



Connecticut FREEMASONS

FEB. 2016

Giving by Rule and Guide



Where Good
Men Relate

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

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By Rule & Guide In Steadfast Purpose

by Francis G. Way

There is a great tendency today to glorify and heap adulation upon the flashy and noisy and overlook the quiet and steadfast. One need look no farther than one's television on any given Sunday during the NFL season.

It is late in the game. The game, and perhaps even the season, is on the line, with the outcome of the next play. The ball is snapped, the quarterback drops back, facing a ferocious rush from the defensive line and a blitzing linebacker. The quarterback lofts a long, arcing pass, releasing it at the last second before one of the behemoth defensive lineman sheds a block and plants the quarterback hard into the turf. Downfield, a wide receiver, sprinting faster than seemingly humanly possible lays out,

catches the ball on his fingertips and lands in the end zone with the game winning touchdown. In seconds he has jumped up, and is dancing and spiking the ball.

The announcers are, deservedly so, praising the amazing effort of the gazelle-like wide receiver, and the gutsy quarterback who hung in there till the last second. But forgotten in the hysteria are the five players whose great contributions made the play possible. Five offensive linemen, neither fast nor flashy, but big, strong and tough, handled that rush from the defense, and bought the quarterback just enough time to throw the winning pass. The big guys, the guys who are routinely insulted by omission when other positions are referred to as "skill positions." Quiet, steadfast, but oh so essential to that winning

play.

And so it often is in Masonry. Every brother reading this can surely think of a quiet, steadfast brother who has rarely

been recognized. Further, every brother can surely think of one who is quiet and steadfast, but who also seeks not recognition, but

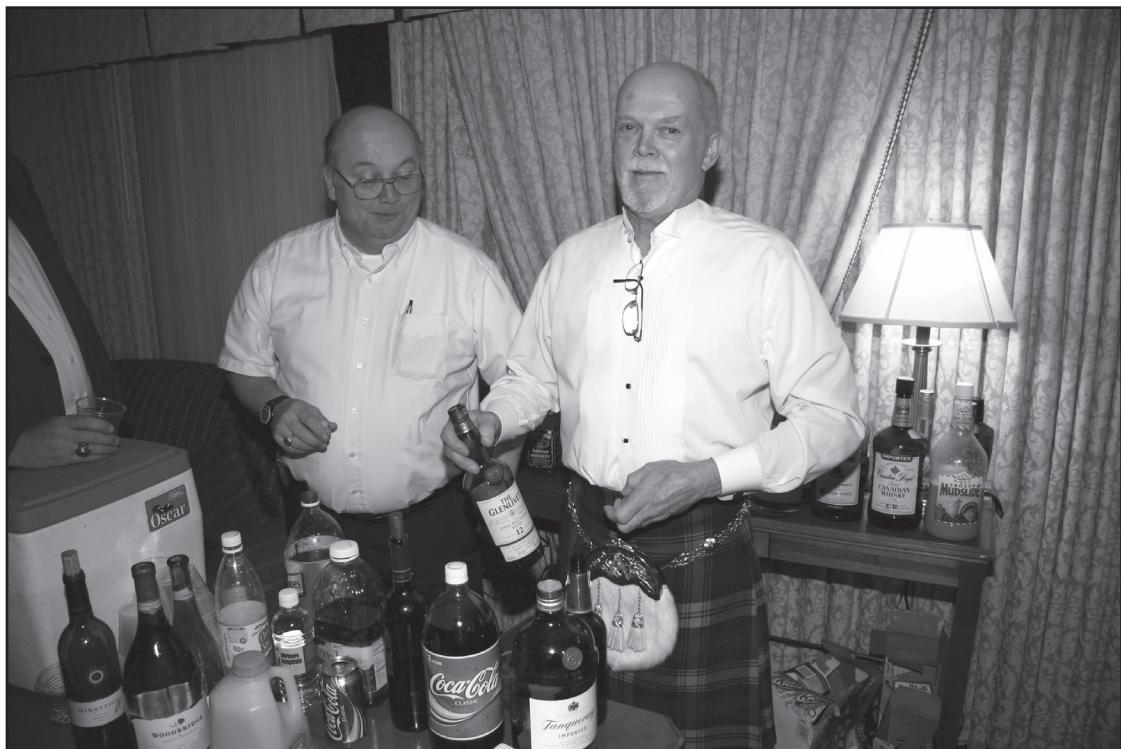
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Brother John presenting the new master of Anchor Lodge No. 112

By Rule & Guide

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merely the satisfaction of a job well done.

One such brother who may come to the mind of many Masons in the central Connecticut area is Right Worshipful Brother John Spencer.

This author first got to know RWB John through Scottish Rite. A solid ritualist and wonderful actor, John would answer the call whenever needed. Rarely noisy, rarely talking over anyone else, John would wait until the conversation was over, and then speak one or two words of wisdom that would sometimes stop everyone dead in their tracks; words that would make perfect and complete sense, and often a scene was changed slightly or reblocked based on his suggestion.

RWB John also has a mischievous sense of humor. One evening during a rehearsal, when everyone got a case of the sillies, the cast began making up mobster names for everyone. As an example, this author was dubbed "Frankie the 'Stache." John stole the show, though, when he chimed in with a hysterically funny mobster

name for a brother well known to the Valley of Hartford, and the laughter did not stop for 15 minutes. John had learned early on that the best kept secret of Scottish Rite is the fun that the members have during rehearsal. The cast returned to work, refreshed and inspired, ready to work even with a few remaining giggles.

That sense of humor was not confined to the Scottish Rite stage, either. Worshipful Brother Bill Field of Anchor Lodge relates that, RWB John, of Scottish ancestry, could not resist tapping into that heritage on Robert Burns night, when "he opened the lodge in his Scottish dialect, and then served us haggis." And RWB John can not only dole out the jokes, he can graciously receive them as well. WB Field reminisced that "when John was Master, he bought a particularly tall top hat, and the members realized that he had quite a resemblance to Mr. Peanut. One of our members, Joe Bonola, managed to get his hands on a Mr. Peanut doll, and dressed it in a kilt and apron. It was John's mascot for the year and is

still in the lodge display case."

Aside from humor, RWB John has an impressive Blue Lodge background. A member of Anchor Lodge No. 112, he was appointed to the officer line as a Steward in 2001 by WB Jean Maheu. In 2006, RWB John was elected and installed as Worshipful Master of Anchor Lodge. He and Brother Dave Cross began a mentoring program for the lodge that has been extremely successful. In fact, Anchor Lodge has an officer line full of young Masons, with more waiting to serve, as a result of that program.

These accomplishments gained John the notice of Grand Lodge and he was named District Deputy for

Continued on page 27



John Spencers Masters Mascot in 2006

Grand Master's Message

Another year of Lodge officer installations is complete. I considered it a particular privilege to be requested to conduct a number of those installations personally. It was a further delight to attend a number of installations as a guest of the Lodge. My wife and I were warmly received everywhere we traveled. My only regret was that we could not attend several installations due to schedule conflicts. Every installation that I witnessed was well attended and the newly installed Worshipful Masters and other officers showed an eagerness to move Masonry forward.

If the officers and members heed the instruction that is given in the various Charges that are part of the installation ritual, Masonry will, indeed, prosper this coming year in this jurisdiction! Already I am encouraged by new, enthusiastic activity in a number of Lodges that have lain dormant for many years. In addition to new leadership, there are fabulous tools now available that Lodges can utilize at very little or no cost, such as MailChimp (find out more at www.mailchimp.com) and Call-Em-All. The Grand Lodge continues to underwrite the Call-Em-All service. By using services such as these, the biggest stumbling block to success, i.e., COMMUNICATION, can be vastly improved - and your Lodge can save money in the process by minimizing the cost of printing and mailing trestleboards. For a few more years, it is likely that each Lodge will have a few members who are not invested in modern technology and who will require communication in the form of a hard copy sent via U.S. mail. But that should be minimal.

I also know of Lodges that have established PayPal accounts and accept dues payments from their

members via PayPal. The associated service charge is small and the convenience and timeliness of the service can pay dividends to both the Lodge and its members. Does your Lodge have members who haven't yet paid their 2016 dues? If so, now is the time to make personal contact with those brothers to find out if they need the Lodge's assistance. Let's show our members that we care about them and want to retain them as brothers.

Several times during the past 10 months, I've talked about the importance of good leadership. For Masonry to thrive, we need to pay close attention to both present and future Lodge leaders, provide them effective tools, and carefully prepare them to lead effectively. One of my favorite writers on the subject is Jon Gordon. In Mr. Gordon's *Wall Street Journal* bestseller entitled *The Energy Bus*, he relates ten thoughts about leadership. I have been urged by several Brothers to share these thoughts with all Connecticut Masons. I would also strongly encourage you to obtain a copy of one or more of Mr. Gordon's excellent books. So here are the ten thoughts on leadership.

Be a leader that brothers are willing to follow because they will follow you initially, and if they like what they see, they will then follow your vision for your Lodge. Who you are makes a difference and the most important message you can share is yourself.

Be someone who can be trusted. Trust connects brothers to their leader and his vision. If brothers trust you as a leader, they will enthusiastically and wholeheartedly support you and your vision.

Leadership isn't just about what you do but what you can inspire, encourage and empower others to do. (By the way, never forget to



say thank you and acknowledge the efforts of your members!)

A leader brings out the best within others by sharing the best within themselves.

Just because you're driving the bus doesn't mean you have the right to run people over. The more power you are granted, the more it is your responsibility to serve, develop and empower others. When you help them grow, they'll help you grow.

"Rules without Relationship leads to Rebellion." (Andy Stanley) As a leader, you can make all the rules you want but if you don't invest in your brothers and develop a relationship with them, they will rebel. Mr. Gordon notes that this applies amazingly to children as well.

Lead with optimism, enthusiasm, and positive energy. Minimize pessimism and negativity. Every Lodge from time to time is faced with a difficult situation, whether it be financial or otherwise. The best way forward is to work for a positive solution and not dwell on the downside and pessimism.

The really great leaders know that they don't have all the answers

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Grand Master's Message

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- rather they build a team of brothers who either know the answers or will find them. This is true for fund raising, for lodge programs, and especially for providing excellent ritual for both candidates and your Lodge brothers.

Leaders inspire and teach their brothers to focus on solutions, not complaints.

Great leaders know that success is a process, not a destination. One of my favorite wall hangings states that "success is a journey, not a destination." Geno Auriemma and the legendary coach, John Wooden, whom he idolizes, both knew not to focus on winning, but

rather to focus on teamwork, focus, commitment, and the execution of the fundamentals. As a Lodge leader, focus on your brothers and process, and the result will be a very successful outcome for you, your Lodge and for Masonry.

The above was adapted from Jon Gordon's book, *The Energy Bus*, available on his website at www.jongordon.com.

One final thought with regard to leadership is something that has been around for many years: "Plan your work and work your plan!"

Every Master creates a plan (in his mind, if not on paper), but the really effective Master does two things. First, he communicates and shares his plan with his officers, and secondly, he knows that circumstances may require that plan to change along the way and that it must be flexible enough to adapt. To this year's Worshipful Masters and to those that will succeed them, have a successful year and remember, YOU hold the key to Freemasonry's success!

