



Connecticut FREEMASONS

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SEPTEMBER 2008

Brother Howard W. Orr Past Master



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**Pierpont Edwards
Medal Awarded
to James Mellen**



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**2008
DeMolay
Conclave**



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**Ceilidh
in
Connecticut**

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Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM

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GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

Robert J. Stika - September 2008

DATE	TIME	EVENT/LOCATION	DINNER	PUBLIC	ATTIRE
Wednesday, September 3	6:00 p.m.	York Rite October fest, Madison	Y	N	S
Thursday, September 11	2:00 p.m.	Past Grand Masters Meeting, MHC, Wallingford	N	N	C
Saturday, September 13	6:00 p.m.	Grand Masters Dinner, Niantic Masonic Center	Y	Y	S
Sunday, September 14	2:00 p.m.	Awards program, Brainard No. 102, Niantic	REF	Y	F
Tuesday, September 16	6:30 p.m.	Entered Apprentice Degree, Coastal No. 57, Stonington	Y	N	F
Wednesday, September 17	12:00 noon	Masonicare nominating committee, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	N	N	S
Wednesday, September 17	2:00 p.m.	Masonicare audit committee, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	N	N	S
Wednesday, September 17	4:00 p.m.	Masonicare compensation committee, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	N	N	S
Thursday, September 18	5:30 p.m.	MCF Quality of Life, MCF conference room, Wallingford	N	N	C
Thursday, September 18	7:30 p.m.	Master Mason Degree, Union No. 31, Niantic	Y	Y	F
Saturday, September 20	5:00 p.m.	Joint Ladies at Table, OES, Amaranth, PHA, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	Y	Y	S
Monday, September 22		Masonicare visitation, Cape Cod, Massachusetts,			
Wednesday, September 24	5:30 p.m.	Grand Lodge officers, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	Y	N	C
Thursday, September 25	6:30 p.m.	Blue Lodge Council 5th District, Unity No. 148, New Britain, Chris Hodapp Guest Speaker	Y	SP	S
Sunday, September 28	2:00 p.m.	OES reception, Ashlar Village	REF	Y	S
Monday, September 29	6:00 p.m.	Blue Lodge Council 6th District, Manchester Lodge No. 73, Manchester, CT	Y	Y	C

2008 SEMINARS

Masters for 2009 Seminar, Ashlar Village
October 4, Registration and Fraternity 8:00 am

Wardens for 2009 Seminar, Ashlar Village
November 8, Registration and Fraternity 8:00 am

These are open to all Master Masons particularly those wanting or expecting to fill a Warden or Masters chair in 2009.



Connecticut
FREEMASONS

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Publisher

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

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WB Howie Orr, Past Master.. Chairman

He "is at everything the lodge does. It's rare not to see him. He's one of the few people whose absence is noticed." This includes helping to clean and organize the lodge basement or being part of a work detail to fix up the kitchen. Such is the assessment by Composite Lodge No. 28's Junior Steward, Dean Gousse, of Bro. Howard W. Orr.

Raised in Suffield, Bro. Howie found an easy transition from Eagle Scout – he was one of the first to receive the Boy Scout "God and Country" award – to Master Mason. His father and uncles were Masons and two of his aunts were members of The Order of the Eastern Star. The Orr family has a long association with Masonry and the Suffield community.

Masonically raised in Apollo Lodge No. 59 in March 1976, Brother Howie progressed through the chairs and became Worshipful Master in 1981. WB Howie has performed the degree work for all of the Blue Lodge degrees, but finds the Entered Apprentice degree his favorite. It's the most meaningful, he feels, because "that's where the real introduction to Masonry begins."

He also is a member of the York Rite, where he served as High Priest of Washington Chapter No. 30, RAM, the Sphinx Shrine, and the Scottish Rite, where he received the honorary 33°. Bro. Howie is also a director of the Connecticut DeMolay Foundation.

After his term as Worshipful Master, Bro. Howie became a director of the Suffield Masonic Building Association and has served as its president since 1988. He is also treasurer of the Composite Lodge No. 28 Past Masters Association, a trustee of Washington Chapter No. 30 RAM, and Suffield Council No. 23 R&SM. As Composite Lodge No. 28 is a consolidation of Morning Star Lodge No. 28, Apollo Lodge No. 59, Doric Lodge No. 94, and Euclid Lodge No. 109, WB Howie has been helping to produce a manual of traditions of the former lodges. This preserves the best of all the lodges and offers continuity and familiarity for newer members.

Of course, it takes a busy man to take on additional roles, and Howie has accepted more than the average person. As father of five and grandfather of three, his family is important to him. More than a congregant of Suffield's First Church of Christ Congregational, he is also a trustee and usher, having previously served as a deacon, church moderator, and on several committees and chaired two capital campaigns.

As chairman of Suffield's Economic Development Commission for over twenty years, a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International and a director of the West Suffield Cemetery

Association, Howard Orr keeps involved with his community. As director of Friends of the Farm at Hilltop since its inception, provides an educational resource to teach and promote agriculture and nature conservancy, as well as New England history and culture at this formerly grand farm.

But a turning point came when Brother Howie served as a director of the Suffield Visiting Nurse Association and Suffield Emergency Aid Association. He found that he needed to be able "to do for others what they could not do for themselves." He visited what was then titled the Masonic Home and Hospital, saw a similar need, and dove in to get involved.

He was appointed to the Board of Managers of the Masonic Charity Foundation, Inc., the governing body of what would become Masonicare, in April 1995. Active on several boards at Masonicare, Bro. Howie rose to the position of vice-chairman in 1997 and ultimately was elected chairman in 2003. This position he continues to hold.

He is most proud of promoting diversity on the Masonicare Board of Trustees by including representatives of the Order of the Eastern Star, Order of the Amaranth and Prince Hall as permanent members. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Senior Warden were also added to the Executive Committee of Masonicare, giving greater fraternal input to decisions that impact Masonicare for years to come.

Masonicare President and Bro. Steve McPherson said, "Howie's leadership continues to move Masonicare forward. His contributions include directing an update to Masonicare's strategic plan this past summer, encouraging a partnership with Saint Francis Hospital resulting in Connecticut VNA Partners, traveling with the Grand Master to keep retired Connecticut Masons in Florida aware, and adopting a set of expectations for serving on a Masonicare Board.

Howie's interest in the healthcare industry also included participation on many boards. At Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital, he is chairman and serves on the Quality and Medical Affairs Committee. As a director of Saint Francis Hospital and its Foundation he serves on the Annual Giving Committee of the Foundation. This breadth of experience led MW Ken Hawkins to declare Bro. Howie to be "one of the most influential people in Connecticut's healthcare field."

Masonicare honored Howie at Grand Masters Day in June with its Luke Lockwood Award for his outstanding service. MW Ken continued, "The spirit in which he gives so freely of his time and expertise is inspiring.



WB Howie Orr reserves his biggest smile for residents of Masonicare, where he is more than just "Chairman."

This man, with so many responsibilities, may show up at the Masonic Healthcare Center chapel on a Sunday afternoon and help serve refreshments following a service. No task is too small and, obviously, none is too large."

A proponent of volunteerism, Howie constantly encourages others to find a cause that they believe in and to volunteer their time and talents to promote it. "There are many ways in which all of us can make a meaningful contribution to our society."

WB Howie saw how his Masonic family could promote the Mission of Masonicare and encouraged Composite Lodge to join the Masonicare Society of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, which recognizes donations of \$520 or more per year to the Masonicare Annual Appeal. This followed a tour by lodge members of the Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford, where they discovered what a comprehensive healthcare facility it is. As Bro. Gousse explained, "I don't think I would know nearly as much about Masonicare if Howie wasn't involved."

Worshipful Brother Howard W. Orr is a Connecticut Freemason, making a difference in his lodge and in his state. As MW Ken Hawkins explained, "By service in his community and beyond, Howard has assured that there is a better quality of life for literally thousands of people who have unknowingly benefitted from his philanthropic nature."

Howie's enthusiasm was also obvious at the recent Quality of Life Walk, which raises money for residents of Masonicare facilities for necessary items not covered by insurance or government programs – including many medically-related items that the residents cannot afford. For Bro. Howie, this is simply another way to help "do for others what they could not do for themselves."

Grand Master's Message

First, I want to welcome everyone back from summer. I hope a good time was had by all and everyone is well rested and ready to reconvene.

The real treasure of Connecticut Masonry is our appendant bodies: the Scottish Rite, York Rite, Grotto, Tall Cedars of Lebanon and Shrine. These appendant bodies offer more light to Master Masons through their rituals and degrees. The concordant bodies also offer more light in a different way, but the information and experience they offer are just as useful.

For many years I was the secretary of the Scottish Rite Valley of Norwich, where I saw brothers dedicate themselves to the presentation of advanced knowledge, and, more recently, in the York Rite, I have experienced further Masonic education.

Many of these ceremonies are carried out by the same brothers who are the backbone of their respective Blue Lodges. They supplement the strengths of their lodges when they bring back to their Blue Lodges those lessons and experiences they learn in their appendant bodies. However, some brothers choose to limit their Masonic activity to only the appendant bodies, thus depriving the Blue Lodges of skills and know-how that provides the vitality that a Blue Lodge needs.

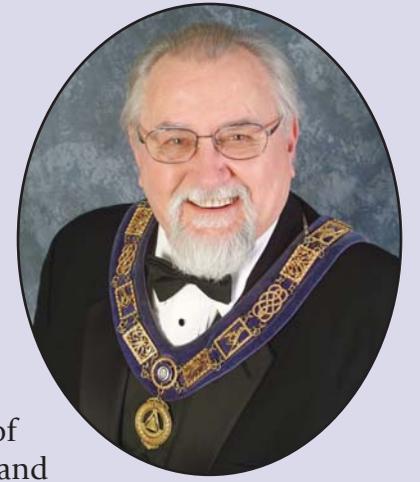
Since Blue Lodges are the source of membership for appendant bodies it is imperative that there be a closer link between the two. As one is strengthened it is automatic that this will translate into a benefit for both. I encourage the members of all appendant bodies to be active and provide guidance for their home lodges.

I look forward to seeing you at many Blue Lodge Councils this month. For those who have been "at refreshment," we are now called to "labor." Freemasonry: Live It!

Fraternally,



Robert J. Stika
Most Worshipful Grand Master



"Working Together for the Future" 2008 Joint Ladies at the Table

*A coordinated event of the
Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF&AM,
Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star,
Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth,
Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut F&AM, and
Prince Hall Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star*

**Saturday, September 20
5:00 p.m.**

**Hartog Activities Center, Ashlar Village
Wallingford, Connecticut**

Semi-Formal Attire (business suits for men)

5 course meal including
Roast Beef au Jus
& Wine and Juice for Toasts
(Grilled Chicken Available Upon Request)

Special dietary restrictions must be noted when making reservations.

\$32.50 per person

LIMITED SEATING
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to the attention of

**Mr. Walter E. Kaechele
4663 Madison Avenue
Trumbull, CT 06611-1704
(203) 268-8865**

From the Desk of the Deputy Grand Master...

On Saturday, October 18, the Semi-Annual session of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut will be held in the Hartog Center of Ashlar Village with registration starting at 8:00 a.m. and the session opening at 9:00 a.m. It is expected to conclude around noon.

Legislation will be brought forth to be voted upon, Grand Lodge officers will be elected and the Masonicare annual meeting will be held.

I urge that when the proposed legislation is received at your lodge a discussion is held with your members. This will afford your voting delegates to take your views into account when deciding what proposals they will support. These changes might have long term effects on the future of Freemasonry in Connecticut. If there will be a Blue Lodge Council meeting before the meeting the legislation should also be discussed there.

You will also receive information from Masonicare, with names of four brothers who have been nominated for election to the Masonicare Board of Directors. Only three of the four nominees will be elected and I encourage you to review their profiles so the best qualified are elected to serve.

This Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut is open to all Master Masons. It is a great time to meet new brothers, re-acquaint with friends, and see your Grand Lodge in action. All that is required to attend is a current dues card.

With all the new brothers who have joined in the past several years, this is a fine chance to see how the Grand Lodge functions and to see the new Hartog Center and Ashlar Village. Remember, the new brothers of your lodge will be the ones that will guide this Grand Lodge in the coming years.

Fraternally,



Arthur H. Carlstrom
Deputy Grand Master



WB Mellen Received Grand Lodge Honor

by Michael L. Castroll

Worshipful Brother James Johnson Mellen was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut on July 1, 1939 to Francis Perry and Doris Ward Mellen of Easton, who had already provided him with an older sister, Melinda. After matriculating from Bassick High School in Bridgeport he went on to Norwalk Technical College, where he received his formal education as a manufacturing engineer.

Jim used his talents in various capacities at a number of employers around Fairfield County, including Pitney Bowes and Sikorsky Aircraft. Jim retired from the rat race on his birthday in 2002 after training his successor. Jim's retirement allowed him the freedom to delve into his true love – history.

