



Connecticut FREEMASONS

229th Annual
Communication of the Grand Lodge
by Charles W. Yohe



Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM
69 Masonic Avenue
Wallingford, CT 06492

May 2018

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



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Director of Communication
- Bro. Shane Dufresne
Grand Almoner

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Connecticut
FREEMASONS

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229th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge

by Charles W. Yohe

The 229th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Connecticut, A.F.&A.M. was opened in due form by Grand Master, M.W. Theodore J. Nelson, at 9:30 a.m. in the ballroom of the Red Lion Hotel, Cromwell, CT on April 9. A partial roll call found a constitutional number of Lodges in attendance. Accordingly, the Grand Master proceeded to conduct the business of the Grand Lodge.

As is customary for the Annual Communication, the delegations of various dignitaries from within and without the jurisdiction were received and greeted. Those delegations included representatives from the Appendant bodies in Connecticut, Most Worshipful Grand Masters or their representatives from other Grand Jurisdictions, and a delegation of Past Grand Masters of Connecticut. Of particular note was a very large delegation from the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Prince Hall Affiliate, Inc. and a strong representation from the Past Grand Masters of Connecticut.

Members of Camp Trumbull Heroes of '76, an affiliate of Chapter 58, National Sojourners, attired in period costume, presented the flags of the United States and Canada. After the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the national anthems of the United States and Canada, the Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment and the remaining delegations, some of which included non-Masons, were received and seated in the Grand East. At the invitation of the Grand Master, representatives of the Amaranth, Order of Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and Connecticut DeMolay brought greetings to the members assembled as did Bro. Ronald D. Sortino, National President of the National Sojourners, W.B. Robert Polito, Chairman of the Masonic Board of Trustees and W.B. Jon-Paul Venoit, CEO of Masonicare.

Words of greeting were also shared by representatives of the York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies as well as a brief presentation by Brother George Seghers, Executive Secretary of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association in Alexandria, Virginia. Brother Segher commented on the multi-million dollar renovation effort now under way to preserve this most important Masonic edifice. He also presented a plaque to M.W. Nelson in appreciation of the Grand Lodge's support of the Memorial.

Ms. Linda Patch, Director of Communications for the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction was then called upon to share the findings of a survey that was conducted

by the Scottish Rite and to talk about the latest initiative, The Path Forward together with the public relations campaign "*Not just a man, a Mason!*"

After the lunch break, the Grand Master once again called the Grand Lodge from refreshment to labor and continued with his agenda. A report of the Credentials Committee found one Lodge, Harmony Lodge No. 67, with no representation. The Grand Master recognized the District Deputies and Associate Grand Marshals who have served this jurisdiction during his term. He also recognized the Grand Representatives present. RWB Newton "Bud" Buckner III presented the report of the Grand Treasurer. Grand Master Nelson then called upon M.W. Peter Iacobucci, Grand Master of the State of Rhode Island and the Providence Plantations, to deliver a response on behalf of the visiting invited dignitaries.

The Grand Master then proceeded to address the proposed changes to the rules and regulations. The first item was to consider a change to the Constitution regarding the method(s) of notification of the Grand Lodge Annual and Semi-Annual Communications. This was presented in October and laid over to this session for action. The proposal passed overwhelmingly.

A proposed change to correct a previous mistake with regard to Section 3301 (Residency Requirements for Candidates) also passed. A third item to broaden the exemption from Grand Lodge Dues, Assessments, and Per Capita as delineated in Section 3508 to include any Brother who is a resident under the care of a licensed Skilled Nursing Facility also was approved by the Craft. A proposed new Section 3513 (Grand Lodge Lifetime Membership Plan) was also passed by the voting members present.

Finally, Section 8001 (Distribution and Consumption of Alcohol) was addressed. After comments from members of the Craft, most of which spoke in favor of passage of this legislation, a vote was taken and the necessary two-thirds majority was confirmed. This revision confirms the need for Lodges to conduct themselves in a manner that is in compliance with State of Connecticut law with regard to the distribution and consumption of alcohol in relation to any Masonic events.

Following the report of the Masonicare Board of Trustees presented by W.B. Robert Polito, Most Worshipful Brother Nelson delivered his report which included the Necrology. A brief service and prayer was offered by the Grand Chaplain, RWB and Reverend Carl Anderson. At the conclusion of the Grand

Continued on page 4

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Master's report, a motion was made to accept all remaining reports which had been printed and distributed.

After thanking Masonicare for their assistance in moving the Grand Lodge furniture to and from the session and the announcement that Grand Masters Day will be June 9, the Grand Lodge was called to refreshment at 3:38 p.m. for the purpose of preparing for the semi-public installation of Grand Lodge officers for the ensuing year.

MWB Arthur J. Carlstrom led the installing team of MWB Gail N. Smith, Installing Chaplain; MWB Charles Yohe, Installing Marshal; and RWB Carl Anderson, Installing Organist. Accordingly, the Grand Installing Marshal was directed to make a circuit of the Grand Lodge and form the Grand Lodge officers in double file West of the altar. The Installing Marshal then escorted Most Worshipful Grand Master, Theodore J. Nelson, out of the Grand Lodge to a rousing ovation.

The officers of the Grand Lodge for 2018-19 were then escorted into the Grand Lodge and seated in the West. The Installing Grand Marshal retired and escorted into the Grand Lodge, Brother Marshall K. Robinson, who was regularly elected to serve as Grand Master during the October 2017 Semi-annual Communication. The Grand Master-elect knelt at the altar to receive the benefit of prayer and take upon himself his official obligation. After he was properly clothed with the collar and jewel, presented with his hat and gavel and seated in the Grand East, the installation of his subordinate officers proceeded. Installed were: Brother Melvin E. Johnson, RW Deputy Grand Master; Bro. Stephen W. Petri, RW Grand Senior Warden; Bro. William E. Bohman, RW Grand Junior Warden; Bro. Newton Buckner III, RW Grand Treasurer (together with Bro. Brian Beals, Deputy Grand Treasurer); RW Grant S. Gould, RW Grand Secretary (together with RW James Anderson, Deputy Grand Secretary); Bro. Bruce R. Bellmore, RW Grand Senior Deacon; Bro. Joseph J. Porco, RW Grand Junior Deacon; Bro. Edward C. Page, RW Grand Marshal; Bro. Les King, RW Grand Senior Steward; Bro. Rinaldo "Ron" Magliano, RW Grand Junior Steward; Bro. Gary A. Littlefield, RW Grand Historian; Bro. & Rev. Carl H. Anderson, RW Grand Chaplain and Organist; Bro. Richard C. Memmott Jr., RW Grand Tiler; Bro. Frank Mangiero, RW Associate Grand Tiler; Bro. Robert Kovi, RW Associate Grand Tiler; and Bro. Charles W. Yohe, RW Director of Communication.

Proclamation was made that all were installed with the exception of the Grand Almoner, after which a short address was delivered by the newly installed Grand Master, Most Worshipful Brother Robinson. The Most Worshipful Grand Master then declared the 229th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut closed in ample form.

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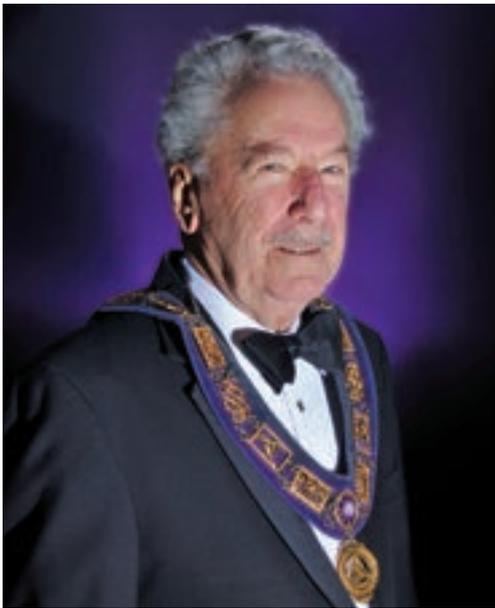
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MAY

Date	Time	Event	Place/Address	Dress Code	Stag/Coed
5	4:00P	DD Presentation	Ashlar Vill.	Tux	
8	4:00P	CT Freemasons Foundation	Gr. Lodge Off.	Cas	S
12	1:00P	DD presentation	Moosup	Tux	
12	6:00P	Shriner dinner at WLOPA Gun Club		Cas	C
16		Awards Night	Columbia Lodge		
17	6:30P	Attend MM Degree	Harmony Lodge #42	Tux	S
19	5:30P	Homecoming	Brownson CC, Shelton	Bus	C
21		Grand Lodge of Rhode Island			
26		DD presentation	Anchor Lodge	Tux	

JUNE:

Date	Time	Event	Place/Address	Dress Code	Stag/Coed
Sat 2	5:30p	DD Presentation	Fidelity-St. Johns #3	Tux	
Tue 5	6:30p	Awards Night	Seneca #55	Tux	
Thur 7	6:30p	Homecoming	Harmony #42		
Fri 8	6:30p	Greet Australian Brothers	Ansantawae # 89	Tux	
Sat. 9	9:30a	Grand Masters Day	Wallingford	Tux/Casual	C
Tue 12-14		Fraternal Visit	GL of Vermont	Tux	C
Fri. 15	5:30p	St. John's Day	Wooster #10	Tux	S
	12p	3rd District Picnic	Harmony #42	Casual	S
Sat 16	4:00P	DD Presentation	Hartog	Tux	
Mon 18	6:30p	Fraternal visit	Federal #17	Tux	
Tue 19	am	DeMolay Golf Tourn	United Methodist Church, Stratford	Cas	
Fri 22	6:30p	Wine & Beer tasting	Hartog Center	Sport Jacket	S
Sat 23	6:00p	MM Degree	Harmony #42 outdoor degree	Civil War uniforms	S
Sun 24		St. John's Day	Southington (Fr. Joe Krusienski)	Suit	



GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS TO THE CRAFT

by Marshall K. Robinson

Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters, Right Worshipful officers and members of Grand Lodge, distinguished and honored guests and brethren; today we enjoyed our 229th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Connecticut. My Brothers, it is humbling to be standing here before you as your Grand Master.

