



Connecticut FREEMASONS

DECEMBER 2009



To Every
Thing There
Is A
Season...



Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM
69 Masonic Avenue
P.O. Box 250
Wallingford, CT 06492



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**Pierpont Edwards
Medal awarded to
Roger Daboll, Jr.**



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**New
Prince Hall
Grand Master**



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**Woodbury
Celebrates
350th**

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Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM

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 Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday
 First Saturday of the month: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
 203-679-5903 • 800-529-4161 (in-state only) • Fax: 203-679-5996
 e-mail: grandlodge@masonicare.org • www.ctfreemasons.net



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THE GRAND LODGE
OF CONNECTICUT AF & AM

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Connecticut Freemasons is the official publication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF & AM. All original articles are subject to editing. All checks for payments and donations should be made out to Grand Lodge Publications and mailed to the Grand Lodge office at PO Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492.

Connecticut Freemasons Volume 5 Number 3 July/August 2009 is published monthly except August by The Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF & AM, 69 Masonic Avenue, P.O. Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492-0250. Periodicals Postage Pending at Wallingford, CT and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF & AM, P.O. Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492-0250.

Letters and advertisements may be sent to the Editor-in-Chief at slaplace@ctfreemasons.net. or 860-526-4021. 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.



GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

Arthur H. Carlstrom - December 2009

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>EVENT/LOCATION</u>	<u>PUBLIC</u>	<u>DINNER</u>	<u>ATTIRE</u>
Tuesday, December 1, 7:30 p.m.	Olivet Chapter OES, Plainville	N	Ref	S
Wednesday, December 2, 7:30 p.m.	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, Litchfield	N	Ref	S
Saturday, December 5, 10:00 a.m.	Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock	N	Lunch	F
Sunday, December 6, 3:00 p.m.	Grand Lodge officers Christmas party, Ashlar Village	N	Y	S
Monday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.	Federal Lodge No. 17, Watertown, annual meeting	N	Ref	S
Thursday, December 10, 4:00 p.m.	Masonicare Board Meeting, Wallingford	N	N	S
Friday, December 11	Grand Lodge District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.			
Saturday, December 12	Grand Lodge District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.			
Sunday, December 13	Grand Lodge District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.			
Wednesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, Litchfield	N	Ref	S
Thursday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.	Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, awards night	Y	Ref	F
Friday, December 18, 6:30 p.m.	New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Christmas observance	Y	N	F
Sunday, December 20, 3:00 p.m.	Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford, Christmas observance	Y	Ref	F
Monday, December 21, 6:30 p.m.	Milford Chapter No. 49, Milford, Carol Sing	Y	Y	S
Friday, December 25	Merry Christmas			
Friday, December January 1	Happy New Year			

"A day that shall live in infamy..."

by Michael L. Castroll

On December 7, 1941, the United States was forced into World War II when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in a surprise attack. The nation was awakened to a sense of duty and patriotism unparalleled in our history. As with all of the wars our nation has fought, Freemasonry left its mark, donating her own as soldiers, as well as resources in defense of country and freedom. It is only natural some Connecticut Masons would be eyewitness to the Day of Infamy.

The events of that day and its aftermath are very well documented. To learn of Masonic involvement at Pearl Harbor, it was necessary to hone in on the road least traveled. The results have been few but sincere; the heroes located have etched their own immortality with countless others.

WB S. Kenneth Baril, now of Cincinnati but a Past Master of Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, is the author of *The Medal of Honor, The Letter G In Valor*. Ken's book covers all of America's wars and those valiant souls whose bravery and insight were able to save lives and gain advantage for American troops. From Pearl Harbor he offered a brother Mason.

Brother Jackson Charles Pharris was the only member of the craft to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for Pearl Harbor gallantry. He entered the U.S. Navy in California and was a Lieutenant aboard the U.S.S. California when the surprise attack occurred.

"...In charge of the ordinance repair party on the third deck when the first Japanese torpedo struck almost directly under his station, Lt. (then Gunner) Pharris was stunned and severely injured by the concussion which hurled him to the overhead and back to the deck. Quickly recovering, he acted on his own initiative to set up a hand-supply ammunition train for the anti-aircraft guns. With water and oil rushing in where the port bulkhead had been torn up from the deck, with many of the remaining crew members overcome by the oil fumes, and the ship without power and listing heavily to port as a result of the second torpedo hit, Lt. Pharris ordered the shipfitters to counterflood. Twice rendered unconscious by the nauseous fumes and handicapped by his painful injuries, he persisted in his efforts to speed up the supply of ammunition and at the same time repeatedly risked his life to enter flooding compartments and drag to safety unconscious shipmates who were gradually being submerged in oil.

"By his inspiring leadership, his valiant efforts and his extreme loyalty to his ship and her crew, he saved many of his shipmates from death

and was largely responsible for keeping the California in action during the attack. His heroic conduct throughout this first eventful engagement of World War II reflects the highest credit upon Lt. Pharris and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service."

Brother Pharris was a member of William H. Upton Lodge No. 206, F. &A.M., in Bremerton, Washington. (Sharp-eyed readers will recall that the namesake of that lodge was Grand Master of Masons in Washington when it recognized Prince Hall Masonry in 1897.)

Of the nearly 1,000 Pearl Harbor survivors recorded eight years ago, about 90 were listed as in Connecticut. However, there were two Masons who served on the same ship, and were a credit to their mates, their ship, their craft, and their nation.

Both brothers served on the U.S.S. Solace, a hospital ship with no firepower or any way to defend herself. Those on board had a bird's eye view of that calamitous act of horror.

One member of the Solace was machinist Granville Spencer, a brother of Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire. He made his fraternal mark as a Past Noble Grand (the equivalent to a Past Master) of Noshahogan Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, in Waterbury. Brother Granville passed the torch to his son, Bro. Dean Spencer, also a member of Temple Lodge No. 16, who was pleased to tell his father's story. As a machinist on the Solace, the elder Bro. Spencer had a clear view of the atrocities as they unfolded. He watched as the martyred heroes went down with their ships. Among them were family members who intentionally separated to different ships just in case the unthinkable happened. And it did!

Bro. Frank L. Stebbins, Jr. was 22 when he joined the Navy Reserve in 1940. Activated the following year, his unit, made up of mostly New Haveners, were assigned to the Solace. The ship arrived at the Hawaii port in October, 1941. Frank was a signalman, a sailor trained to transmit Morse code using flashing lights. He was waiting to go ashore on liberty when he heard the fighting begin. Japanese planes launched from carriers 274 miles from the coast of Oahu came in two waves, the first at 7:53 a.m. and the second attack an hour later. From his position on the Solace, Stebbins had a perfect view of the U.S.S. Arizona being sunk in the harbor. Postwar, he went on to become a vital part of the Pearl Harbor Survivors' Association



The USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

(PHSA). He later served as president of the Connecticut Chapter of the PHSA.

A West Haven native, Frank served West Haven (now Robert H. Heller) Chapter, Order of DeMolay as Master Councilor during his senior year at West Haven High School. He went on to serve as State Master Councilor in 1939-40. He was dubbed a Chevalier in 1964 and later created a member of the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

Frank was raised in Annawon Lodge No. 115, West Haven, before his deployment with the Navy. According to Mrs. Lois Stebbins, Frank's widow, the military lodges in existence then were treated as Officers' Clubs; noncoms just didn't go there. A majority Rainbow Girl herself, Lois spoke proudly of her late husband's experience and accomplishments. Frank Stebbins served as Worshipful Master of Annawon Lodge in 1961 and was called by the Grand Architect in 2006.

At the last reunion of Connecticut Pearl Harbor survivors, there were 90 listed. (There may also be others who have chosen not to belong to the PHSA.) When the Connecticut Chapter last met, there were so few attendees that those present decided that it would be their last conclave. Since that time, the numbers have dwindled. But Brother Sheldon and WB Stebbins, and certainly Brother Pharris, are three very good examples why the light should not go out, and we should all "Remember Pearl Harbor."

Our Cover

This is the season for lodges to select their leaders for the upcoming year. It is also a time of reflection, hope, and promise. Connecticut Freemasons wish all the blessings of the holiday season and the strength of life that an evergreen wreath symbolizes.

Grand Master's Message

November was a busy month with many events taking place and doesn't look like December will be any different. As I write this shortly before Thanksgiving, I realize how much we are thankful for, and hope you will take a moment to appreciate what you have.

At the Autumn Gathering was a great chance for all of us to meet old friends and make new ones. Masonicare did an excellent job with a tasty display of refreshments, tours of the Health Center and we were able to recognize Irving Pease, Martha Schmalz, Roger Larson, Otilie Bulakites, and Gail L. Smith with awards for their volunteer service at Masonicare. I urge those who have not been to the Health Center to do so and see what outstanding work is being done there.

I was also pleased to participate in the installation of Ronald Thomas as the new Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge. I am sure MW Ron will do a great job and am looking forward to working with him for the balance of my term.

I look forward to my visit to the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia and the installation of RW Paul D. Gleason as their new Grand Master. Eight and a half years ago he came to the aid of a distressed brother namely me and we have formed a close friendship since that time.

I wish to thank all the brothers who took time out of their busy schedules to attend the seminars. I hope everyone walked away with some good information to assist them on planning their year.

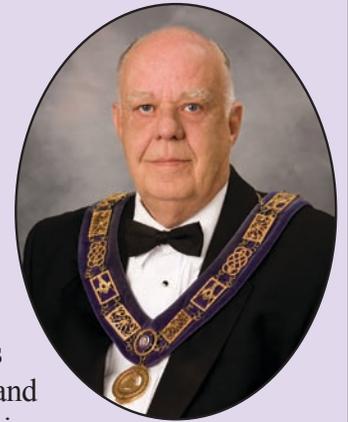
I am looking forward to the coming Christmas holidays, to spend time with the family, relax and give thanks, again, that we have so much to enjoy. When we see all the commercials and ads let us keep in mind what this celebration is all about.

I wish to extend to you and your families my warmest holiday wishes and hope to meet with you as we continue our journey in the coming months.

Fraternally,



Arthur H. Carlstrom
Most Worshipful Grand Master



DeMolay Honors Senior DeMolay Grand Master Carlstrom

by Carl G. Ek

On November 7, Connecticut DeMolay held its annual Grand Master's Class, a degree annually held to honor the sitting Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut. Several previous honorees have been Senior DeMolays, but 2009 honoree Arthur H. Carlstrom is the first Connecticut

DeMolay Past State Master Councilor to be honored as Grand Master.

Bro. Art began his fraternal career in Doric Chapter, Waterbury, in 1951, and in his remarks, noted that while the lodge rooms had moved in the intervening years, the same furniture that he recalled as a DeMolay brought back to him memories of his youth.

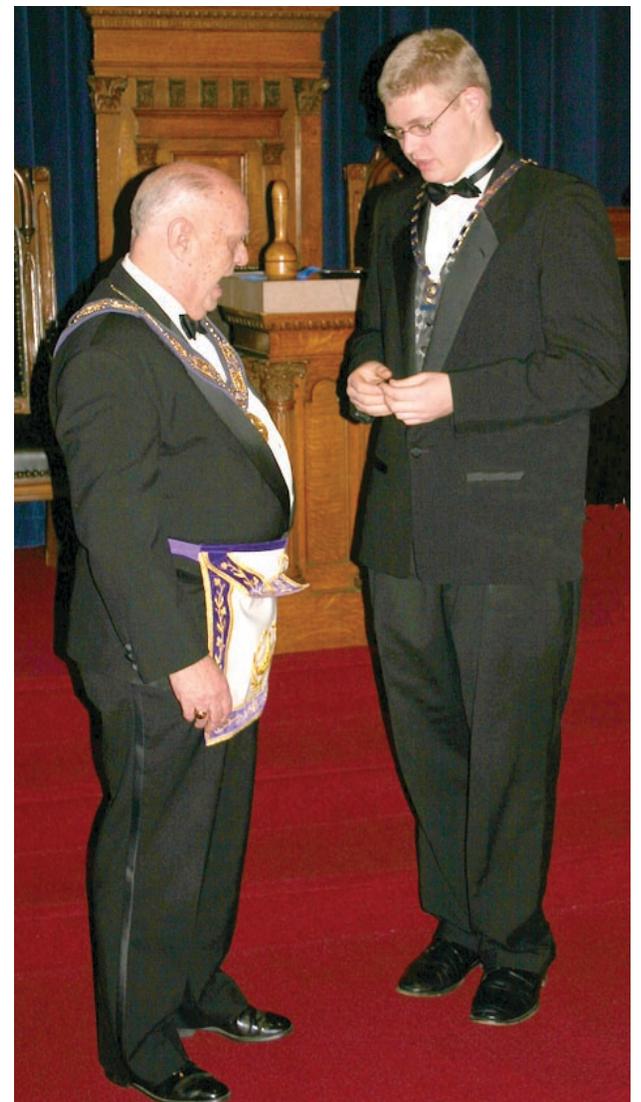
Hospice Day Proclaimed



Wallingford Mayor William Dickinson, left, proclaimed Monday, November 16 "Hospice and Palliative Care Day." With the mayor are Suzanne Rosenberg, administrator of Hospice and Palliative Care for Masonicare Home Health, and WB Jon-Paul Venoit, president of Masonicare at Ashlar Village.

Art served as State Master Councilor in 1956-57, and he has retained an active interest in Masonic youth. He currently serves as president of the Connecticut DeMolay Foundation, Inc.

A team of state and chapter officers portrayed the DeMolay Degree on a class of five brothers, after which State Senior Deacon Lorenzo Cardoso presented the Flower Talk. State Master Councilor Greg Goto pinned the DeMolay Medal of Appreciation on the Grand Master, who noted that this medal was the only DeMolay award he had never received. The afternoon concluded with refreshments provided by Doric Chapter under the direction of Master Councilor Kyle Stoddard.



State Master Councilor Bro. Gregory M. Goto presents to Past State Master Councilor MW Arthur H. Carlstrom the DeMolay Medal of Appreciation, the only DeMolay award the Grand Master had never received.