The Mellen family attends the Easton Congregational Church, which has been the family church since 1762. Jim's namesake, James Johnson, was the church's first minister. Jim is heavily involved in the church. His activities there alone would keep one's head spinning. He also has a keen eye on church archives as he maintains the genealogical records pertaining of his family. Jim is very proud of his historical and genealogical endeavors, and he carries several folders, all neatly prepared and very detailed. He's proud to show off his work, and continues to add to it.

Jim also had a keen eye on the former Laurie A. Dann, whom he married in their church on August 28, 1977, with their three sons serving as 'best men'. The house where Jim and Laurie live has been in the family for over 247 years. There are plans for a 250th family reunion, and Jim is heavily involved.

Jim has a community service record second to none. His support of youth is evident by his involvement in the Boy Scouts of America. He chairs Easton's Planning and Zoning Commission. He is also involved with the Easton Senior Center and serves as a justice of the peace and constable.

Jim's involvement in town took its natural turn when, with encouragement from Masons in Easton, as well as his grandfather (Brother Merritt S. Ward, a life member of Hartford Lodge No. 88), he petitioned Aspetuck Lodge No. 142. Jim was initiated an Entered Apprentice on February 8, 1967, passed as a Fellowcraft on March 8, 1967, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on April 12, 1967. He served as Worshipful Master twice (1979, 1994), and was instrumental in the consolidation with Ashlar Lodge No. 124 in 1995. He has served as secretary and historian ever since. A few years ago, Jim also affiliated with Corinthian Lodge No. 104.

Jim has worked tirelessly as a watchdog for Masonry in Easton, and keeps watch over Easton's Masonic Temple, literally a stone's throw from his house.

Jim keeps involved in the affairs of the First District Blue Lodge Council, and is proud



Then MWGM William L. Greene presents the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service to WB James J. Mellen at the 2008 Grand Lodge session.

to keep alive a tie between daughter Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge and mother Washington Lodge No. 19 of Monroe. A companion of Baldwin Chapter No. 13, RAM and Jerusalem Council No. 16, R & SM, Jim was knighted in Hamilton Commandery No. 5, KT, and is a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Bridgeport and Lafayette Consistory. He is also a member of the Masonic Veteran Association and the Connecticut Police Square Club. Jim is a member of Twilight Club of Bridgeport, serving as its president for two years. Since that time, Jim has continued to aid in the reconstruction of the club's history.

Jim makes friends everywhere he goes. Among his closest are W.B. and Ill. Fred Candee, another icon of Easton Masonry. Jim was Junior Warden for Aspetuck Lodge when Fred was Master. Another of his projects has been keeping a close eye on WB Ted Hamilla. Ted is a true icon of Connecticut Masonry, whose longevity has ranked him high in research Masonry. Jim recalled some of the icons who brought Masonry to Easton, as well as those whose high standards for the work have long been attended to. "There's no perfection anymore," Jim said, sadly.

There are many reasons why WB James J. Mellen was awarded the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service at the recent annual session of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. Asked about the experience, Jim said, "It is a major boon in my life! All I got is all I could ever expect."

Dad Candee's Service Appreciated

When Edward W. Slade Chapter, Order of DeMolay, Wallingford held its installation in the auditorium of Masonicare in early August, the chapter took the opportunity to thank their recently retired advisory council chairman for his long service. Dad Gordon M. Candee (center) holds a plaque of appreciation presented him by his successor, Dad Steve Tenner (left). Others surrounding the honoree include recently installed State Master Councilor Bro. Joshua Tenner, new Edward W. Slade Chapter Master Councilor Brian Field, and DeMolay State Chaplain Nicholas Ferrigno. In addition to his work with his hometown chapter, Dad Candee is a Deputy Member of DeMolay International and the Deputy Executive Officer of Connecticut DeMolay.



"And God spake all these words..."

It is necessary in any society and organization that there be rules or codes of conduct that must be followed if there is to be order. The greatest code for Jews and Christians is the Ten Commandments. These are to be found in several places in the Jewish and Christian testaments.

Once upon a time, when the young people had heroes who influenced their conduct, there were men and woman who set out codes for them to follow. One such code was Gene Autry's Cowboy Code. His ten commandments were a modern pattern of living for our young people.

A cowboy must never shoot first, hit a smaller man, or take unfair advantage.

He must never go back on his word or a trust confided in him.

He must always tell the truth.

He must be gentle with children, the elderly and animals.

He must not advocate or possess racially or religiously intolerant ideas.

He must help people in distress.

He must be a good worker.

He must keep himself clean in thought, speech, action and personal habits.

He must respect women, parents, and his nation's laws.

The cowboy is a patriot.

I'm sure we all see the influence of the Ten Commandments in this code of conduct for the young people. As an organization which reaches out to "good men" and offers a path

to becoming better men, the Masonic degrees, rituals and teachings are our model for following the Ten Commandments.

I suspect that most people would have a hard time naming all Ten Commandments. Also, too many people would change the words of the commandments to suit their behavior. For example they would say do not "admit" adultery in place of do not "commit" adultery.

We see the misuse of the commandments to do evil by people who promote evil causes. The Ku Klux Klan claimed to be protecting one group of Americans while harming another. This was under the cover of doing God's will.

Life is messy. Too many bad things happen to good people. Evil seems to flourish alongside the good. The most difficult question a minister has to answer is "why do bad things happen to good people?" Or to turn it about, "why do good things happen to bad people?"

We know that in every society the good and the bad coexist. The Masonic order tries to select the good men from among the population and make them better so that the best in the society can be brought forth. Yet we must not decide we are better than all others. Pride can be a terrible thing when individuals look down on others.

I know a Mason who did not have very good feelings about the Masons. He had an uncle who was a Mason. The uncle never tired



of telling everyone of how important he was as a Mason. Then the uncle lost his job as a conductor on one of the main Midwestern railroads, due to stealing hams from a boxcar. He moved to another rail center and got another job as a conductor there. Here was a

man who did evil, but instead of punishment had good things happen to him. He even continued in the Masons with his bragging about how important it made him.

The nephew did not think very highly of the Masonic order after that, until he met one of the finest men it was his good fortune to meet. That man impressed him by his way of life, the lessons he taught and the information about what Masonry was all about. Once he learned about the good work of the Masons, he decided to join when he reached twenty-one. When the young man returned from WWII and the occupation, he married one of that man's daughters, an Eastern Star member, petitioned the local lodge, and became a Mason.

The young man was myself and I have enjoyed more than fifty-nine years of membership. The lodge where I still belong is Acme Lodge No. 83, Michigan City, Indiana.

We can be important in the life of others. There was no DeMolay in Michigan City when I was growing up. One was established after WWII, but it is now gone. We need organizations for our young people. Where it is possible our lodges should sponsor DeMolay.

As Masons we need to set a high standard for our daily conduct, as close to the Ten Commandments as possible so men will wish to join us by joining our lodges.

This is a new period when where the fastest growing age group is the over eighty group. We live longer and are active longer. Why not strive to attract both younger and older "good men?"

May the Ten Commandments continue to be the path for living the right life.



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For information, please contact Ron Dworkin, Membership Chairman, at (203) 469-4576 or (203) 464-2762



Update Your Lodge's Website

by Matthew Morris

In this new age of information and communication there is a relatively easy and amazingly effective way of letting brethren and men interested in becoming brethren know what your lodge is doing and that you are an active and vibrant member of the Masonic community. Best of all - it's FREE! It's your lodge's website. Maintaining your lodge's website and keeping the content up to date is a great tool to attract new members and let the traveling men know what is going on in your lodge.

A few years ago, a young man who, after watching a History Channel about the founding fathers of America and after years of reading about Freemasonry, decided to research the famed fraternity. Like most men his age he was well acquainted with the Internet and, in fact, the single biggest tool for researching anything was right in his living room - his computer. The young man did an Internet search that turned up more results than he could imagine.

He clicked his way through many websites, some bad but many more good, and eventually ended up at the website of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. He scrolled through different informational pages about the brotherhood and saw a link to a list of lodges. Sure enough there were not only one, but two lodges right in his city, which amazed him because in his short 30 or so years he had never had any contact with anyone who was a Mason. He clicked on the link for lodge nearest where he lived but

there wasn't much on the website. Perhaps they no longer met or existed? His curiosity was piqued never the less, so he hopped in his car and drove past the address.

When he got to his destination he noticed an old sign post with a weather beaten and greened copper square and compasses in front of an old brownstone, church-looking building. It sure looked to him like a meeting place. However it being night time, there was no one there, so he went back home and went back to the computer to do more investigating.

He went to other lodge websites on the list and noticed that some had loads of information about their activities with calendars full of events and something called a "Message from the East", which apparently was a monthly update from the leader of the lodge, the Worshipful Master. Yet the majority of the websites had little, if any, updated information, including most of the lodges close to him. He was happy to find out that the brotherhood existed in the state and although the lodges in his city may not meet any more, which he thought because of the empty websites, he decided Freemasonry was something he wanted to be a part of, so he went ahead and filled out the form on the Grand Lodge website to inquire about becoming a member.

After some emails the young man met with some brothers from the other lodge in his city who told him that the lodge that met in that old building indeed still met and existed. After a short talk they gave him a petition to join Freemasonry telling him that he could join whichever lodge he. He went on to petition the lodge that met in that old building and

if you haven't guessed it yet, went on to be the sitting Junior Warden and author of this article, me.

As a brother who came to Freemasonry in Connecticut by way of the World Wide Web, I want to make sure that you don't let a good man slip by because your website is not up to date. I have heard many stories of men who, after looking up their local lodge and finding the website dated or empty, gave up joining or had second thoughts.

As members of the largest and best fraternal organization in the world, we need to shine our light to all who may knock, or click. An added bonus of having a great website with updated calendars and news of future events is that

brothers traveling around the state can know if they are in the vicinity of your lodge on a meeting night and if there is something going on and stop by for a visit. We have had such traveling men stop by my lodge, one from a lodge in Germany, and they would have never known we were there and active without our website.

So go on, update your website. If you can't do it or need a little help there are many brothers willing to help, just ask. Keep it fresh with news and events and keep your calendar updated. You never know who will contact you, perhaps a future Junior Warden or a traveling man seeking the friendly hospitality of a lodge far away from home.

Masonicare Celebrates New Assisted Living Apartments

On Wednesday afternoon, June 18, residents, staff and families, along with local dignitaries, members of the Masonic family, and special friends of Masonicare, attended the grand opening celebration to mark the completion of 75 new, state-of-the-art assisted living apartments at Pond Ridge at Ashlar Village.

The new addition includes "The Hearth" — a safe, secure unit with 30 apartments specially designed to allow individuals with mild to moderate dementia to live as independently as possible. This new wing has an aviary, a large fish tank, and a uniquely designed flower garden that can be directly accessed by Hearth residents. The other 45 apartments in the new addition are designated for older adults who would benefit from the additional support assisted living services can provide to help them remain independent.

Four residents who have lived at Pond Ridge since it first opened in 1998 were on hand to cut the ribbon. One of the residents, Kay Noble, is a remarkable 103 years old! As Kay put it in a recent interview with the New Haven Register, "It's a very dedicated group of people who are taking care of us. I give Masonicare all the credit for me being here today with their preventative measures."

For a number of years, Masonicare has provided quality assisted living services at Pond Ridge and outstanding care at Masonic Healthcare Center for patients with more advanced cases of memory loss and Alzheimer's disease. Now The Hearth can give its residents needing memory care a greater level of independence, and families can be reassured knowing their loved ones are thriving in a safe, secure, and nurturing environment.

This article is different than what I had intended to write. My father, a Mason for sixty-five years, passed away on August 3. Many of my thoughts are directed at him and his life, and the life he spent raising me as a son and as a Mason. He was Master of Wooster Lodge in 1979 when I was raised and installed me when I was Master the first time in 1985. In a twist of fate, I installed him in 1989 when he served as Master again. He had followed in the footsteps of his father and both his grandfathers as Master Masons.

As I looked back on his life, holding and rubbing his hand as the Grand Architect released him from our world to one better, I thought of the service that he and thousands of others have done for our fraternity, for our communities, and for our nation and world. He told me of the value of the Masonic Service Association during World War II when he was training in Florida before being shipped overseas. He told me of the support of the lodge during the 1940s when he wasn't at meetings because he was in Europe trying to stop the advances of Hitler's armies. He told me about the night he was raised on a hot June night in 1943 when the Connecticut State Police degree team came to Colchester to put on the degree for State Police officer Ralph Boyington and Dad was raised as well that night – despite the commissioner ordering an area-wide utility blackout (lights out) for a training exercise. No, the commissioner wasn't a member of the fraternity.

But as we think about the past, sometime

the glorious past of our youth, we also look ahead. History can help us do that. After my father became a Mason he went into the US Army. At the Masonic Service Center in Jacksonville, he told me how he, as a young PFC, registered and was told of another brother from his lodge also in the center. It happened to be Col. James Royal Case. My father did not know him well because the Colonel was busy with his professional and military career while Dad was growing up, but Col. Case assured my father that he would be able to go to lodge that night in the Jacksonville area and they did, as Dad was driven by Col. Case to lodge.

