

September 2022



Connecticut FREEMASONS



★★★★★
DEMOLAY.
INTERNATIONAL

IN THIS ISSUE

Call to the Semi-Annual Communication
of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut

Call to the Annual Membership Meeting
of Masonicare

THE
ROAD
BEGINS
HERE

**Officers of the
Grand Lodge of Connecticut
A. F. & A. M. 2022- 2023**



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Assistant to the Grand Master



*Congratulations to
DISTRICT 6,
the September 2022
recipient of the
Editor's Award!*



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Letters, articles, and advertisements may
 be sent to the Editor Frank Way
 at **submissions@ctfreemasons.net**
 and are due on the 10th of the month prior
 to the next issue.

Not just a man. A Mason.



Volume 18 - Number 2

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

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Sebastian R. Pesquera Elected to International DeMolay Office

by Harry E. Needham, III

In 2022, Connecticut DeMolay is celebrating its 100th anniversary of making young men of today into leaders of tomorrow. It was a century ago that the state's first chapter was established in Bridgeport. Many young men have come into our chapters and learned our lessons well, and become great civic and Masonic leaders. One has made history in a different way.

Sebastian R. Pesquera, Connecticut's immediate Past State Master Councilor, has been elected to International Office, and installed as the 56th International Congress Secretary this past June in Orlando, Florida. He is the very first DeMolay from Connecticut to hold an international office.

A true representative of this great organization, based on the principles of filial love, reverence for sacred things, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity, cleanness, and patriotism, Sebastian has served his chapter, his jurisdiction, and his brother DeMolays with distinction. His main focus has always been the betterment of DeMolay.

Sebastian's journey into DeMolay started with a phone call to Milford Chapter, inquiring about the process for joining DeMolay and shortly thereafter he joined DeMolay on April 26, 2017. There he found a second family in the chapter, eagerly embracing the chant "birds of the feather flock together, fear the pigeon!" It was clear from the beginning that he found his niche in joining DeMolay, rising through the ranks of Milford Chapter, and being installed as Master Councilor in October 2018.

He has served as state 2nd Preceptor, Chaplain, Marshal, and Senior Councilor; he was invested with the Degree of Chevalier, and on July 18, 2021, he was installed as Connecticut's 91st State Master Councilor. During his tenure as SMC, he established a Membership Incentive Plan, Ritual Excellence Days, a holiday party, and Winterfest.

He and his officers organized a Connecticut Bowling Tournament open to all of the Masonic family, which helped raise funds for his charity of Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Sebastian has also done his part to build bridges between every brother of this order. In attendance at Brotherhood Weekend were members of not only Connecticut DeMolay but over 35 out-of-state guests, representing over nine jurisdictions and four separate regions.

One of the most successful events of the year was the enhancement of Connecticut DeMolay's Master Ritualist Program, which added a new level of excellence with the designation of Knight Ritualist. Sebastian qualified as the first Knight Ritualist.

Continued on page 8



Sebastian being collared at his installation.



Sebastian R. Pesquera, DeMolay International, 56th International Congress Secretary, Past State Master Councilor of Connecticut.

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

JAMES M. ANDERSON
GRAND SECRETARY
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Wallingford, CT 06492



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REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL
GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. of CONNECTICUT
October 15, 2022

The 2022 Regular Semi-Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut will be held in the auditorium of **The Hartog Activities Center at Ashlar Village on the Masonicare Campus in Wallingford, Connecticut on Saturday, October 15, 2022.** You will need to follow the instructions of the Security Staff for parking. You may enter from either Cheshire Road or from Masonic Avenue. Bus transportation will be provided as necessary. **Please note that the Masonicare Campus is a 100% smoke free facility.**

The formal opening will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. Recommended arrival time is 8 a.m. Please note it is anticipated that the session may extend slightly beyond noon, but it will conclude by 12:30 p.m..

This Regular Communication is called for the purpose of electing Grand Lodge Officers for the year 2023. In addition, we will receive certain committee reports, act on any legislation changes that may be in order for consideration and other issues, time permitting, as directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Rev. and Brother Bruce R. Bellmore. Section 8203 of our Masonic Law does permit action on changes to the Rules and Regulations, which are raised from the floor or motions presented in Committee Reports at the meeting without prior notice to the Craft.

The pending legislation items may be published in the September 2022 issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*. Please bring the appropriate reference material with you to the meeting. Limited copies will be available. The current committee reports (October 2022) will be posted on the Grand Lodge membership system (Grand View).

Registration of delegates will begin at 8:00 a.m. **All brothers attending must present a 2022 dues card upon entering the tiled lodge.** All voting delegates must register at the registration table. Registration will be by lodge number as designated by posted signs in the area.

Should you not be able to attend in person as a principal officer of your lodge or should you wish to proxy your vote representing your lodge so you can vote on your own behalf, if eligible, please fill out a proxy form that will be mailed to you under separate cover. If your proxy form is not properly filled out and signed by you, it will not be accepted at the session. Each officer, or his proxy, should bring the appropriate apron and jewel of his respective office. Sections 2300 and 2301 of our Rules and Regulations state that a Roll of Lodges will occur early in the opening of the session. **Proxy forms will be emailed directly to the lodge officers.**

*The Grand Lodge/Masonicare continues to monitor the COVID-19 local, state, and CDC guidelines.
We will notify you in a timely manner if there are any changes to our attendance requirements*

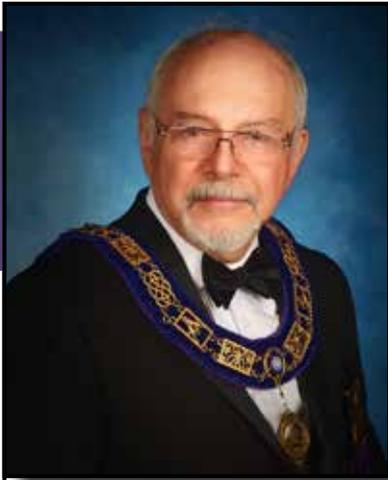
With my fraternal best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James M. Anderson".

James M. Anderson
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary

Wallingford, Connecticut
September 1, 2022

TO BE READ AT THE NEXT STATED COMMUNICATION UPON RECEIPT



Grand Master's Message

by Rev. and MWB Bruce R. Bellmore



My dear brothers,

The summer months have been extremely hot, but the Masonic Family in Connecticut has not let the weather slow us down!

DeMolay Conclave started the month of July off on a high note. Brother Sebastian Pesquera, State Master Councilor 2021-2022, having just been elected International Congress Secretary of DeMolay International, returned to run a great Conclave. The Grand Lodge officers were pleased to attend the Installation of Brother Jack Campbell as the new State Master Councilor and to offer our congratulations to Sebastian for an outstanding year and wish him the best of luck in all his travels, both here and abroad, during his year as International Congress Secretary. The Grand Lodge offers its sincere thanks to Dad and RWB Brian Beals, Executive Officer in CT, and his staff for their service to our young men.

Mom Anne Needham, Supreme Inspector of the International Order of Rainbow for Girls for Connecticut, led a delegation of young women and advisors to Oklahoma for the 100th Anniversary Session of the Supreme Assembly. Many of our Grand Officers, including Grand Worthy Advisor, Brenna Wrinn, and Past Grand Worthy Advisor, Adele Rossignol, took part in the ceremonies. Our hearts are filled with pride in their participation and representation of Connecticut. Mom Needham and her Advisors are doing outstanding work and deserve our sincere appreciation and support.

Your Grand Lodge officers attended the New England Conference of Grand Masters held in Concord, NH. This annual meeting of the six New England jurisdictions provides a forum to address areas of mutual concern and to discuss ways to improve our engagement in the community. It is also an enjoyable time of fellowship and helps the Grand Officers to form bonds with their peers from other states as they approach the Grand East.

I also had the pleasure of greeting the Supreme Queen of the Daughters of the Nile, Vicki Tabor Hill, at her reception in Pyremus Temple. The Daughters of the Nile is the second largest contributor to Shiners Children and have donated over \$71 million to help our children.

I also attended several functions sponsored by the Scottish Rite Valleys of Hartford, Bridgeport, and New Haven. The highlight of these events was presenting WB Harvey Hartin with the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze at the Valley of Bridgeport Organizational Dinner. WB Harvey is one of the brothers who always is working behind the scenes and will do whatever work is needed to promote our fraternity.

Saturday, August 13, was the realization of one of my goals as Grand Master as we brought all our Masonic Family together for the "Olde Fashioned Masonic Family Picnic." Approximately 250 members of our Masonic family enjoyed great food, good music, games, and fellowship on the grounds of Masonicare at Ashlar Village. We thank all our co-sponsors, the Valley of New Haven who sponsored the pig roast, Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 for sponsoring the DJ, CT IORG for providing games, and most especially the staff of Masonicare who went above and beyond to make this event an enormous success. Special thanks to CEO JP Venoit and Board Chairman Bob Polito who shared my vision, and a special tip of my top hat to RWB Carl Anderson who oversaw the arrangements and even took time away from his family and vacation to fly back to Connecticut and make sure everything went smoothly.

Our Masonic Family is especially important to me and to your Grand Lodge officers. We stand ready to support and assist all the appendant and concordant bodies whenever possible. This is what families do, and we are truly a family of brothers and sisters united by our love of our institutions. May God bless you and all our Masonic Family!

Fraternally,

Rev. and Brother Bruce R. Bellmore

Masonicare



✦ An Ageless Commitment to Caring

TO: All Voting Members of Masonicare Corporation

FROM: Bro. Robert F. Polito, Chairman, Board of Trustees

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MASONICARE CORPORATION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022
MASONICARE AT ASHLAR VILLAGE
KNAPP AUDITORIUM
WALLINGFORD, CT 06492

Time: 9:00 a.m. *

This meeting is being held as part of the Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication. Please make every effort to attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to vote upon the following issues:

- Approval of the 132nd Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
- Election of Trustee
 1. Bro. Newton Buckner - Evening Star Lodge No. 101
 2. Bro. Christopher J. Earle - Trumbull Lodge No. 22
 3. Bro. Robert J. Furce - Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142
 4. Bro. Thaddeus M. Stewart - Prince Hall Representative-Orient Lodge No. 6

Board of Trustees,

Robert F. Polito
Chairman
Masonicare Corporation

* Actual time is at the discretion of the Grand Master.

Directions to the 2022 Regular Semi-Annual Communication of Grand Lodge and the 133rd Annual Membership Meeting of Masonicare Corporation is located on page 7.

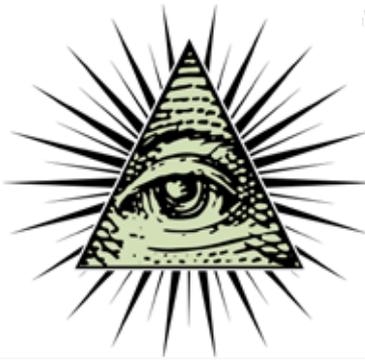
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 75-YEAR BROTHER!

Arthur Agustos Quoos
Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50-YEAR BROTHERS!

Paul Hallet Rice
Ionic Lodge No. 110

C. Daniel Thayer, Jr.
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145



Spiritual Corner

by Rev. & RWB Carl Anderson

The book of Daniel is a wonderful example of courage in the face of great peril. An underlying theme of sacred text is certainly the reliance on faith as one trusts in God. Daniel was able to place his trust

in God and not allow the circumstances to shake his faith. He accomplished this by pausing and praying when met with crisis. Therefore, he often he had to wait on God for spiritual direction before moving forward.

From Daniel, we learn much of the benefit of taking time to pause in moments of crisis and turmoil to pray. While it is tempting to take matters into one's own hands during times of difficulty, taking time to stop and pray is a Masonic lesson we could apply as Daniel did. Certainly, this will often help us to gain clarity as we navigate the twists and turns as we journey through life. The story of Daniel is a wonderful depiction of what it means to put faith into action. His story is one that affirms the role of faith and trust in God through prayer. As Masons, we are taught to never enter into any important undertaking without first invoking the blessing of Deity, and Daniel, although not a Mason, is a wonderful example of this teaching in action.

In this fast-paced world and times of uncertainty, I believe we would all be better off if we do as Daniel did and have a conversation with God. We can also offer a simple prayer to ask for direction and help. God is always there and is never too busy to hear our prayers and to help us find our way through life.

Remember that even the shortest prayer is heard by God.

ASHLAR VILLAGE DIRECTIONS

From Hartford, Connecticut

- I-91 South to exit #17 (Wilbur Cross Parkway - Route 15 South)
- Take exit #64, at end of ramp there is a traffic light, turn left at light
- Immediately at next light, turn right onto Cheshire Road
- Ashlar Village Main Entrance is ½ mile on the right

From Waterbury, Connecticut

- 84 East to exit #27 (691 East) towards Meriden/Middletown
- Take exit #10 (Wilbur Cross Parkway - Route 15 South)
- Take exit #64, at end of ramp there is a traffic light, turn left at light
- Immediately at next light, turn right onto Cheshire Road
- Ashlar Village Main Entrance is ½ mile on the right.

