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FREEMASONS

OCTOBER 2008

Welcome to My Life, Tattoo!

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Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM

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GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

Robert J. Stika - October 2008

DATE	TIME	EVENT/LOCATION	DINNER	PUBLIC	ATTIRE
Wednesday, October 1	6:30 p.m.	Eighth District Blue Lodge Council, Fellowcraft Degree, Senior Wardens	Y	N	
Thursday, October 2	4:00 p.m.	Masonicare Board of Directors	N	N	S
Friday, October 3	6:00 p.m.	Wooster Lodge No. 10, Colchester, Male Guests Only	Y	Y	S
Saturday, October 4	8:00 a.m.	Master's Seminar, Ashlar Village	Ref	N	S
Sunday, October 5	2:00 p.m.	Ashlar of Newtown Rededication	Ref	Y	F
Saturday, October 11	9:00 a.m.	Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Farmington	N	N	F
Sunday, October 12	1:00 p.m.	King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, Rededication	Ref	Y	F
Saturday, October 18	8:00 a.m.	Grand Lodge Regular Communication, Ashlar Village	N	N	S
Saturday, October 18	5:00 p.m.	Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, Rededication	N	Y	F
Sunday, October 19	3:00 p.m.	Past District Deputies Association, Ladies Dinner, Ashlar Village	Y	Y	S
Tuesday, October 21	6:00 p.m.	Coastal Lodge No. 57, Stonington, Sub Base Fellowcraft Degree Team	Y	N	F
Wednesday, October 22	5:30 p.m.	Grand Lodge officers meeting, Ashlar Village	Y	N	C
Saturday, October 25	12:00 noon	Jerusalem Lodge No. 49, Ridgefield, Rededication	N	Y	F
Saturday, October 25	5:00 p.m.	National Camping Travelers, Annual Turkey Roast, Stafford Springs	Y	Y	C
Sunday, October 26	2:30 p.m.	First New Masons, DD, AGM Forum, Ashlar Village	Ref	Y	S
Wednesday, October 29	4:00 p.m.	Masonicare Board of Directors	N	N	S
Thursday, October 30	11:00 a.m.	Grand Opening, Hartog Activities Center, Ashlar Village	Ref	Y	S

2008 SEMINARS – NOVEMBER 8

Wardens for 2009 Seminar, Ashlar Village, Registration and Fraternity 8:00 am
Secretaries/Treasurers for 2009 Seminar, Ashlar Village, Registration and Fraternity 8:00 am

These are open to all Master Masons expecting to fill these offices in 2009.

Connecticut FREEMASONS
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All submissions are required by the 15th of the month prior to the next issue. Please note: The Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM, does not endorse any of the products or services contained herein nor imply any warranty of the goods, services, or claims advertised. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all advertisements, *Connecticut Freemasons* will only be liable to reprint, at no charge, any correction due to typographical error.

Me and My Brother Were Talking To Each Other

by Simon LaPlace and Carl Ek
lyrics from "Tattoo" by The Who,
written by Pete Townshend.

Me and my brother were talking to each other
'Bout what makes a man a man
Was it brain or brawn, or the month you were born,
We just couldn't understand

For many, Freemasonry is a rite of passage; a transforming experience of self discovery, and an affirmation of adulthood. Just as marriage, birth of a child or the responsibilities of home ownership or employment have a maturing effect on a man, so too, Freemasonry is meant to "serve as an uplifting and ennobling influence upon one's life and character."

So me and my brother borrowed money from Mother
We knew what we had to do
We went downstairs, past the barber and gymnasium
And got our arms tattooed

When Masons are told that the implements of architecture were meant to "imprint on the memory wise and serious truths", some took the admonition a step further and imprinted a symbol of the craft on their bodies. Certainly Masonry has plenty of designs to choose from and some Connecticut brothers have chosen decorations to remind them of their devotion to their obligations.

In the last two decades there has been a greater acceptance of tattooing in the mainstream population, and among both genders. Masons have accepted this trend, and indeed some of them are very proud wearers of tattoos designed to display their pride in membership in the Masonic fraternity. Their 'ink' ranges from small 'square and compasses' seldom visible to the public to very large and colorful displays that are readily apparent.

Welcome to my life, tattoo
I'm a man now, thanks to you
I expect I'll regret you
But the skin graft man won't get you
You'll be there when I die
Tattoo

VW Charles Terrell has a Masonic tattoo on one ankle and a tattoo of his college fraternity on the other because he considers them "the pillars that support me." At Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, Junior Warden Jay Babcock's wrist tattoo will remind him of the lessons of the square and compasses every time he shakes a hand. On the website *www.masonicink.com*, Bro. Jay posts "It's one thing to recite an oath. It's another to have it permanently etched into your body." RW Gary Arseneau has the proverbial "green dragon" holding a heart inscribed with his wife and daughter's names beside a square and compasses.

My dad beat me 'cause mine said "Mother"
But my mother naturally liked it and beat my brother
'Cause his tattoo was of a lady in the nude
And my mother thought that was extremely rude

In many cultures, tattooing, as a mutilation of the body, is forbidden. For others, tattooing was regarded with suspicion and distrust. Some criminal subcultures such as gangs and prisoners used tattoos as a means of identification, enhancing the negative image of the practice. Also, women wearing tattoos were relegated to places such as the sideshow of the circus.

Tattoos are no longer the province of sailors and members of motorcycle clubs. As a brother whispered to another during a degree, "We're seeing a lot more ink these days." A generation of Masons with longer hair, ear rings, and, yes, tattoos, are joining the fraternity and illustrating that it is the "internal and not the external qualities of man that Masonry regards." Freemasonry respects the individual, whatever their beliefs.

Tattooing has existed on every inhabited continent. Evidence of the practice has been found in European remains dating back four to five millennia; in Japan, the practice may date to the Paleolithic Era, some 10,000 years ago. Some cultures – principally in the Polynesian South Pacific – recognized tattoos as a symbol of leadership.

"The first Masonic funeral service in California in 1849 was for the body of an unknown Freemason who was found drowned in the bay.. .Tattooed on his left arm were the emblems of the E.A.; on his right arm the emblems of a F.C.; on his left breast the lights of Freemasonry and over his heart a pot of incense." – Bro. Wes Cook, *Did You Know?* published by Missouri Lodge of Research.

Now I'm older, I'm tattooed all over
My wife is tattooed too

In Europe, tattooing was said to decline with the advent of Christianity, yet the Knights of St. John of Malta wore tattoos as a sign of allegiance to Christ.

WB Jim Currier, Ionic Lodge No. 110, North Windham, has a Past Master's emblem on his forearm.

WB Chriss Finalis is an example of a new generation of Masons. A Past Master of Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3 of Fairfield and Past Associate Grand Marshal in District 1, Chriss has been passionate about tattoos since the age of 5.

A full-time artist for the last thirteen years, Chriss own the Shelton Tattoo Studio and West Haven Extreme Tattoo, and has a six-month backlog of clients awaiting his services.

Chriss chose a design after his initiation in part as a reminder of the events of an evening important in his life, and as a representation of his commitment to the Masonic fraternity.

Our Cover...

MW Bill Greene had a square and compasses tattooed on his left arm, the center left empty until after he was installed as Grand Master. Now his tattoo matches his apron (right).

Grand Master's Message

Brethren,

In talking with some of the brothers in various parts of the state, it has come to my attention that ritual has become less "crisp." I know the District Lecturers are there to help but it is up to the lodge to instill in the new line officers the enthusiasm to do the job correctly. As we all know, each lodge has its own way of doing the degrees and it is NOT the intent of the Grand Lodge line officers to change that. All we are asking is that you as individuals and as lodges take the time to teach new officers the proper floor work.

It's the little things that make the degree look good; squaring corners, everyone carrying the rod the same way, everyone stepping off at the same time on the same foot, and having people who give the lectures know them and present them so the candidate gets the most out of the degree. Sloppy degree work may give the candidate the impression that it's not that important.

I look forward to our Grand Lodge session on Saturday, October 18, and hope to see you all there. Any Master Mason is welcome and lodges are reminded they must have representation by at least one of the top three officers or their proxies with an official proxy form.

October will present an opportunity for many to view the beautiful new Hartog Activities Center at Ashlar Village. Not only will our Semi-Annual Communication be held there, but on Sunday, October 26, the first forum for new Masons, along with Masters, District Deputies, and Associate Grand Marshals will be held. This forum will include essential information about Masonicare. It is intended as a replacement for the Sunday visitations by District Deputies and Associate Grand Marshals and I look forward to their attendance and participation.

The Grand Lodge officers will also be joining me for three rededications about the state, celebrating anniversaries of the chartering of various lodges. I hope you will also help these lodges in reaffirming their Masonic ties and yours.

The first half of 2008 has seen a 50% increase of new members over the comparable period of 2006. Young, vital men are finding Freemasonry has much to offer, satisfying their quest for fraternity, self-improvement, and to be a positive influence on their society. Let's give them the working tools we have found ourselves and aid them in their pursuit.

Masonry, Live It!

Fraternally,

Robert J. Stika
Most Worshipful Grand Master

It's Happening at the Hartog Center

With the addition of villas, new apartments at Ashlar Village and the new Hartog Activities Center, one could become confused without a visual orientation. This overhead photo shows the configuration of Ashlar Village. The solid line gives driving directions from the Grand Lodge office. The dotted line shows walking directions to the Hartog Center from the various Ashlar Village parking lots.

Brother Kayser's Service Recognized

by Michael L. Castroll

Clyde William Kayser, II, was born April 26, 1947, in Dayton, Ohio to Viola Regina Berger and Clyde Hartman Kayser, Jr. Clyde and his four brothers – Roger, Richard, Scott, and Jeffrey – attended Stivers High School in Dayton. Clyde went on to Sinclair Community College and Wright State University in Dayton, then to Capital University in Columbus, where he earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry and Mathematics. Clyde started his career in 1969 in Dayton, coming to Connecticut in 1977. He has mastered the art as an analytical and laboratory chemist for several major chemical companies, and currently is employed by Ansonia Copper and Brass.

On June 27, 1982, Clyde married Alvina Jane "AJ" West. The happy couple shares in their Masonic activities in both the Order of the Eastern Star and their efforts at the 32° Masonic Learning Center in Waterbury, where Clyde has served on the Board of Governors since 2002. Working with young people comes naturally to Clyde – he was an Eagle Scout as a young man.

Worshipful Brother Clyde began his Masonic journey when he received his degrees in Federal Lodge No. 17, Watertown, being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on June 4, 1984. A year later, he was in the chairs, eventually serving as master of Federal Lodge in 1990. Since leaving the Oriental Chair, he has been secretary of the lodge. In 1996 he affiliated with Harmony Lodge No. 42 in Waterbury. Clyde has been very involved in the Third District Blue Lodge Council, and is known for his excellent ritual skills, filling in wherever needed.

WB Kayser is active in both the York and Scottish Rite bodies. He has served as Most Excellent High Priest and Grand Custodian of the Works in Royal Arch Masonry. Companion Kayser is also a past Thrice Illustrious Master of the Royal and Select Masters. Clyde has served as Eminent Commander in the Commandery, and is a prominent member of the Connecticut York Rite College No. 17. For all he has given to the York Rite bodies, he has been rewarded with the Ephraim Kirby Award, Knight of Ish Sodi, Knight Templar Cross of Honor, Knight York Cross of Honor, and the coveted Order of the Purple Cross.

Clyde joined the Scottish Rite in 1986 in the Valley of Waterbury and Lafayette Consistory. He has headed all four bodies in the valley and consistory. After a period of probation, Clyde succeeded Ill. and MWB Louis Vander Eyk, 33°, as secretary of the Valley of Waterbury. Clyde's service to the Scottish Rite has not gone without recognition. He received the Ill. Arthur M. Brown, 33°, Meritorious Service Award from the Connecticut Council of Deliberation in 1995, and became an honorary member of the Supreme Council when he received the 33° in 1996.

WB Clyde Kayser, right, is shocked to receive the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze from MW Bob Stika, but those who know the quality of his work and the dedication to the craft aren't surprised.

For the last 17 years, Bro. Clyde has always been in the southeast corner of Federal Lodge, knowing everything that was going on in the lodge – until the recent "Strawberry Festival" on June 17. A packed house saw MWGM Robert J. Stika escorted into the lodge. When he took the podium, he asked Clyde to present Ill. and RWB James R. Spencer, Jr., 33°, Deputy for the Scottish Rite in Connecticut. Suddenly the tables were turned, and Clyde realized he'd been had.

A part of the citation read by Grand Master Stika notes that: "In recognition of his service to science and industry, to youth, and in particular, to all the branches of the Masonic family, where he has applied his skills to the benefit of his brothers, the Grand Lodge, Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Connecticut is pleased and proud to present to Worshipful Brother Clyde William Kayser, II the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service."