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to each you for your commitment, effort, and the time that you devote to Freemasonry, your communities, and to betterment of this jurisdiction. It is your devotion and faithfulness to our principles that determine the success we have in our endeavors. I would also like to thank you for the confidence and trust you have placed in me to carry out the numerous duties and responsibilities required of the Grand Master. I will endeavor to serve the best interests of this jurisdiction and to support numerous programs that are in need of our continued focus. We should all be encouraged by the fact that we have no shortage of well accomplished brethren among us. Both the talent bank and the diversity throughout the Craft are impressive. Equally important to individual acumen is the widespread love for Freemasonry we all share. When we are at our best, we do

not do the things we do for reward, recognition or praise; rather we do what we do, for righteousness sake. All of you possess this quality or you would not be here today.

We, like many jurisdictions, have our own set of challenges. I will not digress into how I plan to address all of them, but there is one key initiative which I plan to focus on during my year. I'll share that initiative with you shortly but first I will mention a few things that will help you understand why I have determined to place focus on it.

We have all heard the Serenity Prayer. Its insight and application, I have long tried to live by. The best-known form is:

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
Courage to change the things I can,
and wisdom to know the difference

Brothers, there are things we must accept about one another and the changing times in which we live and we can do so if we maintain thoughtfulness and composure. There are things we can change about ourselves and the manner in which we can best serve and collaborate with one another if we exercise a bit of humility, selflessness, and courage. Most importantly, we can focus on areas in which we best agree, if we have the wisdom to do so.

I am well aware that some have concern regarding the trend of Lodge rolls decreasing in membership over the years. Some may think that there is nothing that can be done to turn around this trend. I do not hold that opinion. While our ability to counter external factors will take time, there are things within our control (internally) which we can focus on. I assure you that membership retention is not only joined at the hip to Masonic mentoring, education, and development, it is directly linked to a brother's sense of fulfillment and empowerment as a new Mason. It is a shame to lose even one good man, simply because we have not given him good and wholesome instruction or endeavored to provide a healthy balance between labor and refreshment. Both are important. If we expect to be prepared to address some of the external forces, we must first fill existing gaps which can derail maintaining a happy and well prepared infrastructure of good men. Placing the proper focus on the fulfillment of expectations of those men already among us is an essential foundation before attempting to address long term external challenges.

When I think back upon my earliest days in the Craft, one memory has never left me. I'll never forget my interactions with a Brother named Jim. Jim was more than a Mason in good standing. Jim was my mentor. He was my Masonic coach per se, my friend and my Brother. Jim showed me the ropes and often helped me between meetings and before my degrees. He took me traveling about the Craft and introduced many new brothers...and he did so from the very first day I stood in the northeast corner. Jim didn't just focus on protocol; his intention from the start was to make sure I was comfortable and confident at Lodge and he accomplished that by being a good friend and brother. It was Jim who helped me establish a solid foundation and understanding of the Craft, without which I certainly would not be standing here before you today. Mentoring!

Together, with the help of several brothers and some fantastic pre-existing materials effectively being utilized by some Lodges, I am formally re-initiating focus on an updated mentoring program for the Craft. The program has multiple components and every Lodge in the State will be equipped with these programs. Review training has already commenced. Beyond the mentoring program, my District Deputies and line officers will introduce a few easy to implement turnkey program; one of which will aid in enhancing

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a Lodge's impact upon their local community in a very positive way. My officers will also provide a list of suggestions to increase the involvement of all the brethren while in lodge; to break the habitual experience of "business as usual." Lodge nights, beyond degrees, need to be interesting and purposeful. One particular recognition event which I encourage all Lodges to do will include members of the community and their family members. During my year, my officers will be assisting the Lodge with all of this information.

Beyond mentoring, I want to assure you that Grand Lodge will continue to focus on other programs, fiscal responsibility, risk mitigation and issues pertaining to governance. Mid and long term planning continue. Needed improvements will be addressed pertaining to our communication process, website, and database requirements.

Brethren, it is my sincere hope that you will join with me and do your best to inspire your brothers throughout the year. We can influence positive outcomes that will go a long way to improve retention. The only thing that stands in our way to overcome (what some perceive as unchangeable) is apathy. You already possess the attributes and good nature to assist and instruct. Together with our experience, knowledge, and the precepts within our heart, we can overcome any momentary apathy.

Brethren, together we can move forward confidently. Not because there is some grand plan to introduce some new change regarding Freemasonry. Not just because Connecticut Freemasonry will receive a sufficient "best effort" to meet the challenges ahead; but rather because we have an abiding faith in the principles of Freemasonry... of what it is already ... and what it has always been. We need to more than remind ourselves and appreciate that precious jewel which was deposited in the repository of our hearts. We must illuminate its light onto others. It is that continual illumination which enables the centuries to come and go, yet Freemasonry lives on.

May the Good Lord above shine his kindness upon each of you. May he water the seeds of wisdom planted within all of us. May He bless all of the Lodges throughout Connecticut and may His blessing extend to each and every jurisdiction of Freemasonry.

Thank you.

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The Masonicare Experience

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

A True Friend of Masonicare: The Order of the Amaranth

by Adam Raider

For many donors, giving to the Masonicare Annual Appeal is a show of appreciation – a way of saying thank you for the compassionate care shown a friend or loved one.

This holds true whether the donor is an individual, a family, or even an entire Masonic body. The Order of the Amaranth is a social, fraternal, and charitable organization whose membership is open to both men and women with a Masonic affiliation. Charity is a guiding principal of the Order. The Order's main charity is the Amaranth Diabetes Foundation, though Grand Courts and local courts throughout the nation support many other worthwhile causes. The Masonic Charity Foundation is grateful that the Grand Court of Connecticut, along with many of its individual members, has chosen to support the good work of Masonicare by giving to the Annual Appeal.

In 2018, the Order of the Amaranth joined The Foundation's Builder's Society with a gift of \$1,085, a generous increase of over \$300 from the previous year. Sandie Allen, Grand Royal Matron of the Grand Court of Connecticut, said that quite a few Masonicare employees deserve a share of the credit for earning the Amaranth's financial and volunteer support.

"I have had a number of friends who've used Masonicare's services and some who are current residents," Allen said. "It's always a pleasure to hear good stories from them about the quality of care they're receiving. Being in the field of human services, I have been so impressed with most, if not all, of the staff I have met at Masonicare – from dining services to the nursing staff."

"As long as I've been a member of the Amaranth," added Sue Koty, Past Grand Royal Matron of the Grand Court of Connecticut, "giving to The Masonic Charity Foundation has been a priority. We've seen Masonicare do so much good for members of Amaranth as well as for all Masonic bodies. We know the organization's history caring for our aged members, and some of us are getting to be aged members ourselves. Masonicare is near and dear to our hearts."

Koty, who currently sits on the boards of Masonicare at Home and Masonic Management Services, fondly remembers when her late grandmother – who worked as a live-in aide to others – required additional care herself and became a long-term care resident of Masonicare.

"The care she received was excellent," Koty recalled. "The staff was so nice and so supportive. My grandmother loved finally being the one who had others waiting on her. In fact, when Masonicare put out an informational brochure explaining what the facility was all about, my grandmother was on the front cover. That was my first opportunity to see what Masonicare is all about."

"The Foundation truly appreciates its long-time association with The Grand Court of Connecticut, Order of the Amaranth," said Foundation Executive Director Jennifer King. "I have had the good fortune to meet many Amaranth members over the years, and I have always been struck by their positive, charitable spirit and desire to help others in need. The Masonic Charity Foundation is honored to be among the charities supported by The Grand Court of Connecticut!"

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.

"As long as I've been a member of the Amaranth, giving to The Masonic Charity Foundation has been a priority."