From Essex, Connecticut

- Route 9 North to exit #20S (I-91 South) on the left towards New Haven
- Take exit #17 (W. Cross Pkwy - Route 15 South)
- Take exit #64, at end of ramp there is a traffic light, turn left at light
- Immediately at next light, turn right onto Cheshire Road
- Ashlar Village Main Entrance is ½ mile on the right

From New Haven, Connecticut via Route 15

- Route 15 North to exit #64
- Turn left at traffic light
- At second light, turn right onto Cheshire Road
- Ashlar Village Main Entrance is ½ mile on the right

From New Haven, Connecticut via I-91

- I-91 North to exit #13 (left hand exit)
- At traffic light, turn left then immediately turn right onto Toelles Road
- At stop sign turn right onto S. Turnpike Road
- At second traffic light, turn left onto Cheshire Road
- Ashlar Village Main Entrance is ½ mile on the right

Sebastian Pesquera Elected continued from page 3

His journey to International Congress Secretary started with Executive Officer Dad Brian Beals to whom Sebastian laid out his vision for DeMolay on the international level.

After acquiring the full support of the jurisdiction, he set out to explore the needs of the broader DeMolay community, traveling to Northern California, Ohio, Florida, and Kentucky. By working diligently with his team, (his campaign manager is current SMC Jack Campbell), Sebastian created a top-tier campaign, truly connecting with both jurisdictional and chapter leadership, all to best represent the interests of every DeMolay in the Congress. Receiving 74 percent of the vote, the DeMolay

International Congress expressed their confidence that he could provide intelligent and consecrated leadership on the international level.

Now serving in his new office, Sebastian is currently working with the International Master Councilor and the Grand Master of DeMolay to better the DeMolay experience for every active youth in the world.

As we celebrate this our 100th Year in Connecticut, remember these words so often heard and never forgotten by millions of young men, God Bless Mother, God Bless Father, God Bless the purposes of DeMolay.

Congratulations Sebastian and Congratulations Connecticut DeMolay.



CT DeMolay delegation at International Supreme Council (ISC) Session (missing from photo Christopher J. Earle) (l-r) J. Andrew Birdsall, Jack A. Campbell, Sebastian R. Pesquera, Brian E. Beals, Harry E. Needham III, and Eric R. Evarts.



State Master Councilor Jack Campbell and Sebastian.



Cooper Crabtree, 56th International Master Councilor; Jonathan Sellars, Grand Master of DeMolay International; and Sebastian.



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____ Master Mason
\$250 or more

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

Peter J. Alling
Trumbull Lodge No. 22

George P. Ambulos
Brainard Lodge No. 102

Donald G. Berry
Wooster Lodge No. 10

Lester C. Boyce
Coastal Lodge No. 57

Daniel George Carr
King Hiram Lodge No. 12

Joseph E. Coleman
Valley Lodge No. 36

George James Cronk
Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107

John C. Davis
Ionic Lodge No. 110

Clifford W. DeForest
Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107

Robert Thomas Dietzko
Estuary Lodge No. 43

Ronald William Eastwood
Hiram Lodge No. 18

Donald Wentley Emery, Jr.
Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14

Gather Tommie Everett
Brainard Lodge No. 102

Norman Fisher
Fayette Lodge No. 69

Malcolm Leon Grogins
Union Lodge No. 5

Charles Arthur Haworth
Evening Star Lodge No. 101

Sander L. Hendel
Sequin Level Lodge No. 140

Charles Robert Hnilicka
Solar Lodge No. 131

Thomas C. Hofstetter
Temple Lodge No. 65

Edgar E. Lent
Valley Lodge No. 36

Alexander J. Matthew
Manchester Lodge No. 73

Myron Jay Musselman
Montgomery Lodge No. 13

Robert Antone Opekun
King Hiram Lodge No. 12

Ronald S. Rainey
Fidelity St. John's Lodge No. 3

Martin Resnikoff
Anchor Lodge No. 112

Ted Philip Selken
Union Lodge No. 40

John N. Waters
Columbia Lodge No. 25

Michael Marc Winess
Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125

Daniel A. Winkler, Jr.
Washington Lodge No. 19

A conversation with WB Gary Post



For WB Gary Post, volunteering his time for Masonicare – from the annual Masonicare Golf Classic to the spiritual care he offers Masonicare Health Center residents each week as a lay chaplain – is an extension of his lifelong ties to Freemasonry.

Both Gary's father and grandfather belonged to the fraternity. As a teen, he was a member of the Order of DeMolay, an experience that helped shape and reinforce his values. He is a Past Master of Temple Lodge No. 16 in Cheshire and currently serves on the board of the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation.

Gary's first real introduction to Masonicare occurred nearly three decades ago when his late mother, Grace, moved to Ashlar Village in Wallingford. Over the next 14 years, she took full advantage of the independent living community's programs and activities. Grace was 100 years old when she passed away peacefully at Masonicare Health Center.

"I think part of the reason why she made it to 100," Gary recalled, "was because at Masonicare, she was physically and mentally engaged every day."

In 2021, Gary and his wife, Sandy, became Ashlar Village residents themselves to enjoy care-free living and easy access to our healthcare continuum.

"One thing that has been truly joyful for us," he said, "is the quality of people we are surrounded by – both staff and residents alike. In spite of the struggles we've all faced due to COVID, everyone has been just fantastic."

The more you learn about Masonicare and our approach to caring for older adults, the more you'll find that Gary's experience is not unique. Let us show you why we're the No. 1 nonprofit provider of healthcare and retirement living options for seniors in Connecticut.

We are *your* Masonicare.

Call us today at 1-800-982-3919 or visit masonicare.org



From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

I enjoyed seeing many of you last month at both the 30th annual Masonicare Golf Classic at The Farms Country Club and the Masonic Family Picnic at Ashlar Village – two great opportunities for fun and fellowship.

Summer was a busy season at Masonicare, as we continued to adjust to the post-pandemic world and look for opportunities for growth.

It was early December 2020 when a decline in census exacerbated by the COVID threat prompted us to close the 3 Wooster unit at Masonicare Health Center. The few residents on the unit at the time were relocated to other parts of the building and employees were reassigned to other units where we had open positions. It was always our intention that the unit would reopen should the need arise. I'm pleased to announce that the newly renovated 3 Wooster will reopen this month as a secure, designated space for residents who have Alzheimer's and other types of dementia and require special care.

There have also been some changes at Masonicare Home Health & Hospice. Responding to industry and market trends, we realized that operating multiple branch offices in New Haven County no longer fit with our long-term strategic plan. As a result, in late September, the Derby branch will close and merge with our branch in Wallingford. Even though we'll no longer have an office space in Derby, that community will continue to benefit from the quality, compassionate care that has come to define Masonicare Home Health & Hospice.

Finally, I want to congratulate this year's recipients of the Norma J. Brandt Nursing Scholarship at Masonicare. All are Masonicare employees or children of employees: Leah Migliore (Goodwin University), Benjamin Jackson (Three Rivers Community College), Daniel Cruz (Capital Community College), LaToya Spencer (Goodwin

University), Danielle Addy (Southern Connecticut State University), Misbea Baffour Addo (Quinnipiac University), and Britney Diakpieng (Southern Connecticut State University).

This scholarship was made possible by a generous gift to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut by Norma's husband, the late Bro. John Brandt. John was incredibly proud that Norma's legacy of caring would live on at Masonicare by inspiring others to pursue a career in nursing.



Sincerely and fraternally,

Masonicare 
An Ageless Commitment to Caring



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VALLEY OF HARTFORD, AASR

by David R. Blythe, Sr.

In a few days, summer will be over. Fall is just around the corner. The Valley of Hartford and its newly installed officers are ready to portray degrees on new candidates seeking membership in the Scottish Rite. The Valley is also ready for some Family Life Events. Before seeing what the future has in store for September, let's review what has happened since the last article appeared in the July issue of the *Connecticut Freemasons*.

In June:

The Ill. Sterling S. Viets, 33rd, Valley of Hartford College Scholarship recipients were announced. Valley sponsor names appear in parenthesis. Each recipient received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Matt C. Anderson (Melvin E. Johnson), Adam H. Brown (F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr.), Vivienne M. Grube (Walter Grube), Marina S. Perry (Earl S. Evans), Anna J. Santy (Melvin E. Johnson), Alexia S. Scovill (John Taylor), Michaela S. Wrinn (Wilard DeLuca), Megan A. and Mogan J. Beebe (Richard Beebe), McKenna Q. Belury (Robert Ulrich), Tyler A. Dias (Jose Dias), Alexandra J. Fitzgerald (Robert G. Fitzgerald), Benjamin A. and Nicole L. Lukens (John Lukens), Amy E. Matson (Roger T. Ramm), Chloe F. Pearson (John E. Pearson), Adele J. Rossignol (International Order of Rainbow for Girls), Micah G. Rothkopf (Orson Rothkopf), Dominic S. Rowland (DeMolay), Nina M. Santy (Melvin E. Johnson), and Brett P. Sheldrick (Richard K. White).

The Valley offers scholarships to incoming freshman and returning college students who qualify based on the Supreme Council, NMJ, guidelines and whose sponsor is a member of the Valley (father or grandfather) in good standing at the time the application is submitted. Valley Scholarships are also available to the International Order of Rainbow for Girls and DeMolay members from a Chapter sponsored by one of the Blue Lodges within our jurisdiction. Scholarship applications will also be accepted from a student that graduated from the Children's Learning Center in CT in Hartford. Scholarship applications and supporting documentation need to be received by April 1.

In July and August:

Due to illness, the live performance of the 18th Degree scheduled for July 14 was replaced by a

showing of the 17th Degree DVD and a Scottish Rite Trivia event. Refreshments and fellowship closed out the evening.

The Valley's Annual 5K Road Race took place on Saturday, July 23, to raise funds for the Children's Learning Center of CT. The proceeds this year were almost \$27,000 after expenses. The Valley officers and the event chairman Brother Gordon Hurlburt would like to thank all the volunteers, sponsors, runners, and vendors who supported this event.

The July Family Life event was the Valley's second annual fishing trip on July 9.

The August Family Life event was a 3-hour sunset cruise on the schooner Argia, out of Mystic.

These events, like many others, were subsidized by the Valley to make them more enjoyable and affordable for members and their families.

On August 18, the Annual Workers Night and Installation of Officers was held at the Casa Mia at the Hawthorne in Berlin. All members who worked or assisted the Valley during the 2021-2022 year were invited, along with a guest. The banquet was followed by the installation of the 2022-2023 Valley officers.

Upcoming in September:

On Saturday, September 3, the Valley of Hartford will hold its Annual Family Picnic at Wickham Park Pavilion in Wickham Park in East Hartford. This is Saturday of the Labor Day weekend.

The picnic will be catered by Clambake Connections of Stamford. Menu choices will be a surf 'n turf clambake or hotdogs/hamburgers. They will also provide other picnic items like cheese and crackers, fruit, vegetables and dip, and beverages. The cost is \$10 per person payable by card or check. Bring lawn chairs. Parking is free if you inform the attendant that you are with the Scottish Rite group. Advance reservations are required.

The Valley returns to labor on a new group of candidates on September 29 with presentations of the 4th Degree and the 9th Degree. Pre-degree dinners are scheduled to start at 6:15 p.m. and there will be a social hour after the degrees.



**ANCIENT ACCEPTED
SCOTTISH RITE**
Valley of Hartford

207 Deming Street
Newington, CT 06111

A recent survey by the Supreme Council, NMJ, shows there are four reasons why Master Masons joined the Scottish Rite:

- 1) Continuing the Masonic journey
- 2) Continuing my personal journey
- 3) Expanding my fraternal circle
- 4) Educational opportunities

We are currently accepting applications for our next class.

For more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, or to receive a copy of a Scottish Rite informational DVD . . .

Contact Tony Angelica, 33°, at the
Valley of Hartford, AASR: (860) 666-0712
Email: office@valleyofhartford.com
www.valleyofhartford.org

Degrees start at 7:30 p.m. Reservations are required for all pre-degree dinners.

Ongoing Events:

September thru December:
Toys for Tots collection

September thru January 2023:
Winter garment collection for the homeless

September thru January 2023:
Food drive

September thru January 2023:
CDC Donations (Ties, Leaves, Tabs)



Sphinx Shrine News

by Eric Pogg



The summer is at its end, and we are all back at labor. We have all enjoyed picnics, fishing trips, and many other excursions and events over the past couple of months. Sphinx Shrine has been busy throughout the summer, as well.

The 148th Imperial Session was held in Minneapolis, Minn., in the first week of July. The Sphinx and Pyramid delegations arrived with smooth transportation. The festivities started off with all the competitions on Saturday, July 2. Animal units, Drums and Bugle, Bands, Clowns, Foot Patrols, Motor Corps, Pipes and Drums, Oriental Bands, and Pistol Competitions were held for everyone to enjoy. Pyramid with the dedicated group of Pipes and Drums not only competed in the Highlander competitions but led off the opening ceremonies of the Imperial Session and joined other units in leading the Imperial Parade through downtown Minneapolis.

Motor Patrol competitions were held. However, due to the high cost of transporting our vehicles, Sphinx did not participate but instead enjoyed the day by helping out other units, judging and enjoying the motorized units that did participate. Our very own Weston Bedore, Past Potentate, was installed as Sergeant at Arms in the International Association of Shrine Motor Corps in Minnetonka, MN at the Zuhrah Shrine Center. Congratulations to Weston.

