



Connecticut FREEMASONS

NOVEMBER 2011



Ready to Pass the Gavel in 2012



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



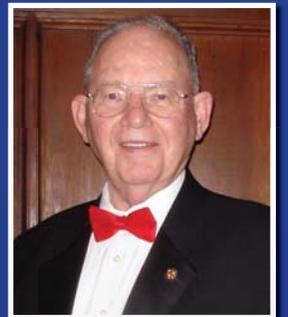
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**Howard Schiller
Receives Pierpont
Edwards Medal**



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**Take a Tour of
Lodges' Open
House 2011**



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**Chuck Fowler
Awarded Service
Medal in Silver**

Grand Lodge Semi-Annual 2011



A dozen Past Grand Masters were introduced at the Semi-annual.



The Grand Secretary and his Deputy were kept busy imprinting and signing the new Masonic Passport.



Grand Master McWain presented merit pins to Masters of select lodges who have demonstrated excellence.



MW McWain outlined the change of focus of the Grand Lodge officers, and the re-emphasis of his District Deputies.



A resolution was passed proclaiming RW Russell W. McClellan Grand Secretary Emeritus ad vitam.



Recipients of the Perfect Ashlar award were called to the East and personally handed their certificates by the Grand Master.

Grand Master's Message

Congratulations to the brothers who were elected to lead the fraternity upon my retirement in March: Gary W. Arseneau, Most Worshipful Grand Master; Simon R. LaPlace, Deputy Grand Master; Thomas M. Maxwell, II, Grand Senior Warden; Donald W. Dean, Grand Junior Warden; Charles C. Maxson, Grand Treasurer; Robert G. Fitzgerald, Grand Secretary; and MW Stanley S. Sheldon, Jr., Grand Trustee for three years.

The semi-annual session was successful, productive, and an opportunity to provide a report to the Grand Lodge members on the status of actions taken this year to improve and update the operations of the Grand Lodge.

I have previously enumerated in this column the refocus of the Grand Lodge officers to concentrate on the management of the fraternity with a vision towards the next ten years, as well as the change in the authority and responsibilities of the District Deputies. It is continuing to be apparent that the refocus is working well and additional advantages have emerged. There are many tasks being addressed on a regular basis and a Grand Lodge officer has direct staff responsibility for maintaining a vision on each of these tasks in order to manage the functioning of the Grand Lodge. This process has provided each Grand Lodge officer a more complete insight into the many facets of operating the fraternity. My report elaborated on the list of tasks under review and oversight by the Grand Lodge officers.

The report also covered the new responsibilities of the District Deputies, along with their Associate Grand Marshals, and the results of their refocus thus far. In my opinion the DD's are doing a great job and their increased responsibility has made them more aware of the situation of the lodges within their districts and what is needed to assist them. The entire focus of the evaluation system is to provide a vehicle for the lodges to improve themselves.

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation report was given by Deputy Grand Master Arseneau, who informed the members of changes in the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. He also reported that the Board was going to begin raising funds to increase the endowment. My Grand Master's Appeal this year is one of the efforts being used to raise funds for the Foundation. The Appeal letter also includes a survey concerning our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning Committee has worked diligently since the district forums last April. This survey is another important step in that process. The committee needs your input. Please complete the survey and return it along with any amount you can provide to the appeal.

RW Steve Bowen provided an update on the new insurance program. Lodges are urged to contact Steve, the Grand Lodge office, or the insurance carrier to obtain a quote on insurance for the lodge or building. It does not cost anything for the quote process and you will determine if your lodge is already covered by the Grand Lodge policy, if your insurance is adequate, and if money can be saved.

RW Michael Dodge informed the members of new awards programs and a number of "Perfect Ashlar Awards" were presented to new Masons. The "Perfect Ashlar" program recommends 18 things a new Mason can do to improve himself and learn more about the fraternity. After he has completed 10 of these, he is

eligible for a "Perfect Ashlar" certificate.

WB Johnnie Miller reported on the Open House program, which appears to have been very successful. He will have a further report after he

is able to assemble more information. The lodges I visited on October 15 all were extremely well organized and everyone appeared to be enjoying the day. A number of brothers have approached me with reports of numbers of visitors and interest in the craft. A vigorous "well done" to all!

There were a couple of items that I did not have a chance to cover at the session because of the press of time. The first is non-payment of dues - 'NPD'. We are doing well on membership applications and are maintaining positive growth against deaths and demits; however, when we take NPDs into account, we are not doing as well. I have asked the Grand Secretary to provide information to all lodges regarding the proper way to notify brothers in arrears on their dues. I ask all Worshipful Masters to closely monitor the process. I have found, in many cases, that the main problem with these brothers is a feeling of "no one cares." I agree that we, as Masons, should all maintain contact with our lodges; however, the lodge also needs to provide its brothers with a reason for belonging and attending. Trestleboards and web sites help, but they must be educational, informative, up to date, and provide information that will make the brother proud of his lodge and Masonry. The District Deputies will assist me in monitoring the NPD process. Please give it a top priority in the next 60 days.

Lastly - investigations. RW Ken Greenhill and others have been providing excellent lectures regarding the importance of investigation of petitioners. I recently attended lodge and reports were submitted on five candidates. The leader of one of the investigation teams, WB Sandy Lunt, Associate Grand Tiler, gave an excellent report. I was impressed because he indicated that the team enjoyed speaking to the petitioners and their wives. I had asked WB Lunt to make a presentation to the Grand Lodge but, unfortunately, time interfered. Please see Sandy's presentation elsewhere in this issue.

My brothers, this has been an exciting and rewarding six months. Thank you for the opportunity to serve this Grand Lodge. I will continue to do my best.



James T. McWain
Grand Master

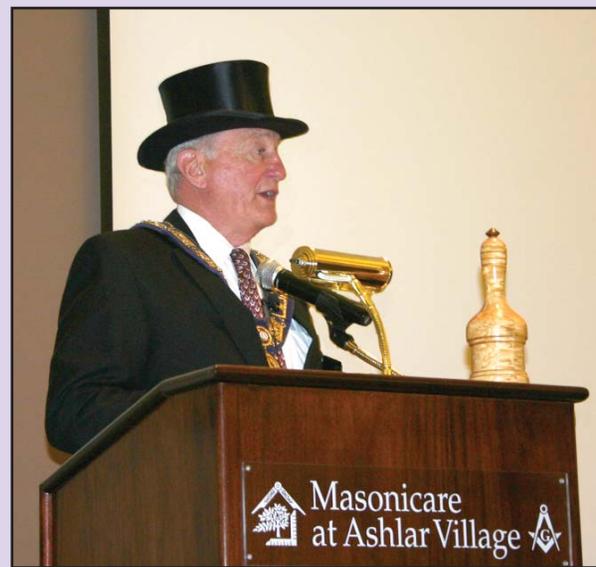


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Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM
 69 Masonic Avenue • P.O. Box 250 • Wallingford, Connecticut 06492
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 203-679-5903 • 800-529-4161 (in-state only) • Fax: 203-679-5996
 e-mail: grandlodge@masonicare.org • www.ctfreemasons.net



GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

James T. McWain - November 2011

DATE	EVENT	PUBLIC	DINNER	ATTIRE
Tuesday, November 1, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, November 2, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Thursday November 3, 1:00 p.m.	Office hours, Wallingford	Y	N	C
Saturday, November 5, 8:30 p.m.	Wardens Seminar, Masoniccare at Ashlar Village, Wallingford	Y	N	S
Saturday, November 5, 6:00 p.m.	St. Andrews dinner, Wallingford	N	Y	S
Monday, November 7, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Tuesday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, November 9, 5:30 p.m.	Grand Lodge officers, Wallingford	N	Y	C
Thursday November 10, 1:00 p.m.	Office hours, Wallingford	Y	N	C
Thursday November 10, 7:00 p.m.	Temple Lodge No. 65, Westport, awards night	Y	N	F
Saturday, November 12	Montgomery Lodge No. 13, Lakeville, rededication	Y	N	F
Saturday, November 12, 6:00 p.m.	Ladies at Table, Wallingford	Y	Y	S
Sunday, November 13, 2:00 p.m.	Autumn Gathering, Masoniccare Health Center, Wallingford	Y	N	S
Monday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Thursday November 17	Investment meeting, Wallingford	N	N	C
Thursday November 17, 1:00 p.m.	Office hours, Wallingford	Y	N	C
Thursday November 17, 2:00 p.m.	Compensation committee, Wallingford	N	N	C
Saturday, November 19	Grand Lodge of Maryland			
Monday, November 21, 6:30 p.m.	St. John's Lodge No. 2, Middletown, Master Mason Degree	N	Y	F
Wednesday, November 22, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, November 23, 5:30 p.m.	Grand Lodge officers, Wallingford	N	Y	C
Wednesday, November 30, 7:30 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F



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FREEMASONS

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Editor-in-Chief

SIMON R. LAPLACE

Associate Editor

CARL G. EK

Correspondent

MICHAEL L. CASTROLL

Design

CHARLENE D. ROWE

GWEN M. ROCHETTE

Contributors

RICHARD ALLEN	PAT KALINAUSKAS
CARL ANDERSON	THOMAS KESEM
LARRY ANVIK	CHUCK 2.0 LANDAU
JEFF BARTLETT	SIMON LAPLACE
GORGE BAUJIN	GARY A. LITTLEFIELD
THOM BECK	SANFORD G. LUNT
BRUCE R. BELLMORE	PERNE MAYNARD
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BILL HILLMAN	SETH STROHECKER
BEN ISAACSON	ANDREW WEIMANN, II

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We Can Make This All Work!

by Michael B. Dodge

What we are attempting to create is a series of programs to encourage participation and recognize the work of several types of people.

- The Perfect Ashlar award is an individual award that goes to a newly raised brother. The program grew from a similar initiative in Massachusetts called the "Masonic Rookie Award." RW Marshall Robinson and RW Carl Mossberg liked the idea and used that basic framework to build our Perfect Ashlar award.

- The Passport program is an individual award designed to engage any brother to visit as many lodges as he can. At the recent semi-annual session, 110 passports were purchased at \$20 each. The level of excitement to participate was most encouraging.

- The Lodge Fix-Up award is designed to recognize lodges, temple corporations, and building associations for their efforts to spruce up their buildings.

- The Trestleboard of Excellence has always recognized the efforts of a few individuals; the Master, wardens, and secretaries are usually the ones who do the bulk of the work producing them.

- The Honor Lodge program is an award

that recognizes the hard work and dedication of the entire lodge.

The program replaces the Master's Achievement Award, which was run by the Committee on Masonic Education. The idea is that as important as the Worshipful Master is, he doesn't do everything alone. Instead of honoring HIS achievement, the entire lodge should be recognized.

If Masonry is a progressive science, then our award programs are also designed to be progressive and recognize everyone from the newest members to the entire lodge. These programs may appear to be a haphazard bunch of unrelated programs, but in reality they are a holistic program designed to engage members at every level.

Combine these with the Committee on Masonic Education's programs designed to engage new members, seasoned veterans, lodges, and even districts; the Committee on Community Action, to develop more ways for lodges to get into their communities, like the Open House program; and the resources produced by the Legal Matters committee, offering advice on tax issues, legal concerns, insurance, and mergers/consolidations.

This is part of the "big picture," with the Grand Lodge offering programs and resources that benefit every level of Masonry.

We are exploring more enhancements to our website to make it a central hub for all things Masonic in Connecticut – the place where every member of the Connecticut Masonic family can get information and links to activities of all our appendant bodies.

We will study the effectiveness of these programs over the next several years and make appropriate changes, possibly adding new programs based on participation and the needs and desires of the brothers.

We need the support of our veteran members. Even though they may not participate, they can be on the sidelines cheering on the young guys who have the energy. I hope you see the value of these efforts. Even if you aren't interested in participating, I hope you will encourage other members to do so.