From left are the Order of the Amaranth's Sue Koty, Past Grand Royal Matron, Grand Royal Patron Wayne Rettburg, Grand Royal Matron Sandie Allen, and Masonic Charity Foundation Executive Director Jennifer King

Congratulations to our 75 & 50-Year Brothers

75-YEAR MASONS

Frederick G. Raymond
Jack D. Ramaley
Adrian E. Offinger

American St. John's Lodge No. 8
Fidelity - St. John's Lodge No. 3
Old Well - St. John's Lodge No. 6

50-YEAR MASONS

Arial W. George
Carlton R. Cotnoir
Daniel C. Thurston, Jr.
Daniel J. Katz
Francis Griffin
George D. Bathgate
George Sayad
Hans F. Seebo
Harry N. Mazadoorian
Henry C. Letsch, III
Henry E. Tuinstra
Howard R. Jimmie
Hugo F. Thomas
John V. Baker
Joseph D. Maher
Lewis P. Bither
Norman L. Wack
Norman L. Zercher
Normand A. Keeney
Paul A. Ogren
Richard D. Schietinger
Roger W. Guild
Vincent A. Celino
William A. Hobart
William E. Hastings, Jr.
William L. Lyons, III
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Luther E. Thurlow
William R. Dolan
Randolph A. Nielsen
James M. Larkin
Roger M. Hall

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Seneca Lodge No. 55
Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125
Meridian Lodge No. 77
Day Spring Lodge No. 30
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145
Wooster Lodge No. 79
Unity Lodge No. 148
Fidelity - St. John's Lodge No. 3
Valley Lodge No. 36
Corinthian Lodge No. 104
Uriel Lodge No. 24
Temple Lodge No. 16
Wyllys - St. John's Lodge No. 4
Center Lodge No. 97
Evening Star Lodge No. 101
Coastal Lodge No. 57
Composite Lodge No. 28
Compass Lodge No. 9
Washington Lodge No. 19
Warren Lodge No. 51
Composite Lodge No. 28
Coastal Lodge No. 57
Washington Lodge No. 70
Meridian Lodge No. 77
Union Lodge No. 5
Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88
Corner Stone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122
Meridian Lodge No. 77
Friendship Lodge No. 33
Sequin - Level Lodge No. 140
King Hiram Lodge No. 12
Anchor Lodge No. 112
Corinthian Lodge No. 63
St. John's Lodge No. 2
Liberty - Continental Lodge No. 76
Columbia Lodge No. 25
Jeptha Lodge No. 95
Day Spring Lodge No. 30
Columbia Lodge No. 25
Moosup Lodge No. 113
Moosup Lodge No. 113
Hiram Lodge No. 1
Anchor Lodge No. 112
Moriah Lodge No. 15
Coastal Lodge No. 57



From the Desk and Bench of the Grand Chaplain/Organist

by Rev. Carl H. Anderson

The Vesper Service at the Grand Lodge Annual Communication in April provided Masonic Family members an opportunity to remember their brothers who have passed to the celestial lodge above during the past year. It was a blessing to gather to commemorate their tireless, dedicated service to the Grand Lodge, as well as their local lodge. This year the remembrance service focused on the legacy that each departed Brother gave to our fraternity. While legacy is something that we often ascribe to famous people or historical icons, it is not restricted to a select few. Rather, all Brothers have a unique legacy that endures long after they have died. Their legacy is real and lasting because it speaks to the present with wisdom from the past.

A short time after the service, I was reminded of the tremendous legacy of one of our brothers, through a service of remembrance for Brother Bill Jeanfavre. Brother Bill never served as Master of his Lodge or in any other office except one that is near and dear to my heart, the position of organist. At this service, a standing room only crowd, including Brothers of Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, and members of Frederica Chapter No. 110, Order of the Eastern Star, paid tribute to an unassuming, caring, dedicated servant of God. His legacy included his gift of music, his ability to offer encouragement and his tireless service to numerous Masonic organizations that he offered in a humble and unassuming way. From the comments made by the crowd, it was clear that Brother Bill believed in the Masonic teaching to serve others, thereby fitting himself for that celestial dwelling, that house, not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. It was also clear that his life is an example of how the legacy of one person can make a difference in the lives of so many.

Let us give thanks for the invaluable legacy of all dearly departed Masons. Let us take the time to remember them and express our gratitude for the many ways they graced our lives. May their Masonic light continue to shine as we continue the work of Masonry that is now entrusted to us.

Grand Lodge Necrology List	2017-2018
-----------------------------------	------------------

RWB Alfred R. Huttig, PDD 2A	1999 & 2000
RWB Kurt R. Weimar, PDD 1B	1990 & 1991
RWB Ronald D. East Sr., PDD 3B	1979 & 1980
RWB Arnold H. Freedman, PDD 4A	2003 & 2004
RWB Edwin F. Shepard, PDD 1A	1967 & 1968
RWB Frank W. McNally, PDD 9A	1988 & 1989
RWB David I. Bernklow Sr., PDD 9A	1982 & 1983
RWB James A. Stratford, PDD 6C	1987 & 1988
RWB Francis DiStefano, Grand Marshal D7	2017
RWB Carl L. Edgerton, PDD 6A	1980 & 1981
RWB John S. Fluckiger, PDD 9B	2003 & 2004
RWB Ivan William Clark, PDD 8B	2010 & 2011
RWB William V. Baroni PDD 7A	2008 & 2009
MWB Ellis G. Simpson, Jr. PGM	2016 & 2017 PHA of CT
MWB Richard Arnold Hodgson, PGM	1991





A Tribute To Richard Arnold Hodgson

by Gary A. Littlefield

On March 16, 1927, in the town of Groton, near the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, Connecticut's 145th Grand Master first saw the light of day.

Together with his older brother Clarence and parents Ralph and Marcia Stapelyn Hodgson, the family welcomed this young baby into the family. His early education was in South Carolina, Panama, and California as well as Connecticut. He attended UCONN and received on the job training in highway engineering for the state. At the University of New Haven, he expanded his knowledge of mechanical and engineering skills. He also became experienced at an aviation ground school.

In 1950, Natalie Macomber came into his life and seven years later, their daughter Ann was born. The last few years of his life was spent with Ann as she cared for him until he took his last breath. Dick began his career at a millwork company, then took a job at Electric Boat before joining the US Navy. He worked for a brief time with the State of Connecticut on highway engineering projects and then went to work for Pratt & Whitney as a tool and die maker. Two other companies also enjoyed his expertise until he started his own business as the "Jewett City Tool and Die Company." As Deputy Grand Master, he could foresee a busy schedule ahead and retired from the business in 1990.

He joined Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116 in 1961, was raised on May 5, 1961, and served as Worshipful Master in 1970. He was Associate Grand Marshal for District 8A in 1974 and District Deputy in 1977-1978. In 1983 he was appointed Grand Junior Steward and was elected Grand Master in 1991 and later that day, April 10, 1991, he was installed as the 145th Grand Master. His other Masonic affiliations are too numerous to mention but he was active in both the Scottish and York Rite. He was an encourager of youth programs in both DeMolay and Rainbow.

I first met Brother Dick in 1979. As District Deputy (soon to be going out of that office), he came into the preparation room where Dave Ryan and I were preparing for our Entered Apprentice degree. He offered some words of wisdom and encouragement. When the degree was over, he proudly shook our hands and again offered encouragement. I was impressed. When he became a Grand Lodge officer and I was Worshipful Master, he once again did much to assist. We presented a 50-year pin on behalf of the Grand Lodge of New York to a brother in Bozrah and another in Hebron. For almost forty years he has been a constant source of encouragement, wisdom and help, even when he left for Arizona. His counsel was timely and excellent. He has paid his wages and now has entered into that Grand Lodge above.

His Masonic memorial service at Maplewood Cemetery in Norwich was attended by many who knew him. Rest in peace, Brother Dick.

* * * * *

Our new Grand Master, Marshall Robinson, hails from King Hiram Lodge No. 12 and we recall that in 1782 there were twenty-seven Masons who signed the petition for a charter to be held in the town of Derby. It was a seaport town at the time as traffic took lumber to the West Indies in exchange for sugar and molasses. King Hiram Lodge was named as Masons have been taught that Hiram of Tyre had sent his vessels to carry cedar timbers to Joppa to be hauled up to Jerusalem for use in the Temple. Many of the petitioners were made at King Solomon's Lodge in Woodbury and Rev. Ashbel Baldwin went to Boston to ask for a charter from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. It was signed, sealed and delivered on January 3, 1783 and the lodge eventually became one of the charter lodges to form the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 1789. Next month, we will talk more about King Hiram Lodge.





From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

Congratulations to MWB Ted Nelson and MWB Marshal Robinson on last month's Grand Lodge Annual Session. Every year, we appreciate seeing our Connecticut fraternity gathered in that assembly and witnessing the smooth succession of Grand Masters.

As is customary, the Chairman of the Masonicare Board of Trustees and the CEO of Masonicare gave an update on our organization. Here are highlights from Chairman Bob Polito's and my remarks to those in attendance:

First, on the Residential Services side of our business, we celebrated the official grand opening of Masonicare at Mystic last April 25. The event included dedicating the community's Activities Center in honor of Bro. Charles Maxson. Bro. Charlie was a champion for this project from the very beginning and his counsel was invaluable. Masonicare at Mystic currently has 81 apartments occupied and a number of new residents expected to move in before summer. Our presence in Mystic has also afforded us a closer relationship with the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, and we have met to explore how we might be able to bring services to the Ocean State.

In December, we closed on the acquisition of Chester Village West, a retirement community in the heart of the lower Connecticut River Valley. The residents have welcomed us warmly and we are completing plans for renovations and upgrades, in addition to the healthcare services that our continuum brings.

Second, in the Healthcare arena, we have several initiatives underway. In December, the "medical model" on our Wallingford campus transitioned from an in-house model to an alliance with West Haven Medical Group, resulting in over a million dollars in savings. And just a few months ago, we announced the formation of an alliance with Hebrew Senior Care in West Hartford. Branded as the Connecticut Senior Hospital Alliance, it offers seniors and their families a compelling alternative to an emergency room when needing hospital-level care for conditions and diagnoses most common in the senior population, such as congestive heart failure, pneumonia, etc.

The process of selling Masonicare at Newtown to Athena Health Care Systems is nearly complete. This was a very difficult decision to make, with Newtown having been part of our family for 35 years. But with significant losses year after year, we believe this new ownership will breathe more opportunity into the campus. As healthcare is increasingly delivered in the home, our home health care division continues to expand. We also continue to provide assisted living services at a number of congregate housing communities around the state.

