a first come first served basis.

The Connecticut Majority Association has given scholarships to Rainbow members to attend Rainbow Camp in Massachusetts. The association is developing plans for educational scholarships for those Rainbow members who reach majority while in school or return to school after attaining majority status.

We welcome
our new
brothers to the
fraternity.

Joseph J. M. Cats
St. Peter's 21

Jamie W. Downie
Estuary 43

James K. Ellsworth
Putnam 46

Paul Pfosi
Putnam 46

Kevin C. Smithwick
Putnam 46

Jim Robertson Faithfully Supports Work of Masonicare

Generosity is part of Bro. Jim Robertson's nature. Throughout his life, the Ridgefield resident and long-time Mason has given generously to many worthwhile causes.

One example is his faithful support of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut



RW Jim Robertson has responded generously to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut's Annual Appeals for 25 years.

(MCF), the philanthropic affiliate of Masonicare. For the past 25 years, he has been a major donor to the Annual Appeal and Holiday Appeal.

"When I have money, I try to donate," says Jim, 86. "There's something about giving that makes me feel good. Masonicare is part of my giving."

A native of Darlington, Missouri, Jim was only nine years old when his father—a school wagon driver—died in 1930. A year later, his mother and grandmother moved the family to Gentryville, a small town in southern Missouri, where his mother went to work as a telephone operator. It was the beginning of The Great Depression, a time when many people did without or struggled to keep what little they had.

As a young man, Jim was named Valedictorian of the Gentryville High School Class of 1938 and went on to earn a degree in international economics from the University of California at Berkeley. He enlisted in the US

Army Air Corps during World War II and was called to active duty in 1942. His military service, which spanned the next three decades, took him overseas to Egypt, Iran, Guam, and Japan and to many locations throughout the United States as well.

At the age of 44, Jim retired from the U.S. Air Force, having attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He and his wife, Thelma, and their children moved from New York City to Ridgefield, Connecticut. In Connecticut, Jim went to work as a contract security investigator for Perkin Elmer, a Wilton company that developed the optical system and guidance sensors of the Hubbell Space Telescope. He retired from Perkin Elmer at age 65.

Jim has been a Mason for nearly 55 years and is a Past Master of Jerusalem Lodge No. 49, Ridgefield. As lodge Historian, he is currently writing the history of Jerusalem Lodge, which will celebrate its 200th year anniversary in 2008. Jim is a 32nd Degree Mason and a

Past District Deputy for the First Masonic District. He was awarded the prestigious Pierpont Edwards Award for Distinguished Masonic Service in 2001.

Although he doesn't drive as much these days, Jim tries to remain as independent as possible. A Mets fan whose interest in baseball goes back to the days of Casey Stengel, Jim enjoys working on the computer and has been busy researching his family's genealogy.

Jim is a widower who lives in Ridgefield with his daughter, Gail, and her husband, WB Carl Slay—a Jerusalem Lodge member. Jim's son, Bro. Ken—a 3-year Mason affiliated with Union Lodge No. 5—and his wife, Andrea, reside in Stamford. One day, though, Jim said he may move to Masonicare's Ashlar of Newtown if he needs assisted living or long-term care. "I like Masonicare," says Jim. "I think they do a great job of taking care of people. That's why the Annual Appeal is part of my annual giving."

Masonicare to the Rescue

Lately, I've been giving it a lot of thought; more than I care to. I just can't seem to get my mind off of it. When I'm doing, or thinking about, something else my mind starts to wander back to the same subject. Time is passing and there is nothing I can do to stop it. As that fateful day approaches I keep wishing that I could stop father time, but there is no way that I can do that. It's about to happen, and WILL happen.

That moment of realization came to me one day as I opened the mail. And there it was, staring me straight in the face. It was my new Medicare Health Insurance card, for this November I will become @#&% years old. Who wants to become @#&% years old? Now all I can think about are things like social security benefits, supplemental health insurance plans, prescription drug plans, and what my options are with regard to getting good health care. And what are some of those options?