The public opening on Sunday was one to remember. It was amazing to see Shrine patients perform in many different aspects of entertainment and athletics that we would normally not think twice about. Introductions more of the new "Watch Me" commercials were introduced reaffirming that Shriners Children's have the most amazing care anywhere!

After the opening, the Brewfest was held. Many local breweries and Shrine Brew Club participated in the now annual event. Brew Club are some of the new clubs popping up across the nation along with Grill Master, Scotch and Cigar clubs.

William S. "Bill" Bailey, Imperial Potentate, opened the Imperial Session at the Minneapolis Convention Center and the work of the Nobility quickly went into action. Several items were discussed. Most were voted upon with little fanfare much to the pleasure of the Nobility. Introductions of distinguished guests, check presentations,

patient stories, honors, and awards, success stories, voting, and elections of the 2022-2023 Imperial Officers encompassed most of the day's long session. Both Sphinx and Pyramid Shrines in Connecticut were honored as Silver

Temples for 2021 membership at the Hall of Fame Membership Luncheon.

A membership seminar provided key points on recruitment, retention, and engagement. BeAShrinerNow & ePetitions are fast becoming primary recruitment tools for Shrine Centers. Much of the seminar focused on Fun & Fellowship and the changing structure of clubs and units within today's Shrine. The Shriners International Education Foundation has been working hard on investing Nobels into Shrine leadership principles and practices that are needed in running operations and leading the direction of their temple,

club, unit, and/or event.

Presentations of the sports activities to come included the Shriners Children's Charleston Classic to be held on November 17-18 and November 20 at the TD Arena. The Shriners Children's College Classic is to be held from March 3-5, 2023, at Minute Maid Park in Houston. The Shriners Children's Open will be held from October 3-9 at TPC Summerlin in Las Vegas, Nevada. New Noble Jesse Little with Young Motorsports has been sporting the Shriners Children's logo over NASCAR tracks around the country.

The new Imperial Potentate Kenneth G. (Kenny) Craven was installed along with the rest of the Imperial line. The Imperial Potentate along with Imperial Lady Jennifer introduced the plans for the next Imperial Session in Charlotte, North Carolina with an amazing

display of videos, props, music, and plenty of crowd-pleasing activities. Imperial Lady Jennifer introduced her "The World is Your Oyster" campaign. Women impacting care is an annual program dedicated to supporting Shriners Children's mission to change and improve lives. Geared towards sports injuries, The World is Your Oyster program shows how our patients' grit and determination

Continued on page 16

Sphinx Shriners

3066 Berlin Turnpike 860-666-5449
Newington, CT 06111 www.sphinxshriners.org

The Mission of Sphinx Shriners is to:

- Be the premier fraternal organization for men of good character.
- Provide attractive, quality programs and services for its members, their families, and their friends in a spirit of fun, fellowship, and social camaraderie.
- Foster self-improvement through leadership, education, the perpetuation of moral values, and community involvement.
- Serve mankind through the resources of its philanthropy, Shriners Children's.

If you would like more information or an application to Sphinx Shriners for the Spring Ceremonial, please register online at www.BeAShrinerNow.com or contact Noble Eric Pogg at 860-803-0784 or at ejpogg@gmail.com



Core Values: Reverence & Integrity

by John A. Amarillos, membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

The fall season arrives a tad early at the Valley of Bridgeport as degree work recommences on Monday, September 12, at 7:30 p.m. with live presentations of the 4th and 13th Degrees. Then on October 3, at 7:30 p.m. the 28th Degree will be presented live followed by a video showing of the 6th Degree.



Family Life events continue to present Scottish Rite Masons with ample opportunity for fun and exploration this fall as well. October 1, there is a trip to the Essex Steam Train and a riverboat cruise. On October 8, there is a Curling and Cocktails event and on October 22, there will be a trip to the Godspeed Opera House to watch the musical play 42nd Street.



For more information and availability on each of these activities please call the Consistory office at (203) 375-0064 during normal business hours.



The Great Work, that is, the process of awakening and attaining soul individuation is the prime goal of Masonic science. The work must, of necessity, be completed slowly and over time in an alchemical fashion since change in the individual cannot be completed overnight. The process involves an initial awakening of a desire to attain light. It then proceeds to acting on this awareness to find out what it is and how to accomplish it.

This step brought your correspondent to the front door of his Blue Lodge some 27 years ago. The next step is the maintenance of a level of interest, so as to unceasingly explore the light from all perspectives. Many delve into the truisms embedded in the Craft's symbolism. Others engage in comparative religious studies and/or forms of esotericism.

Those who chose the Order's direction in finding further light are inculcated into the six Core Values of Reverence, Integrity, Justice, Tolerance, Devotion, and Service. By assimilating these core values into our consciousness, we begin to divest ourselves of the "me" centric worldview and begin the process of understanding that there is something bigger, better, and more important than pure self-interest.

By adopting this realization, we begin setting aside more and more of the selfish and self-serving behaviors that block us from awakening of the soul. In essence, we begin a process of subduing passions. The 7th Degree, which we will see in early September, illustrates the values of reverence and integrity. The 13th Degree propounds Reverence.

LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY



Attention All Master Masons!
SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES

Mon., Sept. 12 - 7:30 p.m.
4th Degree (live) with 13th Degree (digital)

Mon., Oct 3 - 7:30 p.m.
28th Degree (live) with 6th Degree (digital)

Dinners are at 6 p.m. in the Shrine building
unless otherwise stated.
Reservations required. Call the
Consistory Office at 203-375-0064.

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

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

Masonry is indeed a mystery school. It teaches through repeated recitation – an alchemical style way of digesting concepts until they become yours and mine. Repeated viewing of the degrees has the salutary effect of embedding words and images in the brother's mind. Each one of us encounters fact patterns that are similar to the dilemmas and tribulations faced by the protagonists in each of the degrees in real life. It's probably the best way to effect lasting change in the character and personality of the viewer, be he a candidate or a 50-year member!

FIAT LUX!

As always, the Valley of Bridgeport stands 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.





Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

The Valley of New Haven

Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue, New Haven



UPCOMING DEGREES

Monday, September 19, 7:30 p.m.
5th Degree - Live & 12th Degree - DVD

Monday, October 17, 7:30 p.m.
11th Degree - Live & 15th Degree - DVD

Monday, November 21, 7:30 p.m.
8th Degree - Live & 17th Degree - DVD

4th Degree DVD offered prior to degrees so one can start their Scottish Rite Journey on any date except on 32nd Degree Reunions. Dinner before each Reunion. Call the Valley Secretary at 203-580-4208 or email the office at office@valleyofnh.com for information on degrees or reservations.

And Join the Valley of New Haven at the



Annual Oktoberfest

Saturday, September 17, at 3 p.m.

Where:

Picnic Pavilion - Masonicare at Ashlar Village
74 Cheshire Road, Wallingford, CT

Price:

FREE OF CHARGE

Who:

This event is open to all Scottish Rite Masons, their families, and others interested in joining or finding out more about Masonry and the Scottish Rite.

R.S.V.P.

Valley of New Haven Secretary - Jerry Gruenbaum
Phone: (203-580-4208 • Email: office@valleyofnh.com)

Sphinx Shrine News continued from page 13

come together with the expertise of our healthcare specialists to overcome challenges and create endless possibilities for success and recovery.

The Shrine Marketplace had an endless supply of Shrine and Masonic clothing and jewelry. If you happened to be looking for a particular item, the marketplace was where to find it. In addition to the vendors, food booths (needed during the lunch breaks between meetings), ax throwing (the axes were soft with Velcro), photo booths, resting and dining area, cornhole tournament area, NASCAR display, and a variety of fun activities.

No Shriner's convention would be complete without a parade. To end the week all gathered in downtown Minneapolis to watch the Imperial parade. Led by dozens of bagpipes and the newly elected and installed Imperial Officers the crowd was treated to the many different clown units (even a miniature clown bathtub), cosplay characters, motorized units -- including many different drifters and tin lizzies, hobos, the Maid of the Mist, the largest Red Ryder wagon you have ever seen -- honor guards, provost units, and Shrine Temples from all over the world.

We look forward to the next Imperial Session on July 2 – 6, 2023 in Charlotte, North Carolina, home of the NASCAR Hall of Fame and great BBQ.

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NEVER PAY DUES AGAIN!

The Grand Lodge has adopted a
Lifetime Membership Plan.

Join the growing list of Lifetime Members.

Contact the Grand Lodge office or the the
Grand Secretary for an application.

Grand Secretary:
grandsecretary@ctfreemasons.net
203-679-5903

Pyramid Shriners Shine at the Monroe Family Festival

by Donald M. Casey, Jr.

Nobles from Pyramid Shrine Temple in Stratford, participated in the Night at the Park Family Festival in Monroe. Shriners from the Divan leadership team, Pipes and Drums, Motor Patrol, and Clown Units participated at this event. Pyramid Shriners were able to share their mission of providing assistance to needy children receiving excellent medical care at Shriners Hospital.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!

**Fidelity St. John's Lodge
No. 3**

Ryan Connor Moore

Wyllys St. Johns Lodge No. 4

Jesse A. Mejia
Blaise Riccio

**Old Well St. Johns Lodge
No. 6**

Rodger Hamilton

King Solomons Lodge No. 7

Sultan Ayash

America St. Johns Lodge No. 8

Christopher Nelson Cotto
John Robert Kristoff, Jr.
Daniel J. Renzoni, III

King Hiram Lodge No. 12

David Fife
Eric William Keller

Hiram Lodge No. 18

Bryan Charles D'Souza
Patrick John Heigel
David John Scanlon

Washington Lodge No. 19

Michael Frederick Ganino
Daniel Mallozzi
Aiden T. Papp

Trumbull Lodge No. 22

Jeffrey Cargos
Sloan E. Williams, III
Bernard Young

Composite Lodge No. 28

Agustin Amundarain
Otto Frizzell
Robert F. Lamagna, Jr.

Friendship Lodge No. 33

Alexander Jones
Ede C. Silva Santos

Valley Lodge No. 36

Nicholas John Dethlefsen

Widows Son Lodge No. 66

Charles John Ushchak

Fayette Lodge No. 69

Cody Francis Baumgartner
Jonathan Tracy

Acacia Lodge No. 85

David Andrew DiSalvo

Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

Moussa Kafal

Corinthian Lodge No. 104

Jonathan David Lett
Sulton Stack

Moosup Lodge No. 113

Thomas Casey
Douglas Edward Durfee

Annawon Lodge No. 115

Brian David Drury
Oreoluwa Omatsola Olowe
Julio Caesar Patron, Jr.

Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116

Ronald James DiNoto
Christian Nicholas James Tynan

Sequin Level Lodge No. 140

Ryan Jano

**Friendship Tuscan Lodge
No. 145**

Jared Christopher Garthe
Juan Manuel Villalobos-Ulloa

**Universal Fraternity Lodge
No. 149**

Junior Jean-Louis
Clarens Joseph
Carl L. Michel
Serginho Valcourt

Submission Rules for Connecticut Freemasons Articles

by Frank Way

Over the past year the number of submissions to the newspaper has increased greatly. This is wonderful. It's a great reflection on Connecticut Freemasonry, and our publication is seen by many other jurisdictions.

Unfortunately, many submitters are not aware of the rules for submitting. We have these rules in place to try to streamline our work in getting the newspaper out the door. They make our job smoother, from editing to layout to printing. If you want to submit an article (and we highly encourage you to do so!), please adhere to these rules:

1. All articles should be submitted as a Word document or plaintext file attached to an email. The Word document should be in doc or docx format, and if using plaintext, just txt. Don't write the submission in the body of an email.

Reason: Content in the body of an email often contains non-printing format characters, html tags, or other cruft that interferes with the layout software that Pat uses. If I don't comb through and delete them, it takes her longer to lay out the issue. If I have to do that, it complicates and lengthens the editing process.

2. All photos should be in jpg or png format, attached to the email. Photos should be of the highest resolution possible (larger file size usually means higher resolution). **Do not save photos from Facebook or other social media to submit.** Please submit originals only. Please include photo captions in the document and not in the body of the email. Finally, do not send links to photos in Google photos or One Drive, etc. Attach the photos to the email – if there are many, feel free to send a second email with the overflow.

Reason: Photos need to be separate from the article (i.e., not embedded in the document). First, they're easier to manipulate for layout. If they're embedded, I have to pull them out. Quite often, word processing software can scale down the size of the photo, so when saved it is of lower quality than the original inserted into the document. Photos saved from Facebook and other social media suffer from the same issues. Facebook especially scales photos way down and they are useless to us at that point. Finally, photo captions included in the document do not get lost and do not need to be processed for non-printing characters. The captions need to be in the document (at the bottom) as that is where Pat will look for them when she lays out the photos.

Photos on sharing services like Google Photos, OneDrive or Dropbox involve much more work in getting them into our workflow. Often, they will be downsized too.

