

January 2018



# Connecticut FREEMASONS

~ Mentoring ~

*“Tell me and I forget,  
teach me and I may  
remember, involve me  
and I learn.”*

*~ Bro. Benjamin Franklin*

Where Good  
Men Relate



*Officers of the  
Grand Lodge of Connecticut  
A.F. & A.M. 2017- 2018*



**Bro. Theodore J. Nelson**  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

**Bro. Marshall K. Robinson**  
RW Deputy Grand Master

**Bro. Melvin E. Johnson**  
RW Grand Senior Warden

**Bro. Stephen W. Petri**  
RW Grand Junior Warden

**Bro. Newton Buckner, III**  
RW Grand Treasurer

**Bro. Grant S. Gould**  
RW Interim Grand Secretary

**Bro. William E. Bohman**  
RW Grand Senior Deacon

**Bro. Bruce R. Bellmore**  
RW Grand Junior Deacon

**Bro. John H. Spencer**  
RW Grand Marshal

**Bro. Joseph J. Porco**  
RW Grand Senior Steward

**Bro. Edward C. Page**  
RW Grand Junior Steward

**Bro. Carl H. Anderson**  
RW Grand Chaplain

**Bro. Gary A. Littlefield**  
RW Grand Historian

**Bro. Carl H. Anderson**  
RW Grand Organist

**Bro. Richard C. Memmott, Jr.**  
RW Grand Tiler

**Bro. Frank R. Mangiero**  
Associate Grand Tiler

**Bro. Joseph F. Massa**  
Associate Grand Tiler

**Bro. Brian E. Beals**  
Deputy Grand Treasurer

**Bro. James M. Anderson**  
Deputy Grand Secretary

**MW Bro. Charles W. Yohe**  
Director of Communication

**Bro. Shane Dufresne**  
Grand Almoner

# Table of Contents

Mentoring - A Gift of Brotherly Love.....	3
Grand Master's Trestleboard.....	4
Grand Master's Message.....	5 & 33
Masonicare Experience .....	7
The Desk of the Grand Chaplain .....	8
75 & 50-Year Brothers .....	8
Grand Historian's Corner.....	9
Welcome New Brothers .....	9
Valley of Hartford, AASR.....	10
The Desk of Jon-Paul Venoit.....	11
Called by The Grand Architect .....	13
Freemasonry is the Solution.....	13
<i>In Remembrance of Francis S. DiStefano</i> .....	14-15
☞ Attitude of Gratitude	
☞ Rod & Fran ... Tribute to Two Pillars	
☞ Remembering Fran DiStefano	
Masonicare's Lockwood Award: Barbara Lott .....	16
Craft at Labor .....	17
Craft at Refreshment .....	17
Pyramid Shriners .....	18
Districts 1, 3, 5, 6 .....	18-19, 21-23, 28
• St. Paul's Lodge No. 11	
• Washington Lodge No, 19	
• Hartford Evergreen Lodge No, 88	
• Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140	
• Unity Lodge No. 148 •	
Committee on Community Action .....	24
Masonic Family Day.....	25, 26, 35
Pierpont: Dennis Walter Pothier.....	27
Boosters .....	29
Elements of a Perfect Lodge.....	30
The Most Uncommon Common Gavel .....	31
Touring Temple Church .....	32
How to Outgrow a Crown Vic.....	34



**Connecticut  
FREEMASONS**

**Volume - 13 Number - 7**

## Publisher

THE GRAND LODGE  
OF CONNECTICUT A.F. & A.M.

## Publications Committee

Theodore J. Nelson, Chairman

Francis G. Way, Editor

Jeff S. Bartlett

Robert Dorr

Margaret Steeves, Masonicare

Rev. Carl Anderson, Masonicare

Adam Raider, Masonicare

## Creative

Pat Kalinauskas

## Contributors

John Amarilios

Carl H. Anderson

Jeff S. Bartlett

David R. Blythe, Sr.

Donald M. Casey, Jr.

William L. Greene

Vincent Kalinauskas

Chuck Landeau

Gary A. Littlefield

Perne R. Maynard

Thomas Mumford

Theodore J. Nelson

Adam Raider

Michael D. Sabia, Jr.

Margaret Steeves

Robert B. Thorin

Charles W. Yohe

Jon-Paul Venoit

## Grand Lodge of Connecticut A.F. & A.M.

69 Masonic Avenue • Wallingford, CT 06492

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

1:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

203-679-5903 • 800-529-4161 (in-state only)

Fax: 203-670-5996

email: [grandlodge@masonicare.org](mailto:grandlodge@masonicare.org)

web: [www.ctfreemasons.net](http://www.ctfreemasons.net)

# Mentoring ~ A Gift of Brotherly Love

*by Francis G. Way*

The final pillar of Most Worshipful Grand Master Ted Nelson's year is Mentorship. It is being featured last because it encompasses and, in some cases, empowers the other two pillars – Communication and Education.

It is no secret that a brother who is well mentored is more likely to attend lodge after being raised, and more likely to become involved in lodge activities and contribute to the life of the lodge. What may not be quite so evident is that good, or even excellent, mentoring, involves so much more than just making sure a candidate is proficient in his memorization of the Webb lecture for a given degree. It takes time, it takes effort, and it takes the gift of brotherly love.

Lodges typically assign a mentor to a candidate to help him memorize the Webb lecture to prove proficiency for a given degree. While that could be considered the absolute minimum in terms of mentoring, it really is nowhere near enough. Brothers who are successfully assimilated into the life of the Lodge have mentors who truly get involved with them – providing education, checking in with them to make sure they will come to lodge, being a “big Brother” by helping them navigate those early years in their Loge life.

Lodges with successful mentor programs employ a multi-faceted approach. New brothers definitely get help with their Webb lecture. But lodges also provide education on the degrees themselves, education on the obligation of the degree, and thought provoking discussion on the tenets of Masonry experienced in the degrees. That is probably the minimum.

In the strongest mentoring programs, a bond develops between the brother and his mentor. The mentor “takes the brother under his wing” and is there well beyond the new brother proving his proficiency as a Master Mason. In Hospitality Lodge No. 128, there is a program that each new officer in the lodge is assigned a mentor, to help the new officer prepare for the office and to do his best job there. This goes beyond just working in the Lodge, and mentors often check in on their charges, just to see how life is going and to discuss any aspect of Masonry.

Not every brother is cut out to be a mentor, and Lodges should exercise care when assigning a mentor. Brothers have different personalities, and care should be taken that a brother and his mentor mesh. MWPGM Yohe has stated it is even a good idea to initially sign two mentors to a brother, as one may naturally become a better fit with a new brother.

In its highest form, mentoring is more than just providing help to a new brother. It ultimately becomes an act of brotherly love, as true caring can come to exist between a mentor and his charge. Friendship can develop, or if it existed before the new brother came into the Lodge, it can deepen.

A Lodge can survive without a mentoring program, but a Lodge with a strong mentoring program has a much better chance of thriving and becoming strong enough to survive the tough times. A Lodge that ensures strong Education, Communication and Mentorship is a long way towards becoming a place where brothers are personally enriched, where fellowship is warm, and where brothers want to be.



# GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLEBOARD

## JANUARY 2018

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE/ADDRESS	DRESS CODE	STAG/COED
Tue. 2	6 p.m.	Bedouin Shrine Club	Groton Townhouse Restaurant	Business	S
Thu. 4	9 a.m.	8th District Breakfast	Groton Townhouse Restaurant	Casual	S
Fri. 5	6 p.m.	Wooster Lodge Installation	Wooster Lodge No. 19, Colchester	Tux	C
Sat. 6	8 a.m.	Masonic Retreat, Lunch to follow	Knapp Auditorium, Ashlar Village	Business	C
	4 p.m.	Anchor Lodge Installation	Anchor Lodge No. 112, East Hampton	Tux	C
Sun. 7	3 p.m.	Cosmopolitan Instalation & Dinner	Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven	Tux	C
Tue. 9	7:30 p.m.	Braiard Lodge Installation	Brainard Lodge No. 102, Niantic	Tuc	C
Sat. 13	9 a.m.	Consistory Day, AASR	Valley of Norwich, Preston	ux	S
Sun. 14	12:30 p.m.	PDD Association Ladies Day	Dakota Restaurant, Rocky Hill	Casual	C
Tue. 16	4 p.m.	CT Freemasons Foundation	GL Offices, Wallingford	Casual	C
Fri. 19	6 p.m.	Robert Biurns Night	St. Peter's Lodge No. 21, New Milford	Casual	C
Sat. 20	5 p.m.	Quintessentia Lodge No. 500 Festive Board	The Graduate Club, New Haven	Tux	S
Sun. 21	10 a.m.	St. John's Day, Trinity Lutheran	292 Orange St., New Haven	Tux	C
Mon. 22	5:30 p.m.	GLO Meeting	Private Dining Room, Ashlar Village	Casual	S
Mon. 29	6 p.m.	NL Masonic Club Annual	New London	Business	S
Tue. 30	6:30 p.m.	9th District BLC	Fayette Lodge No. 69, Ellington	Business	C

## FEBRUARY 2018

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE/ADDRESS	DRESS CODE	STAG/COED
Thu. 1	9 a.m.	8th District Breakfast	Groton Townhouse Restaurant	Casual	S
Fri. 2-Sun. 4		New England Get-Away	Portsmouth, New Hampshire	Casual	C
Tue. 6	6 p.m.	Bedoin Shrine Club	Groton Townhouse Restaurant	Casual	C
Sat. 10	5 p.m.	DeMolay Legion of Honor	Newington Scottish Rite Catherral	Business	C



# Grand Master's Message

by Theodore J. Nelson

## *Travels And New Journeys*

As I write, Chanukah and Christmas are still weeks away, but as you read this those events are in our immediate rear view mirror. I hope that the holidays met all of your expectations and that you had time to be with your loved ones.

Isn't that what life is all about, our family and friends? We work so hard to make a nest egg for our family and yet we spend so much time away from them in the attempt to make them happy and comfortable. A bit of a paradox but alas, that is also what life is about.

Many have asked about my travels to the United Grand Lodge of England and I would have had more to say in our last issue had I not been on a deadline. It all started eight and a half years ago when I was appointed to be Grand Junior Steward by Most Worshipful Brother Art Carlstrom. The Grand Line of CT Officers had for scores of years been a progression from the Grand Stewards to Marshall to the Deacons by successive appointments of each incoming Grand Master and then election by the Craft to Grand Wardens, Deputy Grand Master and ultimately to Grand Master. In 2009 I did the math and realized that if my tour was uninterrupted and no one ahead of me dropped out or passed away, I could be Grand Master in the same year that the Grand Lodge of England would be celebrating their tercentennial of the forming of their Grand Lodge in 1717. So I did what any prudent Mason would do. I started saving my money for the potential trip of a lifetime.

It far exceeded all of my expectations. Grace and I flew to Paris, France early Thursday morning October 26. Our first major destination was to visit the graves and beaches in Normandy. Omaha Beach today is pristine and the locals swim there all summer

long. Long gone are the stains of blood in the water and sands of the heroes of the Greatest Generation who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms that we continue to enjoy to this day. The barbed wire and obstructions of steel jacks on the beach and off shore are long gone from Omaha Beach. The cemetery and its central monuments were most moving to me. To actually place my hands on the Cross headstones and the Star of David headstones, it was surreal that I would be so blessed to be there and say thanks. We visited pillboxes and fortifications that the Germans had built in defense of a coastline which the Axis Leaders never expected to be invaded since there were no navigable ports near this stretch of coastline. The unsung heroes of D-Day were the engineers who designed transportable piers that could be set in shallow waters and the sandy beaches that our troops had to traverse to get to land. Only General Rommel said it was the most likely place for the Allies to attack. Thank God his superiors back in Berlin disagreed.

The next day we sampled French cuisine and traveled around the city of Paris seeing the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, the Obelisk and of course the Eiffel Tower.

On Sunday October 29, we boarded the Eurostar Train for London and went under the English Channel via the "Chunnel." Shortly after arriving at our hotel we ran into the our dear friends, the Grand Master of Rhode Island, Peter Iaccabuci and his wife Fran and the Grand Master of New Jersey, Dieter Hees and his wife Eve. As three couples we walked through Hyde Park and visited Kensington Palace. And so the fairy tale begins...

That evening we were wine and dined at the Connaught Room, which is part of a very exclusive club next to the Freemasons Hall in the Theater District of London. We were serenaded by a live orchestra and trumpet players in 18th century attire.