MASONICARE to the rescue. Did you know that Masonicare is Connecticut's largest provider of healthcare services to seniors? It provides skilled nursing care, long term care, dementia care, assisted living, home health and hospice care, as well as retirement communities. Life spans are increasing. And that makes it all the more important to plan early for what services may be needed in the future in order to maximize the quality of our lives.

The cost of medical care is increasing. Middle income families struggle because they don't have the means to cover the high cost of private home health aides and yet they don't qualify for low income subsidies. More

and more, children are becoming caregivers to their parents. For help, caregivers can search for services through the Elder Care Locator at www.eldercare.gov. And the Alzheimer's Association offers support on its CareFinder tool at www.alz.org/carefinder and through a toll free hotline at 1-800-272-3900.

Another source of information is Masonic Community Services. Their brochure says that "This statewide outreach program, sponsored by Masonicare, is a vital resource that helps identify and obtain health and social services in your community."

Representatives can help clarify complicated insurance and medical coverage issues. The program is free to any Connecticut resident. Masonic Community Services can help you to better understand such programs and services as Healthcare Services, Housing Options, Caregiver Assistance Programs, State and Federal Programs, Benefits Eligibility, Adult Day Centers, Support Groups, and Insurance Programs such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Medicare Part D.

At our November 17 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner a brief presentation will be made by a representative from the Masonic Community Services program. I hope you will join us.

*Fraternally,
Stuart Smith, Worshipful Master
Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven*

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.

William D. Fogarty.....	America-St. John's 8	Irving R. Bogue	Ionic 110
William H. Emerick.....	Amos Beecher 121	Chris M. Cassimus	Meridian 77
Darius B. Smith.....	Amos Beecher 121	Clifford S. Forster	Meridian 77
Louis A. Bickley	Ansantawae 89	Wilbur R. Stoddard	Sequin-Level 140
Harold C. Gleason.....	Ansantawae 89	Theodore W. Olson	Silas Deane 147
Edmund W. Staley.....	Ansantawae 89	Alfred G. Alletto	Somerset-St. James 34
Norman E. Maxson	Coastal 57	Edgar N. Baton.....	Somerset-St. James 34
James I. Hamilton.....	Columbia 25	John H. Moffat	St. Alban's 38
Harold S. Davis.....	Compass 9	Charles A. Benoit.....	Temple 16
David W. Blakeslee	Corinthian 103	Norton P. Birdsall	Temple 16
John P. Dombek.....	Fayette 69	Warren M. Lint	Temple 16
William B. Kovacs.....	Fidelity-St. John's 3	Arnold B. Willhite	Temple 16
Norman M. Parker	Fidelity-St. John's 3	Efstratios K. Kortesis	Union 31
Cecil A. Eisenhower	Frederick-Franklin 14	John E. Weigel	Union 31
Theodore W. Johnson.....	Frederick-Franklin 14	Dale W. Brown	Valley 36
William J. Carew	Harmony 42	George A. Eck Jr.....	Washington 19
John C. Garrigus	Harmony 42	Peter A. Petti	Washington 19
Leonard J. Bayliss	Hartford Evergreen 88	Andrew G. Carlson.....	Wyllys-St. John's 4

Frequently Asked Questions

New Annual Electronic Notice — e-Postcard (Form 990-N)

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations that were not previously required to file returns may be required to submit an annual electronic notice, or, and "e-postcard." This applies to Masonic lodges and the following answers to frequently asked questions should ease your way to fulfill this requirement.

1. Is there a new filing requirement for small tax-exempt organizations?

Beginning in 2008, small tax-exempt organizations, who previously were not required to file a return, may be required to file an annual electronic notice, Form 990-N, Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations not Required To File Form 990 or 990-EZ. This filing requirement applies to tax periods beginning after December 31, 2006.