I believe that "the true value of history lies in what it tells us about the world in which we live. At birth we enter a world that we did not create, and which we come to understand only in part, and then only gradually. With time, our awareness of that world extends beyond household, neighborhood and region to encompass many other parts of the world. But even the most distant parts of the world represent only that portion of humanity which is presently alive. All aspects of our existence are products of much longer periods of development, and their continuity and change remain only dimly evident to us until we begin to learn something about the past." That is where history comes into play. It has been said by Tulane University that:

"The best historians present us with descriptions and analyses of the past that make



unfamiliar times and places somehow comprehensible.

Perhaps the primary reason why most of us turn to history is that the past and talented studies of the past are fascinating. This fascination with learning about the past is an attraction which needs no further justification.

In seeking to penetrate the veil of the past, we end up by studying how other individuals and societies dealt with the practical and existential problems at least related to our own."

Perhaps, as we search for our own meaning, we also "examine the meanings that others found. In our contemplation of the historical record, we encounter a broader spectrum of human behavior and values than that which we encounter in our own everyday lives. In doing so, we may develop a wiser understanding of who we are, of what potential we have, of what dangers threaten individuals, families, communities, and nations, and finally what we see as the meaning of life." And so the importance of history is to remember the past.

The last month or so, my father didn't read much, but he did look at the summer issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*. Like so many others that have gone before him, like his father and his grandfathers, he lived and loved Freemasonry. It was part of a bond of friendship.

When I was nine or ten, we were in the grocery store in Colchester one Saturday morning and he was constantly greeting people. I would ask how he knew them and he responded that they were Masons (most probably from Wooster Lodge No. 10) and that they were good and decent people. They appeared to me, then, to be good and decent people, and I knew then that I wanted to follow in his footsteps and be a Mason. I did, and I am privileged to have had my father raise me, a privilege that my father didn't have since his father passed on before my father submitted his petition. It was a pleasure going to lodge with my father, as many sons will state.

And so with a heavy heart, but also with a joyful sound, I say God Speed, Dad!

Theodore Emery Littlefield
1920-2008

Master Mason

June 3, 1943 to August 3, 2008.

2009 Masters-To-Be: Important Training Upcoming!

by Paul Edberg

Incoming Masters for 2009, mark your calendar for Saturday morning, October 4, at Ashlar Village on the Masonicare campus in Wallingford. This will not be your ordinary Master's Seminar. We will have an intensive review on how to set up and manage teams for various projects within the lodge, the work place, church, synagogue, or any other place where you will need to run a project.

Just because the 'Junior Deacon' has always run Table Lodge, this does not make 'him' the perfect candidate to do this job. We will explore various ways to get the right person in the right job. We will also review the Rules and Regulations that are an important part of your year as Master, and do our best to answer your questions as you prepare for your year.

Some of our presentation will be adapted from the Grand Lodge of New York's "iDC" program, a multi-part course on individual development. Thanks to their willingness to share their work, Connecticut Worshipful Masters-to-be will have an opportunity to learn from this excellent program.

The date, again, is October 4 – save the date.

Royal Arch Festival Results in 14 New Companions

by Michael B. Dodge

Proving that not ALL Masons take a break in July and August, this summer the Connecticut York Rite scheduled two festivals to confer the degrees from the Chapter and Council. The second of the two festivals, conferring the three degrees that constitute a Council of Royal & Select Masters, was held on Saturday, August 23, at the Masonic Center in North Windham.

The festival which conferred the four degrees that compose a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, was held at the Masonic Center in North Windham on Saturday, July 26. Fourteen candidates from across the state were treated to excellent degree work by the members of Union Chapter No. 7, Stonington, Trinity Chapter No. 9, North



Fourteen new York Rite Masons pose with the Royal Arch Mason degree team at the July 26 Festival in North Windham.

Windham, and a degree team from the Connecticut York Rite College consisting of members from nine different Chapters.

Most Puissant Grand Master Andrew G. Wiemann, II and Right Eminent Grand

Commander Robert J. DiPasquale joined Most Excellent Grand High Priest Kenneth N. Hall on welcoming the new Companions to the Connecticut York Rite family.

2008 is the 200th Anniversary of the chartering of Trinity Chapter No. 9, who hosted the event (not to mention the fact that their building is air conditioned).

The festival in August as hosted by Montgomery Council No. 2, with Cushing Council No. 4 presenting the Royal Master Degree.

On Saturday, November 1, the Grand Commandery will also sponsor a festival where candidates who have progressed through the Council will be able to complete their York Rite journey by experiencing the three "Chivalric" orders (not "degrees" - "orders") that comprise a Commandery of Knights Templar.

Valley of Norwich presents Scholarships to Local Students

by Bill Breed

On Monday, July 21, the brothers of the Valley of Norwich gathered at the Preston Masonic Center to honor several young men and women from Scottish Rite families and Masonic youth groups with the award of scholarships to support their continuing education. Ill Bro. Theodore J. Nelson, 33°, hosted the awards ceremony and made the presentations.

The Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction awarded Scottish Rite Abbot Scholarships, named after Leon M. Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander from 1921 to 1932, to Randy Weiner and Matthew Teperow.

Randy Weiner will be attending LaSalle College in Newton Massachusetts, majoring in sports management and business. He aspires to become a professional baseball player, coach, or sports executive. He is connected to Masonry by his grandfather, Bro. Samuel Bernstein, 32°, Valley of Norwich.

Matthew Teperow will be returning to Plymouth State University in Plymouth, New Hampshire as a junior majoring

in communication/film studies and graphic design. He is an avid snowboarder and hopes to incorporate his love of the sport into his career through film and graphics design. He is a graduate of the 32° Masonic Learning Center and is also connected to masonry by his grandfather, Bro. Samuel Bernstein.

The Valley of Norwich awarded scholarships funded by the Valley to Kimberly Evans, Jaclyn LaMothe, Kimberly Peterson, Stephanie Peterson, and Heather Turner.

Kimberly Evans will be attending Eastern Connecticut State University, majoring in psychology of children and youth. She plans to be a teacher working with children with autism and other special needs. She is connected to Masonry by her grandfather, Bro. George Shaw, 32°, Valley of Norwich.

Jaclyn LaMothe will also be attending Eastern Connecticut State University as a junior majoring in psychology. Her current goal is to become a forensic psychologist. She is the granddaughter of Bro. Kenneth Ayers, 32°, Valley of Norwich and Meritorious Service Award (MSA) recipient.



Ill. Bro. Ted Nelson, 33°, left, presented, from left, Randy Weiner, Kimberly Evans, Kimberly Peterson, Stephanie Peterson and Heather Turner Scottish Rite Valley of Norwich scholarships. Absent from the picture were Matthew Teperow and Jaclyn La Mothe.

Kimberly Peterson is attending Three Rivers Community College. She is majoring in early childhood education, planning to become a pre-school teacher. She is the granddaughter of Bro. Leonard Weinberg, 32°, Valley of Norwich.

Stephanie Peterson will be returning to Eastern Connecticut State University as a senior majoring in biology. Her goal after graduation is to become a nurse practitioner. Her connection to masonry is through her grandfather, Bro. Leonard Weinberg, 32°, Valley of Norwich.

Heather Turner will be attending Eastern Connecticut State University this fall. She has not yet decided on a major but has interests in English, psychology and pre-med. She is the daughter of Ill. Bro. Howard Turner, MSA, 33°, and the granddaughter of Ill. Bro. Burton Turner, 33°, both Valley of Norwich.

Upon completion of the awards, the brothers and their guests retired to the dining room for light refreshments.

Ashlar Village of Wallingford Thanks its Many Volunteers

In celebration of National Volunteer Week, and in keeping with an annual tradition, Ashlar Village, Masonicare's continuing care retirement community in Wallingford, recently honored the many resident volunteers who donate thousands of hours each year to Ashlar Village and to the greater Wallingford community as well. As in years past, the festivities were open to every resident, supporting the belief that each one does something, no matter how small, to contribute in a positive way to Ashlar's culture of volunteerism.

All residents received a formal invitation to attend a recognition breakfast held in the auditorium of the new Hartog Activity Center.

Guest speaker Bro. David Gessert, chairman of the Ashlar Village board of directors, thanked all of the residents for their commitment and contributions to the success of Ashlar Village and to the community at large.

An additional celebration was held that afternoon with entertainment provided by the all-male a cappella group from Yale, the Spizzwinks(?) (the question mark is part of the name!). Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, president and CEO of Masonicare and WB Jon-Paul Venoit, president of Ashlar Village, were on hand to extend their appreciation to the volunteers and thank them.

Kerry Hatch, Ashlar Village activities manager and organizer of the events, expressed her thoughts on volunteerism and how much it means to so many people. "Volunteerism is a value... an internal call to action... a willingness to share one's time and unique talents without hope of personal gain. Today we gather as a community to recognize and thank all of our nominees, not quietly, but in grand public proclamation!"

Prior to the event, all residents were given the opportunity to vote for the resident they felt made the most contributions to Ashlar Village and the community during the past years. The top three vote getters were announced and received special recognition at the celebration. Residents Jean Kaas, Blanche Newman, and Christine Smith were honored and presented with gift certificates to Laskara restaurant, along with a framed list of quotes from the nominators explaining why each was a role model for the Ashlar Village community.

Throughout the year, Ashlar Village residents volunteer their time in many ways. Several volunteers get together monthly to cut and package squares of colorful fleece to make CUREchiefs, which are donated to the CUREchief Foundation and used as head coverings by people of all ages who are going through chemotherapy.

Many volunteer as members of the Ashlar Village Specialty Shop's craft group, which makes lovely and unique craft items that are sold in the shop to raise scholarship funds for employees and their children.

Resident volunteers serve as greeters at the main desk, deliver mail throughout the campus, help to set up for various functions and special events, and even grocery shop and supply transportation for their neighbors. They also spend time visiting area schools to read to children and correspond frequently with their student "pen pals." Residents and staff participate in holiday food drives and partner with Wallingford's Department of Welfare and Social Services to distribute toys to needy families during the holidays. They also mentor local school children who need consistent and positive attention from an adult. Some residents knit shawls of soft wool for a worldwide organization called Care Shawl Ministry. These unique shawls are blessed by a minister and distributed to people who are in need of a "hug."

WB Jon-Paul Venoit said the retirement community is fortunate to have so many residents willing to volunteer their time and talent to help their neighbors throughout the Wallingford area. "It is always a pleasure to recognize our volunteers in this close-knit community and show them how much we appreciate generosity of spirit and concern for others who may need a helping hand."

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Fellow residents gave special recognition to volunteers, from left, Christine Smith, Jean Kaas, and Blanche Newman for their outstanding contributions to Ashlar Village and the community.

Ground Broken for Hawkins Apartments

A bright, sunny afternoon in July proved to be the perfect day to celebrate a long-awaited event: the groundbreaking ceremony that kicked off the start of construction on a new building that will house 36 independent living apartments. The building will be an addition to the current A. Norman Johnson Apartments, but it will have enhanced amenities and a new name – the Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr. Independent Living Apartments. It is expected that the new apartments, which are already in great demand, will be ready for occupancy in about a year.



PGM Ken and Elaine Hawkins

was totally surprised and visibly moved when Howard W. Orr, chairman of Masonicare's board of trustees, announced that the building was being named in his honor. Ken's wife, Elaine, and their children and grandchildren arrived on the scene to make this special day an even more meaningful one for Ken and all of those in attendance at the ceremony.

The new apartments will be the first buildings on the Wallingford campus named for a Past Grand Master in more than 35 years.

Dozens of Johnson residents, Masonicare employees and members of the Masonic family were on hand to congratulate Ken on this well-deserved honor. Masonic Healthcare



From left: WB Howard W. Orr, Chairman, Masonicare Board of Trustees; MW Robert J. Stika, Grand Master; Elaine Hawkins; MW Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr., Chairman, Board of Directors, Masonic Healthcare Center; Maria Cassesse, Director, Independent Living, Masonic Healthcare Center; William C. Piper, President, Masonic Healthcare Center; Ray Washburn, Vice President, Strategic Planning, Masonicare, and Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, President and CEO, Masonicare.

MW Hawkins, Past Grand Master and chairman of Masonic Healthcare Center's board of directors and vice chairman of Masonicare's Board of Trustees,

Masonic Healthcare

Center president William Piper thanked him for his leadership as chairman of Masonic Healthcare Center's board of directors and for his many years of commitment, dedication and outstanding service to Masonicare. As Stephen

B. McPherson, Masonicare's president and CEO, put it when referring to Ken's lifetime of good works, "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give." (Winston Churchill)

Pyramid Pipers Make Music and a Donation



The Pyramid Shrine Pipes and Drums unit has a standing offer to teach bag piping and drumming to any brother Mason or DeMolay interested in learning the art.