The next day we went to Freemasons Hall to greet in person The Most Worshipful, The Grand Master, His Royal Highness, The Duke of Kent. I was in attendance with 137 other visiting Grand Masters from around the world

and yes, I shook his hand and we had some small talk that I'm sure he'll never remember, but I certainly will. I congratulated him on his golden anniversary of being Grand Master. Yes, he has been the Grand Master of English Masonry since 1967 when he succeeded the Earl of Scarborough. He responded in a deep British accent "has it been that long"? He asked us if group of four had ever been to Freemasons Hall before, to which the Grand Master of RI responded that this was his third visit. For the rest of us it was our first.

The following day, Tuesday, October 31, we geared up for the grand finale. We were once again bussed together as Grand Masters to the Royal Albert Hall for the stage production that they had planned for us. The ladies and other invited guests, along with our own WB Richard Allen, AGM and PM of Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34, traveled back to Freemasons Hall to see the whole production on simulcast since there wasn't enough room at the theater. We were all dressed in our formal tails, aprons and masonic regalia and I sat in the balcony just seven seats away from His Royal Highness the GM. Again, what a thrill!

The production was set on a stage shaped like a black and white checkerboard on a diagonal with one point of the corner facing the center of the audience. Bordered on the two edges was a golden Square with a beveled edge towards the audience and a flat edge on the same plane as the checkerboard stage. From the back two corners of the stage at either ends of the Square was a set of Compasses and its apex must have been over 75 feet high. In between the points of the compasses was a golden circle at least 25 feet in diameter in which various light images were projected, ranging from the all Seeing Eye, to Benjamin Franklin, to George Washington, to various Past Grand Masters.

The stage production was a combination of orations and musicals portraying the history of Freemasonry from 1717 to present. Much time was spent on American Freemasonry, which I must admit sent a few shivers down my spine

*Continued on page 33*



Do you or someone you know,  
own an RV? Are you retired?  
Do you enjoy camping?

**CONSIDER BEING A WORKCAMPER!**

Travelers Woods of NE is Bernardston, MA,  
is looking for a couple who are interested in  
working 3 days a week as campground hosts.

**SALARY • W/E/S • PROPANE**

For more details call Chris at 860-450-2233.

[WWW.TRAVELERSWOODS.COM](http://WWW.TRAVELERSWOODS.COM)

## Grand Lodge U. S. Mail Address Has Changed

Please note that the U. S. Mail  
address for Grand Lodge has  
changed.

The post office box address  
is no longer valid.

All U. S. Mail to Grand Lodge  
should be addressed to:  
**69 Masonic Avenue  
Wallingford, CT 06492.**



## Paul Garavel, Dealer

**GARAVEL CHRYSLER JEEP DODGE RAM**  
300 Westport Avenue, Norwalk • [GaravelCJDR.com](http://GaravelCJDR.com)

**GARAVEL SUBARU**  
10 Tindall Avenue, Norwalk • [GaravelSubaru.com](http://GaravelSubaru.com)

**Gotta Get to Garavel**



*Family Owned & Operated Since 1972*



## AUTO REPAIR INC.

Foreign & Domestic Repairs

*Phil & Paul Locicero & Pete Buck*

860-646-5036 Fax: 860-646-1552  
174 West Center Street • Manchester

[www.pp-autorepair.com](http://www.pp-autorepair.com)

[Phil@P-PAUTO.COXATWORK.com](mailto:Phil@P-PAUTO.COXATWORK.com)



**Since  
1995!**

Connecticut Freemasons is the official publication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF & AM. All original articles are subject to editing. All checks for payments and donations should be made out to Grand Lodge Publications and mailed to the Grand Lodge office at 69 Masonic Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492.

Letters and advertisements may be sent to the Editor Frank Way at [submissions@ctfreemasons.net](mailto:submissions@ctfreemasons.net) or 860-659-7416. All submissions are required by the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. Please note: The Grand Lodge AF & AM of Connecticut, does not endorse any of the products or services contained herein nor imply any warranty of the goods, services, or claims advertised. While every effort

is made to ensure the accuracy of all advertisements, Connecticut Freemasons will only be liable to reprint, at no charge, any correction due to typographical error.

Connecticut Freemasons (USPS 025-514) is published monthly, except August. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM, 69 Masonic Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492. Periodicals Postage paid at Wallingford, CT and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER, Send address changes to: Connecticut Freemasons, c/o The Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM, 69 Masonic Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492.

# The Masonicare Experience

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

## Thrift Shop Sales Benefit Annual Appeal *by Adam Raider*

Hidden treasures, great bargains and convenience draw customers to The Closet Shoppe, a cozy, resident-operated thrift shop on the lower level of the Hartog Activities Center at Masonicare at Ashlar Village. Proceeds from sales benefit several local charities, including The Masonic Charity Foundation. Since opening its doors almost six years ago, the store has contributed over \$11,000 to the Masonicare Annual Appeal – an impressive figure, when you consider that every item for sale is priced \$6 or less.

Gifts to the Appeal provide essential funding to enhance the quality of life of Masonicare residents and patients in need when there is no other funding source available.

The Closet was founded by the late Blanche Newman (1916-2015), who had previously run an annual rummage sale at Ashlar Village and donated the proceeds to The Masonic Charity Foundation. In 2012, Blanche was given a space in the Hartog Center to open a thrift shop to sell goods year-round.

Today, The Closet Shoppe is still going strong under the management of Bibiane Bernier and Francette Gingell. Aided by a small team of fellow volunteers, Bibiane and Francette collect, organize, display and ultimately sell a wide range of donated clothing and accessories: shirts, shoes, blouses, skirts, vests, sports jackets, winter coats, sweaters, purses, belts, gloves and much more. Their customers include residents as well as Masonicare staff, one of whom recently purchased 30 – 30! – scarves, and promised to buy more if any come in.

---

**“It’s a lot of work, but we get a lot of pleasure knowing that this is benefiting people in need.”**

---

“We won’t put out anything that’s not clean or has any holes,” said Bibiane, who spend 14 years working at the G. Fox & Co. department store in Meriden and knows a thing or two about moving merchandise. “It’s a lot of work, but we get a lot of pleasure knowing that this is benefiting people in need.”

If not for that, Francette adds, “I wouldn’t be doing this.”

“Keeping The Closet stocked is a huge undertaking,” said The Foundation’s Executive Director, Jennifer King, “and I am so thankful to Bibiane, Francette and everyone who has helped carry on the work started years ago by Blanche Newman. It’s a major volunteer effort, and The Foundation is very appreciative of this ongoing show of support for Masonicare’s mission.”

Your gifts to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut will help create “Masonicare Experiences” for others. To find out how you can support The Foundation or to make a gift, please call 203-679-5555 or 800-562-3952. You can also donate online at [masonicare.org/mcf](http://masonicare.org/mcf). A monthly giving option is available.



*Ashlar Village residents Francette Gingell (left) and Bibiane Bernier co-manage The Closet Shoppe.*



*Bibiane and Francette inspect a recent addition to The Closet’s inventory that will soon find its way onto the racks.*



# From the Desk and Bench of the Grand Chaplain/Organist

by Rev. Carl H. Anderson

At the beginning of each year, many people make New Year's resolutions that do not last beyond January 31. While they are made with the best of intentions, they are not sustainable for a number of reasons. Whether

one wants to lose weight, exercise more often or learn or brush up on a Masonic lecture, resolutions are hard to keep because of the pressure of life.

Since the rate of achieving New Year's resolutions is low at best, I would suggest that perhaps one might look at them from a spiritual perspective. While it is great to make goals to improve oneself, perhaps a little help from a higher power is needed to achieve them. Reflecting upon one's relationship with The Grand Architect of the Universe often brings a sense of spiritual enlightenment that assists in making positive change in life. All too often, speaking to God only happens in times of crisis or desperation. However, in making resolutions and personal goals, one can be assured that God is always available, twenty-four hours a day, walking alongside us on the road of life.

In 2018, I would suggest that we all consider making a resolution to simply talk to God a little more often. Maybe this conversation includes asking for peace in times of stress and uncertainty. Or maybe it is just to find a small amount of time to be still and mindful of God's presence in some way. How and when one has these conversations with God is between them and The Grand Architect of the Universe. However, I believe that, by making a resolution to be more aware of God's presence, one will be greatly rewarded. May God bless you with a renewed sense of strength and hope in 2018, as you continue the process of moving from the rough to a smoother Ashlar in your pilgrimage through life. Happy New Year.

## Congratulations to our 75-Year Brothers



Anthony Amendola  
Annawon Lodge No. 115  
11/29/42

Merton E. Brown  
Harmony Lodge No. 42  
6/4/42

Paul W. Entress  
Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4  
5/4/42

James H. Murphy  
King Hiram Lodge No. 12  
1/4/41

Frederick G. Raymond  
America-St. John's Lodge No. 8  
3/14/39

Adrian E. Offinger  
Old Well-St. John's Lodge No. 6  
6/17/43

Leo L. Parsons  
Bay View Lodge No. 120  
12/4/43

Jack D. Ramaley  
Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3  
6/17/43

## Congratulations to our 50-Year Brothers



John V. Baker  
Temple Lodge No. 16  
6/15/61

Lewis P. Bither  
Center Lodge No. 97  
3/8/62

Howard W. Boutillier, Sr.  
Anchor Lodge No. 112  
6/14/65

Vincent A. Celino  
Composite Lodge No. 28  
3/10/66

Richard G. Eriksen  
Union Lodge No. 40  
1/16/68

Joseph D. Maher  
Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4  
11/17/65

Paul A. Ogren  
Compass Lodge No. 9  
11/2/64

Peter D. Quinn  
Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14  
1/11/68

George Sayad  
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145  
11/20/64

Raymond W. Swift, Sr.  
Ansantawae Lodge No. 89  
1/12/68

Norman L. Wack  
Eveing Star Lodge No. 101  
2/19/58



# Grand Historian's Corner

by Gary A. Littlefield

For the first time in at least a century, the Grand Lodge line suffered the loss of an active Grand Lodge Line Officer.

Francis DiStefano, the Grand Marshall died on November 28 after a brief illness. It was a shock to all those who knew him. The Grand Lodge suffered the loss of several Grand Secretaries while in office, the last being MWB William Campbell in 1981 and a Grand Historian in RWB James Case in 1987. There have been a few instances where progressive Grand Lodge officers have passed on shortly after they relinquished their offices as well. To the family of RWB Fran, we offer our heartfelt sympathy.



In a review of the 1878 proceedings, we find that a "Committee on Deceased Brethren" made a report on the death of George Frederic Daskam. The lodge in Glastonbury Center was named in his honor and awarded number 86 on the rolls. When the two Glastonbury lodges merged together, the Daskam name eventually went away. MWB Daskam was born on May 8, 1818 and died on December 28, 1877. He took his degrees in the fall of 1845 and was elected Senior Deacon the same year. In 1848, he was deemed worthy enough to be elected Worshipful Master. He also presided in the Royal Arch Chapter and in the Commandery. He served as Right Eminent Grand Commander in 1859 & 1860, just after his two year stint as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge was completed (1858 & 1859). It was said that "he devoted a great deal of time to Masonry, and was a zealous and superior workman in the Masonic work. The number of high positions he held among the Craft, is sufficient evidence of the high favor in which he was held, and of the high regard and high favor in which he was held, and of the regard and high value he set upon the privileges of Masonry. In 1862 he enlisted in the Second Connecticut Battery and served three years."



In the same proceedings (1878) there was an active committee on charters which was called upon to issue a new charter without fee to St Marks Lodge No. 91 as their charter was destroyed by fire. The jewels, funds and property of Widows Son Lodge No. 53 were turned over to the Grand Secretary in proper form. Finally, the dispute between Moosup Lodge No. 113 and Mount Vernon Lodge No. 75 was settled so that Moosup would have sole jurisdiction over the school district of Packerville in the town of Canterbury and both lodges would have concurrent jurisdiction over the remainder of the town of Canterbury.



In January of 1878, Grand Master Edward Rowe celebrated the New Year with the following statement which can still be used today. "As we cross the portals of the new year, and enter upon its

unknown trials, it will be well if each one present (at the annual communication) will consider how swiftly the sands are falling and what a responsibility devolves upon those who today are making the future of Masonry."



As I write this column, the month long period of installation of officers for lodges are beginning. Sometime, Worshipful Masters do not appoint a Historian, but it is an important office, not only to provide and chronicle information for future ages but to work with the Secretary in reviewing some of the old minutes and bring to life some stories of those who have passed to the great beyond as well as to chronicle some stories from the more seasoned Brothers in the lodge.