Masonicare is viewed as a national leader in the field of aging services. We take our mission very seriously – and we face many challenges. Sixty-four percent of our revenue is reliant on state and federal funding, which falls woefully short of covering our expenses. As a result, we continue to pursue business strategies that will derive revenue from other sources, especially in the residential sector.

In all we do, we look for ways to support seniors as they age in the environment of their choice. An emphasis on quality, home care, the patient / resident experience, strategic partnerships and data-driven decision-making will help us do so. As we look to the future, I believe you can be proud of what has been accomplished as we build on the foundation our forefathers created nearly 125 years ago.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Connecticut FREEMASONS

“Making A Difference”

Committee on Community Action

2018 COCA Grand Lodge Report

by Perne R. Maynard

Honor our Veterans

My wife and I recently took a Road Scholar trip to Arizona and spent the first week on the Pueblo Heritage tour of our country's Native American Indian nations, on the reservations of the Hopi and Navaho Indians. We stopped at the Window Rock Indian National Monument and learned the story of the brave WWII and Korean War Indian Code Talkers

Chester Nez was the last Code Talker survivor and he passed away a few years ago. At the age of eight, Nez was sent to a school run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. His English name was Chester, after US president Chester A. Arthur, given to him by one of the government-run boarding schools in Tuba City, Arizona. At an early age Nez was recruited by the Marine Corps, but kept his decision to enlist from his family and lied about his age to meet the enlistment requirements.

He and 28 other Navajo Indians were recruited and trained in a new Platoon No. 382, formed at the Marine Corps Base in San Diego in May, 1942. This platoon grew to more than 400 Indians who served in the military during World War II as top-secret code talkers. Even those fighting shoulder to shoulder with them were not told of their covert function. After the war, the Navajos were forbidden to speak of this service until 1968 when the code was finally declassified.

Of the original twenty-eight Navajo code talkers, Chester Nez was the last member to tell his story. In his memoir, the eighty-nine-year-old Nez chronicles his war years and his life growing up on the Checkerboard Area of the Navajo Reservation, and the hard life that gave him the strength-physical and mental - to become a Marine. His story puts a living face on the legendary men who developed what is still the only unbroken code in modern warfare.

As we traveled these reservations and heard the Native American Indian stories, my admiration grew for their fortitude having to withstand their cultural struggles and physical hardships. With today's talk regarding immigration, it is evident that we are the immigrants, and they were the original Native Americans. Our government has moved the Indians from their homelands to less desirable locations, and yet they have maintained their traditions, love of nature, and their cultural beliefs. Their sacred ceremonies parallel the time-honored traditions of our Masonic heritage.



As a veteran this Memorial Day, I ask you to take time to honor our fallen heroes. Like the Marine motto, Masons are also looking for “A Few Good Men” who have the passion to volunteer to help our Veterans as we honor our fallen Brothers this Memorial Day. Step up my Brothers, and get your lodge involved in sponsoring programs for our local Veteran Homes and Hospitals especially in Newington, Rocky Hill and West Haven. You can begin by providing a “Night Out with a Veteran” or take a Veteran to a movie, or hold a Veteran's card night at their Veteran home or your lodge. I will request Grand Lodge to promote a ceremony to honor our CT Masonic Veterans with the presentation of the CT Veterans War Medal at an event to be announced once we have District volunteers to promote such an effort. The lodge GPS program has been updated and released allowing direct two-way communication between your lodge coordinator and Grand Lodge.

My Brothers there is much work on our Tres board, and it is time to put the craft to work.



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*SM



Why Become an Organ, Eye and Tissue Donor?

by Richard F. Denno

Why should you register online to become a donor at www.registerme.org? There are many reasons to register. Perhaps a few facts might motivate you.

Currently there are approximately 120,000 people on the waiting list for donations. That figure has been in that range for over five years. Thanks to medical science, many patients who did not qualify for a transplant are now on the waiting list. This fact creates a “Catch-22,” regarding the number of patients eligible to receive a transplant. Because more and more patients become available, the number on the list remains the same. Also, only three in one thousand people die in a way that allows for organ donation.

Here are a few facts that many people are not aware of:

Over 95% of US adults support organ donation, yet only 54% are actually signed up as donors. Of all transplants, 80% are kidneys, because one can donate a kidney and still live a normal life.

Corneas are another area with a high transplant rate. Over 80,000 corneas were transplanted in 2016. Since 1961, more than 1,700,000 men, women and children have had their sight restored or improved through cornea transplantation. Your Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Program can proudly say that due to our informational talks to lodges, nine corneas have been recovered. We know this because donor families have informed us after the donation. My beautiful wife, Midge, donated her corneas when she passed away in March. This is the ultimate payback. In 2008 she received a kidney and donated corneas ten years later. One organ, eye and tissue donor can save and heal more than 75 lives.

The above facts are a few of the reasons you should become a donor. However, the most important reason is that organ recipients are given that precious gift of life; that gift that keeps on giving for years after receiving their donation. In my case, Midge and I shared many special moments over the nine years of added life her transplant provided. I'll carry the moments over those nine years forever.

I could rattle off statistics until they put you to sleep. A better and more informed way is for you to go online and check out Donate Life's new website, www.registerme.org. Here you'll find answers to most of the questions you may have. If you can't find the answer, you can contact Donate Life with the number provided on the website. Most important is to register as a donor. Take the opportunity to make a lifesaving difference in someone's life and family. From personal experience, it is the most wonderful gift you can give.



Give thanks. Give life.

Why a Perfect Temple?

by John A. Amarilios

membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

The culmination of this spring's degree season will be the portrayal of the 32nd degree on Monday May 7, when those candidates who have earned the privilege of attending will attain to the title of "Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret" at the Leo H Lorman Scottish Rite Theatre in Stratford. Members of Lafayette Consistory and its three constituent Valleys will be participating in this Consistory degree. Reservations are strongly recommended, especially for the dinner that precedes the degree as space is limited. Please call the office at (203) 375-0064 to make dinner reservations.

Those brothers seeking to start on their path toward the 32nd degree, can begin doing so on Saturday July 14, when the 25th degree, "Master of Achievement," will be presented. Arrangements to see the 4th degree introduction must be made with the office in advance.

If one looks around at society with a critical eye, one can easily discern the sad reality that wealth, the attainment of luxury, and the pursuit of unabashed self interest, have become the qualities by which men are elevated and judged as "successful." Men are elevated to positions of standing and honor, not because of their fitness for a particular office, but because of the property they own or control. Society wholly dismisses the value of virtue and truth as quaint niceties of a bygone era while prostrating itself unto the altars of rank, power and wealth. The materialistic gospel of supply and demand is dutifully worshiped, while the Golden Rule is wholly forgotten. Honesty and purity are obliterated by wholesale selfishness, treachery, avariciousness and vice. Those with special interests employ glib and mercurially minded scribes to craft intricate and voluminous laws so that in their Byzantine construction honesty is diffused and vile cunning is allowed to triumph legally. The great minds of our time are preoccupied by exploiting mass markets for data mining, marketing and the creation of even more effective weapons, poisons and cheap edibles which provide no nutrition, all for profit.

Society expends its collective energy, power and thought to satiate the lower rather than the higher part of human nature, and this unfortunately is the embedded root cause of much of the unhappiness and misery..

As an example, consider a room of gentlemen dining together as opposed to a rowdy mob at a buffet. The gentlemen assist each other, calmly waiting and passing the dishes of food around to each other, helping attain the common good of a satiating meal for all present. The mob, on the other hand, madly rush, shove and push each other aside, the muscular stacking their plates high with food, and in their self-centered hastiness allow food to fall to the ground causing the weaker members of the group to go hungry since there was no food left when they finally arrived at the buffet.

Society behaves in a similar manner when it comes to matters of economic import – like coyotes around a dead deer. Society is oriented towards the self, so each does not typically pull together, but against each other – and this results in enormous waste and misallocation. The large numbers of hard working middle class people who can no longer afford to cope with the cost of housing, food and taxation are a case in point. The chimera of "societal wealth" belies the physical, mental and moral deterioration of much of the population. By elevating might and not right, society has degraded to its savage and unhappy roots of instinct, force and self interest, resulting in moral chaos. Trust and honor, the bond of the handshake (The Law of the Square), have been long gone from daily life. There no longer is a bond between individuals. So long as the self is served society is united, but when interests differ, unresolvable



LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY

Attention all Master Masons!
SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2018

May 7: 32nd degree - Bridgeport
July 14: 25th degree - Bridgeport (11a.m.)

R.S.V.P. required.
Please email: 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.

Valley of Bridgeport 2422 Main Street Stratford, CT 06615 Office@LafayetteConsistory.com 203-375-0064	Valley of New Haven 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven, CT 06511 Kirk_Trofatter_Jr@yahoo.com 203-269-0336	Valley of Waterbury 529 Highland Avenue Waterbury, CT 06708 cdone@bnet.net 203-754-8209
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For more information, contact the Valley near you or email Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com.