Later, Clyde would allow that "I was never more surprised and stunned. I was completely speechless." He added, "I never got involved in Masonry until I got to Connecticut. After I met AJ, I attended some Star functions with her. She was the Matron of the local chapter. Her patron was Phil Clark. He's the reason I'm a Mason today." Clyde continued, "The night I was raised I got the biggest surprise of my life. My father was in attendance. He came out from Ohio to be in lodge with me that night. I'll never forget it!" Clyde concluded, "I don't believe in being just a card carrier. You get so much back, even if you give just a little."

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Grand Chaplain's Pulpit

Rev. Dr. & RW Bro. Robert O. Decker, Grand Chaplain

"Aim Higher..."

One problem that many people have is not aiming higher in life. They fail to realize their true potential and settle for a much lower mark. Yet we do not want to do as one man did to make people think he always hit the mark. Some years ago a skilled marksman was traveling in a part of the United States unfamiliar to him. He was amazed to come to an area where he found targets drawn everywhere- on barns, fences and trees- all with a bullet hole in the center of the bulls-eye.

The traveler decided he must meet such an excellent shot and learn some pointers so he could improve his shooting. After a brief search he was able to meet the marksman. When asked how he had developed such a great skill. The man replied, "It's simple. I shoot first and then draw a target around the bullet hole.

Well we all know that is not the way to best use our God given talents. The way to make the best use of our lives is to learn the value of aiming high as taught us by the lives of outstanding people of the past.

Recently I viewed once again a film about Mohandas Gandhi. What a high aim he set for his life's goal. He dreamed of people living together in peace. And then spent his life trying to make the dream come true. He gave up his wealth and all his possessions.

Gandhi set the goal of winning India's freedom by non-violent resistance to British rule. One man took on the role of building a nationalist movement based on a non-violent resistance to British force, beatings and imprisonment. And India won its independence.

One can only wonder how this frail child of God could aim for such a high goal. And how could he believe he could be successful by non-violence?

Gandhi left us a wonderful example of a life well lived. He also left us a way to break down the barriers between the religions which divide the world. Gandhi believed that all religions are true, but that all are flawed because they are misinterpreted by imperfect humans.

In my university classes I taught a similar idea- that the problem is that we create a "god" in our own image and such a "god" has all our faults.

An excellent way to test how well we live our faith is to ask ourselves the three questions Tseng Tzu puts forth in the Analects 1:4 of Confucianism:

Have I been disloyal in my dealings with others?
Have I been untrustworthy in my relations with friends?
Have I practiced what I have preached?

St. Paul set his aim high as we see by a reading of Philippians 3:13-14:

"Brethren, I count not my self to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

The poet Sam Walter Foss puts it very simply, "Let me live in my house by the side of the road and be a friend to man."

If we can aim high, we will indeed be good men, made better by being Masons and learning from the lessons it teaches us. As Mason we have three great duties: "To God, in never mentioning His name, but with that reverential awe which is due from a creature to his creator; to implore His aid in all your laudable undertakings, and to esteem Him as the chief good; to your neighbor, in acting upon the square, and doing unto him as you wish he would do unto you;."

Finally let us always keep in mind always the excellent advice St. Paul gives us in his Epistle to the Galatians 6:10:

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Remember brothers, not failure, but low aim is a crime!

Rainbow State Miss Service Collects for Food Bank

State Miss Service, Stephanie Watts, bought canned foods at a discount warehouse, using the $100 donation given to her State Miss Service Project: The Connecticut Food Bank. She held 2 Fill-the-Van events in September, to collect food and donate it to the CT Food Bank at Grand Assembly in March. The 2 Fill-the-Van events were held at the Torrington Stop & Shop (near right) on September 20 and at the Meriden Stop & Shop in Centennial Plaza (farright) on September 27. Canned goods, non-perishable food items and monetary donations were accepted.

She is also taking donations on her Virtual Website. The Connecticut Food Bank and the International Order of the Rainbow for girls encourage you to help our neighbors in need by donating through this Virtual Food Drive. The web address is: http://vad.aidmatrix.org/vadxml.cfm?driveid=2683

Illustrious Herb Ellms Passes

by Michael L. Castroll

There was a disturbance in the Force this summer – the Grand Architect has called another living icon, and an era is very near its close. WB and Illustrious Herbert W. Ellms, 33°, was called home, passing away in Shelton in July after a long illness.

Herbert Wilton Ellms was born February 24, 1909 in Somerville, Massachusetts. His only sister, Evelyn Ellms, a skilled surgeon, died at the age of 39. Herb was destined for greatness among those whose talents have perpetuated our ritual. While in high school, he was in a play with the renowned Bette Davis. He entered the University of Massachusetts, but Herb answered the call, joining the US Army in 1943. He earned his honorable discharge on October 7, 1945. Herb was married to the former Ruth Arbogest, who died in 1993. He served as president of Banner Systems, retiring a decade ago at age 89.

Herb made a major impact on the Masonic fraternity. As World War II was winding down, he joined Dalhousie Lodge in Newtonville, Massachusetts. He was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on August 13, 1945. Herb affiliated with Lafayette Lodge No. 141 on Valentine's Day 1973 and served as Worshipful Master in 1983. When Lafayette Lodge merged with Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield, Herb played a major role, and always maintained an active involvement in the lodge.

Herb's other Masonic activities are well known. He joined the York Rite bodies of Stratford. He joined the Scottish Rite in the Valley of New Haven and Lafayette Consistory. There Herb found his niche. He served E.G. Storer Lodge of Perfection as Thrice Potent Master and New Haven Chapter Rose Croix as Most Wise Master.

Illustrious Herbert Ellms will remain an inspiration to the many brothers of the Scottish Rite, York Rite and Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3.

Herb enjoyed acting the various roles, and he mastered the roles as very few could. One of his more memorable performances occurred when he teamed up with the late Ill. Beecher D. Gould, Jr., 33°, in the old Twenty-first Degree. They displayed their alchemical skills as Alfred and Reinfred, seemingly to become the characters. For his skills, ability, and dedication, Herb received the Illustrious Arthur M. Brown Meritorious Service Award in 1968, and was coroneted an honorary member of the Supreme Council when he took the 33° on September 29, 1971.

Bro. Herb served as Illustrious Potentate of the Pyramid Shriners in 1975, and was the senior Past Potentate at the time of his passing. Illustrious Herb was ever faithful to the Royal Order of Jesters, and enjoyed being the director of the book, "The Jesters." Herb was also a past president of the Twilight Club of Bridgeport.

Herb's last months were spent at Ludlow Commons in Norwalk. He noted that "they take such good care of me here, I'll live forever." As one Scottish Rite degree says, "The most noble gesture of a hero is one who gives his life for a friend." Such was Illustrious Herbert Wilton Ellms, who gave to country, family, friends, and fraternity.

After all he'd endured, Herb returned to St. Mark's Episcopal Church to be reunited with Ruth.

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Grand Historian's Corner

RW Bro. Gary A. Littlefield, Grand Historian

Earlier this year, the plan of the Grand Historian was to have an historian's seminar during the fall. Because of events outlined last month, the summer was occupied with family and personal issues and we had little time to prepare for the seminar. The new plan is to have this seminar in the early spring, perhaps in March.

While reading some old Masonic publications from the Royal Arch Magazine, the segment entitled "Did You Know" offered many interesting articles.

- Four successive presidents were members of the same lodge in Argentina. At the altar of Union Del Plata Lodge were Eral Urquiza (1854-1860), Santiago Derqui (1860-1862), Bartolome Mitre (1862-1868) and Domingo Sarmiento (1868-1874). Perhaps no other lodge can lay title to that claim.
- 'Riding the goat' originated in superstition with Pan, a mythical Greek god of nature who was goat-footed. In the Christian era, Pan became Satan, who presided over orgies while riding a goat.
- Ten thousand Bibles were sold by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1948.
- Dan Rice was a famous clown and showman who created the character of 'Uncle Sam' in the stars and stripes costume. He was a member of Holland Lodge No. 8, New York.
- George Hendee was Master of Hamden Lodge, Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1904; he built the first 'Indian motorcycle' in 1901.
- John Strickler Martin's poultry won the blue ribbon at the New York state fair for 25 successive years. He was raised in Erie Lodge No. 149 in Ontario and was Grand Master in 1927.
- In the early 1970s there were 394 Masonic bodies, including lodges, chapters, and other Masonic groups, that met within 200 yards of the famous Piccadilly Circus in London.
- Peyton Randolph is sometimes referred to as the first President of the United States because he served as the first President of the Continental Congress. He was the first Master of Williamsburg Lodge No. 6 and the last provincial Grand Master of Virginia.
- On March 8, 1953 the Grand Lodge of Louisiana opened in emergent communications on the boat 'Idalia' in the channel south of Hackberry in Louisiana to charter Cameron Lodge No. 439 and install its officers.

✦✦✦

Back in Connecticut, ninety years ago (1918) the proceedings show many emergent communications. On May 19, 1917 the cornerstone was laid at St. John's P.E. Church in Washington, Connecticut with the assistance of Rising Sun Lodge No. 27 and under the direction of MWGM Leonard J. Nickerson. Four days later, the cornerstone of new Masonic temple in New Canaan was laid and on July 12 the placement of the final piece of the new Westport highway bridge was laid with assistance from Temple Lodge No. 65. Two days later, July 14, the Grand Lodge was back at labor to lay the cornerstone of the post office in Rockville with the help of Fayette Lodge No. 69.

The 1918 annual session was held in February in Hartford. Grand Master Nickerson made mention early in his address of the war that for three years had devastated Europe. He stated that "I trust, I believe, that every Mason is a patriot. Universal brotherhood can never be fulfilled under the rule of a selfish despot ambitious to control the world."

✦✦✦

October 8, 2008 marks the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Morgan Bulkeley Bridge, known then as the Hartford Bridge. Now known as the Bulkeley Bridge, it carries Interstate 84 across the Connecticut River from East Hartford to Hartford. The laying of the final stone was a grand Masonic event. A special communication was opened on October 8 at the Masonic Temple in Hartford. Grand Master Edward Fuller received Bro. William L. Chatterton, Grand Master of Rhode Island as a guest who participated in the parade. By the authority of the Grand Master, all of Connecticut's 110 lodges were opened concurrently. The line of march continued down Trumbull and Pearl Street to State Street and across to the bridge. The Grand Architect for the ceremony was Morgan Bulkeley. A box containing artifacts and articles of the day was deposited in the stone and was recovered when the bridge was remodeled in 1959.

An interesting sidelight occurred during the parade. The Grand Master had properly put out a dress call for dark suit, white shirt, and black tie, but said nothing about shoes. Past Grand Master George Kies, also Grand Secretary, decided to have a little fun and had a pair of shoes dyed bright yellow for the occasion. The parade had Masons eight or nine across and the yellow shoe wearer was placed in the middle to avoid him standing out in the crowd, but even with four men on either side, the yellow shoes were still very visible. Even then the Grand Master had little control over the Past Grand Masters.

Requirements for 2009 Worshipful Masters

Wardens should heed MW Stika's requirements for 2009 Worshipful Masters. Certificates from prior years or this year of successful completion will be necessary before installation as Master of a lodge.

1. **Be certified to open and close a lodge, receive dignitaries, go to refreshment and back. Contact the District Lecturer for certification.**
2. **Perform at least one of the following:**
   - Attend the Masters Seminar, October 4, at Ashlar Village, Wallingford, 8:00 a.m. registration. Attendance to be verified by the Committee on Masonic Education.
   - Attend the Wardens Seminar, November 8, at Ashlar Village, Wallingford, 8:00 a.m. registration. Attendance to be verified by the Committee on Masonic Education.
   - Successfully complete the Masonic Education Course. Contact RW Dwight Mertens at (860) 684-5591.
   - Pass the 50 Question Quiz prepared by Grand Lodge. Contact the District Lecturer for certification.

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Dental Care of Children With Special Needs Is Focus of 56-year-old Humanitarian Foundation

(If this article looks familiar, perhaps it's because it was seen in the August 18, 2008 issue of U.S. News & World Report.*)*

The Grottoes of North America Humanitarian Foundation is making a difference in the lives of people like Mary Anne Deljan and her 13-year old son, Michael, who has muscular dystrophy. The Gahanna, Ohio-based foundation annually pays the dental bills for about 1,500 children suffering from cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, or mental retardation, or who are organ transplant candidates. "Most people are unaware of the frustrations these families face," explains Alan Betker, chairman of the foundation's board of trustees. "The cost of dental care can be prohibitive for families who already live on a very tight budget. The average cost of a single dental treatment for a special needs child is $650. And it's easy to overlook a child's dental care when he or she is unable to tell anyone about the pain or has other health care needs that seem much more serious. Yet deferred dental care can threaten general health when the patient can't chew efficiently or infections go untreated."

The Humanitarian Foundation – one of North America's best-kept secrets paid for Michael's dental services – $2,000 for regular care and two surgeries in two years. "Unfortunately, most people are unaware that we are here to help, and the fact is that we've spent $4.5 million to serve 7,000 kids in the last five years," says Hikmet Kutlu. He was hired in 2007 as the foundation's national director of development to change that. "We are going to double the number of children we serve over the next five years," says Kutlu. "We are also seeking outside support for the first time in the organization's history."