Small tax-exempt organizations whose gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less are not required to file Form

990 or Form 990-EZ, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax. With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006, these small tax-exempt organizations will now be required to file an electronic Form 990-N with the IRS annually. Exceptions to this requirement include organizations who are included in a group return, private foundations required to file Form 990-PF, and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations required to file Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. In addition, this filing requirement does not apply to churches, their integrated auxiliaries, and conventions or associations of churches.

2. How do I file Form 990-N (e-Postcard)?

Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard, must be filed electronically. There will be no paper form. The IRS is

developing an electronic filing system for the e-Postcard, and will publicize the filing procedures when the system is completed and ready for use.

3. Will I need to purchase a computer and software to file the e-Postcard?

The IRS plans to deliver a simple, Internet based process for filing the e-Postcard. We anticipate that organizations that do not have access to a computer can go to places such as their local library to file the e-Postcard. Because the system will be Internet based, organizations should not need to purchase software to file the e-Postcard.

4. When will the e-Postcard (Form 990-N) be due? How often do I need to file?

Beginning in 2008, the e-Postcard will be due every year by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax period. For example, if your

tax period ends on December 31, 2007, the e-Postcard is due May 15, 2008.

5. What information do I need to provide on the e-Postcard?

The e-Postcard will require you to provide the following information:

- Organization's legal name,
- Any other names your organization uses,
- Organization's mailing address,
- Organization's website address (if applicable),
- Organization's employer identification number (EIN),
- Name and address of a principal officer of your organization,
- Organization's annual tax period,
- A statement that your organization's annual gross receipts are still normally \$25,000 or less, and
- If applicable, indicate if your organization is terminating (going out of business).

Connecticut VNA's Hospice Nurses Receive Special Training in End-of-Life Care

Marion R. Donahue, RN, president of Connecticut VNA, announced recently that the home care organization's hospice program, one of the largest in the state, is now offering the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium's (ELNEC) comprehensive educational program on end-of-life care to its clinical staff. Connecticut VNA is an affiliate of Masonicare.

ELNEC, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, developed a core curriculum and training that certifies qualified nurse educators to deliver this program to nurses and other practitioners. Ellen Williams, MA, APRN, Connecticut VNA's Hospice clinical educator, is an ELNEC-certified trainer and is conducting ELNEC's

Core training program for hospice staff. The full program is comprised of nine, one-hour training sessions, and the subject matter covered explores the fundamentals of end-of-life care in a very comprehensive and detailed format. Topics include Pain Management; Ethical/Legal Issues; Grief, Loss, Bereavement; Achieving Quality Care at the End of Life, and other timely and important issues.

Suzanne Rosenberg, MS, LCSW, Performance Improvement Coordinator for Connecticut VNA's Hospice, organized and currently oversees the hospice staff education programs. According to Ms. Rosenberg, "This comprehensive and timely curriculum will enhance the quality and consistency of the

care Connecticut VNA's Hospice professionals provide throughout the state." She added, "In addition, our support for this extensive in-house education lets other healthcare professionals know that Connecticut VNA has high quality standards, making it an attractive and rewarding place to work."

All nurses who join Connecticut VNA's Hospice team will have the opportunity to participate in this nationally recognized end-of-life training within their first year of employment. The organization's social workers and other counselors are also invited to participate in the training sessions, which will be conducted at each of Connecticut VNA's five branch Hospice offices.

Over 100 Connecticut DeMolays Attend Brotherhood Weekend



With over 100 Connecticut DeMolays present at the 2007 Brotherhood Weekend held recently at Camp Hazen in Chester, Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III (foreground left) assembled five previous recipients to help him present the Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award to three brothers who recently led their chapters in outstanding terms. Those honored (from right) were Benjamin G. Stern, New Haven Chapter; Nicholas R. Ferrigno, Sleeping Giant Chapter, North Haven; and Tyler Anderson, Robert H. Heller Chapter, West Haven. The presenters were (from left) Deputy SMC Josh Tenner; PSMC Harry E. Needham, IV (obscured); Dad Needham; SMC Chris Werner; PSSC David Earle; and SSC Nick Giori.