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conflict resolved in savagery arises. If society is to experience a revival, it will need men inculcated in the teachings of the Order to bring it about. The core values of the Scottish Rite and the symbolism of the Blue Lodge degrees must be dusted off, understood, and applied personally on a daily basis. Finally, men inculcated in the teachings of the Order, and who have built a Perfect Temple of themselves, must once again rise and govern this land if this, the noblest of all human efforts – the United States of America - is to survive and thrive, as the Land of the Free. It was very well put by A.S. Macbride, “the Mission of Masonry is to substitute the insecure bonds of Instinct, Selfish Interest and Force, by those of Reason, Justice and Love” – , Speculative Masonry, 1924.

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.

We Welcome Our New Brothers to the Fraternity



Joseph C. Downer	Daytime Lodge No. 144
Joshua A. Bentz	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14
Daniel P. Bergeron	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14
Steven Todd M. Austin	Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145
Tessifya E. Dickenson	Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145
James J. Spillman	Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145
Kevin A. Roe	Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34
Joshua R. Ziemski	Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34
Shawn V. Howard	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11
Roderick M. Cornish	Union Lodge No. 31
Elias Sawyer	Union Lodge No. 31
Kevin James Suchomel	Union Lodge No. 31
Miguel A. DeJesus Sr.	Washington Lodge No. 70
Nicholas S. DiRenzo	Washington Lodge No. 70
Ronald DiRenzo	Washington Lodge No. 70
Matthew J. Oszurek	Washington Lodge No. 70

229th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge





Richard A. Hodgson In Memoriam

by Charles W. Yohe



By most accounts, he would have been considered just a common, ordinary man, but those who knew him closely will tell you that he was anything but ordinary. He was a husband, a father, a machinist by trade, a Past Grand Master of Connecticut, and he was my Brother, mentor, and friend. I first met Brother Richard Arnold Hodgson in 1988 when I became an appointed officer in the Grand Lodge line. He served this jurisdiction with distinction during his years in the Grand Line and was elected and installed Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1991.

He was a complex man who led a simple life. He thoroughly enjoyed hunting and fishing, held a private pilot's license for many years, engaged in competitive pistol shooting, and, in his earlier years, raced boats throughout the Eastern U.S. and Canada.

He relished the simple life, often preferring to be out in the woods alone in search of deer and other critters rather than seeking out crowds. He was blessed with a multitude of friends throughout the United States and was able to quickly fit in and assimilate no matter where he went.

After he served as Grand Master in 1991-92, he sold his home in Bozrah to his daughter Anne and son-in-law Brett Chambers and moved to Sun City West, Arizona due to his wife's health and her need to be in a warm, dry climate. Once in Arizona, he became active in Masonry out there and busied himself as a member of the Posse (yes, Arizona still retains volunteers to supplement the paid deputy sheriffs). With his four-legged companion, Tango – a pure bred Arabian that was a perfect complement to Dick – the two of them would ride through the desert area around Sun City and Surprise, off on their own private adventures. He would never reveal his source, but he and Tango would come back with dozens of golf balls. He collected several 5-gallon pails of them and donated them to the youth golf program at Luke Air Force base.

In February 1997, my wife and I were privileged to travel to Arizona for the Nutmegger Reunions that were then held in Tucson and Phoenix. During that trip, we stayed with Dick and Nan Hodgson and thus began a close association and friendship that lasted for the remainder of his life. For some 14 years, we spent Christmas with the Hodgsons in Sun City West. Then, after I retired in November 2000, I started to spend a week or two in February with Dick and Nan in addition to the Christmas time visit. Several years, I even spent time in July visiting.

Dick and I would pass the time playing some golf, traveling to Wickenburg, visiting other notable sites in Arizona, hiking, horseback riding, talking and attending Lodge meetings. Dick was very active in Sun City Lodge No. 72 and eventually ended up as Worshipful Master. He was so highly regarded by the Grand Lodge of Arizona that they made him an honorary Past Grand Master of that Jurisdiction as well. At one point about eleven or twelve years ago, there was a difficult situation that developed in Sun City Lodge that resulted in the removal of the Worshipful Master. In protest, the entire officer line resigned and the Lodge was in danger of closing. The Grand Master at the time contacted MWB Dick and asked him if he would accept an appointment as Worshipful Master and attempt to save the Lodge. Not one to shy away from a challenge, Dick accepted, put together an officer line, and kept the Lodge intact. To this day, the Lodge continues to prosper and grow. Dick was regularly called upon to provide a Masonic Memorial Service for departed Brothers. His delivery of the Connecticut ritual was so impressive that the Grand Lodge of Arizona adopted his version.

MWB Dick was meticulous and precise with everything he did. He was a voracious reader and was very knowledgeable on history. As a machinist and the owner of a tool and die shop, he was used to solving problems and he took pride in doing excellent work. That same attitude spilled over into his hobbies and into Masonry. He was an accomplished craftsman and could turn out excellent work in both wood and metal. On our first visit to Arizona in 1997, I commented on a beautiful octagonal cabinet that sat in the living room. Dick opened it to reveal that it was a gun cabinet with a turntable inside. Looking at it, no one would have ever guessed its contents. In later years, having noted my admiration of that piece, Dick set about creating a similar but shorter cabinet to hold liquor and then fashioned a metal stand for it to sit on, this as a Christmas gift to me. Then he drove to Flagstaff where he met a cross-country, long haul trucker from Connecticut who transported it to his daughter's house in Bozrah for me to pick up. It remains one of my prized possessions, as does the beautiful hunting knife that he crafted for me another year. The best gifts are often ones that are hand-crafted rather than 'store bought.'

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He had an excellent memory and delighted in doing perfect degree work. At one point during his journey in the Grand Line, the Grand Lodge officers were called upon to do a Lodge rededication. Just before they were to enter the Lodge room, it was determined that the Grand Chaplain would not be present. Then Grand Master, MWB Arthur Kratzert, assigned the Chaplain's part to Brother Hodgson and told him he could read it. When it came time for the prayer during the rededication, Dick did it flawlessly from memory. After the evening was concluded, M.W. Kratzert confronted him and he admitted that he was able to memorize it prior to entering the Lodge room.

He was in his 70s when he took a real estate course and became a licensed real estate agent in Arizona. It gave him something to do and helped to supplement his retirement income. He loved meeting people and helping them to assimilate into the Sun Cities area. If there was a problem with a property's location, he wouldn't hesitate to point it out. For instance, one of his clients was looking at a property adjacent to an emergency landing strip for Luke Air Force base. The client commented that he was told by another agent that it was a quiet neighborhood in that the air strip is seldom used. Dick's retort was that, as an emergency strip, when it was used, it would very likely be for an F-16 that was experiencing mechanical issues and that there was a good chance that such a landing would be eventful and very noisy.

During his last couple of years in Arizona, just prior to his wife, Natalie, dying, I visited and Dick asked me what I wanted to do. I said I would like to play some golf, but I could tell that he was in a lot of pain, so I gave him an out. Dick's response was that he was going to be in pain sitting at home, so we might just as well be out in the fresh air and sunshine. Even in that condition, he still beat me almost every time we played.

The last round I played with him was here in Connecticut at Annawon Lodge's William Soderman golf tournament. By that time, the medical condition that had gone mis-diagnosed for several years had gotten the best of him and it was painful for me to see how he had physically deteriorated. But true to his character, he was willing to suffer through the adversity to support the cause and to fulfill his promise to me that he would play.

In his final years, when his memory started to be affected due to his physical ailment, he used to quip that "the memory bank is fine, it's just the retrieval system that is slow." He was so disturbed by poor ritual work that when he presided over my installation as Grand Master in 2015 and missed a part because the unbound papers got mixed up, he vowed never to do Masonic ritual again. He felt that if he could not maintain the high level of proficiency which he felt Masonic ritual deserved, then it was time to let someone else pick up and carry the baton.

Most Worshipful Brother Richard Arnold Hodgson, you, my Brother, will be sorely missed. Farewell, my Brother.



The Grand Master's Golf Tournament will be returning this fall!

After being off the Masonic calendar for a while, the tournament is returning this September to benefit the Grand Almoner's Fund. The tournament will be a four-man scramble format, and entry fees will include a cart, box lunch and dinner.

The date is Wednesday, September 12, at the Traditions Golf Club in Wallingford. Tee off is 10 a.m.

Save the date and watch for the upcoming ad in *Connecticut Freemasons*.



D1 W19 Pin Presentation



Photosclockwise

MWB Ted Nelson presents a 50-year pin to Brother William Winter

RWB Bruce Belmore presents Brother Winter his certificate

RWB Stephen Petri presents Brother Richard Sheitinger with his 50-year pin.

RWB Maury Heim presents Brother Richard Sheitinger with his certificate



Unity Lodge No. 148 Raises Funds for Leukemia Patient

In July 2017, Owen Hanecak, 14-month old son of *Fisherman Magazine* field editor John Hanecak, was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. Owen has been courageously battling the disease for nearly a year and has seven more years of treatments to go. The treatment costs and medical bills continue to build up.

Unity Lodge No. 148, with the New Britain Assembly Rainbow Girls and the Nathan Hale Chapter of DeMolay teamed up to raise funds to support little Owen and his family! They put on a fabulous Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on March 3 and raised \$1265. All are to be commended for such a great display of charity. It was truly appreciated by little Owen's Family!

Unity Lodge No. 148 Helps Homeless Veterans

by Kevin Tate

On March 10, brothers from Unity Lodge No. 147, with a brother from Fredrick Franklin Lodge No. 14, delivered a care package to Dinda House, a transitional shelter for homeless combat veterans. The Dinda House was named after Connecticut's first fallen soldier in the Vietnam war Michael Dinda. It provides shelter for approximately nine veterans, along with counseling and employment assistance, to help them transition to a better situation.

