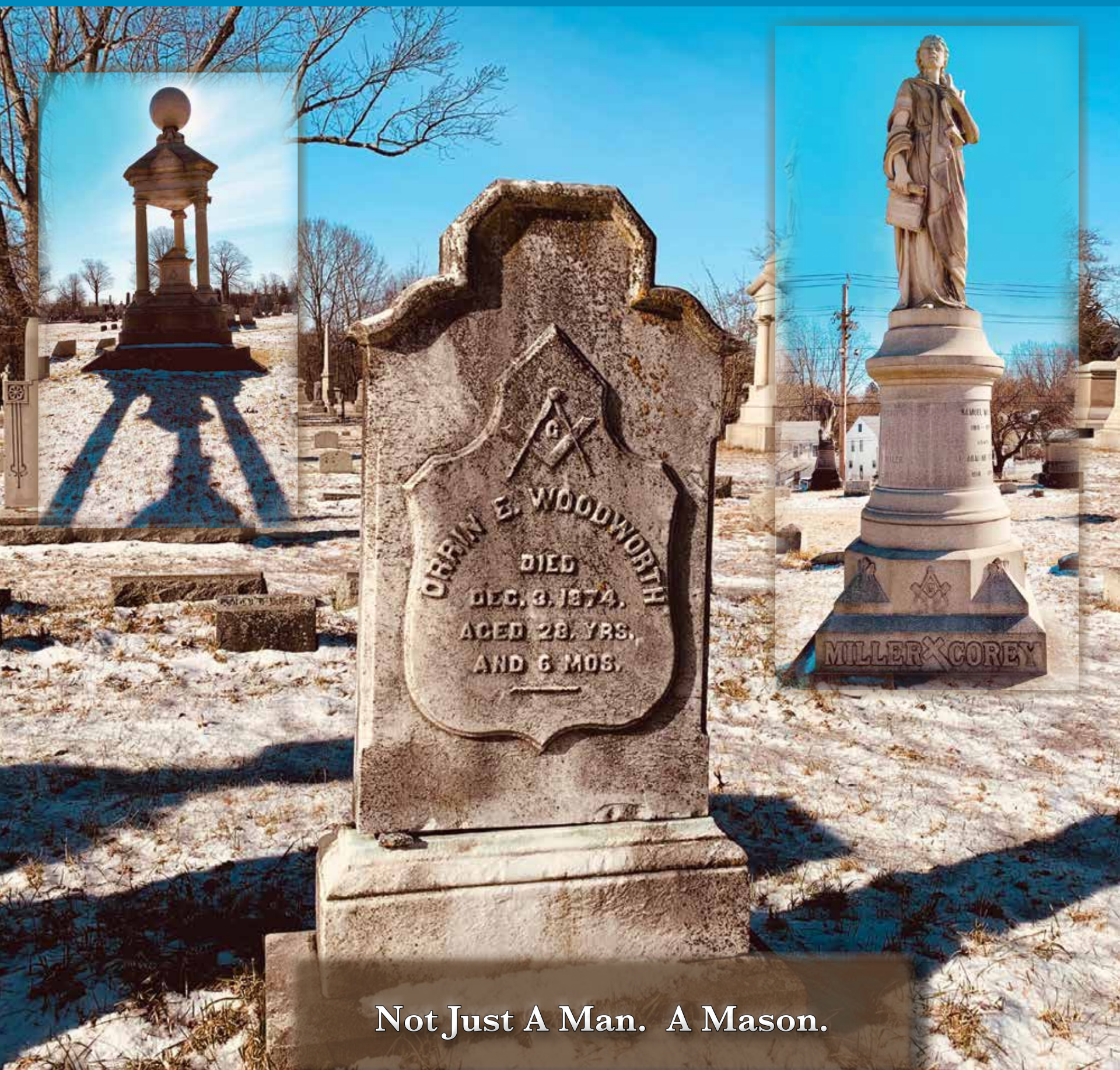




March 2019

# Connecticut FREEMASONS



Not Just A Man. A Mason.



*Officers of the  
Grand Lodge of Connecticut  
A.F. & A.M. 2018- 2019*



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

*Photos from cover story: "A Tombstone Tourist"*



# Table of Contents

A Tombstone Tourist .....	3
Grand Master's Message.....	5
Welcome to Our New Brothers .....	5
How to Submit Photos .....	6
Called by the Grand Architect .....	6
The Desk of Jon-Paul Venoit.....	7
Congratulations to Our 50-Year Brothers.....	7
The Desk of the Grand Chaplain .....	8
Carol Ann McCormick Joins Masonicare .....	8
Grand Historian's Corner.....	9
Congratulations to Our 75-Year Brother .....	9
PDD Assoc. Luncheon Reservation Form .....	10
<b>Call to 230th Annual Communication &amp;</b>	
Dinner Reservation Form .....	11 & 13
Grand Lodge Committee on Legal Matters .....	12
From Darkness to Light: Scholarships .....	14
Masonicare Trustee Emeritus RWB Charles Maxson 15	
District 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 .....	16 - 21
Cedars are Growing in Connecticut .....	21
Losing In Masonry.....	22
Entered Apprentice Degree Observations .....	23
Pyramid Shriners .....	24
Marketing. Do We Need It?.....	25
COCA CT Freemasons Hockey Night Update .....	26
Valley of Hartford, AASR.....	27
Craft at Refreshment / Craft at Labor.....	28 - 29
Donate Life .....	30
Children's Dyslexia Center Expands .....	31
Booster Lists .....	32 - 33
Tuscan Lodge & Adah Chapter Helping Hands.....	34
Wolf Pack & CT Freemasons Family Day .....	35

Letters, articles and advertisements  
may be sent to the Editor Frank Way at  
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# A Tombstone Tourist *by Jeffrey Blayman*

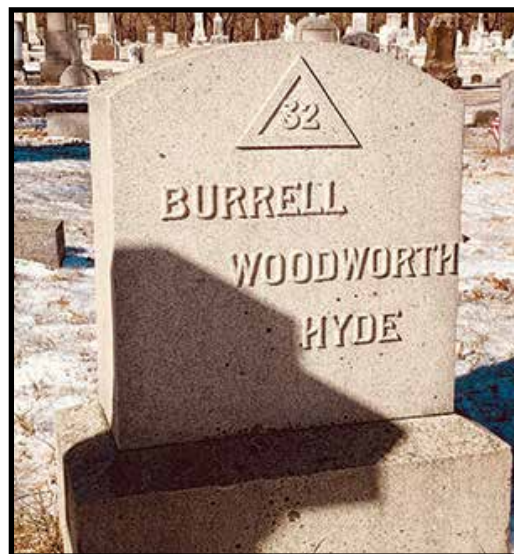
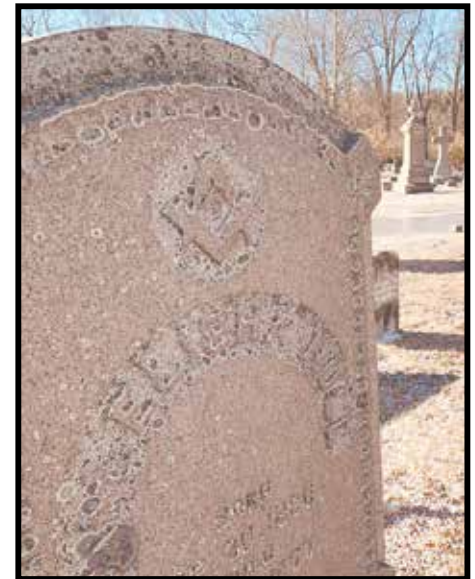
As someone who loves to wander cemeteries in search of a certain something, I would encourage brothers to do the same during these colder months when the solitude found will be strangely therapeutic. It is akin to visiting a museum containing rarely seen sculpture, intricate carvings, and amazing architecture, all in a serene outdoor setting.

The ties to Masonry abound as one discovers the perfect ashlar used to construct everything from the simplest foot stone embedded in the earth to the walls of mausoleums adorned with carvings and the family name of those inside. What makes these silent safaris so powerful is locating brothers long past and admiring the familiar markings of the Craft chiseled onto their stones. A compass and square for some, a 32nd degree double-headed eagle for others, a Sir Knight's cross and crown, a bit of Latin revealing their hope is with God, and more. Each discovery is a little more exciting than the last, acting as a constant reminder of our obligation and commitment to that great light in Masonry.

Consider this a fraternal field trip for one and head out to explore. If and when you find a Brother's grave; stand silently, your body erect, face the east and, give that Brother one last *So Mote it Be* for a life well lived.

## *The Winter Cemetery*

*Sentinels standing guard  
Lonely tombstones in a winter graveyard  
They stand, with icy stare  
Cold, slimy, green and bare  
Centuries standing there  
Forever frozen in time, rigid, hard  
— C. Moorman*





**NEVER  
PAY DUES  
AGAIN!**

## The Grand Lodge has adopted a **Lifetime Membership Plan.**

- ★ Once purchased, you opt out of your local Lodge dues and Grand Lodge assessments.
- ★ Your Lodge, through the Plan, receives your dues until your 50th year of membership.
- ★ Upon your passing your Lodge still receives your dues benefit for an additional 10 years.
- ★ Regardless of your financial situation, once the Plan is purchased, you can't be dropped for non-payment of dues.
- ★ Applications and quotes for the Lifetime Membership Plan are **FREE**.
- ★ **Never pay dues again. Apply today!**
- ★ Contact your Lodge Secretary or Grand Lodge for an application. Grand Secretary: [grandsecretary@ctfreemasons.net](mailto:grandsecretary@ctfreemasons.net)

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.

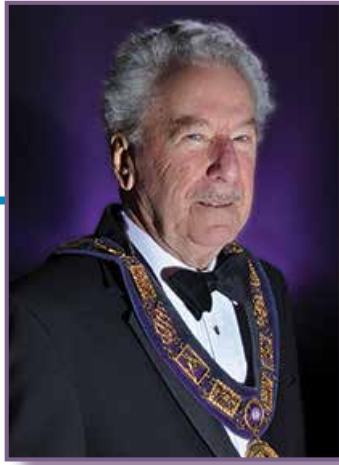
**Letters, articles and advertisements may be sent to the Editor Frank Way at [submissions@ctfreemasons.net](mailto:submissions@ctfreemasons.net) or 860-659-7416.** All submissions are required by the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. Please note: The Grand Lodge AF & AM of Connecticut, does 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.

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# Grand Master's Message

by Marshall K. Robinson

## ***"Lost Dog. Reward."***

How many of these homemade pastel signs have you seen in the last couple of years? I see them every day and am convinced that the pets are lost to coyotes, mountain lions or other animals. I won't say it's an epidemic but it is growing.

All right Marshall, where are you going with this?

My brothers, we have a parallel situation in Masonry. Think about those pastel colored homemade signs that we see so often on phone poles, trees, and other places that announce a lost pet. There could just as easily be signs that read "Lost Mason. If found, please return to XYZ Lodge."