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CONGRATULATIONS

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

Frank E. Lukacah.....Hartford-Lafayette 88

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

Joseph E. Arborio <i>Silas Deane</i> 147	Frank H. Harrison <i>Temple</i> 16	Malcolm D. Morton <i>Columbia</i> 25
Albert J. Becker <i>Compass</i> 9	Sander L. Hendel..... <i>Sequin-Level</i> 140	Goff Owen Jr. <i>Hiram</i> 1
James L. Begg <i>Corinthian</i> 104	Howard E. Hoppe <i>Shepherd-Salem</i> 78	Edwin J. Paquette <i>Brainard</i> 102
John H. Behn <i>Fidelity-St. John's</i> 3	Louis Korsonsky <i>Union</i> 5	Sherwood E. Parmelee..... <i>St. Alban's</i> 38
George A. Beyer <i>Wyllys-St. John's</i> 4	Sherman H. Krevolin.... <i>Cosmopolitan</i> 125	Robert N. Pilon <i>Valley</i> 36
Bennett R. Burke..... <i>Frederick-Franklin</i> 14	Norman H. Larson <i>Sequin-Level</i> 140	George O. Rose Jr..... <i>Wooster</i> 10
Chester Bush <i>Wooster</i> 79	Lawrence R. Lassoff <i>Sequin-Level</i> 140	Nathan Shear <i>Sequin-Level</i> 140
Thomas M. Carlisle Jr. <i>St. Peter's</i> 21	Martin C. Leibowitz..... <i>Cosmopolitan</i> 125	Omar H. Shepard Jr. <i>Eastern Star</i> 44
Robert R. Chapman..... <i>Estuary</i> 43	Donald G. Leslie <i>Composite</i> 28	Aaron E. Simon..... <i>Liberty-Continental</i> 76
Lester A. Culver Jr..... <i>Coastal</i> 57	George F. Loomis..... <i>Federal</i> 17	Edwin Somogyi..... <i>Fidelity-St. John's</i> 3
Charles F. Dean <i>Fayette</i> 69	Stephen J. Loomis <i>Wooster</i> 79	Donald G. Steiner <i>Compass</i> 9
Erwin Dessaulles <i>Coastal</i> 57	Charles Malis <i>Temple</i> 16	William E. Toth <i>Old Well</i> 108
Sebastian DiMauro... <i>Friendship Tuscan</i> 145	Jacob Merkin..... <i>Sequin-Level</i> 140	Francis C. Trotter..... <i>Composite</i> 28
Joseph E. Etter <i>Brainard</i> 102	Franklin R. Meyer..... <i>Composite</i> 28	David J. Webster <i>Fayette</i> 69
Charles L. Gordon..... <i>Bay View</i> 120	John C. Miller <i>Amos Beecher</i> 121	George Weinstein <i>Cosmopolitan</i> 125
Abraham L. Green <i>America-St. John's</i> 8		Louis K. Weinstein..... <i>Temple</i> 65

Connecticut DeMolay Honors Lou Vander Eyk



Connecticut DeMolay honored a long-time supporter when MWPGM Louis Vander Eyk (center) was created an Honorary Member of the DeMolay Legion of Honor in October ceremonies in Waterbury.

Among those present to honor Lou and to serve on the investiture team were (from left): State Master Councilor Chris Werner; Grand Senior Warden Arthur H. Carlstrom, PSMC and Honorary Member of DeMolay International; Herbert W. Mower, Honorary Member of DeMolay International; the honoree; Frederick H. Lorenson, PGM; Harry E. Needham, III, Active Member of DeMolay International and Executive Officer in Connecticut; and Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr., PGM.

Craft at Labor...