Bro. Roger Morgan Daboll, Jr. – Second Generation Pierpont Edwards Medal Recipient

by Michael L. Castroll

There is much to be said about being a "legacy." WB Roger M. Daboll, Jr. has a pedigree that personifies Masonic blue blood. His ancestry bespeaks the founding of Connecticut and New London, as well as the early days of Brainard Lodge No. 102. A descendant of Giles Smith (whose name appears on Connecticut's Founders' Monument in Hartford), Roger's great-great grandfather, Franklin Smith, was a pioneer of the chivalric rites in eastern Connecticut, dating to 1847. Four generations preceded Roger in Brainard Lodge No. 102, Niantic, and mark the lodge's history equally with his own personal heritage.

Roger Morgan Daboll, Jr. was born at New London, Connecticut on August 18, 1942, the son of Katherine and R. Morgan Daboll, Sr. His family lived in Waterford, where he and his sister attended local schools. Roger attained an Associate's Degree from Mitchell College.

Roger has always been active in his resident community, and is well known throughout New London County. He has been with volunteer fire departments in Waterford, Salem, and Montville. Roger is a charter member of the Salem Lions' Club, and has been very prominent in many of their activities, especially those benefiting kids.

Nearly two decades ago, Roger rekindled an acquaintance with widowed high school flame Barbara. The second time around led to marriage on September 26, 1992. Roger now has three stepchildren and four step-grandchildren.

Roger was destined to join the craft and be an important cog in the wheel of Brainard Lodge. It was there where he became an Entered Apprentice on April 19, 1966, was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on April 26, and was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 24, 1966. As the fourth generation Daboll in Brainard Lodge, he was now joined with his ancestors in the quest for Masonic light.

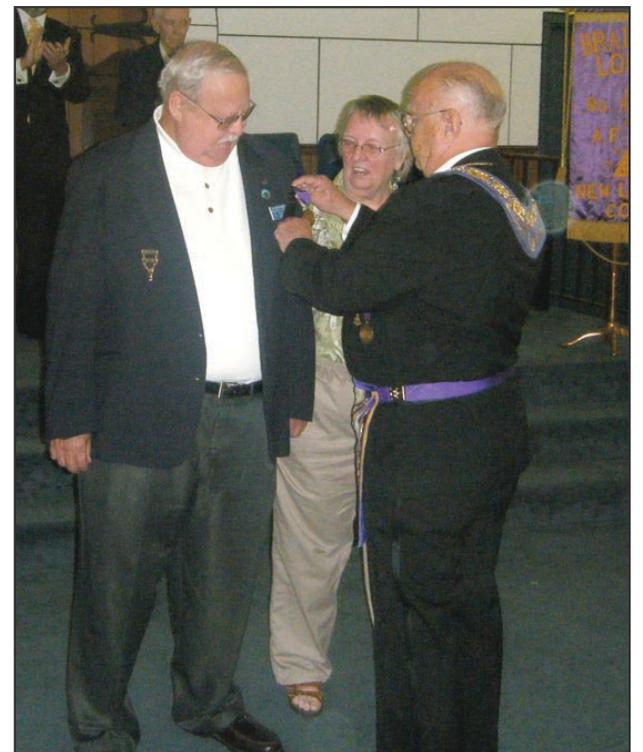
When he became the Worshipful Master in 1990, he continued a family tradition. His grandfather, WB Roger N. Daboll, was Master in 1930-31. His uncle, WB Frederick J. Smith, was Brainard's Master in 1940. Then, in 1946, Roger's father, WB Roger Morgan Daboll, Sr., assumed Brainard's East. (His father had a resume all his own; it earned him a Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for

Distinguished Masonic Service in 2002, just a year before the Grand Master of the Universe summoned him to the celestial lodge.)

Roger is proud of his heritage and his accomplishments as Master. Highlighting his stewardship in the East, he arranged for a special communication that he opened at Fisher's Island's Union Chapel on June 30, 1990. Eight brothers of Brainard Lodge lived on the island, and the landside visitors were met by a contingent from Suffolk County. Wives of the brothers were given tours of the island while degree work was performed. After these rites, all gathered at the American Legion Hall for a light repast before departing via the ferry to New London.

Roger has a long list of other service to Brainard Lodge. He has served the Acacia Club as president, and has been treasurer of the board of directors of the Masonic Temple Corporation for many years. Since his term in the East, WB Daboll has served as Senior Deacon twice, Junior Warden seven times, and Senior Warden six times. His proficiency in some of our longest pieces of ritual has pointed him out as one who could always be counted on to fill in anytime, anywhere. He also is active in the Eighth District Blue Lodge Council, the Scottish Rite Valley of Norwich, and the Sphinx Shriners, where he is a part of the Bedouin Shrine Club. For all of his skill, he was called to further service as Associate Grand Marshal for District 8A in 1999-2000.

After Roger's presentation, he and Barbara traveled to Florida for some needed rest and relaxation. On their return, he remarked, "I never would have been able to leave lodge business just a few years ago. There was always a chair that needed to be filled. I never thought I would ever receive an honor such as this. There are so many others who toil long and hard in the quarries who are far more deserving. We've brought in a new crop of go-getters over the recent years. Now the kids are taking over. It's nice to see them work."



Grand Master Arthur H. Carlstrom awards the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze to WB Roger M. Daboll, Jr. at the Brainard Lodge afternoon awards presentation on September 13.

Roger is very proud of Brainard Lodge – his family lodge – and his heritage in it. Whatever he does, in Masonry, in the community, he gives his all. Is it any wonder that Roger Morgan Daboll, Jr. again followed in his father's footsteps to receive the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service?

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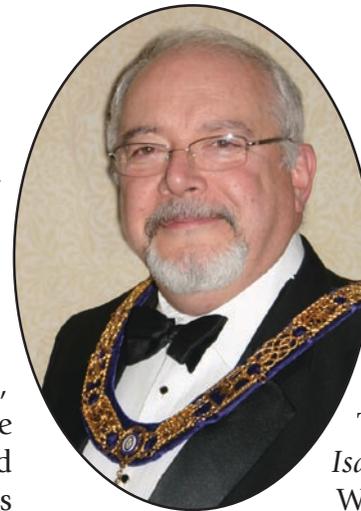
God's Promise — Peace

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."
Luke 2:13-14

The holiday season is upon us once again and the mad rush to purchase presents and attend holiday parties is filling up our days. The secular vision of a beautifully decorated tree surrounded by presents is on every sales flyer, TV ad, and Christmas special. We are reminded by reporters that the retail

economy is based upon the total receipts of the few weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas that make up 60-70% of stores' annual receipts. With all the din, it's hard to hear the message.

Regardless of our religious affiliation, the message of the angels recorded in Luke speaks to us all – "...and on earth peace, good will toward men." The promise of the ages is found in the words of the prophet Isaiah, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon



his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."
Isaiah 9:6

We live in a world beset by wars, drug trafficking, immorality, poverty, and disease. The hope of man is founded upon the promise of God, the promise of His reign of peace. It is a wonderful promise that often gets lost in all the commercialism of the season. God's love will overspread the world. God's peace will encompass the earth. God will reign.

As Freemasons, we look forward to the day when God shall reign triumphant over a worldwide brotherhood of men. We pray for the day when the prophecies of Isaiah and Micah will be fulfilled, "And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more." *Isaiah 2:4, Micah 4:3*

I would ask each of us to remember in our prayers and celebrations, the young men and women of our Armed Forces who are serving in dangerous places around the world. Take time to send a gift to the USO (www.USO.org), OpGratitude (www.opgratitude.com), or other program providing gifts for our military and their families. Write a letter to a service person serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. There are many brothers serving in the military overseas. Perhaps your lodge can provide a holiday meal or gifts for the family left behind to wait and worry. Look for opportunities to serve.

This holiday season, I pray that we may all strive to be better men and Masons, living through our lives the Masonic teaching of brotherly love, relief, and truth, working together for the betterment of our fellowman. Then we will truly be prepared to welcome God's eternal reign and join our voices with the angels – Glory to God in the Highest! And on earth, peace, goodwill toward men!

God Bless!

Holy Saint John!

by Michael L. Castroll

Ever since gaining dispensation, Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149, Stratford, has been known for emphasizing tradition and doing things in a very big way. For nearly five years, the lodge's celebrations honoring the Holy Saints John have been the envy of attendees.

Most lodges tend to celebrate either St. John the Baptist – on or near June 24 – or St. John the Evangelist – on or near December 27. Universal Fraternity Lodge, in keeping with their Haitian heritage, celebrates both patron saints of Freemasonry very tastefully, and with much style. Each celebration becomes a feast, and the feast becomes memorable. Each celebration has a different motif, and the prayers which are offered signify something special concerning the particular honoree.

This month, the brothers of Universal Fraternity Lodge are extending the celebration to two successive Saturdays. On December 19, WM Smith Sterling will convene the lodge for his last time, as he makes way for the installation of his successor, Brother Leslie Saint-Victor, and his corps of officers. The evening will start at 6:00 p.m. The usual Creole dinner, installation of officers, and awards presentation are the first order of business for the new administration.

The next event will take place one week later, on Saturday evening, December 26. Under the title of the 149 Club, the Universal Fraternity family will gather for a catered dinner, followed by a night of dancing and camaraderie. Reservations for this event are to be made with Brother Gary Drice at 203-650-2051. This time, there is a charge for dinner, and the event takes place at the Pyramid Shriners, 349 Wheelers Farm Road, Milford. Reserve your table now!

**HOLIDAY BASH
GALA DINNER & DANCE**

The Brothers of Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149 Invite you to
Their Holiday Gala Dinner & Dance on Saturday December 26,
2009 at 8:00 PM at the Pyramid Shrine Temple
349 Wheelers Farm Road, Milford CT

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For Information, Contact:
WB Serge Valcourt: 203-550-3449
Bro. Franklin Bartley: 203-515-2437

**TICKET
ADMIT ONE**

To Speak, or Not to Speak... to the Press

by Carl G. Ek

The phone rings. It's a member of the press, asking you a question about Masonry. How do you answer? Do you answer at all? Remember, the media person is on the other end of the line – what do you do?

There are any number of situations where media might be looking for your response. Think twice before speaking. Before pontificating on the question asked, it is important to determine several things. First – am I the right person to be asked this question? (If not, it is perfectly proper to refer the questioner to a more appropriate spokesman.) Second – should the existence of this question from the media be immediately passed along to others, like the Master of the lodge, Grand Lodge officers, etc.? (If the topic has the potential of harming the reputation of the fraternity, this is vital.) Third – do I have, correctly, the information being sought? (If not, it is my responsibility to refer the questioner to a more informed source.) Finally – do I feel 'good' about giving this answer?

For the most part, local groups will be contacted by the media as a result of news releases sent by the lodge or other body. Perhaps it's an awards night or a community-invited fund-raiser. Information has been sent to local media – often a community weekly – and a reporter needs further information or clarification about the event.

A news release should give the name and contact information of the person in charge, be it the event chair, lodge Master, or other person. Anyone else getting a call about that event should politely refer the media caller to the spokesperson for the event so that proper information is imparted. If the call is placed to the correct person, answering media questions is in the group's best interests.

The popularity of Dan Brown's novels and several

motion pictures has brought the Masonic fraternity into the public eye in recent years. Major news providers such as the New York Times and the Hartford Courant have printed long articles about the craft in recent years. Legitimate news media are looking for factual information about Masonry, not to spread falsehoods about our goals and activities. This does not mean that they will gloss over our problems, but they will not look to create them.

A situation like this is seldom handled in a single phone call. A reporter seeking to do a feature article about Masonry in a town, area, or in general will want to interview several people to get a broad-based feel for the organization. Here, it is important that knowledgeable brothers be invited to meet with the media members who are preparing the story. Most local lodges have well-informed brothers who can provide historic background and basic information about Freemasonry. It is also well to remember that the Grand Lodge stands ready to offer brothers with perhaps a wider view of Masonry for interviews with reporters. All that it takes is a call to the Grand Lodge office – 203-679-5900.

While these situations are easily handled with common sense, there are cases when some members of the press seek a 'gotcha' response. It's here most of all that Masons recall the old adage: silence is golden. The situation would have to be serious and the need for comment immediate for most media to look for this kind of response.

In these situations, be aware that *nothing is off the record*. Anything you say is likely to become part of any story that is published. While it may seem impolite, and while you might feel that you want to 'be nice' to the reporter, it's important to repeat bland statements – and nothing more – as often as need be.

Some will remember a sad event in Long Island a few years back. A brother was accidentally shot to death in a Masonic building while apparently participating in a non-sanctioned ceremony. This tragedy – for the victim and his family, for the shooter, for the lodge, and for Masonry – attracted the attention of national media. Eager to find quotes, reporters spoke to any Mason they could find, and sadly, many of these brothers made unhelpful statements.

In a case such as that, the only legitimate spokesperson is the Grand Master or Grand Secretary. Anyone else asked for comments *must* refer any questions to them. Even they have no need to offer anything that might later be called into question as possibly incriminatory. A simple reply could be, "We are saddened by these tragic events and working with the authorities to determine what occurred." Another question? Same answer. Another question? Same answer. Nothing more! It's a lot better than the popular "no comment" but gives no one anything to criticize.

While a death in a Masonic setting is fortunately all-but-unheard of, it is possible that someone could be hurt in one of

our buildings, whether as a guest at a public event, or at an event at which the lodge has rented its hall for a non-Masonic purpose. In either case, the building owner is likely to be sued, and if the case is financially 'big' enough, the media might seek comment.

Here, the response is easy: "Our spokesperson for this matter is Attorney John Doe of Roe, Roe, Roe & Yerboot. Please contact him for comments." Repeat as often as necessary, even if it seems impolite. You're paying for the expertise of counsel – let counsel decide what, if anything, should be said.