How We Investigate is an Opportunity

by Sanford G. Lunt

I have been a Mason for 44 years and have had the privilege of being on a great many investigation committees. It is one of the most important things we do as Masons, making sure that the prospective candidates have the right interest, morality, and integrity that we are looking for in future Masons.

Our custom at Temple Lodge in Westport is to select a Past Master as chairman of the committee and to follow the protocol established by the Grand Lodge. We always try to conduct the interview in the prospective candidate's home and to make every effort to have his wife or fiancée, if possible, present at the interview.

We normally start out asking the candidate what he knows about Masonry and today, with the advent of the Internet, most of them know a great deal. We then tell him about the history of Masonry, the Grand Lodge, the fact that in Wallingford we have one of the finest geriatric facilities in the world, mention the appendage organizations, the history of our lodge, and the many advantages that come with joining our fraternity.

We then go through the required paperwork, reading the form that is to be left

behind with the names and phone numbers of the investigating committee so that if he has any questions he knows who to contact. This is followed by asking the necessary questions in the investigating committee report.

Once this is done we open to questioning by the candidate and his spouse. Two weeks ago, I was selected to be a member of three investigating committees and chosen as chairman of one of them. The committees consisted of two past District Deputies and a Past Master.

We had a wonderful time talking to each candidate and his wife for over an hour. In these instances two wives were present and one even baked a cake for the occasion. The other wife had a pad in hand with questions that she wanted to ask. I got to one interview a little early and met the candidate's three and five year old daughters. They were very friendly, obedient, and charming children and you could tell that the family was what you would look for in a wonderful home environment.

All three of these interviews produced terrific candidates for Masonry. They were all in their thirties, had good jobs so that the financial requirements are not a problem, and their wives were very comfortable with

the prospect of their husbands becoming members of our fraternity.

This is a most important process, one that is a lot of fun and very stimulating for those of us who take part. You learn a great idea about the candidate by seeing the environment that he lives in, learn about his interest in the fraternity, obtain his response to the questions asked, and most important, ascertain the feelings and interest of his wife. You also get a good feel for the candidate's character by talking to the three references that he provides. It gave us the necessary information for the committee to make a recommendation to the lodge (whether to accept the candidate or not) before it goes to a vote. In the case of these three candidates we struck gold. They were the type of men that we are looking for and at a subsequent meeting all three were accepted to receive the degrees of Masonry.

Please don't ever look at the investigating interview as a chore or just as something that has to be done. It is a great opportunity to learn about a candidate and make sure that we are selecting men who can fit into our mold, men that will continue the tradition that is Masonry, and who will ultimately make a positive contribution to our fraternity.

"All Good Gifts Around Us"

*"We plow the field and scatter the good seed on the land,
But it is fed and watered by God's Almighty Hand.
He sends the snow in winter, it warmth to swell the grain;
The seed time, and the harvest, and soft, refreshing rain.*

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.
So thank the Lord, thank the Lord for all His love."*

Thanksgiving was celebrated for many years before it became an official holiday. The first Thanksgiving proclamation was issued by the governing council of the Charlestown, Massachusetts on June 20, 1676. President George Washington issued a proclamation on Wednesday, October 14, 1789 which stated: "Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor; and Whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me to recommend to the people of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

In 1863, in order to foster a sense of unity between the North and South after the Civil War (or as pointed out by one of my professors at the seminary I attended in North Carolina, "the War of Northern Aggression"), President Abraham Lincoln declared the last Thursday of November to be a "National Day of Thanksgiving." In 1941, by an act of Congress, Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the legislation declaring the fourth Thursday in November as a National Holiday.

Today, most people observe Thanksgiving as a day off from work, a day to gather with our families, eat too much, watch football, and think about the start of the Holiday Season. By Halloween, most retailers are already beginning to decorate and advertise for Christmas/Holiday shopping. There is even a plan being floated in several state legislatures and in the U.S. Congress to change all National Holidays to Monday or Saturday holidays regardless of their religious significance. For example, Connecticut is considering changing the date of Halloween to the last

Saturday in October to "make it easier for children and families to celebrate" thus making it a purely secular and commercial holiday. This would remove the historical background of All Hallows' Eve, a religious celebration on the evening before All Saints' Day as celebrated throughout Europe and South America.

Fortunately, they haven't decided to change the date of the one holiday set aside for all people to come together with their families and community to give thanks to God for all of His goodness and kindness and to praise Him for His love. Thanksgiving is something we should hold in our hearts everyday and never refrain from an opportunity to be grateful for all the good gifts we enjoy in this great country: "One Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

I hope that you will each have a safe and healthy holiday and pray that your hearts may be filled with love and gratitude for "All good gifts around us, sent from heaven above."

God Bless!



BLC Supports Veterans Group

by Arnie Grot

Gerry Wright, 1SGT (Ret) U.S. Army, a disabled veteran, was the speaker at the Sixth District Blue Lodge Council meeting on September 29 at Columbia Lodge No. 25, Glastonbury.

His true happiness grew out of his 20 years service with the Connecticut National Guards 242nd Engineers Battalion. When the 242nd Engineers was dissolved, a group from this unit formed a breakfast club, and the 242nd Engineers Association was created. The association collects needed items and ships them to the units overseas. They also do toy runs and fund-raising events for the widows and orphans of deceased service people.

Gerry is the past state chapter director of the American Legion Riders, a motorcycle group of veterans that raises scholarship funds for children of service men and women who died in action, or from the 9/11 attacks. Gerry speaks before many groups and with children at schools around Veterans Day.

Beanie babies, small stuffed animals, are particularly cherished as gifts to children orphaned in the various war zones. Donations by check may be sent to the "242nd Engineers Association" and sent to Gerry Wright, 17 Howard Road, Bolton, CT 06043.



Sixth District BLC President Don Willis, right, presents a check to Gerry Wright. BLC VP James Hammitt, left, arranged Gerry's presentation.



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Howard Schiller Receives Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze

Howard Barry Schiller was born in the Bronx, New York, April 3, 1949, the oldest of three boys born to Estelle and C. Lawrence Schiller. The family moved to Willimantic, where he attended the public schools, graduating high school in 1967. As a youth his path to his future was made with his activity in the Boy Scouts of America, youth activities in the Willimantic synagogue to which his family belonged, and numerous clubs and academic organizations.

Howard enrolled in Wesleyan University where he prepared for his life's work by carrying a double-major in religion and history. Given his personal and ethical concerns with the issues of that era, Howard determined to work where his strong personal beliefs could be intermingled with his inclination to help those who were disadvantaged by cultural trends in our legal system.

It didn't take long before Howard was off to the UConn Law School, from which he earned his Juris Doctor degree cum laude in 1975. After passing the Connecticut bar he joined Tolland-Windham Legal Services as a VISTA volunteer. Beginning practice as an outreach attorney for the elderly, he visited nursing homes and housing projects to provide legal assistance to growing senior and shut-in populations. His advocacy also involved law reform issues, as legal aid attorneys were then permitted more latitude representing their clients their clients than current restrictions would allow.

Howard has advocated Social Security disability cases from his legal service days. He is now a Board Certified Workers' Compensation Specialist. Many of his cases involve litigating medical issues of injury related claims. Sometimes, he even gets into a Constitutional argument.

Howard is active in the Connecticut Bar Association. He has represented Windham County to the Bar Association's House of Delegates, is a member of its Workers Compensation Executive Committee, and can be found on the lecture circuit speaking about issues concerning workers compensation. He is a Life Fellow of the JW Cooper Fellows of the Connecticut Bar Foundation.

Involved in community affairs, Howard has served on not-for-profit organization boards, including the presidency of the local Visiting Nurse Association, and two terms as president of the Windham Area Interfaith Ministry. He is a past chairman of the Windham Charter Revision Commission.

A long time congregant of Willimantic's Temple B'Nai Israel, he served as president in 1991. He is a member of United Brethren of Hebron Synagogue, as well as Shalom Chaverim, a group of families he helped organize meets monthly for Sabbath services as well as social functions.

Howard was destined to seek admission into our order, as it runs in his family. Bro. Schiller was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by his father, RW C. Lawrence Schiller on November 9, 1974. Masonry, as far as the Schillers are concerned, is a family affair.

RW C. Lawrence Schiller served Uriel Lodge No. 24, Merrow, as Worshipful Master in 1969, and as Right Worshipful District Deputy in 1975-76. Howard got into the chairs and was inducted into the Oriental Chair, by his father in 1980. Since his year in the East, Howard has served as secretary. In 1994, when the lodge needed him to serve as Worshipful Master once again, he vacated the secretary's desk, but was back in 1995.

Always an excellent student, Howard is just as good a teacher. His teaching skills were noticed by others when in 2005 he was appointed as District Lecturer by Grand Master George S. Greytak.

Howard again followed the foot steps of his father when Grand Master William L. Greene appointed him as District Deputy for District 9-B in 2007. He continued through 2008.

Howard and his wife, Bonnie have been happily married for nearly 40 years. They are proud parents of children: Joshua and Elizabeth. Joshua, who has followed his father's footsteps in the legal profession, expects wife Jill (also an attorney) to deliver their first child in December. Elizabeth, a doctor, is married to Dr. Daniel Freess, and they have a daughter - Samantha. There is no doubt Howard takes great pride in his family. When he speaks of his relationship with his dad, he beams. They're friendly political adversaries but, most of all, as father and son, they share the brotherhood Masonry.

Howard has been actively involved on



RW Howard B. Schiller has the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze placed by his wife Bonnie at the 9th District Blue Lodge Council meeting.

several Grand Lodge committees, among them Rules, Regulations, and Jurisprudence, Membership in Action, and Sessions Committees, and the Trial Commission. He is a past president of the Ninth District Blue Lodge Council, and has served as secretary/treasurer. In 2002, he was chosen as Mason of the Year for District 9-B by the Ninth District Blue Lodge Council. He has continued to coordinate Tabs for Tots activities in the Ninth District.

Howard is a member of the Scottish Rite Bodies of the Valley of Norwich and Connecticut Consistory, the Sphinx Shriners, and the Nutmeg Order, Sword of Bunker Hill.

When asked to reflect on the June 27 surprise, Howard said, "My brothers and their generosity to one another and to our communities inspires me always. All my brothers demonstrate to me daily that whether their contributions are public or private, in their homes, churches or jobs, they all give freely of themselves with no expectations other than the satisfaction of knowing that they are trying to do what is right."

The citation of Right Worshipful Schiller proclaims that "in recognition of his dedicated service to Masonry, the community, and the fine image he projects to the public at large, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut is pleased to present the Pierpont Edwards Award in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service."

We have no reason to doubt this. The evidence is proof.

Fifty years ago, Grand Master Paul Collier spoke about the two November holidays, Thanksgiving and Veterans Day. He said "Veterans Day is set aside to honor all those in the armed services who have protected and preserved our American way of life enabling our nation to establish its place of leadership in the world."

Today, I passed the Iwo Jima Memorial on the campus of Central Connecticut State University. I stopped once again because I wanted to see my uncle's stone on the walkway. I had seen it before but had forgotten exactly where it was. He was a Mason when he served our country on Iwo Jima. Joseph Charles Rada was a Marine in the 5th division and a member of Uriel Lodge No. 24, Merrow. Soon after the memorial was dedicated, he took my family to see the monument and told us a couple of stories.

Over the years I had heard many stories from him, the last one about two weeks before he died in 2003. I gazed at other stones, too, and recognized a few other names of brothers. There are probably several more that I didn't see or didn't know. The Freemasons who have served or who are serving in the military deserve our thanks for what they did to help, aid, and assist.



In November 1951, Lafayette Lodge No. 141, Fairfield, reported they had heard from MW Mauro Baradi, Past Grand Master of the Republic of Philippines, during United Nations Week. The Master, Leon Rozene, later to become District Deputy, introduced the honored guest and RW Ernest Dayton who represented the Grand Master. MW Baradi had traveled throughout the world and had been received in many jurisdictions. When he spoke in 1961, he told how Freemasonry was beginning to evolve in Japan, just twenty years after their having been our enemy.