While those Masons may not be exactly lost because they are still "out there"

paying their dues and maintaining their membership, and in that way supporting the fraternity and keeping their good standing, somewhere along the line either we let them down or they found more interesting things to do on lodge night. Perhaps a little of each. We have beaten this topic up ad nauseum and I don't have the answer. If I did, I'd be something of a Masonic hero.

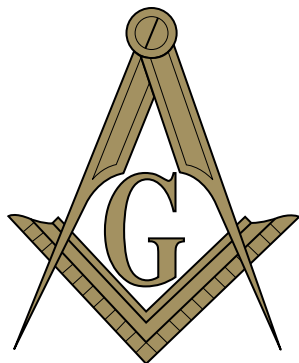
If I were an artist, I'd include a Lost Mason poster with this short article but I'm not, so let your imagination run wild with it.

You may be wondering "What's going on in his mind. Where did he come up with this one?" It is a combination of things. Yes, I see the posters but what really hit home was Grandview, our new data base software system in Grand Lodge. The other day, Debbie Fowler at our office in Wallingford, introduced me to it and brought me up to speed on it.

One of the things I did was look at the membership of my mother lodge, King Hiram Lodge No. 12 in Shelton. As I scrolled through the list, I saw the names of

many brothers who used to be active and now are not. I'm not picking on my lodge but just using it as an example of all lodges in our state, and probably throughout the country. Some brothers join and are all fired up, so to speak, and really get involved. They eventually get appointed to a chair in lodge and, if all goes well, become Worshipful Master after many years of hard work. Then some, to quote Douglas MacArthur, fade away after their tour as Master. Others hang in there and help as much as they can. The same thing happens to brothers who get raised, attend a few meetings, and never are heard from again. I'm rambling but the point is that we have so many who were active and now are Masonically dormant that it boggles the mind.

For those of you who will be attending Grand Lodge in April, we will be offering a short program on Grandview, the new software system, on Sunday. I encourage you to attend as I think it is a great system.



## ***WELCOME TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!***

Daniel Dabrowski  
Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14

Joseph J. Dwyer  
Harmony Lodge No. 42

Joseph A. Franco III  
Widow's Son Lodge No. 66

Daniel E. A. Laprade  
Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

Andrew A. Leeper  
Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78

Joseph R. Levin  
Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

Charles A. Miller III  
Widow's Son Lodge No. 66

George T. Ruffin  
Day Spring Lodge No. 30

James C. Trenske  
Harmony Lodge No. 42

Jonathan W. Walsh Jr.  
Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3

# How to Submit Photos to the *Connecticut Freemasons Newspaper* by Francis G. Way

**W**e have been receiving more submissions of late, which is a very good thing. Without submissions from brothers around the state, we can't put together much of a newspaper. But with the increase in submissions has come an increase in the ways and methods by which photos are submitted. Unfortunately some of these methods can render the photos almost unusable for layout. While Pat Kalinauskas, our layout and graphics person, is a true wizard when it comes to making poor photos usable, there are limits to what she can do.

Our preferred method of receiving photos is as an attachment to an email (to [submissions@ctfreemasons.net](mailto:submissions@ctfreemasons.net)). By this we mean attaching each photo separately to the email. The doc or txt file can be in the same email. Eventually, there may be a limit as to how many you can attach. That limit is dependent on what email provider you're using. If you reach a limit, send an additional clearly labeled email.

We gladly accept photos in jpg/jpeg, png or gif formats.

Please do not embed the photo in your Word document. First, it requires extra effort on our part to remove the photo and save it separately so we can use it. But also, embedding the photo in the document will almost always downgrade the resolution, and again, that is not good.

Most folks these days are walking around with a pretty amazing digital camera in their pocket – their cell phone. Some of these phone cameras rival all but the high-end professional digital SLRs in terms of the photos they can produce. But all that potential (at least as regards photos coming into the Connecticut Freemasons) goes right out the window if your camera is set to take photos at low resolution. Before taking photos at a lodge event, make sure your camera is set to take the highest resolution possible. It generally makes for a larger file size, but that means that Pat can make that photo look great in the paper. If you don't know how to do this,

simply Google: "How do I set my camera resolution on my {insert phone model} phone?"

Send as many photos as you like, but bear in mind that, due to space requirements, we may only be able to use one or two, unless the submission is specifically for a photo collage (e. g., the photo spread in the center of the Grand Masters Day edition). If you submit 10 photos, and there are one or two that you really would give priority over the others, indicate that in the email.

Finally, while "grip & grin" and "police lineup" photos are the staple of most Masonic publications, if you can work in a few candid or actions shots, if the situation allows, those are most appreciated.

Keep those submissions coming, hopefully chock full of big, fat, high resolution photos!

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

Douglas K. Harmon	St. John's Lodge No. 2	Gerald R. Bugg	Jeptha Lodge No. 95
Robert E. Myers	Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3	Stanley T. House	Anchor Lodge No. 112
Donald R. Allen	Old Well - St. John's Lodge No. 6	William L. Williams	Bay View Lodge No. 120
Roger Snell	Granite Lodge No. 119	Gerald Gutkin	Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125
Wesley L. Case	Valley Lodge No. 36	Burton R. aylor	Washington Lodge No. 81
Philip W. Kurze	Estuary Lodge No. 43	Gerald B. Kent	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140
Peter A. Misani	Seneca Lodge No. 55	Daniel A. Pansullo	Unity Lodge No. 148
Gene E. Minerva	Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14	Richard J. Abbate	Temple Lodge No. 16
Wilbur B. Grippen	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89	Duane R Farrell	King Solomons Lodge No. 7

# From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

## President & CEO of Masonicare

**A**s I write this, I'm anticipating seeing many of our "snowbird" Connecticut brothers and their wives during the first week of March at our 2019 Nutmegger Reunions. Over 1,000 Connecticut Masons either live or winter in the Sunshine State. This five-city jaunt is a great way to keep in touch, bringing them greetings from Grand Master Marshall Robinson and updating them on Masonicare. Be sure and look for pictures from the Reunions in the April issue.

At our newest community, Masonicare at Chester Village, work has just completed on a beautiful and spacious event space. A rousing time was had by all on February 23 when we hosted the Chester Winter Chili Cook-Off there! More than a dozen restaurants and chefs showed off their "chili chops" and all proceeds went to support the all-volunteer firefighters of the Chester Hose Co.

In Mystic, we welcome a new Executive Director, Peter Morris. Peter comes to us with over 25 years of management experience. He has consulted to over 100 continuing care retirement, assisted living and skilled nursing communities. His background in hospitality and knowledge of what it takes to grow a new community



should be great assets to Masonicare at Mystic. I also want to congratulate the Dining Services Team at Mystic for recently scoring an almost-perfect 99 in audits conducted by our dining services partner, Morrison Community Living. With that score, the community has earned a Center for Excellence Award and will serve as a model to dining teams throughout the nation.

I'm pleased to share that the Masonicare Health Center performed very well in its most recent Department of Public Health

Survey in late January. These required inspections are conducted without advance notice. Over several days, state surveyors look at a wide range of areas dealing with patient care, safety, medication errors, staffing, compliance, etc. Kudos to Administrator Amy Pellerin – who has been with us less than a year – and Nursing Director Michele Ackerman. This excellent survey reflects great leadership and a stepped-up commitment to quality and best practices by the entire staff.

The Masonicare family mourns the passing of RW Bro. Charles M. Maxson. Brother Charlie was a leader in Connecticut Freemasonry for decades and he gave many years of wise counsel to Masonicare serving on various Boards and our Finance Committee. He was a great resource to us as we developed our property in Mystic, a place where he lived, worked and volunteered for so many years. Charlie will truly be missed.

Sincerely and fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon-Paul Venoit". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50-YEAR BROTHERS!**

Saul Goldberg	Composite Lodge No. 125
Thomas Goodale	Ionic Lodge No. 110
Benford J. Hilliker III	Warren Lodge No. 51
Thomas R. Kennedy	Corinthian Lodge No. 104

Clifford G. Lane Jr.	Composite Lodge No. 28
Earland B. Norsworthy	Unity Lodge No. 148
Bernard Sippin	Washington Lodge No. 19
Linnell J. Smith	Ionic Lodge No. 110
Richard W. Smith	Ionic Lodge No. 110
Ronald E. Vanacore	Day Spring Lodge No. 30





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

by Rev. Carl H. Anderson

Recently, while in a store buying ice melt for my driveway, I sensed that the man behind me in the checkout line was distressed. He was clearly in a hurry to get to the clerk, so I let him go ahead of me. When he reached the front of the line, he handed the clerk a \$10-dollar bill and said that he had received too much in change. He noted that he was very concerned that the clerk would have to make up the shortage out of his own pocket and did not want that to happen. The clerk, surprised and somewhat taken back, took the \$10 and said, "Thank you, sir," and smiled back at the man. The man left the store with a look of satisfaction that he had made a difference for this young man who was working so hard.

When I reached the parking lot, the customer was getting ready to drive away. As he drove past me, I noticed a small Masonic emblem on the back of his car. I thought to myself, wow he's a Mason. While I actually do not know conclusively whether he was a Mason or not, I believe he was based upon his desire to do the

right thing. He made an ethical decision that was in keeping with the tenets of Masonry.

The gentleman's efforts to make restitution for overpayment reminded me of a few verses from Psalm 1 that speak to one's spiritual and moral character: *Those who delight in the Lord are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.* As Masons, we delight in the Lord as we square our actions to do what is spiritually and morally right. This includes offering our help and assistance and even returning \$10 that is not ours to keep.

As Masons, let us always attempt to go the extra mile in service to others. By doing our best to uphold the lessons we have learned from sacred scripture, our spiritual reflections and Masonic teachings, we can help make this world a better place. May God bless you as you inculcate the lessons of scripture and Masonry into your daily life.

## Carol Ann McCormick Joins Masonicare at Ashlar Village

Carol Ann McCormick has been appointed Director of Sales and Marketing at Masonicare at Ashlar Village, the retirement community on Masonicare's upper campus in Wallingford. In this role, she will be responsible for overseeing the sales effort for the community.

Known as a Life Plan or Continuing Care Retirement Community, Ashlar Village opened in 1985 and the 168-acre campus is home to more than 500 residents in its apartment homes, cottages, and villas.

"Carol Ann is a great addition to our leadership team," said Jon-Paul Venoit, President and CEO of Masonicare. "She brings to Masonicare a wealth of experience and success in the field of senior living."

Ms. McCormick was most recently with Duncaster in Bloomfield where she was Vice President for Sales and Marketing. Her career also includes senior roles with the Asbury Group and Erickson Living, both national multi-site providers of senior living.

A graduate of the University of Michigan, Ms. McCormick pursued graduate studies there and at Loyola College (MD). A Simsbury resident, she is active in the Simsbury Children's Library, volunteers with the Simsbury Performing Arts Center, founded the Connecticut Hiking Alliance, and coordinates the Alliance's *Acts of Kindness* program.