There is, of course, no 'one size fits all' answer to these questions. Circumstances dictate that in some – perhaps most – cases, speaking to the media is harmless, and often helpful. There are times, though, when declining to speak is in everyone's best interest – yours personally, the lodge's, and the fraternity's. Most contacts with the media are lodge-initiated and helpful, but there may be a time when this is not so. In these latter cases, it is important that difficult questions be referred to those who are authorized to speak for the craft to be certain that our message is consistent and positive.



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Grand Historian's Corner

RW Bro. Gary A. Littlefield, Grand Historian

As we approach the end of the calendar year, this Grand Historian encourages Worshipful Masters-elect not to forget the office of Historian. It is not a line officer but an administrative officer who is important for the record keeping of historical facts of the lodge. Take due notice around the lodge and your membership list and find a brother who may not necessarily be interested in ritual recitation but loves to talk and write.



We have had many brothers who have been elected to the office of Governor in Connecticut. Henry Harrison (1821-1901) was a Yale graduate who was born in New Haven and graduated first in his class at Yale in 1846. After he was elected Governor his *alma mater* honored him with an honorary LL.D. degree in 1885. He was one of the more scholarly legal minds in the state and gave much service to the state and his community. He advocated anti-slavery and was one of the first Republicans in the state

during the mid 1800s. He served many years in the House of Representatives before becoming Governor, including one term as Speaker of the House. He was a member of the first Connecticut lodge, Hiram No. 1, and was interested in York Rite Masonry. His term of office was rather quiet.



Marshall Jewell (1825-1883) was a Winchester, New Hampshire native, born just outside of Keene, and was the first Governor of Connecticut to be born outside the state. His father came to Hartford to establish a tanning and leather business but young Marshall was interested in the telegraph and became an electric telegraph operator. In later years he became associated with Southern New England Telephone. He eventually settled in Hartford, where he ran the family business, and also traveled extensively. He went to Europe and Russia to study methods used in the tanning business. He served two different terms as



John's Lodge No. 4 in Hartford.



Fifty nine years ago the Grand Lodge officers dedicated Euclid Lodge No. 109 in their new building in Windsor Locks.

MW Frederick Hesselmeier and his officers went to Windsor Locks on October 28, 1950.

Euclid had purchased the former St. Paul's Episcopal Church, which had not been used for church purposes for a decade. The Gothic brownstone structure underwent much remodeling. Angus MacAuley, then Worshipful Master, assembled the craft and MW Carleton H. Tyler gave the traditional oration.



All Masons know that there is only one hat worn in a Masonic meeting, that of the presiding officer. In the western world the removal of a hat is a mark of respect and reverence in the presence of superiors. The wearing of the hat as Worshipful Master is a mark of distinction and the wearer of the hat must wear it with dignity, not with simply placing it on the head in any position. Presiding officers need to take notice of how their hats or 'crowns' are placed on their head and how they might appear in photographs, and how they will look to future ages.



History tells us that two thousand years ago men were ignorant of God and of their very selves. The darkness that prevailed on cold winter nights was a symbol of impurity, sorrow, desolation, and frustrated desires. The advance of time and the Age of Enlightenment have driven away many of these fears. As we begin our celebrations of December, of the various faiths that we as Masons believe, we must be guided by peace, for in peace lies the future of our nation and our world.

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What a Christmas Gift!

by Richard F. Denno

My cell phone rang last December 2, and the Christmas wishes of two families, desperate to restore their loved one to good health, were granted that day. "Richard, this is CJ at Hartford Transplant. Is Midge with you?" I was asked.

Midge, my beautiful wife of over 35 years, was diagnosed with scleroderma, shutting down her kidneys. She was immediately placed on dialysis. Over the next four years, she endured all the problems common to dialysis patients. She was constantly fatigued, too tired to do even some of the easier aspects of everyday life. Her weight increased and other medical issues reared their ugly heads.

Almost immediately, she was put on the organ donor registry waiting list. Meanwhile, a brother and sister and myself were worked up as potential donors, only to be 'knocked out' at the last minute.

"No, she is not with me CJ," I replied, "I am tour directing a busload of passengers eager to see the Christmas Show at the Radio City Music Hall in New York City." "We need her down here as soon as possible. We have



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to DONATE LIFESM



a kidney for her," said CJ. I assured CJ that I would get Midge out of bed. I telephoned eight times, hanging up after only one or two rings. "Why are you waking me up?" she said sleepily. Our neighbor brought her to the hospital within the hour.

Although the passengers were pleased about the prospects of my wife's impending transplant, they refused to let me turn the bus around. This proved to be the longest day of my life. On my arrival back in Manchester, I 'flew to the hospital' as fast as I could. Another patient received the gift of a new liver that day, from the same person.

Another Christmas season is upon us. It is a time of reflection on that Christmas gift of life, given by a compassionate stranger, who simply wanted to positively impact the lives of others through the gift of organ donation. How has Midge's life changed

since the kidney transplant? "I haven't felt this good in years," she told a friend this past week. However, you do realize that there is a 'downside' to a spouse receiving a life changing transplant. For over four years, she was constantly fatigued. Now, filled with a new-found vitality, Midge has created for me a 'honey-do list' that stretches from here to Toledo, Ohio (and I am loving it!).

Won't you please visit www.donatelifenewengland.org, and after carefully reading the information on the website, consider making an informed decision to become a registered organ and tissue donor online? The decision you make today could impact the lives of others for many holiday seasons to come.

Happy Holidays from the members of the Masonic Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Program!

Masonicare Home Health Celebrates National Home Care and Hospice Month

November was National Home Care and Hospice month. Masonicare Home Health took this opportunity to thank its staff and volunteers and to raise awareness about its hospice and palliative care services.

Every year, more than 1.4 million people in the U.S. living with life-limiting illnesses receive care from hospice and palliative care providers. These programs provide pain management, symptom control, psychosocial support, and spiritual care to patients and their families when a cure is not possible.

"Hospice and palliative care combines the highest level of quality medical care with the emotional and spiritual support that families need most when facing the end of life," notes Suzanne Rosenberg, Masonicare Home Health's hospice and palliative care administrator.

In addition, volunteers are an important part of the love and care that hospice provides. "We have about 300 trained volunteers who are part of our hospice and palliative care team," says Deborah Richards, director

of volunteers for Masonicare Home Health and Masonicare Partners Home Health (Masonicare's partnership with Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center).

"Hospice is not all about dying, as many people think; it's actually about living," says volunteer Michael Boyle. "Volunteering with Masonicare's hospice is the most heart warming thing I have done as an adult. The families and patients I have shared time with have made me a better person. I have a much deeper perspective on my own life as a result of the experiences I have had with my patients.

"I would recommend this program to anyone who

is looking to make a difference in their communities."

Dina McGuinn is also a Masonicare hospice volunteer. She says, "I consider the work I do for hospice 'joyful' and a 'thank you' for my life."

To learn more about training to become a hospice volunteer, contact Deborah Richards at 800-862-4998 or the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997.

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MASONIC COMMUNITIES RECOGNIZED:

Bro. Stephen McPherson Represents MCSA at AAHSA

Masonicare is a member of both the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA) and of the Masonic Communities and Services Association (MCSA). AAHSA is the leading senior services national advocacy group for non-profit organizations and has a membership of 6,000. MCSA, formerly the Masonic Homes Executive Association of North America, consists of the 36 Masonically affiliated organizations providing health and housing services to those in need throughout the U. S.

Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, president and CEO of Masonicare, serves as president of MCSA for the 2010-2011 year. In that capacity, he represented the 36-member Masonic association at the recent annual meeting and conference of AAHSA in Chicago. While there, Win Marshall, board chair of AAHSA, praised both Masonicare and MCSA from the podium, before nearly 5,000 attendees, as being representative of the finest organizations providing care to those in need.

In recognition of AAHSA's ongoing support, Bro. Steve

presented AAHSA President Larry Minnix with a plaque of appreciation from MCSA. "We wanted to acknowledge the tremendous support Larry has given MCSA," said Bro. Steve. "He is a remarkable human being and to do so in front of thousands of his members was very meaningful for both of us."

Also at the conference, Dave Bannerman, CEO of the Masonic Home of Ohio, was acknowledged with AAHSA's Advocacy Award.

It was also at this conference that MCSA's new logo and



banner were unveiled. They were designed by Pat Kalinauskas of the Masonicare marketing department and RW Bro. Carl Anderson, vice president for fraternal relations.

Masonicare Expanding Special Assisted Living Areas; Increased Demand for Memory Care

Assisted living is a popular choice for seniors who need help with activities of daily living, but still cherish their independence. Since 1998, the Masonicare continuum of care has included assisted living services on both its Wallingford and Newtown campuses.

In 2005, Masonicare at Newtown adapted one floor of its Lockwood Lodge assisted living community to memory care. Known as The Hearth at Lockwood Lodge, the renovation resulted in enhanced security and modifications to 16 apartments to accommodate individuals with mild to moderate dementia.

In 2008, when Masonicare at Ashlar Village in Wallingford more than doubled

its assisted living capacity at Pond Ridge, the new construction included 30 apartments – also named The Hearth – dedicated to special memory care support.

Today, both communities are experiencing an increased demand for this type of assisted living.

"We find that memory care – more than any other issue – is driving the decision for families to choose assisted living for their parents," said WB JP Venoit, president of Masonicare at Ashlar Village. "As a result, Masonicare is increasing its capacity to serve this population."

"In Newtown, we are transitioning our 17 first-floor apartments from 'general' assisted living to memory care," said Bro. Tom Gutner,

president of Masonicare at Newtown. "By the end of 2010, this will bring our total number of memory care apartments to 33. We have chosen to do this through attrition, so as to cause as little disruption as possible to current residents," he added.

Masonicare at Ashlar Village has begun converting several of its "general" assisted living apartments to meet the needs of someone with mild to moderate dementia, bringing the number of units in The Hearth program to 45. "We expect this to be complete by February," said Bro. Jon-Paul, "but our first move-in is already here."

For more information about assisted living at Masonicare, contact the toll-free Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997.

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Facebook: An Interactive Tool for Masonry

Facebook is a way for people to interact. On the Grand Lodge of Connecticut Facebook page, announcements of upcoming events or comments about recent activities may involve many "fans" over a short period of time.

Here is a recent exchange between six different "fans". Some obviously know each other and others are complete strangers. Notice the time frame involved, how some respond to others, while some participants merely add their own explanations and thoughts:

◆ ◆ ◆

Tom Accuosti: Nice degree work, bros. Can I go home and have dinner now?

Yesterday at 10:20pm

Margaret Tehan: I will never understand what Masons do. Do you have a secret handshake?

Yesterday at 10:32pm

Daniel Ettinger: It depends on the situation as to what we do. We donate to a lot of charities. We assist Masonic widows with their needs like home repairs and yard cleaning. We gently advise or admonish members on being a good citizen and Mason. We engage in beautiful and allegorical rituals when bringing new members or bringing up current ones. We have subtle means of mutual recognition outside our Lodges.

Yesterday at 10:38pm

Margaret Tehan: Hmmm... subtle = secret --- secret handshakes, rings with secret meanings. OK... I get it. Good work!

Yesterday at 10:46pm

Daniel Ettinger: Secret yes, sinister, never.

Yesterday at 10:51pm

Margaret Tehan: Ohhhh... I always knew Masons did good deeds... never thought you were sinister. Sarcastic? Yes... 'specially when ya knew a Mason (Tom) way back when he was in high school and he drove an El Camino. But sinister? No.

Yesterday at 10:55pm

Derek Stevens: Daniel- well said.

Yesterday at 11:19pm

Daniel Ettinger: Thank you Derek. Margaret, I know you didn't suggest sinister. I was merely detouring anyone from going that route and El Camino's rock.

Yesterday at 11:27pm

Jorge Luis Castañeda: The El Camino is the "mullet" of cars (party in the front, business in the back)... I'm just sayin'

12 hours ago

Kevin Stuck: I fed the guys that helped me with my degree this weekend.

9 hours ago

Tom Accuosti: Hi Peg - Keep in mind that in the old days before credit cards, social security numbers, and electronic communication, people traveled with no way of proving who they were. If you asked for help from a group - money, food, lodging, a job - they wanted to know that they were helping a member and not some freeloader. Ergo, most groups developed passwords, phrases, handshakes, or some other token of identification.

The fact that we have handshakes at all seems anachronistic, but to many of us it's just one of those neat little things that is pretty minor compared to the other stuff. But for some reason, the handshakes are what non-Masons focus on.

As to what we *do*, we are a fraternity that is dedicated to the moral improvement of its members using symbolism and allegory to remind us of the importance of the personal virtues of honesty, integrity, charity, and friendship. It sounds kind of vague and new-agey when you try to put it into words, but that's been the purpose for several hundred years.

5 hours ago

Margaret Tehan: Well, now I know what Masons do! Thanks so much for explaining it. And I don't think it's anachronistic... I think it's cool - 'specially now that I understand its history. I wish I knew years ago what Masons did. I think *everyone* should practice personal virtues of honesty, integrity, charity, and friendship. And it just figures that the Tom Accuosti I knew in high school would become the Tom Accuosti that you are today - living a life based on honesty, integrity, charity, and friendship. I'm proud to know you, buddy.

5 hours ago

Tom Accuosti: Nice try, sis, but it's not going to make me stop teasing you.

BTW, interest in joining is on an upswing for the first time in many years. Dan Brown books and National Treasure movies have made people

interested, especially younger guys. We see a lot of people whose grandfathers were Masons, but the fathers never joined. Now the grandkids wonder what it's about, so they are signing up.

The Interwebz has been a good thing, because a) it allowed us to get some preliminary information, and b) it allows us to "meet" bros from all over the world.

The downside is that many lodges - especially those not in the cities - are still run by older guys who have no idea what to do when a bunch of 25 year olds join. The spaghetti dinners and pancake breakfasts get dull after a while, and the new guys wander off because they don't see the relevancy to their lives. So, there are a lot of lodges that, while they have members, they can't get any new people to be officers and help with the running of the lodges.

This has nothing to do with the principles of truth, morality, and brotherly love; it's just that, like any other organization, if you don't have people to run things, it eventually falls apart. The sad thing is that some lodges have a bazillion dollars in the bank, but barely have enough people to hold a legal meeting, let alone perform the degrees.