An interesting item came from the annual report of the Masonic Charity Foundation in 1958 discussed the daily per capita cost of residents at the Masonic Home during the 1950s. It started out in 1950 at \$1.86; 1951-\$2.05; 1952-\$2.07; 1953-\$2.19; 1954-\$2.11 (a decrease!); 1955-\$2.91; 1956-\$4.73; and 1957-\$5.88, with the charge almost double in hospital care. The movies listed during the year were "Silk Stockings," "Funny Face,"

"Tammy and the Bachelor," and "Helen of Troy." The laundry department reported 56,000 pieces of press work, 230,000 pieces of flatwork, and 212,000 pieces of rough work. The farm department produced 11,416 dozen eggs, almost 90,000 quarts of milk, 4100 pounds of beef, 5500 pounds of pork, and 385 bushels of potatoes.



The Fairfield County courthouse was dedicated on June 27, 1887 in proper Masonic form and the address was given by Luke A. Lockwood, Past Grand Master. His address came immediately after the collation. His humor interwoven with teachings was very eloquent. "It is expected that I am to address you, who have just fully satisfied the natural cravings of the inner man, and who very properly desire now not to be burdened with a set and indigestible discourse."

He continued later his discourse, "Freemasonry, by its very constitution, by its object lessons of equality and fraternity, by its helping hand extended to all worthy members of the human family, by its



disregard of worldly wealth and rank, by its warm recognition of the universal brotherhood of man as the children of the same Parent and with its nerves and arteries penetrating into all ranks and conditions of man, can quickly do much to remedy these great evils into which we seem to be rapidly drifting, and which, if not speedily checked, will make shipwreck of much life and property and shake civil society to its lowest foundations." Such eloquent words by an eloquent brother of 19th century America.

The art of oration has been lost in today's society, and replaced with split second responses, barely enough to capture the interest of the audience. One could never easily "text" the last Lockwood statement. Oration is part of our Masonic history and in the next few months we will include some more great Masonic orators.



As Senior Wardens draw upon those who will serve with them during 2012, the incoming Worshipful Masters should remember the office of the Historian.

Judi Ann Lausier of Bristol Joins Masonicare

Judi Ann Lausier has joined Masonicare as community liaison. In this role, she'll provide community and hospital outreach for Masonicare Home Health & Hospice's and Masonicare at Newtown's wide range of programs and services, communicating with physicians, hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and families.

Judi has several years of experience in the healthcare marketing and public relations field. She is a graduate of Central Connecticut State University, where she earned a BS degree in marketing and communications. Prior to joining Masonicare, she served as community relations director for Benchmark Assisted Living.

Judi is involved with Environmental Learning Centers of CT, is a charter member of CARES (Community Awareness Resource for Elderly Services), and is a member of various Chamber groups. She and her husband, Jim, are residents of Bristol.



Judi Ann Lausier

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The Masonicare EXPERIENCE

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

by Adam Raider

Masonicare works hard to provide a wide range of services to seniors throughout Connecticut, even when the services required are non-medical in nature.

Established in 2005 as an affiliate of Masonicare Home Health & Hospice, Masonicare at Home provides clients anywhere in the state with non-medical, at-home assistance with their regular homemaking tasks like grocery shopping, meal preparation, laundry, arranging transportation to appointments, light housekeeping, medication reminders, help with bathing and dressing, and companionship.

Masonicare at Home provides all of these services on a private pay basis 24 hours a day, seven days a week to people in their own homes as well as residents of nursing homes, residents of assisted living facilities, and hospital patients. Live-in services are available for clients who need around-the-clock care.

"We like to create a service plan tailored to fit every client's needs," explains Kimberly Magalhaes, Masonicare at Home Program Coordinator. "That involves learning what each individual's personal needs are from likes to dislikes and expectations when inquiring about a Homemaker/Companion or Personal Care Attendant. Having this important information allows us to establish the ideal match for our clients."

Masonicare at Home makes the referral process quick and easy.

"Whether your need is one of an emergent nature or you're simply calling to learn more about our staff," Magalhaes says, "we can assist you with any questions you may have."

Chief among the qualities that Masonicare at Home looks for in new staff members is compassion and fondness for the elderly.

"We seek individuals who attain the special attributes needed to effectively service our elderly population," Magalhaes says. "We're looking for caring, dedicated folks who share the same high standards of quality care that you would expect from a family member."

Jane Vumback, a Homemaker/Companion who cares for Catherine (Kay) Schneider in her cozy Masonicare at Ashlar

Village apartment, has been with Masonicare for six years. "My father lived at Masonicare Health Center," Jane recalls during a recent visit with Kay. "I'd always worked with people, but after I saw how he was cared for here, that's when I knew I wanted to work for Masonicare. They needed the help and I was excited to give it."

Kay has lived at Masonicare at Ashlar Village since 2005. She and her late husband, Francis, relocated to Masonicare's Wallingford campus from their home in Woodbridge after Francis was diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

A "sensational centenarian" recently recognized for her very generous support of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, Kay is still an active member of the Ashlar Village community but her mobility is limited. She can no longer stand without assistance and requires the use of a power chair.

Kay receives many of the Masonicare at Home services outlined earlier and appreciates that Jane also brings in fresh flowers for the vase in her living room.

"And what else do I do for you?" Jane prompts Kay, smiling.

Kay thinks for a moment. "Oh yes," she says with a laugh, "you sing goodbye to me. Sometimes you jump at the end, too."

It's the kind of playful, personal touch one wouldn't expect to see in a Masonicare brochure, but isn't at all surprising to hear about. Time and again, residents, patients, and their families list the warmth and compassion of our staff as the number one reason why they would recommend Masonicare to others.

"I have a great relationship with my clients," Jane says. "They're called 'the Greatest Generation' and I really agree with that. I learn so much from them. It's so rewarding, and you get a good feeling. I think it's mutual. We're like a team."

Kay nods in agreement.

"You get what you give."

Help Where You Need It Most: at Home



Masonicare at Home Homemaker/Companion Jane Vumback, left, with Masonicare at Ashlar Village resident Kay Schneider.

Your gifts to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut will help create "Masonicare Experiences" for others. To find out how you can support The Foundation or to make a gift, please call 203-679-5555 or 800-562-3952. You can also donate online at www.masonicare.org/mcf.

Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142 PRESENTS

Veterans Ceremony
Saturday, November 12th, 2011 @ 1:00 PM

Staples Elementary School
515 Morehouse Road
Easton, CT 06612

Suggested \$10.00 Donation - Kids Free

FROM THE DESK OF:

Bro. Stephen B. McPherson President & CEO of Masonicare



As you read this issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*, I hope you will take a few minutes to read the article on the importance of getting a flu shot. Every year, many cases of the flu – especially serious cases – could have been avoided or ameliorated if the patient had gotten a flu vaccination in the fall.

At Masonicare, in addition to making sure our patients and residents are inoculated, we offer free flu shots to all our employees and volunteers. I am pleased that so many of them willingly step up and get their shot. It's just one way we encourage them to protect their health and the health of those in our care.

In this day and age, it's important for all of us to take responsibility for our health. Where possible, we should try to take advantage of preventive measures to stay healthy and screen for potential problems. If you are over 65, Medicare pays not only for flu shots, but many screening tests such

as mammograms, colonoscopies and diabetes and cardiovascular screenings. A list of all the screenings and tests covered by Medicare can be found by going online to www.medicare.gov and then clicking on "Manage Your Health."

If you live near Wallingford, you can get a colonoscopy in our Outpatient Clinic on the second floor of the Masonicare Health Center. You will just need a referral from your doctor. And, beginning November 2, the Clinic will be open on Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with trained staff to do blood pressure readings at no charge.

The article in this issue is the third such health-related article we have done in *Connecticut Freemasons* that features the expertise of a Masonicare clinician, in this case, Carolyn Hebert, R.N. An article in the September issue featured information on home health and hospice care from Susan Adams, R.N., Ph.D. of Masonicare Home Health

& Hospice and, in last month's issue, Dr. Ronald Schwartz of Masonicare Primary Care Physicians addressed the importance of having a physical and how to maximize the appointment. Next month, Dr. Richard Kull of Masonicare Behavioral Health will provide timely information on holiday stress and seasonal affective disorder.

I hope you find this information helpful and I thank each of our clinical experts for their willingness to share their knowledge with all of us.

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steve".

A Fruitful Conversation in the Fraternal Tradition

by Benjamin Simon

At Trinity College's graduate studies orientation, held in the latter part of August, a number of department heads spoke of their respective programs, their curriculums, and their course offerings. Dr. William Barnett, Trinity's director of graduate studies, was introduced.

"The master," he began, "traditionally was just that. He was the master at his profession, and it was his job to teach and train his subordinates. Similarly, you are all here seeking the masters degree to become masters of your professions and eventually to teach others."

Dr. Barnett commanded the room's attention. His diction was clear. His voice was crisp and firm, not loud or coarse. There was something about the way he moved his hands. There was an

energy present in his oration that seemed very classical, as though he spoke from a large chair in the east. The room's light gleamed off of a ring on his right hand. I sat straighter in my chair and listened intently.

"The country needs masters," he said.

Later, Dr. Barnett, the son and grandson of Masons, sat at his desk in his modest office, collecting his thoughts. He looked upwards towards the wall.

"My grandfather," he began, "was a railroad calligrapher and a school principal who also worked for the federal department of agriculture. Every day he made decisions which affected the farming community in his small town in Indiana. He was very respected. The decisions he made, for the department generally weren't met with resistance. He

was very active in his local lodge, as were many of the men. The community, as a result had a great homogeneity. This would be hard to find elsewhere today."

"My father," he continued, "was a school teacher. He had two masters degrees. He too was very active in his lodge. I, however, am not myself a Mason."

"This country," he continued, "grew due to the voluntary associations and organizations to which its citizens belonged. Without these associations and organizations, this country would not have been able to develop as it has."

"My grandfather and father's small town wouldn't exist today the way it did then. Those relationships don't exist anymore. People are very distracted."

He went on.

"I remember watching

a reenactment of George Washington's funeral on television. The craftsmanship and care put into that ceremony was unbelievable. I witnessed it myself at my father's funeral. The camaraderie was evident. The entire community was there. The country needs organizations like the Masons."

"The decisions that my grandfather made in Indiana working for the federal department of agriculture were most likely deliberated within his lodge. All of those men, those farmers, were able to come together voluntarily for the benefit of their community. The country needs that. It needs Masons."

As Dr. Barnett shook the hand of his student, he reaffirmed "This country needs masters; it needs Masons."

Third Annual Fundraiser Nets More than \$2,200 for Alzheimer's Association

On Sunday morning, September 25, close to 50 Masonicare employees, residents and family members joined together to participate in what has become an annual event to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association, Connecticut Chapter. The mini walk was held in Wallingford on the grounds of Masonicare at Ashlar Village on Cheshire Road.

As a leading provider of healthcare and retirement living for seniors throughout Connecticut, Masonicare is home to hundreds of residents and provides hospital care for many patients who are the unfortunate victims of this progressive, debilitating and eventually fatal brain disease. According to the Alzheimer's Association, as many as 5.4

million people are living with the disease; it is currently the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States, and the only cause of death among the top 10 in the U.S. that cannot be prevented, cured, or even slowed.

The event was a wonderful demonstration of camaraderie and dedication to a powerful cause. All of the money raised went directly to the Connecticut Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association in support of their 2011 Walk to End Alzheimer's, held on October 2 at Lighthouse Point Park in New Haven. The Alzheimer's Association also held similar walks at other locations throughout Connecticut. All funds raised by the Association make a difference in the lives of people living with Alzheimer's disease and

support research to improve treatment, care, and prevention.

Masonicare was pleased to present the Alzheimer's Association with more than \$2,200, which included money raised through walk registration fees, donations, a gift-basket raffle, and the sale of t-shirts and forget-me-nots.

Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, president and CEO of Masonicare, said, "Masonicare has sponsored these events to highlight and show our strong support for the Connecticut Alzheimer's Association's ongoing efforts to educate and support families and to find a cure for this dreadful disease. We thank our many residents, families, and employees who helped make this event a success."



Among the Masonicare employees, residents, and family members who walked to raise funds for the Alzheimer's Association, Connecticut Chapter, were WB Jon-Paul Venoit, on left, and his son, Ethan, and RW Jason Rieger, kneeling on left, and his son, Anthony. Bro. Venoit is Masonicare's Sr. VP for Residential Services, and Bro. Rieger is Assistant Administrator for Masonicare at Ashlar Village.

MHC's First Annual Chili Cook-Off a Big Success

On Thursday afternoon, October 6, the auditorium at Masonicare Health Center was filled with the mouthwatering aroma of chili – several different pots of it, in fact! The chili was made by Masonicare employees who used their favorite chili recipes to help raise money for the Center's Quality of Life Fund. The fund is used throughout the year to benefit residents of the Healthcare Center.

All Masonicare employees were invited to purchase a \$5.00 ticket to attend the cook-off, sample each chili, and vote for their favorite. To complement the chili, corn bread was also included in the admission price.

Official judges for the event included Steve Alsup, Wallingford deputy fire chief; Record-Journal reporter Stephanie O'Connell; Efrain Nieves, owner of Tata's Restaurant in Wallingford; and Wallingford Mayor Bill Dickinson.

Jesse Camp, project engineer in Masonicare Health Center's maintenance department, won the contest – his chili was voted both crowd favorite and overall winner. In addition to Camp, employees who entered their chili into the competition were Cinda D'Addio, Tammy Gaydos, Thayer Quoos, Phil Searcy, and Lori Solkoske. Although Camp's recipe proved to be the ultimate winner, the consensus of all who attended was that every one of the entries was outstanding!



The judges for the "Chili Cook-Off" were, from left, Steve Alsup, Wallingford Deputy Fire Chief; Stephanie O'Connell, reporter for the Meriden Record-Journal; Jesse Camp, chili cook-off winner; Wallingford Mayor Bill Dickinson; and Efrain Nieves, owner of Tata's Restaurant in Wallingford.

Getting a Flu Shot – What You Need to Know

During her career as a nurse, Caroline Hebert, RN, manager of the outpatient specialty clinics and employee health at Masonicare Health Center in Wallingford, has seen dozens of patients with influenza and witnessed firsthand the serious complications that can result. With the flu season upon us, Masonicare asked Caroline to share her knowledge and experience to help protect you and your family.

Should I – and members of my family – get a flu shot every year?

Flu viruses are highly contagious. Many people don't realize it, but according to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), everyone 6 months of age or older should get a yearly flu vaccine. It is the first – and ultimately the most important – step to take to protect yourself and your loved ones against flu viruses. The 'flu shot' is an inactivated (contains killed virus) vaccine given with a needle, usually in the arm. It can take up to two weeks after the shot for antibodies to develop, and the protection lasts about a year. You may have heard in the past that you should wait to get your flu shot, but people are now being urged to get it as soon as possible.

Each year in the U.S., more than 200,000 people are hospitalized and thousands die from flu-related complications. Although there are several different flu viruses, the 2011 - 2012 flu vaccine protects you against the three viruses that the CDC says are the most common this season – one of them is the H1N1 virus that appeared in 2009. I'm sure you'll remember that one! It caused a pandemic, a global outbreak of the flu caused by this new virus that people had no immunity to.

I don't like needles! Is there some other way I can receive the vaccine?

People who are healthy and between the ages of 2 and 49 (and not pregnant) have the option of getting the nasal-spray flu vaccine from their primary physician. It's actually made with live – although weakened – flu viruses and is given as a nasal spray. It's called LAIV or FluMist®. The viruses in the nasal

spray vaccine DO NOT cause the flu.

Are there some people who should not be vaccinated?

The following people should not get a flu vaccine without consulting a physician:

- People with a severe allergy to eggs (the flu vaccine may contain some amount of egg protein), or those who've had a severe reaction to flu vaccine in the past.
- People who are moderately to severely ill and have a fever. They should wait until they're better.
- People with any history Guillain-Barre syndrome. (Guillain-Barre is a disorder that affects the nervous system and causes an acute onset paralysis.)

Will I experience any side effects?

Remember that almost everyone who receives the flu shot will have no serious problems with it. The viruses in the shot are inactivated, so you can't get the flu from a flu shot. There are a few minor side effects possible, however, such as soreness, redness, or swelling at the site, a low grade fever, and mild body aches. The nasal spray (LAIV or FluMist®) can cause symptoms in adults such as runny nose, headache, sore throat, and cough.

Who is most at risk to get the flu?

People at high risk of serious flu complications should be at the top of the list for receiving the flu vaccine:

- Young children, especially those over 6 months and under 2
- Pregnant women
- Those with chronic health problems like asthma, diabetes, or heart and lung disease
- People who live in nursing homes
- People 50 and older

It is particularly important that healthcare workers and caregivers who live or care for high risk people are vaccinated. Masonicare, for example, makes the flu shot available to residents, employees, and volunteers. We encourage everyone to get vaccinated. It is especially important for those who have direct contact with patients and residents so as to avoid spreading the flu to the elderly, who are especially vulnerable to serious complications. It is the responsibility of all of us to protect our elderly and frail residents from harm, and this is just one simple way to accomplish that goal.

Babies younger than 6 months are at high risk for serious flu complications

as well, but unfortunately, they're too young to be vaccinated. That makes it imperative that parents and other people who care for infants – like daycare providers – are vaccinated!

How can we help stop the spread of the flu to people who haven't been vaccinated?

Of course, we should all be vigilant in taking preventive steps every day to stop the spread of germs, not just the flu. Covering your nose and mouth with a tissue if you cough or sneeze is very important – and be sure to throw the tissue into the trash immediately after you use it. Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub. Don't touch your eyes, nose, and mouth – germs spread easily that way – and try to avoid close contact with anyone who is sick. Remember – if you have flu-like symptoms, the CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone. And when you're sick, limit your contact with others whenever possible.

If you do get sick, how can you tell whether it's just a bad cold or the flu?

Both a cold and the flu are respiratory illnesses and have similar flu-like symptoms, and it can be difficult to tell the difference based on just symptoms. In general, the flu is worse than a cold, and symptoms such as body aches, persistent fever, fatigue, and dry cough are more intense. Colds are usually milder, and those with colds usually have a runny or stuffy nose. And colds usually don't cause serious problems like pneumonia, bacterial infections, or hospitalization.

To tell if someone actually has the flu, special tests must be done within the first few days of illness.

The CDC recommends that people get the seasonal flu shots as soon as the vaccine becomes available in their community. So if you haven't been vaccinated yet, be sure to call your doctor now or seek out other locations where the vaccine is being offered. Most influenza occurs between October and May, so as long as the vaccine is still available, it's definitely not too late.

Remember – in addition to protecting yourself from serious illness, and possibly worse, you'll be protecting others as well!



Caroline Hebert, RN

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

It has often been said that as one door closes another is opened. So it is with our degree schedule here in the Valley of Hartford. Following the completion of our fall 2011 class in mid-November, the Valley officers will soon begin the spring degrees.

Our spring season starts with our open house on Thursday, February 2, 2012. On that evening, interested Master Masons and their family members are invited to tour our facility, learn how Scottish Rite improves upon the lessons learned in Blue Lodge Masonry, see the emphasis we place on including a Mason's family in many of our activities, and generally learn more about what the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite has to offer. The degrees will begin the following Thursday, February 9, 2012.

Any Master Mason who believes he might like to be part of the Scottish Rite family and would like more information about the Scottish Rite should contact the Valley office at 860-666-0712, or sect@snet.net. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon, otherwise, please leave

a message on the answering machine. We can send you an informational DVDs that will help get you started on your Scottish Rite journey and answer many of your questions.

There is also a wealth of information available on our Valley website: www.valleyofhartford.org. This includes membership application forms, a calendar of events, registration forms for activities, and electronic copies of our quarterly publication *View of the Valley*.

This fall, in addition to our regular Lodge of Perfection degrees, the Valley portrayed the 12°. For the first time in our valley the 16° was portrayed in a banquet format, the brethren and candidates enjoying dinner while the degree was performed.

On November 10, the Valley will portray the 17° in vignette form, and the 18°. These degrees begin at 7:30 p.m. with a pre-degree "all-you-can eat" buffet dinner at 6:00 p.m. at the Shine facility. Reservations are required in advance. The price is \$12.00. Walk-ins may possibly be accommodated at \$15.00.

The Fall Class of 2011 will

end on Consistory Day, Saturday, November 19, with the portrayal of the 24°, 31°, and 32°.

Please note the change in the Consistory Day schedule:

Registration at 8:00 a.m.

Portrayal of the 24° promptly at 9:00 a.m.

The 32° and 31° will follow the 24° after an intermission

Lunch will follow the 31° at the Shrine facility.

Registration now begins one

hour earlier, at 8:00 a.m., and the day closes with lunch. There is no afternoon session.

Advance reservations are required for lunch, at \$15.00. Reservation forms can be found in the latest issue of *View of the Valley*, or on the "Forms" page at www.valleyofhartford.org.

Finally, the officers of the Valley of Hartford would like to wish all brethren and their family a very Happy Thanksgiving!

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.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE IN MASONRY?
Why not consider becoming a Scottish Rite Mason?

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10
Portrayal of the 170 (Vignette) and 180 in Full Form starting at 7:30 p.m.
Pre-degree dinner at 6:00 PM – Advance reservations required

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19
24°, 31°, and 32° on Consistory Day - Starting @ 9:00 a.m.
Prime Rib Luncheon to be served following the portrayal of the degrees
Advance reservations required

If at you would like more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, or would like a copy of Scottish Rite Informational DVD Contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary, at the Valley of Hartford Office 860-666-0712, or sect@snet.net or visit our Valley Website: www.valleyofhartford.org

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.

Sidney Esner	America-St. John's 8	Charles J. Zieminski	Compass 9
Martin Friend.....	America-St. John's 8	Leonard Burack	Cosmopolitan 125
Edward W. Lydiksen	America-St. John's 8	Terry H. Falkner	Frederick Franklin 14
Robert P. Novak.....	Ansantawae 89	Warren A. Hunt	Granite 119
Arnold T. Nelson	St. John's 6	Arthur Gittleman.....	Hartford Evergreen 88
Franklin I. Smith	Shepherd-Salem 78	Manuel M. Leibert.....	Hartford Evergreen 88
Malcolm K. Allen	Bay View 120	Edward C. Marsden Jr	Hartford Evergreen 88
Albert F. Betzel.....	Bay View 120	Louis T. Benton Jr	King Hiram 12
Myles A. Glasbrenner.....	Bay View 120	Cliff E. Carlson	Manchester 73
Herschel Dolbier	Coastal 57	Clifford K. Forbes	Manchester 73
Melvin E. Potts	Coastal 57	Burton A. Rice.....	Manchester 73
Frank S. Brainard Jr	Columbia 25	J. Russell Willyard.....	Seneca 55
James A. Collins Jr.....	Columbia 25	David J. Kerr Jr.....	Somerset-St. James 34
Robert N. Stone	Columbia 25	Robert W. Anderson	Trumbull 22
Jack R. White	Columbia 25	Gerald D. Dooley	Silas Deane 147
Andrew L. Ohr Jr	Compass 9	Jonathan W. Guite.....	Warren 51
Merlin F. Varney.....	Compass 9	William R. Wochomurka	Wolcott 60

Valley of New Haven, A.A.S.R.

by Michael L. Castroll

On Monday evening, November 7, New Haven Chapter Rose Croix takes center stage as the Most Wise Master presides for the conferral of the 18°, that of the Knight of Rose Croix. It is known as the philosophical portion of our Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite as the neophyte knights are taught mankind need only to find the heart of man to be the true temple of God.