# Grand Historian's Corner

by Gary A. Littlefield

When one tours the Connecticut State Library and Museum in Hartford, we see the portraits of all the governors lining the walls. Three lesser known men are the subject of this month's column. William Minor (1815-1889) was a member of the American party

which was also known as the "Know Nothing" party when the lack of a plurality in the popular vote threw the selection for governor to the General Assembly. Brother Minor was chosen in a close contest and served from 1855 to 1857. He was a strong Union man as the country was soon to be engaged in Civil War. He was also a Republican. He graduated from Yale in 1834 and received his law degree from Wesleyan and joined his father in the practice of law. His mother lodge was Union Lodge No. 5 in Stamford but his fame came as a long-standing Judge of Probate (seven years), member of the General Assembly for seven sessions, a term as State Senator and he also served time on the county court bench before becoming a Superior Court judge. In 1864 he was consul general in Havana, Cuba, and was tasked as a member of the commission to resurvey and mark the boundary between New York and Connecticut traversing the entire distance by foot in 1879. Brother Minor was influenced by those who subscribed to the bigotry of anti-Irish, anti-Catholic doctrines but his Masonic teachings taught him to personally be tolerant.

Luzon B Morris (1827-1895) was one of five former governors who hailed from Hiram Lodge No. 1 in New Haven. Brother Morris was the Democrat candidate for Governor in the contested election of 1890, which led to the continuance in office of Morgan G. Bulkeley. In 1892 he was elected governor. Born in Newtown, Bro. Morris attended the Connecticut Literary Institution in Suffield and graduated from Yale in 1854. As a teenager, he was an apprentice for a blacksmith. He operated a law office in Seymour for a while then moved to New Haven. He did several stints in the General Assembly and made an unsuccessful bid for the governor's seat in 1888 as well. But the third time was a charm. He was also part of the commission to work on the boundary with New York, as was Brother Minor. The financial depression that Connecticut saw during his term in office convinced him not to seek re-election. As a side note, it was not until the 1960s that the term for governor was expanded to four years. His house in New Haven was built in 1873 on Prospect Street. It is an Italianate-style house featuring elements of the Stick style. Yale purchased the home in 1957 and restored in 1990. The building is home to the Lehrman Center for the study

of Slavery. In 1893, his proclamation to celebrate Good Friday contained the following prayer:

"And I request the people of this Commonwealth to observe the same as a religious duty, as has been the custom of our ancestors for many generations; that they cease from their various pursuits, and on that day assemble in their places of public worship, and invoke the blessings of Heaven upon this Country; that the people hereof may be guided in paths of righteousness, avoiding evil, and seeking only those things which may be of benefit to their fellowmen and glory to God. Given under my hand and the seal of the State, at the Capitol in Hartford, this seventeenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-three, L. S. and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and seventeenth."

Henry B Harrison (1821-1901) was also a member of Hiram Lodge No. 1 in New Haven. He was a New Haven man at birth and graduated from Yale in 1846 at the top of his class. In 1885 he was awarded the LL.D. degree as he began his service as governor. He was one of the more scholarly lawyers in the state at the time and was a strong, non-militant, anti-slavery worker. His quiet two years as a Republican who supported traditional Yankee values was enough. He advocated for the required education of children up to the age of 16 and endorsed many of the anti-slavery laws that were being proposed.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR  
75-YEAR BROTHER!**

Clifford T. Bulmer  
Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3



## Past District Deputies Association

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

In conjunction with the Annual Communication  
of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, we will hold our

**Annual Reunion Luncheon**  
**beginning at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, April 8, 2019**

at the

Red Lion Hotel  
100 Berlin Road (Route 372)  
Cromwell, Connecticut 06416

The luncheon menu will include sweet onion coleslaw with diced tomatoes; garden salad with buttermilk ranch and raspberry vinaigrette; bacon wrapped meatloaf with sherry mushroom sauce; barbeque glazed grilled chicken; country style green beans; garlic mashed potatoes; and strawberry layer cake and chocolate cream pie for dessert.

**Tickets are \$35.00 per person.**

Please make checks payable to: *Past District Deputies Association* and mail by March 21, 2019 to:

**Brian E. Beals, Treasurer**  
**175 Mercier Ave**  
**Bristol, CT 06010**

***Please: Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your reservation.***

**Thank you!**



**Past District Deputies Association – Annual Reunion Luncheon April 8, 2019 - \$35 pp**

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the cost of \_\_\_\_\_ reservations.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



# THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

**GRANT S. GOULD**  
GRAND SECRETARY  
69 Masonic Avenue  
Wallingford, CT 06492



BUSINESS PHONE  
(203) 679-5903  
FAX NUMBER  
(203) 679-5996

[grandsecretary@ctfreemasons.net](mailto:grandsecretary@ctfreemasons.net)

## 230th ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The 230th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A. M. of Connecticut will be held at the Red Lion Hotel, 100 Berlin Road (Route 372), Cromwell, Connecticut on **Monday, April 8, 2019**. The formal opening of Grand Lodge will be at 9:30 A.M.

### This is the “CALL” to that meeting.

Registration will start at 8:00 A.M. Please note: **All voting delegates must register at the registration table and present their 2019 Dues Card to the Grand Tiler upon entry to the session.** Registration will be by Lodge number as designated by posted signs in the area.

A proxy form has been sent directly to the Lodge Worshipful Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden should they: 1) not be able to attend this Annual Communication in person [proxy must be executed in advance]; 2) be entitled to vote by virtue of holding one of these offices in more than one lodge; 3) be entitled to vote by virtue of being a Grand Lodge Officer or a Permanent Member of Grand Lodge. Please inform any Brother who is attending as a proxy that he must present his 2019 dues card. All Brothers entitled to vote should bring the Apron and Jewel of their office, whether as Permanent Member, Lodge Officer or serving as proxy.

Your attendance at this Annual Communication is important. We will consider available Reports of Standing and Special Committees, Grand Lodge Officer Reports, and any other business proper to be considered, all subject to the usual rules. **There may be certain changes to the Rules & Regulations which will be considered for adoption.**

Please note the following Sections of our Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations regarding Lodge representation:

**Section 2300. Roll Call at Regular Communication.** Immediately before the closing of a Regular Communication of the Grand Lodge, the roll shall be called, and any Lodge found to be unrepresented shall be declared delinquent, unless it shall have been previously excused.

**Section 2301. Penalty if Lodge Is Not Represented at Regular Grand Lodge Communication:** (reads in part) “A Lodge neglecting to be represented at a Regular Grand Lodge Communication shall incur the penalty of two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars. . .”

The Grand Lodge Office cannot make hotel reservations. Lodges and Brothers are responsible for making their own reservations with the Red Lion Hotel. The hotel reservation information is enclosed, a Booking Website is available, and driving directions are given. We encourage you to make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. ***The cutoff date is no later than March 15, 2019. Please mention the Grand Lodge Session when making your hotel reservations.***

**ALL “LODGE HOSPITALITY ROOMS” MUST BE CLOSED  
AT A “REASONABLE HOUR” ON SUNDAY.**

Grand Lodge Officers, Past Grand Masters, District Deputies, Past District Deputies, current Associate Grand Marshals, and current Grand Lodge Standing Committee members must register in order to vote. Each voting delegate will register **only once, either by virtue of his highest attained Grand Lodge Masonic office or Committee Membership or, if he chooses, as an elector (proxy) on behalf of his lodge.** The use of proxies is encouraged where appropriate to ensure full representation of constituent lodges.

The Grand Master’s Banquet for Grand Lodge Officers, Distinguished Guests, members of the Craft and their ladies will be held on Sunday evening, April 7, at 6:45 pm with a social hour at 6:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom. All Brothers and their ladies are invited to attend. Please make every effort to get your reservation in early as this banquet is sold on a first come - first serve basis. **Any request which is received in the Grand Lodge Office after March 15th will result in tickets being held for pickup at the door.**

A banquet reservation form for the Sunday night banquet is enclosed for your use. The entrée will be Pan Seared Chicken Breast at a cost of \$40.00, (including tax and gratuity) per person and Grilled New York Strip at a cost of \$45.00, (including tax and gratuity) per person **and all by advance order.** Please make all checks payable to the “Grand Lodge of Connecticut” and mail with the banquet reservation form. Banquet tickets will be mailed to those placing an order prior to March 15th. It would be appreciated if a self-addressed, stamped envelope was also included. For orders received after that date, tickets will be held at the door.

Also on Monday, April 8th at 12:00 Noon, the Past District Deputies Association of Connecticut will host a luncheon. Tickets are \$35.00 per person. All Brothers are invited to attend. Reservations can be mailed to Bro. Brian Beals, 175 Mercier Ave, Bristol, CT 06010 or call 860-620-4102. Lunch will also be available at other Red Lion venues.

**Brother Lodge Secretary, please note that proxy forms have been mailed directly to the top three officers of your Lodge. Please remind them of their responsibilities to be present at Grand Lodge or to sign their proxy and give it to someone else.**

With my fraternal best wishes,

Grant S. Gould  
*Grant S. Gould*  
R.W. Grand Secretary  
February 1, 2019

# Grand Lodge Committee on Legal Matters *April 2019*

## **Section 3903. Approval of a Petition for a New Lodge by an Existing Lodge.**

### **Discussion:**

The change is intended to address the undefined distance of vicinity in the existing rule.

### **Proposed change:**

**Section 3903. Approval of a Petition for a New Lodge by an Existing Lodge.** The petition for a new Lodge must be approved by existing Lodge(s) located within ten miles in the general vicinity of the proposed location of the new Lodge (See 3902). A simple majority vote by the existing Lodge is necessary. Prior to the vote in the existing Lodge, the blanks in a petition for a new Lodge must be completed. The petitioners for the new Lodge, if members of the existing Lodge being asked to approve the petition, shall have the right to vote upon the question of approval in the existing Lodge. If the votes of the petitioners for the new Lodge are necessary for the existing Lodge's approval to be granted, this fact shall be reported to the Grand Lodge by the existing Lodge voting the approval, for the Grand Master's consideration before his action thereon.

### **Existing provision:**

**Section 3903. Approval of a Petition for a New Lodge by an Existing Lodge.** The petition for a new Lodge must be approved by existing Lodge(s) in the general vicinity of the proposed location of the new Lodge (See 3902). A simple majority vote by the existing Lodge is necessary. Prior to the vote in the existing Lodge, the blanks in a petition for a new Lodge must be completed. The petitioners for the new Lodge, if members of the existing Lodge being asked to approve the petition, shall have the right to vote upon the question of approval in the existing Lodge. If the votes of the petitioners for the new Lodge are necessary for the existing Lodge's approval to be granted, this fact shall be reported to the Grand Lodge by the existing Lodge voting the approval, for the Grand Master's consideration before his action thereon.