I suspect that many lodges will eventually fold or merge with others, until a core group - probably those in the cities and large 'burbs - manages to generate more activity that will (hopefully) flow back out to the smaller towns.

3 hours ago

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We welcome our new brothers to the fraternity.

Roberto J. Juan.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	William Garrett Brush.....	Shepherd-Salem 78
Ryan J. Wilson.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	Christian P. Mele.....	Union 5
Jesus Cruz.....	Friendship Tuscan 145	Paul Schicchitano.....	Union 5
Roger F. Bristol.....	Hartford Evergreen 88	Christopher Ciarcia.....	Unity 148
Brent C. Marshall.....	Hartford Evergreen 88	Jeffrey A. Ciarcia.....	Unity 148
Lowell M. Marshall.....	Hartford Evergreen 88	Marian Panek.....	Unity 148
Thomas A. Selmont.....	Hiram 1		

CONGRATULATIONS

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

Lee YontsSomerset-St. James 34 Gerald KayeCosmopolitan 125 Charles E. Priest..... Solar 131

Residents of Masonicare at Ashlar Village Fund Scholarships Awarded to 17

At a ceremony attended by more than 200 people in the Knapp Auditorium at Masonicare at Ashlar Village, seventeen scholarships totaling \$15,300 were recently presented to young men and women who are either employees or children of Ashlar Village employees. This was the fifth year of the scholarship program.

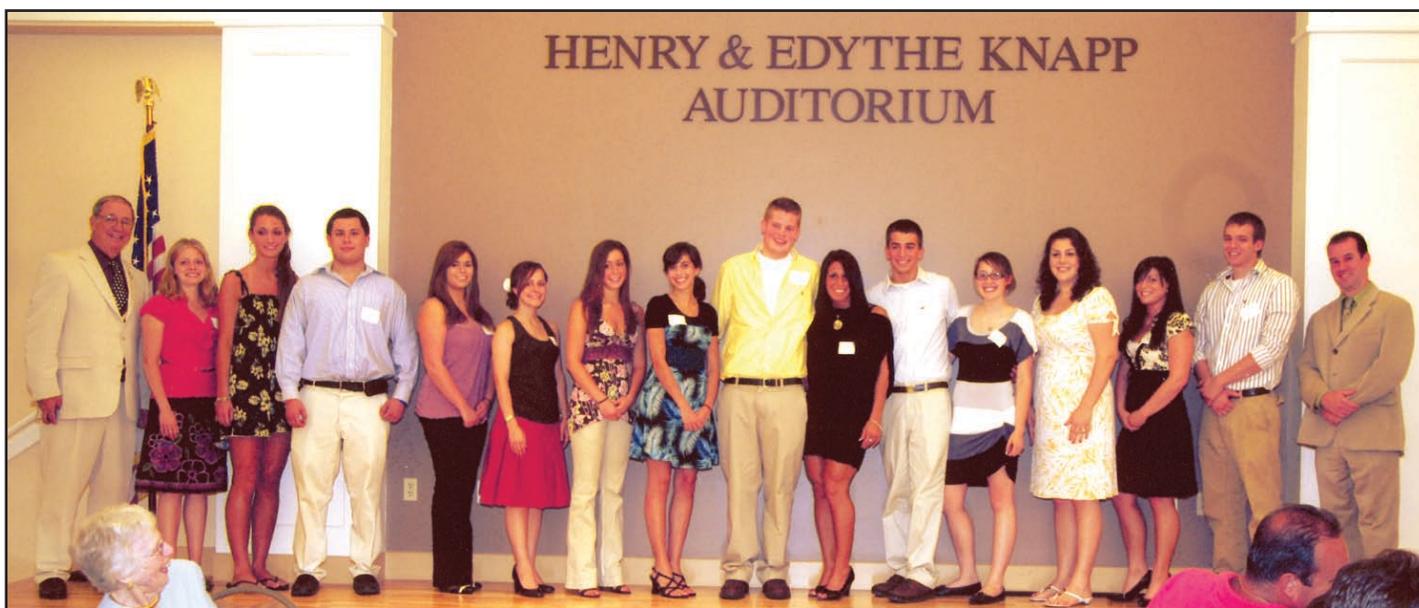
Through the efforts of Ashlar Village residents, the funds are raised in a number of ways, but primarily through the sale of unique items handmade by

residents and sold at the Village "Specialty Shop" on the lower level of the Hartog Activities Center. Begun in 2004 under the tutelage of resident Blanche Newman, the scholarship program is now coordinated by residents Shirley Rouse and Roy Hucke. A committee comprised of seven residents, two management-level staff members, and one member of the board of directors reviews the applications.

Included in the scholarship total were two special \$1,000 memorial donations from families

associated with Masonicare at Ashlar Village. The first was from current resident Mike Johnson in memory of his parents, and presented to Erika Ferraiuolo of Wallingford. The second was from the family of Don Warner, a former resident, presented by his son David to Brianna Granatelli of Cheshire.

The recipients were introduced by Bro. David Gessert, board chairman, and the awards themselves were presented by WB Jon-Paul Venoit, president of the retirement community.



Brothers Dave Gessert, left, and JP Venoit, flank most of the scholarship recipients at the presentation ceremony.

Actual Past Master Degrees

DISTRICT 2

Ark Lodge No. 39, Waterbury
Wednesday December 9

DISTRICT 3

Shepard-Salem Lodge No. 78,
Naugatuck
Friday, December 11

DISTRICT 4

New Haven Masonic Temple,
New Haven
Tuesday, December 29

DISTRICT 5 AND 6

Hartford County Association
of Actual Past Masters,
Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140,
Newington
Thursday, December 17

DISTRICT 7

St. John's Lodge No. 2,
Middletown
Tuesday, December 15

DISTRICT 8

Niantic Masonic Temple,
Niantic
Monday, December 28

DISTRICT 9

Eastern Star Lodge No. 44,
North Windham
Thursday, December 17

Bro. Dan Shattuck, a Supporter of the Masonicare Annual Appeal

by Adam Raider

A resident of the Leslie G. Wright Residence on the campus of Masonicare Health Center in Wallingford, Bro. Danforth (Dan) Shattuck believes deeply in the ideals of Freemasonry and the mission of Masonicare.

That's why he supports the Masonicare Annual Appeal.

"Sometimes I have some extra money," he said, "but I don't need it. I don't go out to eat and I don't really buy anything. I have everything I need, including medical supplies. Plus, I'm 100% happy with the services I receive here. I give to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut because it's the best place for it."

Danforth – a name he says he shares with a minister who sailed on the Mayflower – was born in 1918 and grew up in Waterbury. His father owned a lumberyard and from the time Dan was 14 years old, he worked there after school, on weekends, and during vacations.

After graduating high school, he took correspondence courses to learn more about carpentry and the trades. He then enrolled in what was then known as Connecticut State College in Storrs. Money was tight, however, and he was forced to withdraw from the

college after only a year.

Dan soon found himself back in Waterbury, running the lumberyard with help from his father. It was a tremendous challenge, especially for a young man in his early 20s. Then, in 1943, he received notice that his draft status had changed and he would be leaving for the Army in two weeks. In the blink of an eye he was forced to give up the business.

During World War II, Dan served in a unit responsible for clearing harbors of sunken ships. He was stationed in Southampton, England when he met a young girl who would turn out to be his future wife, Audrey. Together, they had three children.

He held a variety of jobs after the war, including carpentry and security, and spent nearly 40 years working in a lawyer's office handling conservatorships.

A 62-year Mason and dual member of Wolcott Lodge No. 146, Wolcott, (where he served as secretary for over 20 years) and Ashlar Lodge No. 332, Wallingford, Bro. Dan has strong family ties to the fraternity. Both



Bro. Danforth (Dan) Shattuck

his father and grandfather were Masons, which led to him joining the Order of DeMolay as a youngster. He was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, the Order of the Amaranth, and the Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem.

These days, Dan participates in many of the activities available to residents of Masonicare – especially bingo – but

particularly enjoys volunteering at the front desk in the lobby of the Wright Residence because it lets him interact with so many of his neighbors.

"I told one lady that when I win bingo," he said, "we'll take a ride on the bus. So after I won, we got on the bus and rode all around Wallingford for 60 cents a person. That lady was so happy. We also have some residents who can't see very well. They have trouble filling out the order slips for what they want for breakfast. So they'll come down and ask me to fill out the slips for them. Being able to do something for someone else is always good. That's what Freemasonry is all about."

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.

John J. Benatti.....	Adelphi Momauguin 63	Nicholas G. Katsapis	Moriah 15
Harry Hammer.....	America-St. John's 8	Samuel Zipkin	Moriah 15
Jonathan B. Cramer.....	Anchor 112	John F. Andrews.....	Sequin-Level 140
Edwin N. Thomas	Annawon 115	Joel H. Nussman.....	Sequin-Level 140
Richard C. Berns.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	Donald C. Kirk	Shepherd-Salem 78
Raymond F. Crunden.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	Worth L. Cox Jr.	St. Alban's 38
George A. Miller.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	William H. Buker Jr.....	St. Peter's 21
George E. Wadsworth Jr.....	Bay View 120	Louis Korsonsky.....	Union 5
Arthur R. Dioguardi.....	Center 97	George I. Abraham.....	Unity 148
William Toth Jr.....	Compass 9	Roy L. Holtman.....	Unity 148
Louis H. Cocozza.....	Corinthian 104	Owen Hughes	Unity 148
David P. Natkin.....	Cosmopolitan 125	Howard J. Parsons.....	Unity 148
Raymond H. Cote	Day Spring 30	Arnold E. Pfeil	Unity 148
James B. Feltner.....	Frederick-Franklin 14	Jack D. Smith.....	Unity 148
William H. Foster	Friendship Tuscan 145	Robert J. Wasel.....	Unity 148
Harry I. Blanchard	Hartford Evergreen 88	Earl M. Hinman	Village 29
George R. Smith.....	Hiram 1	William C. Miller	Widow's Son 66
Gerald A. Calve.....	Manchester 73	Raymond I. Mount.....	Widow's Son 66
Emil G. Lido.....	Manchester 73	Stanley Taraskewich.....	Wolcott 146
Ernest J. Smith	Manchester 73	Claude A. West.....	Wooster 10
Charles T. Proseus.....	Moosup 113		

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

Once again, a calendar year slowly comes to an end. We once again have a chance to celebrate the joys of the holiday season with family and friends, and a belief that perhaps we will see better times next year. For no matter what religion we practice this holiday season, as Masons we all share one thing in common: the belief in a higher existence, that there is a God, and that the best way to practice our fraternity is to seek future light in Masonry, practice its teachings, and hope for better times.

I would like to share an article from the October issue of *Valley Voice*, a publication by the Scottish Rite Valley of Detroit. The title was FUTURE LIGHT.

"Light. The light of the sun drives away

the night. The light of truth and knowledge drives away ignorance, prejudice, tyranny, and hate. Truly this is the light of hope for the human race.

"There are men of all races and walks of life who have joined together in search of future light. There are men who are dedicated to spreading the light of knowledge, tolerance, liberty and brotherly love.

"Who are these men? ... They are Scottish Rite Masons."

Shortly after the first of the year, should a Mason ask you what the Scottish Rite is all about, tell him, and better yet, invite him to come and see for himself.

The next Valley of Hartford Candidate Informational Night is Thursday, March

4, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., at our Scottish Rite Cathedral. Or, he could contact the Valley office at (860) 666-0712, or use our e-mail address of sect@snet.net, to obtain a DVD on what we as Scottish Rite Masons are all about. You could also suggest that he visit the Valley of Hartford website: www.valleyofhartford.org, to obtain additional information, and it provides him a link to the Supreme Council website for additional information on our fraternity.

On behalf of the Valley of Hartford, I wish you and your family the joys of the holiday season. Whether for you it's Happy Chanukah or a Merry Christmas, always keep in mind: "The happiest moments in life are those spent with family."

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

Last month was a particularly busy one, indeed. Although the events of the valley were contained within one week, there was a buzz of activity which was unsurpassed.

In the space of one week the apartments of Valley of New Haven came to life. On November 9, we enjoyed our third consecutive Oktoberfest. Membership chairman Charles H. Tirrell, MSA, chaired the event once again. Since instituting the Supreme Council's Ambassador Program, our numbers seem to grow. Assisted in the kitchen, once again, by Ill. Jack H. Stevens, MSA, 33°, Bob DiPasquale, MSA, and David O. Stern, the multitude were suitably provided for. After being properly fed and watered, Thrice Potent Master Ill. Sidney W. Isenberg, 33° convened the scheduled stated communication of the valley.

Two days later, it was off to Waterbury for the 25°, where the combined consistorial class met Brother Benjamin Franklin. At the end of the week, on November 14, it was back to New Haven for Consistory Day. The 31st degree, Knight Aspirant, and the 32nd Degree, Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, were conferred upon a combined class of all three Connecticut consistories, together with those of Prince Hall. Both Deputies presided, and a combined cast provided the Knight Aspirant allegory. A packed house witnessed this history-making occasion, as all of the consistories throughout the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction conferred the same degrees simultaneously.

Putting all of this together takes a lot of hands doing a little work. There are always reasons for more, or to replenish. The lessons

taught in the Scottish Rite degrees only complement those of the Blue Lodge. Carry applications with you. Extend them to a friend in your lodge, or ask your ambassador to help.

From Oktoberfest to Thanksgiving, the Valley of New Haven seems to have been on a non-stop course. Please do not forget to include the Supreme Council Charities on your gift-giving list. Answer the call of the Blue Envelope Appeal. All you'll feel is good!

Support your Blue Lodge, and attend their installations, and other events are upcoming. You'll be glad you did.

Whether it be Merry Christmas or Happy Chanukah, or something else you may celebrate, the message is the same. Season's greetings and a Happy New Year to all!