After this, on November 21, the venue moves on to Lafayette Consistory, and the Valley of New Haven once again commands the action of the popularly revised 23°. Illustrious Carleton V. Erickson 33°, has gained a reputation as the supreme commander of the Chief of the Tabernacle, popularly known as the Four Chaplains Degree. The poignant moments of reminiscence are combined with the battle scenes leading to the ultimate sacrifice and makes this degree one you will not want to miss!

Just two days later, on Wednesday, November 23, the Fall Reunion is brought to the Valley of Waterbury (the home of our new Deputy, Ill. David L. Sharkis, 33°) for the presentation of the 25°, where the class meets Brother Benjamin Franklin. The degree bears the title, the "Knight of the Brazen Serpent." All of our degrees are preceded by a buffet at 6:15 p.m.

We are very thankful in the Valley of New Haven! We are thankful for our rich heritage of over 140 years, the stewardship of all of our leaders, and for all of those who have kept our records intact. We are thankful for those who keep us afloat, our membership program, and its leaders. We are thankful for all of our Sublime Princes of the

Royal Secret, and those who aspire.

Finally, we are extremely grateful to all of the men and women around the world who put their lives at risk to protect and insure our freedom, and our way of life.

Be thankful and from all of us here at the Valley of New Haven, have a safe, healthy, and happy thanksgiving.

ATTENTION MASONS

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

THE VALLEY OF NEW HAVEN
Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven

Monday, November 7 • 18°

Monday, November 21, 23°

Wednesday, November 23 • 25°

For further information, please contact
Valley Secretary Ill. Vernon K. Cleaves, 33° at 203-269-0336
or any member of the Valley.

Please join us for the

Masonic Family Autumn Gathering

Sunday, November 13, 2011

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

in the auditorium at

Masonicare Health Center

22 Masonic Avenue, Wallingford, CT

Social time, hors d'oeuvres

Recognition Awards

Tours of Masonicare Health Center

R.S.V.P. to

Bro. Carl Anderson at 203-679-6917

 Masonicare 

www.masonicare.org

Raptors Given Rapt Attention

by Don Skinner

On Monday evening, October 17, 39 brothers, families, and friends gathered at Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury, for a lasagna dinner followed by a program on raptors.

The program was presented by Horizon Wings, a registered avian rehabilitator in Ashford. Five birds were brought and presented to the audience: 1 male and 1 female kestrel, 2 owls, and a red-tail hawk. The presenters also talked about the importance of maintaining habitats and of not littering.

Plastic and metal litter

thrown out on the roads can exist for over 400 years, often injuring, and sometimes killing birds and small animals. Some yogurt containers can last forever.

Many remarked how informative the program was, and how much they enjoyed it.



Joanne Wadsworth, left, and Mary-Ann Kenser, from Horizon Wings, display and discuss the various birds they brought to Valley Lodge's raptor program.

OPEN HOUSE 2011



from Gus Bodin: Ashlar Lodge No. 322, Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Wallingford, displayed their sign at the entrance to Bridge House. Members of the lodge and Eastern Star met the visitors.



from Edward Page: Moriah Lodge No. 15, Brooklyn, displayed the Open House banner alongside their own. Their information center included constant videos which ranged from Masonicare and Freemasonry to the Knights Templar.

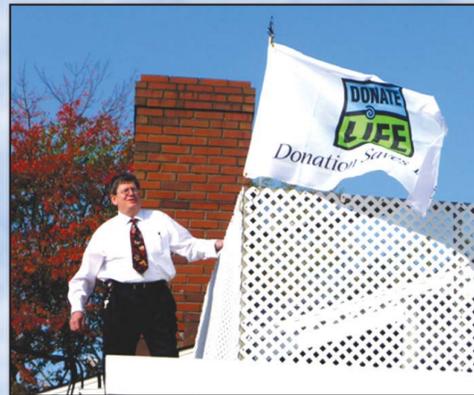


from Bob Gresham: Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, had about 8 visitors and 3 petitions were accepted at their Open House. The lodge parlor displayed community activities and the Donate Life flag.

OPEN HOUSE 2011



from Howard B. Schiller: Uriel Lodge No. 24, Merrow.



from Chuck 2.0 Landau: Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington.



from Thomas Keser: Mr. Maynard Williams, left, and WM Ron Kutz at Warren Lodge No. 51, Portland.



from Chris Buck: Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford.



from Michael Deane: Wooster Lodge No. 10, Colchester, had four visitors by 12:30 p.m., one of whom came back with a filled out application and money in hand.



from Stephen Petri: Harmony Lodge No. 67, New Canaan.

OPEN HOUSE 2011



from Jeff Bartlett: At Jerusalem Lodge No. 49, Ridgefield, the timing coincided with a weekend-long fall festival on Main Street. Brothers were on the porch all day, answering questions and giving out pencils, pens, and mugs. More than 20 people took the time to tour the lodge and learn about Masonry.



from Richard Allen: Comments at Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34, Preston:

"I would also like to thank everyone at the open house today; they were very friendly, courteous, informed, and understanding."

"I read online that freemasonry was a fraternity of "brotherly love," but I never thought it was to the degree which was presented today."



from Stephen Petri: Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107, Darien.

GRAND MASTER'S APPEAL

Support the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation

We are all proud of the charitable work of the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, and the service that CTCHIP provides to Connecticut families. We hope you will consider making a gift to the Foundation today.

- 1) **The Grand Lodge Permanent Endowment Fund** provides funding for educational and charitable Masonic purposes.
- 2) **CTCHIP** is a comprehensive child identification program designed to give families a measure of protection against the ever increasing problem of missing children.

You may designate your donation to either the Permanent Endowment Fund or to CTCHIP.

Watch for your Grand Master's Appeal letter. It will also contain an important survey from the Strategic Planning Committee. We hope you will respond with a donation, and with your thoughts on the direction you wish the fraternity should pursue in the future.

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: _____

OPEN HOUSE 2011



from Stephen Petri and David Stern: The lodges and appendant bodies at the New Haven Masonic Temple offered a free lunch to visitors. Inside Martin Ede displayed a Masonic literary collection.



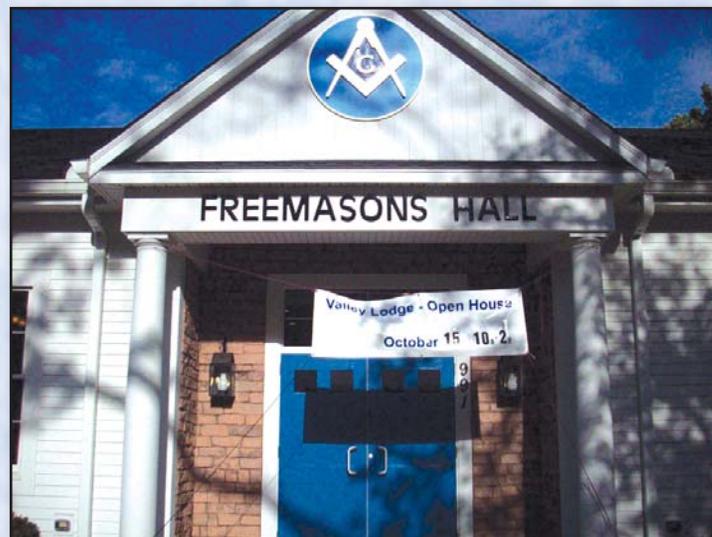
from Jeff Cavaliere: Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, reported the event was highly successful. An article written in the Meriden Record Journal on September 23 spotlighting the rich heritage and history found at Compass Lodge and also promoting the Open House.

Compass Lodge's sign, left, on the street.

Compass Lodge had a visit from its oldest living Past Master, right, WB Julius Toth, Master in 1964!



from Larry Anvik: The morning crew at the joint St. Alban's Lodge No. 38 and Widow's Son Lodge No. 66, Branford, Open House.



from Don Skinner: Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury.

OPEN HOUSE 2011



1



2

from Stewart Crouse, left, of Liberty Continental Lodge No. 76, Waterbury, with Dennis O. Cyr of Harmony 42, Waterbury.



3



4



5



6

from Gus Molitano: St Andrew's Lodge No. 64, Winsted.

Open House in the Third Masonic District

from Andrew G. Weimann II

The day was a mix of sun, clouds, and rain. After a breakfast meeting in Middlebury, I went to (1) King Solomons Lodge No. 7, Woodbury, by 11:00 a.m. and found a large group of brothers and OES sisters. The highway signs will be put up in the next couple of days, but the Open House banner was on the main road.

Off to (2) Waterbury and Liberty-Continental Lodge No. 76 and Harmony Lodge No. 42. Each had officers and other brothers as well as a couple of young ladies from Eastern Star.

Back on the road, I went to (3) Wolcott Lodge No. 146, Wolcott. They were having

a family style picnic with great food and friendship. At (4) Federal Lodge No. 17, Watertown, the lodge was open and with Masonic materials on one table and another with food.

Following Route 63, I swung by (5) St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, Litchfield, to take a picture of their sign. I did not visit, but knew they had brothers, sisters, and Rainbow Girls on hand.

Getting to Seneca Lodge No. 55, Torrington, a little after 3:00 p.m. the brothers had started clean up from the picnic. They still had a nice group with family, and a wide range of folks, including a newly accepted petitioner talking with a



7

92 year young Prince Hall brother.

As I was walking out of the lodge, the church bells tolled 4:00 p.m. My travels took me a total of 94 miles. After arriving home I talked with the Master of (6) St. Andrews Lodge No. 64, Winsted. They were well attended, with two possible new petitions.

At (7) Amos Beecher Lodge No. 121, New Hartford, the Master and a few brothers were ready, but sadly, no visitors stopped by.

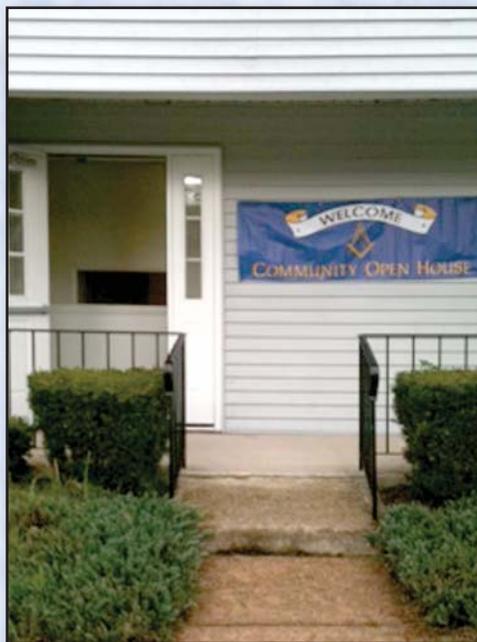
OPEN HOUSE 2011



from Arnie Grot: Columbia Lodge No. 25, South Glastonbury.



from Simon LaPlace: Estuary Lodge No. 43, Old Saybrook.



from Ben Isaacson: Village Lodge No. 29, Collinsville.

from Dave Foret: Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116, Montville, held their Open House where their lodge is - at the elementary school. They felt it went great. Five brothers were in attendance all day, and others in and out. Four new petitions were submitted. WM Rob Krawic, facing, chats with a potential candidate.



from Seth Strohecker: Annawon Lodge No. 115, West Haven.

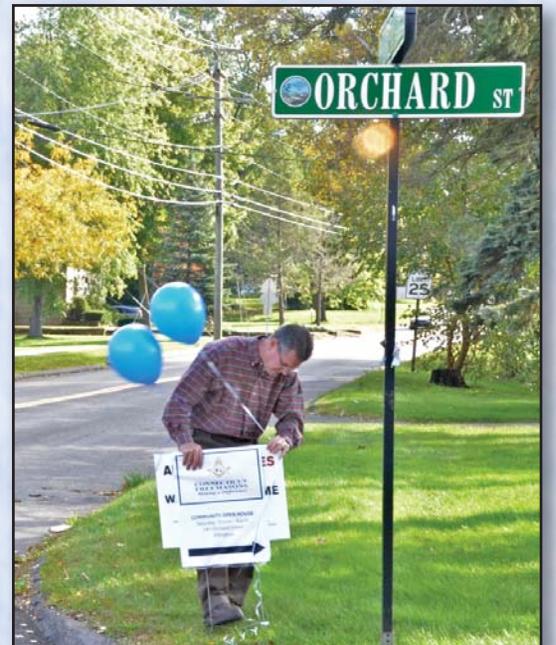


from Tom Burke: Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford.