Fraternally,

GM Charles Yohe

Grand Master's Trestleboard

Monday, Feb 1, Wallingford Office Hours
Thursday, Feb 4, Wallingford Office Hours
Monday, Feb 8, Wallingford Office Hours
Thursday, Feb 11, Wallingford Office Hours
Tuesday, Feb 16, Wallingford Office Hours
Wednesday, Feb 17, Montgomery Lodge No. 13, Stated Communication, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb 20 - Wednesday, Feb 24, Conference of Grand Masters, Madison, WI
Monday, Feb 29, Nutmeggers Reunion, Jupiter, FL
Tuesday, Mar 1, Nutmeggers Reunion, Naples, FL
Wednesday, Mar 2, Nutmeggers Reunion, Sarasota, FL
Thursday, Mar 3, Nutmeggers Reunion, Ocala, FL
Friday, Mar 4, Nutmeggers Reunion, New Port Richey, FL



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Correction

In the January issue the harpist on page 31 was incorrectly identified as Allyn Bryson Donath. The harpist was actually Pat Niesyn. We apologize for the error.

The Masonicare Experience

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

An Ending Filled with Laughter, Tears and Dignity

by Adam Raider

Masonicare's mission is to improve the quality of life for seniors through patient-centered (and family inclusive) care. This extends to end-of-life care, which Barbara Cusati discovered in 2014 when she and her family chose Masonicare Partners Home Health & Hospice to provide palliative and hospice care for her father, Angelo Demma.

Moved by the skill, professionalism and compassion displayed by Angelo's caregivers, Barbara and her husband, Ward, have generously chosen to include The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut in their estate plan with a bequest specifically benefiting Masonicare's hospice services.

"Losing my father was a sad experience," Barbara said, "but Masonicare helped make it unforgettable. The memories we have of that time will become peaceful ones for all of us. [Making this bequest] was an easy decision and not something that required any discussion."

One of the greatest achievements for any father, regardless of social class or occupation, is to be seen as a hero in the eyes of his child. Speaking to Barbara, one quickly realizes that Angelo fit the bill.

"He was amazing," Barbara said. "Working for Sealtest, he started out as a milk man delivering dairy products to neighborhood homes and then to markets and grocery stores. He loaded his own trucks, so he had the biggest biceps I've ever seen. He was a great father and provider - soft spoken, never complained, and always grateful for every day."

As kids, my sister Lori and I weren't allowed to ride in his truck with him, but we had all the ice cream, milk and half and half you could ever want. No calcium deficiencies in our family."

Angelo worked at Sealtest for 30 years, retiring when he was in his late 50s. Almost immediately, he took a new part-time delivery job with Design Products in Newington. He continued working into his mid-80s because he loved serving

others and meeting new people.

When he wasn't on the road, Angelo enjoyed spending time with his wife of 64 years, Rita.

"They loved being social," Barbara recalled. "They were the life of the party. At any wedding or family event, they were the last to leave. Family and friends were everything to them, and I think that's what kept

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Angelo Demma received palliative and hospice care from Masonicare Partners Home Health & Hospice, a partnership between Masonicare and Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center

Masonic Experience

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them going for so long."

Several years ago, Angelo was diagnosed with Stage IV lung cancer. As his health deteriorated, Barbara and the rest of the family realized they wouldn't be able to care for him properly on their own.

"Working in healthcare administration, I had some resources available to me that not everyone has," Barbara recalled. "I asked around and Masonicare came very highly recommended by a physician."

Barbara admits that, initially, she had only some understanding of hospice and even less understanding of palliative care. That's not uncommon, says Donna Dow, Director of Hospice Clinical Services at Masonicare Partners. The two disciplines are closely related.

"Think of palliative care as an umbrella under which the focus is improving or maintaining the quality of life and providing comfort to someone with a life-limiting diagnosis," Dow said. "There are no criteria for how long someone might receive palliative care. Hospice falls under that umbrella because the goals are the same - alleviating pain and providing comfort - but it's really geared toward the final stage of life when a patient would forego any life-prolonging treatments to concentrate on getting the most out of the time they have left. Another reason for the confusion is that our culture still has some difficulty accepting the end of life as part of a natural progression. We're not always comfortable talking about or planning for death."

Plus, Dow explained, the availability of acute care facilities and high level of medical technology in our region have led many people to assume incorrectly that any medical problem can be fixed or cured.

Angelo received palliative and hospice care at his home in Wethersfield. Barbara was impressed that Masonicare not only moved quickly to provide the family with all the equipment they would need to keep Angelo comfortable and safe at home - a hospital bed, oxygen, bath seat,

commode, etc. - but also reassurance.

"The people we met from Masonicare were educators for us as well as healthcare professionals," Barbara said. "They really talked to us and explained to us the different stages that our dad would go through. It made it less frightening. We took some comfort in knowing what to expect. I would never have thought I'd have the strength to do what I did. They showed my sister and me how to administer his morphine, regulate his oxygen if he wasn't breathing well, and how to lift him and transport him safely to the bathroom."

But as Barbara and Lori watched Angelo's nurse massage him, shave him, comb his hair, and talk to him, they wondered what it must be like to make caring for the terminally ill a full-time profession. Where, they asked, was the reward in work that seemed on the surface to be so ... sad?

"His caregivers all felt a sense of honor in being able to provide someone with comfort at the end of life," Barbara said. "They see it as the final gift they can give."

Dow, of Masonicare Partners, agreed.

"Those of us who've worked in hospice for a while know that the outcome will be death," she said, "but we don't focus on death. We focus on what we can do to make this journey,

be it over a span of months or weeks or days, so much richer and more comfortable for the patient and the family. The reward for us comes in accomplishing that part of our mission."

The last week of Angelo's life, Barbara and Lori lived at their parents' condo. Together, they shared in moments of reflection and reminiscence, celebrated tiny victories, and found humor in some unexpected (and, unfortunately, unrepeatable) ways.

"My dad was never in pain," Barbara said. "He was alert enough at the end to ask us to have certain family members visit him before he died. He spoke to every person individually and said the most touching and incredible things. He was at peace, and a big reason for that was because we were able to manage his care so well. He was conscious until 18 hours before he died."

Angelo passed away in his sleep during the early morning hours of September 7, 2014. He'd spared his family the pain of witnessing his last breaths - a final gift, they believe, to those he loved.

"The experience of using Masonicare impacted us so greatly," Barbara said. "I have friends who have lost loved ones and, in some cases, the ending did not go as well. But our ending was the best you could possibly have."

Thanks to donors' gifts to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, Masonicare Home Health & Hospice (MHHH) will be able to provide welcome packets to admitting hospice patients. These packets contain small wash basins, oral care products, disposable wash cloths, Peri-Wash and other personal care items.

Although they enhance patient comfort, these items are not considered medically necessary and are therefore not paid for by any other source. MHHH staff had found that family members needed to go shopping for items they didn't already have on hand, taking them away from the person receiving care. By making personal care items available to hospice patients at admission, Masonicare hopes to give families more time to spend with their loved ones when every hour and every minute is precious.

Your gift to The Masonic Charity Foundation will bring comfort to a Masonicare resident or patient in need. To find out how you can support The Foundation or to make a gift, please call 203-679-5555 or 800-562-3952 or visit masonicare.org/mcf.

Grand Historian's Corner

by Gary A. Littlefield

Luke Adolphus Lockwood was born in Riverside, Connecticut, in the same house where he eventually died, on December 1, 1833. He was educated in the public schools of Greenwich and entered Trinity College in 1851 where he graduated four years later in 1855. He was a life-long member of Christ Church of Greenwich, but in 1875 he started a mission known as St Paul Parish. He was a lay reader until the parish could sustain a rector and then became its Senior Warden. In 1890, he was elected a trustee of Trinity College and served until his death. He was admitted to the bar in 1856 and was a practicing attorney for the rest of his life. It was said that he was a tower of strength during some troubled times in the Fraternity. He was raised at Union Lodge No. 5 in 1856 and was a charter member of Acacia Lodge No. 85 (1858) and was its first Worshipful Master. A rare occurrence occurred on May 9, 1872, when he was elected Grand Master from the floor (the second time that happened). His work helped to establish the Masonic Home at Wallingford, that was dedicated on September 25, 1895. MWB Lockwood had experience leading grand bodies as he was Grand High Priest (1866) and was the author of Lockwood's *Masonic Law and Practice* which has guided Connecticut masonic jurisprudence. We salute Most Worshipful Lockwood. Masonicare has an award that is presented yearly named the Luke Lockwood award given to a deserving employee of Masonicare or a supporter of Masonicare.

I received as a Christmas gift this year a book "Washington's Masonic

Correspondence in the Library of Congress" by Julius F Sachse. It was compiled a century ago (1915). It is an interesting read and can be found on Amazon.com. The book points out that while there is no complete set of his Masonic writings, he did make copies of much of his correspondence and kept the letters and replies at hand for reference.

He wrote to the Grand Lodge of New York on August 10, 1782:

"The Masonic ornaments which accompanied your Brotherly Address of the 23d. of the first month, tho' elegant in themselves, were rendered more valuable by the flattering sentiments, and affectionate manner in which they were offered. If my endeavours to avert the evil, with which this Country was threatened, by a deliberate plan of Tyranny, should be crowned with the success that is wished—the praise is due to the Grand Architect of the Universe; who sees fit to not suffer his superstructures & justice, to be subjected to ambition of the Princes of this world—or to the rod of oppression, in the hands of any power upon Earth. For your affectionate vows, permit me to be grateful; and offer mine for true Brothers in all parts of the world; and to assure you of the sincerity with which I am. Yours, George Washington".

The book states that it was sent to Brothers Watson and Cassoul and is now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of New York. Watson and Cassoul were apparently in Nantes, France and acted as American correspondents during the War



of the Revolution.

The year 1796 was an interesting year as Grand Master William Judd was unable to preside over the annual session on May 18, 1796. The Deputy Grand Master, Samuel Wyllis presided and the two Wardens and Grand Treasurer had to be pro-temed.

There was no change in the election as the same officers were elected except for the two

Deacons (at that time they were elected) and the proceedings record that "the officers were severally congratulated agreeably to ancient custom." It is too bad the Grand Secretary did not provide more detail. The lodge at Harwinton was granted a charter (Christopher Johnson was charter Master) and the lodge at Turkey Hill (East Granby) chose Andrew Hillyer to be Master. The third lodge at Norfolk showed the first Master to be Giles Pettibone Jr. A letter from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was read and action postponed and for the first time the Grand Master issued a "summons" to all Masters to attend a meeting the day before the next session of Grand Lodge for "business of importance". They were to be given instruction and exemplification of the degree work. For the first time numbers were assigned to the various lodges according to the dates of their charters with the exception of the lodge at Danbury which had neither applied for or been granted a charter until 1797.

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The logo for T.J. Nelson Home Improvements. It features the company name in a bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the words "Home Improvements" are written in a smaller, lighter font. Underneath that is the phone number "860-444-6771". At the bottom of the card is a graphic of a ruler with markings from 0 to 12 inches.

The logo for Pathways Legal Group LLP. It features a stylized 'P' icon composed of a white circle and a black shape. To the right of the icon, the company name "PATHWAYS LEGAL GROUP LLP" is written in a bold, sans-serif font, with "INNOVATIVE PATHS. UNIQUE SOLUTIONS." in a smaller font below it. Below the logo, a list of services is provided: "Divorce & Legal Separations | Business Law | Wills | Estate Planning | Probate | Real Estate | Criminal Defense". At the bottom of the card, contact information is given: "Call Attorney Mike Kaczynski at 203-903-4529 or mjk@pathwayslegal.com" and "www.pathwayslegal.com | All major credit cards accepted".