## **Legislation to establish the position of Grand Almoner in Connecticut Masonry**

### **Discussion:**

Most Worshipful Charles W. Yohe having appointed a Grand Almoner in 2015 and from thenceforth the position having been

reappointed by every successive Grand Master; it is appropriate that the position of Grand Almoner be permanently appointed within our Constitution, Rules and Regulations.

Therefore it is proposed that the following Articles and Sections be amended to include the position of Grand Almoner:

### **Constitution ARTICLE I.**

#### **The Grand Lodge, How Constituted.**

The voting members --- Grand Chaplain, Grand Almoner, Grand Tiler, and --- of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut.

### **Constitution ARTICLE IV.**

#### **Election and Appointment of Grand Officers.**

The Officers of the Grand ---, Grand Chaplain, Grand Almoner, Grand Tiler, --- by the Grand Master.

### **Subpart 21 - Officers of the Grand Lodge**

**Section 2100. Who Are Officers.** The officers of this Grand Lodge are: --- a Grand Chaplain, a Grand Almoner, a Grand Historian, --- in its Constitution.

### **Section 2118. Titles of Grand Lodge Officers.**

Titles of Grand Lodge Officers should read as follows: --- Grand Chaplain, Grand Almoner, Grand Historian, --- shall be "Right Worshipful". Brethren who have held such offices shall retain their respective titles for life.

## **Section 3902. Petition for Formation of New Lodge.**

### **Discussion:**

The change is intended to address the process when two or more lodges combine to form a new lodge resulting in a new lodge name or number.

### **Proposed change:**

**Section 3902. Petition for Formation of New Lodge.** The petition for formation of a Lodge, which shall include the consolidation of two or more existing lodges whereby one of the lodges is not the successor lodge, (herein after referred to as "new Lodge") and the listing of the charter members thereof shall be on the form provided by the Grand Lodge and no other. (FORM GL-1

### **Existing provision:**

**Section 3902. Petition for Formation of New Lodge.** The petition for formation of a Lodge (herein after referred to as "new Lodge") and the listing of the charter members thereof shall be on

the form provided by the Grand Lodge and no other. (FORM GL-1) 10/12

## **Section 8001. Distribution and Consumption of Alcohol.**

### **Discussion:**

Following approval of the change during the April 2018 session, the committee became aware of an inconsistency in the implementation requirement of the section and the committee guidance. The committee is recommending changing the regulation to be consistent with the Grand Lodge guidance by removing the requirement of a bylaw change in order to adopt a bottle club policy.

### **Proposed revision:**

## **Section 8001. Distribution and Consumption of Alcohol.**

The following policies shall apply to lodge activities occurring on and off lodge premises.

No Lodge, committee or club of a lodge or any legal entity described in Section 3601, owned or controlled by one or more Lodge(s) as defined in Section 3605) shall engage in the distribution of or allow consumption of alcoholic beverages except as permitted by state law and regulations. The Lodge shall obtain liability endorsements and training required by either the Grand Lodge general liability insurer or the State of Connecticut and will be responsible for any associated fees.

A Lodge may adopt a policy or by-law change whereby a member is permitted to bring his own alcoholic beverage to lodge events for his consumption. Additionally, the member shall affirmatively acknowledge in writing he has read the policy and will abide by its terms and conditions.

A Lodge, committee or club of a lodge or any legal entity described in Section 3601, owned or controlled by one or more Lodge(s) as defined in Section 3605) may obtain a temporary permit to allow the purchase and sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages for specific events. The principal officer of the Lodge shall ensure compliance with Connecticut State Law under the terms of the temporary permit.





# *Grand Lodge ~ Reservation Form for April 7, 2019 Dinner*

Annual Grand Lodge Dinner Reservation  
Red Lion Hotel, Cromwell  
**Sunday, April 7, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.**

*\*\*\*Tickets must be presented at dinner for collection by the wait staff\*\*\**

Entrée: Pan Seared Chicken Breast **or** Grilled New York Steak **or** Vegetarian Meal

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at \$40.00 each for Pan Seared Chicken Breast

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at \$45.00 each for Grilled New York Steak

Please send \_\_\_\_\_ ticket(s) at \$40.00 each for Vegetarian Meal

**Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_**

Mail Tickets to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to “Grand Lodge of CT”**

Please enclose a SASE and Mail to: 69 Masonic Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492

**Return before: March 15, 2019**



See Page 10 for PDD Association  
Luncheon Reservations

# From Darkness To Light: Scholarships

by John A. Amarillos, MSA, [membership@lafayetteconsistory.com](mailto:membership@lafayetteconsistory.com)

The Valley of Bridgeport will be presenting a live performance of the 11th Degree on March 11. Those Master Masons desiring to start on their Scottish Rite path can also do so on that evening by making special arrangements to have the 4th Degree shown before the 11th Degree begins. For dinner reservations at the Shrine Temple next door or to start on your 4th Degree, please contact the Consistory office at (203) 375-0064.

A good education is usually a paramount prerequisite to attaining reasonable living in our society. The Scottish Rite recognizes this verity and hopes to help its members and their families by providing annual scholarships to help defray the costs of attaining an education.

The Abbot Scholarship Program was named after Leon M. Abbott, Sovereign Grand Commander from 1921 to 1932. The program provides financial support for the continuing undergraduate and graduate education of Scottish Rite Masons, young men and women from Scottish Rite families, and Masonic-related youth groups.

**Eligibility:** Those meeting any of the following criteria are eligible to apply for the 2018 Abbott Scholarship program for undergraduate studies:

- A Scottish Rite Mason of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction
- A student directly related (bloodline or by legal means) to a Scottish Rite Mason in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction or a member of a youth organization sponsored by the Masonic fraternity in the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction who is:

**1. A high school senior, currently accepted at an accredited trade school who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.**

**2. A high school senior, undergraduate, or graduate student currently enrolled at an accredited college or university who has attained a minimum grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.**

The application form **MUST** be used to apply. It can be downloaded here: <https://scottishritenmj.org/downloads/forms/AbbottScholarship2019.pdf>

It should be printed out and mailed **NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2019** to:

Ill. Jack Farkas, 33 MSA, Secretary  
Lafayette Consistory  
PO Box 339  
Stratford CT 06615

I leave you with this question: Are YOU using your common gavel on a daily basis? Are you breaking off the rough and

superfluous parts of your character and personality? Since we are here for the purpose of divesting our mind and consciences of all vices, and “superfluities” in order to fashion a “living stone” which is fitting for the spiritual building which is eternal in the heavens, we must remember to use the tools we are given in each of our Blue Lodge degrees on a DAILY basis. Practice and repetition are

vital if we are to successfully transform ourselves to a higher state of being. This month, RESOLVE to use the Common Gavel on a daily basis. Before retiring each evening, consider silently whether you successfully employed this tool, or whether you missed out on an opportunity to do so that day, and TRY to do it better tomorrow!

*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!**  
**UPCOMING SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES**

**Monday, March 11, 7:30 p.m.**  
**11th Degree (live)**

**Monday, April 1, 7:30 p.m.**  
**18th Degree (live)**

**Monday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.**  
**"Feast of the Paschal Lamb"**

Degrees are at the  
**Leo H. Lohrman, II, Theatre in Stratford**  
**R.S.V.P. required.**  
Please email: [Office@LafayetteConsistory.com](mailto:Office@LafayetteConsistory.com)  
or call 203-375-0064.

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:cdoneil@snet.net">cdoneil@snet.net</a> 203-754-8209
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For more information, contact the Valley near you or email [Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com](mailto:Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com).



# Masonicare Trustee Emeritus RWB Charles C. Maxson

Family, friends and a host of community and fraternal associates gathered to bid farewell to RWB Charles M. Maxson last month, following his passing on January 31 after a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Bro. Charlie had a distinguished Masonic career. Raised a Master Mason in Franklin Lodge No. 20, Westerly, Rhode Island in 1958, he was a Past Master of Charity & Relief Lodge No. 72, Mystic, in 1995. He served the Grand Lodge of Connecticut as RW Grand Treasurer from 2005 through 2014. In Scottish Rite, he was coroneted an Honorary Member of the Supreme Council, Sovereign Grand Inspector General 33° in 1999. In York Rite, he served as Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter RAM of Connecticut in 2003.

Bro. Charlie was an important member of the extended Masonic family for many years, serving on the Board of Trustees, Finance Committee, and Executive Committee as well as on the Board of Masonic's "captive" insurance subsidiary, Keystone Indemnity. With his business acumen and experience in the field of finance, his wisdom was invaluable to the organization. He was named a Trustee *Emeritus* in 2003.

"When we began developing our retirement community in Mystic, we benefited greatly from Charlie's counsel and knowledge of the community," notes Masonic President & CEO Jon-Paul Venoit. "Living in Mystic, where he was a pillar of the community for so many years, he was a powerful advocate for our development."

When Masonic at Mystic had its Grand Opening

and Ribbon-Cutting on April 25, 2017, a high point of the event was the unveiling of The Maxson Activities Center. Before a crowd of 300 that included Charlie's wife Peg and their family, Bro. Jon-Paul paid this tribute to Charlie: "He was of great counsel and moral support every step of the way in this multi-year effort to get to today. We are truly grateful for everything he has done for us." Prior to the actual unveiling, those in attendance heard Charlie recount the history of the land on which Masonic at Mystic was built.

"Charlie's positive impact on Masonic cannot be overstated," says retired Masonic CEO Bro. Stephen McPherson. "He was a mentor and friend; I am a better person for having known and worked with Charlie."

Honesty, integrity and humility are terms that quickly come to mind when describing him. Business trips to Vermont with Peg and Charlie were special occasions that brought back memories of their days at the University of Vermont. Thank you, my friend, and Godspeed."



At the memorial service, Rev. Bro. Carl Anderson shared these remarks: "Charlie was a man of incredible service to his country, community and Masonic Fraternity. He volunteered for many years in the Mystic area serving both the Fire Department and the Mystic Ambulance Association. He was dedicated to Masonic, serving on various boards, and to the Masonic

fraternity, serving the Grand Lodge as R.W. Treasurer and the Royal Arch Masons as Grand High Priest. His life was a living testimony to the tenets of Masonry."

# District 1

Lodges 3, 5, 6, 8, 19, 65, 67, 85, 104, 109, 107, 142, 144, 149



## Temple Lodge No. 65 Celebrates 820 Years of Masonic Service

by Sanford Lunt

On Saturday, November 3, 2018, at Christ the Trinity Church banquet hall in Westport, Temple Lodge No. 65 held a special Pin Night to acknowledge brothers who had completed a combined 820-plus years of Masonic service. The event committee, headed by Chairman WB Richard Ruggiano, did a remarkable job in recognizing the achievements of the brethren and making all of the brothers, family, and friends aware of this momentous occasion.

To make the evening even more special, MWGM Marshall K. Robinson was present to personally make the 50-year pin presentation to RWB Sanford Lunt. It was the highlight of the evening and recognized RWB Lunt's contribution and service to Temple Lodge and many other outside activities.