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
The Valley of Hartford
207 Deming Street, Newington, CT 06111
The Scottish Rite Degrees take you to the next level in your Masonic teachings, where the principles of Masonry and brotherhood are presented via live theatrical presentations, often in historical costumes.

Seasons Greetings
FROM THE BROTHERS AT THE VALLEY OF HARTFORD

If you would like more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary, at the Scottish Rite Valley Office (860) 666-0712, or email: sect@snet.net or visit our Valley website: www.valleyofhartford.org

ATTENTION MASONS

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

Fourth Annual Winter Picnic
Saturday, February 20, 2010, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
New Haven Masonic Temple

Adults ~ Children ~ Grandchildren ~ Prospects
Magician • Games • Prizes • Picnic Fare • Make Your Own Sundaes
Reservations Are a Must! No Cost!

Reservations to: Robert DiPasquale,
1276 Barnes Road, Wallingford, CT 06492
e-mail: bobd1276@comcast.net Telephone: 203 949-8612
Please leave name, number attending, and number of children.

For further information, please contact
Valley secretary Ill. Vernon K. Cleaves, 33°.

Several Honored at MHC Autumn Gathering

On Sunday, November 15, the Masonicare Health Center Auditorium in Wallingford was filled with the sights and scents of autumn as several members of the Masonic family were recognized.

The following were honored for their volunteer service to Masonicare:

H.L. Otilie Bulakites, Past Royal Matron of Friendship Court No. 23, Order of the Amaranth and Past Worthy Matron of Marie Lafayette Chapter No. 11, O.E.S., H.L. Otilie has been very instrumental in the formation of the new Eastern Star Chapter at Masonicare at Ashlar Village, where she looks forward to serving as its first Worthy Matron. In addition to her volunteer work at the Village, she and her husband, Bill, serve as hostess and host for many marketing events held there.

Bro. Roger D. Larson, Washington Lodge No. 81, Cromwell. A Past Grand Patron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Bro. Roger is a dedicated volunteer at the Masonicare Health Center, either assisting environmental services with repair work, or more recently, shuttling residents to appointments at the beauty shop. Brother Roger is a favorite of many residents, some of whom schedule their appointments around his volunteer schedule so they can be escorted in style.

Bro. Irving M. Pease, Ashlar Lodge No. 332, Wallingford. Along with his wife, Madeline, Bro. Irving is a faithful volunteer at Masonicare at Ashlar Village where they reside, and also serve as host and hostess for many marketing events. Bro. Irving was



MWGM Arthur H. Carlstrom presents a lovable plaque to MWPGM Gail L. Smith at the 2009 Autumn Gathering, held in the auditorium of Masonicare. Bro. Smith usually avoids the spotlight, but was his delightfully grumpy self in accepting the recognition.

instrumental in the formation (and is the charter Master) of Ashlar No. 332 earlier this year. He is a Past District Deputy who also serves the Grand Lodge of Connecticut as Associate Grand Marshal at Large.

Sister Martha Jane Schmalz, Ionic Chapter No. 100 Order of the Eastern Star. Sister Martha and her husband Fred have been faithful volunteers at the Masonicare Health Center for a number of years. She assists in the ceramics room, lending her talents and eye for detail to the finished work that is sold at Grand Masters Day and other sales throughout the year. Sister Martha is a Past Matron of Ionic No. 100.

In addition, a special recognition was given to Bro. Gail L. Smith. A 65-year member of Eastern Star Lodge No. 44 in North Windham, Bro. Gail served the Grand Lodge of Connecticut as MWGM in 1968. As Grand Master, his accomplishments were many, including spearheading the campaign to raise funds for a new wing of the Healthcare Center that would centralize the business and administration offices and include modern bedrooms on each of the five upper floors. Due to his passionate efforts, the Charles J. Ramage Building was dedicated on Grand Master's Day in 1973.

Many "old-timers" might recall that it was Brother Gail who interviewed and approved those members of the Masonic family who made application to the home in the days when membership in the fraternity was a requirement for admission. It was during this time that Bro. Gail became aware of the need for an outreach program to assist older and more infirm members of the Masonic Family in the state. Thus, the Masonicare Community Services program was born, and to this day serves hundreds of Connecticut seniors and their families – free of charge, thanks to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut – whether or not they are Masonically affiliated.

For many years, Bro. Gail has been a familiar and welcome face at the Health Center's outpatient clinic, where he greets patients, takes phone calls, and prepares information packets for patients to learn more about Masonicare's services.

Last but not least, the coveted Luke A. Lockwood Medal was presented to Bro. William L. Greene. Based on outstanding



As MWPGM Bill Greene (center) holds the proclamation, Masonicare chairman WB Howard W. Orr presents Bill's pyramid-encased Luke Lockwood Medal to wife Sandie.

service to Masonicare, the Lockwood Medal is the only award given by the organization itself. Bro. Bill is a member of Uriel Lodge No. 24, Merrow, of which he was Master in 1987 and 1992. He is a dual member and multiple-term Past Master of Ionic Lodge No. 110, North Windham, and a member of Eastern Star Lodge No. 44, North Windham. He is a member and Past Royal Patron of Rainbow Court No. 20 and served as Grand Royal Patron of the Grand Court, Order of the Amaranth of Connecticut in 1994-95. He is also a member and Past Patron of Climax Chapter No. 98, Order of the Eastern Star.

Bro. Bill was installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 2007. Through his nine years in the grand line, he gave countless hours serving on several affiliate boards of Masonicare. His board service also included the Masonicare Board of Trustees from 2005-2008. In reading his service biography, Masonicare Board of Trustees Chairman Howard W. Orr noted that "Bill managed to combine his love and talent for photography with his service to Masonicare. In fact, he could always be counted upon to have his camera in hand at Masonicare events – even while serving as Grand Master. He has taken thousands of photos for Masonicare at events large and small, including The Masonic Charity Foundation events, Grand Masters Day, and ribbon-cuttings. And it is not just the quantity of pictures he takes that is remarkable: on each occasion, Bill captures the moment with sensitivity, respect, and warmth." It should be noted that in 2008, after completing his service on the Masonicare Board of Trustees, Bro. Bill was named the "Official Photographer of Masonicare."

Congratulations to all the honorees!

Autumn Gathering

*Sunday, November 15
Masonicare Health Center*



Martha Jane Schmalz with her award.



Roger D. Larson with his award.

2009 Prince Hall Grand Lodge Installation



Grand Master Carlstrom reads one of the ancient charges to incoming Prince Hall Grand Master Ronald A. Thomas, Sr. at the November 22, 2009 installation. A gathering of some 300 enjoyed a buffet in the dining room at Masonicare at Ashlar Village afterward.



Grand Master Thomas is fitted with his Grand Master's apron and jewel at the Prince Hall Grand Lodge installation ceremony by the Installing Marshals Honorary PGM James Austin (left, facing camera), and PGM Alfred Lobo. Installing Master, PGM Clarence Windley (in top hat) impressed all with his delivery.

GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL

Last Chance for a 2009 Tax Deduction

The month of December is your last chance to make a tax deductible donation in 2009 to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation.

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc is designated a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization, thereby being able to accept tax deductible contributions. The Grand Lodge Permanent Endowment Fund continues to grow each year so that we can continue to support educational and charitable purposes.

The Connecticut Child Identification Program (CTCHIP) is funded by contributions to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation to keep the best child identification program in Connecticut operating throughout the state.

Please consider making a 2009 tax deductible contribution before the end of the year.

Grand Master's Appeal P.O. Box 69, Wallingford, CT 06492

Yes, Grand Master. I/we want to help ensure the growth of Freemasonry in Connecticut and continue the charitable and educational works of the Grand Lodge.

\$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$50 \$25 _____ Other

Allocated as follows:

CTCHIP Grand Lodge Permanent Endowment Fund

Please make your check payable to:
Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc.,
PO Box 69, Wallingford, CT 06492

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

DISTRICT No. 1

(a) RW Steven A. Bowen, DD • WB Lemuel G. Johnson, Jr., AGM
(b) RW Philip R. Roberts, DD • WB Danny A. Camp, AGM

Corinthian Lodge No. 104 Brother to Serve on Bridgeport City Council

by Tony Foote

Anderson Ayala, 38, and his father Manuel Ayala, 77, are believed to be the first father-son team to simultaneously serve on the Bridgeport City Council.

Anderson, who has two sisters and a brother, grew up on the east side of Bridgeport. He attended Kolbe Cathedral High School and Mitchell College in New London.

He now lives in Bridgeport with his wife, Alicia Moreno.

He joined Corinthian Lodge No. 104, Fairfield, this year, taking his Entered Apprentice degree in May, his Fellowcraft in September, and was raised on November 21 at Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149, Stratford.

Anderson has become an active member of Corinthian

Lodge and sat in as Junior Steward for the Entered Apprentice degree on November 24, attended by RW Charles A. Buck, Jr., Deputy Grand Master, and RW James T. McWain, Grand Senior Warden.

Anderson plans to be the Senior Steward for Corinthian Lodge in 2010, and the lodge looks forward to his advancement to the East.



Bro. Anderson Ayala

Union Lodge No. 5 Plans Special Concert

by Ken Robertson

An *a capella* undergraduate co-ed singing group from Yale, "Mixed Company," will entertain the public at Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford at the lodge building on February

17, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$10 per person, which will include dinner and drinks. "Mixed Company" are 23 Yale student, Broadway-caliber singers who have recorded a dozen albums since

their formation 28 years ago. They feature a diverse repertoire featuring jazz, rock, musical theater, R&B, and pop.

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

Virginia Table Lodge Visited by Connecticut Masons



Pictured, from left, are RW Frank W. Bauer, MW Jeffery E. Hodges, and RW Robert L. Thompson, current Worshipful Master of Montgomery Lodge, No. 13, Lakeville. Brothers Hodges and Bauer are both members of Widow's Sons' Lodge, No. 60.

by Tom Maxwell

Brothers from the Second Masonic District recently traveled to Charlottesville, Virginia, to visit Widow's Sons' Lodge, No. 60. Widow's Sons' Lodge held their annual Table Lodge on June 24 and their honored guest this year was Brother Jeffery E. Hodges, Most Worshipful Grand

Master of Virginia.

There were 144 brothers present and an additional eight were in the kitchen preparing dinner. During the traditional table lodge, Brother Hodges received many words of praise and a special toast was given in his honor. It was indeed, a very memorable evening.

Lodge Fundraiser a Success in Kent!

by David F. Peet

St. Luke's Lodge No. 48, Kent, held a fund raiser at the annual Antique Machinery Show in Kent on the weekend of September 26 and 27. The show was held at the Sloane Stanley Museum just north of town. Saturday saw record attendance, followed by a lesser

attendance on Sunday. However, at the close of the weekend the brothers had sold many roast beef sandwiches, sausage and pepper grinders, and bowls of chili. Brothers, their family and friends worked together to make the fund raiser a success, and look forward to repeating it next year.

King Solomon's No. 7 Helps Woodbury Celebrate 350th

A weekend-long celebration to commemorate Woodbury's 350th anniversary took place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 18, 19 and 20. In 1659, 17 people from Stratford bought land from the Paugussett Native Americans of Derby.

The land eventually became part of Woodbury.

As part of the celebrations, the brothers from the historic King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 (ca. 1765), were on hand as they have been doing so for 244 years! The brothers worked with the 350th committee to hold a "Fun on Main Street" progressive block party that featured food, entertainment and games. The entertainment lined the streets between the two greens including music of the Valley Chordsmen, the Elm City Banjo Society, Woodbury Academy of Dance, Euphoria, and Root 6 Band later in the day.

King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 provided a full barbequed chicken menu with caramel apples for the kids and oversized assorted cookies. The food booth was decorated with lodge pictures and colorful banners. Other events include an interactive scavenger



The giant cake joins the celebrations of the Town of Woodbury's 350th Anniversary. King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 joined with the town to hold a block party celebration.

hunt, a history walk, farmer's market, a military encampment, trolley rides, hay wagon rides, horse and buggy rides, a variety of street performers, crafts, games, and prizes.

On Sunday, September 20, a non-denominational church service took place at Bethel Rock, which was the site of the signing of the first land deal between settlers of Woodbury and the area's original residents, the Paugussett Native Americans, on

July 4, 1659.

It was also the gathering place of the First Congregational Church. The Congregationalists had their weekly meeting there, guarded by colonial sentinels stationed below the rock to warn of intruders, until their first church was built in 1681.

An authentic colonial drummer, Jason Parkhurst, arranged for by King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, played an 18th century church call on his drum

that recreated the call to church, not heard in the Pomperaug valley for over 150 years. When the towns became wealthy they bought church bells to hang in the steeples thus retiring the drummers. The massive granite rock face was bathed in morning sun as the congregation arrived and made a moving and memorable sight.

Parking and shuttles were provided at King Solomon's Lodge No. 7; a coffee hour and open house tours of King Solomon's Lodge followed the service.

To cap the day a colonial fair was held in "The Hollow". Once again the King Solomon's barbequed chicken booth provided the food as before. The colonial fair coincided with the historic Glebe House's annual event, Colonial Day. More than 20 colonial demonstrations showed wares and events, and featured a white elephant sale and a bake sale. Old Woodbury Historic Society gave tours and demonstrations at the Hurd House and Old Schoolhouse.

The conclusion of the weekend came with a massive birthday cake that was provided for free to the entire assembled town folk.

Is Total Hip and Knee Surgery Right for You? Find Out in Newtown

A free Lunch and Learn Program for the community entitled, "Total Hip and Knee Surgery: Is it Right for You?" will be held on Thursday, December 3, in the Lodge Room at Masonicare at Newtown, 139 Toddy Hill Road. Peter Boone, MD, a physician with The Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Center, is the featured speaker.

The program will begin at 11:30 a.m. and a complimentary lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m.

Dr. Boone is a graduate of Dartmouth College and The University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He is board-certified in orthopaedic surgery and has



Dr. Peter Boone, MD

additional fellowship training in total joint resurfacing, as well as in traditional total hip and knee replacement.