The Unity Lodge care package of personal hygiene products, undershirts, pajamas and socks, was received with a true appreciation from the residents and Directors Shannon Frye and Nancy Deka!

Dinda House is in need of wash cloths, towels, gift cards for groceries, and cards for Subway, McDonald's or Dunkin Donuts. Many of the residents come to the house hungry, and those shops are within walking distance. Unity Lodge plans to include those items in the next care package, sometime in May.

Worshipful Master Kevin Tate extends his gratitude to all who donated and all who participated in the presentation. It truly was a touching moment!





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and
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FRIDAY, JUNE 22
6:00-9:00 PM

MASONICARE AT ASHLAR VILLAGE
74 CHESHIRE ROAD, WALLINGFORD

- ☞ Fine wines and beers
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- ☞ Raffle prizes
- ☞ Souvenir wine glass

\$45 PER PERSON
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*Must be at least 21 years
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Called By The Grand Architect

John W. Calvert	Widow's Son Lodge No. 66
Kenneth E. Caswell	Washington Lodge No. 70
Derek E. Corbett	Harmony Lodge No. 67
Marvin M. Cremer	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140
Robert S. Darling	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140
Melvin T. Davis	Moriah Lodge No. 15
Harry R. Hammond	Moriah Lodge No. 15
Milton G. Jensen Sr	Manchester Lodge No. 73
Ernest A. Knecht	Washington Lodge No. 19
Donald G. Leslie	Composite Lodge No. 28
Harold J. Levy	America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
Carl H. Lohmann	Meridian Lodge No. 77
Roy W. Lund Jr	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89
Cecil Mann	Old Well - St. John's Lodge No. 6
John P. Marabella	Harmony Lodge No. 67
George M. McGugan	Coastal Lodge No. 57
Arthur D. McMellon	Temple Lodge No. 16
Hayden A. Patten	Uriel Lodge No. 24
Bernard Roth	King Solomons Lodge No. 7
Manly M. Simons	Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78
Earl J. Swan III	St. Alban's Lodge No. 38
Julius N. Toth	Compass Lodge No. 9
George E. Wadsworth Sr.	Bay View Lodge No. 120
Charles F. Wochomurka Jr	Uriel Lodge No. 24

Valley of Hartford, AASR

by David R. Blythe Sr.

Freemasonry teaches the principles of benevolence and morality, the existence of a Supreme Being, the Resurrection of the Body and the Immortality of the Soul. Those who have gone beyond the first three degrees of Masonry and become Scottish Rite Masons, have also learned through the various portrayed degrees the added lessons of Reverence for God, Integrity, Justice, Tolerance, Devotion to Country, and Service to Humanity.

These teachings, along with the lasting friendships made, are perhaps the main reason why this organization has endured over the years and become the world wide organization preferred by men.

As the Valley of Hartford welcomes its newest brethren, the 2018 Spring Class, it is hoped they got everything out of the degree work that they were looking for, and that they got to know the members and that they were the type of men that they want to know better. It is hoped they consider getting involved with future degrees portrayals too. All have different talents and it is hoped that the Valley can offer a place to use these talents and to build new friendships with members not yet met.

The end of another Scottish Rite year is approaching. On May 3, at the Annual Meeting, the Valley will elect officers for the upcoming 2018-2019 Scottish Rite year. On May 10, at the yearly Worker's Night Appreciation Banquet, these newly elected officers will be installed. The year will close on Sunday, June 10, at the Annual Family Picnic, at which time scholarships will be presented to the recipients.

* * * * *

As this year draws to a close, I feel that it is now time for me to step aside as Valley Secretary and allow someone else to take over the secretarial duties. I want to thank all of the members with whom I have been associated over these past 14 years, and to thank you all for your support and confidence in allowing me to serve the Valley. I will be available to the new Secretary and officers to answer questions. I plan to attend degree nights, health permitting, too.

I want to leave you all with one thought: no matter what it might be, only you can make the Valley of Hartford a strong organization. Always keep in mind the Scottish Rite motto, that no matter what we do for charity, or what we do in assisting a brother in distress, the motto always will be Inspiration, Convenience, and Enjoyment.

* * * * *

If your Blue Lodge is looking for a program, there are members who are willing to travel to your Lodge and put on a Scottish Rite informational program. Contact Ill. Brothers Ric Manner, 33^o, at ric@sandshark2.com, Bro. Frank Dlugoleski, M.S.A, at fdlugoleski@gmail.com, or Ill. Brother Jeff Flynn, 33^o, at jedge60@yahoo.com,

There are also informational DVD's available upon request. Contact the Valley office at (860) 666-0712 any Monday, Wednesday, or Friday morning, or via email at sect@snet.net.

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

Valley of Hartford

207 Deming Street, Newington, CT

UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

Thursday, May 3, Annual Meeting and Election
of 2018-2019 Officers

UPCOMING JUNE EVENTS

Sunday, June 10, Annual Picnic & Scholarship Awards Night

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Contact David Blythe Sr., 33^o, Valley Secretary, Valley of
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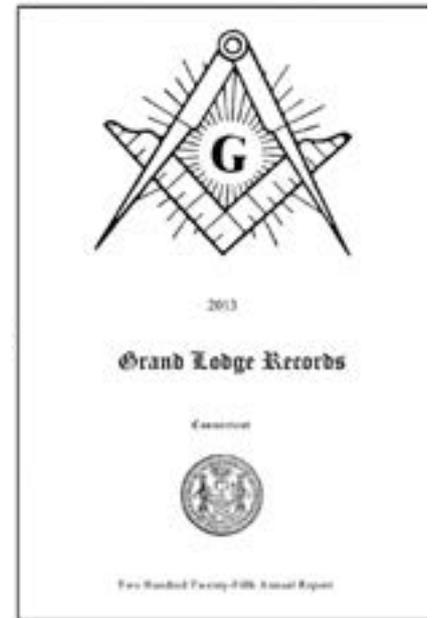
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for Bro. Thomas M. Maxwell II, MW Grand Master**

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Craft at Labor

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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 May 22 5:30 p.m., Fayette Lodge No. 69, Ellington

Wed June 6 7:30 p.m., St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, Litchfield

FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES

Mon May 14 7:30 p.m., Washington Lodge No. 7, Windsor, Dinner

Tue May 15 6:30 p.m., America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford, Dinner
Scottish Rite Degree Team

Tue May 15 7:30 p.m., Coastal Lodge No. 57, Stonington, Dinner

Fri May 18 7:45 p.m., Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford

Thu May 24 7:00 p.m., Temple Lodge No. 65, Westport, Dinner

MASTER MASON DEGREES

Thu May 3 6:15 p.m., Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, Dinner

Wed May 16 7:30 p.m., Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven

Sat May 19 7:30 p.m., Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149, Stratford

Fri June 1 7:30 p.m., Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, Dinner

Mon June 11 5:30 p.m., Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, Dinner

Tue June 12 6:30 p.m., Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78, Niantic

Craft at Refreshment

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

All times are supplied by the lodges. The CT Freemasons 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., Masters Round Table & 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 and 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 Rd Orange CT 06477**

Second, Fourth Wednesday of the Month, Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford, 7p.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 night at 7p.m.

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

Continued on page 28

Craft at Refreshment *(continued)*

EVENTS

Tue May 1 6:30 p.m., America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford, Awards Night with dinner

Wed May 2 7:30 p.m., Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven, Cinco de Mayo Celebration

Fri May 4 6 p.m., Annawon Lodge No. 115, West Haven, Beef & Beer Fest, \$25/ticket. Contact Frank Mangiero 203-606-4959 or Dennis Frosolone 203-233-2328

Sat May 5 8 a.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1 New Haven, Life Haven Clean-up, Clean up before renovations.

Sat May 5 9 a.m., Annawon Lodge No. 115 West Haven, Lodge Cleanup Day Inside and outside. Bring yard tools, etc.

Sat May 5 4 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 Woodbury, Derby on the Rock Break out the fancy hats and Mint Juleps it's the Kentucky Derby!

Sat May 5 5 p.m., Columbia Lodge No. 25 South Glastonbury, Kentucky Derby Night

Sun May 6 8 a.m., Putnam Lodge No. 46 Woodstock, Mother's Day Breakfast \$8 per person

Mon May 7 7 p.m., Compass Lodge No. 9 Wallingford, Ladies at Table

Sat May 12 8:30 a.m., Temple Lodge No. 65, Westport, Red Cross Blood Drive

Sun May 13 8 a.m., Compass Lodge No. 9 Wallingford, Happy Mothers Day *** NO BREAKFAST*** Due to Mothers Day breakfast is canceled for May.

Wed May 16 7:30 p.m., Columbia Lodge No. 25 South Glastonbury, Awards Night

Sat May 19 7 a.m., Washington Lodge No. 70 Windsor, Shad Derby Breakfast. The first of the day's Shad Derby events, we will be serving breakfast in the dining room of the Lodge.

Sat May 19 8 a.m., Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 Newington, Red Cross Blood Drive & Breakfast

Sat May 19 10 a.m., Washington Lodge No. 70 Windsor, Shad Derby Festival Tent and CHIPS Event Come to our food tent on the Windsor Green along with tent for the CT Child Identification Program.

Sat May 19 12 p.m., Montgomery Lodge No. 13 Lakeville, Lobster Sales Lobsters & Clams to Go. Pick up your orders between 4 pm and 6 pm. Call Montgomery Lodge at 1-860-435-9722 to place your order.