Paul Evangelista (second from right) and Nick Ferrigno (right) of Sleeping Giant Chapter, Order of DeMolay, North Haven have taken them up on the offer – Paul is an aspiring piper, while Nick and his father, chapter chairman and WB Sal, are learning the drums. Thus, it was not surprising when pipers Bruce Taylor (left, holding his son) and WB Jeff Dyer were present at the recent Sleeping Giant installation to pipe Bro. Evangelista into office. What was a surprise was the financial gift made by the unit to the chapter in appreciation of the efforts of the new members during parades that occurred over the summer.

Here unit president Dyer presents the check as DeMolay Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III and State Master Councilor Bro. Joshua Tenner look on from the East.

Our Sympathies...
 The Grand Lodge of Connecticut extends its deepest sympathies to the family of Worthy Grand Matron Gail C. Everts of the Order of the Eastern Star of Connecticut, who suffered the loss of her father, Brother Walter Currier, and her former husband, Brother Ray Everts, in June.
 May our thoughts and prayers bring some comfort to your sorrow.

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A Gift of Flowers Brings Smiles Galore to Residents of MHC

The female residents at Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford were all smiles on Wednesday, July 23, when flower-filled "Be Happy®" mugs were personally delivered by representatives of the Connecticut Unit of Teleflora.

The program is a coordinated effort by thousands of Teleflora member florists throughout the country who volunteer their time to create and deliver their signature "Be Happy®" mugs for Make Someone Smile® week, which first began in 2000. Teleflora donates the yellow keepsake mugs, which are delivered to patients in veteran's hospitals, nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and this year, Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford was delighted to be the Connecticut facility chosen to receive the floral arrangements.

Local wholesalers and growers supplied the fresh flowers, which included yellow roses and daisies, and local florists volunteered

their time to create and deliver the beautiful bouquets.

Mr. Piper said Masonic Healthcare Center was extremely pleased to receive 250 floral arrangements for their residents. In honor of the occasion, the Therapeutic Recreation Department declared July 23 to be "Smile Day" at Masonic, where special Smiley Face decorations and colorful balloons adorned the building.

Susan Wall of the Connecticut Unit of Teleflora said the program's goal is to give people a little something extra to smile about through the gift of flowers. "This is a real team effort to bring joy to people and help brighten their day. I think we get as much pleasure from participating in Make Someone Smile® Week as the residents get from receiving the flowers!"



Masonic Healthcare Center president William Piper, greets Sue Hall of the Connecticut Unit of Teleflora as she and her colleagues arrive at the Center to distribute "Be Happy®" mugs to residents for Make Someone Smile® week

Now - Outpatient Rehabilitation Services at AON

Building on the success of their outstanding short-term inpatient rehabilitation program, Masonicare's Ashlar of Newtown is pleased to announce that it now provides comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation services at the skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility on Toddy Hill Road in Newtown.

The skilled rehab professionals at Ashlar of Newtown know that bouncing back after surgery or illness can be a challenge, to say the least. That's why they're now treating a number of conditions that require specialized treatment on an outpatient basis to help patients recover and relearn skills that were once taken for granted. Their goal is to help their patients resume the highest level of functioning and maximize their potential.

The outpatient services at Ashlar of Newtown are provided in a newly created rehab gym, conveniently located on the first floor and with its own private entrance. The wide range of outpatient services offered include: physical, occupational, and

speech therapy (with swallowing evaluations); nutrition/diabetes management; neurological rehabilitation: stroke, spinal cord injury, neuropathy, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis; cardiac rehabilitation; memory impairment; orthopedic rehabilitation: joint replacement, joint surgery, arthritis, osteoporosis, neck/back pain, repetitive stress injuries, and multiple trauma; gait/balance disorders or history of falls; headaches; fibromyalgia and work related injuries.

The addition of outpatient services is a definite plus for patients who receive inpatient rehabilitation therapy at Ashlar of Newtown. If their discharge plans call for supplementary rehab therapy to help speed the recovery process, these patients can return to Ashlar of Newtown as outpatients and receive treatment in familiar surroundings from therapists they have come to know and trust. This added benefit provides a comfort level and continuity of care that can be very beneficial in restoring patients to their full potential.

Medicare, Workers' Compensation, and most commercial insurances are accepted. For

additional information or a consultation, please call 203-364-3151.

Picnic Concerts a Big Hit



For the 22nd consecutive year, Ashlar of Newtown sponsored its free Summer Sounds concerts. In honor of its 25th anniversary as a Masonicare affiliate, the community was invited to join the residents for a free picnic and concert on July 16. Residents from Newtown and surrounding communities enjoyed food and drink and a unique blend of calypso and island music by St. Luke's Steel Band, a perfect accompaniment to a wonderful evening. Bro. Tom Gutner, president of Ashlar of Newtown, explains that the organization has been committed to providing the best care possible for 25 years. "The fact that so many people joined us on this special evening and helped celebrate our anniversary is a symbol of our success."

Hospice Art at Riverside Health and Rehabilitation Center

Connecticut VNA and Connecticut VNA Partners have announced their traveling hospice art exhibit, "Completing the Journey - The Art of Hospice Care,"

will be on display at Riverside Health and Rehabilitation Center, 745 Main Street, East Hartford, during the month of September.



Connecticut VNA and Connecticut VNA Partners' Hospice Art Exhibit on Display.

The exhibit is an extraordinary and powerful multi-media display depicting the use of the arts in hospice care. It is a collection of paintings, drawings, photography, poetry, shadow boxes and more that have been done with, for and about ordinary people at the end of their lives. It highlights the unique gifts patients and their loved ones have received through Connecticut VNA and Connecticut VNA Partners' compassionate and supportive Hospice team. The exhibit has helped people understand the major role art and art therapy can play in helping patients and

families cope with a terminal illness.

Susan Rosano, an Expressive Arts Therapist with the Hospice team and an organizer of the exhibit, said the group wanted to show the public the incredible work that is being done with people at the end of their lives and how it can contribute to the process of emotional healing for family members and friends.

"The poems we write with our patients—the collages and drawings we help them make—their hand castings—all have become lasting memorials to them."

The exhibit was previously on

display at the NOMA Gallery in Middletown, The Windham Area Arts Collaborative Gallery in Willimantic, Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford, and at The Institute for Community Research and St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford. The community is invited to stop in at Riverside Health and Rehabilitation to view the exhibit at any time during the week or on the weekend.

For additional information, or to learn how you can showcase this traveling exhibit, please contact Susan Rosano at 860-528-5195 or Bro. Charles Waltos at 860-290-6747.

G. WASHINGTON: Master Mason by Allen E. Roberts

Of the many books written about George Washington, this is one of the few which approaches the man from a human interest standpoint.

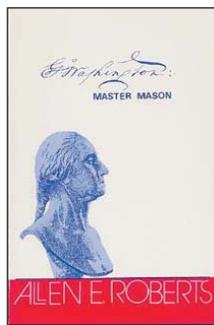
We learn what the man was really like; how his friends, neighbors, soldiers, and statesmen regarded him. Allen E. Roberts has let Washington tell his own story. His own words, as he wrote them at the time, are used throughout this story of his life.

From his birth to his death, we learn what influenced Washington. We find that he was far ahead of his time in many, many areas. Those who have checked the manuscript for accuracy have learned things about Washington they never knew before. Mr. Roberts researched and read hundreds of letters and volumes to bring the real George Washington to life.

The book is divided into three parts: YOUTH, MANHOOD, and OLD AGE. It is fully illustrated, and many of the drawings and pictures had never been previously published. Five of the sketches are original drawings.

The appendices cover other facets of the life of Washington that are little known. They include monuments, medals, academic honors, municipal and fraternal honors, his Masonic activities, a list of the "Founding Fathers" who were Freemasons, a bibliography, and a comprehensive index.

Copies of *G. Washington: Master Mason* by noted Masonic scholar and author Allen E. Roberts are available at the Grand Lodge office.



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Masonicare Employees Shed More Than 730 lbs. through At-Work Weight Loss Program

As Connecticut's leading not-for-profit provider of healthcare and retirement living for seniors, Masonicare is an employer that knows that helping its employees maintain optimal health and well being is of the utmost importance.

That's why in March of this year, Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, Masonicare's president and CEO, and William Piper, president of Masonic Healthcare Center, extended an invitation to Masonicare employees to participate in their "Biggest Loser" challenge.

The goal was to help employees improve their overall health and lessen their risk of developing a

host of diseases affected by excess weight. The organization arranged to host an "at work" Weight Watchers program for employees and offered to reimburse each

participating employee a portion of the cost of joining - as long as the employee lost at least one pound. Bro. McPherson served as captain of the "Corporate

Chubbies," and Bill Piper was the "Healthcare Huskies" captain.

The results are in - the "Chubbies" were the big winners, losing a total of 411.6 lbs and the "Huskies" lost 325.2 lbs. The average "chubby" lost 10.3 lbs, while the average "husky" 9 lbs. Team captain Steve McPherson was one of the top five people on his team to lose the most weight.

A celebratory party for all 76 participants was held recently, and the abundant assortment of refreshments did include some "healthy" food choices.

A special treat of ice cream sundaes was available, however, but only for the Corporate Chubbies!



Masonic Healthcare Center's President, William Piper, left, and Masonicare's President and CEO Bro. Stephen McPherson congratulate employees who reached their goal of losing 10% of their weight through the at-work Weight Watchers program sponsored by Masonicare.

RAISING THE BAR...

Prince Hall Increases 2008 Masonicare Annual Appeal Support

When it comes to charitable giving, the Masonicare Annual Appeal is part of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge tradition.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut has been a longtime supporter - and a leading donor - of the Masonicare Annual Appeal, a giving campaign coordinated by The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut.

Donations raised by the

Masonicare Annual Appeal support the many programs and services of Masonicare and its affiliates, which include Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford, Ashlar of Newtown in Newtown, Connecticut, and Connecticut VNA, which is statewide.

"As Masons, we are pleased to support our Masonic Brothers through their Masonicare Annual Appeal and are delighted we

can increase that support for the coming year," said Bro. Michael Ferguson, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge. For the past two years, the Lodge has been one of the campaign's top donors, donating \$6,000 to the Annual Appeal. For 2008, Prince Hall increased its support to \$7,000.

"We know that the money we donate benefits residents

and patients throughout the Masonicare continuum," said Bro. Ferguson. "We are pleased we can make a difference in this way."

"We are grateful for the support of Prince Hall," said Eloise Mongillo, Director of Development at The Masonic Charity Foundation. "Their support - like that of all of our donors - is appreciated by so many."



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Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut, a longtime supporter of the Masonicare Annual Appeal, increased its support for 2008. Pictured here with Eloise Mongillo, director of development, The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut (left) and Jennifer King, foundation president, are, from left, Brother Floyd E. Bagwell, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, Brother Lewis Myrick, Sr., Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, and Brother Michael L. Ferguson, Most Worshipful Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge F. & A.M. of Connecticut.

2008 Connecticut DeMolay Conclave



Bro. Christopher J. Werner, 2007-2008 State Master Councilor



From left, immediate Past State Master Councilor Bro. Christopher J. Werner; ritual competition winner Nicholas Giori, who won all seven preceptor parts and made only 2 word errors in the more than 1,000 words recited; Garrett Brush, recipient of the first Damien Becroft Memorial Award for Sportsmanship; new State Master Councilor Bro. Joshua Tenner; and Bro. Steven Tenner, father of the new SMC and recipient of the Guild of the Leather Apron Award as advisor of the year.



Candidates taking the obligation during the initiatory degree



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Edward W. Slade Chapter, Wallingford, winners of the 2008 Conclave trophy



Samantha Stoddard, State Sweetheart with Chris Werner and Josh Tenner.



CTCHIP Continues...with Your Help

by Ken Greenhill

Few would argue that one of the more significant impacts of Connecticut Freemasonry has been the Connecticut Child Identification Program (CTCHIP). Since 2003, the parents of almost 40,000 children have been the beneficiaries of the efforts of countless volunteers that have helped provide kids with ID Kits, now known as the Purple Pack. Sadly though, time has not been kind when it comes to the safety of children, and the circumstances of our world make us continue to believe this is still a vital service to our communities.

Members of the CTCHIP committee continue to work to improve the program by streamlining all stages of the process, improving equipment and technology, and adding greater access throughout Connecticut with events scheduled in virtually every section of the state on any given weekend. The easy-to-use website, www.ctchip.org, now lets anyone request an event in just a couple of minutes or find scheduled events months in advance!

The Purple Pack, with the traditional fingerprint card, Toothprint®, and medical information, now offers the addition of a cheek swab and a digital DVD for video and photo, which replace the bulky VCR tape and

printed photo. These changes have allowed us to reduce the size of the Purple Pack, making it easier to carry when traveling or for storing.

At a glance it may appear that we've accomplished a great deal and indeed we have accomplished much. But we've only just begun to scratch the surface. The 40,000 children, although a sizable group, represent only a fraction of Connecticut's youth and does not even address the need to renew the Purple Pack as a child grows. We can easily expect that the numbers will keep growing and more events will be held and more children than ever will be a bit safer through our efforts.