District News

District 1

Washington Lodge No. 19 Charter Rededication

On Tuesday evening, January 12, a ceremony was held at Washington Lodge No. 19 to rededicate the Charter. Two hundred twenty-five years before, Washington Lodge was granted a charter, becoming a Masonic Lodge. To commemorate this, MWGM Charles Yohe presented WB Anthony Agosta with the charter from 1791.

Following the ceremony, the brethren sat down to a traditional colonial dinner, in traditional colonial style - each brother had to bring his own plate, knife, fork and mug.



District 3

King Solomon's Lodge Celebrates St. John's Day

by Richard Miska

On December 27, King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 celebrated St. John's Day at the temple in Woodbury with family and friends. This was the final celebration of the 250th anniversary year, commemorating the first meeting of King Solomon's Lodge which, while chartered July 17, first met as a Lodge on December 27, 1765. The festivities continued with a meal at the Curtis House which was one of the early regular meeting places of the Lodge.



Members and guests of King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 taken in front of the newly renovated temple.

Anchor Lodge No. 112 Installs Officers

The Master, Wardens and officers of Anchor Lodge No. 112 were duly and regularly installed in their several stations and places on Sunday afternoon, January 10.

Worshipful Brother Charles A. Seagrave III was installed as Worshipful Master for the year 2016. He was obligated by his father, WB Charles A. Seagrave, Jr., who served as Worshipful Master of Anchor Lodge in 1988 and again in 2015.

MWPGM Gustav R. Bodin was the Installing Master and RWB John Spencer, Grand Junior Steward, served as the Installing Marshall.

The brethren of Anchor Lodge No. 112 look forward to a year of good work in the quarry, and the fun and fellowship they share in their lodge.



Chip Seagrave being sworn in by his father as WM of Anchor Lodge No. 112



The Officers of Anchor Lodge No. 112 having fun

Book Review: Freemasonry's Secrets by John White

by Richard A. Eppler

Freemasonry's Secrets - The Theory and Practice of "Making Good Men Better,"

by John White. ISBN-13-978151173240, 2015.

This short book is a summary of John White's study of the teachings of Masonry, its relationship to the Western esoteric tradition of enlightenment, and in particular its foremost demonstration in Jesus' resurrection, as represented by the Orders of the Masonic Knights Templar and its influence on the formation of the American government.

John sums up his study of Masonic teaching this way, "The most important aspect of Freemasonry is the 'open secret' or plainly recognized truth that there will never be a better world until there are better people in it. Although Freemasonry has a huge fund of esoteric knowledge about higher human development, it can be boiled down to the single statement 'Masonry makes good men better.' That statement should always be amplified by at least this much: 'Not better than others, but

better than themselves - through self-improvement.' He continues, "Our fraternity makes good men better through self-directed growth in body, mind and spirit, influenced and inspired by Masonic teachings and guidelines." These guidelines include character development, value realization, abiding faith in God and the highest sort of patriotism.

John describes Freemasonry as "a Western enlightenment tradition." Thus, "the secrets of Freemasonry have to do with the human potential for growth to godhood or the same sense of oneness with God as Jesus demonstrated in his life and spoke about in his teaching." Thus, "Our own capacity for growth beyond our current condition is what can contribute to changing the world and bringing the kingdom of heaven down to earth" as is called for in the Lord's Prayer.

This aspect of Masonic teaching reaches its greatest fulfillment in the Masonic Knight Templars, who claim spiritual descent from the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and the Temple. As John writes, "The Templars sought to follow in the Way which Jesus taught, and which they felt Jesus exemplified in his

life most completely. However, because of their experience with the corruption of the Old World, they apparently set in motion a long-term project for the creation of a new and uncorrupted society in the New World. Over time, the suppressed Order of the Temple gave rise to modern Freemasonry and to the Freemasons who had such a strong role in the foundation and formation of America."

This Templar/Masonic teaching was significant in the formation of the craft. "This is because many of our nation's founders were Masons, such as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, Alexander Hamilton, and Paul Revere. Those who were not nevertheless agreed in principle that God is the author of our being. What flowed from that consensus was a radical political experiment which changed the world and advanced human society most wonderfully."

If you have an interest in the teachings of Masonry - in the "how" of the process of "making good men better", and in the impact of Masonic thought on Western culture in general and the United States in particular, this book is for you.

Zindah Grotto Christmas Party

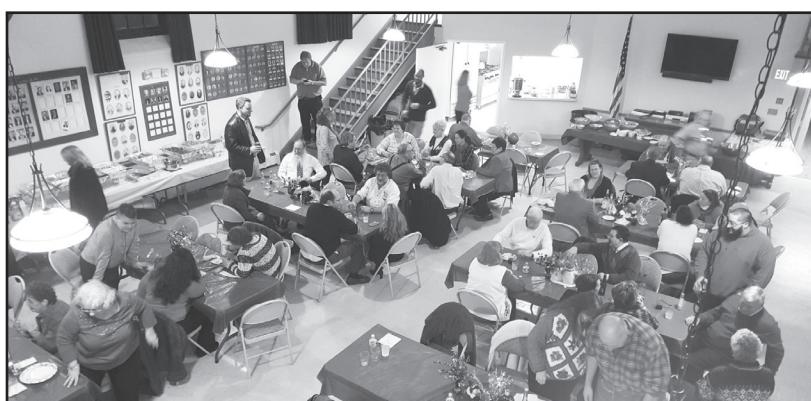
by Shane Dufresne

On December 15, 2015 the Annual Zindah Grotto

Christmas Party was held at the Waterbury Masonic Temple. Approximately 55 brothers of Harmony Lodge No. 42, Liberty-Continental

Lodge No. 76, The Valley of Waterbury AASR, Zindah Grotto, volunteers of The Children's Dyslexia Center of Connecticut, and their

loved ones got together to celebrate the Christmas season and enjoy each other's company.



Norman Getchell Hosts Nutmegger Reunion

by Adam Raider

MWPGM Norman L. Getchell is looking forward to hosting the 2016 Nutmegger Reunion in Ocala, Florida on March 3.

"Our reunions have had great turnouts and I enjoy putting them together," Bro. Norman said. "We have a great time. It's always a joy to see people I know from the area, reconnect with someone from your past or meet someone new. It's a nice social event as well as an important gathering to get the latest updates about Masonicare."

Bro. Norman has had a connection to Masonicare since 1972, when he was raised as a Master Mason by his father at Eureka Lodge No. 83, Bethel. He served his Lodge as Worshipful Master twice, in 1976 and 1980. In 1987, he was installed as the 141st Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut. He is a former member of the Masonicare Board of Trustees and was a longtime volunteer at Masonicare at Newtown.

This year's reunion in Ocala will include a remembrance of Bro. Norman's



good friend, the late MWPGM John Gonsalves, who passed away last July.

"John and I joined the Grand Lodge line at the same time and he was my Deputy Grand Master," Norman said.

"The reason I live in Ocala is because he lived here before me. I came to visit him and just fell in love with the area."

Grand Almoner and Lodge Almoners... New But Not Really....

by Shane Dufresne

About a year ago, MWGM Charles Yohe called and asked to meet with me. At the meeting, he asked if I would be interested in becoming the Grand Almoner for our great jurisdiction. To be honest, I had never heard of the position or what an Almoner does. I inquired and I was filled in by WB Richard McDonnell, who was also at the meeting. WB McDonnell is from the United Kingdom where the Grand Almoner is a very important and prominent position. Also, in Europe all lodges are required to have an Almoner in their line. I felt extremely

honored that I was even considered for this prestigious position.

Some may think that the Almoner is a new office in Connecticut. It is not. MWB Roger Read researched the Grand Lodge archives and found that the office of Grand Almoner existed at the formation of jurisdiction in 1789. It lasted for an undetermined amount of time. It faded from the records somewhere in the early to mid 1800's for unknown reasons, as the records are very obscure.

An Almoner oversees the welfare of a brother, his widow and young children. This can be done in a variety of ways. It could be by referring them to social services or providing relief

or assistance. It could be something as simple as a phone call, mailing a birthday card or making a visit to their home. This is extremely important for the older members of our beloved fraternity. These brothers sometimes don't get to lodge as often and over time they lose touch with their brethren. These brothers often say that they don't go to lodge anymore because they don't know any of the officers and would feel like a stranger. This should never happen.

Many lodges already do something like this. It may be the "Sickness or Distress Committee" or something similar. But surprisingly, many lodges

Continued on next page



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to **DONATE LIFE**™



Donate Life Month and the Powerball!!

By Richard F. Denno

Were you the lucky Brother to win the largest lottery prize in US history? If so, you have found your new dearest friend for life - ME! As of this writing, the \$900,000,000 prize has a lump sum payout of almost \$560,000,000. Personally, I would opt for the lump sum amount.

So, what's it going to be? Two yachts, an ultra-expensive Italian sports car, a palatial seaside mansion off the coast of France, or maybe a stable of thoroughbred race horses?

With your new found wealth, the world is your oyster. There isn't anything you can't buy - except that

which is not for sale. If you are one of the 18 patients on the organ/tissue transplant waiting list that die each day, still waiting for the lifesaving transplant that doesn't come in time, the Powerball prize is worthless. How often have you heard of terminally ill patients who would pay almost anything for a few more years, months or even weeks of life? More time to share those precious moments we all want to experience with our loved ones.

The Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Program is gearing up for Donate Life Month, which is April. At the Grand Lodge Annual Session on April 11, there will be a Donate Life Table set up. Please stop by and

receive materials that can be used by your lodge during April. We'll also be emailing all lodges info on Donate Life Month. While you are at the table, you could register as an organ donor, or sign up right now online at www.donatelifenewengland.org.

Finally, from your HUGE Powerball jackpot winnings, don't forget to make a sizable donation to Donate Life America, by going to the above website address. It also wouldn't hurt if you remembered your 'new dear friend' as well (hint hint!).

Remember - "Don't Take Your Organs to Heaven - Heaven Knows We Need Them Here!"

Grand Almoner

Continued from previous page

don't do anything in terms of keeping communications with brothers or their widows.

Brethren come from different backgrounds, vocations and religious affiliations. But every brother knelt at the altar and took an obligation to help, aid, and assist a brother and his widow and orphans. We ALL need to a better job in fulfilling our obligation.

Since the office of Grand Almoner is a rejuvenated position in Connecticut and there are no other Grand Almoners in the United States, it is basically a grassroots project. I have researched the Grand Almoners Handbook from England

to get started. But they are light years ahead of us. Over there, this has been a regular office for almost 300 years. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut will be moving slowly and taking baby steps. We will formulate our plans based on what and how we can assist here in the United States. We will make mistakes and probably change things as we go along. But I look forward to being a small part of this effort.

MWB Yohe and I are pleased to hear that at some recent installations, an Almoner was appointed to the line of officers. Our hope is that all of the lodges will eventually

have an Almoner in line. Sometime in the future each of the districts may consider appointing a District Almoner. We will then have a large network of brothers to assist those that need help.

If you have any ideas on how to help, if your lodge has a brother in need that exceeds your lodge's resources, or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at shanedufresne@comcast.net or at [203-808-7697](tel:203-808-7697).