Sat May 19 12 p.m., Coastal Lodge No. 57. Stonington, Annual Awards Ceremony

Sat May 19 6 p.m., Annawon Lodge No. 115. West Haven, Mason of the Year Celebration honoring Br. Jim Jennette Dinner is \$30 per person or \$55 per couple at 6pm.

Sat May 26 7 a.m., Washington Lodge No. 70 Windsor, Blood Drive **Sat May 26 9 a.m.**, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 Newington, Newington Memorial Day Parade & Family Picnic

Sun May 27 10 a.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7. Woodbury, Memorial Day Parade

Mon May 28 8:30 a.m., Compass Lodge No. 9. Wallingford, Memorial Day Parade Meet at the lodge at 8:30 a.m. and walk to Dutton park for 9 a.m. starting point.

Mon May 28 9:30 a.m., Annawon Lodge No. 115. West Haven, Memorial Day Parade and Cookout. We will open Lodge at 9:30 a.m. and depart at 9:50 a.m. for the Memorial Day Parade staging area. We will close Lodge after the parade. Refreshments and a cookout immediately following the parade compliments of the Annawon Lodge Fellow Craft Club.

Wed May 30 6 p.m., Harmony Lodge No. 42. Waterbury, District Deputy Presentation. Join us as we formally receive our own WB Marty Macary, DD and WB Dan Sharkis, AGM.

Sun June 3 1p.m., Annawon Lodge No. 115. West Haven, Duckpin Bowling Fundraiser

Mon June 4 6 p.m., Compass Lodge No. 9. Wallingford, Awards Night

The updated Rules & Regulations through October 2017 are now available. If you want the update, you have two options:

You can go to the GL website, login as a member, and go to the tab "Masons Only." Within the Masons Only section scroll down to "Rules & Regulations" and at the bottom of that page click on the document and download. This is the complete set of Rules, Regulations, Jurisprudence and Nickerson's Digest and is a searchable PDF. Great for saving to a smart phone, tablet or home computer for research. You can have the revised pages mailed to you in print form.

If you wish to receive the paper update, would you please contact our staff member, Erika Cortezano, so we may update our files. Her email address is ECortezano@Masonicare.org or you can send her a note to the Grand Lodge office. Printed replacement pages will only be sent upon request.

Grant Gould
Grand Secretary

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If your name does not appear and you feel that you should be on the list, please contact us.*

Call for Nominations for Board Service

April 12, 2018

To Prospective Board Members:

By this notice, the Board of Trustees of Masonicare hereby issues a Call for Nominations of candidates for election to the Board of Trustees of Masonicare. In addition, Masonicare requests nominations for candidates for appointment to the boards of its affiliates: Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Masonicare at Home, Masonicare at Newtown, Masonicare Health Center, Masonicare Home Health & Hospice, Masonic Management Services, and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. To be considered for service, nominees need not specify in which board they are interested in serving. Interested individuals should request a Nomination Application by completing and returning the questionnaire below.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO ME AND POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 2018. APPLICANTS WILL BE CONTACTED TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEWS.

Nominees should have qualifications in business, corporate leadership, finance, law or medicine, which qualify them for board service. Candidates should be aware that board members assume fiduciary duties with respect to their service, and that violation of these duties can entail personal liability. Service on our boards requires a considerable time commitment, varying with the needs of each corporation. While Masonicare's board is comprised of those who are specifically members of the Masonic fraternity or related appendant bodies, affiliate board membership may also contain qualified members of the local community.

MASONICARE is the Parent Corporation of our system, and all nominees must be members in good standing of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, with the exception of three who shall be members in good standing, and appointed one each from The Grand Chapter of Connecticut, Order of the Eastern Star; the Order of the Amaranth, State of Connecticut; and Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Connecticut. The Board of Trustees is composed of no less than twelve but no more than fifteen members. Three seats must be filled annually by members in good standing of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, through the nomination and election process. The term of service on this board is three years, commencing in November 2018.

THE TERM OF SERVICE FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICE LINES OF MASONICARE IS ONE YEAR, COMMENCING IN NOVEMBER 2018.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES has a board of at least seven, but no more than fourteen, members and governs Residential Services which represents Independent Living and Assisted Living, specifically Masonicare at Ashlar Village and Masonicare at Mystic .

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HEALTHCARE SERVICES, has a board of at least seven, but no more than fourteen members which represents skilled nursing, short-term rehab, outpatient clinics, primary care and hospital services, specifically Masonicare Health Center, Masonicare at Newtown and Masonic Management Services.

THE MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT , has a board of at least seven, but no more than nineteen members which safeguards and nurtures the system's assets, including the Endowment Fund, and houses our planned giving and development efforts. The board seats which are not filled through this nomination process will be filled (a) through the appointment of cross-directors from the parent corporation board, (b) through the appointment of the corporation's Senior Administrator to the board, (c) through the appointment of residents to the board, and/or (d) through the appointment of an officer of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, to the board.

Please feel free to address any questions you may have regarding this process to Jon-Paul Venoit, President and CEO, 203-679-5000 or jvenoit@masonicare.org. Thank you for your assistance and participation.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Robert F. Polito, Chairman
Nominating Committee

Request for Application for Board Service

Requests for a Nomination Application can be completed by returning the attached request. Once completed, the form should be sent to Robert F. Polito, Chairman of the Masonicare Nominating Committee, via U.S. Postal Service to the address listed below; by Facsimile to 203-679-5001; or you may send the information electronically to droemmele@masonicare.org. A Nomination Application will be sent to all applicants for completion. The Nomination Application may be returned via U.S. Postal Service, Facsimile, or electronically. Please indicate your preference.

Robert F. Polito, Chairman
Masonicare Nominating Committee
Masonicare
22 Masonic Avenue, P.O. Box 70
Wallingford, CT 06492

Name: _____

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Letters and advertisements may be sent to the Editor Frank Way at 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.

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

Mentoring - Continued Importance, Continued Emphasis

by Charles W. Yohe

In late March, the Committee for Masonic Education (CME) sponsored a very worthwhile seminar regarding mentoring. In my mind, every Lodge in Connecticut should have had representation at this seminar, but many did not. The attendees heard an excellent presentation by MWB Gary Arseneau, who runs a very successful mentoring program at Friendship Lodge No. 33 in Southington. MWB Arseneau generously agreed to provide an electronic copy of all the mentoring materials that he has developed over the years. So, every attendee now has access to the materials that Friendship utilizes – and no one needed to “recreate the wheel” so to speak.

Last year’s Grand Master had mentorship as one of his points of emphasis and our current Grand Master, MWB Marshall K. Robinson, has announced that mentoring is his main program as well. It is his belief that a new Brother, properly mentored, will remain an active Mason for life. Almost every successful businessman, no matter his profession, will acknowledge the importance and impact that one or more mentors had in contributing to his success. Certainly, the same thing can be said about our beloved Fraternity.

More than twenty-five years ago, a Grand Master asserted that Masonry’s success and growth involves two ships – leadership and membership. Yes, as many Lodges have painfully discovered, a decline in membership leads to an inability to pay the bills and maintain the physical Lodge premises. However, any Lodge that does not have strong and effective leadership will find it is a fool’s errand to bring in new members. That is simply because without the proper leadership and mentorship, most of those new members will simply not stick around.

This dynamic is why strong, well managed Lodges tend to become stronger and larger, while weak Lodges with ineffective leadership become weaker and eventually wither away. In his comments to our Grand Lodge session on Monday, MWB Peter Iacobucci, Grand Master of Rhode Island, noted that Grand Lodge can create dozens of worthwhile programs, but those programs are meaningless to the Lodges that do not or will not utilize them.

Those who read last month’s column will recall that I made the statement that Masonry is a highly personal thing. The Brother to Brother connection is all important. Mentoring goes hand in hand with that idea. Just as a baby requires personal attention and love to develop into a healthy child, every new Mason requires the caring and attention that proper mentoring can provide.

Mentoring is not just helping the candidate learn his lectures. That is a very small part of mentoring. Mentoring requires the development of a close bond with the candidate, showing an interest in him and his family, guiding him through his degrees and helping to acclimate him to the Lodge and to Masonry in general. It involves the mentor living Masonry in his relationship with the mentee.

The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction has, as a mission statement, the following: “***We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our Masonic Obligation to care for our members.***” Should that not be what each of us, as Masons, endeavors to do? It isn’t always about monetary assistance. Sometimes, it is just being a shoulder to lean on or a willingness to listen. Masons sometimes get so caught up in the ritual that they forget to apply it to the situation at hand.

If you want your Lodge to continue in existence and to get stronger, then you, the members, need to make an honest assessment of your Lodge’s leadership and what things your Lodge is doing that supports and encourages growth as well as what things hinder that growth and need to be changed or eliminated. It is really very simple, are you living up to the Masonic Obligation that you assumed? Is your Lodge functioning in a way that provides the necessary encouragement and support? How valuable and important is Masonry to you? Are you looking to learn, grow, and be able to give back? Or are you only in Masonry for what you perceive it can give you? I can tell you that every Masonic mentor that I’ve had has given of themselves without any consideration of receiving anything beyond the satisfaction of knowing that they helped to guide and mold another Brother.

Mentorship is complemented by the Perfect Ashlar, Hiram the Builder, and Mentorship awards. The Perfect Ashlar award is for first year Masons and the Hiram the Builder award must be completed in two years. Information about, and applications for all three of these awards may be found on the Grand Lodge website under the Masons Only tab.