Thanks to the continued support and commitment of Connecticut Freemasons, their family and friends, the program marches forward, but as we continue to provide this much needed service to Connecticut, it comes at a cost. All this equates to the most pressing challenge that the program faces... funding.

In the past, the cost of the program has been largely borne by an allocation from our Grand Lodge dues. Without placing further burden on the individual member and with the cost of the kit at around \$3.00, we need to look to alternative sources to find the much-needed money to keep CTCHIP alive.

Lodge fund raisers like golf tournaments, spaghetti dinners, and Table Lodges with funds dedicated to CTCHIP, have and will continue to go a long way to help, as do the generous donations of many lodges and districts around the state.

But we need more! So if you would like to help, please consider a fund raiser or have your company consider corporate sponsorship, or even consider a bequest. Remember, all donations are 100% tax deductible as CTCHIP is funded through the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation and recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity.



CTCHIP Director, Carl Mossberg makes a Toothprint.

Is Learning Masonic Ritual Truly Worth the Investment of Our Leisure Hours?

by Dave Slack

Various forms of ritual have formed a part of human culture for tens of thousands of years. Not only has there often been a spiritual aspect of worship, ritual has often served more basic social functions. These more mundane functions are those of reinforcing and expressing the shared values and beliefs of a society.

Rituals are standardized observances in which individuals, as part of a larger community, take part, whether they are observances that bind us to our history and our past, or observances created to commemorate special occasions or ceremonies designed to lift up the humdrum and monotonous aspects of our lives and to make them special.

Even common social interactions like shaking hands, smiling, and saying hello are rituals that are well understood and commonly interpreted virtually the world over.

So what is the value of our Masonic ritual and why do we all spend so much of our leisure time perfecting it? Is it really worth all of the time and effort we spend on it?

Our Masonic ritual is a foundation upon which we can build and that we are privileged as men and as Masons to have available to us.

Some of these underpinning foundations are so ridiculously clear and obvious that I hesitate to mention them:

"In whom do you put your trust?"

"What come you here to do?"

"...will naturally seek each others welfare and happiness equally with their own."

"...contribute as liberally to his relief as you can without injury to yourself."

Ritual can also be a mechanism for improving human beings on several levels: physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual.

We all know that our emotional feelings affect our physical health and vice versa. We know that our minds, both the conscious and subconscious, control our feelings. Our spiritual state strongly influences the state of our minds.

For the most part our normal work-a-day activities do extremely little to nourish the spirit. A spirit that is out of balance with the rest of our being affects the condition of the mind and body and often yields a pessimistic or cynical assessment of the world.

Ritual can be an enormously valuable tool when teaching new Masons about our values and beliefs.

The degrees entail a series of moral lessons all of which comprise a spiritual journey

towards the goal of constant self improvement and improvement of those around them.

As lodges become more and more proficient in their ritual work there has been a growing tendency to restore the ritual to its proper place in the overall scheme of Masonic education.

The emphasis on memorization and mechanical regurgitation is changing from the realm of the "i" dotters and "t" crossers to the more meaningful realm of that which causes men to think, to feel, and to act. The importance of the "craft" or "nuts and bolts" of ritual is being surpassed by the more meaningful and much more beautiful "art" of ritual.

As we become more rehearsed and comfortable with the words and mechanics we can add the flourishes of hand gestures, body language and artistically rendered vocal variety. This is much more fun to participate in and infinitely more impressive to observe.

Ritual delivered in such an impassioned manner is much more likely to impart the intended message and to make the desired impact upon our new Masonic brothers.

Another value of Masonic ritual is to reinforce these valuable lessons amongst the craft in general. Several times per month, as we meet and share time together we use our ritual to provide regular reinforcement these Masonic lessons in one another.

Balance in our lives

Charity and relief

Personal Integrity

Honesty and truth

It's summed up nicely by the phrase "Meet on the level, act by the plumb and part upon the square..."

Our ritual also provides a social bonding mechanism within the lodge. Human beings seldom truly bond simply because they have declared it to be so.

They bond as friends and brothers by working and struggling towards common, worthwhile goals and shared aspirations. Sometimes the disappointments are more bonding than the successes.

Working together, as a team, and striving for ever improving ritual delivery and floor-work choreography can play a vital role in this teambuilding process. Bringing new brothers along in their ritual is particularly rewarding in this regard.

Nothing is more satisfying than exemplifying a degree with a new group of men when a positive outcome is far from assured; through hard work and determination they perform brilliantly. It is a wonderful warm glow of satisfaction that can be provided by such an experience. This experience can become wonderfully addictive and positive for a lodge.

Ritual provides connections that span geographic and cultural boundaries.

Whenever a Mason travels, within the state, within the country, indeed around the world, ritual provides a common platform; a basis upon which new friendships might easily be forged regardless of cultural, political or ideological differences. No matter where we meet the world over, there is a common basis of principles and precepts that bind us together.

Ritual helps us span the ages as well.

We all understand the concept of "generation gap". Fathers, grandfathers, and sons seldom have coinciding tastes in style, in music, in popular language and an array of other differentiations. This is entirely natural and has existed since the dawn of civilization.

Masonic ritual provides a bridge across these generational boundaries. How many of us have had the privilege of attending a lodge with three or four generations of Masons in attendance? Their Masonry is a wonderful common ground spanning hundreds of years and dozens of generations and will continue into the indefinite future.

For all of its magnificent range of benefits there are several points that should be safeguarded against.

see **RITUAL** page 26



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(b) RW Philip R. Roberts, DD • WB Danny A. Camp, AGM

Norwalk Masons March in Memory of the Fallen

by Matt Morris

It was a sunny and cool Memorial Day morning when the three Masonic lodges of Norwalk stepped off in unison, marching together in memory of the men and women who fought and died for their country. Brothers from St. John's Lodge No. 6 and Old Well Lodge No. 108 of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut and Corinthian Lodge No. 16 of The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut and DeMolays from Laurel Chapter marched together for the second year under the banner of "Freemasons in Norwalk, Making Good Men Better Since 1765."

The weather cooperated and the two mile walk in tuxedos was great for the brethren who marched. This was the second consecutive year that the Masons of Norwalk marched together in Masonic regalia. The fellowship continued afterwards with a cook out at Old Well Lodge No. 108.



During the Memorial Day parade, Norwalk Masons showed their town that there are three Masonic lodges in Norwalk.

DISTRICT No. 2

(a) RW Thomas L. Sullivan, Sr., DD • WB Gary H. Ross, AGM
(b) RW Frederick V. Miller, Jr., DD • WB Joseph M. Levkoff, AGM

St. Peter's No. 21 presents Scholarship at Strawberry Festival

by Rafael Figueroa

St. Peter's Lodge No. 21, New Milford, held their annual Strawberry Festival on Tuesday, June 17 with over 40 brothers and their families. Hamburgers, hot dogs and potluck dishes were shared with the guests.

The 17th Annual Clarence Burden Music Award was also presented to a New Milford High School graduate.

Robert Patrick was presented with a \$500 scholarship towards his continuing education in music. He will be attending Western Connecticut State University in the fall.

All wished him the best in the future. Robert

was surrounded by his family who also enjoyed the food and brotherhood shared by St. Peter's No. 21.



The Patrick clan gathers around this year's Burden Music Award recipient. Front row, from left: siblings Mark and Natalie, and this year's recipient Robert Patrick. Rear, from left: grandmother Lynne Swanson, parents Adria and Kevin, RW Bob Burden, and WM Bill Knipple, Jr.

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Masonic Lodge Hosts Wedding in New Milford

by Craig Nelson

On Saturday July 26 the brethren of St. Peter's Lodge No. 21 assembled in lodge and participated in a wedding at the request of WB Richard Stebbins and his fiancée, Marie Carpanzano. Due to the number of brothers from St. Peter's and other lodges, along with the family and friends, extra chairs were needed to accommodate all who attended the service. RW Craig B. Nelson, a Justice of the Peace, performed the service.

The service was a mixture of Turkish

and Puerto Rican ritual and had a spiritual as well as a Masonic meaning.

This was a first time that a wedding service had been conducted within St. Peter's lodge and there was talk afterwards by brothers and guests that they would like to see another one.

RW Craig B. Nelson, right, in his capacity as Justice of the Peace, performs the service for the bride, Marie Carpanzano, and groom, WB Richard Stebbins, at St. Peter's Lodge.

photo by Richard Hubert



DISTRICT No. 3

(a) RW Alfred G. Rollinson, DD • WB Stephen J. Nevins, AGM
(b) RW Marshall K. Robinson, DD • WB James D. Waite, Jr., AGM



Kenneth B. Watts Scholarship Awarded

by Glen H. Hughes

Wolcott Lodge No. 146, Wolcott, held their 12th Annual Kenneth B. Watts Scholarship presentation on June 10. This year the scholarship was presented by Kenneth B. Watts's nephew, Waterbury Police Officer, Randy Watts, who donated funds for the scholarship when Brother Ken passed away. WB Kenneth B. Watts was instrumental in establishing Wolcott Lodge No. 146 in 1978 and was Charter Master at its inception.

Mrs. Paula Spino, left, stand next to her daughter, Andrea, who accepts the Kenneth B. Watts Scholarship check from Randy Watts. WM Glen Hughes, obscured right, looks on.

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- (c) RW James J. Pyskaty, DD • WB William S. Clark, AGM

Rain Doesn't Spoil the Fun

What's a little rain when you're young and having fun? The August multi-organization picnic in Wallingford was interrupted by a drenching thunderstorm, but that didn't stop members of Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Alice Chapter No. 76, O.E.S., Evergreen Assembly No. 44, Order of Rainbow, and Edward W. Slade

Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and their guests, from having a great afternoon.

The softball game was washed out, but here Melissa Brewerton makes use of the slide as DeMolay State Chaplain Nick Ferrigno awaits her arrival in a mud puddle at Community Lake Park, Wallingford.



Summertime, and the Eating is Easy



Stepping up to the chow line at the Temple Lodge Summer Fun Festival were RW Robert Knowles (right), and Bro. John White (second from right), author and contributor to Connecticut Freemasons. Making their way to the table are WB David Berger (in the sunglasses) and wife Andrea, partially hidden.

by Roger Jackson

As do many lodges, Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, held a "Summer Fun

Festival" gathering at Mixville Park. A record turnout of brothers and their families shared the day with several friends and families of those who were interested in learning more about our fraternity. One fellow even left with a petition. The children enjoyed a large water slide and air-filled bouncing playground rented by the lodge while the adults enjoyed good conversation and the customary fare of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, and hot dogs with sides of salads, chips and dips. For dessert there was cake, popsicles, and watermelon.

WB John Atwood organized and coordinated the picnic, but wasn't able to enjoy the fruits of his labors when called away on business at the last minute!

Fishing With the West

by Ken Neumann

It was a cool, drizzly morning in late May when six brothers converged at Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, at the ungodly hour of 4 a.m. Secretary Lou Murray, Jon Fischer, Tom Lewoc, Russ Linsley, Joe Stark and Senior Warden Ken Neumann loaded food, drink, and gear into the truck and we left for Old Saybrook to catch our boat, the Sea Sprite, for a day of fishing on the Sound. The action was slow to start, but we quickly made up for lost time as cries of "Fish on!" continued the rest of the day.

As we headed back to the dock, in the now warm, brilliant sunshine, the mate cleaned and bagged the striped bass and bluefish bounty. Bro. Lou took most of the bluefish to smoke it for us (you may have tried some of this epicurean delight on Hawaiian Shirt Night.) A great time was had by all and we intend to do it again in the fall.



To the organizer belong the spoils, and here Temple Lodge Senior Warden Ken Neumann shows off a keeper he captured during the lodge's spring fishing trip.

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DISTRICT No. 5

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(b) RW Laurence E. Hangland, DD • WB Philip B. Swain, Jr., AGM

Sequin-Level Celebrates 60 and 70 years in the Same Night

by A. Scott Dean

Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, celebrated its 60th anniversary with the representation of its charter by Grand Master Robert J. Stika to current Master MW Chip Stamm II at a spirited event on June 26 attended by over 120 guests.

A bar-b-que cookout of hot dogs, hamburgers and chicken under the Sequin-Level tent and in the banquet hall preceded ceremonies. The original charter, dated June 26, 1948, included 93 names. It was fitting to have the charter re-presented on the exact date 60 years later. Sequin-Level Lodge is now an active lodge with almost 400 members.

A 70 year pin was also presented to the fourth Worship Master of Sequin-Level, WB Clayton B. Adams, by his daughter, Shari, a former Rainbow girl. She was ably assisted by GM Stika and MW Chip. Numerous other service pins, including ten 50 year

pins, a 45 year year pin, a 55 year pin were presented by GM Stika and RW Gary W. Arseneau with the assistance of MW Chip.

A 25 year pin went to WB Elliott Frauenglass who had just presented his sons Julius and

Morris with their 15 year pins.