Dr. Boone received the 2004 St. Vincent de Paul Award for outstanding physician at St. Vincent's Medical Center. He serves there as assistant director of orthopaedics, and is also serving an eight-year appointment to the board of St. Vincent's Medical Center.

In his presentation, Dr. Boone will discuss the overall benefits of hip and knee replacement surgery. He will explain in detail what a patient can expect

during and after surgery and will stress the important role post-operative exercise and rehabilitation can play in a patient's recovery. A question and answer period will follow.

Masonicare at Newtown sponsors the Lunch and Learn series to provide the public with important and timely health and wellness information.

There is no fee for the program, but seating is limited. To attend, please call the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997 to make your reservation.

Masonicare at Newtown is a 154-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility. Its adjacent 54-unit assisted living community includes memory care services.

DISTRICT No. 3

(a) RW James D. Waite, Jr., DD • WB Leon A. Smith, AGM
(b) RW Alfred G. Rollinson, DD • WB Stephen J. Nevins, AGM

M*A*S*H No. 64 Table Lodge

by John Badeen

"Traveling to that table with wine, from whose borne no traveler returns...the same"
"And now let us drink a toast to the future



A Masonic M*A*S*H signpost was a centerpiece at the St. Andrew's table lodge.

of our craft - To all Freemasons joining in this tradition of fellowship and feasting. We have all looked forward to this with youthful fervency and zeal. The Grand Master's year is dedicated to our youth. This toast is inspired by the youthful Radar O'Reilly, who seemed to know the future as it unfolded. To our youthful Masons, Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, and recently raised Masons. To their visions, new ideas, and the future of Masonry; they will build on the foundations we have wrought in the quarries for them."

So started the table lodge held at St. Andrew's Lodge No. 64, Winsted, on Wednesday, November 4. The toast was close to Grape Nehi to start the spirit of the evening.

Several wore or brought uniforms and implements relating to the military.

WB Dan Williams constructed a M*A*S*H signpost to welcome the brethren with area lodges listed. A seven course dinner included everything from soup to brethren. The food was prepared by WB John Seeley and Bro. Bill Levay, and enthusiastically and abundantly served by many brethren.

Toasts also included one to all in the military, which was responded to by those serving or those who have served. The response was delivered by newly raised Brother Jared Crow, who was deploying to Afghanistan the following week. Godspeed to Jared and all our troops.

The last toast was to Past Grand Master and Past Master of St. Andrew's, Frank H. Linsley. MW Linsley reinstated the tradition of table lodge to the official ritual in Connecticut. Vivat!



George Washington, a shot glass, and a helmet were appropriate parts of the table lodge dedicated to the military.

DISTRICT No. 4

(a) RW Theodore J. Doolittle, DD • WB Charles H. Tirrell, AGM
(b) RW Robert J. Knowles, DD • WB John L. Anderson, AGM
(c) RW James J. Pyskaty, DD • WB William S. Clark, AGM

Widows Night at Ansantawae Lodge

by Robert D. Sherrick

Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 of Milford paid tribute to the widows of their departed members on Friday, October 23, 2009, inviting them to a turkey dinner and a presentation of roses, along with a talk about the services available from Masonicare by RW Richard C. Memmott, Sr.

These "special ladies" had been previously presented with the symbol of a Masonic widow and have formed a bond with the lodge and with each other. They look forward to this annual event as a way of keeping in touch with their husband's lodge.



Members of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, their wives, and the honored widows of departed lodge members listen intently to a Masonicare presentation by RW Richard C. Memmott, Sr. (not pictured).

Generations of Brothers at Valley Lodge No. 36

by Ben Isaacson

On Saturday, November 8, the brothers of Village Lodge No. 29, Collinsville, and Valley Lodge No. 36, Granby, held a joint communication to perform a Master Mason degree in Collinsville.

Raised were Brother Jason Marin from Village Lodge No. 29 and Justin Bergsbaken, Daniel Skinner, and Jeremy Stuck from Valley Lodge No. 36. Sitting in the East was Valley Lodge Worshipful Master Kevin Stuck, father of candidate Jeremy, with WB Don Skinner,

father of candidate Daniel Skinner, in the Senior Deacon's chair for the second half of the degree.

Bro. Jeremy Stuck is a third generation Mason with his father and two uncles, WB Randy Stuck, Junior Warden of Valley Lodge, and Terry Stuck of Bethany Lodge No. 69, Bethany, West Virginia. Jeremy's grandfather is WB Albert Stuck, initiated in Wellsburg Lodge No. 2, Wellsburg, West Virginia and a Past Master of Gateway Lodge No. 584, Mims, Florida. All the generations were in attendance.

Bro. Daniel Skinner is a fourth consecutive generation Master Mason in his family. In attendance were his father, WB Don Skinner, and grandfather, WB Kenneth Skinner, Valley Lodge No. 36. Both are Past Associate Grand Marshals of District 5-A. WB Kenneth Skinner is also a dual member Kathleen Lodge No. 338, Kathleen, Florida.

All the family members of Daniel Skinner and Jeremy Stuck received Lewis Jewels, presented by RW Gary Arseneau, Grand Junior Warden.



The Stuck family Masons are, from left, Bro. Randy Stuck, WB Kevin Stuck, Bro. Jeremy Stuck, WB Albert Stuck, and WB Terry Stuck.



The Skinner family Masons are, from left, WB Kenneth Skinner, Bro. Daniel Skinner, and WB Don Skinner.

Widows Sons Help Send Off Deployed Brothers

by Michael Deane

A Friday, November 13 farewell party was held to honor of Private James Mowel and Lieutenant James Lock at the VFW in Rocky Hill. Both are Connecticut Freemasons and are being sent on a year-long deployment to Afghanistan.

Many friends, family, and Masonic brothers attended. Bro. Mowel is a member of the Connecticut Widows Sons

Masonic Riders Association and several members from three different chapters were there to show their support. There was also a band at the event named "6 foot Chains". Two members of the band are also Freemasons.

Hartford television station WFSB-TV3 news did a story which aired that evening and was replayed throughout the weekend. A link can be found on the Grand Lodge Facebook page.



Members of Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association helped give a sendoff to Private James Mower, one of their members. Bottom row, from left, James Mower, Chris 'Smitty', Fred 'Caveman', and Eric. Back row, from left, Mike 'Micky', Brett 'T-Rattler', Al, Dave 'Hatchet', Dave 'CrayZ', Rich 'Starch', Chip 'Snoopy'.

DeMolay PSMC's Gather at Unity Lodge No. 148

by Carl G. Ek

Since Connecticut DeMolay began to have statewide officers in 1928, a total of 82 young men have held the title of State Master Councilor. At least 20 are known to be deceased, and addresses and contact information are lacking for 15 and 20 of the remaining PSMC's. Of the remaining 40 PSMC's, a quarter are members of Unity Lodge No. 148, New Britain!

It was fitting, then, that Unity Worshipful Master and PSMC Carl Ek invited the remaining PSMC's to join with the first Connecticut DeMolay PSMC to serve as Most Worshipful Grand Master, Bro. Arthur H. Carlstrom, for a PSMC Night at his lodge. (MWPGM Chuck Fowler, Jr. was the first State Master Councilor to be Connecticut Masonry's Grand Master; his youth service was in his native Washington in 1956, the same year as Bro. Carlstrom.)

Fourteen SMC's – 13 past, plus current SMC Greg Goto, a member of Unity Lodge – enjoyed dinner and a chance to become reacquainted before all attended the lodge meeting. The delegation of PSMC's were received in reverse order of their years of service, meaning that the Grand Master had seniority in that aspect, as well. The lodge also heard from several PSMC's, most living

outside of Connecticut, who sent their regards to their colleagues.

Connecticut DeMolay Executive Officer and Unity PM Harry E. Needham, III remarked on the work of the brothers present in helping to build Connecticut DeMolay before presenting DeMolay service pins to various groups of Senior DeMolays. Receiving 25 year pins were: WB Alan J. Beals; RW Brian E. Beals; RW Charles A. Buck, Jr.; RW Christopher J. Earle; RW Carl G. Ek; WB Needham; Bro. Philip A. Platcow; and Unity JW Fred Stoddard.

Fifty-year awards went to four PSMC's: WB Roger R. Cole, Bro. Edward L. Lawson, Jr., WB Daniel C. Thurston, Jr., and MWGM Carlstrom. The Grand Master, EO, and SMC then presented a 75-year DeMolay pin to RW Ralph E. Holmstrom of Unity Lodge. Ralph joined Nathan Hale Chapter, Order of DeMolay in 1928, and has his petition to prove it. Unfortunately, DeMolay International does not produce an 80-year pin! Ralph voiced his appreciation of his surprise recognition.

The remainder of the evening was spent listening to the reminiscences of the 14 honorees. All spoke of the friendships they had made, the opportunities for self-development they had in DeMolay, and the appreciation of special advisors who had

believed in their potential.

Bros. Ken Stauff and Andy Birdsall discussed a new Conclave spirit award that had been conceived by the PSMC's present at the 2009 Conclave and presented to Sleeping Giant Chapter of North Haven. Bro. Birdsall brought the 6-foot tall trophy and invited all PSMC's to participate in the awarding at the next Conclave. WB Dan Thurston spoke of his work with the American Legion and efforts to assist returning veterans to reintegrate into society.

Bro. Phil Platcow allowed that his term had been most successful – he ended up marrying his state sweetheart, the former Karen Demko of Milford. Bro. Ed Lawson spoke of his advisory service in Japan, where, he similarly noted, "DeMolay introduced me to me wife." Bro. Chris Earle would note that DeMolay had introduced him to both of his wives....

With a distribution across six decades of DeMolay service, the evening was both interesting and instructive. The brothers present were pleased to greet friends of long standing and meet new members of their exclusive club. Several expressed the thought that a similar gathering could be held at least annually, and are exploring ways to make that happen.



The honorees at the Unity Lodge No. 148 Past State Master Councilors Night, from left: Philip A. Platcow, J. Andrew Birdsall, Alan J. Beals, current SMC Gregory M. Goto, Edward L. Lawson, Jr., MWGM Arthur H. Carlstrom, WM Carl G. Ek, Daniel C. Thurston, Jr., DeMolay EO Harry E. Needham III, Roger R. Cole, Christopher J. Earle, Christopher J. Buck, Kenneth A. Stauff, and Christopher J. Werner.



Unity Lodge WM Carl G. Ek (left) joins MWGM Arthur H. Carlstrom and Unity PM and DeMolay Executive Officer is honoring RW Bro. Ralph E. Holmstrom (second from left) on his 81-year membership in the Order of DeMolay. Ralph received a 75-year pin – the oldest available!

Hay Makes a Lodge for Master Masons

by Mark M. Hultman

On Saturday, September 26, beginning at high twelve, Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88, South Windsor, raised three new brothers to the sublime degree of Master Mason, assisted by a team from Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor.

It was a sparkling day and brothers began at 6:00 a.m. to load lodge paraphernalia and other items onto vehicles for transportation to a forest glen of the Hartford County 4-H camp

in Marlborough. The setting was surrounded by deep woods and access paths to the glen.

Tiling was by a brother Master Mason on a golf cart patrolling the perimeter of the 100 acre site. In this case he was armed with a different implement of his office, a walkie-talkie to warn the Master of the approach of any cowans or eavesdroppers; there were none.

The brothers brought tables for the three lesser lights (three kerosene lamps), the seating was on 40 bales of hay, moved from

a storage area to use for main seating, the altar, and the kneelers. Under a white sheet covering the "altar" were four bales of hay side by side. Single bales surrounded the altar as kneelers.

A hole was dug to place a board vertically in the ground to serve as a simulated door to the lodge where the candidate could knock to gain admittance.

The candidates were



The craftsmen and the candidates pose with Hartford Evergreen's Worshipful Master Mark M. Hultman.

prepared in an area a couple of hundred feet away in a canopy covered tent, then when the degree was underway, they were escorted to the "door" of the lodge.

After the first half, it was the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master that all retire to Baldwin Hall for a catered luncheon. (In the event of rain the hall would have served as a dry location for the degree.)

The Order of Eastern Star

assisted in the kitchen while the degree was going on, far from the luncheon room.

The tragedy portion was portrayed by Washington Lodge No. 70, assisted by brothers from Hartford Evergreen No. 88. While it was additional work to transport and set up our lodge building outdoors, the brothers in attendance all agree that the event was a huge success.



Haystacks double for altars, kneelers, and seating at Hartford Evergreen's outdoor Master Mason degree.

A Brothers' Extra Effort Appreciated



The brothers of Columbia Lodge No. 25, Glastonbury had visited their good friend WB Warren Bristol in the hospital since illness forced Bro. Warren to miss many Masonic events at his beloved lodge. Warren always kidded about when he would receive his 50 year pin and certificate.

Sadly, Warren's illness turned grave and when it became obvious he might not be able to make it to 2010, his anniversary year, Columbia Lodge did

everything they could to advance the presentation. With the help of WM Arnie Grot, RW Don Dean, and Grand Master Art Carlstrom, Brother Warren did receive his coveted pin on November 13. Warren's smile was all the thanks they needed.

Editor's note: the Grand Architect called Brother Warren Bristol to that house not made with hands on November 18, 2009. The journey was doubtless made carrying a very special 50-year pin.

RW Don Dean, Grand Marshal, presents the 50 year award and certificate to WB Warren Bristol.

DISTRICT No. 7

(a) RW William V. Baroni, DD • RW Michael S. Shear, AGM
(b) RW John H. Spencer, DD • WB Michael L. Stephens, AGM

Shrine Chanters Visit Blue Lodge Council



RW Carl Anderson leads the Sphinx Shrine Chanters through a series of tunes at the Seventh District Blue Lodge Council.

"No, they're not all the same tune!" This, from RW Carl Anderson, Grand Organist, at the September Seventh District Blue Lodge Council. Bro. Carl was referring to the songs sung at table lodges, when lack of musical accompaniment usually has the brothers singing the same tune for all the different songs.