ENTERED APPRENTICE

November 14, Wednesday, Ark No. 39, Bethel
November 19, Monday, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford
November 28, Wednesday, Granite No. 119, Haddam

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREE

November 5, Monday, Federal No. 17, Watertown, Senior Warden Dave Locke in the East
November 6, Tuesday, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner
November 6, Tuesday, Seneca No. 55, Torrington
November 12, Monday, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 6:30 p.m. dinner
November 13, Tuesday, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner
November 20, Tuesday, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner
November 21, Wednesday, St. Andrew's No. 64, 6:30 p.m. dinner

MASTER MASON DEGREE

November 7, Wednesday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 6:15 p.m. dinner
November 7, Wednesday, Widow's Son No. 66, Branford, 6:15 p.m. dinner
November 9, Friday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock
November 10, Saturday, Uriel No. 24, Merrow, first section at 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. seafood/roast chicken dinner
November 14, Wednesday, Moriah No. 15, Brooklyn
November 15, Thursday, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury

November 15, Thursday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, Past Masters night, chicken dinner, Conspiracy/Tragedy portrayed on Saturday
November 16, Friday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, Conspiracy/Tragedy portrayed on Saturday
November 16, Friday, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 7:00 p.m. dinner, RW Frank Rich in the East
November 17, Saturday, St. John's No. 2, Middletown, State Police Degree Team, first half at 10:30 a.m., lunch at 12:00 noon
November 17, Saturday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 5:00 p.m. Prime Rib dinner, Past Masters night, degree starts at 1:00 p.m.
November 19, Monday, Federal No. 17, Watertown, 6:30 p.m. dinner
November 19, Monday, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury
November 20, Tuesday, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Purple Apron Degree Team
November 20, Tuesday, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, 7:00 p.m. dinner
November 20, Tuesday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, Robert Cascone in East
November 21, Wednesday, King Solomons No. 7, Woodbury
November 21, Wednesday, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Past Masters night
November 26, Monday, Washington No. 70, Windsor, SW R. Plath in the East
November 26, Monday, Silas Deane, 147, Newington
November 28, Wednesday, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:00 p.m. dinner

Craft at Refreshment...

November 1, Thursday, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Awards Night
November 1, Thursday, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Awards and Necrology ceremony
November 2, Friday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 11:30 p.m. lunch, Widows Luncheon at the Newington Shrine - ends at 12:45 p.m.
November 2, Friday, Wooster No. 10, Colchester 7:00 p.m. Cathedral Table Lodge & Game Dinner
November 2, Friday, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:00 p.m. Appreciation Dinner for New Milford's volunteers and Police
November 2, Friday, Ark No. 39, Bethel, 7:00 p.m. Table Lodge
November 3, Saturday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145 Manchester, 11:00 a.m., UCONN/Rutgers football, manage refreshment stand
November 4, Sunday, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, 12:00 noon, World Famous Roast Beef Dinner for Scholarship Fund
November 4, Sunday, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 7:30 a.m., pancake breakfast
November 5, Monday, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Trowel Club & Temple Corp Meeting
November 5, Monday, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, Masonic Information Night, Bring a Friend, Program of Masonic Awareness
November 5, Monday, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, Annual Donation to Charity Night
November 6, Tuesday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, Awards Night
November 6, Tuesday, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, Public Awards Night
November 6, Tuesday, Unity No. 148, New

Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner
November 7, Wednesday, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston, New and Rusty Mason Series, Masonic Community Service Program presented by RW Richard Memmott, Sr.
November 7, Wednesday, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner, RW Dr. Craig McClellan: "Pythagoras: Genius of Freemasonry"
November 7, Wednesday, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, 6:30 p.m. Table Lodge, Speaker: RW Carl Anderson
November 10, Saturday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 10:00 a.m., Gaming for Giving benefiting Toys for Tots
November 12, Monday, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, Blue Lodge Council
November 12, Monday, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, Information Session on Masonicare Healthcare Services
November 14, Wednesday, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:30 p.m. Ladies at the Table
November 15, Thursday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 5:30 p.m. Lions Club Dinner
November 17, Saturday, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, program: "Thank You to our Veterans," WB Larry Atwell presents illustrated history of the American Flag
November 17, Saturday, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 5:00 p.m. Polish Night dinner
November 17, Saturday, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 9:00 a.m. Annual Tag Sale
November 17, Saturday, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, annual family Thanksgiving dinner
November 17, Saturday, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 11:00 a.m., UCONN/Syracuse football, manage refreshment stand