## We Welcome Our New Brothers to the Fraternity

Steven F. Ackley	Washington Lodge No. 19
Martin Cernuch	Washington Lodge No. 19
Andrew J. Leon	Washington Lodge No. 19
Jonathan G. DeBaun	Union Lodge No. 40
Rodrigo S. Martins	Union Lodge No. 40
George Underhill Jr.	Union Lodge No. 40
Leonel C. Pereira	Fayette Lodge No. 69
Robert L. Morrison	Meridian Lodge No. 77
Adam C. Beschle	Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78
James M. Clifford	Wooster Lodge No. 79
Daniel T. Guilmette	Wooster Lodge No. 79
Bryan L. Laudano	Wooster Lodge No. 79
Danny C. Strong	Wooster Lodge No. 79
Rolando Pesquera	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89
George F. Rebentisch	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

## Blue Arrow Estates

Estate Sales - Liquidations - Item Purchases  
House Cleanouts

Judith Benjamin  
203-306-6692



More Services  
Better Value  
Free Consultation

Bluearrowestates@aol.com

Family Owned and Operated

# Valley of Hartford, AASR *by David R. Blythe, Sr.*

**A**s we begin another new year, we hope you had a pleasant and safe holiday season. New degrees are planned to give you a chance to see a degree that you may have missed, or an updated version. The values we learn in Masonry need to be reinforced from time to time if they are to be part of our everyday life.

The 4th degree (on DVD) will be portrayed on February 8 at 7:30 p.m., with the Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection portraying the 14th degree. The 19th degree on DVD will be shown on February 22 with Hartford Council Princes of Jerusalem portraying of the 15th degree. Should either evening's portrayals be canceled because of snow, they will be postponed until the following Thursday. Pre-Degree dinners will be held at 6:10 p.m. at the Sphinx Shrine facility. The entire spring schedule can be found on the inside page of the back cover page of the 2017-2018 Calendar of Events and Directory, in the View of the Valley, or on our website [www.valleyofhartford.org](http://www.valleyofhartford.org).

Brother Ed Schilke is putting together another outstanding bus trip. The fall bus trip "Locks & Lunch Cruise along the Hudson River" was a complete sell out. As soon as the details are available be sure to get your reservations in. If you would like to be notified about the trip when details become available, send an email to [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net) requesting notification.

Other important Family Life Event dates to put on your calendar are:

January 2: applications for the Abbott College Scholarships can be found on the Supreme Council, NMJ website. Valley Scholarship applications will be available through the Valley office or website. The deadline to apply for either is April 1.

March 22: past and current officers of the Cyrus Goodell Chapter of Rose Croix will portray the Feast of the Pascal Lamb to honor our departed brethren. All family members and friends are invited to attend.

June 10: the Annual Family Picnic and presentation of College Scholarships.

To prepare for this upcoming season, I leave you with a quotation by Ill. Bro. Albert Pike, 33<sup>o</sup>:

"Education is the greatest, yea, the only safeguard of Liberty. When was there ever a country where the common people were uniformly uneducated, in which they were not slaves? ... A community of ignorant and uneducated men is not capable of self-government..."

"Masonry is a march and a struggle toward the Light. For the individual as well as the nation, Light is Virtue, Manliness, Intelligence, Liberty, tyranny over the soul or body, is darkness. He who does right is better than he who thinks right."

As members of the Scottish Rite, we all struggled toward the

Light and have learned the meanings behind the degrees and their Core Values. If you know a Master Mason looking for more light in Masonry, applications are now being accepted for the upcoming class. They can be found in the View of the Valley or the valley's website: [www.valleyofhartford.org](http://www.valleyofhartford.org), or from the valley office. Informational DVDs are also available upon request.

Call (860) 666-0712 or email [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net). The office staff will be glad to give a tour of our facility and answer any questions for any candidate who stops by.

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

**THE VISION OF THE SCOTTISH RITE**  
*We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our  
Masonic obligation to care for our members.*

---

**LOOKING FOR SOMETHING  
MORE IN MASONRY?  
WHY NOT CONSIDER BEING PART  
OF THE 2018 SPRING CLASS?**

Applications for the upcoming Scottish Rite Class are now being accepted for any Mason interested in enhancing his Masonic knowledge by joining the "College of Masonry" — the Scottish Rite.  
*Deadline is Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 7:15 p.m.*

Pre-degree dinners served at 6:10 p.m.  
(Advanced Reservations Required)

Visit our website: [www.valleyofhartford.org](http://www.valleyofhartford.org)  
for more information

---

For more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, or to receive a Scottish Rite informational DVD, contact David Blythe, Sr., 33<sup>o</sup>, Valley Secretary, Valley of Hartford AASR  
(860) 666-0712 Email: [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net)

# From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

## President & CEO of Masonicare

Happy New Year to our fraternal family. Indeed, 2018 is off to an exciting start at Masonicare, where we have completed the acquisition of Chester Village West. Located in the heart of the lower Connecticut River valley, Masonicare at Chester Village is a strategic addition not only to our footprint but also to our mission.

On December 1, Masonicare “flipped the switch” on a new patient software system. This is, again, a strategic move. It will replace three stand-alone systems that have limited our ability to seamlessly serve our patients and clients. While it will take several more months to roll out the new system, I’m extremely proud of the leadership and all the “end-users” who have put in so many hours of planning, training and testing to embrace Phase 1 of this effort.

Our plans to sell the Newtown campus to Athena Health Care are moving forward and likely to close in the coming weeks. As I mentioned last month, Masonicare Home Health & Hospice and Masonicare at Home will continue to provide services in that area. So, if you or a member of your family should need post-operative care, be sure to ask for Masonicare.



In December, we were very pleased to be able to honor several retiring Masonicare Board Members. With the deepest of gratitude, we thank John Amarilios, Francine Bailey, Don Gladding, Al Jarvis, Barbara Lott, Greg Wentworth and Mark Winne for their many years of service on one or more of our Boards. All of our Board members are volunteers, and we are blessed to have had their leadership and counsel.

It also gave Chairman Bob Polito and me great pleasure to present Barbara Lott with the Luke Lockwood Award. This award was established by the Board in 1970 to recognize outstanding service

to Masonicare. Barbara has served as a Masonicare Board member in some fashion since 1995, when she was first appointed to the Board of Directors of then-named Masonic Geriatric Health Center. Since then, Barbara has devoted thousands of hours to committees and boards of Masonicare, including chairing the Masonic Management Services Board from 2009 to 2016. As one of the first women to serve as a Masonicare Director, it was destiny in 2004 that she be one of the first two women named to our Board of Trustees, representing The Order of the Amaranth. Congratulations, Barbara!

Here’s to a safe, healthy and happy new year for all.

Sincerely and fraternally,

**DEE'S ANTIQUES**  
**Experienced Antiques Dealer Will Buy**  
*Collectibles, China, Old Furniture, Paintings, Silver Coins, Jewelry, Clocks, Books and Picture Frame*  
**Estates Liquidated and Purchased Outright**  
**Estate and Insurance Appraisals**  
*Over 40 years Experience*  
**Call Thomas Spratta 203-235-8431**  
 600 West Main St., Meriden, CT 06450

**T. J. NELSON**  
 Home Improvements  
**860-444-6771**  
  
**TJNelsonHomes.com**

# Tree of Life

*Benefiting the hospice services of*  **Masonicare** 

The Tree of Life is a program of live music, words of inspiration and remembrance that culminates with a non-denominational tree-lighting ceremony. Tax-deductible donations in support of the Tree of Life enable Masonicare to provide quality, compassionate hospice care to our patients and their families when no other funding sources are available.

**Saturday, January 13, 2018**

**2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**East Hartford Community Cultural Center  
50 Chapman Place, East Hartford, CT**

*Program starts promptly at 2:15 p.m. Reception to follow.*



For more information or to make a gift in support of the Tree of Life,  
please visit [masonicare.org/tree](http://masonicare.org/tree)

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

Arthur P. Arruda	Coastal Lodge No. 57	Howard A. Nielson	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89
Joseph W. Bahnsen Sr	Widow's Son Lodge No. 66	Kenneth K. Nonamaker	Evening Star Lodge No. 101
Myron L. Baldwin Jr	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140	Earl F. Radda	Unity Lodge No. 148
David B. Conway	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89	Gerald D. Shearer	Washington Lodge No. 19
Norman J. Cormier	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140	Robert F. Silva	Manchester Lodge No. 73
Roland J. Couture	King Hiram Lodge No. 12	Berton C. Smith	Brainard Lodge No. 102
William E. Cramer	Temple Lodge No. 16	William L. Steeves	King Hiram Lodge No. 12
John R. Giannettino	St. Peter's Lodge No. 21	Paul R. Stoddard	Trumbull Lodge No. 22
Gregory A. Johnson	Moosup Lodge No. 113	R. Clinton Thayer Jr	Bay View Lodge No. 120
Kenneth M. Levensaler	Corinthian Lodge No. 63	George W. Underhill II	Temple Lodge No. 65
William L. Mayers	St. Luke's Lodge No. 48	Gordon D. Waldron	St. Peter's Lodge No. 21
James J. Miller	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89	Thomas D. Wetrich	America-St. John's Lodge No. 8



## Freemasonry is the Solution

*by Michael D. Sabia, Jr.*

A problem with the Fraternity on everyone's mind in recent decades has been the rapid decline in membership and how to rebuild it. Many search and seek an answer, trying different ideas, but I propose the real problem I see before us is that we, as a Fraternity, are no longer practicing Freemasonry. I will explain this using common tenets of the Fraternity, namely: Brotherhood, Relief and Truth.

It is the binding Brotherhood enacted by our obligations with which we meet each other upon the Level. There is a growing trend of less Brotherly interaction before and after Masonic meetings, and this prevents us from opening up and knowing each other as Brethren should. You don't have to spill your guts to each other, but a Fraternity is exactly what it means: Brotherhood! Make sure you still have your pre-gathering and offer harmonious Masonic discussions.

On interacting with each other some would do better to check their actions, and remain temperate in demeanor, keeping certain discussions away from our Temples. I see more Brothers discussing political and religious specific topics of the contentious kind that should not arise if we are to maintain harmony. These topics tend to push Brothers and potential candidates away, and hurt the Lodge in general. We seek to build, not destroy so keep these harmful discussions or arguments outside our doors.

If you notice that Brothers aren't actively attending, find out why! A phone call or visit to reach out is a more personal way to

try and get them back into our halls. Electronic messaging, social media and such convenient means have made communication less personal, and yet, these methods do work as well...but we cannot forget the personal tone of a Brother actually speaking to you can sometimes gain a better result.

Provide an active program, evenly balancing Fraternal or family events, such Community Action and/or volunteering opportunities, and educational discussions or speakers at Lodge. Provide for your Brothers' needs and you will see better turnout in your Masonic Bodies. Balance is crucial.

Ritual is also important. Some may disagree, but this is how Masonic tenets are passed on, and if we do not show good work, candidates will not take us seriously. Many other groups outside of Masonry that had ritual have long since stopped performing their rites. Without a program of self improvement, of which Freemasonry is the premier example of a Moral Institution, what do we seek to accomplish? You can stand for different virtues, but our ritual impresses it into our minds and consciences every time we initiate a new member. Let us never forget where we come from.

Remember, to reference the pin of MWPGM Charles Yohe, you are the KEY. If you are not willing to be the catalyst for positive change in our Fraternity, you will reap what you sow. The work is far from over, but we can overcome our obstacles together if we go back to living our tenets.

## Attitude of Gratitude *by Thomas Mumford*

*"He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has." – Epictetus*

In successive weeks I was compelled to look to that for which I am grateful. A brother, likely the best of us, took a demit from our Lodge. The most respected and senior active member of our Lodge suddenly became ill and in ICU with an indefinite time line of returning to Lodge. And a brother and a mentor to me and so many others died suddenly.

How does one react?

One of the first lessons from our parents is to say 'Please' and 'Thank you.' When we habitually use these two expressions, they become a catalyst for positive interaction with others. When we say please, we politely request something from someone else and when we say thank you, we express our gratitude for fulfillment of that request.

In those moments you are creating a pleasant experience for them, encouraging them to extend their kindness to you again in the future. What is often referred to as 'paying it forward.'

The benefits of being grateful are not limited to mental and emotional – there are physical health benefits as well. Recent studies have indicated that people who adopt more optimistic attitudes can have stronger immune systems. The study compared the number of blood cells that directly protect the immune system between optimistic/grateful students and their pessimistic counterparts. The results suggested that the immune systems of the more optimistic students were stronger.