The ceremony included all brothers who had served Masonry for over 30 years. Heading the list was RWB Donald Treadwell who joined Temple Lodge in 1948 and was presented a 70-year pin. Brothers Irv Lief and Edward Garlick served 65 years, while Homer Mills served 60 years and Hagen Morris 55 years. Robert Magovern, who joined the lodge with Brother Lunt, also was slated to receive a 50-year pin but was unable to attend the event.

Four Brothers, Gerrit Vonderheyde, Harvey Martin, Jay Sherwood, and Dennis Corsalini were recognized for 45 years of service, while Thomas Smith, Carl Lelle, Jr., Duncan Stalker, and Alfred Quaglieri all reached 40 years. Stan Lieberstein, Walter Kaechele, Michael Hohershak, and Thomas Reed received 35-year pins. Thomas Bartlett, Thomas Lowrie, Alan Bowen, Steven Bowen, and Russel Friedson were recognized for 30 years.

All in all it was a fabulous, festive occasion and those brothers honored received the accolades of all present. It was a testimony to the loyalty and allegiance of these Brothers to Temple Lodge and especially to Masonry as a whole.



*Continued on page 17*





## ***District 3***

Lodges 7, 1, 12, 17, 42, 47, 55, 64, 76, 78



## **A Lodge that Rises from the Ashes**

*by George A. Mudry*

In 2006, Morning Star Lodge No. 47 in Seymour was a lodge on the verge of going dark. Upstairs, tucked away in a church at 45 Broad St., it had five active members, all over the age of 70.

But it only took one petition, just one, to spark a fire that grew into an inferno. That one single petition led to a flurry of petitions, mainly of men under the age of 40. As the old guard of the lodge began to fall back due to age and the inability to drive at night, the younger Masons took the helm. They began to steer the lodge in a whole new direction.

They added Saturday meetings to the third Thursdays every month to accommodate brothers who worked second shift at Sikorsky. Now, 13 years later they boast a lodge of 23 to 27 active members at almost every meeting. They host multiple community service events ranging from car shows at the high school, to bike giveaways for kids at Christmas.

In 2018, they moved to a new location at 135 Main St. in downtown Seymour, where the lodge originally was from 1908–1958. And the lodge is still expanding its reach. Brethren currently host a podcast called “The Freemasons” where they discuss Masonic topics ranging from the struggles of Freemasonry today, to showing the audience that Freemasonry isn’t an “old man’s club.”

Currently the lodge is attempting to bring a Royal Arch Chapter, Evening Star Chapter No. 47 RAM back to the Temple where they now reside.

I write this article for all of Connecticut Freemasonry as a simple lesson: Don’t give up! Don’t back down! The only way the Craft can bounce back from membership loss is through the Brethren. It only takes one petition. One Mason, one lodge, and a will to fight. Are you the one?



# District 4

Lodges 1, 9, 16, 22, 30, 38, 63, 66, 77, 79, 87, 89, 97, 115, 125, 332, 500, MLR



## Ashlar Lodge No. 332 Celebrates its 11th Installation *by John Chan and Steven Thal*

On Saturday, January 5, at Ashlar Village's Hartog Auditorium, in front of brothers, families and friends, and many curious Ashlar residents, the officers of Ashlar Lodge No. 332 were installed.

Worshipful Master Fred Wintsch, outgoing Master welcomed the guests and recognized the Grand Lodge and other Dignitaries. In attendance were MWGM Marshall K. Robinson, RWB Bruce R. Bellmore, MWPGM Gustave Bodin, RWB Gary Cohn, RWB Carleton Erickson, and RWB Carl Anderson.

St. Elmo Commandery No. 9 Knights Templar presented the National Flag. After the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and the singing of our national anthem, WM Fred turned the proceedings over to MWPGM Charles A. Buck, and his installing marshal, WB James H. Tweedie.

Officers for 2019 were invested with the jewels of their office, leading up to RWB Lewis P. Bither or "Uncle Lew" as he is affectionately called, being installed as Worshipful Master. WM Uncle Lew then approached West of the altar and received the Charter from WB Wintsch.

WM Uncle Lew presented flowers to WB Fred's wife Ruth. Senior Warden WB Steven Thal, aided by his seeing eye dog Keenan, presented a certificate of appreciation to WB Wintsch for his outstanding

leadership in guiding Ashlar Lodge during the past year. The certificate was read by Secretary Russell George.

WM Uncle Lew also presented flowers to his bride, Nancy Bither and introduced his family to the guests. Other participants in the ceremony included: RWB Gary Cohn who gave the Charge to the Wardens, RWB Carleton Erickson who gave the Ancient Charges, and RWB Carl Anderson as Organist. Felicitations were presented by Brother John Chan of Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140.

Approximately 75 persons attended. Many residents commented that they had never attended an installation, and they were curious to learn more about Masonry. Refreshments were served following the ceremony.

The following Officers were installed: SW Stephen M. Thal, JW Michael J. Fusco, Treasurer William S. Clark, Secretary Russell W. George, SD Mark, J. Francher, JD John P. Dilks, SS Ronald V. Iannucci Jr., Chaplain Garret W. Post, Marshall Frank A. Engel Jr., Historian Richard A. Eppler, Organist Dagobert F. Pfeiffer, and Tiler Vincent A. Celino.



# District 9

Lodges 15, 24, 46, 60, 110, 113, 122,

## Connecticut Brother Receives 30-Year Pin in Florida

Brother Craig Franklin, a member of Ionic Lodge No. 110 in North Windham is a full-time Florida resident and he is also a member of Pearl of the West Lodge No. 146 in New Port Richey, Fl. He was recently presented with his 30-year pin by the brothers of his Florida lodge.



*District 9 continued on page 19*

*(l-r): SD Bruce Reinartsen, Bro. Craig Franklin, WM Shawn Abel, and SW Senica "Ponytail" Beal.*



## Ionic Lodge No. 110 Made Member of Society of Washington Lodges *by William Greene*



(l-r): Brothers Gregory Messier, Everett Demers, SW Jeffrey Potter, MWB William Greene (GWMNM Ambassador for Connecticut), WM RWB Fred Watts, JW David Grieco, RWB James Currier, Jonathan Potter, and RWB J. Arthur Carbonaro.

Recently, through the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association, Ionic Lodge No. 110, of North Windham, was made a member of “The Society of Washington Lodges.”

The membership consist of a framed certificate of membership, a wall-sized framed painting of George Washington, a medal that is worn by the top three officers of the Lodge during their year of service, and a lapel pin for the other members of the lodge to wear.



*Jewels and lapel pins*

## District 5

Lodges 14, 29, 33, 36, 101, 128, 140, 146, 148



## Hospitality Lodge No. 128 Initiates New Brother *by Francis G. Way*

On January 23, Hospitality Lodge No. 128 traveled to Unity Lodge No. 148 in New Britain, to hold a Special Communication for the purpose of initiating a new brother. Brother Joseph LaRosa, of Newington, became Hospitality's newest Entered Apprentice and was warmly welcomed by the lodge.

Hospitality traveled to New Britain because their lodge room, graciously offered by the brothers of Unity Lodge, is larger and makes it just a bit easier to portray the degree. Brother Paul Catanzaro, Senior Warden of Unity, was on hand as host.

Brother Joe and I have known each other since their college days at Central Connecticut State University, and are both brothers of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the national collegiate music fraternity. On January 23, with RWB Way serving as Senior Deacon, he and Brother LaRosa became “double brothers.”

RWB Ted Hasty, Worshipful Master of Hospitality Lodge, presided and the degree was well-conferred. The lodge will now mentor and prepare Brother Joe for his proficiency and his Fellowcraft Degree.

Thanks go out to the Worshipful Master of Unity Lodge No. 148, WB Thomas Noone, and Brother Catanzaro for the use of the lodge room.



(l-r) front: Br. Jim Payette, Br. Joe LaRosa, RWB Ted Hasty, Br. John Hasty, Br. Alberto Dieguez, RWB Charlie Weiss. Rear: RWB Frank Way, RWB Doug Barnard, RWB Rich Jones, WB Matt Griffen, and Br. Doug Maliszewski.



## A Phone Call Leads to a Very Special 50-Year Pin Presentation *by Jeffrey Blayman*

As the newly installed Secretary of Warren Lodge No. 51 in Portland, I was learning the ropes. The need to update the roster was the primary objective and it was a daunting task. Hours upon hours were spent calling phone numbers, making introductions, and crossing out non-working numbers.

The calls that went through led to many fine conversations and more often than not the inquisitive nature of the brother at the other end of the line wondering why he was receiving a personal call from lodge. All too often brothers had received nothing more than a “robo-call” -- a pre-recorded message from the lodge, assuming that the phone number was working, and if not, how terrible to never know the lodge had lost touch with a brother. The only other consistent communication brothers received was a dues letter asking for money. So the mission to update contact information and locate brothers was of the highest regard. Most brothers were surprised to hear from the lodge and offered stories and explanations why they had not attended in some time.

One such member, Brother Ned R. Cassady, told a story of being raised in Germany and of his wartime service to the United States, and mentioned that he had never received his 50-year pin despite bringing it up years ago. Brother Blaylock added a new primary objective to the list and promised him that he would inquire on his behalf. RWB Grant Gould, Grand Secretary was contacted and his diligent research found an error was made years earlier entering the Brother into the system. Plans were made to rectify the error immediately.

On February 7, Brother Blayman, Brother Devin Schleidt, and RWB C. A. Duke carpooled to Portland for the momentous occasion. The Brothers of Warren Lodge enjoyed a fabulous meal provided by Chatham catering owned RWB Ray Moore and his wife. After the tables were cleared, Brothers made their way upstairs to the lodge room.

The lodge was opened in due form, and MWGM Marshall K. Robinson was received, accompanied by RWG Grant Gould and a number of other District Deputies and Past DDs. MWB Robinson wanted to personally address Brother Cassady, thank him for his dedication and service to the Craft and the country.

It was a fitting example of brotherhood, and when asked to remark on it after being presented his awards, Brother Ned simply stated that he never imagined how deep and powerful the ties of the fraternity really were and that he felt loved.

During the long quiet ride home, the impact of the evening was evident. That the occasion was nearly a missed opportunity was inexcusable. The personal contact and communication between brothers and their Mother Lodge is a bond that should be strengthened and nurtured. Too often lodges take the easy way out by issuing blanket invitations and robo-calls. However, the personal phone call or the handwritten note can make all the difference.



*Bro. Ned Cassady's wife Ellen, joined her husband as MWGM Marshall Robinson presents Bro. Cassady his pin.*



*Brethren of Warren Lodge, with the MWGM and guests, and Bro. Cassady.*





# District 8

Lodges 10, 31, 34, 57, 102, 116, 120, 150



## Memories of Hawaiian Shirt Night Warm Coastal Lodge No. 57 During Polar Vortex *by Ken Haner*

Are those Brothers at the Eastern end of the state crazy? Some “are of that opinion...!” However natural that supposition might be, it is erroneous! This article is just late in getting submitted.