November 17, Saturday, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 8:00 a.m., bus trip to Lexington, Boston, Sturbridge, \$75 includes Masonic Museum, Duck Tour, dinner stop at Sturbridge
November 18, Sunday, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 9:00 a.m. breakfast, Blue Lodge Council Breakfast
November 18, Sunday, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, fundraiser dinner for Bro Chris and Debbie Henry, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury
November 20, Tuesday, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:00 p.m. JLQ Fellowship Night, friends welcome
November 20, Tuesday, Seneca No. 55, Torrington, 7:00 p.m. Table Lodge
November 21, Wednesday, Widow's Son No. 66, Branford Table Lodge
November 26, Monday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Blue Lodge Council
November 26, Monday, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, Step-up Night
November 27, Tuesday, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 6:00 p.m. Ladies at the Table Degree
November 27, Tuesday, King Solomons No. 7, Woodbury, 7:00 p.m., Fellowcraft Dinner
November 27, Tuesday, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, 6:00 dinner, Past Masters
November 29, Thursday, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 6th District Blue Lodge Council
November 29, Thursday, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Blue Lodge Council
November 30, Friday, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, Past Masters Gathering

Walk-a-Thon Aids AASR Learning Center

by Carl G. Ek

The annual walk-a-thon to aid the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children stepped off from the Waterbury Masonic Center on

October 7. Participation was smaller than in previous years, perhaps due to the walk being held on a holiday weekend. Still, according to Center director Cheryl Sharkis, the event will collect more funds than in the previous year due to the increased number of sponsorships.

Masonic Learning Centers provide a 2-3 year intensive reading training program for dyslexic students. Currently 31 are enrolled in the program, and it is expected that another 4 will be able to be served in the near future. The work is costly – approximately \$5000 per student per year – but all training is provided to the student and family free of charge. Hence, the need for fund-raising.

Approximately 70 participants have 'graduated' from the local Learning Center. These young people have learned to overcome a disability and move forward as happier, productive readers. This progress inspires the Learning Center staff to make the organization grow so as to be able to assist more young people. As Cheryl Sharkis noted, "The cause is the issue."



Back from their stroll for the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children are Ill. James R. Spencer, Jr., 33°, Deputy for Scottish Rite, and wife Judy, along for the ride. Accompanying them is WB Robert Simon of Meridian Lodge No. 77, Meriden. Behind the Spencers are Connecticut DeMolay State Master Councilor Chris Werner and State Officer at Large Matt Montano.



Contributions to the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children are always welcome. For those who plan their calendars far in advance, the next walk-a-thon is scheduled for a cool and sunny Sunday, October 5, 2008, and all are welcome to collect pledges and walk for this important cause.



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DID YOU ✓Vote?

Results are in! There are 2 polls on the Grand Lodge website (www.ctfreemasons.net). Since September 20, the polls have collected the opinions of 121 voters on how a Master or Warden should vote at Grand Lodge, and 81 voters if they would apply for the Lewis Jewel.

The results are in and the tally is:

How should a Master or Warden vote at Grand Lodge?

Strictly according to a consensus of the Lodge	59	48.8%
Deciding after discussion at Grand Lodge.....	52	43.0%
The way they feel themselves	10	8.3%

Will you apply for the Lewis Jewel?

Yes.....	32	39.5%
I am not eligible.....	31	38.3%
I'll wait for my father to present one to me	2	2.5%

There are two new polls on the Grand Lodge website (www.ctfreemasons.net).
Please take a moment and cast your ballot.
Vote for the good of the order.