PLEASE NOTE: *If you have a very large number of photos for a special event (i.e., Grand Lodge Session, etc) we can work with you to transfer them via Dropbox. Just contact me or Pat.*

3. Submissions should be original material. If not, they should be properly attributed. If the article has previously appeared in another publication, we will occasionally seek permission to reprint, but this

process can be complicated, and may not be free (unless we can convince the rights holders that we're not profiting from the re-use).

Reason: Copyrights and rights are very real things and can incur monetary penalties if infringed. Running non-original material without proper attribution can also damage the credibility of a publication, something we guard very closely here. While we try to be accommodating with the process of seeking reprint permission, with all the great original content available to us, it's not always worth the trouble.

4. **DEADLINES:** We aim to get the print issues into your mailboxes on the first day of the month. To do this, our deadline is the 10th day of the month prior. For this September issue, the deadline was August 10. For newsletter inserts (because these are processed before the main issue and sent to the printer earlier) the deadline is the 5th of the month prior. For this September issue, the newsletter deadline was August 5.

Reason: We process a lot of content. Articles are edited for grammar, spelling and space, and to adhere to our style guide. Photos may be lightened or re-sized etc. for publication. Layout takes time. Our deadlines with the printer are hard stop deadlines. If we don't have the issue to them by the given date each month, it can be up to a week late in arriving in your mailbox. PLEASE NOTE: If we make our deadlines, any variance in receiving the paper in your mailbox is due to the Post Office and not us. If we have it in on time, the printer will have it to the Post Office in time to arrive on the first of the month.

5. HELPFUL TIPS TO MAKE YOUR ARTICLE BETTER:

- **Be a good reporter.** At the very least, try to provide the date of the event and if the event name (e.g., Hometown Baked Bean Festival) doesn't provide a clue as to what it is, a couple of words on that would be helpful.
- **Full names are definitely needed:** Osh-Kosh Firefighter Oliver doesn't exactly identify which firefighter named Oliver in Osh-Kosh it is – and is that his first name or his last name? These details can mean the difference between a submission running or not.
- **Spelling:** If you have full names, please ensure you are spelling them correctly. Chances are you know these folks and we don't, so we cannot correct errors on the fly.
- **Use the 3rd, Person!** If you have “we,” “our,” or “I” in the article, it's not in the 3rd person and sounds more like “*What I Did on My Summer Vacation*” than a newspaper article.

These guidelines are in place to make getting this paper out the door with the small staff that we have easier and quicker. Since Masonic activity resumed in 2021, we've actually been running issues that are four or eight pages larger than prior to 2020. There's a lot more content. That's a lot more work. Simply following these rules and guidelines is a huge help.

If you have questions, feel free to contact us and we are always willing to explain.

Norwich Welcomes Masonicare

by Jeffrey Blayman

A very exciting morning was had welcoming Masonicare Norwich. The members of the community are elated by the opportunities this merger brings. The ribbon cutting was well attended by city and state leaders including Mayor Peter Nystrom and State Senator Catherine Ann Osten, in addition to members of the Board of Directors for the Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce, and the staff and board of Masonicare.

President of Masonicare, JP Venoit explained the consolidation of the Mystic and Danielson locations to 1 Water Street in Norwich and why it was the perfect location. A personal touch was a speech given by a Masonicare resident who expounded on the quality of care and how it gave her a newfound sense of freedom. After some photos were taken, the big scissors came out and the ribbon was ceremoniously cut, opening the doors to Norwich and its neighbors.

National Sojourners Chapter No. 58 Carry Replica of 1814 Flag That Flew Over Borough

by Les King

On July 4, National Sojourners Chapter No. 58 from Southeastern CT and guest brothers were honored to once again carry the 18-by-12-foot American flag, a replica of the flag that flew over the borough during the 1814 Battle of Stonington. This has been an annual event for the National Sojourners for over a decade.

Every year on July 4, local residents mark the 1814 Battle of Stonington with a parade. During the battle, which took place during a four-day period in early August 1814, five British Royal Navy ships commanded by Commodore Thomas Masterman Hardy attacked the village after residents refused to surrender. Using three cannons, two of which are on display today in Cannon Square, the residents repelled the attack, which damaged many borough homes and left cannonballs in their walls. It was not only one of the region's most significant military events but was an important victory at a time when the war was not going well for the United States.



Ed. Note: This quest started in Masonic District 1A is open to any brother who may have an interest in trying to solve the puzzle, whether by visiting those lodges or following along in various articles that may appear on our Masonic social media or this publication. Questions should be directed to Brother Richard Gross (richardgross@optonline.net).

Quest For the Cache

Thank you to everyone who inquired for further information on this hidden cache of Masonic items. It seemed to be received well and I did my best to answer

many questions directly through emails. It has become evident that it would be unlikely for traveling brothers to view the completed puzzle at Union Lodge in the future while all five puzzle pieces happened to be there all at once. So, since District 1A now has all four pieces in its possession, and to keep things progressing, here is the completed puzzle with the fifth piece.

Each fragment is a section of the town where each lodge in District 1A resides — Greenwich, Stamford, Darien, and New Canaan. Some are larger than others. The fifth piece contains the directional compass, a portion of the coastline, and the Sound. All five fragments fit neatly into a two-layer contoured housing. The coded cipher spirals inward towards the center of the map and when spun, creates a stunning visual effect,

revealing other context clues. Embellished on the pieces are historical meeting places of our lodges such as Knapp's Tavern and Webb's Tavern, along with Acacia, Ivanhoe, Union, and Harmony Lodge.

With all five fragments united, the first clue can now be decoded. It is a multi-level cipher, and the context clues will help you figure it out.

If you figure it out, notify me personally and you will be presented with the next clue of this quest. The second clue will eventually be submitted here for print, but those who figure it out first will have a jump on those who wait.

Good luck brothers.

R. Gross, richardgross@optonline.net



Exploring the Symbolism of Freemasonry - A CME Seminar

by Nicholas H. Ives

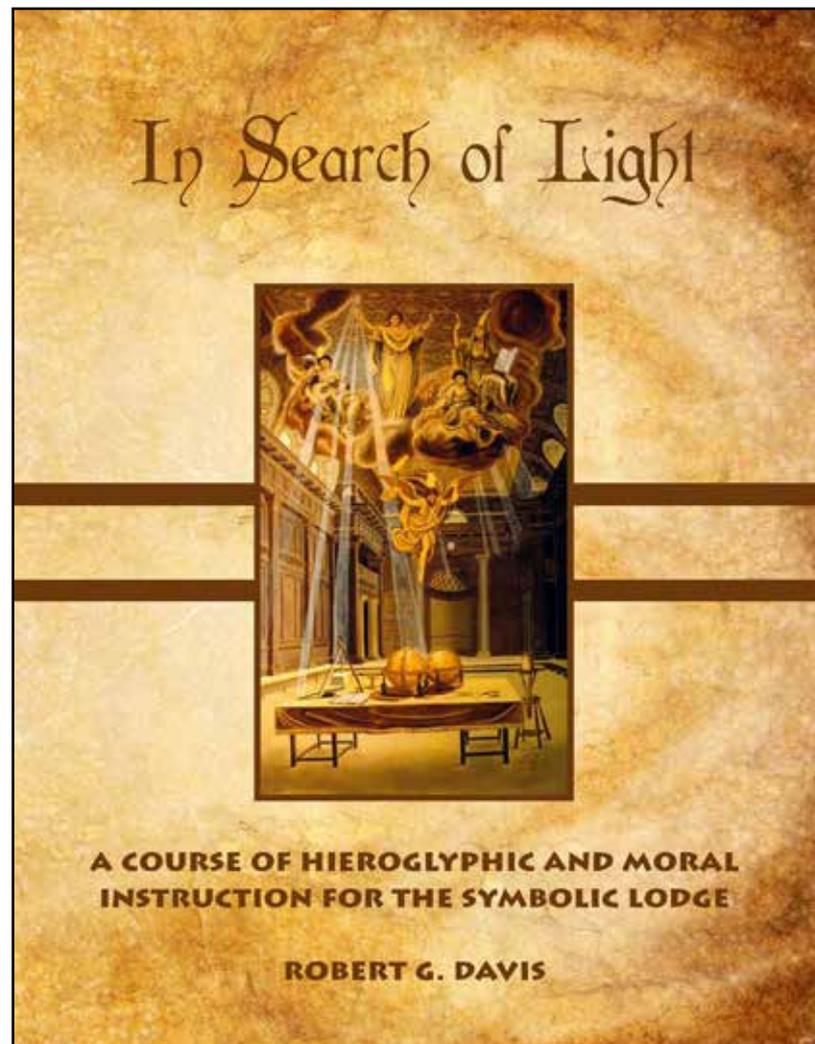
The symbols of our degrees are teaching tools that instruct us on how we can be better men. We have often seen the motto “Making Good Men Better” emblazoned on shirts and stickers. Not often enough do we find the time in our busy lives we need to study and discuss our symbols with other brothers to promote positive change within ourselves.

On September 17, at 8:30 a.m., the Committee for Masonic Education (CME) will be delivering a seminar at Hartford-Evergreen Lodge No. 88 to do just that. Our committee has prepared talks about each of the degrees, focusing on a small group of symbols and their deeper meaning and symbolism. We will have short discussions about those symbols and what they mean to each of us in each presentation. We will divide into smaller groups to allow all participants to explore how each of us approaches the symbols as we attempt to truly improve ourselves through Masonry.

Our textbook is *In Search of Light* by Robert G. Davis. If you enjoy what our presenters talked about, the core of all of the presentations and a lot more information is located on those pages. I highly recommend the book to you, which can be purchased at a significant discount when bought directly from the author at <https://robertgdavis.net/product/in-search-of-light/> for only \$30. It is certainly worth your investment.

No pre-registration is needed. There will be donuts and coffee served at 8 a.m. with a prompt seminar start at 8:30 am. The seminar will conclude promptly at noon so you can carry on with your day. It is the hope of the committee that this seminar is a beginning to your Masonic discussions that will continue on in your lodges throughout the fall. If you attend the seminar, you will have the tools to lead a fantastic lodge program on how to use the degree symbols to become a more just and upright Mason. Send all questions to me at nickives@ctfreemasons.net and I will get back to you shortly. I hope to see you there!

- What: Symbolism Seminar on Masonic Symbols in the Degree Rituals



Where: Hartford-Evergreen Lodge No. 88, 1559 Main St., South Windsor, CT

- When: September 17, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- Why: Learn more about the symbolism of the degree system and how it can practically improve your character as a man and Mason
- How: Talks and discussions on major symbols in each degree and their practical applications using Robert G. Davis' *In Search of Light* book
- Attire: Business Casual

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A.F. & A.M.

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District 1

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



Harmony Lodge No. 67 Presents 50-Year Pin

by Adam Plotnick

On June 7, Harmony Lodge No. 67 of New Cannan presented a 50-year pin to WB Clark W. Sheck. WB Sheck was raised a Master Mason on June 7, 1972 and presented his pin exactly 50 years to the day later! WB Clark served as Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge in 1978.

In attendance were RWB Barry Belardinelli, WB James Peters, District Deputy and AGM of Masonic District 1A, and WB Adam J. Plotnick to make the presentation.

WB John Ruth and current Worshipful Master Ted Thomas also shared some great stories about WB Clark. After the presentation, the lodge celebrated WB Clark's birthday with cake, however, the highlight of the evening was when WB Clark took out his guitar and started to jam and sing for everyone. It was truly a wonderful night.



Washington Lodge No. 19 Presents Laptop by Roy Nealon

Washington Lodge No. 19 presented Sonia Garcia, their 2022 Masonic Award recipient, with a laptop computer. The lodge invited her and her family to enjoy dinner with the lodge and had the pleasure of getting to know them. WB Anthony presented the award. This is an award Washington has presented for many years and the lodge is proud to continue the tradition.

Photo by Martin Cermuch



District 2

Lodges 13, 18, 21, 39, 40, 48, 49



Hiram Lodge No. 18 Recognizes Two NHS Students

On Wednesday, May 25, WM Anthony Neri of Hiram Lodge No.18 in Sandy Hook, presented two Newtown High School students with scholarships in the amount of \$500 each.

These two students are both in the top five percent of the class of 2022, but more importantly, they are outstanding community volunteers, each having contributed over 200 hours of volunteer and community service.

Amanda Stowe will be attending a local university in Connecticut this fall while Christina Savo will be attending college in Rhode Island.

The brothers at Hiram Lodge No. 18 are pleased to be able to assist these young adults and admire their commitment to their studies and their community action efforts. Members of the lodge have had the opportunity to interact with the NHS Career Office and recognize the outstanding guidance these educational professionals impart to their students.

Hiram Lodge extends best wishes to Amanda and Christina as they prepare for September.



Masonic District 2 Attends Grand Masters Day *by Daniel W. Nichols*

On Saturday, June 11, the sun was shining, there was a cool breeze in the air, and the fraternity was assembled. Grand Masters Day is an event not to miss. The food was abundant and smiling faces were everywhere.

This is not only a day for fun, family, and fraternity but a day to thank all the residents of Masonicare. One of the highest missions of Connecticut Masons is the support and charity of Masonicare. It is an institution born out of necessity in a time when people did not receive the proper care they needed. It is due to the high level of care that Masonicare provides that they are well known in the healthcare community.