Two 60 year service pins were given to Brothers Paul Jensen and Skip Stamm by their wives and assisted by the Grand East once again.

A highlight of the evening was

a presentation of the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service, to a very surprised WB Edward Hadigian, who will be featured in a future issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*.



A crowd of Grand Lodge officers, brothers, and guests surround the 60 year old Sequin-Level charter.

Unity Lodge "Rocks" at Family Picnic

Unity Lodge No. 148, New Britain was a part of the second-largest crowd ever to attend a New Britain Rock Cats baseball game at New Britain Stadium when the lodge held its annual family picnic at the stadium in early August.

Purists will note that the exciting Double A game was won by the Binghamton Mets, but lodge members, their families and friends were probably more interested in the all-you-can-eat pre-game meal and post-game fireworks display.



Bro. Kevin Girouard and WM Harry E. Needham, III made a new friend in the Rock Cats' mascot, Rocky. Do we have a candidate to play Bullwinkle?



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Columbia No. 25 Hosts "Ceilidh" in Glastonbury

by Arnie Grot

WB Skip House's journey in Freemasonry began in Mosaic Lodge No. 52 in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine in 1980. His path meandered through Bangor, where he marched as a bagpiper with the Anah Temple Highlanders, a unit in which he remains an emeritus member.

He presently occupies the Oriental chair in Columbia Lodge No. 25, Glastonbury. It is a chair once occupied by both his father and his fraternal grandfather. Skip is also a member of the Sphinx Highlanders of Newington. His zest for the good things enjoyed in brotherhood naturally evolved into a ceilidh, or gathering, of 65 Freemasons from Maine and Connecticut on May 31.

The ceilidh began with the

exemplification of the Master Mason degree using Maine ritual by nobles of the Anah Highlanders in full highland dress. Skip, serving as Chaplain during the degree, wore the uniform of the Sphinx Highlanders with the exception of his sporran (worn below the waist and adorns the front of the kilt). His sporran was that of the Anah Highlanders.

The precision of the degree was as smart as the team's dress (see photo).

After the degree and as dinner was being prepared, the sometime quiet hollow in South Glastonbury in which the lodge resides was disturbed by the odd reverberations of bagpipes being tuned. Those never previously exposed to Pipes and Drums may mistake this resonance for the performance. That erroneous assumption



Kilts, bagpipes, water of life, and a fiddler united brothers who enjoyed a May 31 "ceilidh" (gathering) and a Master Mason degree with Maine ritual.

was soon proven false as the Highlanders assembled in precise formation and elegantly enchanted the brothers with sweet ceòl beag (bagpipe music), orchestrated with drums.

A doubly enchanted evening ensued. The first part was the dining-in, a five course meal interspersed with education on savoring and sampling of five select Scotch whiskies ("uisque beatha" in Gaelic or "water of life" in English) interspersed between courses. The courses consisted of vegetable haggis filo, mini lamb burgers, smoked salmon cake with watercress crème fraiche, fillet of pork with a whisky and apple chutney, and ginger bread pudding with butterscotch sauce.

Each course was prepared by personal chef brother Paul Finney of Oktober Kitchen and his staff, which included two other culinary arts school graduates. Ricky Crawford, ambassador for The Glenlivet, introduced each of the five whiskies by giving their histories and that of The Glenlivet and techniques to truly appreciate each. Conversations throughout the dining-in were even freer flowing than the whisky and food.

Many brothers who returned upstairs for an after dinner concert by renowned Irish fiddler PV O'Donnell and Friends sported puzzled looks, thinking perhaps they had misjudged the strength of the whiskies. What had been the lodge room during the afternoon Master Mason degree was transformed into an auditorium with the stage in the East and rows of seating running north to south. Their fears soon turn to delights as PV O'Donnell played his fiddle with passion and its grace lifted the spirits to greater heights.

His music, stories, and Irish humor, which he and his friends weaved into the performance, stirred souls, touched hearts, and tickled minds. It is a ceilidh that will long remembered.



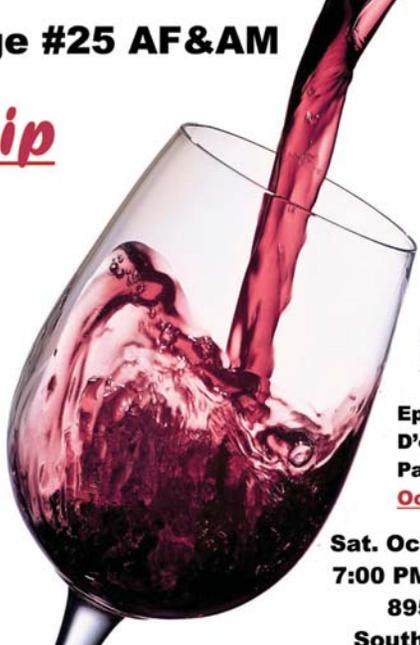
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(b) RW F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., DD • WB William G. Bryce, AGM

On the Road Again

by Jim Wilson

Seven brothers from Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, traveled to Moosup Lodge No. 113, Moosup, in June to partake in some fellowship and witness the highly publicized Quarry Rite Degree. Brothers Richard Clark, Steven Aldi, Richard Dickson, Gene Nead, Art Tinsz, Frank Porteus, and Jim Wilson enjoyed an excellent dinner of peppers and sausage, potato and macaroni salad, and hot Italian meatballs with sauce for small sub sandwiches. While watermelon was provided for dessert, some chose to go to the adjoining ice cream parlor to cool off on this warm summer evening — further proof that Masonry “rounds out a man.”

After dinner, over 110 brothers caravanned over local roads from Moosup to the town of Sterling to a true working stone quarry. The owner of the quarry is a member of Moosup Lodge, and this quarry specializes in what they advertise as “Architectural Stone.”

Several man and equipment hours had gone into creating the “lodge room.” The

three stations were made from huge blocks of granite, set one on top of another, to form the proper one, two, or three steps for each station. There were no chairs for the officers to sit on, so they used blocks of granite. Even Grand Master Robert Stika sat on a stone block without benefit of a cushion. The altar was a block of stone that must weigh three or four tons. The new brothers of Moosup Lodge were raised beneath tiki torches and the great outdoors.

The brothers from Friendship Tuscan thoroughly enjoyed their “out of town” visit, and also enjoyed meeting brothers from Clinton, Massachusetts, Providence, Rhode Island and other parts of Rhode Island, several



Brothers from Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 Gene Nead, Richard Dickson, Richard Clark, Arthur Tinsz, WB James H. Wilson Jr., Frank Porteus, and Steven Aldi pose around Moosup Lodge's granite altar.

of them being dual members of Moosup Lodge No. 113.

Anyone who has not seen this degree portrayed should make an effort to see when this event is held another time.

Awards night at Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145

Awards night at Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, started with a great meal. Tossed salad, steak, and vegetables were prepared by WB Dustin Wood and WB William Stickland.

Bro. Russell Scull III, WB Albert Reid, and WB Scott Reid each received the Lewis Jewel. The Lewis Jewel is awarded to a Mason whose father was also a Mason in good standing at the time of his initiation.

Bro. Brent Petroff received the Jake Award for Achievement and Excellence. Since being raised in September 2007, Brent has been very active in the lodge, working on candidate investigation committees, taking ever increasing roles on the degree teams, and working fund raising events hosted by the lodge.

Incremental service pins were presented including a 65 year, a

60 year, two 50 year, two 40 year, five 35 year, and a 30 year to brothers totaling 555 years of Masonic service.

Strawberry shortcake dessert concluded the evening with biscuits made by Claudette Mertens.

WM Joe Dias, right, presents the Jake Award for Achievement and Excellence to Bro. Brent Petroff at the Thursday, June 19 Awards night.



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Hot Day for Hot Dogs in Deep River

For over 30 years at the Deep River Ancient Muster Masons of Trinity Mount Olive Lodge, Deep River, and now Estuary Lodge No. 43, Old Saybrook, have continued a tradition raising scholarship funds with a hot dog stand. Again on July 19, brothers gather under hot and humid conditions to ply their wares at the parade for hungry and thirsty visitors.

This year nearly 60 fife and drum corps marched the route through heat and humidity and the brothers manned the tent, providing cold refreshments and

hot dogs with all the fixings. It was a time for working together, visiting with brothers who live out of state and showing people Masonry is alive and well in the lower Connecticut River valley.

Estuary Lodge donates a scholarship for the three school districts which formerly held the consolidated lodges of Pythagoras Lodge No. 45, Old Lyme, Siloam Lodge No. 32, Old Saybrook, and Trinity Mount Olive Lodge No. 43, Deep River. A very successful May shad bake in Old Saybrook also supplemented the scholarship needs.



The Estuary Lodge hot dog stand waits to satisfy a hungry crowd while another fife and drum corps pass at the Deep River Ancient Muster on July 19.

DISTRICT No. 8

(a) RW William L. Milton, DD • WB David M. Costner, AGM
(b) RW John F. Plante, DD • WB Mickey C. Reavis, AGM



Grand Master Stika was a good sport as both he and a pig were "dressed" for the brothers and guests in Stonington. photo by Bill Dawson

Fun Pig Roast at Coastal

Stonington was anything but dull on June 28, when Coastal Lodge No. 57 and Somerset-St. James No. 34 held their fourth annual pig roast. With a good natured Grand Master Bob Stika in attendance his fellow brothers of the Eighth Masonic District took advantage of the opportunity to dress him in a hula skirt and lei for the casual affair. Then they posed him before the soon to be sectioned roast pig for pictures and good natured ribbing.

More than 70 brothers and guests attended the "untiled" table lodge where toasts were offered and the tasty pig was shared. Two petitions were also handed out to interested men who enjoyed the camaraderie and festive mood. MW Bob had to leave early to attend the Quarry Rite at Moosup Lodge No. 113, Moosup, but not before being served a hearty portion which led him to question his decision to attend two events on the same day.

Birds of Prey at Wooster No. 10

by Frank Rich

In May, Wooster Lodge No. 10, Colchester, hosted Kasha Breau, animal curator at the Glastonbury Center of the Connecticut Audubon Society.

Ms. Breau, who is also the teacher-naturalist, is responsible for round-the-clock care of a great many birds and animals.

She brought three birds of prey for whom she is caring, to show and explain about the birds to the brothers, their wives and children, and members of a Cub Scout pack from Hebron.

Among the birds were "Trinity," a red-tail hawk who is blind in one eye since a run-in with an automobile and "Skittles," a broad-wing hawk. Also shown was "Winnie" the owl.

The group was awed and at times intimidated by seeing these magnificent birds up close and to learn about them and their care at the Connecticut Audubon Society.

Kasha Breau of the Audubon Society holds "Skittles" the hawk at a Wooster No. 10 program in May.



“Ye Olde Quarry Rite” Returns to Moosup Lodge

by Michael B. Dodge

All day on Saturday, June 28, the weather forecasters had threatened rain, and for a while it looked like Mother Nature was prepared to oblige. Fortunately for the 117 Brothers who attended Moosup Lodge No. 113’s annual “Ye Olde Quarry Rite,” the weather held!

The Quarry Rite is a unique event in Connecticut – a Master Mason degree held outdoors in an operative stone quarry. The event began several years as an addition to Moosup Lodge’s other signature event, their Table Lodge. With an eye towards the future, quarry operator Bro. M. Jack Joslyn also saw an opportunity to create a unique environment for his sons’ initiations.

Bro. Jack’s oldest son, Jeffrey, was initiated in the quarry in 2003. The following year Jack’s middle son, Gregory, entered the lodge, but conditions prohibited the use of the quarry. Jeff and Greg continued with their degree work – one degree per year – when they



WM Bob Stika, WM Ken Sheldon, and WB Brian N. Keith take their positions in the East for the “Ye Olde Quarry Rite” degree.

were home from college. Even though there might not have been a Joslyn to be a candidate, the Quarry Rite continued.

By the spring of 2006 Greg was poised for his Master Mason degree. The lodge decided to make a change; it would be a Master Mason degree in the quarry, not

an Entered Apprentice degree, and the event would be moved up from the fall to the summer. With older brother Jeff taking part, Greg was raised in the quarry in 2006 amidst the glow of numerous torches set up to illuminate the scene. 2007 saw another Master Mason degree in the quarry, this time with both Jeff and Greg wearing officer’s jewels and taking part.

At the start of 2008, discussions were held regarding the Quarry Rite – would it be held? Was the amount of work, time, and effort required just too much? All the questions were quickly answered when

Jack’s youngest son petitioned the lodge this past spring. Plans were set in motion. A scheduling conflict at college prevented son Steven from attending the Quarry Rite, but, undaunted, the lodge persisted with their plans! The result was spectacular!

Every year attendance at the Quarry Rite has increased as the word has spread. Being only several miles from the Rhode Island border, Moosup Lodge has always enjoyed a close relationship with

brothers from the East, who have often provided more than 50% of the audience. As the event’s reputation has grown, brothers from across Connecticut have journeyed to attend the degree. One year a contingent of brothers from New York even made the trip eastward, but neighbors from the Commonwealth to the north had been conspicuously absent.