OPEN HOUSE 2011



from Bill Hillman: Thanks to some great publicity from the *Newtown Bee*, Hiram Lodge No. 18, Newtown, received several visitors during the Open House. One visitor, Dr. Irving Freedman, a retired podiatrist from Florida, submitted a petition to affiliate.



from Pern Maynard: The welcome sign was placed on the front door of Fayette Lodge No. 69, Vernon. Rod Neff, Fayette Lodge's newest member put out directional signs at 9:30 a.m.

from Arnie Grot: The Open House at the York Rite East Hartford Masonic Hall had representatives of Pythagoras Chapter No. 17, Royal Arch Masons; Wolcott Council No. 1, Royal and Select Masters; and Washington Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar.

from Roger Read: At Coastal Lodge No. 57, Stonington, two men applied for membership - one a new member and the other an old past master who paid up to be reinstated. Both came as a result of reading about the event in the newspaper.



OPEN HOUSE 2011

Masonic Riders on the Open House Trail

by James Mowell

The Grand Chapter, and Twin Pillars Chapter of the Masonic Riders Association took advantage of the October 15 Open House event to visit seven lodges, and sit in a special Entered Apprentice degree. Starting at 8:00 a.m. sharp, lodges were visited in Naugatuck, Sandy Hook, Danbury, New Milford, Litchfield, Torrington, and Southington. At times it was a little chilly, and at some points rain was battled, and it was all worth it! It was a pleasure to meet many new brothers, and see so much Masonic history. While supporting the day's event, the Masonic motorcyclists covered over a 100 miles. All were welcomed with enthusiasm.

Several lodges asked for more information for the other lodge brothers. The Widows Sons of Connecticut has a presentation meant for Blue Lodges that has been received. Any lodge that would like to invite the Widows Sons Masonic Riders Association to their lodge, or inquire for more information is welcome to contact Connecticut Grand Chapter President James Mowel at CTGrandChapter@yahoo.com or 860-944-0341.



While visiting Union Lodge No 40, Danbury, are, from left, James Mowel, Union Lodge Historian Silvan J. Gleissner IV, Worshipful Master Geraldo M. Martins, and Richard McDonnell.



At St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, The Masonic motorcycle riders posed with SE Thomas A. Fredsall, holding plaque. Also picture are, from left, Grand Chapter President James Mowel; Richard McDonnell, and Roger Probert.



In Torrington, the Masonic motorcyclists, from left, James Mowel, Richard McDonnell, Roger Probert met Seneca Lodge No. 55's Worshipful Master Alan I. Zourdan.



from Tim Quinn: The four lodges that meet in Stratford welcomed visitors with the original 1766 sign from St. John's Lodge No. 8. Downstairs, the brothers held a CTCHIP event.



from Carl Ek: At Unity Lodge No. 148, New Britain, one man, visited, and returned the next Tuesday for awards night and turned in his petition!

Awards Night at Union Lodge No. 5 includes a surprise!



Acting Master and current Senior Warden Thomas A. Burke presented WB Domenic Corbo with the Scottish Rite Medal for Masonic Service.

by Thomas A. Burke

The awards night held at Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford, on Wednesday, October 5, was a joyous occasion for many reasons. RW Gary Arseneau, Deputy Grand Master, presented a 50 year pin to WB Malcolm (Mike) Grogins, Worshipful Master of Union Lodge in 1968.

A surprise was also presented. The Scottish Rite Medal for Masonic Service was presented to WB Domenic Corbo. This medal may be conferred by the Supreme Council or by the Sovereign Grand Commander upon any Master Mason, whether or

not a member of their jurisdiction, who fully embodies the tenets of the Masonic fraternity, based on the recommendation of three of his peers in his locality.

On hand to assist in presenting the medal were Ill. Bruce T. Work, 33°, Active for Connecticut, and Ill. James R. Spencer, 33°, Active Emeritus. This was only the second award of its type given since its inception.

The brothers of Union Lodge No. 5 are extremely proud of all the award recipients and congratulate them on their significant achievements.

CPR Certification Course in Darien

by Dave Polett

The Masonic Club of Darien recently hosted a CPR/AED certification course for area residents. The classes were held at the club facility on the Post Road in Darien. Led by a team of EMT's from Greenwich Emergency Medical Services, two classes were held on Saturday September 17. Instructors Rob Camp and Lauren Santos certified the participants as American Heart Association, Heartsaver CPR/AED including child CPR/AED qualified. In all, 19 people received their certification. By making use of the Masonic Club's facilities, this continues an effort by the Masonic Club of Darien to provide beneficial opportunities to the community.



Participants of the recent CPR/AED certification course held at the Masonic Club of Darien lay on the floor ready to start practicing what they've learned.

New Haven DeMolays Play Paintball with Trumbull 22



by Thom Beck

Saturday, October 8 was a warm fall day in East Hampton. Four active members of the New Haven Chapter, Order of DeMolay trekked north with advisor Janet Dunn to meet up with four brothers from Trumbull Lodge No 22, New Haven, whose contingent included two Senior DeMolays from New Haven Chapter.

Eight games of paintball were played over two hours in four different game styles, and in a few different team configurations. One of the overall favorites were the two "Juggernaut" games played at the end of the day, where the six active and senior DeMolays played against the two non-DeMolay Masons (the two Juggernauts were not out unless shot in the head).

The DeMolays and Masons had a great time bonding over the games, and the combined group grabbed a quick bite to eat and shared a few laughs recounting some of the day's happenings.

Ready to rumble are DeMolays, front, from left, Robbie Shettleworth, Ben Abbott, Dan Taylor, and Jamie Dunn, and Trumbull Lodge brothers, rear, from left, WM Kirk Trofatter Jr., James Killian, Chad Killeen, and Thom Beck.

Masonicare and the IRS Need Your Help!

The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) will be available at Masonicare during the 2011 tax season.

The VITA program offers free assistance to households earning \$49,000 or less or to those who cannot prepare their own tax returns.

The VITA program site, located on the first floor at Masonicare Health Center in

Wallingford, is open to the public by appointment. We are currently looking for volunteers to staff the program on Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The IRS will provide the training required to qualify you as an income tax preparer.

The 2010 tax season at the Masonicare VITA site was very successful, with \$123,848 in

refunds brought back to the greater Masonicare Community by our volunteers. A total of 114 federal returns were filed, and most included a Connecticut income tax return as well. Clients and family members ranged in age from 1 to 97.

As you can see, substantial benefits were provided to the community in 2010 at no charge, but the IRS needs volunteers to

staff the program and make it a success again this year. Since it's a volunteer program, you can work whenever you're available. Any help you can give will be most appreciated!

If you have questions or are interested in becoming a volunteer for the VITA program, please call program coordinator Bill Morrow at the IRS, at 860-756-4652.

Free Blood Pressure Clinics to be Held Wednesdays at MHC

Keeping an eye on your blood pressure numbers, particularly if you have an elevated level, is important, since high blood pressure can lead to vascular diseases and renal and cardiac insufficiencies. Unfortunately, it is sometimes found too late because there is very little discomfort or signs that most people would even notice. If it's important that you closely monitor your blood pressure numbers for medical reasons – or if you simply want to know your current numbers – Masonicare is here to help you.

Beginning Wednesday afternoon,

November 2, and on every Wednesday thereafter, the Outpatient Specialty Clinic at Masonicare Health Center will be open from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., with highly skilled and trained staff on hand to check blood pressure readings at no charge. Members of the Masonic family and residents of Wallingford and surrounding communities are encouraged to visit the clinic and take advantage of this excellent opportunity. Of course, checking your blood pressure yourself at home or at the local supermarket is a simple procedure, but a trained technician

can get a more accurate reading and help you understand what it might mean for your overall health and wellbeing.

Masonicare's Outpatient Specialty Clinic is conveniently located on the Masonicare campus in Wallingford. Once on campus, simply follow directions to the Sturges Entrance (Wellness Center) and park in visitor parking area E. Enter the building and follow signs to the Clinic. If you have questions or would like additional information, please call the Clinic at 203-679-5902 or the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997.

We thank our Masonic family for their continued support.



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Free Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair

Don't wait until the last minute to do your holiday shopping this year. Avoid the crowds at the mall – and the stress – by taking advantage of a great opportunity to buy the perfect gift for that special person, or for everyone on your holiday gift list - at Masonicare at Newtown's Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair.

Open to the community, the event will be held at Masonicare at Newtown, 139 Toddy Hill Road, on Saturday, November 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Several area vendors will be on hand with a wide variety of beautiful crafts and unique jewelry and gift items.

Surprise your family by bringing home a special treat – delicious, homemade baked goods or original crafts created by residents of Masonicare at Newtown and Lockwood Lodge. In addition to shopping, you can enjoy a delicious, reasonably priced lunch.

For additional information, please call Sue Sonnati, director of recreation at Masonicare at Newtown, at 203-364-3128.

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CONGRATULATIONS

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

Arthur D. Berliss Jr *Hiram 1*

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

Harold B. Wright.....	<i>America-St. John's 8</i>	John E. Eyre.....	<i>King Solomons 7</i>
Albert Gabor	<i>America-St. John's 8</i>	Fredrick W. Holzbaur	<i>King Solomons 7</i>
Jacob E. Adler.....	<i>Anchor 112</i>	Vincent A. Campisi.....	<i>Liberty-Continental 76</i>
Richard L. House	<i>Annawon 115</i>	William R. Leonard.....	<i>Madison 87</i>
John Trantales.....	<i>Ansantawae 89</i>	Warren Whitney.....	<i>Montgomery 13</i>
Gary R. Bill.....	<i>Coastal 57</i>	John S. Nelson Jr.....	<i>Moosup 113</i>
Ellis L. Moffitt	<i>Coastal 57</i>	George Halamicek.....	<i>Sequin-Level 140</i>
Robert F. Ledoux	<i>Columbia 25</i>	Robert G. Messner	<i>Shepherd-Salem 78</i>
Charles M. Parakilas	<i>Composite 28</i>	Thomas H. Cole Jr.....	<i>St. Alban's 38</i>
Bernard P. Hummel.....	<i>Corinthian 103</i>	Roger W. Jones	<i>St. Andrew's 64</i>
Eugene L. Labonte	<i>Corner Stone-Quinebaug 122</i>	Richard A. Daly.....	<i>St. John's 2</i>
Manuel L. Weinberg.....	<i>Cosmopolitan 125</i>	Maxwell E. Peel.....	<i>St. John's 6</i>
David D. Hall.....	<i>Eastern Star 44</i>	Gerald B. Fredlund.....	<i>St. Peter's 21</i>
Joseph R. Kablik.....	<i>Eastern Star 44</i>	Martin Meyer.....	<i>Temple 65</i>
Robert S. Weiss.....	<i>Eureka 83</i>	Richard E. Montelius	<i>Trumbull 22</i>
Robert B. Snow.....	<i>Fayette 69</i>	Malcolm L. Grogins.....	<i>Union 5</i>
Roger G. Lord.....	<i>Fayette 69</i>	Gerald K. Russian.....	<i>Uriel 24</i>
Edmund J. Warren	<i>Fidelity-St. John's 3</i>	James W. Oates	<i>Valley 36</i>
Ronald C. Baker	<i>Frederick-Franklin 14</i>	Elliott E. Jessen.....	<i>Valley 36</i>
Franklyn D. Sperry.....	<i>Granite 119</i>	F. Rossiter Goodrich.....	<i>Warren 51</i>
Roger Snell	<i>Granite 119</i>	David F. Palmer.....	<i>Warren 51</i>
John A. Matthews	<i>Hartford Evergreen 88</i>	Robert T. Welge	<i>Washington 19</i>
Robert C. Corrigan.....	<i>Hiram 18</i>	Thomas T. Harrison	<i>Washington 70</i>
Leroy S. Linder	<i>Jeptha 95</i>	Edward N. Mehmet	<i>Widow's Son 66</i>
Harold Murzak.....	<i>King Hiram 12</i>	Robert N. Bates	<i>Widow's Son 66</i>
George W. Arms Jr.....	<i>King Hiram 12</i>		

We welcome our new brothers
to the fraternity.