Because of that, Grand Masters Day is a big deal. The parade in front of the Masonicare main building is the one time most Masons interact with the Masonicare community. This is an event all Masons need to experience. The Mason's heart will swell when he sees the face of a resident smiling and waving back.

Mark your calendar for next year and bring a new brother!



(l-r) BB David McClain, AGM 2B, and his beautiful daughters; RWB Daniel Nichols, DD 2B; RWB Jeff Feinson PDD; WM Joseph Jaskolka, St. Peter's Lodge No. 21; RWB Gary Ross PDD; RWB Peter Dolce, DD 2A; WB Nathan Schoonover, AGM 2A.

District 3

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



Harmony Lodge No. 42 Celebrates MWB Benjamin Franklin with Barbeque!

by Martin J. Macary

On a windy, cool Saturday afternoon, more than 70 brothers and friends gathered at the Waterbury Masonic Temple to celebrate the life and achievements of MWB Benjamin Franklin, Past Grand Master of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania, inventor and founding father of the country, with an old-fashioned barbeque and picnic. Brothers came from far and near in anticipation of a wonderful meal that Harmony Lodge No. 42 has earned the reputation of serving to the brethren.

The pig had been smoking since low twelve by Joe Mendello of Down Back BBQ of Watertown and was finished by 1:30 p.m. Various salads, appetizers, and cornbread rounded out the repast along with some libations to wash it all down.

The meal finished with a prodigious number of desserts including fantastic brownies, and various cookies made by different brothers. Brothers Gerry Matthews, Frank Pisani, Gary Byram, and Patrick Donnelly were the committee who organized the event under the guidance of WM Joseph Pisani.

WB Joe gave an inspiring lecture on MWB Ben concerning his Masonic career, his inventions, and his contributions to the nation. Throughout the day brothers talked with Brother Alex Defranzo of Morningstar Lodge No. 47 about Masonic tattoos, which he does at his business of Sacred Art Tattooing in Seymour. Other brothers enjoyed fellowship and competition in horseshoes and bean bag toss while other brothers sampled some fine cigars offered by the Commissioners Cigar Lounge. The brethren were also honored by the presence of MWB Bruce Bellmore, Grand Master and Past Grand Masters Tom Maxwell, Marshall Robinson, and Bill Bohman, A wonderful time was had by all and there is every intention to make this a yearly event!



Joe Mendello of Down Back BBQ cooking the pig.



The committee – Bros. Frank Pisani, Gary Byram, Joseph Pisani, Gerry Matthews, and Patrick Donnelly.



MWBs Bill Bohman, Marshall Robinson, Bruce Bellmore, and Tom Maxwell.



Brothers and friends playing bean bag toss.



Brother Jason Gadue learning about Masonic tattoos from Brother Alex Defranzo of Sacred Art Tattooing.



WB Joseph Pisani giving a lecture regarding MWB Benjamin Franklin.

King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 Awards Scholarship at Annual Awards Night

by Steve Lewis

On June 21, King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury awarded their annual Pomperaug High School (Region 15) scholarship to Robert Vagnini of Southbury at the Annual Strawberry Festival and Awards Night. Robert will be attending Villanova University.

Paige Brandt of Nonnewaug High School (Region 14) also received a scholarship. She will be attending Westfield State University where she will be majoring in Movement Science. King Solomon's Lodge wish both outstanding and deserving students the best of times with their studies and endeavors.



Robert Vagnini. and WM Douglas Barry, Jr.

"Spread the Light" of Masonry

by Steve Lewis

Once again, the brothers of King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 heeded to the call to support the local community. The Community Services Council of Woodbury held its annual "Spread the Light" fundraising appeal to support of its mission of compassion and set the Town of Woodbury aglow with starlight on the Fourth of July.

Sponsoring organizations or individuals in town purchase a three-dimensional star of durable paper construction for display either on their own building or on one of the two town greens. All proceeds from star

purchases go to CSCW's mission to provide food, fuel and emergency assistance to low-income households in Woodbury. The CSCW is an independent nonprofit organization and relies exclusively on private donations and grants to sustain programs including the Woodbury Food Bank, supplementary heating and energy assistance, and short-term aid to families in financial crisis.

King Solomon's campaign to raise funds for the CSCW's "Spread the Light" program was a success and exceeded its goal! Three brothers from other lodges contributed as well. All in all, it an amazing response. The target donation was \$500, and Bro. Wayne Anderson, lodge treasurer, presented a check to Bob Taylor, the executive director of the CSCW, for \$650 on July 2.



Bro. Wayne Anderson and Bob Taylor, Executive Director, CSCW.



Spread the Light star on King Solomon's Lodge.

King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 Annual Strawberry Festival and Awards Night

by Steve Lewis

On June 21, King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury held their annual Strawberry Festival and Awards Night. There were 13 brothers who achieved noteworthy service awards, ranging from five to 70 years! The awards were presented by WM Douglas Barry, Jr.

The brothers honored during the evening's fete were: 5-year - Lorenzo Gaudio, 10-year - John Novak and Preston Cohen, 15-year - Byron Pierce and Albin Weber, 25-year - Mitchell

Goldburgh, 40-year - Mark Cohen, David Bethancourt, Ronald Russo, and Arthur DuBois, 45-year - Charles Budris, 55-year - Fred Frueh, and 70-year - Howard Hicock, III.

Some of them are local and were at lodge to accept pins. The others are scattered about the country and received their pins via mail.

The milestone event of the evening was definitely the presentation of the 70-year pin to Brother Howard Hicock. Born 1930 in Waterbury Hospital, Brother Hicock's family first settled in Southbury in the 1600s. As a direct descendant of John Butler "Wild Bill" Hicock, Bro. Howard is without any of the frontiersman's rough edges. A gentle and kind man, he served in the Navy in a Construction Battalion. His first real job was working at Platt Farm in Southbury, where the farm manager was also a Mason. He subsequently worked in the surrounding towns

in manufacturing. Bro. Howard still lives in the house that his father built, and he helped his father with the house next door for his sister and brother-in-law.

Staying connected with the lodge is important to him for the friendship and support, although at 92 years old getting there is more and more difficult now that he is not as mobile.

Bro. Hicock's father was a Mason and guided his son into the fraternity. He was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on November 5, 1952, passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft on November 19, 1952, and raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on December 3, 1952. This year he celebrates his 70th year as a Master Mason.



WM Douglas Barry, Jr. and Bro. Howard A. Hicock, III, 70-year service award recipient.



Bros. Albin Weber, Lorenzo Gaudio and Alphonso Gaudio.



Bro. Mark Cohen and significant other Renee Isabelle.



Bro. John Novak and WM Barry.



WM Barry and Bro. David Bethancourt.



Bro. Mitchell Goldburgh and wife, Joyce.

District 4

Lodges 1, 9, 16, 22, 30, 38, 63, 66, 77, 79, 87, 89, 97, 115, 125, 332, 401, 500



The 38th Annual Branford Festival Returns in 2022

by David Cole

On Friday June 17, at 5 p.m. the Branford Festival opened. The festival committee had been looking for Branford Based sports organizations, civic clubs, volunteer groups, and Facebook groups to be a part of the first festival in three years!

Widow's Son Lodge No. 66 and the Branford Assembly Rainbow for Girls answered the call. Marching into the music of "Auld Lang Syne" the lodge was announced to the assembled public. They then gathered around the flagpole for the raising of the Festival Flag and the start of the weekend's festivities!

Of special note was one of the lodge's participants, Bro. Daniel Majeed had been initiated an Entered Apprentice just two days before. The brothers appreciated his stepping up to join them at 5 p.m. at the end of the work week. Widow's Son Lodge looks forward to his continued involvement and growth within the fraternity.



District 6

Lodges 4, 25, 28, 70, 73, 88, 145, 400



Washington Lodge No. 70 Awards Scholarships by Robert Dodge

Washington Lodge No. 70 held its annual Stewards Cookout and Scholarship Awards Night on Monday, June 27. The Stewards Cookout is the last lodge meal before the summer break. The lodge was pleased to have their scholarship students and their families present for the evening. This year Washington Lodge presented over \$10,000 in scholarships. Thanks to the Scholarship Committee for all their hard work.



Girls Future Firefighter Camp at Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 Ignites Interest

by Pat Jones

At a Stated Communication in early May, the brothers of Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 enjoyed a presentation about the Girls Future Fire Fighter Camp given by Shelley Carter, a veteran of the Hartford Fire Department. The camp is intended to introduce teenage girls to what is involved in a firefighter's career. Shelley started the camp in 2015. It charges no tuition or fees.

Shelley Carter was with the Hartford Fire Department for more than 20 years and held many positions over her stellar career including driver, lieutenant, and captain. She was the first black female captain in the Hartford Fire Department. She also worked in the fire marshal's office, and currently works for Homeland Security.

WM Dave Prior, a retired firefighter, knew this was a worthwhile program for the brothers and their families. Dave served as the Chief Training Officer for the Town of East Hartford Fire Department. Other brothers of Hartford Evergreen Lodge having experience in fire services are Bill Fraize, Ray Zaugg, Jon Hibbard, Ed Varjabedian, and Bart Blonstein.



The Girls Future Firefighter's Camp is in line with the Masonic principle of providing light through education. Shelley is a role model for the girls who attend the camp, as well as firefighters and fire service leaders. A mother of five boys, she was still able to work full-time and attend college. She is enrolled in the public administration program at Liberty University where she is working towards a doctoral degree.

Participants are introduced to "a day in the life of a firefighter." Staff do not receive any compensation. Shelley and her husband pay for everything. WM Prior said that "we were amazed to discover that Mr. and Mrs. Carter fund the camp themselves." They do seek donations.

They operate with a small staff, eight board members, and a CEO. All are volunteers.

Classes are held in working firehouses. Each class has 30 cadets. Sessions vary and can be a full week, a weekend, or a single day for consecutive weeks. It costs between \$8,000 and \$12,000 to hold a class. Costs include uniforms, lunch and dinner, transportation, firefighter information, CPR recertification, logistics training, and liability insurance. Classes have been held in various firehouses in Connecticut and across New England.

The camp's extensive and impressive curriculum teaches ropes and knots, CPR, AED, Red Cross certified babysitting, structure of a fire department, public information and the roles of its officers, dispatcher orientation, nutrition, and physical fitness. Cadets learn about police officers, emergency medical services orientation and training, hose line operations, confined space training, safe driving, cooking, forcible entry training, forensics, and fire investigation covering origin and cause. They also learn about the variety of support staff and the roles that are necessary for a successful fire house.

The cadets wear all the typical fire equipment gear and learn its proper use. At times, they view on site activities involved in a real fire or emergency. Whether they choose to pursue firefighting careers or not, they come away with important life skills. They develop friendships for life.

The evening's presentation was followed by a delicious meal and much fellowship.



Washington Lodge No. 70 Initiates Brother by Robert Dodge

Worshipful Master Kevin Dugdale, assisted by the officers and brothers of Washington Lodge No. 70, put on an Entered Apprentice Degree on Monday, June 13. In attendance were RWB Gregory Stump, and WB David Larsen, District Deputy and AGM of Masonic District 6A. The lodge welcomed newly initiated brother Dwight Bolton.

Washington Lodge No. 70 Takes Part in Shad Derby Festival *by Robert Dodge*

The brothers of Washington Lodge No. 70 of Windsor participated in the annual Windsor Shad Derby Festival on Saturday, May 21. The festival is a long-standing New England tradition that began in 1955 with an annual fishing tournament to raise awareness of the growing pollution of the Connecticut River. In 1966, as the derby grew, a parade and festivities on the Windsor Town Green were added. The Shad Derby Festival promotes the best of the local area through its many resources, businesses, and organizations. Washington Lodge sells pulled pork sandwiches and hot dogs at the festival to raise money for its scholarship fund and other charitable donations.



Washington Lodge Pulled Pork Tent



WM Kevin Dugdale and his father, Brother George Dugdale, working the pulled pork grill.



Bros. Ed Menard, Bob Dodge and Darren Waterhouse



Bros. Brian "Bubba" Kelly and Jeremy Gaffney

Washington Lodge No. 70 Marks St. John's Day at Grave of Past Grand Master *by Robert Dodge*

Washington Lodge No. 70 of Windsor held a Saint John's Day Memorial Service on Sunday, June 26. The service is held annually at the grave of MWB James McCormick (Grand Master of Connecticut 1881-1882) at the Palisado Cemetery in Windsor. Senior Warden Robert Dodge presided, assisted by the officers and brothers present, to remember the brothers of Washington Lodge who have passed to the Great Architect of the Universe.



Composite Lodge No. 28 News *by Charles Jewart*

On Saturday June 25, the brothers of Composite Lodge No. 28 in Suffield, conferred the Master Mason Degree on three deserving Fellowcrafts: Brothers Rob Lamagna and Gus Amundarain, along with Bro. Blaze Riccio from Wyllys-St. Johns Lodge No. 4.