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

by Michael L. Castroll

This month our fall class will be heading north for their consistorial work, and conferral as our newest Sublime Princes. We congratulate each of them, and look forward to laboring with them in the quarries of the Valley. We thank our fall class for making sure the good work of the Valley continues.

Some come in, others go out. We all mourn the passing of Illustrious Cantor

Isaiah M. Grama, 33°, who left us too soon, on October 9, to join the celestial choir above. Godspeed! At this time of Thanksgiving, we give our thanks to the Ineffible Master of the Universe for giving Cantor Grama to us, even for a short time.

We also thank our brothers who work behind the scenes, including: Ernie DuBois and Vern Cleaves, who work lights and sound; Steve Schreck and Don and Dave Robinson, costumes and robing; Jack

Stevens and Moe Knox (our photographer as well) for make-up; all of our directors, stars, and support casts; Willis Copeland at the organ, and the Scottish Rite Choir; thanks to all.

We also thank our scholarship awardees, the kids, tutors, and staff at the Learning Center, all patrons of the Blue Envelope Appeal. In the spirit of Family Life, a hearty "thanks" from the Valley of New Haven!

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

On Saturday, October 20, 2007, a testimonial dinner was held to honor our newest 33rd degree recipients, at which time it was announced that Bro. Francis W. Way, M.S.A. had been elected to be coroneted a 33rd next year in Providence, at the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Annual Meeting.

This event was followed by a "Family Life Bus Trip" to Salem, MA, on Sunday, October 28th. I am very happy to tell everyone that the turn out was better than expected. Because of the response we ended up with two buses instead of one, but I am sorry that I cannot give you more detail on this trip, since this article needed to be in prior to the departure date. A vote of thanks needs to go to Bro. Richard Denno, as well as our Family Life Chairman, Bro. Francis W. Way, who once again has put together a great trip. It is the Valley's hope that we can provide more than one trip next year in addition to our annual family outing at the Rock Cats Baseball game in July. At the current

time we are looking into a possible over night rip to Philadelphia, or a trip to the Amish Country to see a show at the Milliumn Theatre, as well as day trips like a fall foliage trip up the Hudson River or to Plymouth Rock about the time that Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts. Of course other ideas are always welcomed, just let the Valley Secretary know and he will pass on your suggestions.

Now with the completion of the portrayal of the 18th degree on November 1st, and with the Fall Holiday Season just ahead of us, there is still much that has to be done in the Valley of Hartford before the Thanksgiving Holiday. Once again this year we will be hosting the All Connecticut Consistory Day with the portrayal of the 25th, 31st, and 32nd Degrees before a Fall Candidate Class close to 40 Masonic brothers as of last count. Please come and join us on this festive day as we welcome our newest Scottish Rite Masons from the Valley of Bridgeport, the Valley of Norwich, and the Valley of Hartford.

The day's program will get underway starting at 9:30 AM, at our Scottish Rite Cathedral in Newington, and as has been the custom in the past, a prime rib luncheon will be served at approximately 12:15 PM at the Sphinx Shrine Facility next door. Advance reservations are required. A luncheon registration form can be found in the latest issue of the "View of the View", or can be obtained through the Valley of Hartford, A.A.S.R. Office. The price for the luncheon is \$ 10.00 to Valley members who have paid their 2007 dues. Reservation deadline is November 12th.

To the many brethren who are not members of the Scottish Rite, who might be reading this article, I ask: Have you ever considered joining the Scottish Rite? If you have, and would like more information, call the Valley of Hartford Office (860) 666-0712 or e-mail us at sect@snet.net. Our spring 2008 class starts up on February 7th.