Another study involved three groups of participants. One kept a daily journal of the things for which they were grateful, another kept track of daily annoyances, while the third group wrote neutral observations and social comparisons. Those who kept a gratitude journal reported significantly more overall satisfaction with their life, more optimistic about the future and felt more connected than their peers in the control groups. Additional benefits included an increase in exercise pattern, an overall decrease in physical ailments, decreased levels of stress, increased emotional connection and better sleeping patterns.

How does an attitude of gratitude change perception? Like everyone else, I get saddened. But I don't grieve. Loss becomes the crucible that forges my resolve to be grateful for all of my gifts. It reminds me not to focus on the uncertain future but make the most of the gifts I have. I am often humbled by the gifts from God that are in and around me. I'm sure that I don't thank Him enough.

Regarding the brother that took a demit -- would he have stayed if I showed more gratitude in what he did for all of us?

Were it not for RWB Richard E. Washburn, the brother in ICU, it is likely I would never have become a Mason. Will I have the chance to thank him and live a life that has more meaning?

RWB Fran DiStefano passed away suddenly, shocking us all. Did any of us let him know how important he was to us on our Masonic journey? Or did we all take Fran for granted



*RWB Richard Washburn and RWB Fran DiStefano*

because he was still relatively young and we expected him to be with us for years to come?

Were we worthy of Fran? We need to ask ourselves if will we honor Fran's memory and influence in his absence? That would be the most grateful thing we could do and it would ensure his legacy here in our district.

Don't look at what might have been and then grieve when we no longer have it. Rather, let's look at what we now have and make the most of it.

In the words of John F. Kennedy, *"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them."*

## Rod & Fran ... A Tribute to Two Pillars *by Theodore J. Nelson*

I, along with the families of two dear friends, start this year without them here to share our joys and experiences.

**Rod Mackin** was not a Mason but had all of the tenants of our institution in his heart and lived them each day. His father-in-law, George Viveiros, Sr. was a Past Master of my Mother Lodge, Brainard Lodge No.102. His brother-in-law George, Jr., is a 55-plus year member of my lodge. I never met George, Sr., but I did meet his widow Mina who in time introduced me to her daughter Carole and of course her son-in-law Rod.

Rod was the pillar of his family and the community that he worked in; a teacher in the



Groton school system and a Westerly businessman. His middle name could have been 'Giving.' I only ever knew Rod to give of his time, talent and treasure, and most especially, his praise for his family. He and the Viveiros family would celebrate the milestone years that Mina had lived to – 80, 85, 90, 95 and ultimately 100! -- with grand family reunions in Vermont or just in local restaurants.

He loved golf and that is the forum where I got to know him best. I, the duffer and he, the master. He would only have kind words to say no matter how off course my ball would go. During those outings, which were charity tournaments, he would share his life adventures with me. He was so proud of the successes of his daughter Deanne and

*Continued on page 15*

## Rod & Fran...A Tribute *Continued from page 14*

son Seth. When Carole had some very serious health issues a few years ago, Rod share his concerns and deep love for her. That was Rod. Always caring about others before himself.

**Fran DiStefano** became a close friend only recently when we worked together on an obscure committee a few years ago. From the first moment that I met him, I sensed his deep commitment to Masonry and his family. Fran and his wife Patty were the “Dynamic Duo” of their family. He had a light hearted demeanor and was a man that would give you the shirt off his back.

He loved the summers and vacations with his family on the Clinton shore line of Long Island Sound – fishing, boating, swimming and soaking up the sun with his kids and eventually his grandchildren.

Fran was my Grand Marshal and an active member of the Grand Lodge Line of Officers. He had served in many capacities of the fraternity in his Masonic career. As a Worshipful Master of his Mother Lodge St. John’s Lodge No. 2, he was the backbone with wise counsel and mentoring new officers. In the 7th District, he was a District Deputy and had many roles in the York Rite Bodies, Scottish Rite Bodies and the Shriners. Never one to seek the limelight, he just wanted to help behind the scenes.

## Remembering Fran DiStefano ~ A Personal Remembrance ~ *by Francis G. Way*

The last time I saw Fran was at the Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication in October. He looked great, and we greeted each other as brothers often do, with a handshake. But time was short as it always is before the semi-annual and there was no time to even share our little inside joke – we’re both named Francis but he went by Fran and I go by Frank. I didn’t know that it was the last time I’d talk to him.

I’m sure you can imagine my shock, when late in the afternoon of November 28, I received Deb’s email from Grand Lodge telling us that Fran was in bad shape and that his family said that if we wanted to say our goodbyes that we should get to the hospital that night. Perhaps, being born and bred in New England, it was the natural reticence I have to intrude on private family moments, coupled with the fact that I had a committee meeting to attend at the Grand Lodge office, that made me say a quick prayer and just head to Wallingford. When RWB Marshall Robinson arrived at the meeting, he told us that Fran had laid down his working tools just before 6 p.m.

I had not known Fran as long as most. We met at Commandery – I was helping Cyrene Commandery No. 8 with their Order of the Temple – but my first impression was of his quick smile, a smile that would light up a room, and of his laugh. We chatted a bit about our names, discovering the aforementioned commonality of our given name, and then got to work.

Since that time I had seen him at Commandery events and any event where the Grand Line was in attendance. He was a brother I looked forward to seeing and quickly realized that when he would become Grand Master, the Craft would be in good hands. His easy going style would serve our Fraternity well.

I would have never met Rod Mackin or Fran DiStefano had it not been for Masonry. Our paths were meant to cross and I, for one, am a better man for knowing each of them even though they had never met each other. I wonder if Jachin and Boaz had ever met, or if St. John the Baptist had ever met St. John the Evangelist? We refer to them as pillars in Masonry and I will miss the pillars of Rod and Fran in my life.

May God comfort Carole and Patty and their respective families.



But that day will never come. I always thought that there would be more chances to greet my brother, enjoy his smile and our little joke, but, for me, for all of us, in the space of two hours one November afternoon, that all changed.

“In the midst of life, we are in death.” That prayer originates in a Gregorian chant written in 750 A.D., and is still so relevant today. Roman Generals, parading back into Rome with their spoils, had a slave to stand beside them in their chariot, whispering in their ear “Memento mori” -- Remember, you are mortal. In the Order of the Temple, the candidate is told that “even at this moment, the Angel of Death may receive the dread order to strike you from the roll of the living.” Each of us assumes that there will always be more time, but we are far too often reminded that we are all, indeed, mortal.

I will miss my brother Fran. I will miss his smile and his laugh, and of the warmth of fraternal fellowship he would bring whenever I saw him. My faith tells me that we will meet again, and he will greet me as a brother in a different Lodge, a Lodge where there is Light uninterrupted by Darkness. But for now, I will always be better for having known him, even for a short time, and perhaps that is what brotherhood is all about.

# Barbara F. Lott Receives the Luke Lockwood Award *by Margaret Steeves*



The Luke Lockwood Medal is the only award given by Masonicare. It is struck with the image of Luke A. Lockwood, an attorney and philanthropist, who served as Grand Master of Connecticut from 1872 – 73. With a vision of a home for brethren and widows, he leveraged \$332 into what is today the Masonicare continuum. Lockwood served as president of The Masonic Charity Foundation Fund from 1873 – 1905.

Outgoing Masonicare Board of Trustee Barbara F. Lott was awarded the Luke Lockwood medal at the Board's December meeting. The only award given by Masonicare, the Lockwood was established in 1970 by the Board to recognize outstanding service to the organization.

“Barbara has volunteered her time and talents to Masonicare since 1995,” noted Chairman Robert Polito, reading directly from the proclamation. “Over the years she has devoted thousands of hours to various committees and boards of Masonicare. Barbara has served on several affiliate Boards of Directors and a number of Board Committees, and had the distinction of being one of the first two women named to the Board of Trustees in 2004 as a representative from the Order of the Amaranth. She also chaired the Masonic Management Services Board from 2009 to 2016. Even when she and her husband, Bill, relocated to Delaware, Barbara was a model of attendance and dedication.”

Barbara's Masonic connections are deep and literally international. She joined the Order of the Eastern Star in January 1971, Climax Chapter 98. She has many dual memberships and has served as Worthy Matron for three chapters a total of seven times. In 1984, she was the grand organist for OES Connecticut. In Delaware, she was Grand Conductress in 2014-15, Grand Associate Matron the following year and Worthy Grand Matron in 2016-17.

Not long after joining Amaranth in May 1979, Barbara was installed in several leadership roles. In addition to serving as Royal Matron six

times, this indefatigable woman has served as Grand Royal Matron of the Grand Court of Connecticut from 1993-94, Supreme Musician from 1994-95 and was Supreme Royal Matron of the Supreme Council Order of Amaranth in 2001-2002.

A mother of three and grandmother of several more, Barbara earned her B.S. from the Pennsylvania State University and her M.S. in Library and Information Science from Simmons College. She was a reference librarian with the University of Connecticut library system for 25 years. While there, Barbara was recognized as a strong advocate for patrons with disabilities. Barbara is also a talented organist and served at several churches in eastern Connecticut, and now in Selbyville, Delaware.

Masonicare CEO Jon-Paul Venoit describes Barbara as “always well-informed on company strategy and she was a champion of quality, service and technology. It is truly a pleasure to be able to recognize her dedication to Masonicare and our mission.”

“I had the pleasure of working with Barbara throughout my years at Masonicare,” says retired CEO Stephen McPherson. “She is the complete board member – challenging management and asking the tough questions – while being very supportive. Her insights and questions were always delivered in a constructive manner. Barbara came to meetings very well-prepared and I know our decisions were better because of her input.”

Jennifer King, Executive Director of The Masonic Charity Foundation, notes that “Barbara was an active MCF volunteer and supporter for over 20 years. She was an advocate for MCF and Masonicare in many Masonic circles, especially within the Grand Court of Connecticut, Order of the Amaranth. Barb always had a great appreciation for the diversity of appeals and events organized by MCF. MCF programs benefitted greatly from Barb's generosity and volunteerism.”

Congratulations, Barbara Lott, and thank you!



*Left to right: Bro. Robert F. Polito, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Masonicare; MWGM Theodore J. Nelson; Barbara F. Lott and her husband, WB William F. Lott and Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit, President and Chief Executive Officer, Masonicare.*

# 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 or Calendar Admin contact the Help Desk: <https://ctfreemasons.on.spiceworks.com/portal>.

All times are supplied by the lodges. If there is a dinner, the time in the heading reflects that. The Connecticut 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

**Tue., January 16, 6:30 p.m.**, Ameerica-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford, Dinner

## FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES

**None Scheduled**

## MASTER MASON DEGREES

**Wed., January 17, 6:30 p.m.**, Columbia Lodge No. 25, South Glastonbury, Dinner

**Thu., February 1, 7:30 p.m.**, Friendship-Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, Dinner

# 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 CTFreemasons Newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the Secretary of the lodge to verify all times and events.

For recurring events and breakfasts, they may not take place during the summer months – call to check.

## RECURRING EVENTS

**First Sunday of the Month, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14**, Plainville, 8 a.m., BINGO. *Master's Roundtable & Field Day. Join our Master for breakfast and help clean up our home.*

**Every Sunday, St. Peter's Lodge No. 21**, New Milford, 12 p.m., Build a Brother. *Go over any ritual or questions you may have on Masonry. Prospective candidates and new brothers welcome.*

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

**Every Thursday, Putnam Lodge No. 46**, Putnam, 7 p.m., Thursday Night Meeting *Socializing, Rehearsing, Prepping.*

## **First Wednesday of the Month,**

**Ansantawae Lodge No. 89**, Milford, 7 p.m., Mason Night @ OAH, *Orange Ale House, 517 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT*

**Second & Fourth Wednesday of the Month, Union Lodge No. 5**, Stamford, 7 p.m., Fellowship Night at the Lodge. *Open to all brothers, friends. Refreshments and discussion. Please call to verify*

**Third Thursday of the Month, Day Spring Lodge No 30**, Hamden, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Information Night. *Open to all who may be interested in Masonry, with interesting presentations and discussion.*

**Every Friday, St. Peter's Lodge No. 21**, New Milford, 7 p.m. 3XB in the Chapel. *Brothers, Beverages and BS.*

**Every Friday, 7 p.m., Anchor Lodge No. 112**, East Hampton, Setback. Bring a friend.

**Second Saturday of the Month, Day Spring Lodge No. 30**, Hamden, 7 p.m., *Movie Night Films, Snacks and beverages will be provided.*

## RECURRING BREAKFASTS

**First Sunday of the Month, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140**, Newington, 7 a.m., SBA Breakfast Fundraiser.