The foundation's current endowment – $16 million, with 80 percent used for direct services to children – was built up entirely through the generosity of more than 14,000 members of Grottoes of North America in the U.S. and Canada. The Grottoes are an ancillary body of the Masonic fraternity that was established around 1890 as a social club. Like other Masonic organizations such as Shriners, it has since adopted a charitable focus. "The Humanitarian Foundation has a $1.7 million annual operating budget. Demand for services has increased the budget by approximately 5 percent over the past two to three years," says Kutlu, who is targeting businesses, foundations, and dentists who might be willing to participate.

For parents of children with developmental disorders, finding a dentist who is trained and willing to treat their children is often more difficult than paying the fees. The foundation is spearheading a national effort to increase the number of specially trained pediatric dentists in communities across North America. "The shortage is understandable. The skill level is higher. The time needed to complete a procedure is typically much longer. Yet the reimbursement rates are the same as for children with average needs," says Betker. "We are very interested in driving up the number of dentists who are specially trained to treat them."

Children under 18 suffering from cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy, mental retardation, developmental delay of two years or more, or who are organ transplant candidates are eligible for services. Those in need of the foundation's assistance and those interested in supporting this important work can get more information at *www.hfgrotto.org*, or by calling (614) 933-0711.

✦✦✦

In Connecticut, the local 'Doctor of Smiles' for Hejaz Grotto, operating out of greater New Haven, is Prophet David Cole. He may be reached by e-mail at *davec719@gmail.com* or mail at PO Box 120154, East Haven, CT 06512. His cell phone is (203) 214-4867.

Prophet Cole has already assisted a number of families in providing dental care for their special needs children in Connecticut and other states through family referrals. The program is open to all, with no requirement for any relationship to the Masonic fraternity.

WB Barry Buzzell of America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford shaved his arm to give us a clear view of his very decorative square, compasses, quadrant, and sun. He served as Master in 2006. *(A Chriss Finalis tattoo)*

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Norma J. Brandt Nursing Scholarship Recipients Named

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

A luncheon and reception honoring the 2008 recipients – Megan Ciarlelli of Cheshire, Donneth Granston of East Hartford, and Kirsten Murphy of Southington – was held August 15 in the Henry & Edythe Knapp Auditorium in the Hartog Activities Center at Ashlar Village in Wallingford.

Brandt scholarship recipients gather with Bro. John Brandt, their family members and Masonicare leaders at the awards presentation luncheon held August 15 at Ashlar Village.

"We are pleased and proud to be here today to honor these outstanding recipients and to thank John O. Brandt, Jr. for his continued support of the scholarship in memory of his wife, Norma," said Jennifer King, president of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, the philanthropic affiliate of Masonicare through which the fund was established. "We appreciate all that Mr. Brandt has done – not only for Masonicare, but for the nursing profession as well. The number of scholarship applicants has grown steadily each year since 2006 and thanks to John's generosity and foresight, the selection committee looks forward to growing the number of recipients in the years to come."

The Norma J. Brandt Scholarship Fund was established in 2006 through a generous gift to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut from Bro. Brandt, in memory of his wife, Norma. Norma was a registered nurse who loved nursing and dedicated her life to helping others. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and Order of the Amaranth. Bro. Brandt, a Mason from Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock, established the fund to provide individuals pursuing a career as a registered nurse with financial assistance towards their coursework.

"I am so pleased to be here for the third presentation of the Norma J. Brandt Scholarship and to honor these exceptional young women who have chosen nursing as their profession," said Mr. Brandt during the luncheon attended by Masonicare executive management, members of the Masonic organization, and family members and friends of the recipients. "And I know that Norma would be delighted to know her legacy of caring lives on through these scholarships."

To qualify for the scholarship, applicants must be a Masonicare employee, the child or grandchild of a Masonicare employee, or be affiliated with a Masonic organization, either as a member or as a child or grandchild of a member. Employees must be eligible for benefits and employed by Masonicare for a minimum of one year. Applicants must also demonstrate a commitment to the nursing profession and emulate Norma's "love of nursing, positive attitude and warm, giving nature." Applications for the scholarship are announced at Masonicare affiliates each spring.

Ms. Ciarlelli, the granddaughter of Joanne Shaw, an administrative assistant with the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing at Endicott College in Beverly, MA. Ms. Granston is an employee with the East Hartford office of Connecticut VNA Partners and is working toward a degree in nursing at Goodwin College in East Hartford. Kirsten Murphy is a student at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, where she's pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. Kirsten is the granddaughter of RW Richard Murphy, a member of Warren Lodge 51, Portland, and a Shriner. This year, scholarships in the amount of $2000 or more were awarded. In addition, Melody Velazquez of Watertown, Andrea Austin of Stratford, and Amanda Edgerton of Plainville, who were awarded Brandt Scholarships in 2007, received additional funding for the 2008 academic year.

Heritage Quilters Presents Handmade Quilts to MHC

Seated from left; Resident WB Bill Martin, Heritage Quilters member Mary LeGrande, and resident Estella Taylor. Standing, from left; Rosemarie Preneta, Director of Volunteers, Heritage Quilters members Judy Ciemier and Lynda Magnotti.

The goal of the Heritage Quilters of Wallingford, a group established in 1985, is to preserve the tradition of quilting and to promote and pass on the knowledge of quilting through meetings and educational programs.

Its members are also very civic minded, making beautiful, one-of-a-kind quilts that they donate yearly to various organizations – especially those involving children or the elderly.

Recently, Masonic Healthcare Center was delighted to be the lucky recipient of 31 colorful, handmade quilts, created by members of Heritage Quilters especially for the Center's residents.

Heritage Quilters meets monthly in the auditorium at Masonic Healthcare Center and welcomes new members and guests.

Inpatient Hospice Care at Masonic Healthcare Center is a Comfort to Both Patients and Their Families

Choosing hospice care can be a vitally important end of life decision for individuals facing a terminal illness and their loved ones. That's why Connecticut VNA's Hospice, a Medicare-certified hospice program, has partnered with Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford to create an **enhanced inpatient hospice unit** to provide the very special care and support patients and their families need during this difficult time.

Although Masonic Healthcare Center and Connecticut VNA have provided compassionate hospice care for several years in the Center's Acute Care Hospital, the new dedicated hospice unit offers specially trained staff and hospice volunteers, along with enhanced amenities that include comfortable, tranquil private rooms. Connecticut VNA's Hospice believes that supporting the family is as important as providing quality patient care. The inpatient hospice team, in consultation with family members, develops each plan of care with input from the patient's family members. They address not only physical needs, but the psychosocial, emotional and spiritual needs of the patient, family and caregivers as well.

Many insurers, such as Medicare, offer a hospice benefit for individuals with a life limiting diagnosis and will cover a brief short-term inpatient stay under certain circumstances. Contrary to popular belief, hospice services are NOT just for people with a cancer diagnosis. Many non-cancer diagnoses can also qualify for coverage under hospice benefits, including heart failure, Alzheimer's disease and dementia, renal disease, ALS, Parkinson's disease, liver disease, HIV/AIDS, stroke or coma, and respiratory disease.

Connecticut VNA's Hospice program – both in the inpatient unit at Masonic Healthcare Center and in a patient's home or another facility – offers a host of complementary services and programs that provide emotional support as well. These services include expressive arts activities to encourage emotional expression, massage therapy to provide comfort and relaxation, expressive puppetry to help patients connect and express issues important to them, and visits from certified pet partner teams through their outstanding pet therapy program.

To learn more about the outstanding care provided by Connecticut VNA's Hospice, please call 203-679-5300 and ask to speak with a member of the hospice team.

Ashlar Village Residents' Scholarship Fund Helps 17 Young People Further Their Educations

More than 200 people attended the fourth Ashlar Village Residents' Scholarship Fund presentation held in June in the Henry & Edythe Knapp Auditorium in the new Hartog Activity Center at Ashlar Village, Masonicare's Continuing Care Retirement Community in Wallingford.

Seventeen young men and women, who are either employees of Ashlar Village or the children of employees, were honored during the presentation. Bro. David Gessert, chairman of the Ashlar Village Board of Directors and a member of Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, and WB Jon-Paul Venoit, Ashlar Village President and Past Master of Compass Lodge No. 9, were on hand to announce the names and present a scholarship check to each recipient.

Those who received scholarships this year are **Macey Apuzzo**, **Chelsea Boyd**, **Michael Cavaliere**, **Lindsey Dow**, **Matthew Dyer**, **Erica Ferraiuolo**, **Sonia Gogliettino**, **Brianna Granatelli**, **Lauren Grant**, **Jessica Halten**, **Justin Knickerbocker**, **Amanda Lavoie**, **Stephanie Ney**, **Kari Sager**, **Victoria Soley**, **Andrew Wolfer** and **Sarah Zeoli**.

Special guest speaker **Rajaa Aouji**, an award recipient each year for the past three years and a recent graduate, spoke about what receiving this award has meant to her. Jocelyn Miller, an Ashlar Village staff member, provided the vocal

entertainment, accompanied by resident pianist William Tedeschi.

Ashlar Village residents established the Scholarship Fund in 2004 to provide educational scholarships for young people who either work at Ashlar Village or are children of employees. The Scholarship Funds are raised in a variety of ways, but mainly through the sale of unique, handmade craft and clothing items in The Ashlar Village Specialty Shop, manned and stocked solely by resident volunteers.

Donald Warner, a popular and highly regarded resident of Ashlar Village who passed away in April of 2007, was a strong advocate for the Specialty Shop and the scholarship fund. His family presented a $1,000 memorial scholarship in his memory at last year's ceremony and did so again this year. In memory of her late father, Mr. Warner's daughter, Donna Lange, presented a $1,000 check to **Amanda Lavoie**. Blanche Newman, AV resident and manager of the Specialty Shop, said Mr. Warner was a wonderful and very caring gentleman. "I know Don would be very happy to know that our young people will continue to benefit because of all of his efforts on their behalf."

OES and Youth Play Indoor Mini-Golf

by Judy Behler

Even though the weather was gloomy outside, there was a lot of fun inside Tiki Golf in North Haven on September 6. Members of The Order of Eastern Star of Connecticut hosted indoor miniature golf for their members and Connecticut's Rainbow and DeMolay members and prospects.

Sixty-four players were divided into 13 teams, well mixed with adults and Masonic youth by Worthy Grand Matron Gail Evarts – the mother of two Senior DeMolays – and Worthy Grand Patron and Senior DeMolay Gary Adams. Thanks to a donation from the Soaring Eagles Association, the Worthy Matrons and Worthy Patrons of 2008-2009, all of the kids got to play for free.

Sister Judy Behler and Bro. Bob Behler of Alice Chapter No. 76, Hamden, were the event chairs. They handled publicity and the refreshments that were available in the party rooms, donated by the Eastern Star members.

Individual awards were presented to the victorious team, shown with WGM Evarts (center) and WGP Adams, second from left) and made up of (from left) DeMolay membership director Dad Steve Tenner; State Junior Councilor Tyler Anderson; the WGP; Bro. Greg Goto, Deputy State Master Councilor; the WGM; Jamie Dunn, State Senior Councilor, and DeMolay Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III. Their team score was 219, with Bro. Goto posting the lowest youth score of 42 and Dad Tenner the lowest adult score of a 41.

This was purely a fun event between the Masonic organizations and everyone enjoyed the day and made some new friends.

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.