ATTENTION MASONS

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

THE VALLEY OF NEW HAVEN
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**Consistory Day
for All Connecticut Valleys
held at the
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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FALL 2007 SCHEDULE FOR THE ALL CONNECTICUT CONSISTORY DAY AT THE VALLEY OF HARTFORD

Saturday, Nov. 17 • 9:30 a.m. • Portrayal of the 25th Degree
11:00 a.m. • Portrayal of the 31st Degree
12:15 p.m. • Lunch at Sphinx Shrine Facility
(By advance reservation through your Consistory Secretary by Nov. 9th)
1:30 p.m. • Introduction of Dignitaries
followed by the Portrayal of the 32nd Degree

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.

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Thank you to CT Lodges contributing \$60 per year

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Compass No. 9	Wallingford
Composite No. 28.....	Suffield
Corinthian No. 103.....	North Haven
Cosmopolitan No. 125.....	New Haven
Estuary No. 43.....	Old Saybrook
Evening Star No. 101.....	Unionville
Federal No. 17	Watertown
Friendship No. 33	Southington
Friendship No. 145	Manchester
Granite No. 119	Haddam
Hartford-Evergreen No. 88.....	East Windsor
Harmony No. 42	Waterbury
Harmony No. 67	New Canaan
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Oriental Evergreen No. 114.....	South Windsor
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Temple No. 65.....	Westport
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Warren No. 51	Portland
Washington No. 19	Monroe
Washington No. 70	Windsor
Washington No. 81	Cromwell
Widow's Son No. 66	Branford
Wooster No. 10.....	Colchester
Wooster No. 79.....	New Haven

Those names in **bold** are new or renewing Boosters. Thank you for your support.

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Meriden Assembly honors Grand Worthy Advisor Kayla with an afternoon to remember

Meriden Assembly No. 11 hosted over 160 people for a reception in honor of their very own Kayla Rettburg, Grand Worthy Advisor of the Connecticut Grand Assembly, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls.

The October 21 reception featured decorations of smiley faces and daisies which reflected Kayla's theme for her grand year of "Movin, Groovin and Making Smiles."

Masonic dignitaries from across Connecticut as well as the Grand Worthy Advisor from Massachusetts, Autumn Oster enjoyed

an afternoon of funny stories about Kayla.

Meriden's Worthy Advisor, Kim Grzesik and Abby Oliveras were Mistresses of Ceremonies for the introductions, greetings and speeches.

A magician/illusionist combined comedy with slight of hand to entertain everyone, followed by a roast beef dinner and dessert of Buck's ice cream and a cupcake tower in true rainbow colors.



Kayla's proud parents, Grace and Wayne Rettburg look on as Abby (left) and Kim present Kayla with an emerald necklace, a gift from the members and advisors of Meriden Assembly No. 11. There were smiles all around — and not just on the decorations!

Amaranth Grand Court Welcomes Heads of Masonic Bodies



The Grand Court of Amaranth welcomed several heads of appendant bodies at a reception honoring the Grand Royal Matron and Grand Royal Patron at Liedle's Restaurant in Stratford on Saturday, September 20. Pictured are: (from left) William K. Barr, Grand High Priest; Donna Cormier, Grand Royal Matron of Massachusetts; Susan Koty Grand Royal Matron of Connecticut; Bruce Bosworth, Grand Royal Patron of Connecticut; Bill Greene, Grand Master; Joyce Armonath, Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of Eastern Star; Paul Rice, Worth Grand Patron, OES; and Jack Smith, Right Eminent Commander, Knights Templar.



Grand Master Bill Greene settled into his new chair in his new Grand Lodge office for the first time on October 4. The furniture had just been delivered and, of course, the Grand Master's office was the first one finished. While boxes, files and other office furniture was moved from storage and temporary quarters, the work and business of the Grand Lodge was not affected as Marje Chick and staff maintained there steady effort throughout the whirlwind.

The new offices will provide an efficient working environment for Marje as well as the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer. A conference Room, Library and Print Shop complete the effort to bring the facilities of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut's office into the 21st century.

After the November 4 ribbon cutting and grand opening, please stop in and acquaint yourself with our new accommodations.



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