From the desk of Bro. Stephen B. McPherson

President & CEO of Masonicare

Did you know that nearly 1,400 Connecticut Masons either live or winter in Florida? In the mid-80s we began outreach to visit them and their spouses and bring them up to date on the state of things "Masonic" back home in Connecticut.

Dubbed the Nutmegger Reunions, this year's gatherings will be held the first week of March in five cities around the Sunshine State. MWGM Charles Yohe and his wife, Barbara, Masonicare Chairman, WB Howard Orr, Vice President for Mission Effectiveness, RWB Rev. Carl Anderson and I will hold the first of these annual get-togethers in Jupiter, on the Atlantic coast. From there, we will proceed to Naples, Sarasota, Ocala and finally New Port

Richey. By the end of the week, we'll have driven over 1600 miles!

At each reunion, the Grand Master will give an address, 50-year pins will be presented, and updates on Masonicare will be shared. Each reunion starts with registration at 10:30 a.m. and wraps up with lunch. Full details are on the back cover of this issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*. Florida Masons can RSVP by calling Brother Carl at 800-982-3919 or filling out the RSVP form on this page.

Four of the five Nutmeggers will be hosted by longtime Masonic



dignitaries with Connecticut ties. A warm "thank you" in advance to Bro. David and Ann Hocking (Naples), Bro. James Rutushni (Sarasota), MW Bro. and PGM Norm Getchell (Ocala), and RW Bro. and PDD John Blennerhassett (New Port Richey) for their hosting coordination.

We hope to see as many of our Florida brethren as possible!

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve".

Yes!

I plan to attend the 2016 Nutmegger Reunion at the Following Location (*check one*)

FEBRUARY 29, 2016

Courtyard By Marriott (New Location)
4800 Main Street • Jupiter, Florida

MARCH 1, 2016

7165 Olde Cypress Club
Treeline Drive • Naples, Florida
Hosts: Bro. David P. and Ann Hocking

MARCH 2, 2016

The Meadows Country Club (New Location)
3101 Long Meadow • Sarasota, Florida
Hosts Bro. James Rutushni

MARCH 3, 2016

Marion-Dunn Lodge No. 19
1846 SE 36th Avenue • Ocala, Florida
Hosts: MW Bro. Norman L. Getchell, PGM

MARCH 4, 2016

Timber Greens Country Club
6333 Timber Greens Blvd. • New Port Richey, Florida
Host: RW Bro. John L. Blennerhassett, PDD

NAME(S) OF ATTENDEES:

(please enclose a check for \$15 per person and mail in the enclosed return address)

Fifty year pin recipients and their guests are invited to attend at no cost.

I can not attend the Nutmegger Reunion but I would like information about Masonicare's health and retirement living options.

Please send me information about: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____



The Exile of William Preston

by Chuck 2.0 Landau

History is repeated until it is understood and remembered....

In the annals of Masonic history, few names are as honored as that of Brother William Preston. Born in Scotland in 1742, he became a Freemason early in life in England, initiated into an "Ancients" lodge of fellow Scots on April 20, 1763. Dissatisfied with their approach, he affiliated with a "Moderns" Lodge that met at Talbot Inn at The Strand, where he worked for the King's printer. The Moderns' connection to the Premier Grand Lodge of England offered new opportunities, and Preston became the Grand Secretary's assistant in 1769. Granted access to the early manuscripts collected there, he published his first serious study of Masonic Initiation, Symbolism and Ritual on May 21, 1772 as The Grand Gala in honour

(sic) of Free Masonry held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern. He followed this with his first (of many) editions of Illustrations of Masonry, and collecting some of his lectures as Private Lectures on Masonry and offering it to those Brothers who attended his regular Lodges of Instruction. The popularity of his lectures prompted a pocket-sized memory guide The Pocket Manual or Freemasons Guide in 1790.

Americans inherited Preston's ritual work through an American disciple, Brother Thomas Smith Webb, the author of The American Rite, or what was originally called The York Rite in America. His The Freemason's Monitor, or Illustrations of Masonry, 1797 carried much of Preston's symbolism and words into American Freemasonry. One of his innovations may have been to combine Preston's lessons on the Orders of Architecture, the Human Senses and Liberal Arts and Sciences with those

of William Fitch in assigning them to the winding steps of a staircase of 3, 5 and 7 steps. But in general, he transmitted much of Preston word for word, and Masons in Connecticut perform the Preston-Webb lectures at their degrees today.

That William Preston's words are echoed in our assemblies in 2016, two hundred and fifty years after being written, is a testament to the honorable place this great Brother has in the hearts of the entire fraternity. But would you be surprised to hear that between January 1779 and 1782 this Father of Freemasonry was expelled from his Lodge of Antiquity No. 1 and Grand Lodge? It is a tale worth remembering, least we repeat the mistakes of our past.

After his eight years of research at the office of the Grand Secretary, Brother Preston began giving Lodges of Instruction for recognized Brothers of the Craft beyond his own Lodges. As was common in the day, Masons paid a small fee to attend the lectures and support the traveling presenter. These Lodges of Instruction were in-depth

studies of the symbolism and philosophy hidden in our furniture as well as an opportunity to listen carefully to the lectures for memorization. He soon had an enthusiastic following.

This led the most ancient, most prestigious Lodge in Britain, The Lodge of Antiquity Number One, which existed in London as a Jacobean Lodge under the Stuarts before the Hanover's ascent to the throne in 1714, to invite Brother Preston to join. He was elected in absentia, and voted in as Master of the Lodge on his first appearance, his second meeting as a Brother there.

The reason for this unusual invitation had much to do with the sad state of membership at Antiquity. As with some Blue Lodges and Research Lodges in CT today, membership had shrunk to less than twenty Brothers on the Roles, and barely seven Brothers would come to Stated Communications. The same, older Master had been installed for three years, as no one was capable or willing to ascend to the East. Inviting Brother Preston

Continued on next page



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New Haven, CT
sphinx97@juno.com
203-269-0336

Valley of Waterbury
531 Highland Avenue
Waterbury, CT
cwk@juno.com
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might attract new members and save this honorable institution from closing.

Within two years the Lodge grew to forty eight active members, the average age of the Craft dropped from 50 to 30 years old, and new meetings and Lodges of Instructions were constantly being organized. The Beehive was buzzing.

Many Brothers, but especially the new Brothers being initiated, were not finding this level of learned discussion in their Mother Lodges and began to attend. Understanding our principles, Preston encouraged them to get involved, stand for Lodge Officer positions, and begin new Charity projects. As the Lodge revived, it CHANGED.

This change brought a lessening of the onerous duties and decision making imposed on the Past Masters who recruited Preston. One imagines at first they were quite pleased to have succeeded in that effort, and its obvious success in growing membership and activity. But they soon began to resent these enterprising younger Brothers, and complaint to Grand Lodge about their leader. Eventually, on December 27, 1777, with Britain at war with its colony America, they found their excuse. Preston's Chaplain preached the St. John's sermon at the Church across from the Lodge. Afterward, Worshipful Master Preston and his Brothers continued in their Masonic attire to cross the road back to their Lodge and return from Refreshment to Labor to conclude the Communication. This brief period of public ritual attire without a dispensation was the flimsy excuse used to sanction, and then expel them.

Any Man would have been furious, after investing his life and intellect into the Craft for so long. But William Preston was more than a Man, he was a Mason! Professing his love for the Craft, he affiliated with

the alternative Grand Lodge of England South of York and received a Charter. Despite his disappointment in the behavior of his Brothers at Antiquity, he believed in our Philosophy, and carried that LIGHT within. Wherever he went, so would the LIGHT. His lectures in this new venue continued to be popular and instruct the Brethren.

No one will be surprised that the Lodge of Antiquity Past Masters

soon found themselves alone in their empty Lodge room again. WB John Noorthouck "won" and became Master of that empty room, until he left the Craft in 1784 with a reputation as a backstabber and failure. Meanwhile, in 1786, Preston was restored to his place of Honor in the Grand Lodge of England, and the hearts of his Brethren.

Come On Out and Enjoy Roasting Our R.W. Deputy Grand Master, M.W. Gail N. Smith!

Saturday, March 19, 2016

Ashlar Village
Hartog Activity Center
Cheshire Road
Wallingford, CT

Social Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.

Dinner ~ 7:00 p.m.

\$35.00 per person

Ladies and non-Masons are invited.

Those who may wish to "roast" Gail, please contact Bill Greene at 860-989-4240.



~ Menu ~

Choice of One Entree:

- ~ Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon w/Citrus Lemon Butter
- ~ Filet Mignon w/Fried Leeks & Burgundy Sauce
- ~ Stuffed Breast of Chicken w/Red Wine Sauce
- ~ Grilled Vegetable Ravioli w/Pesto Cream Sauce

Served with:

Garden Salad ~ Bread & Butter Coffee/Tea

Twice Baked Potatoes

Roasted Baby Carrots

Dessert: Chocolate Cake w/Raspberries

Cash bar available.

RESERVATION FORM. Please enclose a self addressed envelope for return of tickets.

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Select entree and enter quantity for each reservation.

____ Atlantic Salmon ____ Filet Mignon

____ Breast of Chicken ____ Vegetable Ravioli

____ x \$35.00 ea = Total Enclosed \$ _____

RESERVATIONS BY MARCH 14, 2016.

No tickets sold at the door

Make checks to **Ionic Lodge No. 110** and mail this form with your check to:

William L. Greene, M.W.P.G.M.

1726 South Street

Coventry, CT 06238-3224

Tel: 860-989-4240

Grand Lodge Annual - April 10 & 11

Sunday 3 PM Program on Cathedrals and the Masons who built them. (Ladies invited)

Slide Show by Bro. Russell Herner

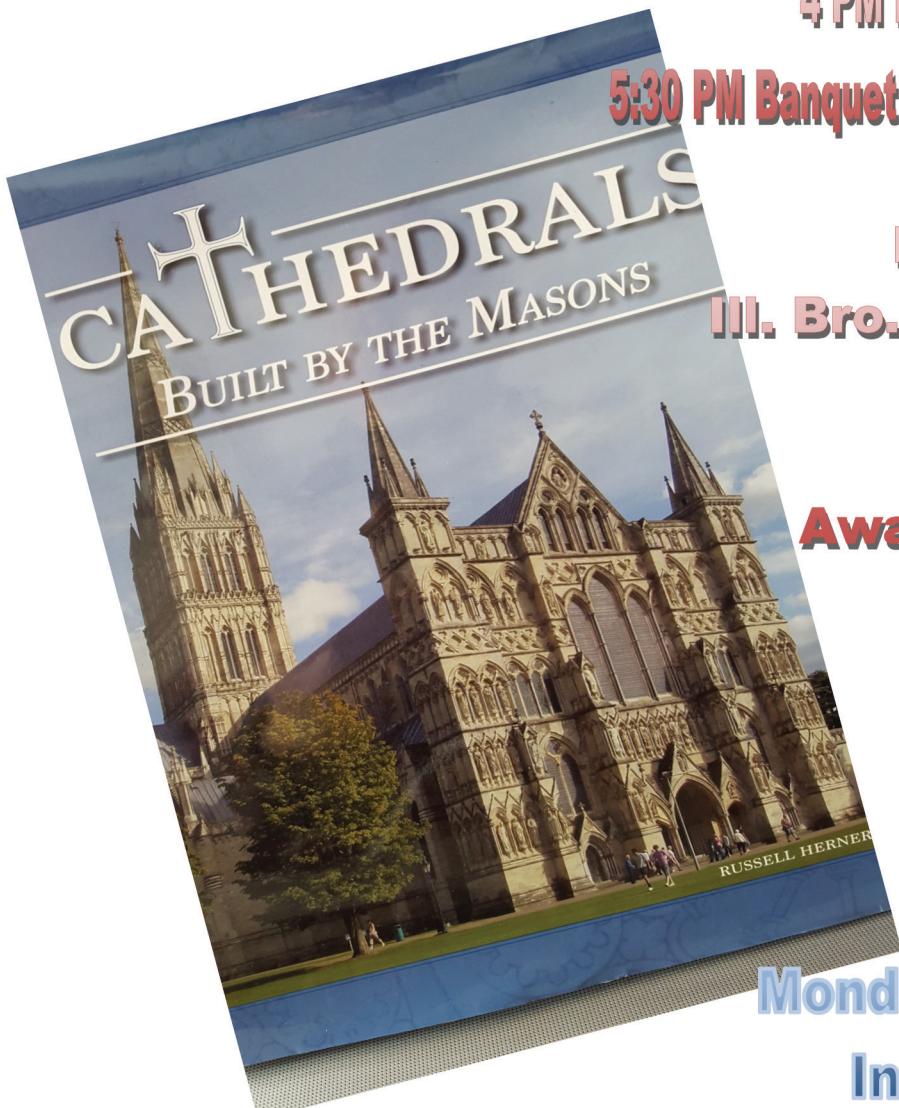
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as Carnac**

Awards Presentations

Monday Session: 9:30 - 4:15

Installation to follow

Come, Participate, Enjoy!