Allen H. Bartman ..... Granite 119
Earl D. Bodwell ..... Adelphi-Momauguin 63
Stephen A. Bona Jr ..... Hiram 18
Harold E. Bresky ..... America-St. John's 8
Stuart M. Bronson ..... Seneca 55
William F. Cromack ..... Evening Star 101
William J. Curr ..... Day Spring 30
Clinton A. Dixon ..... Friendship 33
Everett F. Eichelberg ..... Oxoboxo 116
Raymond R. Evarts ..... Sequin-Level 140
Plato A. Exaros ..... St. John's 2
Melvin M. Gipstein ..... Sequin-Level 140
Sidney Gross ..... Sequin-Level 140
Arthur R. Harris ..... America-St. John's 8
James J. Harvie ..... Seneca 55
Anthony F. Haupler Jr ..... America-St. John's 8
Samuel Hourwitz ..... Cosmopolitan 125
Donald M. Huhn ..... Frederick-Franklin 14
William F. Klein ..... Friendship 33
Leo Krikorian ..... America-St. John's 8
John P. MacGregor ..... Washington 19
Paul G. Maganus ..... Ansantawae 89
Sherman W. Medlar ..... Sequin-Level 140
Ronald P. Mileski ..... Hiram 1
John P. Miller ..... Union 40
Clark I. Moseley ..... Brainard 102
Melvin B. Newman ..... America-St. John's 8
Erando Omicioli ..... Silas Deane 147
Siegfried W. Paul ..... Silas Deane 147
Joseph J. Petrino ..... America-St. John's 8
Sidney A. Rovner ..... America-St. John's 8
Milton K. Sands ..... America-St. John's 8
John L. Scannell ..... Sequin-Level 140
Robert H. Smith ..... Coastal 57
Elmer A. Winkler ..... Friendship 33
Arthur D. Youngquist ..... Ansantawae 89

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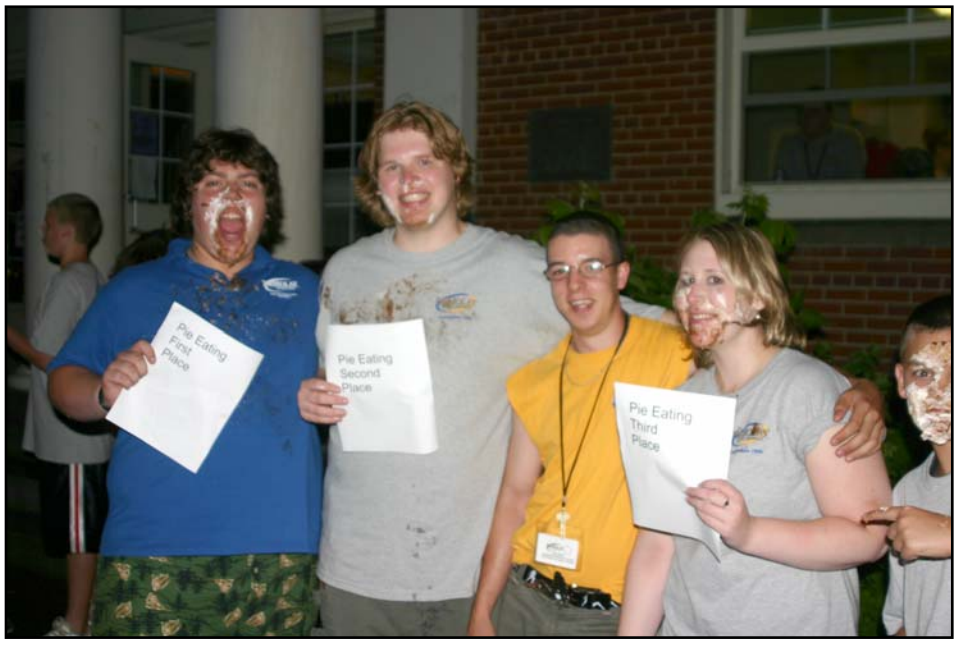
The Vietnam Wall will be available for viewing twenty-four hours a day, beginning Thursday, October 16 at 11:00 a.m.

Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment
(Color Guard, Drill Team, and Drum and Bugle Corps)
Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.
(Gates will open at 6:30 p.m.)

Connecticut DeMolay Takes a Trip to Canada



It was almost a Connecticut sweep in the pie-eating contest as Jesse Gullo of Edward W. Slade Chapter, Wallingford (left) out-inhaled defending champion and Deputy State Master Councilor Greg Goto in a photo finish. Outgoing Atlantic Provinces Master Councilor Alex Millett (second from right) wisely comforts the third place finisher, Maine DeMolay State Sweetheart Sarah Monroe.

The seven-member Connecticut DeMolay delegation faced all comers in the team tug-of-war, finishing second in the event.

The sign is its own caption in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada.

The Connecticut contingent at the Atlantic Provinces Convention shows their collection of medals, ribbons, banners, and even a stuffed pig emblematic of pie-eating skill. For the second consecutive year, the Nutmeg visitors were recognized as having the "Best Spirit at Convention."

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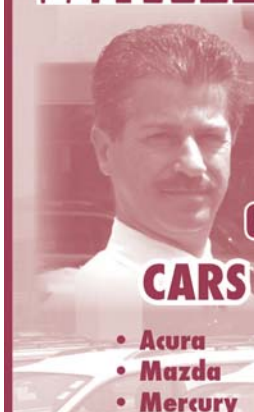

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MCS Staff Serve as Strong Advocates for Residents

Masonicare is pleased to announce that two members of the Masonicare Community Services (MCS) staff have been tapped to serve on area boards and commissions that deal with issues concerning the elderly.

Sister Jean Pudlo, Masonicare Community Services representative and a past Grand Matron of Order of the Eastern Star, was recently elected to serve on the board of the Connecticut Coalition on Aging (CCOA). Masonicare is a member of CCOA, an active statewide nonprofit organization whose members are dedicated to improving the quality of life for all elders, especially those most vulnerable. CCOA has been in existence since 1974.

Sister Jean Pudlo

Coalition activities include: conducting an annual statewide survey to identify major concerns effecting older people; establishing priorities for the annual Connecticut legislative session based upon the survey results; working for legislation beneficial to Connecticut's elders; taking positions on bills, testifying at hearings and reporting to members on the status of legislation and needed action; educating members about significant issues, as well as on the legislative process and how and when to contact their legislators. As a member of this board, Jean will be a strong advocate for the needs of all residents of Masonicare facilities.

RW Richard C. Memmott, Sr. director of Masonicare Community Services, a member of Annawon Lodge No. 115, West Haven, and Grand Tiler of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, was recently elected president of the Interagency Council of South Central Connecticut Area Agency on Aging for the 2008-2009 term. The mission of the council is to bring together providers of services to older adults in the South Central Connecticut region for educational and networking opportunities.

RW Richard C. Memmott, Sr.

To meet its goal of providingprofessional development to members, the council offers educational presentations to more than 60 provider members.

The multi-disciplinary team is an arm of the Interagency Council and is convened to assist and educate care managers and service providers in addressing elder abuse, neglect or exploitation.

In his role as president, Bro. Dick will also be a strong advocate for Masonicare's residents throughout the continuum.

Masonicare Celebrates the Longevity of Its Residents

Masonicare's Ashlar Village and its assisted living community, Pond Ridge, celebrated the longevity of six centenarians recently by inviting all residents to attend an ice cream social held in their honor. President WB Jon-Paul Venoit congratulated the honorees and Ashlar Village resident Blanche Newman read a moving poem she wrote especially for the occasion.

Seated, from left; Kay Noble (103), Morris Gamm (100), Flora Beebe (101) and Mary Daniels (100); standing, from left, WB Jon-Paul Venoit, president of Ashlar Village, RWB Jason Rieger, assistant administrator, and resident Priscilla Puffer (100). Resident Irwin Smith (100) was also honored but is not in the photo.

Joanne Elser Named Director of Lockwood Lodge

Joanne Elser of Southbury has been promoted to the position of assisted living director for Lockwood Lodge, Masonicare's assisted living and memory care community at Ashlar of Newtown on Toddy Hill Road. Ms. Elser, with more than 16 years of experience in healthcare marketing, joined the staff at Lockwood Lodge as marketing manager in June of 2007, and has been serving as the Interim director of assisted living since February of this year.

Bro. Jay Babcock of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, with the square and compasses on the inside of his right wrist. (A Chriss Finalis tattoo)

Four Connecticut Masons Honored

Four Connecticut brothers were among a class of 104 coroneted Thirty-Third Degree Masons, the highest honor in Scottish Rite Freemasonry, at ceremonies held in Providence, Rhode Island.

The degree is awarded for outstanding fraternal service or for significant contributions to humanity that reflects credit upon Masonry. The 2008 class was chosen from 210,000 Scottish Rite Freemasons who compose the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States, which encompasses 15 northeastern and Midwestern states.

The Connecticut 33° recipients are (from left) Illustrious Brothers: Francis G. Way, Valley of Hartford; Paul L. Chello, Valley of New Haven; Sidney W. Isenberg, Valley of New Haven; and Richard C. Memmott, Sr., Valley of New Haven.

Grand Opening of the Hartog Activities Center

Worshipful Brother Jon-Paul Venoit, president of Masonicare's Ashlar Village, cordially invites members of the Masonic family to attend the grand opening celebration for the new Hartog Activities Center on Thursday, October 30, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. "Please come and help us celebrate this wonderful addition to our Ashlar Village community and meet our guest of honor, Brother Ferdinand Hartog, a longtime resident whose generous contribution has enhanced the quality of life here at Ashlar Village."

Guest speakers will begin their opening remarks at 11:30 am in the Hank & Edythe Knapp Auditorium in the Hartog Activities Center.

The popular musical group the Galvanized Jazz Band will provide entertainment at noon as friends, residents, and invited guests gather to enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and assorted beverages. Attendees can have a complimentary blood pressure screening in the new Wellness Center, enjoy a colorful slide presentation in the movie theater, or try their hand at pool in the billiard room. Purchase lovely handmade items in the Specialty Shop and visit the lodge room and the other fine amenities in the Hartog Activities Center. Tours of the beautiful new Notch Hill Apartments will also be available for those interested.

Please RSVP by October 20, 2008 to Ashlar Village administration at (203) 679-6403 or (203) 679-6015.

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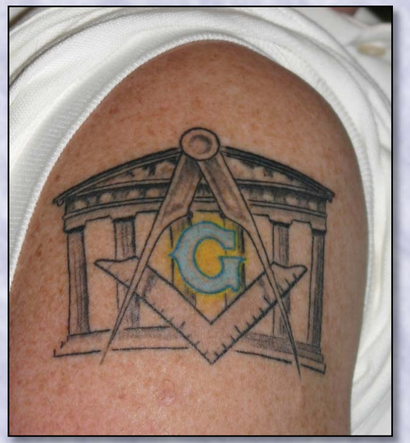
Masonic "Ink" in Connecticut

Tattoos of WB Kenneth R. Sheldon, Jr., current Master of Moosup Lodge No.113, Moosup. After working on these tattoos and through discussions with WM Ken, Adam Hillyer of Eagle's Nest Tattoo in Norwich has expressed an interest in joining the fraternity.



WB Bill Schueler of Old Well Lodge No. 108, East Norwalk, with his square and compasses before a representation of Greek architecture.

WB Ray Collette, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton has a back piece which contains a Masonic 32° eagle holding a sword with a square and compass in the hilt. The banner on the bottom has the 32° motto meaning "My hope is in God." The left arm is an angel holding a Masonic sword, light reflecting off of the hilt on the Holy Bible (turned to Psalms 133) and the Square and Compasses. Above the angel are a Masonic moon and 7 stars to represent the 7 liberal arts and sciences. Ray added the moon the year he became Master of his lodge as a memento, because as Master he would be the final component of the 3 great lights and the 3 lesser lights.

RW Gary Arseneau, Grand Senior Deacon, has a green dragon protecting a heart containing that which Bro. Gary holds dear- his wife and daughter's names and the square and compasses.

VW Charles Tirrell, Adelphi-Momauguin Lodge No. 63, North Haven, has an ankle tattoo he considers one of the "pillars that support me."

RW Mike Sutila, Fidelity-St.John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield, may have the only tattoo of the emblem of the Sword of Bunker Hill extant!

Connecticut Freemasons Foundation

Connecticut Freemasons Foundation Receives Two Bequests

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation received a bequest from the estate of David W. Larson in the amount of $141,442.82. The funds were left to David Larson's widow, Florence Larson, for her life use. Mrs. Larson elected to take a life use distribution which allowed an immediate distribution to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation.

The second bequest received by the Foundation was from the estate of Margaret Gannon in the amount of $90,000. Mrs. Gannon also left a bequest to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. Mrs. Gannon's husband, who was a podiatrist, had been a Mason, and she wished to benefit Masonry with the charitable bequests portion of her will.

Thanks to bequests the Foundation, which uses the interest earnings for Masonic educational and charitable purposes, will be able to undertake funding of an upgrade of the Grand Lodge Masonic library, including a new indexing system and rebinding of some quite rare older books. It is hoped that with this upgrade, the Connecticut Grand Lodge library will be a resource center for scholars in Masonic affairs.

Any Connecticut Freemason or widow who is interested in including a bequest to the Foundation as part of estate planning can contact the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, c/o Grand Lodge of Connecticut, P.O. Box 69, Wallingford, CT 06492 for further information or call (203) 679-5903.

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

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

❑ $25 ❑ $50 ❑ $100 ❑ $250 ❑ $500 ❑ $1,000

❑ CTCHIP ❑ Grand Lodge Permanent Endowment Fund

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

Name: _____

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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*

Newtown Parade

A warm summer day in Newtown was again the perfect weather for the largest Labor Day parade in Connecticut. Brothers from area lodges assembled for the mile and a half march through the smiles of waving crowds. King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, brought their fully restored Dodge rack body truck to carry the few who were unable to march. Hiram Lodge No. 18, Sandy Hook, organized the Masonic contingent and here they assemble prior to the step off. Ahead of the brothers as the Pyramid Shrine Pipe and Drum band, another welcome sight and sound for the people of Newtown.

District No. 4

(a) *RW Robert C. Moon, DD • WB Charles W. Rome, AGM*
(b) *RW Robert J. Knowles, DD • WB John L. Anderson, AGM*
(c) *RW James J. Pyskaty, DD • WB William S. Clark, AGM*

Chris Earle Receives Stoddard Award

by Carl G. Ek

RW Christopher J. Earle (left) accepts the congratulations of WM Kirk C. Trofatter, Sr. of Trumbull Lodge No. 22, New Haven, after the announcement that Bro. Earle had been chosen to receive the Edmund L. Stoddard Award for Service to Trumbull Lodge.