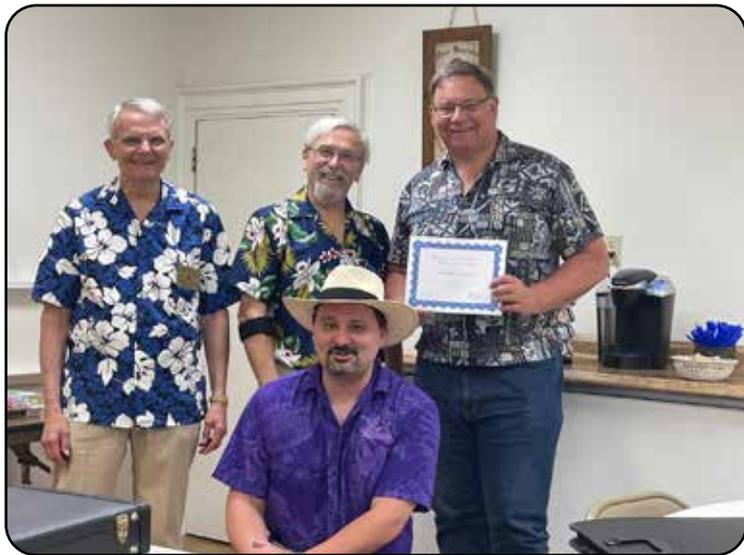
For the festivities, MWPGM Bill Bohman was in attendance, along with RWB F. Matt Heinrich. Brethren from Friendship-Tuscan Lodge No. 145 assisted with the Builder's Lodge and the Tragedy.

A special guest was RWB Carlos Fronseca, Past Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, who made the trip to help raise his lifelong friend, Bro. Gus.

After a hot day, the newly raised brethren joined the rest of the Craft in the comfort of the game room in the basement for refreshment, fellowship, and discussions on the day.

On June 28, the last Tuesday before the summer break, Composite Lodge held its annual Junior Warden's BBQ and Awards night. That night several service awards were presented: five years to Bro. Derek Bensley, 20 years to WB Bill Zimmerman and 30 years to WB Eric Pogg.

WB Tom Duclos, executing his duties as president of the Past Masters Association, presented WB Cory Rice with his jewel and apron. This was of great significance as both jewel and apron belonged to the late WB Bard Teigen, who was greatly influential in WB Cory's journey through the chairs of the lodge.



Composite Lodge No. 28 Holds 2nd Annual Car and Motorcycle Show *by Charles Jewart*



On a hot summer July 23 at Hilltop Farm in Suffield, Composite Lodge No. 28 held its 2nd annual car & motorcycle show. People from around the region brought vehicles from classic hotrods, Corvettes, motorcycles, trucks, and even a classic farm tractor. Attendees, brothers, families and friends enjoyed the ice cream from the newly opened creamery to help beat the noon-day sun. Awards were presented to the best in each category and overall best in show.





Harvey James Hartin Receives Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze

Brother Harvey James Hartin was born on September 6, 1938, in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania, to Archie and Lena Hartin. Both of his parents were deaf, so he had additional challenges to deal with as a child. While Harvey's mother was pregnant with him, his father Archie passed away. Harvey's mother remarried a man named Mitchell Kranyik who raised him as his stepson. Harvey had three older brothers. His oldest brother, Richard, took him under his wing and helped him grow up. Harvey graduated from high school in 1956, then he went into the National Guard for three years.

During his early 20s Harvey moved to Fairfield to work out of an office that sold Florida real estate. He worked for Harry Holden who was a Mason. This is where his interest in Masonry started to grow as all three of his older brothers were Masons in western Pennsylvania.

As a younger man, he sold real estate, worked as a salesperson for Beechnut Gum, Martinson Coffee, and Tetley Tea. During the middle part of his professional career, he owned and operated Juniors Drive-In in Bridgeport. Harvey served on the Fairfield Board of Education as a custodian for 15 years.

After Harvey had established himself in Connecticut, he met a beautiful woman, Marilyn Ann Niznansky, who worked down the hall from his office. Before long they were dating and married on January 16, 1965. They had two daughters, Melissa, and Vanessa. Both eventually married and gave Harvey and Marilyn five grandchildren, Amanda, David and Nicole Redford, and Ali and Jenna Najjar. They now have two great grandchildren.

Harvey is a worker and a giver. He also loves to learn new things. He is outgoing and wants to get to know his friends and brothers. His demeanor is very welcoming, and he is willing to share his knowledge. He loves to go to tag sales and find a good bargain, spending time with his grandchildren, and finding a good book to read. In addition to these, he loves listening to music and has also written a few melodies and tunes. He also likes local politics. Harvey was a member of Fairfield RTM for 12 years. Every election, you can find him working at the polls in Fairfield.

Harvey is a devout born-again Christian. He loves the Lord and prays every day. He is a member of the First Baptist Church of Fairfield.

Brother Hartin was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on September 16, 1970, passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on September 30, 1970, and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in St. John's Lodge No. 3 in Trumbull on October 14, 1970. St. John's Lodge No. 3, now



L-r: RW Martin J. Macary, MWGM Bruce R. Bellmore, WB Harvey J. Hartin, RW Jack J.S. Farkas, RW Robert J. Furce, and RW James R. Spencer, Jr..

Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3 in Fairfield, is his home lodge. He became Master of the Square in the Fellow Craft Association in 1978. Brother Harvey began his progression through the officer line at Fidelity-St. John's Lodge as Marshal in 1973. He served as Worshipful Master in 1984 and then again in 1988. He was also Worshipful Master at Corinthian Lodge No. 104 in 2011. Throughout his career he has served in various officer roles in Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3, Corinthian Lodge No. 104, Daytime Lodge No. 144, and Temple Lodge No. 65.

Brother Harvey likes participating in the degrees and is usually responsible for preparing the candidates and brothers for the degrees. He also participates in the Master Mason degree as a craftsman and/or the seafaring man. He has also done his fair share of recruiting as well, not only for the blue lodge, but also for the other Masonic organizations with which he is affiliated. Harvey is one of the last brothers to leave the lodge after stated communications and degrees making sure that the lodge is in proper order before leaving.

As a young boy, Cub Scout and Boy Scout activities shaped his formative years in Forest Hills, Pennsylvania, where he grew up. Later in life he realized that the principles of scouting turned out to be the same principles that Masons live by. Harvey continued his association with scouting as a district chairperson for Fairfield County Council. He was also involved in fundraising activities, recruitment of adult leaders, and restoration work on Fairfield's Town Hall bell for its use during national bicentennial festivities. As a result of these accomplishments and others,

Continued on page 33

Harvey Hartin Receives Pierpont

continued from page 32

Brother Harvey received the Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter Award at Fidelity St. John's Lodge No. 3 to inspire brothers and educate the lay community as to one good man's profound understanding of Masonry.

Brother Hartin has been a Mason for 52 years. He received his 50-year service pin on June 25, 2021, from Most Worshipful Grand Master Steven Petri and Right Worshipful Brother Barry F. Belardinelli, Jr.

Harvey Hartin became a member of the Valley of Bridgeport and Lafayette Consistory in the Scottish Rite of the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction on March 1, 1973, after receiving the 4th degree. He became a 32nd degree Mason on May 1, 1973. He has seen all the degrees more than once. For his efforts, he has received a certificate and Gold Passport from the Sovereign Grand Commander whose office is at the headquarters in Lexington, Massachusetts. He also served as the Sovereign Master of the Washington Council of Princes of Jerusalem which is responsible for performing the 15th and 16th degrees in the Valley. Brother Harvey received the prestigious Meritorious Service Award (MSA) in 2013. Currently, Harvey is serving as the Tiler.

Brother Hartin has also been involved in the Order of the Eastern Star for over 25 years where he has served as Associate Patron for 15 years.

Brother Harvey is also a Companion and Sir Knight in the York Rite. He received his Royal Arch degree in Baldwin Chapter No. 13 in 1974. He witnessed the three degrees within the Council of Jerusalem No. 16. He was knighted as a Sir Knight on November 23, 1974, in Hamilton Commandery No. 5.

Brother Hartin is a consummate Mason. He takes his Masonic obligations most seriously and being a Mason is in his heart. He comes from a family of brother Masons. He is a worker, a doer, and a giver and steps up when he is needed and has been rewarded for his work both within Masonry and outside in the community.

In recognition of his service to the fraternity, his lodge and community, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the state of Connecticut is pleased to present Brother Harvey James Hartin, the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Service.

Committee on Legal Matters: What We Do and Why *by Steven Allinson*

I was asked by Grand Master Bruce R. Bellmore, to be the chairman of the Committee for Legal Matters this past April. It is an awesome responsibility, and I am honored to serve. The Committee has a number of veteran members returning as well as some new voices that will help us carry out our important duties.

Recently RWB Joe Porco suggested publishing this article to communicate some of our good work to the craft. Special thanks go to RWB Nicholas Ives who helped in crafting this message.

In our first meeting, the CLM worked together to calibrate tasks and find new organizational efficiencies to help achieve our goals. While we cannot provide legal or tax advice to a brother or a lodge, we can provide guidance with what can be difficult and complicated tasks. Nothing we do is arbitrary, and our goal is to use the simplest and most efficient means to protect our Craft. The committee serves all the Masons in the jurisdiction in a variety of ways.

There are three major tasks for the CLM: (1) bylaw revision review, (2) mergers (formations, dissolutions, property sale review, lodge life cycle), and (3) analysis of unique legal challenges brought to us by a lodge or the Grand Master himself. In the past, the entire committee has served all three functions, discussing the details of all of these items in the general committee. However, we have several experts who specialize in certain areas. To streamline the process, we divided into three subcommittees. Each subcommittee reviews its specific area and the full committee then reviews their notes and votes to approve the documents. As chairman, I answer a number of smaller questions between meetings, but more serious technical questions are shared with the entire committee to get their input and arrive at the best answer.

It is important to refresh the bylaws of lodges and temple corporations. Over time, lodges change and as they do, the governing documents need to be clear for all members to understand how the lodge manages itself. Furthermore, Grand Lodge, state and local regulations change frequently, forcing bylaws to be updated in accordance with the new rules. When a lodge does update its bylaws, we review those bylaws to make certain they do not disagree with the Grand Lodge regulations. After ensuring that there is an agreement between the submitted bylaws, our Rules and Regulations, and Federal and State law that we are subject to, we often give feedback to the lodges on how they can ensure compliance with the existing regulations or to simply approve the bylaws. As the second pair of eyes, we can catch anything that was missed so that there is no chance of a conflict or problem later on which can lead to disagreements and disharmony.

There have been several lodges experiencing change through mergers or property transfers. All parties encounter a significant amount of stress when completing these transactions. Our committee reviews the terms of the agreement to ensure not only compliance with rules

Continued on page 34

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Committee on Legal Matters

continued from on page 33

and regulations but to point out things that the lodge or corporation may have missed in the negotiation process. There are many times when lodges should retain outside counsel and professionals to advise them on how best to achieve their intended goals – the committee encourages that and does not suggest we replace your representation. Our expertise is in Masonic jurisprudence. Our focus is to ensure that the decisions made by one lodge align with Masonic customs and practices and that the decision of one lodge does not adversely affect any other lodge or temple corporation.

Finally, many items come to our attention from the Grand Master or a lodge that are unique challenges not easily addressed under current rules and regulations. In the recent past, this may have been alcohol liability

or background checks. We may give a perspective to the Grand Lodge or a lodge on a topic that was unexpected. We do not seek to legislate anything in particular – we help others do so. Much has changed in the past few years, from the challenges of the pandemic to cases that might impact us as a fraternal organization. This special project subcommittee tries to reason through those unexpected circumstances in order to help the Grand Master and Worshipful Masters be armed with the best information so they can formulate wise decisions.

If you have a question, email me at sallinson@ctfreemasons.net and I will be happy to take a closer look. We are doing what we can to provide a sounding board for the craft's legal challenges and protect all of us from what is an increasingly complex legal environment in the profane world.



Daughters of the Nile to Hold Dinner Dance Fundraiser in New Haven

by Karilyn Mackey

The Daughters of the Nile, an international fraternal organization for women, is holding a Dinner Dance on Saturday, September 17, at 6 p.m. at the New Haven Masonic Temple. This fundraising event will feature an Italian buffet dinner, followed by music by the Silk City Jazz Band, a 20-piece big band. Plenty of floor space will be available for dancing! Tickets are \$40 per person and must be purchased in advance. Reservations should be sent to: Kari Mackey, 39 Silo Way, Bloomfield, CT, 06002; checks should be made payable to Kari Mackey. For further information, please contact Kari at: karilyn.mackey@yahoo.com or (203) 671-7911.

All proceeds of the dinner dance will go to offset the costs of holding the Daughters of the Nile Supreme Session, the organization's annual international conference at Foxwoods Resort & Casino in June 2023.

Membership in the Daughters of the Nile is open to women of good character aged 18 or older who are related by birth or marriage to a Master Mason, Shriner, or Daughter of the Nile; or who are majority members in good standing of a Masonic-related organization for girls; or who were patients at Shriners Children's (with or without Shrine or Masonic relationship). Two Daughters of the Nile temples meet in Connecticut: Aisha Temple in New Britain and Pyremus Temple in Milford.

I Need a Kidney!

I'm Richard R. Brancifort, a 42-year Mason with Sequin-Level Lodge 140 in Newington, CT, and owner of House of Flora. I am currently on dialysis and need your ASSISTANCE!