**Second Sunday of the Month, Compass Lodge No. 9**, Wallingford, 8 a.m., Fellowship Breakfast (8 a.m. to 10 a.m.)

**Third Sunday of the Month, Washington Lodge No. 19**, Monroe, 8 a.m., Country breakfast

**First Thursday of the Month, 8th District Lodges**, Niantic, 9 a.m., District Breakfast, *Groton Townhouse, Rt 12, Groton CT*

## EVENTS

**Mon., January 1, New Year's Day**

**Mon., January 15, 7 p.m., Compass Lodge No. 9**, Wallingford, Memorial Service. Memorial Service to honor the memory of our departed brothers.

**Tue., January 23, 6:30 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7**, Woodbury, Fellowcraft Dinner.

**Sat., January 27, 12:30 p.m., Columbia Lodge No. 25**, Glastonbury, CHIP Event, Hebron Avenue Elementary School, 1363 Hebron Ave, Glastonbury.

# World Wrestling Night At Pyramid Shrine

by Donald M. Casey, Jr.

Masons from Pyramid Shrine Temple in Stratford, Connecticut recently participated in a World Wrestling Entertainment special event. Wrestling Hall of Fame member Bob Backlund was the guest speaker. Mr. Backlund addressed the audience about being successful in life and signed autographs.

Mr. Backlund is a two-time WWE Champion, and the second longest tenured champion behind Bruno Sammartino.



## District 1

Lodges 3, 5, 6, 8, 19, 65, 67, 85, 104, 107, 142, 144, 149



## Washington Lodge No. 19 Has A Busy December

December is a busy month at Washington Lodge No. 19 in Monroe. The members of the lodge collected 350lbs of food for the Monroe Food Pantry.

Washington Lodge No. 19 Mason of the Year award was presented to Isack Waserman of Monoe.

Pyramid Shriner's of Connecticut presented Brother Donald Casey of Monroe, and a member of Washington Lodge #19, with the Shriner of the year award. Donald is part of the Shriner Clown Unit. As a Shriner his enthusiasm and dedication has earned him this recognition.

The Fellowcraft Club donated \$500 to Project Warmth of Monroe.



Potentate Bill Russo presenting Brother Casey with the Shriner of the Year Award.



Worshipful Master Juan Rodriguez loading up the truck.



Brother Anthony Agosto is presenting the check to Barbara Yeager and Kim Cassia from the Town of Monroe.



Worshipful Master Juan Rodriguez is presenting the award to Brother Waserman



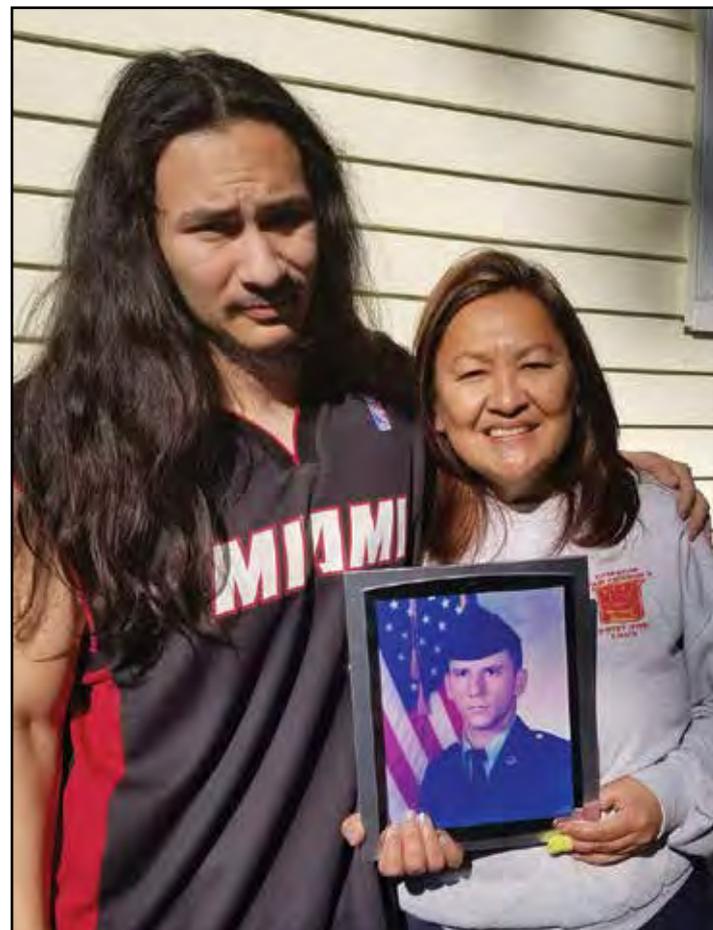
## Widow's Renovation Charity *by Chuck 2.0 Landau*

Past Master Glenn Colby passed untimely at age 51, after serving our Country during the worst of the Iraq war, then Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 faithfully as Master. "His work was not yet finished, yet his column was broken. The honors, so justly his due, had not been paid. His death was untimely, and his brethren mourned." But when one Master Mason's tools drop from his lifeless hands, he is not alone, but part of the Fraternity. As a band of Brothers, the Freemasons of Connecticut picked up where that honorable Master Mason had laid down his tools to complete the project for his widow. In this act of charity, his brothers honored his memory and fulfilled our

Master Mason's oath.

WB Colby left behind his widow, Ailyn Colby, and son Glenn Colby Jr. when he passed away on August 24, 2017. He was in the middle of some home improvement projects and had no idea mortality would intervene. He had dismantled a room for repair, but his cancer left him too weak to complete the task. He confided in those last few months how much it bothered him leaving things incomplete. While he had to face his Maker alone, his brethren reassured him that the repairs of his castle would be completed. With that pledge, he could focus all his energies on his coming journey.

With the permission of Sequin-Level's Worshipful Master Robert Bailey, money was raised and work teams formed. The call for skilled Masons was answered not just by his Brethren, but



contractors like Br. Thomas Damon-Smith of Friendship Lodge No. 33 and PLR, Br. Kyle Canning of St. Andrews Lodge No. 64. Br. Paul Berry directed crews of volunteers.

In the course of repairs, it was discovered that a bathroom leak had dangerously weakened the floor. Although the original plan was to finish off the room next door, additional funds were raised and manpower expanded to complete the additional repairs. After five work sessions, the project was complete, bringing together Bros. Russ Powers, John Chan, Jamie Bernier, WB Rob Forsyth, SW Lee Martin and his children Ashley and Gracie, Treasurer Larry Siedman, of Sequin-Level Lodge, as well as John O'Reilly of Temple Lodge No. 16, and WB Colby's widow and son.

In its early days, before insurance companies and governmental programs, the Fraternity was the extended support group for its members. That was the glue that bound us into a band of Brothers. The personal charity of helping each other and our families through trying times draws members together in making an imperfect world a little bit better through our actions. Hopefully other Lodges will look for similar opportunities. It is more satisfying than big public events or putting a check in the mail.



*District 5 continued on page 21*

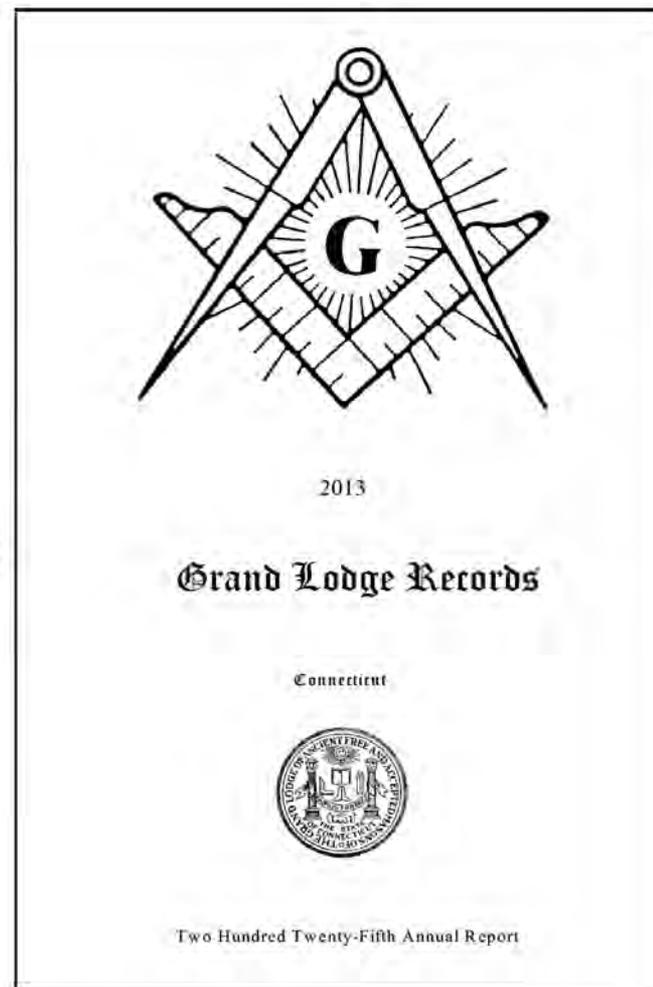
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE  
OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS  
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**Grand Lodge Proceedings for the Year 2013  
for Bro. Simon R. LaPlace,  
MW Grand Master**

This is to advise you that, going forward, all printed copies of the proceedings must be ordered and paid for in advance. If you wish a CD, they must also be ordered and paid for in advance. We are only printing the number of copies of which we have reservations.

**Check/Money Order and form must be  
returned to the Grand Lodge Office  
by January 20 to place your order.**

**Book Cost \$26.00 including postage.  
CD Cost \$5.00 including postage.**



**ONE TIME ONLY \*\*\* DON'T WAIT \*\*\* ORDER NOW**

**\*\*\* No Hard Bound Proceedings will be available for sale!! \*\*\***

**Make check or money order payable to Grand Lodge of CT and send check and form to:  
Grand Lodge of CT, 69 Masonic Ave., Walingford, CT 06492.**

-----  
Please reserve the Grand Lodge Proceedings for the year 2013 using the following instructions:

Please Print

Send to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number Soft bound copies of the Grand Lodge Proceedings for 2013 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number CD copies of the Grand Lodge Proceedings for 2013 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Unity Lodge No. 148 Annual Awards Night, Thanksgiving Dinner and Carl G. Ek Memorial Room Dedication *By Roger B. Thorin*

On November 21, Unity Lodge No. 148 had the pleasure of the visitation of MWGM Theodore J. Nelson and his suite of officers at the annual awards ceremony.

WM Battle welcomed the brothers, family and friends. He talked about how proud he was of the progress the lodge has made and the programs they support. He showed a slide presentation on the Africa Outreach Project of which the lodge is a sponsor. This project was started by the late Dr. Jack Ramsey. It helps under privileged children in Zimbabwe play basketball and other sports. Contributing money for materials and building supplies, enables them build their own court. WM Battle learned of this Project because of his involvement in the Connecticut Attack Basketball Program.

Then all sat down to a wonderful homemade Thanksgiving meal prepared by the brothers of Unity Lodge No. 148.

WM Battle then presented the Ritualist of the Year Award to brother Kevin L. Tate, Senior Warden, and Mason of the Year Award to brother Hiram Morales II, Senior Steward.

WM Battle assisted by JW Thomas M. Noone, presented the distinguished Service Award to RWB Harry E. Needham III, Past Master and PDD.

With the help of WB Timothy V. Cavanaugh, WM Battle presented the individual Masonic pins for years of service Five Years: WM Edmond J. Battle and Bro. Paul D. Catanzaro. Ten Years: WB Keath A. Romano and Bro. Roberto R. Paduo. Twenty-five Years: WB Brian

R, Evans and WB Arthur W. Jones. Forty Years: HWB Orson Rothkopf. Sixty-five Years: WB Henry A. Dyson who this year was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award for his distinguished service to Masonry.

RWB William E. Bohman, Grand Senior Deacon called up 50-year member WB Robert Jeffrey. RWB Francis G. Way, District Deputy read the Grand Lodge 50-Year certificate. WB Jeffrey was then presented his pin for 50 years service by RWB Bohman. Grand Master Theodore J. Nelson then presented him with his last dues card meaning that he no longer has to pay annual dues.

WB Jeffrey then said a few words about his Masonic life and that one of the proudest

*District 5 continued on page 22*



*Bro. Kevin L. Tate and WM Battle*



*Bro. Hiram Morales II and WM Battle*



*WM Battle, RW Harry E. Needham III and Thomas M. Noone JW*



*WM Battle and WB Henry A. Dyson*



*RW William E. Bohman, WB Robert Jeffrey and RW Francis G. Way*



*MWGM Theodore J. Nelson and WB Robert Jeffrey*

## District 5 *Continued from page 21*

moments of his masonic life was when he raised his twin grand sons to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

MWGM Theodore J. Nelson then spoke to the brothers, families and friends about Masonry. He could see that Unity Lodge No.148 was in good hands because of the dedication of the officers, brothers and support of all the families gathered here tonight. He was pleased to say that he heard good reports about the fine degree work that the lodge is doing and taking part in local civic functions. He thanked the brothers and families for coming out tonight to honor the brothers for their years of service and to recognize others for their masonic achievements.