Save the dates and plan

to attend. Details to follow



February 28th
5:00pm
Doors Open at 4pm



All Seats \$15
Lower Level
\$3 Goes to Charity



www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org

Connecticut Freemason Family Day

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ♦ \$15 Tickets (\$3 of each ticket goes to charity)
- ♦ Prizes for Lodge that Sells the Most Tickets
- ♦ Masonic Color Guard
- ♦ Information Tables
- ♦ Masters' Pre-Game On Ice Tunnel
- ♦ Lodges in Attendance will be Acknowledged
- ♦ Masonic Trivia on Jumbotron
- ♦ Great Opportunity to Bring Candidates

The Place to Be on 2/28!



Two Ways to Get Your Tickets

1. Complete the Form Below and Mail it to:

CT Freemason Family Day
c/o Hartford Wolf Pack
One Civic Center Plaza
Hartford, CT 06103

Questions? Contact:

WB Tom Mumford
860-305-7755
tom.mumford@triaxis.com

Name: _____

Check

of Tickets: _____ x \$15.00 = \$_____ enclosed

Addr: _____

AmEx / MC / Visa

CC#: _____

City: _____ ST _____ Zip: _____

(circle one)

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ CVV: _____

Lodge w/ #: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

2. Go Online to: www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org and complete the custom form.

Deadline: 2/22/2016

Good News (and Good Food) in Store

Apart from the pleasure of seeing familiar faces, making new friends, and learning about all the exciting things happening at Masonicare, Nutmegger Reunion hosts Bro. David Hocking and his wife, Ann, promise that their guests should expect to eat well. Very well.

"They're going to have the best lunch for the money that they've ever had," Bro. David said. "They won't have to eat for the rest of the day."

The Hockings, formerly of Wallingford, CT have been hosting the Nutmegger Reunion in Naples, FL for eight years. It's a way for Bro. Dave, a 55-year Mason raised at Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, to maintain his ties to Masonicare. He was a longtime member of the Masonicare Board of Trustees, eventually serving as its Vice President.

"The first two years we were living in Naples," Dave recalls, "we went to the reunion in Fort Myers. It was not easy for us to get to. But the



development where we live, Olde Cypress, is located only one mile from the closest interstate and we have an excellent dining facility. So we offered

to start hosting a reunion here and we've been doing it ever since."

Guidelines for a Lodge "At Ease"

Ed Note: The Grand Lodge Ritual Committee recently developed guidelines for a Lodge "at ease." These are printed here for the convenience of all Worshipful Masters, Wardens and brethren in the jurisdiction.

Setting a Lodge "at ease" is a prerogative of the Master. "At ease" is not an official status of a Lodge. A Lodge may be Open or Closed. When Open, the Lodge is either at Labor or at Refreshment. However, there are times when it becomes appropriate to have a state whereby movement and conversation is allowed without the formality of calling the Lodge to Refreshment. This state is entirely up to the Master, as parliamentary rules do not apply in Lodge. What is

allowed therefore is up to the Master's discretion.

"At ease" is often used to allow movement between stations such as when officers switch chairs for degree work. It is used to allow members to congratulate new Brothers at the conclusion of a degree. It is used to perform ceremonies such as Service Pin presentations or for Lodge programs that might require movement about the Lodge. It is also commonly used for annual Lodge meetings to provide more comfort during the various reports, elections and appointments. It should be noted that when "at ease", a Warden's station may be "vacant" while that officer remains in the Lodge, as is normally the case when a Lodge is at Labor.

Movement about the Lodge is most

often unrestricted but is at the Masters discretion. Perhaps he, like most Masters, allows for "breaking the light". Perhaps not! In all cases, the Lodge is still at Labor and the Master is still in charge. If the Master chooses to be more comfortable by removing his hat he may do so. If he chooses to walk about the Lodge, so be it. He is still in charge of the craft.

Other rules still apply. Although it is common for a Master to state "there will no passing or re-passing" while "at ease" it should be noted that conventional rules still apply. A Master can send someone out of the Lodge room, can allow someone to enter the Lodge, and can allow passing as long as the appropriate procedures are followed. (such as saluting at the Altar.)

We Welcome Our New Brothers to the Fraternity

Marvin K. Collins	Hiram No. 1	John F. Stankiewicz	Seneca No. 55
WinstonB. Nelson	Hiram No. 1	James C. Davis	Coastal No. 57
Timothy E. Turner	Hiram No. 1	Edward R. Moody.....	Coastal No. 57
Fritzner D. R. Erauda	Fidelity-St. John's No. 3	Chandler L. Lynch.....	Widow's Son No. 66
George J. Brunner	Union No. 5	John D. McMahon.....	Harmony No. 67
Barry F. Belardinelle Jr.....	Old Well-St. John's No. 6	Vincent M. Walden.....	Harmony No. 67
Anthony Fusco.....	Old Well-St. John's No. 6	Krystofer L. Dibella	Washington No. 70
Christopher W. Isaacs.....	Old Well-St. John's No. 6	Eric E. Groenstein.....	Washington No. 70
T. Lakis Papadakos	Old Well-St. John's No. 6	David Ortiz.....	Manchester No. 73
Joseph A. Williams.....	Old Well-St. John's No. 6	Adrian L. Spence	Manchester No. 73
Robert G. Barnes.....	King Solomons No. 7	James J. Dobensky	Meridian No. 77
Mark R. Franklin.....	King Solomons No. 7	Steven O. Malburg Jr.....	Meridian No. 77
William S. Celata Jr	Compass No. 9	Jay S. Press.....	Meridian No. 77
Gabriel Cologna.....	Compass No. 9	Erik H. Forselius.....	Wooster No. 79
Everett G. Sussman.....	Compass No. 9	Alexander A. Sulpasso.....	Wooster No. 79
David L. Shultzman	Wooster No. 10	Richard M. Harrison III	Hartford Evergreen No. 88
Peter D. Laponte	King Hiram No. 12	Darby G. Comas	Evening Star No. 101
Kenneth C. Welch	King Hiram No. 12	Joel J. Nowakowski.....	Evening Star No. 101
Philip J. Sharkey III.....	Temple No. 16	Frank J. Andriulli III.....	Annawon No. 115
Scott E. Berglund	Federal No. 17	Jonathan L. Belmont.....	Annawon No. 115
David C. Dalton	Federal No. 17	Michael J. Cotela Jr.....	Annawon No. 115
Joshua C. Howe	Columbia No. 25	Timothy J. Barber.....	Oxoboxo No. 116
Bud W. Miller	Union No. 31	Lester D. Johnson	Oxoboxo No. 116
Travis J. Stratman	Union No. 31	Michael LaRose.....	Oxoboxo No. 116
Justin J. Avery.....	Friendship No. 33	Marvin S. Maizano	Oxoboxo No. 116
Allyan L. Lopes	Friendship No. 33	Daniel D. DeVoe II	Cosmopolitan No. 125
Keith Austin.....	Valley No. 36	Mark A. Grove.....	Cosmopolitan No. 125
Nicholas Hanson	Valley No. 36	Michael B. Steinfeld	Cosmopolitan No. 125
Emmet Heagney.....	Valley No. 36	Charles J. Lupo.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142
John C. Rossignol	Valley No. 36	Julio C. Maldonado.....	Daytime No. 144
Robert L. Back	St. Albans No. 38	Dede D. P. Roberson.....	Daytime No. 144
Stephen M. Bioly.....	St. Albans No. 38	Kenneth M. Rotunno Jr.....	Daytime No. 144
Christopher D. Bowen	Putnam No. 46	Andres Arrovo III	Unity No. 148
Justin T. Bressette	Putnam No. 46	Hiram Morales II	Unity No. 148
Joseph M. Albanese	Seneca No. 55	Alfredo Olivier.....	Unity No. 148
Michael W. Consolini	Seneca No. 55		

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Connecticut York Rite Opportunities

Information to be included in York Rite Opportunities must be submitted by the 8th of the preceding month to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, Charles B. Fowler, 525 Stillwater, Windsor CT 06095-3842 or ctrarmrsm@gmail.com. NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice.

FEBRUARY 2016

02	MP	U	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford. Annual Meeting
02	ME	F	Keystone 27 RA, Meriden. Mark Master degree, 7 pm
09	MP		Wolcott 01 SM, East Hartford.
09			Franklin 02 RA, New Haven. Past & Most Excellent Master degrees
14	ME	MP RE	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY !
15	ME		Compass 09 AFAM, Wallingford. York Rite presentation by ME
16		U	St Elmo 09 KT, Meriden. Annul Meeting & Installation. Dinner
16	MP	U	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford. Installation
19		U	New Haven 02 KT, New Haven. Installation
22	MP	F	Washington 70 AFAM, Windsor. MM Deg & Dinner. Lodge open 5:30.
23	MP	F	Wolcott 01 SM, East Hartford. Inspection RM & SM degrees
24	MP		Pythagoras 17 RA, East Hartford.

NOTE **>> >>** When there is a dinner, reservations are usually req'd.
ME indicates attendance by the ME Grand High Priest
MP indicates attendance by the MP Grand Master
RE indicates attendance by the RE Grand Commander

ELECTIONS REMINDER

With Annual Meetings coming up in Chapters and Councils, the Companions are reminded that dispensations will be needed for a High Priest or Thrice Illustrious Master to serve a third consecutive year in office. This is new for Chapters, enacted at the last Grand Session, but unchanged for Councils. Word to the wise!

DEADLINE HAS CHANGED

Note that the deadline for submission of items for inclusion in Opportunities has moved up to the 8th of the preceding month. This is necessary because the *CT Freemasons* newspaper has changed its deadline to the 10th of the preceding month. When submitting items, please include the time, place, and dress code. Local Presiding Officers, Secretaries and Recorders are encouraged to get into the habit of sending in items.



EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE

Committee Chairman James McNeely has revised the Educational Assistance applications for 2016, and they are now posted on our website (see below). Copies have also been sent to every Chapter HP and Secretary.

FROM MEGHP EPPLER

Your Grand Officers have met and reviewed the status of Royal Arch Masonry in Connecticut. The good news is that we have three strong Chapters doing first quality work, and four Chapters that are well on the way to top performance. Unfortunately, the other nine Chapters are in need of substantial improvement. I urge each of you to discuss critically where you are at, and devise a plan to get where you can do quality work. Your candidates

deserve it!

Do you need more members? Visit the Blue Lodges in your area and tell them about York Rite masonry. Do you need greater participation? Mentor your new exaltations. Do you need to do your work from memory? Resolve to learn one sentence a day. Do you need one or two good and experienced ritualists? Ask a suitable Companion from a nearby Chapter to give you a hand!

One final thing. If your Chapter is electing a new High Priest, and he would like me to come and install him, he has only to ask.

FROM MPGM SEAMON

Greetings my Companions; My Lady Linda and I hope you had a Happy New Year, and wish you all the best in 2016. Linda and I wish to thank everyone for the hospitality shown to us at the various

Christmas gatherings and observances we were invited to attend. What a joy to spend these special times with our Companions and our Ladies. By the way! Don't forget that special Lady this month! Or February may be colder than expected! Another reminder is to get those Council Inspections done! Lastly my Companions do not fail to promote York Rite at every Opportunity, it is our job to preserve these things for future generations.

YORK RITE WEBSITES

Grand Chapter RAM of CT:
<http://yorkrite.org/gcramct/>

Grand Council R&SM of CT:
<http://yorkrite.org/gcrsmct/>

Grand Commandery KT of CT:
www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/ct
Common to all three YR bodies:
www.yorkrite.com/ct



To our February Birthday Brothers

Mark Buxton Sr.	Robert Daniele
Shane Dufresne	Matthew Elwell
Jose Fontanez	Stanley Frost
Anthony Fusco	Robert Hallock
Andrew Landona	Ronald Pernal
Mark Mastropietro	David Sharkis
Giuseppe Pisani	Joseph Pisani
Marshall Robinson	James Watson Sr.
Kenneth Tarwood Jr.	

Harmony Lodge No. 42

531 Highland Ave, Waterbury Ct.

George Washington Day Dinner



A perfect night to introduce a friend to your Brothers!



Brother Hal's Masonic Trivia

A "Cowan" is one who pretends to be a Mason without having been regularly initiated.



Recent Events

A warm welcome to our newest Master Masons!



(L-R) Brother John D'Aversa and Brother John Tolson

Notes From The Valley Of New Haven



Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

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

Spring Reunion

**We start with a Stated
Meeting on Monday
evening,
January 11, 2016.**

**Saturday afternoon,
February 20,
we will gather for yet
another Winter Picnic.**



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

Valley of New Haven Winter Picnic

The Valley of New Haven, AASR will be holding their 10th Annual Winter Picnic on Saturday, February 20, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Masonic Temple at 285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT. The snow date is Sunday, February 21.

While there is no charge for this event, reservations are required. They may be made by contacting Jim Kleinkauf by email jk13inkauf@comcast.net or phone (203) 453-9536.

The theme this year is "Sadie Hawkins Day Leap Year."

Prizes will be awarded for the best "Dog Patch Character." Mammy & Pappy Yokum's fishing pond will be set up for the kids, and everyone will enjoy the very popular "make your own sundaes"

This event is open to adults, children

and grandchildren. When making reservations please be sure to let them know the ages of the children and how many are attending!

Degree Schedule

Please check the calendar on the website, valleyofnewhaven.org/calendar/, to keep up with when our degrees will take place.

Mike Castroll

Mike Castroll, who usually writes this column, has been having some medical issues and has been in the hospital recently. Please remember Mike in your thoughts and prayers. Hopefully his friendly and brotherly words will grace this space again next month. We miss you Mike !!!

News From The Valley of Hartford, A.A.S.R.

by David R. Blythe, Sr.,
33^o, Valley Secretary

Over the past 50 years the country has changed radically. An entire generation, unlike previous generations, decided not to be "joiners" and membership in churches, civic organizations, and even Masonry has declined.

However, through all the change, Masonry is still one place that has not compromised our commitment to our fellow man. We still meet on the Level, have a strong belief in God no matter what religion we practice, and we still believe in morality, family, and helping our fellow brethren.

It all began for each brother as we took that first step Masonry. Many went beyond those initial steps by seeking more light in Masonry and becoming Scottish Rite brethren receiving light that strengthens the Core Values of Life: **Reverence** for God; **Devotion** to Country; **Integrity**; **Justice** for all; **Tolerance**; and **Service** to Humanity and Youth.

To paraphrase a popular political slogan, "Now it is time to make Masonry great again". How can this be done? Make Masonry more visible in the community. Put a Masonic symbol on your car. Help your lodge contribute to the betterment of the community. Don't let our great fraternity continue to be known as the silent fraternity.

As a Scottish Rite member, now is the time to help make this current class the largest in the past several years, The Valley is now accepting petitions for the Spring Class that starts on Thursday, February 11 with the 4^o and the 12^o. The remaining spring degree schedule is: Thursday,

February 25 is the portrayal of the 16^o in banquet form at the Sphinx Shrine facility and Thursday, March 10 is the portrayal of the 18^o. All degrees begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Preceding each degree is an All-You-Can-Eat buffet dinner at 6 p.m. at the Sphinx Shrine facility. Advance reservations are required and new candidates are comped as guests of the Valley. Please make reservations by email (sect@snet.net), or phone (860-666-0712), or use the reservation form found on the Valley's website: www.valleyofhartford.org/forms-files/ or printed in the upcoming issue of the *View of the Valley*.

Information on Consistory Day will be forthcoming.

When talking to a prospective member do not forget to mention that Scottish Rite offers more than degree work. The Valley offers a variety of Family Life activities like the recent Pre-Valentine's Day Dinner Dance, held at the Sphinx Shrine Facility. Stay tuned for news on upcoming Family Life programs in the spring, and of course, the Family Picnic in June.

So help make Masonry great again, especially as a member of the Scottish Rite, by bringing in a new member and attending the degrees and Family Life events. The last date for accepting petitions is Thursday, February 11. The fee to take the degrees is \$150 and includes the 2016 dues.

Petitions are available at the Valley officer or online: www.valleyofhartford.org/forms-files/.

Informational DVDs are available upon request by contacting the Valley office.



 <p>ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE The Valley of Hartford 207 Deming Street, Newington, CT 06111 Our 2016 Spring Schedule</p>
<p>Thursday, February 11 - 4^o & 12^o @ 7:30 p.m. Pre-degree dinner available @ 6 p.m. advance reservations required</p>
<p>Thursday, February 25 - 16^o in Banquet Form @ 7:30 p.m. Pre-degree dinner available @ 6 p.m. advance reservations required</p>
<p>Thursday, March 10 - 18^o @ 7:30 p.m. Pre-degree dinner available @ 6 p.m. advance reservations required</p>
<p>Thursday, April 14 - Feast of the Pascal Lamb @ 7:30 p.m. A public degree that honors our departed Brethren</p>
<p>For more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, or to receive a copy of a Scottish Rite informational DVD....</p>
<p>Contact David Blythe Sr., 33^o, Valley Secretary, Valley of Hartford AASR (860) 666-0712 Email: sect@snet.net</p>

Working On The GPS Committee

by Russell George

The GPS (Generating Positioning Statements) Committee was created just over one year ago. There has been thorough and comprehensive GPS Program information disseminated through the *CT Freemasons* magazine, and provided electronically to every lodge since the committee's inception. This information has delineated the function, philosophy and purpose of the committee which provides every lodge, blue lodge council and Grand Lodge permanent voting member the opportunity to submit grievances, proposal and sentiments to the Grand Master regarding all aspects of masonry.

As a member of the GPS Committee, I was asked to report to the Craft my personal thoughts and opinions regarding the form and function of the committee as well as report my experiences working on the committee. As a disclaimer, my take on GPS is influenced by almost 40 years of Masonic membership and personal beliefs regarding where Connecticut Masonry has gone or may be going.

The entire concept of GPS is

something which has been long overdue. Individual masons, lodges and blue lodge councils have always had beliefs, thoughts and opinions regarding Grand Lodge rules and regulations, the functions and deportment of the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge. Masonic custom and practice has never existed in a vacuum; there have always been questions and concerns as to interpretation and relevance regarding these matters. Whether founded or unfounded, what Masonry is or is not, or what it should or should not be, needs to be determined collectively by its constituents in order to maintain harmony.

What I have witnessed over the years is that until recently, there has never been a process to vet information in a clear, objective and adequate way within the craft for debate and discussion. Furthermore, there was no consistent apparatus to quantitatively assess a grievance, proposal or sentiment in order to determine its level of concern or importance. GPS achieves this. Important discussions take place when information is shared openly and not left in the shadows of a single lodge room or discussion

after a meeting in the dining hall.

As with all things electronic, the GPS reporting mechanism is continually being tested and modified in order to make sure every lodge, blue lodge council and Grand Lodge permanent voting member has clear access to the system. This ongoing procedure insures that it generates pure quantitative data. GPS was designed to be objective with internal checks and balances. Kudos go out to those members of the committee who designed the system and those who maintain the system.

Finally, it is important to know that every member of the GPS Committee is committed to the confirmation of polling results. Each GPS committee member divests themselves of their own personal thoughts and beliefs and simply, quantitatively processes the data, reports it to the Grand Master and he to the Craft.

Look at it this way: if Masonry is a progressive science, it means that we all have to reassess our interpretation and beliefs from time to time and see the other brothers' points of view. Collaboration and collective intelligence promotes "peace and harmony" which can only make us "wiser, better and consequently happier." GPS, which will continue to evolve by the sentiment of the craft, ensures open communication of information and ideas that are shared in a timely manner, thus fostering confidence in its membership that we do not operate in a vacuum but rather that we continue to be a growing and introspective fraternity.



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We offer our condolences to the families and friends of those brothers who have been called by the Grand Architect of the Universe

Glenn L. Allen	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11	Leo E. Le Fay	Hartford Evergreen 88
Harold W. Anderson	Temple Lodge No. 16	David E. Masters.....	Friendship Lodge No. 33
Kenneth G. Anderson	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11	Harold S. Murzak.....	King Hiram Lodge No. 12
George J. Beisel Jr.....	Columbia Lodge No. 25	Harry H. Neumann Sr.	King Hiram Lodge No. 12
David C. Bentley.....	Seneca Lodge No. 55	Lloyd A. Oestreicher..	King Solomons Lodge No. 7
Charles R. Botteron	Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145	Wayne S. Paul	Meridian Lodge No. 77
William M. Brown	Temple Lodge No. 65	James F. Quarz	Corinthian Lodge No. 63
David W. Burgdorf	Composite Lodge No. 28	George A. Ray ..	Liberty-Continental Lodge No. 76
C. Robert Carlisle.....	Valley Lodge No. 36	Robert B. Regius.....	Fayette Lodge No. 69
Arthur F. Carter	St. Alban's Lodge No. 38	Frank Sauerbeck.....	Columbia Lodge No. 25
Samuel Charm	Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125	Albert I. Small	Annawon Lodge No. 115
Henry B. Cole.....	Putnam Lodge No. 46	Arthur G. Spaulding...	Composite Lodge No. 28
Theodore W. Gelinas	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11	Lester W. Standley	America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
Louis Giovanelly Jr	Wooster Lodge No. 79	Norman Wagge.....	Harmony Lodge No. 42
Klaus E. Hirnschal	Washington Lodge No. 70	Allen M. Washburn.....	Union Lodge No. 40
Louis F. Kessler	Coastal Lodge No. 57	Leland F. Watts	Uriel Lodge No. 24
Edward J. Krpata	Hartford Evergreen 88		

By Rule & Guide

Continued from page 4

District 7B. RWB John brought his same quiet and steadfast approach to those duties, and wore his District Deputy apron with equal pleasure to himself, but more importantly, honor to the Fraternity.