He was present with the Sphinx Shrine's Chanters, performing Masonic pieces to the interested assembly. The entertaining program also featured the Chanters singing popular tunes, all led by RW Carl on keyboard. The program was arranged by WB Steve Thal, the Blue Lodge

Council president, who has brought similarly interesting programs throughout his year.

An explanation of what is commonly called the "dirge" was followed by the Shrine group singing it the way it is supposed to be sung, not in a morose or mournful fashion, but as an uplifting tune. Likewise, Bro. Irving Berlin's *God Bless America* was meant to be sung at a cheerful pace, and Bro. Carl and the Chanters provided excellent example.

For those who can do little more than tap their toe, the brothers learned that, yes, "Masons can sing!"

DISTRICT No. 9

(a) RW John S. Rhoads, DD • RW Theodore C. Rugar, AGM
(b) RW Michael E. Talamini, DD • WB Mark J. Richens, AGM

Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge Welcomes 3 New Brothers

by Jim Verge

Friday the thirteenth has not been known for being a good date, however Friday night, November 13, was a very good night at Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122, Thompson. After a hearty dinner, Fellowcrafts Robert "Bill" Lary, David Foland, and Robert Bardin entered the lodge in due and ancient form.

Brother Bill, an employee at the Coast Guard Academy and a former Navy man, had been interested in Masonry for several years. Working at the academy alongside Masons from Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34, Preston, Brother Bill conversed with the well-informed brothers for many months. Bill discovered over those months that he wanted to learn more about Masonry. Last autumn, Bill contacted Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge to inquire about joining.

After a few telephone calls, Bill came to the lodge to pick up a petition while a chicken alfredo dinner was being served. Bill enthusiastically started the degrees in the spring of 2009 and became a Fellowcraft in April. His work schedule and responsibilities

made it impossible for him to attend the Master Mason degree in May. Bill was, at that point, out of the degree cycle.

Contact was resumed this past summer and Bill was able to join the two Fellowcrafts from the autumn 2009 class. Worshipful Master Kenneth R. Sheldon, Jr. performed an excellent first half of the degree, obligating and instructing the three brothers.

WB Christopher L. Maxim brought the lodge back to labor as acting Worshipful Master and performed the second half. A cast of brothers from the four District 9-A lodges assisted in the degree. RW Kenneth Marvin and RW Robert Raymond, RW William Petrey, Jr., WB David Rukukoski, WM Kenneth R. Sheldon Jr., WB Pandely Gity, WB Russ Borden, JW Scott Alexander, SD Joseph Allard, and Bro. Christopher Carrot all participated in the various roles of the degree.

The first section lecture, performed by Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge Junior Deacon Leonard Streich III and Moosup Lodge No. 113 Senior Steward Christopher Carrot, was the best that many had witnessed



Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122 welcomed new Master Masons, from left, Brothers Robert Bardin, Robert "Bill" Lary, and David Foland on Friday the 13th.

in several years. This past Friday the 13th was one to remember for several good reasons.

All enjoyed a good night of dinner, degree work, and fellowship.

The lodge warmly welcomed all three new Master Masons and has confidence that they will work to improve their knowledge in Masonry.

A Perfect Day for a Walk

by Carl G. Ek

For the last several years, a Sunday in October has been the choice of the Scottish Rite Valley of Waterbury to sponsor a "Walk for Dyslexia" to aid the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children. Scottish Rite Masons, families, friends, families of students attending the center, and even a few local political candidates walked through 2.1 miles of local neighborhoods to raise money for this good cause.

After all had returned to the Waterbury Masonic building, a generous post-walk lunch was offered while door prizes were distributed. Arriving during lunch was Waterbury Mayor Michael Jarjura, who

presented walk chairman Russ Griswold with a city proclamation recognizing the day. (It was also announced the Bro. Griswold has been elected to receive the 33° of Scottish Rite Freemasonry next August in Philadelphia.)

In addition to the walkers, Masonic bodies and businesses helped to sponsor the "Walk for Dyslexia", helping it to collect a 5-figure donation for the day. More than two-dozen young people from around the state are currently enrolled in the Learning Center, which is open to all at no charge.

Bro. Russ and the Valley of Waterbury look forward to another successful walk next October.



The happy walkers in the middle of the pack are Ill. Paul L. Chello, 33°, of the Valley of New Haven (cap and light shirt) and Ill. William E. Bohman, 33°, Commander-in-Chief of Nathan Hale Consistory, Hartford (with name tag around neck).

Where's Howard?



In the September 2009 issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*, an article on page 31 detailed "The Bet" between Ill. Dave Sharkis, 33°, and Ill. Howard Turner, 33°, a portly pair of governors of the 32° Masonic Learning Center for Children. Briefly, the two agreed to race in the 2010 Valley of Hartford 5K road race, with the loser to provide a year's tuition to a student fighting dyslexia. These two paragons of culinary enjoyment quickly made their first run – to a shoe store to buy running shoes!

It was expected that the October walk against in dyslexia would give an early indication of who would be favored next summer. Ill. Dave, the Active for Connecticut Scottish Rite, even had a 'walking kit' prepared for his adversary – as the photo shows, this kit included a map of New England (in case Howard got lost on the two-mile walk), a 'nite-glo' necklace so that searchers could find him in the dark, and a Hostess Twinkie for nourishment along the way. Sadly, Howard was ill and didn't get to Waterbury for the walk.

Still the bet goes on – and those who wish to support Dave can e-mail him pledges at dsharkis@snet.net. Those seeking to rally Howard's spirits – not the single-malt type – can e-mail him tuition pledges at hdtturner@hotmail.com.

Further details are certain to crop up....

Masonicare at Ashlar Village Honors Service at Veterans Day Breakfast

A very special Veterans Day Breakfast was held at Masonicare at Ashlar Village last month. Emceed by Bro. Donald Griffith, past president of the residents' association, the breakfast was attended by 75 residents who are veterans of the U.S. military.

"We knew we had many veterans – including several women – within our community, but it really stirred your patriotic juices to see so many – 75 – in one place," said WB JP Venoit, president of Ashlar Village. Held in the Waterside Dining Room, guests included Bro. David Gessert, chairman of the Ashlar Village board, State Senator

Len Fasano, and the state Commander of the American Legion Robert Morrissey.

A special guest was Wallingford resident Bro. and Staff Sergeant Jeff Sarosi, an Army National Guardsman about to leave for Afghanistan. He was presented with a check for \$500 from WM Gregory Whitehouse of Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, toward Operation E.L.F. and a \$500 check from AMVETS Post 83. In addition, the Ashlar Village Association also donated \$500 to the holiday-related program to benefit servicemen and women overseas.



Bro. David Gessert, chairman of the Ashlar Village board, Staff Sergeant Jeff Sarosi, and state Commander of the American Legion Robert Morrissey at the Veterans Day breakfast.

CME Seminar Addresses 2010 Wardens

by Carl G. Ek

The parking lot at the New Britain Masonic Temple was filled to capacity by 8:10 a.m. as the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Education held a well-attended seminar for those brothers expecting to be lodge Wardens in 2010. Exactly 140 brothers signed in, making this one of the best-attended CME seminars in recent years.

Attendees received packets of information that included suggested meeting agendas, fill-in forms for teams for the three Blue Lodge degrees, inspirational pieces, and, of course, the form used to apply for the Master's Achievement Award. Part of the message to the projected Wardens was that now is the time to begin planning for the term that will arrive sooner than they think.

After the brothers had had the chance to purchase coffee, doughnuts, and fried egg sandwiches from members of New Britain Assembly No. 6, Order of Rainbow, RW Paul Edberg presented a PowerPoint presentation on the topic of 'leadership,'

which was followed by questions from the group. Later, expected Senior Wardens split from the intended Junior Wardens to meet with RW Bros. James T. McWain and Gary Arseneau, who, assuming standard progression, plan to serve as Grand Master concurrently with the officers with whom they met.

Following a second refreshment break, CME chairman RW Martin L. Rudnick ran through several of the basics of lodge management, including Grand Lodge regulations. He recommended that everyone take the committee's Masonic Leadership Course, either on-line or on paper by mail. This six-lesson course, bargain priced at \$6 since its inception nearly 30 years ago, familiarizes brethren with the reference books they will need in their journey to the East.

While the 2009 seminar season is now



RW James T. McWain, Grand Senior Warden (standing), speaks with brothers who are on course to serve as lodge Masters during his projected term as Most Worshipful Grand Master.

over, the CME is now preparing for sessions for junior lodge officers in the late winter. Connecticut Blue Lodges expect to install over 450 Deacons, Stewards, and Marshals in the next two months, and many of these brothers are new to office and probably new to Masonry. The need for education remains as these brothers seek to master the skills that will make them skilled Masters.



RW Alan M. Brown, at the podium, addresses a full house of 2010 Wardens at the recent CME seminar in New Britain.



CME chairman RW Martin L. Rudnick is the center of attention as he makes a presentation near the close of the seminar for 2010 lodge wardens.

21st ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES AT MASONICARE HEALTH CENTER:

Silent Auction to Raise Funds For Residents

The popular Festival of Trees at Masonicare Health Center begins Tuesday, December 1. The event features more than 60 unique, beautifully decorated tabletop trees that fill the lobby with an array of colors, lights, and creativity. "We started with eight trees in 1988 and now we have one of the largest displays of decorated Christmas trees in Connecticut," notes Rosemarie Preneta, director of volunteers.

The lighted trees, designed and trimmed by teams of Masonicare employees, volunteers, residents, and members of the Order of the Eastern Star, will be

on continuous display in the lobby of the Health Center, which is located off Route 150 in Wallingford, until Monday, December 21.

Everyone is welcome to visit the Center any day between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. to view the trees and place a bid. "Even if you don't bid on a tree, it's a treat for anyone - young or old - to see," added Rosemarie.

Bids close at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, December 21,

when the highest bidders will be announced and winners can claim their holiday tree. Winners who can't be present will be contacted. All proceeds from the auction are used to support a host of activities for the residents of Masonicare Health Center.

For additional information, contact the volunteer services office at the Masonicare Health Center at 203-679-5980 or the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997.

One of the many trees in the Masonicare Health Center's lobby available for bidding in the silent auction ending on December 21.



York Rite Opportunities



(ME) Most Excellent
Grand High Priest
(MP) Most Puissant
Grand Master
(RE) Right Eminent
Grand Commander
(U) Uniform
(F) Formal
(S) Semi-formal

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, 525 Stillwater, Windsor CT 06095-3842 or yrctramrsm@yahoo.com.

NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice. Please note this corrected email address for the Grand Secretary/Recorder. Please also note the change of snail mail address for Companion Fowler.

Tuesday, December 1, (ME) (MP) (RE), S, Harmony Council No. 8, New Haven, holiday party, awards night, 50-yr Chapter and Council presentation to SK Carleton V. Erickson

Wednesday, December 2, F, Lee Council No.25, Collinsville, inspection by Grand Steward McCollum

Sunday, December 6, (ME) (MP) (RE), U, Palestine Commandry No. 6 and St. John's Commandry No.11, North Stonington, Christmas observance 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8, (ME) (RE), Franklin Chapter No. 2, New Haven, Royal Arch Degree

Tuesday, December 8, F, Milford Chapter No. 49, Milford, Most Excellent Master degree

Tuesday, December 8, F, Wolcott Council No. 1, East Hartford, Royal Master degree

Thursday, December 10, Washington Council No. 6, Darien, presentation on RM degree, 8:30 p.m.

Friday, December 11, (MP) (RE), Christmas Observance at Masonicare sponsored by New Haven Commandry No. 2, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 12, (ME) (MP) (RE), U, Stamford-Clinton Commandry No. 3 and Crusader Commandry No. 10, Darien, Christmas observance, 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 13, (MP) (RE), U, Cyrene Commandry No. 8 and St. Elmo Commandry No. 9, Meriden, Christmas observance, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 14, (RE), Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests, Stratford

Tuesday, December 15, (MP) (RE), U, Washington Commandry No.1, East Hartford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Christmas observance

Friday, December 18, (ME) (MP) (RE), U, New Haven Commandry No. 2, New Haven, Christmas observance, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 19, (RE), Chevalier Degree for Tyler Anderson, New Haven, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 20, (ME) (MP) (RE), U, Hamilton Commandry No. 5, 3:00 p.m. dinner, Stratford, Christmas observance

Monday, December 21, (ME) (RE), S, Milford Chapter No. 49, Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, RAM sing-a-long

Friday, December 25, (ME) (MP) (RE), Merry Christmas

Upcoming

January 12, Milford Chapter No. 49, Milford, Royal Arch degree

January 16, Connecticut York Rite College No. 17, East Hartford, 10:00 a.m.

January 21, Hamilton Commandry No.5, Stratford, Order of the Temple, inspection

Garibaldi Masonic Club Honors MWGM Carlstrom

by Michael L. Castroll

At its gathering on Wednesday, November 4, the Garibaldi Masonic Club honored MWGM Arthur H. Carlstrom. The club memorializes Italian patriot and unifier Brother Giuseppe Garibaldi, a New York Mason, who became the first Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Italy. The club began in 1932 in Bridgeport for Masons of Italian descent. The club now accepts Masons of all ethnic backgrounds, but only those of Italian heritage or those whose spouses were Italian could hold office.

Some of our most esteemed brethren have been enumerated in the rolls of the club, which has met in several places in the greater Bridgeport area. A few years ago, the club settled in at the Stratford Masonic Temple, 3960 Main Street, where RW Anthony Pipitone, a Garibaldi Club past president, made the club an offer it couldn't refuse.

The Garibaldi Club meets for an Italian dinner, through and through, on the first Wednesday of each month, except for January and February. Although each meeting has a purpose for good along with the social aspects, you won't leave hungry!

At the November 4 gathering, President Bob DiPasquale convened the usual suspects for a night of phood, phrolic, and philanthropy! President DiPasquale presented the Grand Master a check for his projects. Quiet and unassuming, MW Bro. Carlstrom arrived alone to receive his honors from the club. He was thrilled with the recognition,

and hoped for a bright future for the club.