WM Battle then continued the dedication of a meeting room and library in memory of RWB Carl G. Ek, Past Master of Unity Lodge

No. 148 in 2009 and Secretary at the time of his passing. WM Battle then talked about RWB Ek's dedication to Masonry and his passion for DeMolay, believed that the education of our youth was the key to a better world. WM Battle then spoke of all his achievements, awards and the programs and endeavors with which he was involved. His energy, passion, wit and smile will be greatly missed. It was therefor fitting that he is commemorated with the Carl G. Ek Memorial Conference Center and Library.

Dessert was then served in the banquet hall downstairs where good food, conversation and brotherly love were shared by all.



*Wm Battle / MWGM / WB Robert Jeffrey*



*WB Robert Jeffrey wife and family*



*RW Carl G. Ek plaque*

## District 6

Lodges 4, 25, 28, 70, 73, 88, 145, PLR



### Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88



**Halloween Party:** Hartford Evergreen Lodge No 88 hosted a neighborhood Halloween party on October 31. This event, open to the Lodge and public, was a great way to show off the Lodge and to introduce our Lodge to the neighborhood.



**“Adopt” A Family:** Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 is now involved with a program in South Windsor where people or organizations can “adopt” a family or any number of children for Christmas. These are all residents of South Windsor that meet certain financial criteria and can't afford to provide their children with a decent holiday experience. Hartford Evergreen Lodge raised almost \$700 during a dinner event for the three children they adopted. These children will now be able to enjoy the happiness of the Christmas holiday season.

*District 6 continued on page 23*



## Supporting East Windsor Veterans:

Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 supported the East Windsor Veterans Association with over \$2700 in donations. The Veteran's Association rebuilt their entire green and memorial which is dedicated to all branches of the military. New monuments and paver stones have been placed around the existing monument. There will also be several benches added so people can rest and reflect.



**Toy & Food Drive:** Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88, in cooperation with the South Windsor Police Department, Fire Department and the Ambulance Service of Manchester, conducted a Toy & Food Drive on December 9. This is a yearly event held at Stop & Shop and Geissler's Supermarket. This year we collected over 7000 food items, 326 toys, a \$100 Best Buy card, and raised \$1,768.79. There will be another food drive in the spring.





# Connecticut FREEMASONS

*"Making A Difference"*

## Committee on Community Action

### A New Direction in 2018

*by Perne R. Maynard*

Now that the Holiday Season is over, and you have all enjoyed time with friends and family, it's time to begin our lodge programs for 2018.

COCA is primarily the Masonic marketing committee for its subcommittees that provide its programs.

The Donate Life subcommittee has been chaired by RWB Richard Denno who has been a major advocate for making Masons aware of importance for an organ donation.

Peter Boychuck has made the effort to expand the CTCHIP program, updating the equipment and concept of bringing this service to more children in our local community. COCA has recommended that each lodge form a CTCHIP committee that would be trained and ready to do Child Identification Programs upon request from a local sponsor. In 2018, we will begin to go into the schools to CHIP the lower grade children. This will require senior Brothers to work with school dental support and computer support from upper class students.

As a veteran, I will be heading up a new Veterans subcommittee. I am planning to sponsor a Statewide CT Masonic Wartime Service Medal Ceremony in the fall and to begin a Masonic Wall of Honor of CT Masonic Brothers who have served. Remember, my Brothers, Masons were the first Veterans of the USA.

I have recently talked with Tom Mumford, about the Wolf Pack CT Freemasons Family Day. This year's event is on Friday March 30. I hope you will all plan to attend this event with your family and friends and show your support for our fraternity as well as having a great time. I have recently talked with the Yard Goats, and they are very enthusiastic about helping us with discounted tickets for programs where our Lodges can raise money for themselves or for a local charity. These Family Night Out events will be designed for families and lodges to enjoy one another's company outside of lodge. As we expand this program, I am sure other entertainment venues will get on board to help us enhance our presence in the community.

Now is the time for less talk and more Community Action. If you would like to be part of one of these exciting subcommittees or you have a revolutionary new idea to help spread the values of Masonry, please call or email me. It is imperative to find ways to get our younger Brothers to become passionate about promoting an event of their choice in your lodge. For COCA to be successful state wide, I will recommend to the Grand Lodge Officers that we utilize the IAGM to be the conduit between Grand Lodge and the COCA. As I have traveled this fall as an AGM, it is very obvious that we need to develop worthwhile projects to inject new life into our lodges while providing new ideas that our Brothers will enjoy.

Thinking of Buying  
or Selling?  
Think of Stamm Eddy!



❖ SMARTER  
❖ BOLDER  
❖ FASTER

**CHIP  
STAMM**  
Broker/Owner  
860-558-8310(c)



**39 East Cedar Street**  
**860-666-1449**

*"on the square"*  
*in Newington Center*  
[www.StammEddyRealty.com](http://www.StammEddyRealty.com)



*Remember not only  
to say the right  
thing in the right  
place, but far more  
difficult still, to  
leave unsaid the  
wrong thing at the  
tempting moment."*

*-Brother Benjamin Franklin*

# 2018 Connecticut Freemason Family Day



WOLF PACK vs. W-B/SCRANTON

FRIDAY • MARCH 30 • 7:00PM

[www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org](http://www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org)

- What is it?** An annual celebration of Freemasonry in Connecticut with the express purpose of creating awareness in the community at large and fellowship amongst brothers and sisters alike.
- Who is it for?** All Freemasons and appendant bodies, their friends and families.
- Where is it?** Veteran's Memorial Coliseum, XL Center, Hartford
- How do we Participate?** Complete instructions are on the back side of this, including ideas on how to make the most of this once-a-year awareness opportunity.



*Harmony is the strength and support of all societies, most especially of ours.*

- Who is Event Contact?** WB Tom Mumford at [tom.mumford@trixis.com](mailto:tom.mumford@trixis.com) or 860-305-7755
- Who should attend?** Blue Lodge and Prince Hall brethren, the ladies of the Order of the Eastern Star, and the future of our worthy societies from DeMolay chapters and Rainbow Girl assemblies, their friends and families.



## Lots of Fun Activities



Ten Lucky Kids will Watch the Wolf Pack Warm-up from the Team Bench

Three Lucky Kids will Win a Zamboni Ride



**Tickets \$15**



Ten Groups will Have Two Members form the Pre-Game "High-Five" Tunnel

Masonic Veterans will Wave Our Flag During the National Anthem



Prior to the Game, Salute the Masonic Color Guard

## Maximize the Event for Your Group

Tickets are \$15\* ea - \$5 Gets Donated Back to your Group

**Idea 1:** Sell 100 tickets—Raise \$500 (\$5 x 100) for the Charity of your Choice (*just 10 members selling 10 tickets*)

**Idea 2:** Donate 40 tickets—help a local group participate

**Idea 3:** Purchase 50 tickets—Go as a group with family and friends to this fun outing

**Other Ideas:** Contact Tom Mumford for other Ideas at [tom.mumford@trixis.com](mailto:tom.mumford@trixis.com) or 860-305-7755

Ready to Purchase? Either go online at [www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org](http://www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org) or call James Warner at 860-241-4227



The Grand Master will Drop the Puck then be Interviewed Live





## Dennis Walter Pothier Awarded Pierpont Edwards in Bronze

Brother Dennis Walter Pothier was born in Providence, Rhode Island on September 28, 1946, the son of Ruth (Brindle) and Emile Pothier. He has one younger sister, Deborah Dumont of Cranston, Rhode Island.

He was educated in the Pawtucket and Cumberland school systems and graduated from Pawtucket West High School in 1964. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy and served on the U.S.S. Compton, a destroyer based out of Boston. He served with the U.S. Naval Reserve for two additional years. Completing his naval obligations, he attended and graduated from the Rhode Island School of Broadcasting in 1968 and was employed with WPRO-FM in Providence for three years. Serving as a traffic manager for several New England based companies, he entered the sales force and began employment with Cooper-Lewis, Inc., a specialist in the auto body industry.

In May of 1970, Brother Pothier married Patricia E. Fox of Providence. This marriage of 47 years has blessed them with three children: Shane, Sarah, and Geoffrey.

Brother Pothier began his Masonic career by signing the By-Laws of Roger Williams Lodge No. 32 in Centredale, Rhode Island on February 12, 1983. He was elected Master in May of 1987 and served his lodge as Treasurer from 1988 to 1990. He served his Grand Lodge as Grand Pursuivant in 1988, Forum Master in 1989 and Senior Grand Deacon in 1991.

Brother Donald F. Hopkins, Most Worship Past Grand Master, appointed Brother Pothier to serve the remaining term of Brother Albert Remington, III, Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master for the Second District. He then served the Fifth, Fourth, Third, Second and First Districts. He was elected to the Grand Council as Junior Grand Warden in 1998, Senior Grand Warden in 1999, Deputy Grand Master in 2000 and, was elected the One Hundred and Forty Sixth Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations at the Two Hundred Ninth Semi-Annual Communication and was installed at the Two Hundred Tenth Annual Communication held at Freemasons' Hall, East Providence, Rhode Island in 2001. In 1996, he was also appointed the Grand Representative to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut near the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.

Brother Pothier holds additional memberships in Saint Johns Lodge Number One Providence, Lafayette Lodge No. 47, and honorary memberships in Morning Star Lodge No. 13 and Pawtucket Assembly No. 3, Order of Rainbow for Girls. Most Worshipful Brother Pothier is an honorary Past Grand Master, Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Rhode Island. In addition, he is a member of Scituate Chapter No. 8 Royal Arch Masons, Providence Council No. 1 Royal and Select Masters, and St. John's Commandery No. 1 Knights Templar. In the York Rite,

he is a past Thrice Illustrious Master and a recipient of the Ish Sodi and Anointed King awards. He is the Grand Representative from Rhode Island to the Grand Council of Kentucky. He is a Past Thrice Potent Master, Solomon's Lodge of Perfection Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Providence and received his 33° in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in September 2000. He is also a member of Palestine Temple A.A.O.N.M.S., Cranston, Rhode Island, Southern California Research Lodge No. 1005 F. & A.M. and is also a member of the Swords of Bunker Hill, Gaspee Order No. 99.

In recognition of his diligent attendance at our Annual Communications for the past 20 years and for his dedicated service to our beloved Fraternity in his home jurisdiction of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut is pleased to present to Most Worshipful Brother Dennis Walter Pothier, The Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for distinguished Masonic Service.



*Left to right: Most Worshipful Brother Dennis Walter Pothier and Most Worshipful Brother Gail N. Smith*



# District 3

Lodges 7, 11, 12, 17, 42, 55, 64, 47, 76, 78



## 4th Annual Mason Appreciation Night at St. Paul's Lodge No. 11

MWGM Ted Nelson and WM Mark Dzurnak cutting the traditional cake at St. Paul's Lodge No 11 at their 4th Annual Mason Appreciation Night on December 15. Dinner was followed by a Christmas concert by Joyful Noise of Torrington. The event honors the brothers and guests of St. Paul's and the leadership of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut for their great contribution to the Craft and to the communities. Also in attendance were RWB Marshall Robinson, RWB. Melvin Johnson, MWPGM Charles Yohe, and RWB Albin Weber.