When there was upheaval and disquiet in the Fraternity in 2014, RWB John Spencer was asked to serve, and was appointed, by MWB Tom Maxwell, as Right Worshipful Grand Senior Steward. There was no doubt that the dignity John brings to all things Masonic was sorely needed as the Craft healed the rifts that then existed.

Though he was not planning on advancing in the line, or even serving more than one year, when MWGM Charles Yohe asked RWB John to remain in the line, and to serve as RW Grand Junior Steward, for the year 2015-2016, John assented.

In spite of traveling in the lofty circle of Grand Lodge officers, RWB

John has not forgotten his Blue Lodge duties. When the position of Grand Almoner was created, MWGM Yohe suggested that lodges should appoint their own Lodge Almoners, to have someone locally in each lodge to look after and see to the welfare of the lodge's brethren. When the brethren of Anchor Lodge No. 112 decided to follow that advice, they appointed a brother to the job who they knew would get the job done, without fanfare, without self aggrandizement, but with brotherly love, friendship, fraternal care, and a quiet steadfast approach to ever keeping that obligation to a distressed worthy brother that all Masons take when they kneel at the altar. They appointed John Spencer.

Every Mason knows a brother who craves the Masonic limelight and wants to be at the forefront of the action, hoping to be recognized for his winning actions. Those Masons

who know RWB John Spencer are fortunate to know a brother who exemplifies the rule and guide of quiet, steadfast purpose, and the quality of character that all Masons should emulate.



Whatever Became of the Masonry I Once Knew

by Kenneth Baril

Ed Note: the author is a Past Master of Temple Lodge No. 16, and also belongs to lodges in Ohio and Florida.

In October, 1971, I was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason. It was an evening I shall never forget, an experience that will live in my heart and mind until time is no more. Surrounding me that evening were brothers who took an interest in me and offered their assistance as I gained light. The feeling was overwhelming.

The ritual work that evening was perfect and the officers were extremely proficient. Their pride in their work was evident; they squared their corners, and held their staves at the correct angle. More impressive, no ritual book, not one single book, was open during the degree. The Craft was also well behaved; there were no other sounds within the lodge-room, no side conversation or correction. It was almost like being in a cathedral. It was a spiritual experience to say the least.

In those days, I was also impressed that when a brother reached the

Oriental Chair, he had learned everything in the ritual book from cover to cover. There is a difference between learning the ritual and memorizing it.

After taking each degree, my mentor called to schedule classes of instruction and to remind me of any special events that might be taking place. The personal interest shown in me was gratifying. In a society in which man feels so alone and alienated, it is comforting to be with others who share the same ideals, emotions and experiences. Feelings of warmth, friendship, and comfort in times of distress are always present, yet they appear most readily in lodge. I found men who treated me with brotherly love. I met old friends made new ones who demanded nothing from me, and thus I demanded nothing from them in return.

When attending lodge, the brothers were always well dressed and their appearance was always impeccable. It was assumed that proper attire, shirt, tie, and jacket, would be worn while attending lodge.

Now, forty-five years later, I sit in lodge and cannot believe the drastic changes that have taken place. There

are now Grand Master's One Day Classes where a candidate takes all three degrees in one day and leaves with dues card in hand and a Masonic lapel pin on his jacket. He has taken the degrees with no opportunity to digest the preceding degree. The theory is that the candidate has a mentor to explain the degrees and answer any questions but in reality many mentors know less than the candidate. The candidate now has a dues card stating he is a member of an organization he knows nothing about.

Many officers no longer have pride in their work. Open ritual books during a degree is the norm, and often, officers cannot open or close the lodge without reading their parts. I recently attended a Master Mason Degree where the Senior Warden read his part and made no attempt to conceal it. Further the District Deputy Grand Master was in attendance and did not attempt to stop the degree or even speak with the officer in question after the degree. This certainly set a great example for the subordinate officers.

And so I have the audacity to ask, "Whatever became of the Masonry I

Continued on next page



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Whatever Became of Masonry

Continued from previous page

once knew?"

I am not sure that we are as proud of Freemasonry as we ought to be. It is the most wonderful institution in the world. Since it came into existence, dynasties have disappeared, thrones have tottered, empires have vanished and crowns have crumbled, but our grand order lives on with eyes undimmed, greater, more exciting, and more influential than ever.

Today, when so many imagine that history began with their own birth certificate and that compassion for their fellow man is unnecessary, belonging to an order with a great historic past and with the tenets of brotherly love, relief and truth is not only fulfilling, gratifying and uplifting but also, necessary. Masonry has a great mission to fulfill in the present age, and a great contribution to make to the future of humanity. Identifying and developing successful candidates as line officers is one of the greatest challenges confronting the fraternity today.

Qualifications must be top priority when brothers are considered as officers. If a brother is appointed, it must instilled in him what his specific duties and responsibilities are. He must also be evaluated periodically as to his proficiency, his goals, his leadership, his management skills, his ability to delegate and work well with others. If, after consultation and training, these attributes are weak or non-existent, he should be diplomatically informed that unless he shows improvement in those areas in which he is deficient, he would not be advanced to the next office. Regardless of any improvement, the Senior Deacon's office should be the last chair he can occupy if most of those attributes are not evident. Allowing a brother to continue under the circumstances causes embarrassment not only for the lodge, but also for brother in question.

We can no longer be content to be members of the "silent majority."

Brothers are reluctant to express constructive criticisms in open Lodge but have no such problem expressing them in the banquet hall. Furthermore, these concerns are rarely voiced to the offending party. It is the right of every brother to state his concerns. Whether right or wrong, he has that right as long as he presents them in a respectful and brotherly manner. He can and must be heard. Many brothers are concerned that voicing criticism will be regarded as un-Masonic conduct.

This is completely erroneous.

Every brother in this great fraternity is an example of Masonry. If a brother acts in a non-Masonic manner, eyes are upon him, and his actions are a direct reflection on the whole fraternity, especially you and me! Therefore, every brother should take heed of the Junior Warden's instruction during opening and closing: Govern yourselves accordingly. And finally, be proud of our great fraternity and treat it with respect.

Widowers Support Group

~ A Group for Men who are Grieving the Loss of a Spouse ~

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This "On-Going" Widowers support group will provide a place for men to process their grief experience in a safe and supportive way with other grieving men. We will explore some of the common gender-specific reactions experienced by men as they transition through their grief journey.

Location: Masonicare Home Health & Hospice
104 South Turnpike Road
Wallingford, CT

Date/Time: Every 2nd and 4th Thursday
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

Availability: Open to the public.

Registration/Information:

Facilitator: Dennis Farrar, MSW/Hospice Social Worker
Masonicare Home Health & Hospice
104 South Turnpike Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

**Pre-registration is recommended.
For more information or to register, please call 203-679-5395.**

www.masonicare.org

Masonicare
Home Health & Hospice

Going Green to Save Some Green...Oh Yeah, And Maybe A Couple of Trees...

by Francis G. Way

Believe it or not, email has been around in some generally recognizable form since 1962, albeit not necessarily in a form one would recognize today. In the early 1980s, with the conversion of ARPANET to the Internet, email became more like its current form, and usage skyrocketed in the 1990s with the introduction of services like AOL and Prodigy. In fact, email has been around so long that the youngest generation today views email as out of date as radio dramas might have seemed to those of us who grew up with TV.

Still, email is a very viable transmission media, and one

that must be considered if an organization wants to contain cost when sending out items such as newsletters, or even a newspaper/magazine like the *CT Freemasons* magazine.

To that end, the staff at *CT Freemasons* is undertaking an initiative to make the magazine available to any subscriber who wants to receive it electronically.

This does not mean that the paper "hardcopy" of each issue is going away. The default method for brethren to receive their issue will still be U.S. Mail. However, our brethren cover a wide spectrum of ages. While there are brethren on one end who view email with trepidation and who want or need to have a phone call or

letter in the mail, there are brethren on the other end of the spectrum who will say "Email? Email? How quaint, but I guess I can deal with it."

In trying to contain costs, and make *CT Freemasons* a self-sustaining, break even proposition, the decision has been made to offer the issue electronically to any brother who desires to receive it that way. If a brother opts to receive *CT Freemasons* in that form, he will receive an email each month with a link to download the PDF copy of the issue. One advantage of this method is that the email would be sent at around the same time that the issue is sent to the printer - the PDF is always ready before the issues are printed - and thus

the brother would have the issue before any of the next month's events as scheduled to take place.

If a brother opts to receive electronically, he still has the option to receive the issue in the mail. In fact, a brother would specifically have to opt out of receiving it via the U.S. Mail if he only wants to receive it electronically.

So, if any brother is interested in helping the paper cut some cost, and perhaps even saving a few trees in the process, fill out the form that accompanies this article and send it to the Grand Lodge office.

If any brother has questions about this new initiative, feel free to drop us an email at ted@tjnelsonhomes.com

CT Freemasons Electronic Issue Request Form

To request that you receive *CT Freemasons* magazine electronically, send the following information to ted@tjnelsonhomes.com

Full Name

U.S. Mail address

Email Address

Indicate which you would like:

Receive BOTH U.S. Mail and email versions

OR

Receive ONLY email version

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Are Your Widows Interested in the CT Freemasons Newspaper?

We have heard from more than a few brothers that there are widows in their lodges who miss receiving the CT Freemasons newspaper. When a brother passes to the Celestial Lodge Above, his subscription to the paper ends.

However, we hear of many Masons whose wives will grab the paper first, and then brothers have to wait to read the issue until after their wives have read it. Many wives are involved in the life of the lodge, if

not always actively, then at least as someone who loves to know what is going on in the fraternity. Sadly, that ends when the brother passes and the subscription ceases.

We would like to make subscriptions of the newspaper available to any widow who wishes to receive it. However, mailing laws require that we must have a request on file from the widow otherwise it is considered unsolicited mailing. With a request on file, we can add their name and

address to the mailing list, and the widow will receive the paper.

We are asking all lodges to poll their widows to see if any of them might like to receive the paper. If there are widows who wish to receive the paper, please send their name and address to Marje Chick in the Grand Lodge office. This request by the lodge on behalf of the widow will fulfill the mail law requirements.

We are also asking that the lodge make a donation of \$15 per year for each

widow who wishes to receive the paper, to help the CT Freemasons paper defray the costs of the subscription.

Please do this as soon as possible in your lodge. While there might not be many widows who are interested, if we can make even one widow happier by doing this, then we will have fulfilled part of our Master Mason's requirement to care for our widows.