Coastal Lodge held its first annual Hawaiian shirt night at the second Stated Communication in August. As with most lodges there is not a lot of business or degree work that occurs during those hot, dog days of summer. The Deacons thought that Coastal might add a little color to the meeting and the idea took off from there! As the thermometer is shivering to stay above zero, this might help brothers in Connecticut think warm and fraternal thoughts.

There was a good crowd for a summer business meeting and full participation with the shirts. You know it is a good idea when you can get a native Scot like RWB Graeme Robertson to trade his sash and kilt for shorts and a floral print shirt! The current sitting Master assures everyone that the sequel is on his Trestleboard.



## Cedars are Growing in Connecticut

*by William Greene*

**O**n January 24, Laurel Forest No. 130, Tall Cedars of Lebanon of North America, initiated five new members and one courtesy member for Nutmeg Forest No. 116.

The new members initiated were Marshall K. Robinson, RWDGM Melvin E. Johnson, Brothers Bruce Liebman; Lewis A. Rawles and Polean K. Ware for Laurel Forest and Brother Brad Yound for Nutmeg Forest. Also present for the initiation ceremonies were Brothers Leslie G. Metcalf, Jr., Supreme Tall Cedar from Maryland; J. Eric Becker, Junior Deputy Supreme Tall Cedar and his wife Sue from New Jersey; Alfred J. Tyman, Aid to the Supreme Tall Cedar from Maryland; Dennis W. Ewing, Supreme Director, Region 2, Maryland; William L.



Greene, Supreme Director, Region 11 and his wife Sandie; and Robert T. Goff, District Deputy STC from Rhode Island.

Brother Larry Brandolini, Laurel Forest Grand Tall Cedar was really pleased with his

first meeting as GTC. Laurel Forest No. 130 meets on the 4th Thursday of every month, except July and August, at Ashlar Village on the Masonicare Campus in Wallingford.

# Losing in Masonry by Playing the Numbers Game

by Francis G. Way

When I was a new Mason, the Past Masters in my lodge often told stories of the good old days.

"We'd open a special at 5 p.m., initiate five brothers, close, have a nice dinner, then open our Stated at 7:15 and initiate five more."

Ah, the good old days. Masons were coming through the door like returning World War II vets. Well, of course. Many, if not most of them, were returning World War II vets.

Men desire camaraderie, and for men returning from the war, fraternal organizations offered at least some of the feeling they had experienced in the military. As a younger man, I became a firefighter, admittedly because of Roy and Johnny on the television show "Emergency!" but also to serve, and, as a bonus, to experience that brotherhood. I can fully understand at least some of the motives of the men who flocked to our doors in the post World War II years.

The high water mark for my lodge was 1,200 members. Today that number raises eyebrows in amazement, but in those days it was the norm for many lodges. But I am willing to bet that never in Level Lodge No. 137's storied history were all 1,200 members in the lodge room at the same time. In fact, I'm not aware of a lodge room in the state today that could easily and comfortably accommodate that many brothers.

And, with the idea of a "special to do five before dinner" and then "five more after dinner," I'm not sure that there was a whole lot of emphasis on deeper Masonic education. Yes, there were Lodges of Instruction on the off weeks because proficiency was very important and ritual excellence was a foundational pillar of Level Lodge. But contemplating and discussing why Amos 7 is important (hint:

it's not just because it says "plumbline") or where "beasts of the field or birds of the air" comes from, or even "why Ethiopia?", may not have been a huge priority when there were five to do before dinner. By the time I was a new Mason, those numbers began to drop off as age, infirmity, and inevitably The Great Leveler, began to thin the ranks.

It was a few years later that the first overreactions to the naturally dwindling numbers started to take place. One appendant body decided that gutting and deemphasizing their ritual – the further light that had always been promised – while at the same time emphasizing eating and drinking together was the magic bullet. Later, because perhaps that magic bullet was failing to find the target and bring in enough new members, they shifted their efforts and began to emphasize a Master Mason's obligation to help a brother as the best way to combat falling numbers. Now the story is that lodges must target Baby Boomers to raise membership levels.

In this jurisdiction, the proposal to greatly modify the Grand Lodge officer progression was introduced with the words "because of declining membership." Unfortunately, some brothers, still reeling from the aforementioned shift in emphasis in one of the appendant bodies, were adversely affected by hearing that statement, and a natural hesitancy and resistance kicked in.

Even today, brothers still propound that with the fast pace of society and a desire to appeal to younger members we need to make our ritual "more relevant" and that we have to lessen the requirement for proficiency to make it easier for newer, younger brothers. Easier? Why? Is easier better?

Perhaps I run in different circles, but there are two major points that keep coming to mind when I think of all of this. First, I

and others have seen an influx of young men coming into the fraternity these days who are seeking something larger than themselves, seeking a fulfillment that seems to be lacking in their lives. They are thirsty for the tenets contained in the ritual and teachings, and are not as interested in pancake breakfasts and other ways the fraternity tries to make itself acceptable to the profane.

Many of these younger brothers may not be religious in the same way my generation is – my brother and I were made to go to Church, and while as a youngster I was in no way equipped to comprehend all of the mysteries of the Mass, I can say that the early ritual of going weekly (and it was early – Dad insisted on 6:30 a.m Mass every Sunday) laid the foundation that makes

*Continued on page 23*

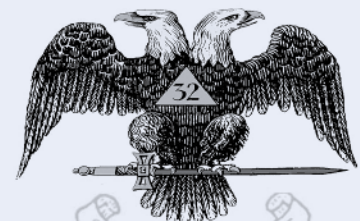
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or any member of the Valley.



# Entered Apprentice Degree Observations

by Andrew Pedro

*Ed Note: Brother Pedro suggests that the following can be read to the new Brother after his EA degree.*

Candidate, allow me to congratulate and welcome you into the fraternity. You stand here, before God and fellow brothers, in the same manner that we have all done before you. This evening, you have bound yourself to the brotherhood, with the same oath taken by some of our nation's forefathers. You, like all brothers, have taken your first step away from darkness, and toward light. For this, you should be proud. But, this sense of pride should be closely accompanied by humility.

In taking your first steps toward light, acknowledge your real-world ambitions, but also begin to focus on a more spiritual, self-guided path to becoming an upright and moral man. But fear not, for this path is riddled with symbols and tools that will help confront any and all self-doubts and fears.

Today, you lay the cornerstone of your temple. A temple that only you may build. But how will you build it? And with what tools? What material? My brother, the first tools you will use are the 24-inch gage, and the common gavel. The material will

be your actions towards your fellow brother and your fellow man. You must use the gage and the gavel in all your actions, to measure yourself before every situation and act in a just and upright manner before laying each and every stone. Keep in mind that we are all building a temple. Although a brother may not square his ashlar or chisel away his rough edges in the same manner as you, that does not mean his work is less than yours. You must never judge another man's temple if you should ever expect harmony to dwell within your own.

Thus begins your journey, your first steps down the path taken by so many before you. You must not fear this journey, no matter how difficult you may find it, for you are about to face every man's greatest enemy: one's self. You will learn what type of man you truly are. You will learn if you are ready to join us on this common platform of masonic brotherhood, a brotherhood that has been upheld by some of history's finest individuals. But should you stay true on this course and find yourself moving closer to light, you will someday dwell among them and us at the end of your labors, in that temple on high. Not as a man, but as our brother.

---

## Losing In Masonry *continued from page 24*

Mass and my beliefs a core part of who I am. For me, Masonry is an adjunct to those core beliefs and teachings – tools that make me better able to try to live my faith and be a better person, tools that help me refine my rough ashlar. Some of our younger brothers may not have that religious foundation, but the tenets of our fraternity, and the contemplation that our ritual and teachings afford, start to satisfy their desire and give them a springboard to fulfillment.

Dumbing down, or trying to make ritual and proficiency more hip or “relevant,” or quicker to acquire, as if it were some sort of instant gratification in a video game or a social media snippet, is not going to afford this group of younger brothers what they are looking for.

The other point that comes to mind is the falsehood that somehow a quantity of members guarantees success and a thriving fraternity. If that were the case, the lodge

that had 1,200 members would have been so successful that they would have been able to keep those membership numbers up there and still be thriving today.

There is nothing wrong with small, as long as small is quality. A US Navy SEAL team may send out a team of only six to eight Navy SEALs on an operation, but everyone is familiar with just how much that small group can accomplish. Jesus Christ had 12 apostles, and from those 12 grew a religion that encompasses 2,000 years and the entire world. Oh, and one of the original 12 betrayed him and had to be replaced.

I haven't researched membership rolls for the lodges of the Colonial period, but I'm guessing that they were probably not as high as 1,200 in any given lodge. There's no mystery as to what those lodges and brothers accomplished either.

Coping with the loss of a huge influx of members that took place 50 to 70 years ago is not easy, and solutions are not simple. But there is certainly nothing wrong with believing in what we are, believing in our traditions and teachings, believing in our quality, believing that now more than ever, we are still very relevant, and believing that we can be just as good with 50 members in a lodge as we could with 1,200 members.

Guard well the West Gate. Accept men of quality and substance, gentlemen who are willing to learn and grow, and then feed their desire for quality through thought provoking ritual, education, fulfilling events and fellowship, and, like water that ebbs and flows, membership will seek its own level, and it will be a level wherein we can not only survive, but, I would put forth, thrive.

# Pyramid Shriners . . .

## . . . Helping Needy Children by Donating to The Sneaker Fund

*by Donald M. Casey*

Master Masons from Pyramid Shrine Temple in Stratford, made a donation to The Sneaker Fund while attending the Northeast Clown Institute in Plymouth, Mass. The Sneaker Fund was started in 1973 by Pyramid Shrine Temple Clown Abe “Cooky” Flaks. The Sneaker Fund provides financial support for research aimed at finding improved treatments and techniques for children with burn injuries at the Shriner Hospital.



## . . .Clowning Around at the Stepney Elementary School Winter Carnival

*by Donald M. Casey, Jr.*

Master Masons from the Pyramid Shrine Temple Clown Unit in Stratford, participated at the 10th Annual Stepney Elementary School Winter Carnival. The clowns dazzled students from the school, located in Monroe, with balloon twisting-crafts. In addition, the clowns collected donations. Funds will be used to assist needy children receiving medical care at the Shriner Hospital.

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# Marketing. Do We Need It? *by Charles W. Yohe*

About 25 years ago, the Conference of Grand Masters of North America (CGMNA) created a study group entitled The Masonic Renewal Committee. The group was comprised of past and present Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries from throughout the United States and Canada. I was a member of that committee for a number of years. Meetings were held throughout the U.S. with stand-alone meetings generally being located in Missouri or Kansas and others being held in co-location with the annual Conference. Eventually I withdrew from the committee as travel to meetings became a financial hardship after I retired from SNET.