Craig F. Clark.....	<i>Annawon 115</i>
Paul A. Ferro	<i>Annawon 115</i>
Charles E. Fullerton III.....	<i>Annawon 115</i>
Frank Mangiero	<i>Annawon 115</i>
Jonathan M. Barron	<i>Center 97</i>
Keith P. Clinton.....	<i>Center 97</i>
Stephen Aquilino	<i>Corinthian 103</i>
Victor J. Comeau	<i>Corinthian 103</i>
Richard J. Ferraro.....	<i>Corinthian 103</i>
Paul A. Laudano	<i>Corinthian 103</i>
William J. Lewis.....	<i>Corinthian 103</i>
Jesse C. Casey	<i>Evening Star 101</i>
Michael F. Chant	<i>Sequin-Level 140</i>

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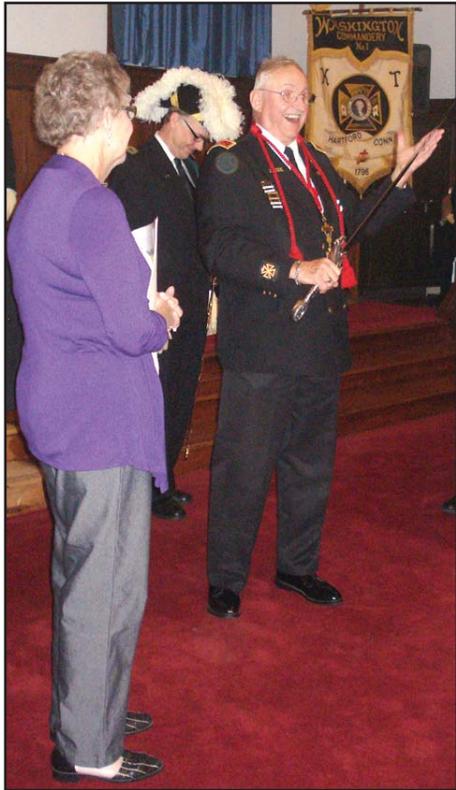
and future:

- Accounting and consulting to almost 200 nonprofit organizations statewide
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- Partners, managers in leadership roles in nonprofit organizations

Contact Bud Buckner for more information:
Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C.
147 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford, CT 06106
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www.whcpa.com

Original Play Treats "MacBücher"



Sir Leonard and his lady Barbara are overjoyed at receiving the hospitality of Washington Commandery No. 1 and gifts from EC Richard Sawyers, head down.

by Arnie Grot

Washington Commandery No. 1, East Hartford, held a dinner and reception for REGC Sir Knight Leonard H. Bucher and his Lady Barbara on October 4. After dinner and the REGC had been received, the Knights, their ladies and guests were treated to an original tragical-comical-historical morality play in three acts: "MacBücher!" or "Where Have All The Bagpipes Gone?" This play was written by Em. Grand Captain General William A.G. Mackey, a Past Commander of Washington Commandery No. 1.

The prologue set the stage: June 1314 in the city of Edinburgh. War with King Edward II of England is close at hand. The city is strangely silent. No sounds of pipers can be heard on the streets. Shops along the Royal Mile are bereft of their customary stocks of

bagpipes. Unable to mount a military tattoo due to lack of bagpipes, Edinburgh confronts an economic crisis as its tourist trade faces potential collapse. All the while, strange sounds are being heard each night deep beneath Edinburgh Castle.

Meanwhile, one hundred miles away in Invernesshire, the distillery that makes Macpherson's Cluny Scotch Whisky is operating around the clock.

From the village of Badenoch, the sound of a massed pipe band is heard practicing from dawn until dusk. The prime suspect in the disappearance of the bagpipes, Sir Leonard H. MacBücher-Macpherson, Laird of Badenoch, has been summoned to the Court of Common Session in Edinburgh to face charges of high treason! Will King Robert the Bruce be able to save the day?

The cast had Lord Mackay as the presiding judge and Sir Leonard as the defendant. Fifteen Sir Knights completed the cast with their assignments handed to them by Will prior to the dinner. After the play, Em. Commander Richard Sawyers presented Sir Leonard with a sword and his Lady Barbara with a broach.

REGC Bucher enlighten the audience with the historical accuracy of Will's play. He is of the Macpherson clan who reside in the Invernesshire. Leonard had met a relative who was a renown master bagpipe maker in Edinburgh in 1986, and who lived into his nineties. His shop was on the "Royal Mile" just outside Edinburgh Castle. Furthermore, the Cluny Distillery, from which characters had significant roles in Will's play, is part of the Macpherson legacy.

Chuck Fowler Awarded Service Medal in Silver

At the banquet of the 68th Triennial Convocation of the General Grand Chapter of York Rite Masons in Raleigh, North Carolina, Connecticut's own Companion Charles B. Fowler, Jr. was recognized with the Distinguished Service Medal in Silver.

This award is given in appreciation for outstanding service for the York Rite, but particularly for Royal Arch Masonry, within a particular York Rite region. The only other Connecticut recipient was Companion

Richard L. Smail, now deceased, who received the medal in 1991.

Companion Fowler had previously been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in Bronze in 1998, of which there have been 41 Connecticut recipients. Among Chuck's many offices, he is a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

In a congratulatory letter,

Most Excellent Companion Vernon H. Huebschman, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, offered the following compliment:

"Your standard of service to the York Rite in Connecticut is unique and lofty. As a fellow Grand Secretary, I have admired your work and borrowed some of your ideas without the least shame. One thing that can't be copied is HEART. You are sincerely dedicated to the service of your



Companion Charles B. Fowler, Jr.

York Rite Companions and Sir Knights. I have seen you shoulder the load when your leaders were burdened by significant personal issues allowing them to stay in office... and have successful years. You have quietly toiled on. You make others look good by the regularity of your own work. Without hesitation I can say that I truly admire you and your work."

"The recognition of being selected for the Silver Medal serves two great purposes. First, it rewards you in a very visible way for decades of service and endless hours of dedicated effort. Second... and more importantly, as all earthly trophies will at sometime crumble into dust...this small silver disk sets a standard for service in your state for those who will follow in your footsteps. You have raised the bar that others will now strive to meet."

Congratulations, Chuck!



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Connecticut York Rite Opportunities

Information to be included in York Rite Opportunities must be submitted by the 10th of the preceding month to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, Charles B. Fowler, 525 Stillwater, Windsor, CT 06095-3842 or yrctramrsm@yahoo.com.

NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice.



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

- Tuesday, November 1, (ME) (F)** Harmony Court No. 8, New Haven. SM and SEM degree, inspection
Tuesday, November 1, (F) Keystone Chapter No. 27, Meriden. Royal Arch Mason degree
Tuesday, November 1, (F) Adam Sattig Court No. 35, Milford, inspection
Friday, November 4, (F) Columbia Chapter No. 31, Collinsville, PM and MEM degree
Monday, November 7, (RE) (U) St. John's Commandery No. 11, North Windham
Tuesday, November 8, (ME) (F) Hamilton Court No. 22, Meriden. SEM degree, short form, inspection
Tuesday, November 8, (F) Franklin Chapter No. 2, New Haven, Royal Arch Mason degree
Tuesday, November 8, (RE) (U) Cyrene Commandery No. 8, Meriden, Order of Temple, inspection
Wednesday, November 9, (ME) (F) Pulaski Chapter No. 26, Branford, Past Master degree
Wednesday, November 9, (F) Pythagoras Chapter No. 17, East Hartford, PM and MEM degree
Thursday, November 10, (ME) (F) Cyrus-Meridian Chapter No. 15, Torrington
Friday, November 11, (ME) (F) Baldwin Chapter No. 13, Stratford, Past Master degree
Friday, November 11, (ME) (MP) (RE) Veterans Day – Thank a Vet for your Freedom!!
Friday, November 11, (RE) (U) Palestine Commandery No. 6, Stonington, Order of Temple, inspection
Monday, November 14, (ME) (F) Cushing Court No. 4, Stonington, inspection
Tuesday, November 15, (RE) (U) Washington Commandery No. 1, East Hartford, Order of Malta, inspection
Tuesday, November 15, (U) St. Elmo Commandery No. 9, visit to Washington Commandery No. 1
Thursday, November 17, (RE) (U) Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford, Order of Temple, 6:15 p.m. dinner, inspection
Friday, November 18, (U) New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven. Order of Temple, inspection
Saturday, November 19, (ME) (MP) (RE) York Rite testimonial dinner, Ashlar Village, 6:00 p.m. dinner
Sunday, November 20, (F) DeMolay Legion of Honor, North Haven, 6:00 p.m., recipient J. Andrew Birdsall
Monday, November 21, (RE) (U) St Johns Commandery No. 11, North Windham, Order of Temple, inspection
Tuesday, November 22, (ME) (F) Trinity Chapter No. 9, North Windham

COMING UP

- December 4, Palestine Commandery No. 6 and St. John's Commandery No. 11, Christmas observance, North Windham, 2:00 p.m.
December 8, Rittenhouse Chapter No. 11, Darien, PM and MEM degree
December 9, Baldwin Chapter No. 13, Stratford, MEM degree
December 9, New Haven Commandery No. 2, Masonicare Health Center, Christmas observance, 7:00 p.m.
December 10, Trinity Commandery No. 3, Darien. Christmas observance, 3:00 p.m.
December 11, St. Elmo Commandery No. 9 and Cyrene Commandery No. 8, Christmas observance, Meriden, 5:00 p.m.
December 13, Wolcott Council No. 1, East Hartford, SM and SEM degree
December 15, Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford, REGC visit
December 16, New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Christmas observance, 8:00 p.m.
December 18, Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford. Christmas observance, 3:00 p.m. buffet supper
December 19, Milford Chapter No. 49, Milford, annual Christmas sing-along, 6:00 p.m. dinner
December 20, York Rite of East Hartford, joint Christmas observance, 6:30 p.m. dinner
December 22, Trinity Commandery No. 3, Darien, REGC visit
December 28, Pythagoras Chapter No. 17, East Hartford, Royal Arch Mason degree

York Rite Websites

Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut: <http://yorkrite.org/gcramct/>

Grand Council Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut: <http://yorkrite.org/gcrsmct/>

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Connecticut: <http://knightstemplar.org/gckt/ct>

They can be reached directly at these addresses, or through a link from the www.yorkrite.org site. Just select CT under the Grand Chapters/Councils/Commanderies logo. These sites contain useful information including officer listings, constituent Chapter/Council/Commandery listings, Opportunities, the More Light pamphlet, and the York Rite petition. The 2011 proceedings of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council are also available on the websites.

Craft at Labor...