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Craft At Refreshment

For more details about any of these events, please contact the Lodge directly. In many cases, reservations are required, and they may or may not be open to the public.

All times are supplied by the lodges. The CT Freemason Newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the Secretary of the lodge to verify all times and events.

Tuesday, Feb 2, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

Thursday, Feb 4, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, Committee Meetings/Meet & Greet, 7:15 p.m., Meet & Greet for interested prospective members at 8 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 4, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, Thursday Night Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Thursdays are the time to rehearse, plan events, work on projects. If you are not a member and would like to ask about joining Thursdays are a

perfect time

Thursday, Feb 4, Bay View No. 120, Niantic, District Breakfast, 9 a.m. Groton Townhouse Restaurant

Saturday, Feb 6, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, Annual Sweetheart Dinner, 7 p.m., Annual Sweetheart Dinner (Table Lodge) to honor and thank our spouses, ladies and significant others.

Saturday, Feb 6, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, Ladies at the Table, 6:30 p.m., Bring your lady to an enjoyable evening \$45/couple for an enjoyable evening We will have catered food wine and other beverages.

Sunday, Feb 7, Old Well-St. John's No. 6, Norwalk, Super Bowl Party, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, Feb 7, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, Compass No. 9 Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, Feb 7, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, Masters Round Table & Field Day @ 8 a.m. Join our Master for breakfast and help

clean up our home

Sunday, Feb 7, Village No. 29, Collinsville, Super Bowl 50 Party, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb 7, Hartford Evergreen No. 88, South Windsor, Super Bowl Football Party, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Feb 7, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, CT CHIP Event, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb 9, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

Tuesday, Feb 9, Acacia No. 85, Greenwich, Mardi Gras Night Table Lodge 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 9, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, An Evening of Bowling, 7 p.m., Revolutions 60 Bidwell Rd S. Windsor

Wednesday, Feb 10, Union No. 5, Stamford, Fellowship Night, 7 p.m. The Lodge will be open to Brothers and Friends alike on all Wednesdays where there is no Stated Communication.

Wednesday, Feb 10,

Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, Hiram's Cafe, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 11, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, Thursday Night Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Thursdays are the time to rehearse, plan events, work on projects. If you are not a member and would like to ask about joining Thursdays are a perfect time

Saturday, Feb 13, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, Valentines Dinner with your Partner, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Feb 13, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, Lodge Maintenance, 7 a.m.

Sunday, Feb 14, HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY !!!

Sunday, Feb 14, Liberty-Continental No. 76, Waterbury, Valentine's Day Brunch, 9 a.m.

Monday, Feb 15, Hartford Evergreen No. 88, South Windsor, Ladies at the Table, 7:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. "Ladies at the Table at 8 p.m.

Monday, Feb 15,

Craft At Refreshment

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Tuesday, Feb 16, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

Wednesday, Feb 17, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, Hiram No. 1 Masonic Book Club, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 18, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, Masonic Information Night, 7:30 p.m., An Open House to welcome anyone who may be interested in Freemasonry.

Thursday, Feb 18, South Woodstock, Thursday Night Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Thursdays are the time to rehearse, plan events, work on projects. If you are not a member and would like to ask about joining Thursdays are a perfect time

Sunday, Feb 21, Old Well-St. John's No. 6, Norwalk, Pancake Breakfast, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Feb 21, Washington No. 19, Monroe, Country breakfast, 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, Feb 21, Friendship No. 33,

Southington, Pancake Restaurant Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb 23, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

Wednesday, Feb 24, Union No. 5, Stamford, Fellowship Night, 7 p.m. The Lodge will be open to Brothers and Friends alike on all Wednesdays where there is no Stated Communication.

Saturday, Feb 27, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, Indiana Jones Movie Night, 7 p.m., To benefit the Ronald McDonald House of New Haven. Suggested Donations: Adults \$10, children 12 & under \$5.

Saturday, Feb 27, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, Chili Night, 6:30 p.m. For Brothers and Male Friends only

Tuesday, Mar 1, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

Thursday, Mar 3, Day View No. 120, Niantic, District Breakfast, 9:00 a.m., Groton Townhouse

Beef & Cabbage Dinner, 5:00 p.m., 5 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. seatings and take-outs. \$12 Adults \$6 Children under 10.

Saturday, Mar 12, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, St Patrick's Day Table Lodge, 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$20

Sunday, Mar 13, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1:15 p.m. Please congregate at 1:15. We should be done by 3:30pm. More info to come. Hope to see you there.

Wednesday, Mar 9, Union No. 5, Stamford, Fellowship Night, 7 p.m. The Lodge will be open to Brothers and Friends alike on all Wednesdays where there is no Stated Communication.

Tuesday, Mar 15, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

Saturday, Mar 12, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, St. Patricks Day Dinner, 6:30 p.m. This is a family events all are welcome. Cost TBD

Saturday, Mar 12, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, St. Patrick's Corned

Craft At Labor

To have your lodge events appear in the newspaper, please update your lodge website calendars prior to the 10th of the previous month. If your lodge needs assistance accessing the website please have the Master or Secretary contact Grand Lodge.

All times are supplied by the lodges. The CT Freemason Newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the Secretary of the lodge to verify all times and events and to inquire about dinner reservations.

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Monday, Feb 1, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, Dinner, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 2, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 2, Unity No. 148, New Britain,

7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 4, Old Well-St. John's No. 6, Norwalk, Dinner, 6:45 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 9, Village No. 29, Collinsville, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 9, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb 15, Wylls-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb 15, St. John's No. 2, Middletown, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 16, Coastal No. 57, Stonington, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 23, Acacia No. 85, Greenwich, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb 24, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

6:30

Thursday, Feb 25, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar 9, Ivanhoe No. 107, Darien, Dinner, 7 p.m.

Monday, Mar 14, Washington No. 70, Windsor, Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Ladies welcome to play cards and games in dining room during degree.

Fellowcraft Degrees

Monday, Feb 1, Hartford Evergreen No. 88, South Windsor, Dinner, 6 p.m.

Monday, Feb 15, Anchor No. 112, East Hampton, Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Degree at St. John's No. 2 in Middletown

Tuesday, Feb 16, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 23, Corinthian No. 104,

Fairfield, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Mar 7, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, Dinner, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar 9, Hospitality No. 128, Wethersfield, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Mar 14, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 15, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Master Mason Degrees

Monday, Feb 22, Washington No. 70, Windsor, Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 23, Shepherd-Salem No. 78, Naugatuck, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 15, America-St. John's No. 8, Stratford, MM Degree, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Boosters

After reviewing all of the receipts for Boosters, the following list are the Boosters who are current (i.e., within the 11 issue window). If your name does not appear and you feel that you should be on the list, please contact us. But for now, these are the Boosters we show as valid.

Boosters *Thank you for contributing \$25*

Lewis Bither	William Field	Kenneth H. Kirschner	Charles B. Ricker
David Blackall	Ernest A. Greenwood, Jr.	William E. Lehr	Virginia Scheller
Richard C. Burke	Moussa Gueye	Edna McCraw	John Spencer
Lowell H. Cantor	Kenneth W. Hartwick	Keith MacDowall	Robert C. Thayer
Ray N. Cooley, Jr.	Donald W. Hick, Jr.	Paul R. Marte	Edgar J. Wood
John P. Dilks	Herbert W. Hope, Jr.	Richard C. Memmott, Sr.	George Zack
James Dobie	Melvin Katzman	Jon H. Quint	
Samual M. Dunlop	Alfred R. Kirschner	Robert A. Reggiani	

Grand Boosters *Thank you for contributing more than \$25*

Paul F. Blake	David Ferguson	Robert C. Maclellan	Robert R. Shaw
John Blennerhassett	Leonard W. Finegold	Paul F. MacDonald	John H. Spencer
William A. Brinley, Jr.	George Frascarelli	Robert MacQuarrie	William E. Sunblade
Newton Buckner III	Robert J. Furce	Geronimo S. Mamaclay	Samuel B. Walker
Robert B. Burden	Paul Garavel	William R. McDonald	Robert G. Waller
J. Arthur Carbonaro	Ryan G. Hunt	Arthur J. McKinney	Richard R. Washburn
Miles E. Corcoran, Jr.	Benjaman J. Issacson	Chester Miller	Scott H. Werner
Rev. Robert P. Cornell	Alan N. Knofla	Raymond Mussen	Charles W. Yohe
Lester A. Culver, Jr.	George M. Leaman	Alvin B. Reiner	
Kenneth M. Dellhime	Frank H. Lesco	Richard L. Sawyers	
Wilfred G. Douglas	Charles Lizotte	Frederick W. Schmatz	

Masonic Family Boosters

Anchor Lodge No. 112	Thomas & Janice Delmastro	National Camping Travelers
Robert & Diane Andrews	Fidelity - St. John's No. 3	Anton & Diane Petras
Brainard Lodge No. 102	Aubrey & Carol Fisher	Albert & Corinne Redway
Elizabeth Brown	Friendship Lodge No. 33	Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34
D.M. & G.D. Chase	William F. Hart	St. Peters Lodge No. 21
Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc.	Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88	Temple Lodge No. 16
Coastal Lodge No. 57	Hospitality Lodge No. 128	Union Lodge No. 5
Composite Lodge No. 28	Ronald & Barri Lapierre	Valley of Hartford, AASR
Corinthian Lodge No. 63	Robert & Jane Maclellan	Valley of New Haven, AASR
CT Chapter of DeMolay	Masonic Club of New London	



You and a guest are cordially invited to the

2016 Nutmegger Reunion

Please join us for a wonderful Nutmegger Reunion luncheon at one of five convenient locations listed below. You will have an opportunity to meet and greet Bro. Charles W. Yohe, Grand Master; Barbara Yohe, Wife of the Grand Master; Bro. Howard W. Orr, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Masonicare; and, Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, President and CEO; and to reconnect with many more old friends. All locations will follow the same time schedule.

10:30 a.m.

Registration

11:00 a.m.

Masonicare Update

12:00 noon

Greetings - Bro. Charles W. Yohe,
Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand
Lodge A.F. & A.M. of CT

12:15 p.m.

Lunch

Cost is \$15 per person.

Fifty year pin recipients and their guests are invited to attend at no cost.

***If you will be receiving our 50-year pin this year at these locations,
please contact Rev. & Bro. Carl Anderson at 800-982-3919. Checks
should be made out to Masonicare and mailed to Bro. Anderson.***

Keep in touch with your Connecticut Masonic Brothers in the Connecticut Freemasons or on-line at www.ctfreemasons.net.

For exciting events and news from Masonicare, please visit our site at www.masonicare.org.

FEBRUARY 29, 2016

Courtyard by Marriott (*New Location*)

4800 Main Street

Jupiter, Florida

MARCH 1, 2016

7165 Olde Cypress Club

Treeline Drive • Naples, Florida

Hosts: Bro. David P. and Ann Hocking

MARCH 2, 2016

The Meadows Country Club (*New Location*)

3101 Long Meadow

Sarasota, Florida

Host: Bro. James Rutushni

MARCH 3, 2016

Marion-Dunn Lodge No. 19

1846 SE 36th Avenue

Ocala, Florida

Host: MW Bro. Norman L. Getchell, PGM

MARCH 4, 2016

Timber Greens Country Club

6333 Timber Greens Blvd.

New Port Richey, Florida

Host: RW Bro. John L. Blennerhassett, PDD

Please respond by February 14, 2016 • We look forward to seeing you!