That changed this year! Several local brothers with affiliations in Massachusetts began spreading the word, and the Bay State made a strong showing with 27 brothers in attendance, representing eight different lodges. Grand Lodge officers from both Massachusetts and Rhode Island joined with MWGM Robert J. Stika and his Grand Lodge officers to enjoy the excellent degree work.

After the Quarry Rite this year, there seems to be no doubt in Bro. Jack’s mind as to whether or not this event will be held again in 2009. “Definitely!” Bro. Jack stated without hesitation. With son Steve back at college and unable to continue his degree work this year, there is even a chance that next year, once again one of the candidates will be named “Joslyn”. The only real question is, “will YOU be there?”



DID YOU **Vote?**

Results are in!

There were 2 polls on the Grand Lodge website (www.ctfreemasons.net). Since June 23, the polls have collected the opinions of 63 voters if their lodge planned to have activities this summers, and 38 voters if they hoped their lodge would have a Special Communication this past summer.

The results are in and the tally is:

Does your lodge plan to have activities this summer?

Yes..... 56.....89%
No..... 5.....11%

I hope my lodge has a Special Communication this summer.

Yes..... 28.....74%
No..... 10.....26%

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

CONGRATULATIONS

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

Lawrence B. Grew.....Widow's Son 66

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

Jerome Bobruff.....Sequin-Level 140	Ralph Potter.....Seneca 55
Holger W. Gadegard.....Wylls-St. John's 4	Edward A. Reinholtz.....St. John's 2
Herbert L. Johnson.....Union 31	Carl I. Swanson.....Wylls-St. John's 4
Karl H. Kuehn.....Eureka 83	

Steve McPherson New VP of MHEANA

Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, President and CEO of Wallingford-based Masonicare, was elected to the position of vice president of the Masonic Homes Executives' Association of North America (MHEANA) at their annual conference held in June.

The organization known as MHEANA, was established in 1931 to give executive officers of Masonic homes throughout the United States the opportunity to become acquainted with one another, discuss shared values and experiences, and offer advice and support that can further enhance the direction

of their respective Masonic facilities. The organization also provides a variety of educational opportunities for members who must comply with licensing requirements by obtaining a certain number of hours of approved curricula annually.

To become an active member of MHEANA, an eligible organization must be affiliated with the Masonic fraternity and/or a concordant body, be approved by the executive committee, and have dues current and paid in full. Each member organization chooses one staff member to be their official representative to

MHEANA.

Bro. Steve was elected unanimously by the active members and installed as vice president at MHEANA's Annual Meeting this year held in Columbus, Ohio. After serving as vice president until the next annual conference in June 2009, he will be eligible for election to the position of president-elect at that time and then as president in 2010.



Stephen B. McPherson

Bro. Steve said he's honored to be part of such a meaningful and worthwhile organization and looks forward to assuming his new position and duties. "The MHEANA family is a shining example of the goals and ideals that are the foundation of the Masonic fraternity.

It's a privilege to be associated with an organization that is dedicated to improving the quality of life of those in our care."

Masonic Ritual...

(continued from page 15)

There are times when ritualism can be allowed to become an end unto itself.

Lodges can become factories turning out Masons. Lodges can become so obsessed with increasing their number of members that they lose sight of the fact that they are building Masons, not simply building membership. Oftentimes ritual suffers as a result. This is due partially to haste, and partly to indifference and ineffectiveness on the part of undedicated or overburdened officers.

Quantity should NEVER be allowed to outweigh quality. To believe and to act otherwise is to jeopardize the long term health of the fraternity. It is irresponsible and unfair to the millions of Masons before us and to the millions of Masons that will come after us.

There has been a tendency, in some lodges, to lengthen the ritual to accommodate the so-called ritualistic orators.

We should consciously resist the tendency to exploit the ritual for the amusement of the brethren at the sacrifice of the more important task of imparting knowledge to the candidates.

"The main thing is to keep the main thing, the main thing." Let us not forget what the "main thing" is and who the beneficiary of degree work is.

We should always endeavor to enjoy our time spent together. There is certainly a time for great levity and mirth. Having some fun during a business meeting is certainly not a bad thing; this is our leisure time and it should be enjoyable.

Ritual work performed with candidates

under "the hoodwink" should always be performed with dignity and decorum. We should never lose our sense of Masonic "professionalism" when imparting our values and beliefs to our new brothers.

To offer them less would be cheating them of something extremely valuable; something they will only have only one single solitary chance in their lifetime to experience. We owe it to them to get it right on THEIR night.

We owe it to our brothers preceding us for hundreds of years; we owe it to our brothers spanning the entire globe and we owe it to future generations. This is a huge and weighty responsibility, one from which we should never shrink and one we should never minimize or trivialize.

Brethren, our Masonic ritual is indeed important and more than worth every single minute spent on it.

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

Life is like a merry-go-round. No matter what stage of life we are in, the learning process never ends. After we are born, we learn to walk, talk, and get along with others. In school we learn the reading, writing, arithmetic, and the many subjects associated with them. Once we are adults we learn how to succeed in business, or in our chosen profession, and in most cases get married and start a new cycle through our children.

For most of us who are reading this newspaper today, we chose to continue the leaning process by joining the Masons and learning the important lessons of the Masonic degrees. Some of us may have only gone through the first three degrees, while others have ventured forth through either the York or Scottish Rite, learning the lessons of the 4° through the 32°.

This fall, those of you who have not yet taken the next step in your Masonic learning will have an opportunity to do so. Come join us on Candidate Information Night,

Thursday, September 25, at 7:30 p.m., at the Valley of Hartford Scottish Rite Cathedral, 207 Deming Street, Newington, and learn what the Scottish Rite is all about. Since we pride ourselves as a family-oriented part of the Masonic fraternity, your lady is welcome to join you that night, if she so desires.

Perhaps you would like more information about that evening, or learning more about what is involved, please feel free to contact me any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday morning at the Valley of Hartford office: (860) 666-0712.

In addition to Candidate Information Night, the Valley of Hartford's fall schedule is:

October 2 - Portrayal of the 4° and 13°

October 16 - Presentation of Secret Master and the portrayal of the 14°

October 23 - Portrayal of the 15° and the vignette of the 16°

November 6 - Portrayal of the 18°

November 15 - Portrayal of the 30°, 31°, and 32°

Attendance at these degrees will qualify you to be become known, received, and welcomed as a Scottish Rite Mason.

The Valley's fall schedule will give an opportunity refresh the lessons of the required degrees and see and learn the lessons of two degrees that have not been portrayed in our Valley in a number of years. The 13° ("Master of the Ninth Arch") teaches that difficulties and dangers, however great, should not deter the true and faithful brother from progressing onward to perfection. It teaches the great truth that the finest things in life come only as the result of constant and often painful efforts. The 30° ("Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander") teaches that we should not rush to judgment. He who would judge others must first judge himself.

View both current and past issues of the "View of the Valley", print out activities fliers, a reservation form, or a new membership application form, by visiting our website:

www.way2go-home.com/aasr_voh.html

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

Welcome back to the Valley after what I hope was a restful but productive summer!

Our family picnic was a huge success once again. Many thanks to Illustrious Jack Stevens and Bob DePasquale, the co-chairs of our "Family Life" program, and to all who attended! As in recent years, our scholarship awardees were present with their families. They are: Jesse P. Bodin, who attends Goucher College as a philosophy major; Randall Hendrick, now

in a Masters program in sports management at Springfield College; Kari E. Hulley, studying communications at Boston College; Timothy A. Schwink, a criminal justice student at Middlesex Community College; and Nicole C. Warfield, an English major at Eastern Connecticut State University. Good luck to them all as they continue their journey to success!

Our hats are off to Most Wise Master Allen G. Meyerjack after

he received his red cap at our recent gathering of the Council of Deliberation. Allen was the Valley's choice to receive the Ill. Arthur M. Brown, 33° Meritorious Service Award. We are also elated with the conferral of the 33° upon Paul L. Chello and Sidney W. Isenberg.

The Fall Class is upon us. Let's all get busy and make it a good one! We need more black caps. All you have to do is extend the opportunity to join the Valley of

New Haven to five brothers, and sign as their recommender. It's that easy.

Our stated and executive board meetings are on September 8. On September 15, the Valley will host an information night – bring all of your prospects. On September 22, at the Stratford Theater, the 'old' fourth degree and the 'new' fourth degree will be performed by special casts.

See you in the Valley... of New Haven



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
The Valley of Hartford
207 Deming Street, Newington, CT 06111

HAVE YOU EVER considered joining the Scottish Rite. It's a place where the principles of Masonry, and Brotherhood, are exemplified via theatrical presentations, thus increasing your Masonic values by receiving more light.

Applications for the Fall Class are now being accepted.
Candidate Information Night
is September 25 • 7:30 p.m.
At Valley of Hartford Scottish Rite Cathedral

If at any time you would like more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite... Contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary, at the Scottish Rite Valley Office (860) 666-0712, or at Email address: sect@snet.net or visit our Valley Website: www.way2go-home.com/aasr_voh.html

ATTENTION MASONS

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
THE VALLEY OF NEW HAVEN
Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven

Prospect Information Night
Monday, September 15
285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven
Bring guests to learn about
Scottish Rite Freemasonry
Refreshments will be served

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.

Craft at Labor...

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREES

Saturday, September 13, Uriel No. 24, Merrow, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, September 16, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, by past DeMolay members

Tuesday, September 16, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, September 16, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, September 16, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, 8th District Junior Wardens night

Tuesday, September 16, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, 7:00 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, September 17, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield

Wednesday, September 17, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, September 17, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Junior Warden in the East

Wednesday, September 17, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston, Junior Warden in the East

Thursday, September 18, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Friday, September 19, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Junior Warden in the East

Friday, September 19, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, Kiddie Corps

Monday, September 22, Washington No. 70, Windsor, B. Gresham in the East

Monday, September 22, Annawon No. 115, Milford

Tuesday, September 23, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, September 25, Temple No. 65, Westport, 7:00 p.m. dinner

Thursday, September 25, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Junior Warden in the East

Friday, September 26, Wooster No. 10, Colchester

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES

Thursday, September 4, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Senior Warden in the East

Wednesday, September 10, Ark No. 39, Danbury, 7:00 p.m. dinner

Thursday, September 18, St. John's No. 6, Norwalk, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, September 18, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, Senior Warden in the East

Saturday, September 20, Bayview No. 120, Niantic

MASTER MASON DEGREES

Wednesday, September 3, Ark No. 39, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, September 3, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Caledonian degree team

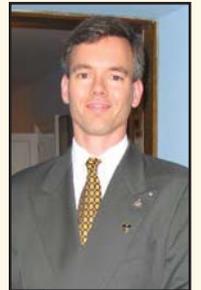
Wednesday, September 17, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, September 18, Union No. 31, Niantic

Saturday, September 27, Fayette No. 69, Ellington, 11:00 a.m. lunch after first section

CORRECTION: WM Andy Goddard

The Rogues Gallery of 2008 Worshipful Masters in the June issue of Connecticut Freemasons omitted WM Andrew P. Goddard as Master of Union Lodge No. 40, Danbury. Sorry, Andy. Thanks for bringing this to our attention.



York Rite Opportunities



Information for York Rite Opportunities must be submitted by the 10th of the preceding month to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, Charles B. Fowler at ctramsm@sbcglobal.net.

Tuesday, September 2, (MP), Harmony Council No. 8, New Haven, formal

Wednesday, September 3, (RE), Garibaldi Club, Stratford, casual

Friday, Saturday, September 5,6, (ME), (MP), (RE), Northeast Department Conference, Albany, New York, casual

Tuesday, September 9, (MP), (RE), Hamilton Council No. 22, Meriden, RM degree, formal

Thursday, September 11, (MP), Washington Council No. 6, Darien, formal

Friday, September 12, (MP), Adoniram Council No. 14, Ellington, formal

Friday, September 12, (RE), Crusader Commandery No. 10, Danbury, uniform

Tuesday, September 16, (RE), St Elmo Commandery No. 9, Meriden, Order of Red Cross, dinner 6 p.m., uniform

Wednesday, September 17, (MP), Suffield Council No. 23, Suffield, formal

Thursday, September 18, (RE), Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford, awards night, dinner 6 p.m., uniform

FROM THE MOST PUISSANT GRAND MASTER:

Companions, each of us should have our Working Tools ever near at hand. We need to remember Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love are more than just words; they are ideals we need to live by. By them we improve ourselves and the lives of those around us. I have a committee visiting the various bodies both within Connecticut and journeying to our sister jurisdictions. Along with my corps of officers, I wish all of you good health, and that we continue to grow and enjoy the wonderful times that are available to us. The more you are able to participate, the more you will get out of Masonry.