There were a few things that were indelibly imprinted in my memory from the early meetings of that committee. The first was the assertion that was made in 1997 at the meeting of the committee and was presented in its report to the CGMNA that “If we do not take immediate and drastic action, Masonry will not exist in 5 years (2002).” Now obviously, Masonry does still exist, albeit with smaller numbers, and most lodges and Grand Lodges are still operating about the same. So the dire prediction that was made in 1997 was somewhat overblown.


A second memory from those meetings involved our leadership identity and the possibility of utilizing a widely known Mason to promote and grow Masonic membership. Committee members were asked who they perceived to be the most influential and well-known Mason in North America. There were a variety of answers as one would expect from such a diverse group, but the committee reached consensus that the Imperial Potentate of Shriners International was the best-known Mason in North America. How they arrived at that conclusion, I can't say. Not being a member of the Shrine, I didn't have a clue as to who he was and to this day, I cannot tell you his name.

The Masonic Renewal Committee did engage and endorse materials that were originally proposed to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 1988 by a marketing company by the name of Barton Gillette. It's ancient history now, but Masonicare paid for a study and proposed plan of action to reverse our membership decline 30 years ago. The proposal was brought forward at the annual Grand Lodge meeting in April of that year in New Haven. Then Right Worshipful Brother Samuel B. Walker, Grand Junior Steward, was selected to make the plea to the Craft. After due discussion, the voting members at that meeting overwhelmingly rejected the proposal. After that, the employee from Barton Gillette struck out on his own to market the materials to other Grand Lodges. He found a willing customer in the form of the Masonic Renewal Committee.

What's my point? My point is that we don't really need any in-depth marketing studies to solve and reverse our membership


decline. The answers have largely been right under our noses the entire time. Quite simply, our lodges and our lodge members need to live the virtuous tenets that our gentle Craft teaches. It doesn't matter what the tag line is: “Making good men better; Where good men relate; Not just a man – a Mason” or something else, if the tenets that underlie those tag lines are not practiced by each and every one of us day in and day out, the value of Masonry is diminished. Friendship, morality, and brotherly love must become more than just words. The ancient charges and regulations must be actively lived by each of us in our lodges and in our communities. By so doing, we will preserve and grow the great fraternity called Masonry. The potential members are out there and we will attract them and retain them only if we deliver on them by acting, and doing as we say in our ritual. The lodges with members who live Masonry's tenets are the lodges that are prospering and growing. Is yours one of them?

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# COCA CT Freemasons Hockey Night Update

by Perne Maynard

The COCA mission for this year is for all lodges to take an active role in their community awareness programs. In early February, Grand Lodge will distribute this message to all lodge secretaries. They will be instructed to forward this message to each member of their lodge email distribution list to inform them about the Hartford Wolf Pack hockey game on Friday, March 29 at the XL Center in Hartford. Members who do not want to attend this event can offer to purchase tickets that can be donated by the lodge to a local youth hockey league or a local Boy Scout troop.

I recently spoke with the Hartford Wolf Pack marketing group and these are your lodge purchase options:

1. Tickets can be purchased on line: [www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org](http://www.CTFreemasonFamilyDay.org). This is a vendor ticket agent with a cost per ticket. If brethren want to purchase \$15 tickets for a fund raiser with the \$5 returned to the lodge, this is most effective plan.
2. Tickets can be purchased direct from the Wolf Pack for \$15 each: Call James Warner at 860-241-4227. \$5 per ticket will still be returned but it will take longer to receive the money.
3. Tickets can be purchased direct from the Wolf Pack for \$10 each: Call James Warner at 860-241-4227. No money will be returned but it will still be a great night out with friends.

On March 29, the Masons have a unique opportunity to demonstrate that our craft is a true band of Brothers to our youth and the general public. Grand Lodge is beginning to roll out their new communication system. I will be trained the week of February 11 to use this new system. Lodge communication has been majorly challenged to distribute our message to brothers and the public. I would hope that you take this opportunity to generate a lodge email distribution list, especially if you presently do not have this capability.

Let us begin to show by example that the tenets of our Craft are still relevant today as Masons embrace our new Connecticut Grand Lodge theme:

“For now, more than ever, the world needs men of honor and integrity. Men that unite and not those who divide. That seek the truth and share Brotherly Love with all, no matter their race, religion, gender or creed. Men that live with virtue and character, always striving to be even better. NOT JUST A MAN. A MASON.”



Save the Date for the 230th Year Celebration  
of the  
Grand Lodge of Connecticut, A.F. & A.M.



**When:** Sunday, July 21, 2019    **Where:** 207 Deming St., Newington, CT    **Time:** 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m.

Open to all Masons and the public.    Vendors and guest speakers to be announced.

All Masonic organizations will be invited to provide information about who they are and what they do.

Will have several guest speakers for both public presentations and tiled Masonic presentations.

*Stay tuned for coming announcements*



# Valley of Hartford, AASR

by David R. Blythe, Sr., Secretary Emeritus

Rainbows. Probably everyone has seen one, but rarely does anyone regularly talk about them. However, it is a little-known fact that a “rainbow actually is a complete circle with its center opposite the sun and the lower part of the rainbow cut off by the horizon.” Since Masonry is a universally accepted fraternity throughout the world, perhaps we, as American Masons, only see one half of that rainbow, but maybe a Mason in England, Europe, or in the Pacific sees the other half.

So why am I writing about rainbows? Let’s do a little comparison of Masonry to a rainbow. To an outsider, Masonry is just an organization that they may have heard of, so it will appear as a very dull or faint rainbow. Once they decide to ask someone how they can become a member and take the first three degrees, the rainbow begins to get brighter. Returning to Blue Lodge to see the degrees again and again they get a better get understanding of what they went through and the rainbow starts to become ever brighter. However, they are only seeing what everyone else can see, that part of the rainbow above the horizon.

Scottish Rite Masons see the whole rainbow, but not yet in true brilliant color unless they take the additional degrees, beyond the basic required degrees to become a 32nd Degree Mason. Only when a Scottish Rite brother returns to take additional degrees can the rainbow be seen in its full brilliance. The lessons of the degrees impact lives by their core values: Reverence for God, Integrity, Justice, Tolerance, Devotion to Country, and Service to Humanity.

The spring class schedule has started with both the required degrees and others that have not been portrayed in the last couple of classes. By constantly officering different degrees in each class, it will help members fill their passport book so they can submit it to the Valley office, and receive a “Gold Passport Book – the pot of gold the Irish say can be found at the end of a rainbow. If you do not have a passport book or have lost yours and would like one, please contact the Valley office (860) 666-0712 or email at [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net).

## Reminders:

- For those who have not paid their 2019 dues, they are now due.
- It is not too late to sign up for any of the upcoming pre-degree dinners nor the Consistory Day Prime Rib luncheon.
- The College Scholarship application deadline is Monday, April 1. Children or grandchildren of Valley of Hartford members in good standing must submit applications in duplicate along with one copy each of a FAFSA report, one or more recommendations, and the latest official high school, college, or university transcript (in a sealed envelope from the school) attached to the application. The transcript can also be sent directly from the school to the Valley office – Valley of Hartford. P.O. Box 319198, Newington, CT 06131-0198.
- Thursday, May 9 is the Annual Workers Night and Installation of Officers. Those who served as officers, those who helped with degree work in any capacity in the calendar year 2018, and who are current with their dues are eligible to be invited.
- Be on the lookout for some upcoming Family Life events. You can receive advance notification of these events by making sure that your current email address is on file with the Valley office. Also see the Valley website <http://valleyofhartford.org/events/familylifeevents/>
- Your help is needed to help increase our membership and find well qualified members who want to get involved either on stage or to become an officer in one of the four bodies: Lodge of Perfection, Price of Jerusalem, Rose Croix, or Consistory.



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Newington, CT 06111

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*We will strive to be a fraternity that fulfills our  
Masonic obligation to care for our members.*

---

**2019 Spring Informational Schedule**

**Thursday, March 21** - Portrayal of 18th Degree - 7:30 p.m.  
Pre-Degree dinner 6:10 p.m. - Reservation Required

**Monday, April 1** - Deadline to Submit  
College Scholarship Applications, both Abbott and Valley

**Saturday, April 13** - Consistory Day - 9 a.m.  
29th Degree - Award Presentations - 32nd Degree  
Prime Rib Luncheon - Reservations Required

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**For Reservations --- Call (860) 666-0712**

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For more information about becoming a member  
of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, or to  
receive a Scottish Rite informational DVD,  
contact Tony Angelica, 32°, Secretary,  
Valley of Hartford AASR  
(860) 666-0712 Email: [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net)  
[www.valleyofhartford.org](http://www.valleyofhartford.org)

*If you would like more information, contact the Valley of Hartford office. Informational DVDs are available upon request. The Valley of Hartford office hours are Monday, Wednesday, or Friday between 9 a.m. and noon. You can call at (860) 666-0712, or email your questions or requests to [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net). There is no better way to learn who we are and what we do, than to talk to a fellow Scottish Rite Mason.*

# 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 Connecticut 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

### 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, 7 p.m.

Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden. BINGO! **Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments**

### Every Thursday, 7 p.m.

Putnam Lodge No. 46, Putnam. **Thursday Night Meeting, Socializing, Rehearsing, Prepping.**

### First Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford. Mason Night @ OAH, **Orange Ale House 517 Boston Post Rd Orange CT**

### Second & Fourth Wednesday 7 p.m.

Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford. Fellowship Night at the Lodge. **Open to all brothers, friends. Refreshments and discussion. Please call to verify.**

### Third Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Day Spring Lodge No 30, Hamden. Masonic Information Night **Open to all who may be interested in Masonry, with interesting presentations and discussion.**

### Every Friday, 7 p.m.

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

### Second Saturday, 7 p.m.

Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden. Movie Night **Films, Snacks and beverages will be provided.**

## RECURRING MONTHLY BREAKFASTS

### First Sunday, 7 a.m.

Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington. **SBA Breakfast Fund-raiser**

### Second Sunday, 8 a.m.

Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford. Fellowship Breakfast (8 a.m. to 10 a.m.)