I need a kidney. I have been on a waiting list for a donor for over 3 months. If you or anyone you know would be interested in potentially becoming a donor, please contact Hartford Hospital (860) 696-2021 (see card), I thank you in advance my brothers and God bless.

Hartford HealthCare
Hartford Hospital

Richard R.
Brancifort

The Center for Living Organ
Donation

I am looking for a living donor for a life-saving kidney transplant. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in learning more about living donation please call.

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Thank you for considering giving the gift of life!

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CELL
203.800.5348
EMAIL
grandmaster@ctfreemasons.net

June 8, 2022

My dear brothers,

Our George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, VA, will be 100 years old next year. This is our Memorial, as every Master Mason in this Grand Lodge is an owner.

The lodges in Connecticut, along with our sister Grand Jurisdictions across America have been challenged to hold a fundraising "COMMUNITY PASTA DINNER" on the same night, Friday, September 23, 2022.

As Grand Master, I am encouraging every lodge in the State of Connecticut that has the capability to coordinate and implement this event to participate in their community this September. If unable to participate as an individual lodge, join forces with another lodge nearby.

This is much more than just another lodge dinner. It is an opportunity to participate in a great cause with your brothers from across the country and raise community awareness of who we are as Freemasons. To show our friends and neighbors that we, as Freemasons, cherish our heritage, our founding fathers, and the principles that have made this country a beacon of freedom to the world. This is also an opportunity for your lodge to meet gentlemen of like mind that may show an interest in becoming a member.

The Grand Secretary has sent every Master and Secretary a set of Word documents that you can tailor to your lodge's need to assist in the planning and implementation of this event. But as of this writing, only three lodges have responded.

We need lodges to email State Chairman, WB Larry S. Baker at lsb127@comcast.net, their letter of intent to participate no later than June 30 so that we can include the lodge location in the state-wide publicity campaign.

The George Washington Memorial Association has planned a "100th Anniversary Rededication of Cornerstone Laying" for Monday, February 20, 2023, in Alexandria, VA, and invites all to view the splendor of over 11 million dollars invested in renovations/maintenance and repair projects since 2000. The Grand Masters of North America will be participating in these ceremonies with thousands of Freemasons from across the country. We hope that each of you will consider joining us.

This magnificent 333ft tall edifice, a beacon of Freemasonry shining every night across to our nation's capital, requires our continued support to enable it to shine for generations to come.

My brothers, I thank you in advance for all your efforts and dedication to make this nationwide event a success.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruce R. Bellmore".

Rev. and Bro. Bruce R. Bellmore
Grand Master

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY – SEPTEMBER 23, 2022

5:00 TO 8:30 PM

Lodge Name

Address

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By participating in the fundraising dinner, you are assisting in securing an important piece of our history for generations to come.

MENU

PASTA, SAUCE, MEATBALLS, SAUSAGE, ITALIAN BREAD, SALAD, DESSERT, COFFEE, TEA, ICED TEA, AND WATER

\$25 PER COUPLE - \$15 PER SINGLE - \$10 PER CHILD UP TO 11

For further information please visit - <https://gwmemorial.org>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



When: Sunday October 2, 2022
 (Rain or Shine)

Where: Waterbury Masonic Temple
 (Town Plot Area)
 531 Highland Avenue
 Waterbury, CT 06708

Course: 2 miles

Time: 12:00 Noon Registration
 1:00 PM Step Off (start of event)

Info: Russ Griswold: 203-755-9179
 Or Children's Dyslexia Center
 of Connecticut: 203-465-0830
 email : Waterbury@cdcinc.org
 Picnic Lunch to follow WALK

Sponsored by
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The Bridgeport Tutoring Satellite
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The Hartford Area Tutoring Satellite
 2 High Street
 Farmington CT 06032

Registration

- I plan to participate in the WALK. Enclosed is my registration fee of \$15 (ages 12 and older), \$5 (children under 12), \$25 (family of 2 or more).
- I cannot attend, but enclosed is my donation of \$_____
- I would like to volunteer the day of the Walk. Please contact me at the phone/email below.
- Please make check payable to **CDC of CT WALK**
- Mail your registration form to: Children's Dyslexia Center of Connecticut, ATTN: 2022 Dyslexia Walk, 529 Highland Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06708.

Name _____ (please print)

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Email _____

Work/Cell Phone _____

Emergency Contact and Phone Number _____

Participant Liability Agreement:

Please enter me in the "Walk to Help Children with Dyslexia". I, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors and administrators hereby release Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc. from any and all claims, damages and rights of action I may have, present or future that may arise out of, or be incident to my participation in the Walk event. In addition, I grant permission for the use of my name and/or picture in any photograph, film or videotape of the event for any purpose.

Signature (parent or guardian if under 18 years of age) _____

This agreement must be signed for the registration to be valid.

Walker's Name: _____

My Fundraising goal is: \$ _____

- Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and pledges are tax deductible.
- Please make checks payable to **Children's Dyslexia Center of CT**
- Pledges will be collected when you check in.

Sponsors (please print):

Name: _____ Amt: \$ _____

Phone: _____

Total Collected: \$ _____

The Children's Dyslexia Center of Connecticut

"A Scottish Rite Masonic Charity"

529 Highland Avenue, Waterbury, CT 06708-3402
Tel: (203)-465-0830 Fax: (203)-465-0840

Dear Brothers and Masonic Family members,

The Children's Dyslexia Center of Connecticut, a Scottish Rite Charity, on an annual basis and through various fundraising activities, reaches out to our Masonic family, the public, and local business to bring awareness of Dyslexia in our communities and ask for their financial support in order to sustain our Dyslexia Program for school-aged children within Connecticut. We continue to be challenged by the COVID-19 virus and its variants, which have devastated the countries around the World and the people who live in them. We tutored our youngsters remotely, protecting them and keeping them safe. In these uncertain times, let us always remember our children, who are the most vulnerable. Dyslexia doesn't take a break, and neither should we. Looking ahead to improving times, we ask everyone to come together at our upcoming annual Dyslexia Awareness Walk to be held on October 2, 2022, in the Town Plot section of Waterbury, CT. Even though restrictions have been loosened, the wearing of masks/face coverings and social distancing at this event is critical for the health and safety of all participants, and our country.

The future and integrity of our Fraternity hinge on the good work that we continue to do as Masons, for our families, our communities, and our country. Ours is a fraternity we should all be proud to be a part of. If you feel that our programs and children are worth supporting, please stand up and be counted towards a 100 percent participation goal. To stay updated on the Walk we have put the Waterbury Learning Center website on the front of the brochure. For all to refer to, for the status of the walk. (www.childrensdyslexiacenters.org/tutoring_waterbury/connecticut/)

Keeping all of you who attend our fundraiser safe, is our highest priority. Social Distancing and other protocols from the Supreme Council under the guidelines of the State of Connecticut will be followed. Come out and support a cause that benefits children with dyslexia.

We ask you to read this letter, if possible, at one or more lodge meetings and send it electronically to your membership asking for their support, and we encourage your lodge to put a walking team together. At a minimum, if each Connecticut lodge purchased a \$50 Route Marker, this one event could raise an extra \$5000, enough to sponsor one child! A bronze sponsorship level of \$100 would also make a huge difference of \$10,000 alone. Help keep our Fraternity strong and vibrant by participating and supporting this fundraising effort.

This program in CT provides "Free" one-on-one professional tutoring for children attending our program. Because of its great work and successes, these children graduate with improved learning and reading skills. Annually, we reach out to our Connecticut Lodges to help us raise funds to support this great program. If, as a Lodge, you feel that our children are worth investing in, and would like to be recognized for your support, there are several ways you can show that support through raising funds and increasing awareness of this learning disability that affects up to 20 percent of our school age children. Contact the Children's Learning Center to schedule a program speaker on Dyslexia and invite the public.

Again, we ask all Connecticut Masons to rally together, in support of this exciting and successful Children's Dyslexia program. Let your communities know about the GREAT work we do as a Fraternity, and lastly be proud to be a Mason.

Brief Overview of Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a learning disability that is neurological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities.

If you need any further information or would like to have someone from the Center do a talk on Dyslexia at one of your Stated or public invited meetings, please do not hesitate to contact the Center by fax or phone number located at the top of this letter. If we aren't able to take your call, please leave a message. If your lodge would like to be counted in that 100 percent participation/support but haven't yet voted on that support, contact us and we will include you. Your support funds can be sent at a later date.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of support, caring attitude, and past contributions. Children in this program, their families, and our communities will all benefit from your generous sponsorship. Your involvement will continue to enable "The Children's Dyslexia Center of CT and its Satellite Centers, to meet their mission of conquering dyslexia, one step at a time and one child at a time.

Fraternally,

Russell W. Griswold

ILL. Brother Russell W. Griswold

2022 Dyslexia Walk Co-Chairperson

Email, ADVERTISING INFORMATION to:
Russell Griswold at docgriz49@gmail.com

Call Russ with questions or concerns at 203-768-9533. Leave a message if no answer.

___ Sponsorship Level: Platinum: _____ Gold:
_____ Silver: _____ Bronze: _____

___ I would like to purchase a Route Marker and have enclosed a \$50.00 check.

___ Enclosed is camera-ready logo/art work.

___ Organization/Business or Personal name: _____

___ Message: _____

___ I have enclosed a donation / sponsorship check in the amount of \$ _____

___ I would like to sponsor a child in the program. Please contact me as to the details/costs.

Please make checks payable to: Children's Dyslexia Center of Connecticut or "CDC of CT",

Attn: "2022 Dyslexia Awareness Walk" (fundraising event) and mail to: Children's Dyslexia Center of Connecticut, 529 Highland Avenue Waterbury, CT 06708-3402

___ I/we would like to join you at your fundraising event on October 2, 2022

Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Contact # _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Route Marker advertisements by September 1, 2022.

This story first appeared in the Spring 2022 issue of *Connecticut Explored*, the magazine of Connecticut history, ctexplored.org. It is reprinted with permission.

Preserving Fairfield's Sun Tavern with the Freemasons

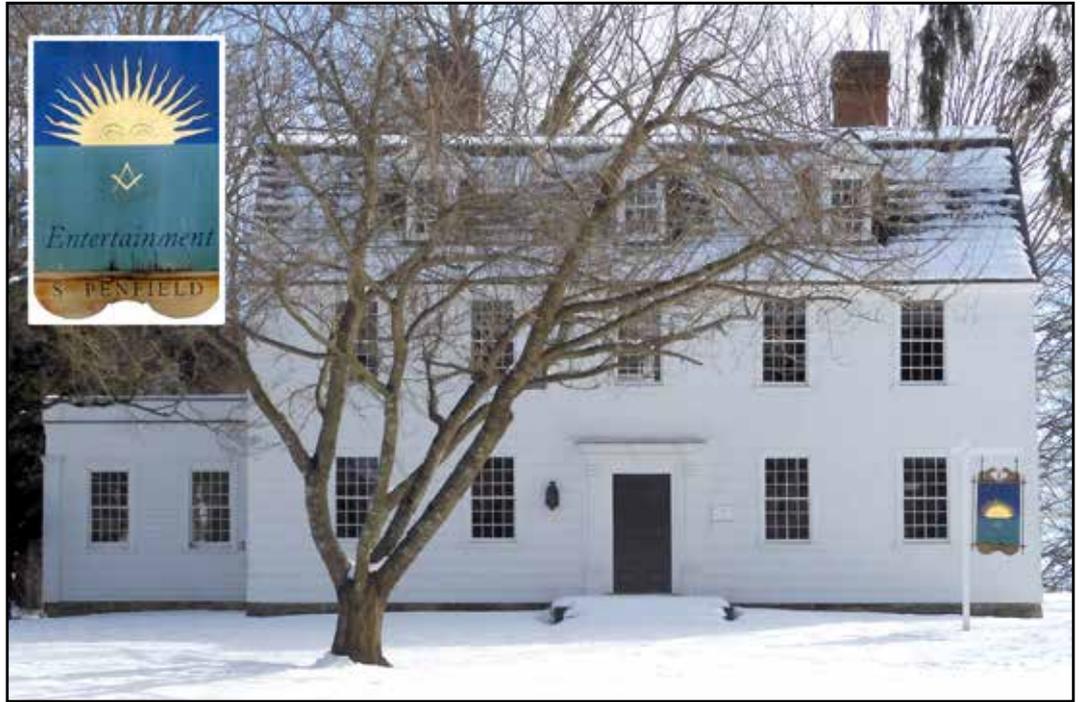
by James W. D'Acosta

On the moonlit evening of November 15, 2012, Freemasons met at Sun Tavern for the first time in more than 200 years, thanks to Fairfield Museum's preservation efforts. The meeting was part of the museum's effort to awaken the historic tavern's role in the town's daily life. But how did saving a landmark end up also nurturing an ancient society?