Bro. Earle served as Master of Trumbull Lodge in 1981, and for the last quarter century, has been the lodge's secretary. Additionally, he has served on the degree team and as a lodge financial advisor for over thirty years. After the death of Bro. Stoddard, Bro. Earle learned the long-form Master Mason Degree charge, which he delivers in an exemplary fashion in honor of Bro. Stoddard.

A Senior DeMolay and Past State Master Councilor of Connecticut, Bro. Earle is also an Active Member of the Supreme Council of DeMolay International, the governing body of the organization. He served three years as Executive Officer of Connecticut DeMolay.

Edmund Lockwood Stoddard was a charter member of New Haven Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and a charter member of the Sea Scouts. He was the fifth Master Councilor of the fledgling DeMolay chapter, serving in the spring of 1925. Joining Trumbull Lodge at the age of 21, he served as Worshipful Master in 1936, and was a constant presence in and supporter of the lodge for over 60 years.

Bro. Ed served as the Worthy Grand Patron of the Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star in Connecticut, and as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut. Ed also found the time to have a 46-year career with the Lomas & Nettleton Company in New Haven, after which he served for a decade as the executive vice president of the Home Builders Association of New Haven County, Inc. Ed's son, WB Paul Stoddard, served as Trumbull's Master in 1967.

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Ansantawae PMs Honor Their Classes

by Carl G. Ek

A lodge is always pleased when a Past Master is able to attend an awards night to assist in presenting pins to members of his class. At an awards night at Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, in September, such presentations occurred again and again – and again!

Ansantawae Lodge has several events at which pins of different years are presented. At the annual roll call night in September, brothers are honored for 35, 40, and 45 years of service. Thus, WM Stephen Hill called upon MW Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr. to present pins to members he had raised during his term as lodge Master in 1973.

Next up was 1968 Master Charles A. Buck, Sr., also a Past Associate Grand Marshal, up from Florida to attend lodge and visit with his family, including the Grand Senior Warden of the same name. (One member of the elder Bro. Buck's 40 year class was RW Alan M. Brown, who was shown in a recent issue of *Connecticut Freemasons* presenting 25 year pins to his class of candidates!)

Finally, 88-year-old RW Arthur W. Gimler (foreground right) advanced to the East. Long retired to Florida, Ansantawae's senior living Past Master presented 45-year pins to class members (from left) Danforth M. Smith, George Krause, and Carl Carlson.

After the presentation of a 60 year pin to Bro. John Crowther, the roll call of Masonic years was concluded. Once again, the senior Mason present was 67-year member and centenarian Jesse J. Hamblin, Sr., a semi-retired architect who exercises daily!

According to lodge treasurer Brown, the assembled craft totaled 1,898 years of Masonic service; no total was offered as to the number of charcoal grilled steaks eaten prior to the meeting.

Stephan Family Hits 115 Years

by Carl G. Ek

At the recent awards ceremony of Trumbull Lodge No. 22, New Haven, the Brothers Austin Stephan, Sr. and Jr., were both recognized with service pins.

The elder (left) was awarded his 70-year pin, while the youthful son (right) collected his 45-year button. Austin Stephen, Sr. is the most senior Mason in Trumbull Lodge. In his remarks, Austin Jr. noted that his father, grandfather, and great grandfather had all been fifty year Masons, and that he was looking forward to joining that group in five years!

MLR will Award Case Fellowship to Michael Castroll

Masonic Lodge of Research, New Haven, will present the James Royal Case Fellowship to WB Michael L. Castroll as a part of their Wednesday, October 22 stated communication.

The Case Fellowship is named for Connecticut's late Grand Historiographer, a prolific recorder of Masonic history for over a half century. The recognition has been presented to Masonic scholars of worldwide renown, including Connecticut Past Grand Masters Conrad Hahn, who later served as executive secretary of the Masonic Service Association of the United States, and Samuel B. Walker, a past president of the Philalethes Society.

The public event will begin with a dinner at 6:30 p.m. Reservations for the $10 dinner should be made with MLR Junior Warden Martin Ede at *mede@snet.net*. Following a brief stated communication, the lodge will open to guests to witness the presentation of the Fellowship to Bro. Castroll. As is customary, the honoree will then offer a 'master's piece' – Bro. Castroll's paper is entitled "What the Lodge Historian Should Know."

In addition to being a correspondent with *Connecticut Freemasons*, Bro. Mike is a professional genealogist and published author. He has served as the historian of at least seven different lodges and numerous appendant and concordant bodies. He has authored or updated the histories of several lodges and is eminently qualified in his subject area.

A special invitation is being made to Connecticut lodge historians to attend this presentation so that they may improve their service to their local lodges.

District No. 5

(a) *RW Phillip R. Quintal, DD • WB Benjamin A. Isaacson, AGM*
(b) *RW Laurence E. Hangland, DD • WB Philip B. Swain, Jr., AGM*

Frederick Franklin Scholarships Given This Summer

by Chet Russell

Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, kept busy this summer holding two summer picnics that were attended by more than 60 brothers and guests. Sponsored by The Judd Lewis Quarry, who provided everything except side dishes, it gave an opportunity for brothers to reminisce and renew old friendships in a casual setting.

Frederick Franklin No. 14 has been presenting two scholarships to second year students each year for over 15 years. Worshipful Master Frank Dlugoleski presents Marc Boucher and Steven Lewis with their scholarship checks at the August picnic. Both Marc and Steven were selected based on their achievements and grades. Marc will be returning to school in Vermont and Steven will be spending his year in Paris.

Frederick Franklin also assisted the Plainville police and fire departments to park cars at the annual Hot Air Balloon Fest.

WM Frank Dlugoleski presents a scholarship check in lodge to Steven Lewis with Steven's parents looking on.

At one of Frederick Franklin's summer picnics, WM Frank also presented a scholarship check to Marc Boucher.

District No. 6

(a) *RW Melvin E. Johnson, DD • WB Aaron R. Sussman, AGM*
(b) *RW F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., DD • WB William G. Bryce, AGM*

UCONN…HUSKIES!

Brethren, family and friends of Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, staff a concession stand at Rentschler Field in East Hartford for every University of Connecticut football home games. The location, near the Dog Pound, makes workers quite familiar with this chant.

Monies raised are used to offset lodge expenses and increase support of charitable endeavors. This activity also puts some faces on Masonry in Connecticut.

The photo (right) was taken before the UConn vs. Virginia game in September and includes UConn mascot Jonathan XIII and his handler, UConn student Kristy Bassilakis. Kristy is the co-chair of the Husky committee in the Delta Sigma chapter of Alpha Phi Omega. The chapter owns Johnathan, an all-white Siberian husky. UCon won the game by a final score of 45-10.

If you're ever at "THE RENT," consider dropping by booth #125 to say hello.

Front row, from left: Bros. Ed Slegeski and Steve Aldi, Shirley Zeidler, Jonathan XIII and Kristy Bassilakis, WB's Andy Zeidler Jr. and John DiCioccio, Jr. Back row, from left: WB John Pierce, Bro. Michel Thibierge, WB Chris Ramsey, Bros. Russ Scull II, Matt Montgomery and WB Scott Reid. Missing from photo was RW Don Dean.

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District No. 6

(a) *RW Melvin E. Johnson, DD • WB Aaron R. Sussman, AGM*
(b) *RW F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., DD • WB William G. Bryce, AGM*

Friendship Tuscan is Grillin' and Chillin'

by Steve Aldi

Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 enjoyed our annual summer picnic on August 2. Our gracious hosts, Gerri and Roger Celinski, opened their home on Coventry Lake for friends and family members. After a rainy morning, the skies cleared in time for the gala afternoon event. Some enjoyed a swim in the warm lake water, while others passed the time spinning yarns. WB Scott Reid cooked hot dogs and hamburgers and everyone brought a salad or dessert to share.

WB Scott Reid at work on the grill.

Three More Men Continue Their Journey

by Steve Aldi

Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, returned from summer refreshment and picked up where they left off in June. With WB James H. Wilson Jr. sitting in the East, Bros. Scott Pierce, David Mencarini, II, and Timothy Hemhauser were treated to a fine exemplification by the Fellowcraft degree team. Honored guests included RW F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., District Deputy 6B and his Associate Grand Marshal WB William G. Bryce.

From left, WB James H. Wilson, Jr., Bro. Scott Pierce, WB William G. Bryce, AGM 6B, RW F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., DD 6B, Bro. Timothy Hemhauser, Bro. David Mencarini, II, and WM Joe Dias.

District No. 7

(a) *RW William V. Baroni, DD • RW Michael S. Shear, AGM*
(b) *RW Richard E. Backe, DD • WB Michael W. Moody, AGM*

Main Street CTCHIP

The brothers of St. John's Lodge No. 2, Middletown, turned out in force to man a CTCHIP event on Saturday, September 20. The city of Middletown traditionally supplies a large tent and erects it in the middle of Main Street for the Health and Safety Day. With the abundance of strollers it was fortunate the tent was so large.

Many of the parents commented on the improved DVDs in the "Purple Pack" that replaced the video tape of the previous generation of CTCHIP equipment. They had sought out the Connecticut Freemasons CTCHIP event because they were familiar with the comprehensiveness of the program and it was time to update information concerning their children.

Streamlined procedures for registering and the compactness of the Purple Pack have made the entire CTCHIP process the premier child identification program in Connecticut. The turnout in manpower and volunteers from St. John's was impressive to the residents of their hometown.

We welcome our new brothers to the fraternity.

David C. McKinley.....*Cosmopolitan 125*
Sean K. Mehra.....*Cosmopolitan 125*
Benjamin G. Stern.....*Cosmopolitan 125*
Christopher M. Beseschеck....*Fidelity-St. John's 3*
Carlos P. Eller.....*Fidelity-St. John's 3*
Gabriel R. Martinez.....*Fidelity-St. John's 3*
Jerry R. Dalmaso.....*Liberty-Continental 76*
Bruno T. Silveira.....*Old Well 108*
Forrest E. Harper.....*Sequin-Level 140*
Edwin D. Dickerson.....*Union 40*
Brendan P. Gilligan.....*Union 40*
Christian D. Jensen Jr.....*Union 40*
Abraham F. Kayal.....*Union 40*
Joseph A. Porto.....*Union 40*
Roger Roughley.....*Union 40*
Craig A. Walder.....*Union 40*
William F. Walton.....*Union 40*
Andrew S. Hallas.....*Washington 19*
Robert F. Walsh.....*Washington 19*
Isack Waserman.....*Washington 19*

CONGRATULATIONS

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

Frank E. Lukach.....*Hartford Evergreen 88*

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

Herschel D. Paradise.....*Bay View 120*
George P. Ambulos.....*Bay View 120*
Robert H. Smith.....*Coastal 57*
Robert G. Sime.....*Columbia 25*
William A. Pope.....*Composite 28*
Harry Voss.....*Corinthian 103*
Milton Opotzner.....*Cosmopolitan 125*
Howard G. Gold.....*Cosmopolitan 125*
Joseph F. Schmotzer Jr.....*Day Spring 30*
Oscar H. Hobbes.....*Day Spring 30*
Richard W. Bogart.....*Estuary 43*
Robert G. Hale.....*Estuary 43*
Howard T. Madsen.....*Fayette 69*
Robert B. Regius.....*Fayette 69*
Dean A. Birdsall.....*Federal 17*
Robert E. Bristol.....*Frederick-Franklin 14*
Warren L. Vigeant.....*Granite 119*
Everett F. Eichelberg.....*Oxoboxo 116*
Richard J. Oakley Jr.....*Seneca 55*
Marvin M. Cremer.....*Sequin-Level 140*
Gerald P. Chernoff.....*Sequin-Level 140*
James M. Spencer.....*Silas Deane 147*
Lawrence Becker.....*Uriel 24*
Raymond W. Mather.....*Uriel 24*
Frank R. Tomlinson.....*Uriel 24*
John E. Janczyk.....*Valley 36*
Allan Folger.....*Valley 36*
Norman L. Turnbull.....*Washington 70*
Delton H. Briggs.....*Wooster 10*
Harold N. Geer.....*Wooster 10*
Ellis W. Carlson.....*Wyllys-St. John's 4*

"Yes, it hurts..."

That was one of the facts gleaned from a long conversation with WB Chriss Finalis, who is a wearer of 'ink,' a tattoo artist for 13 years, and the owner of tattoo studios in Shelton in West Haven. Other brothers with tattoo studios include WB Mark Roberts, current Master of St. John's Lodge No. 2, Middletown, whose studio is in Deep River, and Bro. Michael Jay, Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116, Montville.

And yes, tattoos are permanent – at least, you should think of them as such. The ink is driven below the skin line with pins, not hollow needles, and remains there. Chris has had tattoos removed by a laser process and of course there is plastic surgery, but these options are far more painful than the original inking. They are also far more expensive. Thus, plan to have the art with you for the rest of your life.

In Connecticut, the legal age for being tattooed is 18, with 16- and 17-year-olds eligible with parental permission. It is not legal to tattoo anyone under the age of 16 under any circumstances. The American Red Cross will not accept a blood donation from anyone who has been tattooed less than a year previous.