Andrew G. Weimann, II

Friday, Saturday, September 19,21, (RE), Grand Commandery of New York

Sunday, September 20, (MP), Ladies at Table, Ashlar Village, Wallingford, formal

Tuesday, September 23, (MP), Montgomery Council No. 2, North Windham, formal

Wednesday, September 24, (RE), Crawford Council No. 19, Branford, MEM degree, formal

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday, October 7, Washington Commandery No. 1, East Hartford, Reception of RE, dinner

Saturday, October 11, CT York Rite College, Waterbury, 10 a.m.

Thursday, October 16, Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford, Knights at Table

Saturday, October 25, Chivalric KT Festival

Thursday, October 30, Mohawk No. 28, Knight Masons

(ME) Most Excellent Grand High Priest

(MP) Most Puissant Grand Master

(RE) Right Eminent Grand Commander

Craft at Refreshment...

Tuesday, September 2, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. picnic
Tuesday, September 2, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction at Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire
Wednesday, September 3, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield, awards night
Wednesday, September 3, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, guest speaker: Richard Memmott
Wednesday, September 3, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 9:00 a.m., booth set-up for North Haven Fair
Thursday, September 4, 8th District breakfast, 9:00 a.m. breakfast, Groton Townhouse
Thursday, September 4, Warren No. 51, Portland, 6:30 p.m., Master's picnic
Thursday, September 4, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 5:00 p.m., North Haven Fair parking and pizza booth
Friday, September 5, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, Rusty Masons or proficiency
Friday, September 5, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 6:30 p.m., awards night
Friday, September 5, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 3:00 p.m., North Haven Fair parking and pizza booth
Saturday, September 6, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 10:00 a.m., North Haven Fair parking and pizza booth
Saturday, September 6, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, ladies night
Sunday, September 7, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, 12:00 noon, world-famous roast beef dinner

Sunday, September 7, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 10:00 a.m., North Haven Fair parking and pizza booth
Sunday, September 7, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 10:00 a.m. picnic, Churchill Park
Monday, September 8, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Trowel Club and Temple Corporation meeting
Monday, September 8, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 9:00 a.m., booth tear-down for North Haven Fair
Tuesday, September 9, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction
Wednesday, September 10, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 8:00 a.m. breakfast, Demir's Restaurant
Friday, September 12, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 6:30 p.m., Past Masters night
Saturday, September 13, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, 12:00 noon, tractor show
Saturday, September 13, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:00 p.m., Frederica Mystery Cruise Lines
Saturday, September 13, Union No. 31, Niantic, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Grand Masters Appreciation dinner
Saturday, September 13, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 10:00 a.m. cookout, car show
Saturday, September 13, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 5:00 p.m. roast pork dinner

Saturday, September 13, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 5:00 p.m., refreshment stand, UConn Football/Virginia
Sunday, September 14, Moriah No. 15, Brooklyn, 12:00 noon, potato pancake festival
Sunday, September 14, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 2:00 p.m. dinner, awards program
Monday, September 15, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 10:00 a.m., Wallingford Country Club, 5th Annual Two Ball Cane Golf Classic, dinner
Tuesday, September 16, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction at Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire
Wednesday, September 17, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 5:30 p.m., awards night
Wednesday, September 17, Estuary No. 43, Old Saybrook, 6:30 p.m. dinner, awards night
Thursday, September 18, Warren No. 51, Portland, 8:00 a.m. dinner, Quarry Ridge Country Club, Portland, Tri-Lodge Open
Friday, September 19, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 5:00 p.m., refreshment stand, UConn Football/Baylor
Saturday, September 20, Union No. 5, Stamford, 6:00 p.m., Bluefish Stadium, Bridgeport, annual baseball game
Saturday, September 20, Montgomery No. 13, Lakeville, 12:00 noon, lobster sale

Saturday, September 20, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 5:30 p.m. dinner, St. Peter's Priory Kitchen, New England clam bake
Saturday, September 20, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Southern BBQ
Wednesday, September 24, Ivanhoe No. 107, Darien, 6:30 p.m., awards and widows celebration
Thursday, September 25, Warren No. 51, Portland, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Seventh District Blue Lodge Council
Thursday, September 25, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Fifth District Blue Lodge Council, guest speaker: Chris Hodapp, author, Freemasons for Dummies
Friday, September 26, Seneca No. 55, Torrington, Third District Blue Lodge Council
Saturday, September 27, Village No. 29, Collinsville, 4:00 p.m. dinner, pig roast
Saturday, September 27, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Cathedral Table Lodge
Monday, September 29, Eighth District Blue Lodge Council, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner, chili cook off
Monday, September 29, Manchester Lodge No. 73, Manchester, Sixth District Blue Lodge Council, 6:00 p.m. dinner,
Tuesday, September 30, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction

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.

Ronald N. Bartlett.....	St. John's 2	Richard G. Grady.....	Frederick-Franklin 14	Allen H. Pike Jr.....	Columbia 25
Peter Beecher.....	King Hiram 12	Charles M. Halbach.....	Moriah 15	Charles B. Pletscher.....	Frederick-Franklin 14
David L. Berg.....	Composite 28	Donald B. Henderson.....	Washington 70	Seymour N. Poles.....	Sequin-Level 140
Edward Berndt Jr.....	Temple 65	Elliot Himberg.....	Somerset-St. James 34	Lorne D. Pulcifer.....	Columbia 25
Jack A. Bernstein.....	Cosmopolitan 125	Harold J. Houser.....	Wooster 79	Harold W. Richmond.....	Bay View 120
Robert B. Blackman.....	Village 29	Arthur Hughes.....	Wooster 79	John A. Riggles.....	Washington 70
Carl R. Brechlin.....	Meridian 77	Paul E. Hummel.....	Corinthian 103	Ernest H. Ripley.....	Temple 65
John S. Britton.....	America-St. John's 8	James V. Huskey.....	Brainard 102	Edward A. Robinson.....	Meridian 77
Michael Brunt.....	Cosmopolitan 125	Jan V. Huyck.....	Silas Deane 147	Lowell Ross.....	Widow's Son 66
Donald C. Burney.....	Columbia 25	Charles E. Kaempfen.....	Ansantawae 89	Robert W. Ruple II.....	Brainard 102
John Calusine.....	Wyllys-St. John's 4	Allen W. King.....	Meridian 77	Daniel W. Savage.....	Columbia 25
Raymond H. Chapman Jr.....	Columbia 25	Robert E. Lewis.....	Village 29	Harold L. Schmidt.....	America-St. John's 8
Arthur C. Clementsen.....	Liberty-Continental 76	Henry A. MacDonald.....	Washington 19	William E. Sibrinsz.....	Manchester 73
Allan O. Cleveland.....	Wyllys-St. John's 4	Irving A. Mattson Jr.....	Federal 17	Martin A. Simon.....	Cosmopolitan 125
George D. Constantikes.....	Temple 65	Howard D. May.....	Federal 17	William H. Simon.....	Washington 70
John F. Cosgrove Jr.....	Valley 36	John G. McKechnie.....	Coastal 57	Orien V. Sledge.....	Frederick-Franklin 14
Edgar J. Cossette Jr.....	Wyllys-St. John's 4	Charles J. Morgan.....	Madison 87	Raymond E. Smith.....	Adelphi-Momauguin 63
Sam Crum.....	Adelphi-Momauguin 63	William G. Muir.....	Valley 36	Frank Soden.....	Ansantawae 89
William H. Darragh.....	Ark 39	Ronald A. Nuzzo.....	Friendship 33	Howard B. Sugarmann.....	Cosmopolitan 125
Stanley F. Durfee.....	Trumbull 22	Brian M. O'Connell.....	Liberty-Continental 76	Milton Taylor.....	America-St. John's 8
Jasper N. Elder II.....	Columbia 25	George Olsovsky.....	Washington 19	Robert H. Teator.....	Trumbull 22
William S. Ewing.....	Sequin-Level 140	Herbert E. Oppel.....	America-St. John's 8	A. John Tervo.....	Valley 36
Marvin Feir.....	Corinthian 103	Robert M. Painter.....	Valley 36	Robert W. Tolles.....	St. Paul's 11
Joeva J. Fernandes.....	Ivanhoe 107	Peter P. Pawchuk.....	King Hiram 12	Andrew S. Wong.....	Wooster 79
Henry W. Fischer.....	Uriel 24	Ronald W. Perry.....	Jerusalem 49	George Zarifian.....	Washington 19
E. David Floyd.....	Temple 16	Alfred S. Phillips Jr.....	Ansantawae 89	Albert E. Zeiss Jr.....	America-St. John's 8
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First District Ritual Society Formed and at Labor

by Jim McWain

The First District's recently formed Ritual Society presented the Master Mason degree in full form for five new brothers of Temple Lodge No. 65, Westport. The Society has a wide range of members consisting of Past Masters and recently raised Masons who are interested in ritual work. MW Walter E. Kaechele was the Master of the Society for the degree, WB Mark Hagen, Washington Lodge No. 19, Monroe, was Senior Warden, and Bro. Richard Ruggiano of Temple No. 65 was Junior Warden. WB Raymond Collette, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, had the key role of Senior Deacon and Hiram Abif in the tragedy.

New Brothers Edward

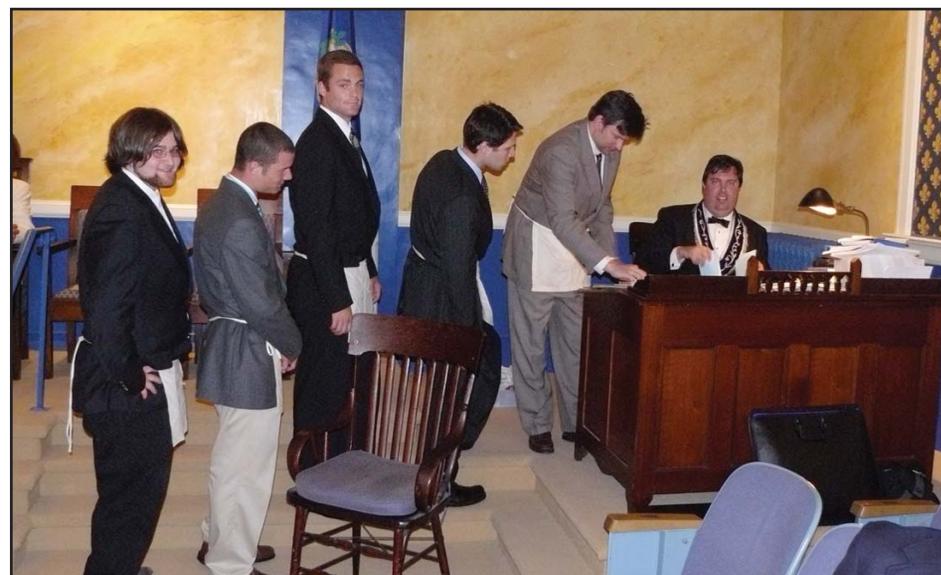
Brookshire and Eric Meyer of Temple No. 65 presented the first section lecture. Other members present were from America St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford, Fidelity St. John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield, and Jerusalem Lodge No. 49, Ridgefield.

June 26 was the memorable occasion as three of the new Master Masons were sons of members of Temple No. 65. The fathers, Brothers Steve Kunkes, Buff Bowen, and Cliff Cusio escorted sons Matt Kunkes, Evan Bowen, and Kevin Cusio during the degree and raised them with the assistance of the Worshipful Master and Wardens.

With the existing father/son groups of Thomas Hofstetter and son Tom, Jerry Bowen and son

Steve, Jim McWain and son Scott, Lyman McWain and son Lyman Jay, and Steve Kunkes and his son

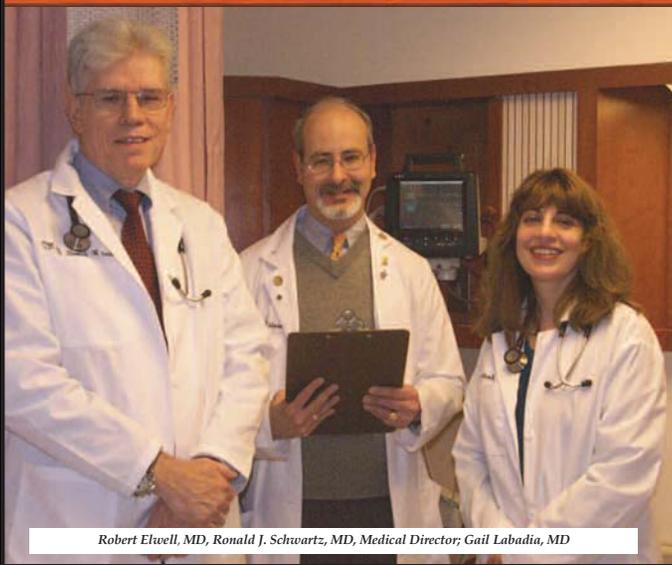
Adam, this now brings the father/son groups in Temple No. 65 to eight.



New Master Masons, Brothers Scott Ellenbogen, Kevin Cusio, Evan Bowen, Matt Kunkes and Ken Sosnoski signing the by-laws as Senior Warden Wilson Dinelli supervises.

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