The Wednesday, December 2 meeting is ladies night, so bring your lady to the Garibaldi Club. You'll both be glad you did!



Garibaldi Masonic Club president Bob DiPasquale, right, presents a check to MW Art Carlstrom on behalf of the club for the Grand Master's Appeal.

Craft at Labor...

ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREES

Wednesday, December 16, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury

Wednesday, December 16, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven

Saturday, December 19, Friendship No. 33, Southington 10:00 a.m., SW in the East

Monday, December 21, Liberty-Continental No. 76, Waterbury

Monday, December 28, Washington No.

70, Windsor 6:30 p.m. dinner, Brian Cosker in the East

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES

Monday, December 7, Oxoboxo No. 116, Montville 6:30 p.m. dinner

MASTER MASON DEGREES

Wednesday, December 2, Montgomery No. 13, Lakeville 6:30 p.m. dinner,

Wednesday, December 2, Center No. 97, Meriden

Friday, December 4, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, SW Scott Sherrick in the East

Tuesday, December 15, Adelphi-Momauguin No. 63, North Haven 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, December 16, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden

Craft at Refreshment...

Tuesday, December 1, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual holiday party

Tuesday, December 1, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 1, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 1, Union No. 40, Danbury, annual meeting, step up night, roll call

Tuesday, December 1, Adelphi-Momauguin No. 63, North Haven, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 1, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, 8:00 p.m., annual meeting

Tuesday, December 1, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 7:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 2, Union No. 5, Stamford, 7:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 2, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 2, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 2, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Thanksgiving style dinner

Wednesday, December 2, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 2, Estuary No. 43, Old Saybrook, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 2, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 7:30 p.m., Lodge of Instruction

Wednesday, December 2, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Union No. 31, Niantic, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, 9:00 a.m. breakfast at Groton Townhouse Restaurant

Thursday, December 3, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Thursday, December 3, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Saturday, December 5, Montgomery No. 13, Lakeville, 6:00 p.m., Christmas party at Barclay Prindle's home

Saturday, December 5, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 10:00 a.m., Grand Masters, oyster stew and "Fumigation", installation, arrive by 9:00 a.m. to find a parking spot

Saturday, December 5, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 12:00 noon dinner, installation

Saturday, December 5, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 8:00 a.m. breakfast

Saturday, December 5, Bay View No. 120, Niantic, annual meeting

Saturday, December 5, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 9:00 a.m., UCONN/South Florida football at "The Rent"

Sunday, December 6, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 2:00 p.m., installation

Sunday, December 6, Temple No. 65, Westport, 12:30 p.m. Christmas holiday party

Monday, December 7, St. John's No. 2, Middletown, annual meeting

Monday, December 7, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, annual meeting

Monday, December 7, Federal No. 17, Watertown, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual

meeting pot luck supper

Monday, December 7, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Clam Chowder

Monday, December 7, Valley No. 36, Granby, , annual meeting

Monday, December 7, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, 7:30 p.m., annual meeting

Monday, December 7, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 7:30 p.m., annual meeting

Monday, December 7, Liberty-Continental No. 76, Waterbury, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 7:00 p.m. Fellowcraft dinner

Tuesday, December 8, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 7:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Composite No. 28, Suffield, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Village No. 29, Collinsville, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 7:30 p.m., historian lecture

Tuesday, December 8, Madison No. 87, Madison, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Corinthian No. 104, Fairfield, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 8, Ionic No. 110, North Windham, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, December 9, Montgomery No. 13, Lakeville, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 9, Ark No. 39, Danbury, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 9, Eastern Star No. 44, North Windham, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Craft at Refreshment...

Wednesday, December 9, Wooster No. 79, New Haven, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 9, Center No. 97, Meriden, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 9, Ivanhoe No. 107, Darien, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 9, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 7:30 p.m., Lodge of Instruction

Wednesday, December 9, Granite No. 119, Haddam, annual meeting

Thursday, December 10, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Thursday, December 10, Temple No. 65, Westport, annual meeting

Thursday, December 10, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, annual meeting

Friday, December 11, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 7:00 p.m., ESPN Christmas party

Friday, December 11, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 7:30 p.m., annual meeting

Saturday, December 12, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 4:00 p.m. dinner, installation

Saturday, December 12, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, 6:00 p.m. dinner, installation

Saturday, December 12, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 2:00 p.m. installation

Saturday, December 12, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 7:30 p.m., installation

Saturday, December 12, Valley No. 36, Granby, 8:00 AM, Salvation Army Toy Drive at Avon Old Farms Inn

Saturday, December 12, Adelphi-Momauguin No. 63, North Haven, 7:00 p.m. pot luck supper

Saturday, December 12, Meridian No. 77, Meriden, 12:00 noon, installation

Saturday, December 12, Center No. 97, Meriden, 7:00 p.m., installation

Saturday, December 12, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 12:00 p.m., Christmas party

Saturday, December 12, Ionic No. 110, North Windham, annual meeting Happy Chanukah

Saturday, December 12, Bay View No. 120, Niantic, 12:00 noon pot luck supper

Saturday, December 12, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 1:00 p.m., installation

Saturday, December 12, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 2:30 p.m., installation

Sunday, December 13, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 3:00 p.m., installation

Sunday, December 13, Ark No. 39, Danbury, 4:00 p.m., holiday party at Creighton English's house

Monday, December 14, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Monday, December 14, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 7:30 p.m., annual meeting Stewards auction

Monday, December 14, Jeptha No. 95, Clinton, annual meeting

Monday, December 14, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, annual meeting

Monday, December 14, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 15, Union No. 40, Danbury, 7:30 p.m., Lodge of Instruction

Tuesday, December 15, Ionic No. 110, North Windham, 7:00 p.m., holiday table lodge

Tuesday, December 15, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner, installation

Wednesday, December 16, Union No. 5, Stamford, 7:30 p.m. dinner, table lodge

Wednesday, December 16, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield, installation

Friday, December 16, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 16, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 16, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 7:30 p.m., Lodge of Instruction

Thursday, December 17, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, Awards, Grand Master visiting

Thursday, December 17, Union No. 31, Niantic, 7:30 p.m., installation

Friday, December 18, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 6:30 p.m., holiday party, pot luck dinner

Friday, December 18, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Saturday, December 19, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 1:00 p.m., installation

Saturday, December 19, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 2:00 p.m., installation

Saturday, December 19, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 1:00 p.m., joint lodge/chapter Christmas party, at Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14

Saturday, December 19, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, 12:00 noon, installation

Saturday, December 19, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, annual meeting

Saturday, December 19, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 2:00 p.m., lodge children's Christmas party

Saturday, December 19, Universal Fraternity No. 149, Stratford, 6:30 p.m., installation

Sunday, December 20, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 8:00 a.m. country breakfast

Monday, December 21, St. John's No. 2, Middletown, 6:30 p.m. dinner, step up night

Monday, December 21, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 7:00 p.m., Christmas party

Monday, December 21, Federal No. 17, Watertown, 7:30 p.m., installation

Monday, December 21, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting, catered Polish night.

Monday, December 21, Oxoboxo No. 116, Montville, 6:30 p.m. dinner, annual meeting

Tuesday, December 22, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, 7:30 p.m., ladies night

Tuesday, December 22, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 7:30 p.m., installation

Wednesday, December 23, Union No. 5, Stamford, annual meeting

Wednesday, December 23, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, 7:30 p.m., Lodge of Instruction

Friday, December 25, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner, party

Saturday, December 26, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 8:00 a.m., blood drive at St. Michael's Church, Naugatuck

Saturday, December 26, Universal Fraternity No. 149, Stratford, 8:00 p.m. dinner-dance, Pyramid Shrine Temple in Milford

Sunday, December 27, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 2:00 p.m. dinner, installation pot luck supper

Monday, December 28, Union No. 5, Stamford, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Blue Lodge Council

Activities for *Lodge at Labor* and *Lodge at Refreshment* are taken from calendars on lodge websites. Please visit the lodge websites for updates and more information. For a directory of all lodge websites visit www.ctfreemasons.net.

MASONIC FAMILY BOOSTERS

Acacia No. 85.....	Greenwich
Adelphi-Momauguin No. 63.....	North Haven
America-St. John's No. 8.....	Stratford
Anchor No. 112.....	East Hampton
Ansantawae No. 89.....	Milford
Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142.....	Easton
Bay View No. 120.....	Niantic
Brainard No. 102.....	Niantic
Center No. 97.....	Meriden
Coastal No. 57.....	Stonington
Columbia No. 25.....	South Glastonbury
Compass No. 9.....	Wallingford
Composite No. 28.....	Suffield
Connecticut York Rite College.....	
Corinthian No. 103.....	North Haven
Cosmopolitan No. 125.....	New Haven
Estuary No. 43.....	Old Saybrook
Evening Star No. 101.....	Unionville
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
Ionic No. 110.....	North Windham
Ivanhoe No. 107.....	Darien
Jeptha No. 95.....	Clinton
King Solomon's No. 7.....	Woodbury
Madison No. 87.....	Madison
Manchester No. 73.....	Manchester
Masonic Club of New London.....	
Meridian No. 77.....	Meriden
Morning Star No. 47.....	Seymour
MP Grand Council R&SM.....	
Orange No. 143.....	Milford
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DeMolay Honors a Family Affair

by Carl G. Ek

Laurel Chapter, Order of DeMolay, Norwalk, was the setting for a very special 'father-and-son night' on November 14. Bro. Manny Peters was



The Peters family is bracketed by State Master Councilor Greg Goto (left) and Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III (right). From second from left are wife and mom Nellie Peters, new Chevalier Manny Peters, new Legionnaire Chris Peters, and Past State Master Councilor and proud brother and son Jimmy Peters.

the recipient of the Degree of Chevalier, while his father, Dad Chris Peters, received the DeMolay Legion of Honor.

Dad James C. Peters, Past State Master Councilor, Chevalier, and chapter advisor of Laurel Chapter, planned the evening and presided for his brother's conferral. Bro. Manny is a Past Master Councilor of Laurel Chapter and State Marshal of Connecticut DeMolay, and has recruited over 30 members to DeMolay in his career.

Dad Harry E. Needham, III, Active Member of DeMolay International and Executive Officer in Connecticut, presided over the Legion of Honor.

The seven preceptors for the ceremony were the seven members of the Connecticut State Suite led by State Master Councilor Gregory M. Goto.

Greg's team also performed the public opening and closing for the ceremonies.

Dad Chris Peters was the long-time chapter advisor of Laurel Chapter before moving to the position of advisory council chairman. He is also a governor on the Executive Officer's staff. Chris and wife Nellie have not only raised their own DeMolay sons, but have help man young men in the chapter to find their way to successful manhood.

The ceremonies were held at St. John's Lodge No. 6, and Worshipful Master Tony Agostino arranged for the dinner that preceded the ceremony. A full lodge room occupied by Laurel Chapter members, DeMolays, and Masonic friends from around the state made the evening that much more special for the entire Peters family.

New Board Members Serve Throughout the Masonicare Organization

Masonicare is pleased to announce that at the Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut held October 17 at Masonicare at Ashlar Village in Wallingford: Bro. Francis X. Conlon, Annawon Lodge No. 115, Milford; Bro. David A. Gessert, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford; and Bro. Howard W. Orr, Composite Lodge No. 28, Suffield, were re-elected to serve on the Masonicare Board of Trustees. Their terms



Bro. Bruce F. Carmichael

will expire in 2012.

Bro. Bruce F. Carmichael, Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, was elected to serve on the Masonicare Board of Trustees to complete the unexpired term (2009-2010) of Bro. Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr., who was appointed an emeritus member of the Board of Trustees on May 28, 2009.

In addition, at the Masonicare Annual Meeting on October 29,

the following individuals were newly appointed to serve on Masonicare affiliate boards for the 2009 - 2010 term:

Masonicare at Ashlar Village:

Eloise Hazelwood, director of health, Wallingford Health Department

Masonicare at Newtown:

William Morrow, senior tax consultant, U.S. Treasury and William T. Viola, executive director, Wallingford Senior Center

Masonicare Health Center:

William Morrow, senior tax consultant, U.S. Treasury and William T. Viola, executive director, Wallingford Senior Center

Masonicare Home Health and Hospice:

Bro. Steven Abati, Center Lodge No. 97, Meriden

Masonic Management Services:

Bro. Joseph M. Tobin, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford

Are You A Garibaldine? Are Your Records Accessible?

A cautionary tale for all organizations comes from the current problem of the Garibaldi Masonic Club of Stratford.

The Garibaldi Masonic Club suffered a terrible blow when WB Gene Herman, secretary of the club for several years, was taken by the Grand Architect. The club's membership records remain safely lodged in his computer, making it a major challenge to reconstruct

the club's membership roster.

If you are a Garibaldi Masonic Club member, or if you can help in any way, give El Presidente Robert DiPasquale a call at 203-949-8612.



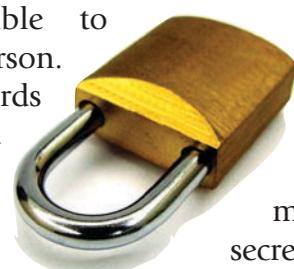
An important lesson for all organizations is to be learned by this unfortunate situation. It's important that records belonging to any organization - lodge, club,

chapter, council, commandery, valley, temple, grotto, or anything else - be accessible to more than one person.

Computerizing records saves much time and effort for hardworking secretaries, but if they are protected such that no one else can get to them, that does a major disservice to the group

should the protector suddenly become unavailable.

Presiding officers would do well to ask their computer-dependant secretaries how records would be made available in case that secretary was suddenly out of the picture. And if the answer isn't a good one, it's time for a change - now!



When you leave the hospital and need either home care or rehabilitation, Masonicare can help.



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203-679-6909 (outpatient)

Masonicare at Newtown
203-364-3211

Masonicare Home Health
888-482-8862



The Masonicare HelpLine
888-679-9997

Best wishes
for a joyful
holiday season
from the
Masonicare family.