WB Rob Curwen, Jr. of Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, has a narrative around his arm of the building of King Solomon's Temple, along with figures representing Faith, Hope and Charity.

Connecticut VNA's Norwalk Office a Sponsor of the Annual Oyster Festival

Connecticut VNA's Norwalk office was once again a proud sponsor of the 31st annual Norwalk Seaport Association Oyster Festival held Friday, September 5 through Sunday, September 8. Although Hurricane Hanna brought heavy rain and strong winds on Saturday, it didn't dampen the spirits of the Connecticut VNA employees who volunteered their time to staff the special needs tent.

The staffers of the special needs tent play an important role during the festival. They arrange to have golf carts and drivers transport people who have difficulty with mobility or may have vision problems, throughout the festival grounds so they can fully appreciate everything the festival has to offer.

For the past five years, Barbara Hoffman, RN, home health aide supervisor for the Norwalk team, has served as chairperson of the special needs booth, and Janice Kowats, administrative supervisor, has served as co-chair. Both Barbara and Janice have been volunteers at the festival for the past 13 years, and many branch employees have been volunteering for more than seven years, which shows the dedication and compassion the volunteers have for people with special needs.

Throughout the years, the volunteers have been praised and thanked for their efforts, with many elderly people telling them that without the assistance of the golf carts, they wouldn't be able to attend the festival. Staff from group homes who bring their residents with cerebral palsy have expressed how very grateful they are to have this special transportation, and several EMT's from Norwalk Hospital and members of the Connecticut National Guard have complimented the volunteers on a job well done.

RW George Cronk of Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107, Darien, can personally attest to the great service provided by the special needs tent. Bro. George said recently, "Not only was this great visibility for Masonicare, Connecticut VNA, and Masons in general, it was an outstanding opportunity to assist many disabled American veterans – of which I am one – and to allow us to see the vastness of the festival and many of the outstanding exhibits and events firsthand. It was definitely an unexpected pleasure to receive this assistance, and I can assure you it was most appreciated!"

According to the volunteers, the time they spend manning the booth and helping those who need their assistance is definitely time well spent, and they're already looking forward to participating again next year!

Blue-shirted Connecticut VNA employees who volunteered to staff the booth this year, included, from left, Janice Kowats, administrative supervisor for the Norwalk branch, Barbara Hoffman, RN, home health aide supervisor (with the walkie talkie), and Lynn Poirier, a physical therapist on the Norwalk team. The gentleman is Tom Bifone, a volunteer, and two visitors to the tent are enjoying a brief rest while awaiting transportation.

Inpatient Hospice Care at Masonic Healthcare Center is a Comfort to Both Patients and Their Families

Choosing hospice care can be a vitally important end-of-life decision for individuals facing a terminal illness and their loved ones. That's why Connecticut VNA's Hospice, a Medicare-certified hospice program, has partnered with Masonic Healthcare Center in Wallingford to create an **enhanced inpatient hospice unit** to provide the very special care and support patients and their families need during this difficult time.

Although Masonic Healthcare Center and Connecticut VNA have provided compassionate hospice care for several years in the Center's Acute Care Hospital, the new dedicated hospice unit offers specially trained staff and hospice volunteers, along with enhanced amenities that include comfortable, tranquil private rooms. Connecticut VNA's Hospice believes that supporting the family is as important as providing quality patient care. The inpatient hospice team, in consultation with family members, develops each plan of care with input from the patient's family members.

They address not only physical needs, but the psychosocial, emotional, and spiritual needs of the patient, family, and caregivers as well.

Many insurers, such as Medicare, offer a hospice benefit for individuals with a life limiting diagnosis and will cover a brief short-term inpatient stay under certain circumstances. Contrary to popular belief, hospice services are NOT just for people with a cancer diagnosis. Many non-cancer diagnoses can also qualify for coverage under hospice benefits, including heart failure, Alzheimer's disease and dementia, renal disease, ALS, Parkinson's disease, liver disease, HIV/AIDS, stroke or coma, and respiratory disease.

Connecticut VNA's Hospice program – both in the inpatient unit at Masonic Healthcare Center and in a patient's home or another facility – offers a host of complementary services and programs that provide emotional support as well.

These services include expressive arts activities to encourage emotional expression, massage therapy to provide comfort and relaxation, expressive puppetry to help patients connect and express issues important to them, and visits from certified pet partner teams through their pet therapy program.

To learn more about the outstanding care provided by Connecticut VNA's Hospice, please call 203-679-5300 and ask to speak with a member of the hospice team.

Craft at Labor...

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREES

Tuesday, October 7, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, October 7, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, Officer Step Up Night

Wednesday, October 8, Wooster No. 79, New Haven

Saturday, October 11, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock

Monday, October 13, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, Brother George Petrini in the East

Wednesday, October 15, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, October 16, Warren No. 51, Portland, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, October 20, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, Junior Warden in the East

Tuesday, October 28, Fayette No. 69, Ellington

Tuesday, October 28, Manchester No. 73, Manchester

Tuesday, October 28, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES

Wednesday, October 1, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston, 6:30 p.m. dinner, by the Senior Wardens of the 8th Masonic District

Friday, October 3, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, Past Masters Night

Saturday, October 4, Bay View No. 120, Niantic

Monday, October 6, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, October 8, Moriah No. 15, Brooklyn

Saturday, October 11, Uriel No. 24, Merrow, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, October 15, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, Step Up Night

Wednesday, October 15, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. pot luck dinner, Senior Warden in the East

Wednesday, October 15, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston, Senior Warden in the East

Thursday, October 16, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven

Thursday, October 16, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, October 16, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, October 16, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:30 p.m. buffet, Senior Warden in the East

Thursday, October 16, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Senior Warden in the East

Friday, October 17, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Senior Warden in the East

Monday, October 20, Washington No. 19, Monroe

Monday, October 20, Silas Deane No. 147, Newington

Tuesday, October 21, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, Rich Kassay in the East

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

Tuesday, October 21, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, October 21, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Subbase Degree team

Thursday, October 23, Temple No. 65, Westport, 8:00 p.m., dinner

Monday, October 27, Washington No. 70, Windsor, P. Hendricks in the East

Monday, October 27, Annawon No. 115, Milford,

Tuesday, October 28, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 7:30 p.m. dinner, WB Charles Wiess in the East

Tuesday, October 28, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, October 28, Madison No. 87, Madison

MASTER MASON DEGREES

Thursday, October 2, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, October 6, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 7:30 p.m., dinner

Tuesday, October 14, Fayette No. 69, Ellington,

Wednesday, October 15, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Past Masters' Night

Friday, October 17, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford

Thursday, October 23, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Past Masters

Monday, October 27, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, WB Terence Brennan in the East

One of the most important functions of a newly appointed Grand Junior Steward is to pour coffee at the monthly Grand Lodge officers meetings. RW Mike Dodge passed with flying colors at a recent meeting, by luckily not spilling a drop on, from left, RW Tom Maxwell, Grand Marshal, RW Art Carlstrom, Deputy Grand Master, or RW Charlie Buck, Grand Senior Warden, RW Bob Fitzgerald, Grand Secretary or Bro. Bob Hirtle.

Upcoming Holiday Fair and Apple Fest

by Chris Paine

Putnam Lodge No. 46. South Woodstock and Betty Putnam Chapter No 106, Order of the Eastern Star, will have a joint "Holiday Fair & Apple Fest" on Saturday, November 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Masonic lodge in front of the Woodstock Fair Grounds. Items for sale include: holiday cactus, decorations, ornaments, handcrafted items, baked goods, pickles/preserver, children's items, teachers' gifts, hostess gifts, bottle table, themed gift baskets, fork art, holiday wreaths/boxes and more. Luncheon will be served from start to finish.

UPCOMING REDEDICATIONS

Sunday, October 5, 25th Anniversary,
Ashlar of Newtown, Newtown, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 12, 225th Anniversary,
King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 18, 225th Anniversary,
Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 25, 200th Anniversary,
Jerusalem Lodge No. 49, Ridgefield, 12:00 noon, dinner

Tuesday, November 25, 225th Anniversary,
Montgomery Lodge No. 13, Lakeville, details incomplete

Craft at Refreshment...

Wednesday, October 1, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, missions trips by lodge brothers to Biloxi, Mississippi and the Dominican Republic
Wednesday, October 1, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner
Wednesday, October 1, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, meeting cancelled due to religious holiday
Thursday, October 2, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, 9:00 a.m. 8th District breakfast, Groton Townhouse
Thursday, October 2, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner
Thursday, October 2, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, awards night
Thursday, October 2, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner
Thursday, October 2, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, 12:00 noon, Red Cross Blood Drive
Thursday, October 2, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:00 p.m. dinner, men only, non-Mason night - George Washington
Friday, October 3, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 7:30 p.m. dinner, awards night
Friday, October 3, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:00 p.m., Apple Harvest Festival
Saturday, October 4, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 7:00 p.m., Scholarship Benefit Wine
Saturday, October 4, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Oktoberfest Festive Board
Saturday, October 4, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 9:00 a.m., Apple Harvest Festival
Saturday, October 4, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, 12:00 noon, pumpkin picking and hayride, Sherwood Farms
Sunday, October 5, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 12:00 noon registration, Annual Dyslexia Awareness Walk, 1:00 p.m. step off
Sunday, October 5, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 10:00 a.m., Apple Harvest Festival
Sunday, October 5, St. Andrew's No. 64, Winsted, 12:00 noon dinner, world-famous roast beef dinner
Tuesday, October 7, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, School of Instruction at Temple No. 16, Cheshire
Wednesday, October 8, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 8:00 a.m. breakfast, Demir's Restaurant
Friday, October 10, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, appreciation for New Milford's Police Department, Fire Department and Emergency Medical Technicians
Saturday, October 11, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, 6:00 p.m. dinner, October Fest
Saturday, October 11, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 5:00 p.m. dinner, Annual Utility Steak Dinner
Sunday, October 12, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, 1:00 p.m., 225th anniversary rededication, Grand Master Stika will lead the Grand Lodge officers in a rededication ceremony
Sunday, October 12, Estuary No. 43, 4:00 p.m. dinner at Dock 'n Dine for Special Ladies
Monday, October 13, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 12:00 noon, Columbus Day parade hot dog booth
Monday, October 13, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, officer step-up night
Tuesday, October 14, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Past Master's and awards night, Past Master's will be sitting in all chairs
Tuesday, October 14, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, awards night
Tuesday, October 14, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, School of Instruction
Thursday, October 16, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Non-Mason night
Friday, October 17, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:00 p.m., cook and serve OES corn beef dinner
Saturday, October 18, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Ladies Night at the Hartford Club
Saturday, October 18, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, 9:00 a.m., clean up day
Saturday, October 18, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Knockwurst and Beer Fest
Saturday, October 18, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 8:00 a.m., Fellowcraft Club food booth, tractor pull, Haddam Neck fairgrounds
Saturday, October 18, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, 12:00 noon dinner, wives and widows harvest dinner
Sunday, October 19, Moriah No. 15, Brooklyn, 12:00 noon turkey dinner
Sunday, October 19, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 8:00 a.m. country breakfast
Monday, October 20, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 7:00 p.m., Philalethes Society meeting
Monday, October 20, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Past Masters Association, Oasis Restaurant, Bristol
Tuesday, October 21, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:30 p.m., Judd Lewis Quarry night, fellowship night
Tuesday, October 21, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 5:00 p.m. dinner, spaghetti supper fundraiser, open to the public
Tuesday, October 21, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, 8:00 p.m. dinner
Tuesday, October 21, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction, Temple No. 16, Cheshire
Tuesday, October 21, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Craftsman Club Outing at Tinkers Seafood, Hartford
Thursday, October 23, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven, 7:00 p.m., school of instruction night for all new Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts
Thursday, October 23, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Ladies at Table
Friday, October 24, Temple No. 65, Westport, 8:00 p.m. dinner, Scotch history evening
Friday, October 24, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 7:30 p.m. dinner, pins for Ansantawae's widows.
Saturday, October 25, Union No. 5, Stamford, 8:30 a.m. breakfast, pancake breakfast
Saturday, October 25, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 12:00 p.m. non, open house
Saturday, October 25, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Priory Kitchen Dinner
Saturday, October 25, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 3:00 a.m. dinner, ladies' night festive board
Saturday, October 25, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Ladies at Table
Saturday, October 25, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 11th Annual Halloween Table Lodge
Saturday, October 25, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, 1:00 p.m. dinner, 200th anniversary rededication, Grand Master Stika will lead the Grand Lodge officers in a rededication ceremony
Saturday, October 25, Fayette No. 69, Ellington, 9:30 a.m., open house
Saturday, October 25, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 5:00 p.m. dinner, 3rd annual Ladies at Table
Saturday, October 25, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 5:00 p.m., UConn/Cincinnati(HC), football refreshment stand
Monday, October 27, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 7:00 p.m. Demolay/ Rainbow Girls pumpkin decorating and carving contest
Monday, October 27, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 6:30 p.m. dinner, awards night and scholarship presentations
Tuesday, October 28, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction

Fayette Lodge to Sponsor Manchester Symphony Orchestra

by Perne Maynard

Fayette Lodge No. 69, Ellington, is sponsoring a POPS concert by the Manchester Symphony Orchestra to be presented at the new Tolland High School auditorium. The concert will be presented on Saturday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m. All profits from this event will be presented to the Tolland High School Music Department.