**BUYING A CAR?  
CALL FIVE STAR CARS!**



★ QUALITY  
★ SERVICE  
★ VALUE

**MAROUN  
ZOGHBI**

**860-712-5260**



1801 N. Broad Street  
Meriden, CT 06450  
[www.FiveStarCarsLLC.com](http://www.FiveStarCarsLLC.com)



## Be a Connecticut Freemasons Booster!



Name or Lodge \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Booster appearing as \_\_\_\_\_

### LISTING FOR 11 ISSUES:

- Individual Booster  
\$25-\$49.99
- Grand Booster  
\$50-\$99.99
- Grand Master's Circle  
\$100 or more
- Lodges & Organizations  
\$75 or more

Makes checks payable to: Grand Lodge Publications • 69 Masonic Avenue • Wallingford CT 06492



# BOOSTERS



*Thank you for your generous contribution! Update: December 9, 2017*

*NOTE: If there is an asterisks after your name, your listing will be expiring at the end of December 2017 or January 2018. Please consider renewing your support of the Connecticut Freemasons newspaper at your current rate or at the next level up.*

## BOOSTER LEVEL

\$25 - \$49.99

Robert Andrews \*  
 Raymond Barker  
 Franklin G. Bartlett  
 Donald Berry  
 Paul F. Blake \*  
 Gustaf R. Bodin  
 Allen Bulmer  
 Miles E. Cochran, Jr.  
 George W. Coulston  
 James W. Currier  
 James D'Acosta  
 Kenneth M. Dellhime \*  
 Jack Dilks \*  
 Martin Evenson \*  
 Gordon R. Flanigan  
 Kenneth C. Garee  
 Rudolph A. Gaydos  
 Bill Greene  
 Sandie Greene  
 Victor S. George \*  
 Walter Grube  
 Robert D. Hafner  
 Theodore R. Hespeler  
 Donald Hick  
 David P. Hocking  
 Louis O. House, IV  
 James M. Howard  
 Roger Jackson  
 Jacob (Jack) Kanell  
 Roger Knickerbocker  
 Very Rev. Joseph Krusienski \*  
 James E. L'hernault  
 Frank Lesco  
 Robert G. MacQuarrie  
 Richard T. Mattson  
 Martin McKinney  
 Lyman J. McWain  
 Fred W. Nanamaker, Jr.  
 Adrian E. Offinger  
 Sandra Osten  
 Stephen Petri & Patrice Murphy  
 Joseph F. Piatti  
 Richard Purchase  
 Robert Reggiani  
 Charles A. Rogers  
 Martin L. Rudnik  
 Fridolf J. Rusgaitis  
 James R. Savickas  
 Rebecca H. and William H. Schoeck

Donald E. Shephard  
 Kenneth A. Slocum  
 Leon F. Smith  
 John R. Speicher  
 Rodney A. Spooner  
 Betty Strong, widow of William Strong  
 Dale E. Sweet  
 Gerald Thompson  
 P. Dean True  
 Kathleen Vander Eyk  
 Andrew G. Weimann II \*  
 Scott Werner  
 Gordon C. Willoughby, Jr.  
 Edgar Wood  
 Maroun G. Zoghbi

## GRAND BOOSTERS LEVEL

\$50 - \$99.99

Harmon L. Andrews  
 Douglas T. Barrett  
 Robert B. Burden  
 Lowell Cantor  
 Ronald C. Christensen  
 I. William Clark  
 Lester A. Culver  
 Len and Re D'Amico  
 Paul K. Edman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey V. Fisher  
 George Frascarelli  
 Robert J. Furce  
 Raymond & Susan Geer  
 Sonny Hendel  
 Kenneth H. Kirschner  
 George M. Leaman  
 Paul E. MacDonald  
 Will & Kari Mackey  
 Donald Maehlenbrock  
 Lyman J. McWain  
 Richard C. Memmott, Sr.  
 Andrew H. Moniuk  
 Raymond Moore  
 Anonymous  
 Lee Page  
 Tony & Diane Petras  
 Alvin B. Reiner  
 Marshall Robinson \*  
 Virginia Scheller  
 Edward Schilke, Jr.  
 Frederick W. Scmalz \*

Gary S. Schmid  
 Wayland N. Sheldon, Jr.  
 in Memory of MWPGM Stan Sheldon  
 John H. Spencer \*  
 John & Jane Sterry  
 John A. Sturges  
 Arthur F. Thorsen  
 Arthur R. Tinsz  
 Richard R. Washburn  
 Frederick H. Wintsch  
 George R. Zack

## GRAND MASTER'S CIRCLE

\$100 or more.

Daniel Alexander  
 LTC & Mrs. Richard A. Arndt  
 Newton Buckner, III  
 Connecticut DeMolay  
 Lawrence S. Elsner  
 Leonard W. Finegold  
 Aubrey V. Fisher  
 Paul Garavel  
 Col. & Mrs. John G. Gergulis  
 Grand Commandery Knights Templar of CT  
 Quentin Grant  
 Gail N. Smith

## LODGES & ORGANIZATIONS

\$75 or more

Anchor Lodge No. 112  
 Coastal Masonic Lodge No. 57  
 Composite Lodge No. 28  
 Corinthian Lodge No. 63 A.F. & A.M. \*  
 CT Masonic Scouter's Association  
 CT Widows Sons Masonic Riders Assoc.  
 Friendship Lodge. No. 33  
 Ionic Lodge No. 110 \*  
 Phillip, Paul, Jack, & Ted Kepler \*  
 Knights Templar of CT  
 Royal Arch Masons of CT  
 Royal & Select Masters of CT  
 St. Peter's Lodge No. 21  
 Temple Lodge No. 16 A.F. & A.M.  
 Valley Lodge No. 36

*The form to renew your subscription is on the previous page.*

*After reviewing all of the receipts for Boosters, the above 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.*

# Elements of a Perfect Lodge *by Charles W. Yohe*

Lodges run the gamut from those that are thriving to those that are struggling. Anyone who purposefully sets out to lead a struggling Lodge does so with the intention of making it better and more successful. Furthermore, the members of a struggling Lodge, would like to see it thrive. So what exactly should be the elements of a 'perfect' Lodge, one that thrives because it meets the needs of its members?

One of the common issues with which almost all struggling Lodges deal is the cost of maintaining and operating the Lodge building. Someone said that modern Freemasonry has an 'edifice complex.' Many Lodges – even the successful ones, spend much of their effort in raising funds to pay for a physical building. The important concept that the Lodge IS the members, NOT the building, though a simple one, seems to escape most Masons. I think our ancient Brethren had it right when they purposefully met in a rented space within the local tavern. Why pay for a building that is only utilized a handful of nights per month? I applaud those forward thinking Masonic groups that have combined to form "District Masonic Centers" that efficiently utilize a building multiple days of the month in a more cost-effective manner. So the first element of a 'perfect' Lodge would be to minimize monthly overhead by renting space as needed.

The second objective is member involvement. The United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) believes that the ideal size for a Lodge is 50 to 100 members. That number probably fits the majority of the Lodges in Connecticut at the present time, and even in Lodges that have several hundred members, I have yet to sit in a stated Lodge meeting with more than two or three dozen members present – and in 43 years of traveling to Lodges throughout this Jurisdiction. I can't recall any instance where a tiled Blue Lodge meeting filled the room. So the second goal in a perfect Lodge would be a minimum of 70% member attendance at each meeting -- thirty-five to seventy members per meeting. How to accomplish that? By making sure that every meeting is interesting and relevant to the membership.

A Lodge in Massachusetts was struggling and things became so bad that the Lodge was on probation and in danger of having the Lodge charter revoked. The Brother who took

over as Worshipful Master made one change that proved to be a difference maker. The Master simply reversed the normal operation. The Lodge would convene and conduct a well run, short business meeting, close, and then have dinner where the Brothers would all enjoy socializing. According to the article, that Lodge is experiencing excellent attendance, growth and success.

Another element is a strong mentorship program. Each candidate would be assigned a minimum of two properly trained mentors that would work with him for at least the first eighteen months of his Masonic journey. Why two mentors? Because situations arise where one mentor may not be available. Also, very few mentors are a good fit for every personality type, so having two mentors provides a better probability that the new Mason will find a comfortable fit with at least one of them.

Ritual work is often emphasized as an important element of our Lodges. While I personally enjoy ritual work (and used to think I was pretty good at it), for many of our members, ritual can be a difficult chore. So strive to have every degree performed so as to be a memorable, special event for the candidates. Utilize degree teams both from within and without the Lodge. One of the things Masons have lost sight of is that some members are excellent managers but terrible ritualists. Frankly, we need all the excellent managers/leaders that we can muster. The excellent manager knows how to find excellent ritualists to perform unforgettable degree work. That's why, in my 'perfect' Lodge, the officers would be expected to perfect themselves in the opening and closing ritual, but depending on their skill and ability, would not necessarily be involved in actual degree work. Perhaps we do a disservice to our candidates and to our officers when we demand that they do ritual work that may be beyond their capabilities. Memorization for some is very difficult. Others become extremely nervous when performing and speaking in front of more than one or two people. Is it in keeping with the tenets of Masonry to 'force' these Brothers to do something that is wildly out of their comfort zone? Would it not be better to allow them to sit back and enjoy while observing others perform the ritual in a most meaningful manner?

So in my 'perfect' Lodge, business meetings would be kept short – fifteen minutes to one half hour once a month. Every meeting would include some program of interest followed by an hour or two of socializing. All degree work would be done as 'special' communications. If an officer demonstrated good leadership and management skills, he would not be precluded from progressing through the chairs just because he had difficulty with memorization/ritual. The Lodge would spend money and efforts doing activities to benefit the communities of its members. The members would come together to help, aid, and assist their own members or Masonic widows as needed. My 'perfect' Lodge would simply be more focused on Masonry and fulfilling our Masonic obligations to ourselves and each other.



## **Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite**

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

**LOOKING FOR  
SOMETHING MORE  
IN MASONRY?**

*Applications still being  
accepted for the current  
Scottish Rite Classes*

**See what we have to offer  
by visiting our website:  
[valleyofnewhaven.org](http://valleyofnewhaven.org)**



For further information, please contact  
Charles D. O'Neill: (203)-770-4818, [cdoneill@snet.net](mailto:cdoneill@snet.net)  
or any member of the Valley.

# The Most Uncommon Common Gavel

by John A. Amarillos, MSA  
membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

Lafayette Consistory and its constituent Valleys will be exploring that part of the 24 inch Rule that focuses on refreshment and sleep this January. It will focus on fraternal and social activities with a Cigar Night on January 12 in Stamford and the King Pin Bowling competition on January 28 at Hamden. More details will follow in the Winter edition of the Lafayette Consistory News or by contacting the Consistory office during working hours. You can also contact the office to request that you be put on the email list for all degree and social activities by calling any time of the day or night and leaving a voice mail at (203) 375-0064. Please speak slowly and enunciate as best as you can if you are leaving a voice mail.

One of our principle working tools is the allegorical Common Gavel, with which we break off the rough and superfluous parts of stones so as to fit them better for the builder's use. So what exactly are we as builders of the Temple working on? Ourselves of course. If you review the several previous articles you will surmise, quite correctly, that the Science of Masonry involves the process of self-improvement of our individual temples. We, as immortal spiritual beings, reside within our physical temples and conduct ourselves in ways that either conform to the ways of the allegorical Rough or Perfect Ashlar. Most of us combine qualities of both. So if we decide to adopt a life goal of improving oneself in Masonry, we will utilize this very important tool, the Gavel, to chip away, if you will, at those aspects of our Temple where the Ashlar is still rough and which requires additional work to become Perfect.

Unlike the Square, Level and Plumb, the Gavel is used in a multitude of different ways and is constantly in use. The gavel, which is a tool denoting modification through the application of applied will, is introduced to the EA as an instrument to begin the process of transmuting all the Rough characteristics that he brings with him into the Order. The Gavel is used throughout his Masonic Life, and if he

attains to allegorical Mastership, he has completed the process of transmuting all the rough characteristics that he originally possessed, and then and only then, possessed of a Temple of Perfect Ashlar, does he use the Gavel to rule and govern his lodge. The symbolic completion of this is when a Man is made a Master of his lodge and he symbolically utilizes the tool to rule and govern. Having thus perfected himself, he is truly worthy of utilizing the Gavel for the government of others, since he would use the tool properly and not for self gain or aggrandizement.

So we see that the Gavel is potentially an allegorical instrument of Power, despite it being common and made available to the newest of EA's. It represents a tool which must be employed in daily life, if one is to accomplish the promise that the Science of Freemasonry offers to any man who enters its portals.

As we begin the New Year, perhaps we should consider the allegorical meanings of all these Masonic Tools and symbols. The greatest eternal profit that can be obtained from your membership in the Fraternity

is to realize that every symbol, every tool, and every word of the ritual is designed to subtly inculcate thoughts patterns within us which will reinforce the desire need to bring the Gavel to active use in our daily lives. It is only through consistent exposure to the Ritual, and through the employment of your efforts and work to decipher the true meanings of every work and symbol you encounter that the method of self-improvement will open up to you and make itself self evident. Attendance at lodge and at the three degrees, and their associated lectures are critical for the absorption of these thoughts and concepts.