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Tuesday, November 1, Harmony No. 67, New Canaan, 7:00 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, November 1, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Junior Warden step up night

Wednesday, November 2, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, JW in the East

Friday, November 4, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, advancement night, SD John Hanson in the East

Wednesday, November 9, Moriah No. 15, Brooklyn, evaluation

Wednesday, November 9, Granite No. 119, Haddam, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Friday, November 11, Temple No. 16, Cheshire

Tuesday, November 15, Seneca No. 55, Torrington, evaluation

Tuesday, November 15, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, November 17, Warren No. 51, Portland, 6:30 p.m. dinner, JW Tom Mumford in the East

Monday, November 21, Oxoboxo No. 116, Montville, 6:30 p.m. dinner, evaluation

Fellowcraft Degrees

Tuesday, November 1, St. Alban's No. 38, Branford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, November 2, Union No. 5, Stamford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, November 3, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, SW in the East

Friday, November 4, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, November 7, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, SW step up, at Masonicare at Ashlar Village

Monday, November 7, Federal No. 17, Watertown, Earl Canfield in the East

Tuesday, November 8, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, November 8, Wolcott No. 146, Wolcott

Monday, November 14, Silas Deane No. 147, Newington, evaluation

Wednesday, November 16, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield

Wednesday, November 16, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Friday, November 18, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, JW Kevin Field in the East

Saturday, November 19, Friendship No. 33, Southington

Monday, November 21, Meridian No. 77, Meriden, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Master Mason Degrees

Saturday, November 5, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock

Saturday, November 5, Morning Star No. 47, Seymour, 6:00 p.m. dinner

Monday, November 7, Oxoboxo No. 116, Montville, 6:30 p.m., dinner at the break

Saturday, November 12, Uriel No. 24, Merrow, 5:30 p.m., dinner at the break

Tuesday, November 15, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, November 16, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m.

Thanksgiving dinner

Wednesday, November 16, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, November 16, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, November 17, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, November 17, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, November 17, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, November 17, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:15 p.m. dinner

Saturday, November 19, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 10:30 a.m., lunch at the break, then builders lodge and tragedy

Saturday, November 19, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, 9:00 a.m.

Monday, November 21, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 6:15 p.m. dinner

Monday, November 21, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 6:15 p.m. dinner

Monday, November 21, Federal No. 17, Watertown, Past Masters night

Monday, November 21, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 6:30 p.m. dinner, surf and turf

Monday, November 21, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, 6:30 p.m. dinner, WB Steve Hudson in the East

Wednesday, November 22, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, November 23, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:00 p.m. dinner, SW in the East, ladies invited for the meal and dominos

Wednesday, November 23, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Past Masters night

Monday, November 28, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 5:30 p.m. dinner, SW Brian Cosker in the East, dinner at the break

Monday, November 28, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, WM Rob Galbraith in the East

Tuesday, November 29, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton

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Wishing you a speedy recovery!



Best wishes and hopes for a speedy recovery to Past Grand Master George Greytak who is recuperating at Masonicare at Newtown after an on the job accident. When you get hit by a forklift you're usually flattened, but as you can see, George Greytak is a little tougher than most. "Get Well, George" cards can be sent to him at Room 320, Masonicare at Newtown, 139 Toddy Hill Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482-1362

Craft at Refreshment...

Tuesday, November 1, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, step up night for officers

Tuesday, November 1, Seneca No. 55, Torrington, awards night

Wednesday, November 2, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield, Table Lodge

Wednesday, November 2, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, step up night, WB Ross Burke: historical Masonic items

Wednesday, November 2, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, Military Veterans night

Thursday, November 3, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston, 8:00 AM, 8th District breakfast at Groton Townhouse Restaurant

Thursday, November 3, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, awards night and necrology

Thursday, November 3, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, step up night

Thursday, November 3, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 5:14 p.m. dinner, lecture: Armistice Day and Staircase lecture

Friday, November 4, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 4:30 p.m. dinner, Alzheimer Association fund raising dinner in honor of WB Henry Savelli

Friday, November 4, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, UConn/Syracuse at The Rent

Saturday, November 5, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 4:00 p.m. dinner, third annual pasta supper

Saturday, November 5, Temple No. 65, Westport, 5:30 PM, Burns-St. Andrews dinner - Wallingford

Saturday, November 5, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 5:00 p.m. dinner, annual masquerade ball

Sunday, November 6, Friendship No. 33, Southington, 7:30 a.m. pancake breakfast

Monday, November 7, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, lodge of instruction: Rudyard Kipling's "The Mother Lodge"

Monday, November 7, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, 7:30 p.m. dinner, discussion: Sacred Geometry

Wednesday, November 9, Ark No. 39, Danbury, 7:30 p.m. dinner, awards night

Wednesday, November 9, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Table Lodge

Wednesday, November 9, Center No. 97, Meriden, 7:00 p.m. Table Lodge

Wednesday, November 9, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Hiram's Cafe (BBQ Night), pulled pork brisket

Friday, November 11, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Table Lodge

Saturday, November 12, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 7:00 PM, "Buried Child," a Sam Shepard play at the Little Theater, Newtown, benefit for "WIN," Women involved in Newtown to help feed families for Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 13, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 4:00 p.m. dinner, Souptastic all-you-can eat buffet of six made-from-scratch soups

Monday, November 14, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, Second District Blue Lodge Council

Monday, November 14, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, Jean Maheu: Blue Lodge and the Shrine

Tuesday, November 15, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, work night at the temple

Wednesday, November 16, Union No. 5, Stamford, 7:30 p.m. dinner, Lem Johnson: Masonic Funeral Service training

Wednesday, November 16, Estuary No. 43, Old Saybrook, annual business meeting

Thursday, November 17, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, closing the years business

Friday, November 18, Union No. 5, Stamford, 248th anniversary cocktail party

Friday, November 18, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 7:00 p.m. dinner, Cathedral Table Lodge and game dinner

Friday, November 18, Wolcott No. 146, Wocott, Third District Blue Lodge Council, Simon LaPlace: the EMR program

Saturday, November 19, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, 6:00 p.m. dinner, third annual Steven Canada fall harvest dinner

Saturday, November 19, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 6:00 p.m. dinner, annual Venison Table Lodge

Saturday, November 19, St. Alban's No. 38, Branford, 8:00 a.m. breakfast with the Master at Basem's Restaurant, Guilford

Saturday, November 19, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, UConn/Louisville at The Rent

Sunday, November 20, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 8:00 a.m., Toys for Tots breakfast

Sunday, November 20, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 4:30 p.m. dinner, annual semi-public Thanksgiving dinner

Tuesday, November 22, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Fellowcraft dinner, bring a guest

Tuesday, November 22, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, memorial service

Wednesday, November 23, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, Red Cross blood drive at Waterbury Masonic Temple

Wednesday, November 23, Jephtha No. 95, Clinton, 4:30 p.m., Soup Kitchen at Clinton United Methodist Church

Saturday, November 26, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, UConn/Rutgers at The Rent

Monday, November 28, Union No. 5, Stamford, 7:30 p.m. dinner, First District Blue Lodge Council

Monday, November 28, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, Esoteric Freemason classes

Monday, November 28, Bayview, No., 120, Preston, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Eighth District Blue Lodge Council

Tuesday, November 29, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston, web page training

Tuesday, November 29, St. Alban's No. 38, Branford, 6:15 p.m. dinner, Fourth District Blue Lodge Council

Tuesday, November 29, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Special Ladies dinner, lecture on diamonds

Wednesday, November 30, Composite No. 28, Suffield, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Sixth District Blue Lodge Council

Wednesday, November 30, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Fifth District Blue Lodge Council

Wednesday, November 30, Granite No. 119, Haddam, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Seventh District Blue Lodge Council

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 Unity No. 148..... New Britain
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Darcy Needham: "Up" on Rainbow

by Carl G. Ek

Connecticut Rainbow Grand Worthy Advisor Darcy Needham remembers her first Rainbow event. Her mom, Anne, was taking part in a celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls in 1997. Darcy, then 6, recalls lying on the chairs and eating cookies. It's fair to say she hasn't taken Rainbow 'lying down' since!

Now a 20-year-old junior at Quinnipiac University, Darcy was installed Connecticut Rainbow's 74th Grand Worthy Advisor in April 2011. The office culminates years of service in local and grand offices for Darcy, an interactive digital design major. In this computer-based major, Darcy is expanding upon the traditional field of graphic design to be able to develop web sites, brochures, advertising, and anything else that "needs a nice look." She also works part-time at the nationally known Quinnipiac Polling Institute, and as a martial arts instructor. (The smiling young lady in the white gown is also a 2nd Degree black belt in Cheezic tang soo do karate!)

Soon after Darcy's first Rainbow event, elder sister Krista joined Evergreen Assembly No. 44 in their hometown of Hamden, and Darcy became a pledge girl. Her initiation into Rainbow was, to say the least, special. Darcy traveled with her mom and sister to the biennial session of the Supreme Assembly of Rainbow in

Orlando, Florida in 2002. There, on July 23 (also memorable as brother Jake's birthday), she was the only Connecticut initiate in a class of 14 at the supreme session.

Five years later, Darcy was installed by Krista as Worthy Advisor of Evergreen Assembly, the first of her several terms in that office. Simultaneously, she was appointed to several Grand Representative positions before being chosen Grand Patriotism. Excellent work as Grand Drill Leader and Grand Charity led to Darcy's installation as Grand Worthy Associate Advisor in 2010 and Grand Worthy Advisor in 2011.

Throughout her Rainbow career, Darcy's mom, Anne K. Needham has been by her side – but as more than a supportive parent. Mom Anne was Connecticut's Grand Worthy Advisor in 1975-76, and the Needham's are only the second mother-daughter pair to serve the state as Grand Worthy Advisors. (Debbie Gilbert Zaleha in 1972-73 and Hope Zaleha Cotter in 1994-95 were the other pair.)

As Darcy entered into grand offices, mom Anne became 'Mom Anne' – the Supreme Deputy of Connecticut Rainbow. Has working with 'mom' as 'Mom' added any pressure? No, Darcy is quick to reply. "The only pressure is to do my best" – as a role model for other Rainbows, in doing the highest quality ritual work, and in planning programs and activities for members and assemblies around the state.

Part of the planning that goes into every GWA's term is her theme, a closely guarded secret right up to her installation. For her theme, Darcy chose the movie "Up," a Disney-Pixar animated adventure. The story, which in part reminded her of her grandparents, revolves around a reluctant, lonely old man who befriends a youth and the two go on a high-flying adventure. From this, Darcy encourages her members to "never stop seeking adventure."

The Grand Assembly also has an annual service project. Darcy chose the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc. of Bloomfield. Founded in 1960, the organization provides guide dogs to help the blind live more normal lives. Why Fidelco? "I've always loved dogs," noted Darcy, who hosted a Fidelco speaker at the annual Grand Officers picnic. Her goal is to raise



Newly installed Grand Worthy Advisor Darcy is escorted to the East by her predecessor, now Past Grand Worthy Advisor Jessica Ziervogel, through an arch of balloons held by members of her Evergreen Assembly No. 44, Hamden.

\$1,500 for the cause, initially by selling her Grand Worthy Advisor pin.

Additionally, Darcy developed an incentive for Rainbow Girls to participate in state activities. She had created replica bottle caps in the seven colors of the Rainbow, and attendees at announced events are given specific color bottle caps. Some of the recipients wear them as pins, while others have created bracelets and earrings – all showing their Rainbow pride and the fun they have in Rainbow activities.

With her term at the halfway point, Darcy recalls the Second Annual Rainbow Retreat (a.k.a. "No Gowns Weekend") at Camp Hazen on the weekend of October 14-16, while remembering a very successful September Grand Officers Night in New Britain at which two were initiated. She is also working with her Rainbow counterparts and DeMolay state officers on an event encompassing New Year's Eve.

Darcy comes from a Masonic family, but is well aware that Rainbows generally don't know enough about Masonry. She hopes that doing things together – serving dinner, working on a community service project, or just cleaning up a Masonic building – will give Rainbows and Masons a chance to meet one another and exchange information.

And while Darcy is very appreciative of the local and jurisdictional advisory support Masonry provides to Rainbow, she suggests that there are other things Masons can do. "Two guys in Wisconsin are reenergizing Rainbow," she notes, leading to increased adult support and about a 40% increase in Rainbow membership this year. Are there any Connecticut Masons "Up" for the challenge?



New Grand Worthy Advisor Darcy Needham officially 'introduces' her parents to the Grand Assembly after her installation. "Mom" is Mom Anne K. Needham, a Past Grand Worthy Advisor who is Supreme Deputy of Connecticut Rainbow, while "Dad" is Dad Harry E. Needham, III, Executive Officer of Connecticut DeMolay.



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