The program for the evening will be a "pops" concert of popular orchestral pieces under the baton of Conductor, Scott Humphries. Scott is presently a Doctoral Candidate of Music at Boston University.

The ticket prices will be adults $15.00 and Sr Citizens over 62 and all students $12.00 per ticket. Tickets at the door will be an additional $2.00. Tickets will be available from students or staff of the Tolland Schools Music departments or by calling WM Dale Cunningham 860-872-6496, or WB Perne Maynard 860-875-8041.

Did you know that Mozart, Gilbert and Sullivan, John Phillip Sousa, Irving Berlin and Paul Whiteman were ALL Freemasons.

Blue Lodge Wall Hangings Available

A limited number of Blue Lodge wall hangings are offered for sale that will benefit youth programs of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. The hangings are 27″ wide by 36″ long. Each is made of 100% US cotton, with 380 picks per square inch to give it beautiful colors and detail. The wall hanging is made of upholstery material, has a sewn liner and is dry clean only. Please send your check of $49.94 each to Sandra D. Knotts, P.O. Box 158, Trexeltown, PA 18087. A portion of each sale will be donated to the Grand Lodge youth activities by Mrs. Knotts.

Why Are Lodges Inspected?

by Carl G. Ek

It's an annual requirement of all lodges. Some are frightened by it, others take it in stride as a part of being an officer. For some lodges, it is held as soon as possible after installation. For others, it has been put off so long that it's almost worthless as a tool to help faltering lodges improve. What is it? The annual official inspection.

One of the responsibilities of the Most Worshipful Grand Master is to ensure that all lodges are conducting their affairs and their work in a proper manner. This is done on the Grand Master's behalf by his personal representative in a district, the District Deputy, who is usually accompanied on the visit by his Associate Grand Marshal.

Lodge Masters and secretaries are the primary focus of this visit, but it seems that many of a lodge's officers find the inspection particularly nerve-wracking. It need not be; the visit of a District Deputy should, it is said, be among the highlights of a Master's term. But why the need for the annual inspection? Outside of making many officers nervous, what is it intended to accomplish?

There are three principal areas of review in each inspection, although the Deputy has the prerogative to examine almost anything during his official inspection. Of primary concern are the records and finances of a lodge, paraphernalia, and the proper exemplification of ritual.

"Paraphernalia" covers a broad area. It includes the lodge charters, original and working, and their locations. Deputies look to see that the Masonic building is being well cared for, and that the furniture is in a similar good condition. They are also going to check to be sure that candidate uniforms are clean and ready for use by the men whom we wish to impress most – those just joining our organization.

Such items as ritual books, the lodge by-laws and records, and other similar 'stuff' are usually under the control of the secretary, and so are usually examined as a part of the inspection of the secretary and treasurer. These brothers are entrusted with the business and financial records of the lodge, and their good work is vital for many reasons.

The Grand Lodge relies on monthly reports to learn who has joined a lodge and who has ended their membership, whether by non-payment, dimit, or death. The local lodge relies on the secretary's minutes to keep a just and accurate account of the proceedings so that the business of Masonry carries forward without confusion. It is also appropriate and necessary to confirm that the secretary and treasurer have conformed to the financial wishes of the lodge. While we believe every brother in such a position to be honest, there have been a few cases where trusted brothers have misused money placed in their possession. The annual inspection is one of a series of checks and balances to guard against this unfortunate behavior.

Few brothers, even officers, of a lodge, are even aware of those components of an inspection. All concentrate on the ritual of the evening. It is important to remember that those brothers sitting in the East clad in purple aprons and adorned with jewels have gone through the same inspection – likely many, many times – and have felt the same nervousness that the officer corps collectively feels. The inspecting officers are not there to criticize, although they are there to critique. They look forward to the best possible work for the benefit of the candidate joining or advancing in Masonry. They are not looking to scold, chide, upbraid, or otherwise undermine the good efforts of the lodge.

That said, if the DD and AGM find the efforts of the officers lacking during an inspection, they have the right to stop a degree, or to allow the event to go on but to then request a reinspection at a later date. These steps are only taken when it is clear that the officers of a lodge have not taken their obligations as officers as seriously as appropriate in their study of the rituals of Masonry.

The DD and AGM, now assisted by one or more District Lecturers, are sources of assistance for a lodge that does not feel that its ritual work is of an appropriate caliber. Any of these brothers will be happy to attend rehearsals prior to inspection to offer thoughts on how to improve the work. The same offer stands post-inspection, when the 'pressure' is off for another year and absorbing the suggestions for enhancement may be easier.

In summary, a Grand Lodge inspection is simply a formalized visit by a representative of the Grand Master to determine how well things are going in a lodge. In most cases, all is well. In those instances where they are not, the DD and AGM are excellent sources for getting a derailed lodge back on track.

Why are lodges inspected? For the good of Masonry!

WB Chriss Finalis, Fidelity-St. John's No. 3, Fairfield, is a highly skilled tattoo artist, but he had to rely on a colleague to ink the approximately 6″ x 6″, fully colored square and compasses on his right forearm after he was raised nearly a decade ago.

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

CONGRATULATIONS to Bro. Francis G. Way, MSA., who on August 26, at the Supreme Council Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Annual Meeting held in Providence, Rhode Island, received one of the highest honors that a Master Mason can achieve, that of being recognized and received, as a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°.

Bro. Way, after becoming a Master Mason, went on to becoming a member of the Valley of Hartford, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, while still remaining active in his Blue Lodge. Over the years, as member of the Valley of Hartford, Bro. Frank took an active part in several degrees before being asked to join the officer line of Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection. He proceeded up the line, finally serving as its Thrice Potent Master in 2003-2004. Today, along with his continued participation in degree work, he has accepted the responsibility of a director.

Several years ago he became chairman of the Valley of Hartford's Family Life Program. Bro. Way is currently serving the valley as editor of *The View of the Valley*, the Valley's quarterly newsletter and informational booklet, oversees the valley web page, and has become a member of the Nathan Hall Consistory officer line, serving the Valley of Hartford as its Membership Chairman for 2008-2010.

Congratulations, at this time, should also be extended to Bro. Eric W. Manner, who has been nominated to receive the same 33° distinction at the next Supreme Council Annual, scheduled for Boston in 2009.

Reminder to all members of the Scottish Rite; if you plan to attend any, or all, the scheduled pre-degree dinners: reservation form and payment are due by the Tuesday prior to the degree date. A limited number of walk-ins often can be accommodated, but there is no guarantee.

If brothers are interested in joining the Scottish Rite, we can accept applications up to Wednesday, October 8, and accompanying several of our valley members to the Valley of Norwich, on Saturday, October 11, in order to catch up with the Fall 2008 Class. Please inform the Valley Secretary (860) 666-0712 of you intentions beforehand.

For more information about what is happening in the Valley of Hartford, visit our Valley website, *http://www.valleyofhartford.org.*

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

Our fall season is well under way. The leaves are falling, the ritual is inspiring, and membership is picking up!

On Monday, October 6, Ill. Paul L. Chello, 33°, our Thrice Potent Master, will preside on the 14°, Grand Elect Mason. Two weeks later, on Monday, October 20, Ill. Bradley K. Cooney, 33°, will bring us back to the days of the return to Jerusalem as the 15°, Knight of the East or Sword, is conferred. One week later, on Monday, October 27, our newly capped MSA, Allen G. Meyerjack, confers the 18° to the fall class as they learn the eternal message of the new law as Knights of Rose Croix.

Although the petition deadline is met for this class with the conferral of the 14°, petitions are always available from Valley secretary, Ill. Vernon K. Cleaves, 33°, or any officer or valley representative. These representatives are our link to the lodges. If your lodge does not have one, or you do not know who it is, call Vern and he will tell you. He will also have the information as to how a candidate may catch up with the class, or how a suspended member might be reactivated.

Remember, to be the first line signer on five petitions in one year will earn you a black cap. The history of the Valley of New Haven is well adorned with many red and white caps. **We need more black caps!** Without your help there is no next generation. membership chairman Charles H. Tirrell, MSA, has an excellent program for recruitment. The lodge ambassadors have all been put into high gear. Get on the bandwagon now!

Don't forget our Monday, November 10 stated meeting followed by our third annual Oktoberfest! Let's plan to populate the spring class, too!

See you in the Valley …

Bro. Scott Sherrick, Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, and Most Puissant Past Grand Master of the Grand Council of Royal and Select Masters, depicts the square and compasses over his heart.

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.

THE VALLEY'S FALL SCHEDULE:

Thursday, October 2 – Portrayal of the 4° and 13°

Thursday, October 16 – Presentation of Select Master Degree and Portrayal of the 14°

Thursday, October 23 – Portrayal of the 15° Vignette and the 16° in full form

All degree start at 7:30 p.m. at the Valley of Hartford Cathedral.
Pre-degree dinners at the Sphinx Shrine Facility at 6:00 p.m.
Advance reservations required.

If you would like more information about the upcoming degrees, or 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 email: sect@snet.net or visit our Valley Website: http://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

October 6 - 14°, Grand Elect Mason
October 20 - 15°, Knight of the East or Sword
October 27 - 18°, Knight on Rose Croix

All Scottish Rite Masons are cordially invited to attend!

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.

York Rite Opportunities

Information to be included in ***York Rite Opportunities*** must be submitted by the ***10th*** of the preceding month to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, Charles B. Fowler, 35 Elaine Mary Drive, Windsor CT 06095 or ctramrsm@sbcglobal.net.
NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice.

Saturday, October 4, Hamilton No. 5 KT, Meriden, 6 p.m. Steak or lobster dinner
Tuesday, October 7, (RE), Washington No.1 KT, East Hartford, reception of the REGC. 6:30 dinner
Wednesday, October 8, Pythagoras No. 17, RAM, East Hartford, Mark Master degree
Wednesday, October 8, (MP), Cyrus-Meridian No.15 RAM, Torrington
Thursday, October 9, (MP), Columbia No. 9, R&SM, Haddam
Thursday, October 9, (ME), Adoniram No. 18 RAM, Rockville
Friday, October 10, (ME) (MP), Adoniram No. 14 R&SM, Rockville
Friday, October 10, Baldwin No. 13 RAM, Stratford, Royal Arch Mason degree
Saturday, October 11, (ME) (MP), Connecticut York Rite College No. 17, 10 a.m.
Tuesday, October 14, (MP), Wolcott No. 1 R&SM, East Hartford, reception of MPGM, 6:30 p.m. dinner
Wednesday, October 15, (MP), Suffield No. 23 R&SM, Suffield, Royal Master degree, 6:30 p.m. dinner
Thursday, October 16, (MP), Hamilton No. 5 KT, Stratford, Knights at Table, 6:30 p.m. dinner
Monday, October 20, (ME) (RE), St. John's No. 11 KT, North Windham
Monday, October 20, (MP), Buel No. 20 R&SM, Litchfield
Tuesday, October 21, St. Elmo No. 9 KT, Meriden, Order of the Temple, 6:15 p.m. dinner
Wednesday, October 22, Pythagoras No. 17, RAM, East Hartford, ladies, Sphinx Chanters Program
Thursday, October 23, (ME), Palestine No. 6 KT, Preston
Friday, October 24, Jerusalem No. 16 R&SM, Royal Master degree
Friday, October 24, (MP), Jerusalem No. 16 R&SM, Stratford
Friday, October 24-Sunday, October 26, (ME), (RE), Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, Westborough, Massachusetts
Tuesday, October 28, (ME), Trinity No. 9 RAM & Montgomery No. 2 R&SM, North Windham
Wednesday, October 29, (MP), Mohawk No. 28, Knight Masons, East Hartford

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER
Saturday, November 1, Chivalric Festival, Meriden. 9 a.m.
Saturday, November 1, Wolcott No. 1 R&SM, Royal Master degree
Tuesday, November 4, Keystone No. 27 RAM, Royal Arch Mason degree
Tuesday, November 4, Washington No. 1 KT, Order of Malta
Friday, November 7, Jerusalem No. 16 R&SM, SM & SEM degree
Saturday, November 8, Washington No. 1 KT, Ladies. Holy Land Program
Thursday, November 20, Hamilton No. 5 KT, Red Cross & Malta

(ME) Most Excellent Grand High Priest
(MP) Most Puissant Grand Master
(RE) Right Eminent Grand Commander

NOTE: Visitations shown for the MEGHP are tentative, depending upon his recovery from recent surgery.

FROM THE MOST PUISSANT GRAND MASTER:

The Masonic Gremlins are at work...I wrote "I am committed to visiting"...it was printed "I have a committee visiting." Ah well, speaking of visiting, find the time to go to another Lodge, Chapter, Council, or Commandery with another Brother/Companion. You will be happy you did. Make time to pray for those in sickness or distress, remember all that Veterans have done for us. In closing, good health and please, enjoy this wonderful Fraternity.