For those who may not have the benefit of a Lodge that has an established mentoring program, what can you do? My advice is that you should travel and seek as much information as you can by attending CME seminars. The CME seminars are open to all

Continued on page 33

Continued from page 32

Master Masons and they've even started holding a seminar especially directed at new Masons. By traveling to other Lodges, you will experience the nuances that are existent within Masonry. No two Lodges are exactly alike, just as no two Masons are alike. Somewhere along the line in your travels, you will experience things that resonate particularly well with you. By traveling, you will broaden your knowledge and make new friends. Don't be afraid to travel to Lodges in Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island, or Massachusetts. Many have special events at various times of the year. The more you travel, the more you will learn and the more likely you will be to hear about special programs that other Lodges are presenting. If you are so inclined, attend the Grand Lodge annual and semi-annual sessions. As a Master Mason, you are automatically a member of Grand Lodge and, as such, although you can't vote, you are welcome to attend, providing you have a current dues card.

My last bit of advice is directed especially toward those who have been a member for more than a year or two. Once you are firmly grounded in "Blue Lodge" Masonry, investigate the opportunities afforded by the York Rite and Scottish Rite bodies. You may find a whole new world that opens up to you. But above all, do your best to fulfill your Masonic Obligation! By so doing, you will improve yourself, your Lodge, and the world around you.

Masons Celebrate Easter With A Family Pancake Breakfast

by Donald M. Casey, Jr.

Masons from America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, in Stratford, celebrated Easter with their annual Family Pancake Breakfast. Children participated in an egg hunt and had their picture taken with the Easter Bunny. Masons from the Pyramid Shrine Temple Clown Unit provided entertainment with balloon twisting animals, hats, and crafts.



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Grand Commandery's 191st Annual Conclave

The Grand Commandery of Connecticut held their 191st Annual Conclave on April 14 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Meriden. Sir Knight Charles A. McCollum, Right Eminent Grand Commander, presided over the quick and efficient session that saw equal parts of business, seriousness and humor.

After being piped in by SK Darrin Silhavy, the Right Eminent Grand Commander quickly got to work. Lines were formed for reception, each Commandery represented by their Eminent Commander or his designee, under the command of SK Craig Nelson, Grand Senior Warden. Dignitaries from other jurisdictions, including the Grand Commanders of the other jurisdictions in the Northeast Department were received.

Sir Knight and Illustrious Brother Bruce T. Work represented the Scottish Rite, and York Rite was represented by Most Excellent Grand High Priest Martin Ede and Most Puissant Grand Master Clyde W. Kayser. ESK James R. McConnell, Northeast Department Commander, and Reverend and ESK William D. Hartman, Right Eminent Grand Prelate were also received through the lines, and finally, RWB Bruce R. Bellmore, Grand Senior Deacon, representing MWB Marshall K. Robinson, was received and welcomed by REGC McCollum.

Following the reception, the Grand Commandery was opened for business. Various reports were read and voted. The legislation proposal, to join with Grand Chapter and Grand Council for a York Rite weekend in May or June must lay over until next year but further study will be done regarding the timing of the weekend – many other Grand Commanderies meet during that time period and it may be difficult to avoid conflicts.

The budget was approved, including an increase in the per capita assessment of \$7. Because of a large net loss of Sir Knights, even a budget that did not grow required the increase. With only 10 percent of Connecticut Masons holding membership in Knights Templar Commanderies, there is a large available pool of brethren from which to recruit and the Knights were urged to make an effort to introduce brethren who are not York Rite Masons to the light that the York Rite has to offer.

The Right Eminent Grand Commander presented the Robert Colburn & Robert DiPasquale Traveling Bible to Washington Commandery No. 1 for the ensuing year.

After assembling the Right Eminent Grand Commanders of the other jurisdictions in the East, he made them all Honorary Members of the Grand Commandery of Connecticut. The response on behalf of the Grand Commanders was made by SK Stenrick Adams, Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New York.

He presented his official report, highlights of which included recommendations for an improved inspection format that more accurately reflects the true state of each Commandery, given that inspection solely on the Order of the Temple may not always give a true picture.

The election of officers was held and ESK Paul L. Chello was elected Right Eminent Grand Commander for 2018-2019.

Remarks were offered throughout the session by the dignitaries present. SK James R. McConnell offered his last remarks as Northeast Department Commander, as it is the last year of his three year term. SK William D. Hartman, Right Eminent Grand Prelate, brought the greetings of Most Eminent Grand Master Duane Lee Vaught, and RWB Bruce Bellmore brought the greetings of MWB Marshall K. Robinson, Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut.

The session was adjourned and the assembled Sir Knights went to lunch.

The installation of Grand Commandery officers was convened at 3 p.m. SK Paul L. Chello was installed as Right Eminent Grand Commander. SK Michael E. Seamon was installed Very Eminent Deputy Grand Commander, SK James McNeely IV was installed as Eminent Generalissimo and SK Craig Nelson was installed as Eminent Captain General, SK William Passera was installed as Eminent Grand Senior Warden and SK and SK Edward C. Page was installed Eminent Grand Junior Warden. SK Edward Ham was installed as Grand Treasurer and SK Vincent A. Cowie was installed Grand Recorder.

REGC Chello appointed and installed SK William E. Weisert II as Eminent Grand Prelate, SK B. Earle Canfield as Eminent Grand Standard Bearer, SK Francis G. Way as Eminent Grand Sword Bearer and SK Rinaldo Magliano as Eminent Grand Warden. SK George A. Mudry V, of New Haven Commandery No. 2, was installed Eminent Grand Sentinel.

Continued on page 35

REGC Chello indicated that inspections this year would be performed on the Order of the Temple, and that the Grand Commandery Officer line would, as they did last year, perform the inspections. REGC Chello also urged the officers and all Sir Knights to increase and improve their knowledge of Templary and to be prepared to give a short talk on any subject related thereto.

The Grand Commandery banquet commenced at 6:30 p.m.. REGC McCollum was again piped in by SK Silhavy, and this time, being at refreshment, REGC McCollum “paid the piper.”

Meals were served and enjoyed while Sir Knights and Ladies listened to several speeches, and presentations.

SK William L. Miller, REPGC, presented scholarships from the Knight Templar Education Foundation, Division of Connecticut. Rachel Drost, daughter of SK Stu Drost, REPGC, received a scholarship, and she accepted one on behalf of her brother Kyle (who was not present). SK Charles B. Fowler, Jr., REPGC, and his Lady Muff, accepted scholarships on behalf of their grandchildren, Jennifer and Alec Newton, and Ben and Tyler Moulton.

Several surprises were in store during the evening as well. SK Craig Nelson, Eminent Grand Captain General, was awarded the Knight Commander of the Temple (KCT). After the award was placed around his neck by his lady Virginia, she was surprised to receive the Companion of the Temple award from SK James T. McConnell, Northeast Department Commander.

SK Francis G. Way, Eminent Grand Sword Bearer, was also surprised with an award, receiving the Knights Templar Cross of Honor (KTCH) from SK William D. Hartman, Right Eminent Grand Prelate.

Following the presentations, RWB Bruce R. Bellmore offered a short speech and benediction, and the Sir Knights and Ladies retired to the hospitality room for more fellowship and conversation.

The session concluded, Templary in Connecticut is now in the very able hands of REGC Paul Chello and his line of officers.



REGC McCollum paying the piper, SK Silhavy • Rachel Drost is presented her scholarship by REPGC Miller, while her father, REPGC Drost looks on. ESK Craig Nelson receives the KCT (l-r) REGC McCollum, ESK Nelson, Lady Virginia Nelson, NE Dept Cmdr McConnell, REPGC Drost, Past NE Dept Cmdr Cowie. ESK Nelson offers remarks after receiving the KCT.



Lady Virginia Nelson receives the Companion of the Temple award.
 ESK Francis Way receive the KTCH from SK William D. Hartman, RE Grand Prelate
 REGC McCollum presiding over his session
 REGC McCollum with other Grand Commanders, while making them honorary members of Grand Commandery of CT.



Lines formed for reception.

Photos: (credit: 001-006 William A. G. Mackey, 007-009 Arnold S. Grot)

Join us for our annual ★ Grand Masters Day Family Festival ★

Saturday, June 9, 2018
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

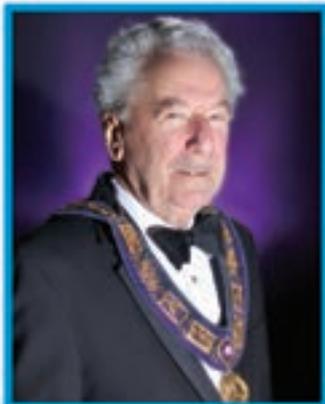
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- **Parade (10:30)**
- Free children's rides & activities for toddlers to teens
- Concert under the main tent with Tuxedo Junction Big Band (12:45 p.m.)
- Free horse & carriage rides
- Bloodmobile (9:30 - 1:30)
- Great reasonably priced food including an expanded assortment of food trucks including cheeseburgers, pizza, baked potatoes, barbeque, grilled cheese & more.
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- Model Railroad Room
- Health fair with free screenings
- Face painting & crafts
- Vendor booths

FREE!
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**Brother
Marshall K. Robinson**
Most Worshipful Grand Master,
Grand Lodge of CT, A.F. & A.M.



**Brother
David Pinkins**
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