### Third Sunday, 8 a.m.

Washington Lodge No. 19, Monroe. Country breakfast

### First Thursday, 9 a.m.

8th District Lodges Niantic. District Breakfast, Groton Townhouse, Rt 12, Groton CT

## EVENTS

### Sun., February 3, 3 p.m.

Ionic Lodge No. 110, North Windham. Ionic Lodge Superbowl Party **Come down to the lodge and watch the Superbowl with your brothers. Everyone bring something to share. BYOB. Cigar swap for halftime.**

### Sat., March 2, 5 p.m.

Harmony Lodge No. 42, Waterbury. George Washington Dinner, *Annual dinner in honor of Brother George Washington! Open to brothers and non-mason males! Reservations required.*

### Sat., March 2, 6 p.m.

Village Lodge No. 29, Collinsville. Mardi Gras Celebration,

### Sat., March 9, 6 p.m.

Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton. Annual St. Patrick's Table Lodge,

### Sun., March 10, 1 p.m.

Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, St Patrick's Day Parade, *All Brothers and friends are invited to march with us in the New Haven, St. Patrick's Day Parade.*

### Mon., March 11, 7:30 p.m.

Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor. Awards Night

### Thu., March 14, 6:30 p.m.

Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven. Table lodge

### Fri., March 15, 6:30 p.m.

Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury. Table Lodge, St. Patty's Day Irish Theme

### Wed., March 20, 7:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, Litchfield. Game Dinner Table Lodge,

### Sat., March 23, 7 a.m.

Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield. 59th Annual Pancake Festival,

### Sat., March 23, 3 p.m.

Fayette Lodge No. 69, Ellington. Fayette Lodge 2nd Annual Chili Cookoff,

### Mon., March 25, 7 p.m.

America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford. Paint Night at the Lodge - More details to follow

### Tue., March 26, 6:30 p.m.

King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury. Fellowcraft Dinner

### Wed., March 27, 6 p.m.

Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford. Past Master's Association. Dinner

### Fri., March 29, 7 p.m.

Village Lodge No. 29, Collinsville. Masonic Movie Night,

### Fri., March 29, 7 p.m.,

Fayette Lodge No. 69, Ellington. Wolf Pack Hockey Game, XL Center Hartford, A night of brotherhood and hockey. Event begins at 6, game begins at 7:15. Tickets are \$15

### Fri., March 29, 7:30 p.m.

Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield. Entertainment Night

Life is a  
culmination of  
the past, an  
awareness of  
the present,  
an indication  
of a future  
beyond knowledge,  
the quality  
that gives a  
touch of divinity  
to matter.

- Brother Charles Lindbergh



# 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.*

## GRAND LODGE ANNUAL SESSION

**Monday, April 8, 8 a.m.,** Cromwell,  
Red Lion Hotel (Note corrected date and place.)

## ENTERED APPRENTICE DEGREES

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

**Mon., March 25, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Washington Lodge No. 70**  
Windsor, Dinner

**Tue., March 26, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Fayette Lodge No. 69**  
Ellington,

**Thu., April 4, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3,**  
Fairfield, Dinner

## FELLOWCRAFT DEGREES

**Mon., March 4, 6 p.m.**  
**Compass Lodge No. 9**  
Wallingford, Dinner

**Wed., March, 6 6:30 p.m.**  
**Union Lodge No. 5**  
Stamford, Dinner

**Mon., March 11, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Evening Star Lodge No. 101**  
Unionville, Dinner

**Wed., March 20, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Columbia Lodge No. 25**  
South Glastonbury, Dinner

**Thu., March 21, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Harmony Lodge No. 42**  
Waterbury, Dinner,  
*Colonial Fellowcraft Degree*

**Tue., March 26, 6:30 p.m.**  
**King Solomon's Lodge No. 7**  
Woodbury, Dinner

**Tue., March 26, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Village Lodge No. 29**  
Canton, Dinner,  
*Past Masters Fellowcraft Degree*

## MASTER MASON DEGREES

**Thu., March 7, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3**  
Fairfield, Dinner

**Tue., March 19, 6:30 p.m.**  
**America-St. John's Lodge No. 8**  
Stratford, Dinner

**Tue., March 26, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Brainard Lodge No. 102**  
Niantic, Dinner



*An Invitation from  
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**100 Mason Night  
Monday, April 22, 2019**

*at*  
**Pearl of the West  
Lodge No. 146**

**6319 Louisian Ave.,  
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*for*  
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in the E.A. Degree**  
*~ A Fun-filled Night with  
Masonic Education ~*

**Dinner: 6 p.m.**  
Suggested Donation of \$8  
No RSVP - Just Come!

**Lodge Opens: 7:30 p.m.**

Please join us as we venture to have  
100 brothers join us for a special  
evening of Masonic education, fun  
and fellowship. All brothers are  
warmly welcome no matter where  
your primary lodge may be.



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# Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to **DONATE LIFE**<sup>SM</sup>



## And the Answer is...[www.registerme.org](http://www.registerme.org) by Richard F. Denno

Many of us, either registered organ donors or not, have questions about different aspects of organ donation. At lodges where we have given talks some of the same questions are voiced. In most cases, we refer you to the professionals at Donate Life for the answers. They now have a new **national** Donate Life Registry. Even if you have previously registered at your DMV or at the [www.donatelifenewengland.org](http://www.donatelifenewengland.org) site, you should sign up at the new national website [www.registerme.org](http://www.registerme.org). Signing up in the national Donate Life Registry ensures your registration travels with you, no matter where you live or move across the country. Time being very important regarding the recovery and transplantation of organs, the new website makes it much easier for medical professionals to access the information necessary to recover and transplant lifesaving organs in needy patients on the waiting list.

But the new national registry is much more valuable to both professionals and donors. Through their Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section, many of the answers to your questions are available. If you don't find the answers you are looking for, there is contact information to get those answers for you.

An informed donor is a confident donor; one who is comfortable in their lifesaving decision. Informed donors are far more likely to encourage others to register and become lifesavers as well.

Organ donor registrants should inform their family and friends of

their decision. Be sure to get their "buy-in" on your donation. You may revoke your decision to donate at any time. However, **you** are the only one who can do that. Therefore, having your family aware of your registration decision is so important.

More than 120,000 people in the U.S. are waiting for lifesaving organ transplants. Thousands more need tissue or corneal transplants to restore their health, such as mobility or sight. Since the creation of the Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Program, over 9 corneas have been recovered. Both of Midge Denno's corneas were recovered. Now a 71-year-old woman and a 25-year-old Pakistani man have had their vision restored or improved. Because deceased donations are anonymous to the recipients, there may be others who, through our program, become donors.

Now that you know the answers, or at least where to find them, please go to [www.registerme.org](http://www.registerme.org), and make that decision that will extend or improve life for those on the waiting list.

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# Children's Dyslexia Center Expands *by John A. Amarillos*

In 2002, the Scottish Rite Valley of Waterbury set aside space in the building at 529 Highland Avenue to house the state's first Children's Dyslexia Center. The program, spearheaded by the Scottish Rite Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, was founded in 1994 when it joined forces with the Massachusetts General Hospital to combat the life long frustration associated with the condition. This was the first philanthropic effort to address the condition in the nation, and the Scottish Rite's Children's Dyslexia Centers continue to be unique in offering these life-altering services at no cost to the youngsters whom they serve.

For the first time in 17 years, the Connecticut CDC has expanded its scope by opening a second satellite center in Bridgeport at 961 Huntington Turnpike. With the waiting list of hopeful students exceeding 30, the expansion was seen as logical step in addressing the unmet needs of school-age children around the state.

Center Co-Directors Cheryl Sharkis and Connie Vogt were on hand on a surprisingly balmy January 13 when the school formally had its grand opening. In attendance were numerous local personages, many brothers from the other Valleys in Connecticut, as well as dignitaries from the Rite's Lexington

Massachusetts headquarters.

The overwhelming show of support for expansion of the program has also led the Valley of Hartford to commit to support yet a third center in the Hartford area this spring.

The centers provide life-altering services

to children who are in early elementary school through high school, regardless of economic status, on a first come, first serve basis.

The curriculum used as the basis for tutoring and tutor training at all Children's Dyslexia Centers integrates the principles of two of the leading Orton-Gillingham approaches. The Orton-Gillingham system, developed in the 1920s, uses a sequential, multi-sensory phonetic approach. Thus, a variety of sensory data is used to help children understand the written word.

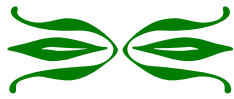
School teachers receive training and continuing education credits to become certified Children's Dyslexia Center tutors. Children are tutored one-on-one twice a week after regular school hours. This allows for the curriculum to be tailored to each individual child as necessary and progress is made in small, readily quantifiable steps.

Your fraternal support in maintaining and expanding the effort is, as always, greatly appreciated. You can contact the Center's fundraising Committee Chairman, Robert J. Furce, at [rjfurce@snet.net](mailto:rjfurce@snet.net), for information on how to direct your gifts and donations.



*Staff, distinguished guests, including those from the Connecticut Valleys and Lexington, Massachusetts, and children attend the ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Children's Dyslexia Center satellite in Bridgeport.*





# BOOSTERS



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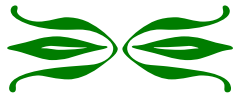
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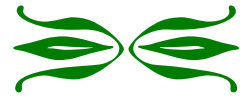
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*Boosters continued on next page*





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# Tuscan Lodge No. 17, Adah Chapter No. 22 Give Helping Hands to Hands on Hartford

*by Shante Grady*

**O**n January 12, Adah Chapter No. 22, Order of Eastern Star and Tuscan Lodge No. 17 F&AM Prince Hall, visited with Hands on Hartford Shelter, a nonprofit organization at 55 Bartholomew Ave, Hartford. This organization is part of Adah Chapter's community outreach charities.

The chapter prepared meals and gave out toiletry goods to 13 deserving individuals. Hands on Hartford helps over 550 families a month with canned goods and toiletry items. Within the shelter, Hands on Hartford has a housing program for 13 residents, currently 10 men and three women, all of whom come from different cultural backgrounds.

The residents were very apprehensive at first, but once they saw the prepared food, their shyness was broken and they ate merrily. Each received an individual toiletry bag containing toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning products, deodorant, lotion, shampoo and conditioner, Kleenex, Emergen-C pack, fabric softener, laundry detergent, dish washing soap, hand soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, and bars of soap.

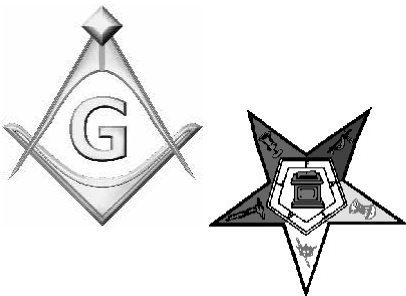
Adah Chapter was very happy to lend a helping hand for the betterment of mankind. It was rewarding to have brothers and sisters working together for a worthy cause.



*Adah Chapter No. 22 preparing plates for the residents of Hands on Hartford.*



*Worthy Patron James Hall and Sister Eustacia Williams preparing personal bags for each resident.*



*(l-r) Sisters Shante Grady, Eustacia Williams, Brenda Brinson, Alva Fitch, Loretta Lenair, Opal Johnson, MWB Lewis Myrick Sr. and Brother Roche Collins at Hands on Hartford*





## 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 Perne Maynard at 860-993-7931 or [pernemaynard@CtFreemasons.net](mailto:pernemaynard@CtFreemasons.net)

**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**



**Join us with the Hartford Wolf Pack at the XL Center in Hartford on Friday, March 29, 2019 for the warm-up and other pre-game events beginning at 6:00 p.m. The game begins at 7:15.**



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