— Andrew G. Weimann, II

CRYPTIC MASONS MEDICAL RESEARCH FUND

Donations for the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation (Atherosclerosis Research) should be made payable to CMMRF and sent to Richard E. Larcom, PMPGM, 51 Worth Ave # 2C, Hamden, CT 06518-3409.

ROYAL ARCH RITUALS AVAILABLE

Some Companions are apparently not aware that the Grand Chapter adopted a revised ritual in 2002 and published it in English in 8.5 x 11 loose leaf format. This was because the small red code books were out of print. There is still a large supply of the new ritual books on hand. Cost is $10. Contact either the Grand Secretary or the Assistant Grand Secretary. Also, if you wonder about the Secret Work for the Chapter, your Secretary should have a copy, probably squirreled away somewhere.

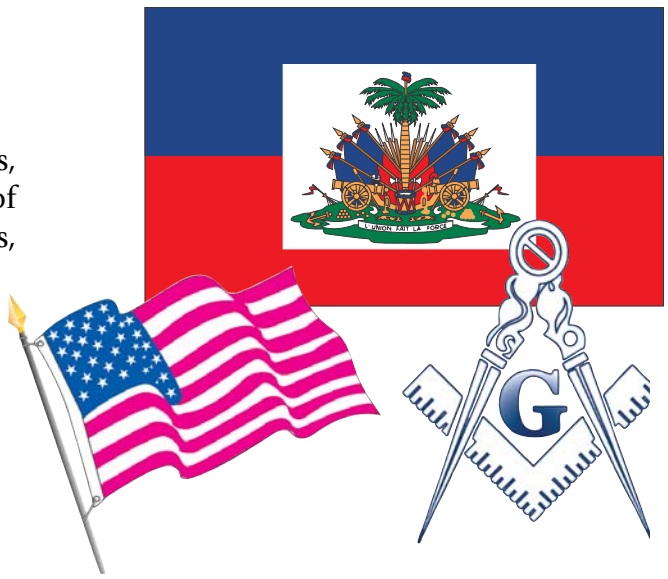
A Brother Asks For Aid

The devastation in Haiti of three hurricanes within one month is a consequence for Masons in Connecticut. WB Daniel Longchamp and the brothers of Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149, Stratford, are primarily Haitian and maintain connections with their native homeland.

They have responded by creating a non-profit organization to raise funds for the victims: Haitian United Foundation Inc.

Grand Master Stika has approved Brother Daniel's request for Freemasons and lodges in Connecticut to donate to the Haitian United Foundation and support this organization. The funds will be personally overseen on site by WB Longchamp during a visit later this year.

His primary focus will be in Gonaives, which is his hometown and the scene of some of the worst destruction. "Gonaives, Haiti is my birthplace and is the city of independence. It is one of the largest cities on the island. Their main product is rice so you can imagine there are a lot of wetlands to begin with. The people are friendly and they like to enjoy life no matter how impoverished they may be. There are two Masonic lodges there and I am sure the can use some help. My focus will also be school rebuilding and help for children. Two days ago we got news that a child died of hunger on the roof of a house because the home was flooded and the family had to sleep on their roof. That is how bad it is there."



Donations can be sent to:
Haitian United Foundation Inc.
c/o Daniel Longchamp
175 Edgewood Street
Stratford, CT 06615

Volunteers Needed for Bulkeley Bridge Rededication

Volunteers are needed to staff a display of memorabilia from the 1908 dedication of the Bulkeley Bridge at the rededication on Sunday, October 19. This event will take place between 12:00 noon and 3:30 p.m. at Riverside Park. (http://www.riverfront.org/index.php/events/festivals/).

On October 9, 1908, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut dedicated the final stone and a parade of more than 5,000 Masons celebrated the occasion. While there is no parade planned for the 100th Anniversary Celebration, Riverfront Recapture will host live music, a transportation display showing how vehicles have changed over the century, historic photos, music, and a vintage baseball game.

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut's display will include artifacts from the 1908 occasion as well as information about Connecticut Freemasonry today.

Many of the artifacts to be displayed are currently at the Masonic Healthcare Center lobby behind glass doors.

Please contact the Grand Lodge office at 203-679-5903 (grandlodge@masonicare.org), RW Carl Anderson at 203-679-6917 (canderson@masonicare.org), RW Gary Littlefield (glittlefield@snet.net) or RW Simon LaPlace at 860-526-4021 (slaplace@ctfreemasons.net) to offer your help and assistance.

"Grandpa Dan," also known as Bro. Danforth Shattuck, a resident of the Leslie G. Wright Residence at Masonic Healthcare Center, has a great time with his young pal Nick Preschel, a pre-K student at the Masonic Child Development Center, at the Center's 15th annual "Garden Party" held recently. Bro. Shattuck has been a Mason for 62 years. A lovely summer day was the perfect setting as the children entertained their guests and touted the beautiful garden they've been tending all summer. Each resident was delighted to receive a special gift made by the children. This intergenerational gathering is just one of the many Masonicare programs designed to bring seniors and children together to share good times and get to know one another. Bro. Dan, a member of Wolcott Lodge No. 146, Wolcott, turned a "young" 90 in August!

DID YOU Vote?

Results are in!

There were 2 polls on the Grand Lodge website (www.ctfreemasons.net). Since Augusst 20, the polls have collected the opinions of 100 voters asking how many lodges they belonged to, and 80 voters if they knew who their District Deputy or Grand Lodge Officer for the district is? The results are in and the tally is:

How many Blue Lodges do you belong to?

1	63.	63 %
2	25	25 %
3	6	6 %
4	6	6 %

Do you know who your District Deputy or Grand Lodge Officer for the district is?

Yes	77	96 %
No	3	4 %

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.

MASONIC FAMILY BOOSTERS

Adelphi-Momauguin No. 63..... North Haven
America-St. John's No. 8 .....Stratford
Anchor No. 112..... East Hampton
Annawon No. 115 .....West Haven
Ansantawae No. 89..... Milford
Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142.....Easton
Center No. 97.....Meriden
Columbia No. 25.....South Glastonbury
Composite No. 28.....Suffield
Corinthian No. 103..... North Haven
Cosmopolitan No. 125.....New Haven
Estuary No. 43..... Old Saybrook
Evening Star No. 101.....Unionville
***Federal No. 17* ..... Watertown**
Frederick-Franklin No. 14.....Plainville
Friendship No. 33 .....Southington
Friendship Tuscan No. 145 ..... Manchester
Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons .....
Grand Commandery Knights Templar .....
Granite No. 119 .....Haddam
Harmony No. 42 .....Waterbury
***Harmony No. 67* ..... New Canaan**
Hartford Evergreen No. 88 ..... South Windsor
Hejaz Grotto.....New Haven
Hiram No. 1 ..... New Haven
***Hiram No. 18* ..... Sandy Hook**
Ionic Chapter No. 100, OES.....Suffield
Ionic No. 110 ..... North Windham
Ivanhoe No. 107 ..... Darien
Jerusalem No. 49 ..... Ridgefield
King Hiram No. 12 .....Shelton
Madison No. 87 ..... Madison
Masonic Club of New London .....
Meridian No. 77 .....Meriden
Montgomery No. 13 ..... Lakeville
Morning Star No. 47 ..... Seymour
MP Grand Council R&SM .....
Seneca No. 55 .....Torrington
Sequin-Level No. 140 .....Newington
Somerset-St. James No. 34 ..... Preston
Stellar Chapter No. 55, OES ..... Danbury
St. Paul's No. 11 .....Litchfield
St. Peters No. 21 ..... New Milford
Temple No. 16 ..... Cheshire
Temple No. 65 ..... Westport
Trumbull No. 22 ..... New Haven
Union No. 40 ..... Danbury
Valley of Hartford, AASR .....
Valley of New Haven, AASR .....
Warren No. 51 ..... Portland
Washington No. 19 ..... Monroe
Washington No. 70 ..... Windsor
Washington No. 81 ..... Cromwell
Widows Son No 66 ..... Branford
Wooster No. 10 ..... Colchester
Wooster No. 79 ..... New Haven
***Wyllys-St. John No. 4* ..... West Hartford**

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

GRAND BOOSTERS

thank you for contributing more than $25

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"Working Together for the Future"

by *Carl G. Ek*

In the planning stages for several years, the first joint 'Ladies at the Table' proved an enjoyable evening at a new Masonic facility on September 20.

The Grand Lodges AF & AM and Prince Hall Affiliates (PHA), Inc., Grand Chapters, Order of the Eastern Star (OES) AF & AM and PHA, and the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth came together for a dinner celebrating the work of all of the organizations and pledging mutual cooperation in continuing to do so in the future.

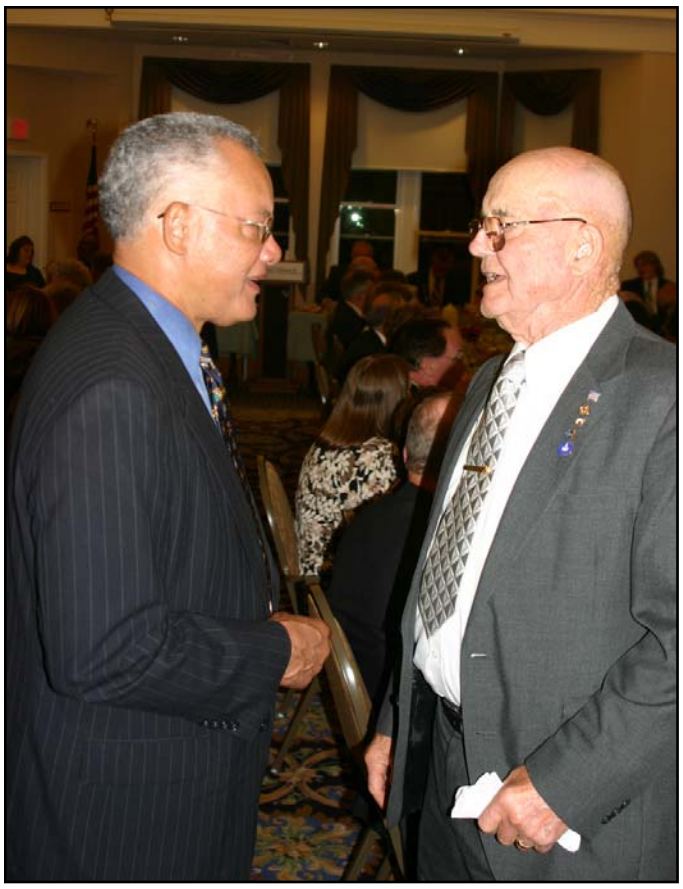
MW Robert J. Stika acted as master of ceremonies in his upbeat and somewhat informal manner. Indeed, with no gavel present to call up the attendees, Bro. Stika commandeered a salt shaker for his setting maul, the presence of the Grand Master providing all of the authority necessary. Bro. Bob was joined at the head table by RW. Ronald Thomas, the Deputy Grand Master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

Others included at the head table were Sister Gail C. Evarts, Worthy Grand Matron, and Bro. Gary S. Adams, Worthy Grand Patron, of the Grand Chapter, OES, and Sister Phyllis M. Hargrove, Grand Worthy Matron, and Bro. Gerald Cropper, Grand Worthy Patron, of the Grand Chapter, OES, PHA. Honored Lady Charlene D. Rowe, Grand Royal Matron, and Sir Knight David S. Rowe, Grand Royal Patron, Order of the Amaranth, and invited youth group representatives Sister AliciaMarie Hurlburt, Grand Worthy Advisor, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and Gregory S. Goto, Deputy State Master Councilor of the Order of DeMolay were also seated among the distinguished guests.

The ceremony was rewritten to provide for ten toasts, with each given by a guest at the head table. In addition to toasting the five celebrating bodies, toasts were raised to God, country, youth, departed brothers and sisters, and brothers and sisters wheresoever dispersed. With over 80 in attendance at the Hartog Activities Center of Ashlar Village, the stewards were kept busy recharging the cannons with apple cider, pitchers of water, and slightly stronger libations. The Ashlar Village staff was also singled out for their excellent work in preparing and serving the meal.

Among the goals of the evening was to bring the Masonic family together in an effort to strengthen fraternal bonds. Clearly this occurred, with some suggestions being made that the event be held twice – or more! – during the year. After the sound of the final gavel, it was clear that the evening was a success as sisters and brothers remained to chat and enjoy the company of friends old and new.

The head table salutes with a toast.



Marvin meets Marvin! Marvin Miller (l), MW Past Grand Master of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F & AM, meets Bro. Marvin Self, a transplanted North Carolinian and 50 year Mason now living in Connecticut. Marvin noted that he seldom met others with the same name, to which Marvin replied that we all have friends that we've not met yet….

Instructions on toasting were offered prior to the first joint Ladies at the Table on September 20 by Master of Ceremonies and MW Grand Master Robert J. Stika. With 10 toasts in the ceremony, most attendees opted for apple cider, although wine and water were also available.

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