Wishing you the best as we embark on another year of gaveling away at all that is not perfect within us, I remind you, that,

*As always, Lafayette Consistory, and the Valleys of Bridgeport, New Haven and Waterbury stand ready to help further your understanding of the Three degrees of Freemasonry. Should you have questions about the Scottish Rite, please feel free to contact me at the email address above, or call the Consistory office at (203) 375-0064.*

## LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY



**Attention all Master Masons!**  
**SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2018**

Mon. 2/5	Stratford	4th Degree & 31st Degree (DVD)
Mon. 2/26	Stratford	9th & 26th Degrees
Wed. 2/28	Waterbury	18th Degree

*R.S.V.P. required.*  
Please email: [Office@LafayetteConsistory.com](mailto:Office@LafayetteConsistory.com)  
or call 203-375-0064.

Those desiring to start their Scottish Rite journey should notify the Consistory Office to arrange for the video of the 4th Degree prior to the 5th Degree.

**Contact the Consistory Office to arrange for seating and meals for any of the degree events.**

<b>Valley of Bridgeport</b> 2422 Main Street Stratford, CT 06615 <a href="mailto:Office@LafayetteConsistory.com">Office@LafayetteConsistory.com</a> 203-375-0064	<b>Valley of New Haven</b> 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven, CT 06511 <a href="mailto:Kirk_Trofatter_Jr@yahoo.com">Kirk_Trofatter_Jr@yahoo.com</a> 203-269-0336	<b>Valley of Waterbury</b> 529 Highland Avenue Waterbury, CT 06708 <a href="mailto:cdoneill@snet.net">cdoneill@snet.net</a> 203-754-8209
--	---	--

**For more information, contact the Valley near you or email [Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com](mailto:Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com).**

# Touring Temple Church, London, England *by Jeff S. Bartlett*

England-visiting Masons looking to time travel can take the London Underground to the Temple station. From there, it is a short walk to find Temple Church nestled among the law office buildings between famed Fleet Street and the River Thames. Built by Knights Templar, this church was consecrated in 1185 by the patriarch of Jerusalem, and it continues to serve as an active church with services based on the Book of Common Prayer. In beautiful condition, Temple Church serves as a museum for the Knights Templar, as well as London legal and war history. It is 5 pounds to tour or free if you visit to pray.

Learn more: [www.templechurch.com](http://www.templechurch.com)



*The Temple Church may be known by many for the effigies of knights. These three-dimensional representations of Knights Templar and later dignitaries are tangible reminders of the legendary crusaders. Among those on display is an effigy of William (in the back row) Marshall, considered to be "The greatest knight that ever lived."*

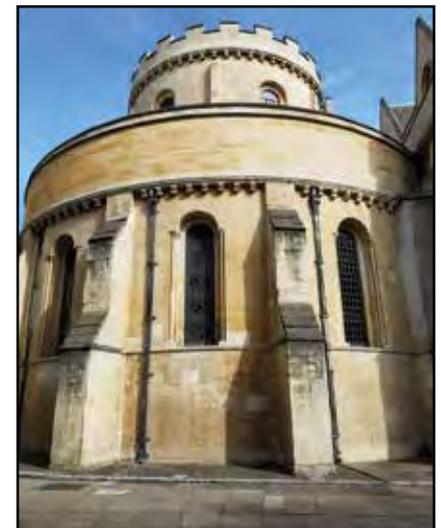


*The Round Church is the original structure, constructed to represent the sanctity of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, as were all the round churches built by the Templars throughout Europe. The design is said to aid acoustics (though it was whisper quiet when I visited). There is an upstairs chamber for additional exhibits and quite a unique perspective looking down to the ground floor.*



*The rectangular Chancel was consecrated in 1240, and today it serves as the "church" part of the building, housing the pews and altar.*

*Temple Church is part of the Church of England. Although it holds a special significance for Knights Templar, this is a traditionally functioning church, open for routine services, as well as available for weddings and funerals.*



*The distinctive altarpiece was designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Beautifully crafted, the large-scale wooden piece serves as an end wall adorned with prayers and scripture.*



# Grand Master's Message

*continued from page 5*

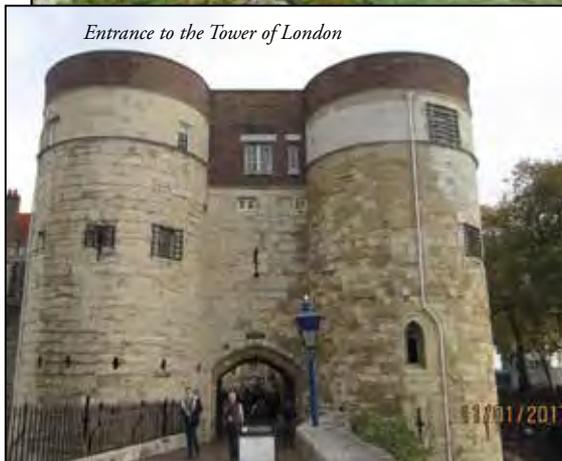
with pride for our fraternity. I was so engrossed in the presentation that I never noticed that HRH the Duke of Kent had left with his entourage to be formally received by his brethren on the floor and escorted up to what became the Grand East on stage below those huge Compasses. The stage crew set up his Oriental Chair and those of his immediate officers. The GM received gifts and made an impressive speech. Upon the conclusion we were again on buses heading to a formal dinner of over two thousand under one roof – all with a social hour and five course meal to die for.

The next day the fairy tale ended as Grace and I left the hotel to do some sightseeing around London and we rented a car and drove to our friend's house in the suburbs. We spent six more days of sightseeing over the English countryside to see Stonehenge, abbeys, cathedrals, castles, Hadrian's Wall while on our way to Rosslyn Chapel and the Castle of Edinburgh in Edinburgh Scotland. All in all a trip of a lifetime that would have never happened had I not joined Masonry all those years ago in the 1980's. Amazing and downright breathtaking.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Happy New Year! God Bless. See you in Lodge!

***MWGM Ted and his wife Grace enjoyed seeing the countryside in England and Scotland while attending the 300th Anniversary of the United Grand Lodge of England.***



# How to Outgrow a Crown Vic!

by Vincent Kalinauskas

National Camping Travelers (NCT) and the Order of the Eastern Star of Connecticut and many friends, along with the Dakota Restaurant and Beacon Health Options of Rocky Hill, have once again showed how big their hearts are. Their participation in support of the CT State Police (CSP) Stuff-a-Cruiser program that supplies toys to needy children has again benefitted St. Mary's Hospital Emergency Pediatric Unit.

For several years donated toys have brought cheer to the hospital's youngest patients. CSP Sgt. Matthew Garcia remembers when donations were only enough to stuff a Crown Vic. The number of toys collected each year began to exceed the prior year. Last year there were so many toys collected that they almost

burst the seams of the cruiser and two large hospital SUVs -- so we had outgrown SUVs and a Crown Vic!

On Dec. 9, as the first snow storm of this winter was descending on Connecticut, NCT members drove in from Massachusetts and from all corners of Connecticut loaded with toys and smiles. The Dakota sponsored a free "Brunch with Santa," for children who brought a new unwrapped toy for the collection. Eastern Star members with toys were coming in by the droves.

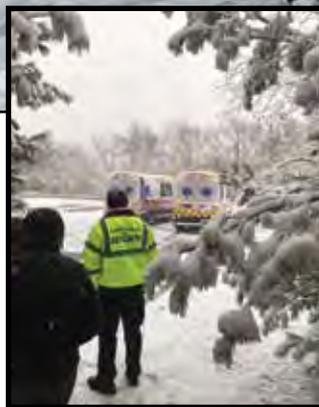
Two AMR ambulances pulled into the Dakota parking lot along with personnel from St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury. They were there to enjoy the Camp-in brunch and to collect the hundreds of donated toys.

With the help of these toys St. Mary's has begun a pilot program for children with autism who often become very frightened if they need to go to the emergency room. The program has a special waiting area for the needs of these children. The toys will relax them more and help take the "scary" out of being at a hospital.

What began as the Annual NCT December Camp-in luncheon and toy collection many years ago with an established State Police program is now a collaboration with other Masonic family organizations and local businesses. Kudos to everyone who took part in the toy collection and again showed what great things can be done when we work together.



Some Masons and Eastern Star members pictured to the left are members of NCT and also belong to some or all of the Masonic organizations that participated. Ambulance "toy stuffers" are (l to r): St Mary's Program Coordinator Joyce Verbisky, CSP Sgt. Matthew Garcia, Bro. Dennis Morgan, RWB Brad Ross, WB Vin Kalinauskas, Sister Anne Kellner, hidden Sister Sandie Greene (hidden), MWPGM Bro. Gary Arseneau, Sister Madolyn Morgan, MWPGM & WGP Bro. Gail Smith, WGM Sister Shirley Hungerford, WB J. Arthur Carbonaro, Robert Motekaitis, Sister Suzanne Wilson, WB Bill Stafford (hidden), St Mary's Emergency Dept. RN Robin Cracco, St Mary's Administration Fellow Keon Blackledge, AMR Chantel Grenier, AMR William Colon and CSP K-9 Unit Trooper Mark Packer.



St Mary's Security Officer Martin Meehan and two AMR ambulances braved the snow to load up and deliver the toys from the 2017 Stuff-a-Cruiser collection at the Dakota Restaurant in Rocky Hill, to St. Mary's Hospital in Waterbury..



# 2018 Connecticut Freemason Family Day



WOLF PACK vs. W-B/SCRANTON

FRIDAY • MARCH 30 • 7:00PM

[www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org](http://www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org)

## Deficit Reduction Through CT Freemasons Family Day *by Thomas Mumford*

One of the most exciting things about the upcoming Connecticut Freemason Family Day is the deficit repair potential it offers, more commonly called 'fund-raising.'

At the Semi-Annual Communication in October, I spoke about a few ways that Lodges could take advantage of fund-raising opportunities. The first was selling tickets at the reduced rate of \$15 each, netting a Lodge \$5 for every ticket sold. Ten brothers selling ten tickets each would net the Lodge \$500. Doubling or tripling the tickets sales nets \$1,000 and \$1,500, respectively.

Another method was to buy tickets in bulk at \$10 each by calling the Wolf Pack representative

handling the event, and creating a Lodge evening out with family and friends. The third way was to buy the tickets in bulk and donate them to a local worthy cause near and dear to the hearts of the brethren.

Here are some other ingenious ways to fundraise.

One Lodge was experiencing difficulty getting brothers to pay their dues. Using the \$5 per ticket mentioned above, each brother was invited to sell as many tickets as needed to make up the deficit for himself and the Lodge.

Another creative use of the Family Day opportunity was to begin a "legacy fund."

This fund would start putting monies away specifically for future generation brethren.

A favorite was the Lodge that decided to raise monies to fund a Table Lodge that was free to all attendees.

Have you and your Lodge made a decision to take advantage of the fund-raising potential the Family Day opportunity presents? If not, I truly urge you to. If your lodge is embracing this and would like to share what your Lodge is doing, send me a note at [tom.mumford@trixis.com](mailto:tom.mumford@trixis.com). Also, do so if you have any questions or call me at 860-305-7755.

### OFFICE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

The Grand Lodge is looking for a new home for several gently used items of office equipment:

Equipment available:

- Minolta Bizhub 250 copier, scanner (out of warranty but serviceable)
- Minolta Bizhub 601 copier, scanner (still covered by warranty)

The Minolta Bizhub copiers were maintained via annual maintenance contracts.

Equipment is offered on an "as is" basis at no cost to our Lodges and Appendant bodies on a first come basis. You are responsible for pick-up. If interested, please email Debbie Fowler at

[DFowler@Masonicare.org](mailto:DFowler@Masonicare.org).

# 2018

## NUTMEGGER REUNIONS

Please join us

at these wonderful Nutmegger Reunion luncheons at one or more of our locations.

Take this opportunity to meet and greet Bro. Theodore J. Nelson, Grand Master; Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit, Masonicare's President and CEO; and, Bro. Robert F. Polito Jr., Board of Trustees Chair; and to reconnect with many of your valued friends at this year's reunion!

For questions or if you plan to be in Florida and would like to attend a reunion, please contact **RW Brother Carl Anderson at 203-679-6917.**

 **Masonicare**   
An Ageless Commitment to Caring  
[www.masonicare.org](http://www.masonicare.org)

Our members are the cornerstone of our future.



# MASONICARE AT MYSTIC

WHERE THE COST OF  
SENIOR LIVING IS AT SEA LEVEL.

ASK ABOUT OUR  
NEW RENTAL RATES!

CALL 888-502-8859 TODAY FOR YOUR PERSONAL  
APPOINTMENT & PRIVATE TOUR.

 INDEPENDENT LIVING · ASSISTED LIVING · MEMORY CARE



45 Clara Drive, Mystic, CT