Friendship is at the heart of this Masonic adventure. Passion for Fairfield's history drew Chris S. J. Jennings and Walter Matis into each other's circle of acquaintances. Jennings was leader or "Worshipful Master" of St. John's Lodge No. 3, the first Masonic lodge in Fairfield County. Established in 1762, its charter bears the date 5762 (Freemasonry adds four thousand years to the Common Era to symbolically allude to the creation of the world). Jennings knew of early meetings held at the tavern and aspired to orchestrate a return. Matis, Fairfield Museum's program and volunteer coordinator, was involved in raising funds for vital lead paint abatement and encapsulation at the tavern.

Sun Tavern's claims to the museum's scarce resources are manifest. Though owned by the town since the late 1970s, since 2002 the museum has been contracted to create exhibits and make the building accessible to the public. Built in 1780, the tavern stands on its original foundations. Situated along Old Post Road in the southern corner of the town green and adjacent to town hall, it is a witness to American history since the nation's independence. Travel along the New York City-to-Boston corridor still flows within sight of its windows.

That George Washington slept at Sun Tavern on the night of October 16, 1789, is the conclusion



The Sun Tavern.

of Thomas J. Farnham in *Fairfield: The Biography of a Community, 1639-1989*. In his unpublished "Notes on Taverns in Fairfield and Nearby Towns, 2021," Matis references letters that future President John Adams wrote on October 14, 1789, of being "in good health and Spirits" while staying there. Later correspondence of June 2, 1800, finds Abigail Adams attesting to the same "upon a visit at Fairfield."

According to Matis, a tavern called "Penfield's" and sometimes listed as "S. Penfield's" in early documents preceded Sun Tavern on the site. Penfield's fell victim to "Tryon's Raid" on July 7, 1779. During this cataclysmic event, British troops also burned the court house, church, and most of the homes near the town green. Samuel Penfield built Sun Tavern from these ashes the following year.

Jonathan Bulkeley's competing tavern was known to have been General William Tryon's headquarters during the raid. Masonic lodges often met at taverns, and lodge records reveal that Bulkeley's tavern (no longer extant) was also often the lodge's meeting place during Bulkeley's unusually long tenure as Worshipful Master from 1771 to 1788. According to Matis's unpublished essay "Concise History of FSJ3, 2021," when William Heron became Worshipful Master in 1789, the lodge resumed meeting at various public houses and other establishments in Stratford and what is now Bridgeport, and twice at Sun Tavern in 1809. The lodge established permanent residence in Fairfield in



The author leading a Masonic meeting seated in the Windsor armchair preserved from 1762.

the mid-20th century.

The first references to the name "Sun Tavern" appear in the late 19th century and may have been initiated by Robert Manuel Smith, who lived in the structure from 1885 until the early 20th century. Seeking funds to preserve the tavern, Matis conducted a presentation at the lodge that led to a major donation from The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation. Masons were thrilled to help preserve a meeting place of the lodge.

In gratitude, Fairfield Museum gave permission for the 2012 meeting. To augment the rich physical setting, members wore period clothing, from Continental Army uniforms, Scottish kilts, and the cotton waistcoats and silk stockings of country gentlemen to the

Continued on page 40

Preserving Fairfield's Sun Tavern

continued from on page 39

humble go-to-church-and-weddings linen and wool of farmers and tradesmen.

Ascending the narrow steps to the second floor, Masons entered the room George Washington, their eminent brother, likely was given for his overnight stay. With candlelight playing upon the room's 12-inch-wide planks and open hearth, members performed the Master Mason Degree initiation ceremony with centuries-old precision.

Stewards of artifacts safeguard their preservation, but the Sun Tavern experience demonstrates that allowing their original use, even briefly, can nourish the surviving spiritual and intellectual culture of historic groups. In this case, Freemasons were invigorated and gave Fairfield Museum access to the fraternity's private records to provide an understanding of its

activities.

When Masons gather, they strive to create an ideal community in which religious, political, racial, and class differences yield to their common humanity. Efforts to live according to these Enlightenment principles, embedded in the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution by Brother Benjamin Franklin and many others, play out imperfectly across the arc of our national history. Fairfield Museum now understands what this looks like at the local level.



The lodge's original charter.

The author, James W. D'Acosta, is a high school history teacher in Fairfield, a third-generation Freemason, and past master of St. John's Lodge No. 3.



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*SM



The Bucket List (Part 1) by Richard F. Denno

A bucket list, as defined in the dictionary, is “a list of things that one has not done before but wants to do before dying.” It allows us to reflect on what matters most to us, our personal values, and identify important life milestones and experiences that we want to have accomplished over our lifetime.

What wonderful, memorable events or times are on your bucket list? Perhaps you want to travel to exotic lands or skydive? Maybe learning a new language, or volunteering for your favorite causes (Donate Life – hint hint). A retirement home in a warm climate may be to your liking. Taking up new and exciting hobbies could be interesting. Simply sitting back with a cool drink, with your feet up, and watching the world go by would work for you.

All or some of these items could be on your bucket list. How many lives, of either of friends known or not met yet, will you impact? So many adventures, and for those on the transplant waiting list, so little TIME. For those fortunate enough to find an organ donation, an extended chapter in their life begins. Some refer to it as a “new lease on life.”

There are two types of organ donation, living and deceased. As a living donor, you may be able to donate one of your kidneys, one liver lobe, a lung or part of the lung, part of the pancreas, or part of the intestines. Eighty percent of those on the organ donor waiting list are looking for a kidney. Most of us have two kidneys but can live perfectly healthy long lives with one kidney. One of the best sources on living kidney donation can be found at www.LKDN.org. It was created by Harvey Mysel,

founder of the Living Kidney Donors Network and a two-time kidney transplant recipient.

What organ is the only one that regrows? Your liver. If you donate a lobe of your liver, it will take just a few weeks for your liver to return to its actual size and a few months for it to be fully functional.

For some, their opportunity to “empty their bucket list” is slipping away. A living donation is the most successful for a variety of reasons and provides the best outcome for the donor recipient.

WB Eric Farrell, from Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142 in Easton, is one of those renal patients desperately looking for his ‘Donor Champion’ to step forward and donate a kidney; one that will allow him to complete as many of those special items on his bucket list as possible. Who among us hasn't, at one time or another, looked to the heavens and asked for MORE TIME to make a difference in the lives of those we love?

To learn how you can become Eric's Champion, contact him at esf1718@gmail.com or by telephone at (203) 216-4141. Also, spread the word of Eric's need to your friends and family. The more who know his situation, the better the chances of him getting his kidney.

Part 2 of our Bucket List story, on Deceased Donation, will appear in the Connecticut Freemasons next month.

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

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.

Recurring Events

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

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

Recurring Breakfasts

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

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

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

First Thursday of the Month, 8th Masonic District,
Groton, 9 a.m., *Groton Townhouse Restaurant*

Third Saturday of the Month, Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14,
Plainville, 8 a.m., *Uncle Bob's Ham & Eggers, 2 Linden Street, Plainville*

Events

Sat Sep. 3, 9 a.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7,
Woodbury, Food Drive

Fri Sep. 23, Statewide Spaghetti Dinners to Support George Washington
National Masonic Memorial in Alexandria Virginia. *If your lodge is not
holding a dinner, find a nearby lodge and support them.*



Craft At Labor

To have your lodge events appear in the newspaper, please update your lodge website Google 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 Technology Chairman Mike Abrahamson at michael.abrahamson@ctfreemasons.net.

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 Semi-Annual Session

Saturday, October 15, 8 a.m., Hartog Auditorium

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Wed., Sep. 21, 6:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 18,
Sandy Hook, Dinner

Wed., Sep. 28, 7:30 p.m., Hospitality Lodge No. 128, Wethersfield,
Tentative Degree Date, Contact Secretary for latest information

Fellowcraft Degrees

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

Thu., Sep. 8, 6:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1,
New Haven, Dinner

Tue., Sep. 20, 6:30 p.m., America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
Stratford, Dinner

Tue., Oct. 4, 6:30 p.m., America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
Stratford, Dinner

Master Mason Degrees

Wed., Sep. 21, 7:30 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7,
Woodbury

Thu., Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, Dinner,
Past Master's MM Degree

BOOSTERS

Thank you for your generous contribution! Update: August 10, 2022

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Lowell H. Cantor	Michael S. Shear
Loretta & Ron Christensen*	Gail N. Smith
Carlton R. & Susan A. Csiki	Stuart M. Smith
Lester A. Culver, Jr.	John & Jane Sterry
Shane Dufresne	George A. Stickels
Ralph W. Ely, III	Bill Strand
Leonard Finegold	Arthur R. Tinsz
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Michael G. Fitting	Andrew G. Weimann II
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Robert Furce	In Memory of John F. Paulsen
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Scott Dubb	Charles A. Rogers
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LODGES & ORGANIZATIONS

MASTER MASON LEVEL \$250 +

Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

CT DeMolay

Supreme Council Members

Hartford Evergreen

Lodge No. 88

King Hiram Lodge No. 12

Fellowcraft Level \$150 - \$249

Ashlar Lodge No. 332

Entered Apprentice Level \$75 - \$149

Anchor Lodge No. 112

Coastal Lodge No. 57

Columbia Lodge No. 25

Corinthian Lodge No. 63

CT Widows Son

Masonic Riders Assoc.

Evening Star Lodge No. 101

Friendship Lodge No. 33

Ionic Lodge No. 110

Temple Lodge No. 16

Trumbull Lodge No. 22

Valley Lodge No. 36

Washington Lodge No. 81

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Now you can support **Connecticut Freemasons** newspaper online! You spoke and we listened. There is now a PayPal dropdown *Connecticut Freemasons* Booster form on the Grand Lodge home page (ctfreemasons.net) just below the PDF version of the paper. Use the dropdown to select your level, click the "Pay Now" button and then follow the directions. You can pay with credit or debit cards or a PayPal account. The funds are used to help cover the printing and mailing expenses of the paper.

District 7

Lodges 2, 43, 51, 81, 95, 112, 119, 131, 151



Granite Lodge No. 119 Mans Deep River Muster Hot Dog Stand by Gorden Hurlbert

Brothers of Granite Lodge No. 119 enjoyed some outdoor fellowship, food, and fun at the Annual Deep River Muster Hot Dog Stand on July 16. The weekend-long Deep River Muster is one of the largest Fife and Drum gatherings in the country and includes visiting international bands.

This merry band of masons included WM Jason Conroy, and brothers Gordon Hurlbert, Hank Roberts, Chris Turkington, Frank Fiala, Ian Lewis, Jeff Ogilvie, Mike Dunn, Mike Jascott, and John Main. Many family members came to help and support the cause as well!

Many thanks to Calamari's Tavern for the generous supply of Hummel hot dogs and to Shore Discount Liquors for the tent space. Net proceeds are set to support local food banks and families in need.



District 8

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



District 8 Lodges Perform Joint Master Mason Degree

by Bill Bundy, Jeffrey Kovach, and Jamie Pearson

On June 15, at the Preston Masonic Center, four Fellowcraft were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

The joint degree was hosted by Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34 and performed by a team of Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34 and Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116 Worshipful Masters and officers. Brothers visiting were from Moriah Lodge No 15, Hiram Lodge No. 1, and Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88.

The meeting was an opportunity for the brothers of both lodges to establish renewed fraternal bonds and provide their newest Master Masons with the best possible degree that could be performed.

All brothers visiting Somerset-St. James Lodge for the first time received a lodge challenge coin presented by the Senior Warden.

District 8 is most pleased to welcome their newly raised Brothers and are looking forward to the opportunity to mentor them and observe their growth in Masonry.



Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34 Recognizes Hometown Heroes and First Responders *by William Bundy*

On Wednesday, July 6, during a well-attended event, the brothers of Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34 recognized several members of the craft and a local hometown hero for their service as First Responders and their efforts in the community. The program promoted by the COCA Grand Lodge Committee, recognizes police officers, firefighters, EMS workers, veterans, and front-line hospital workers. WM Bill Bundy officiated the event along with RWB Les King, Grand Junior Warden, who was on hand to make the special presentation.

WM Bundy recognized several brothers of Somerset-St. James Lodge for their service, past and present, as first responders. Brother John Moore, a 40-year veteran of law enforcement retiring as a Sergeant from Groton Long Point Police; Brother Greg Webster, a 30-year veteran of law enforcement, retiring as a Trooper First Class and serving 12 years in the fire service; and WB Gordon Fraser, who served over 46 years in the fire service and 42 years as an EMT, received Certificates of Appreciation and Masonic First Responder pins. Heidi Webster, wife of Brother Greg Webster, who is a past member of the Rainbow Girls and Eastern Star was also recognized for her service in the community as an EMT. A special guest at Somerset-St. James Lodge, WB Mike McKinney, was also recognized. He is a retired Sergeant from the Norwich Police Department and is currently working as a Sergeant with the Ledyard Police Department.

The highlight of the evening was RWB Les King making the presentation to local first responder and hometown hero, Investigator Scott Dupointe of the Norwich Police Department. During the evening shift of October 26, 2021, Inv. Dupointe responded to the Westwood Park section of Norwich for multiple reports of “shots fired.” As he arrived on scene, Inv. Dupointe encountered a male subject armed with a long rifle who began shooting at Inv. Dupointe. The perpetrator fired at least nine rounds, striking Inv. Dupointe’s cruiser and narrowly missing him. As a result of Inv. Dupointe’s quick, calm and professional actions, the suspect was subsequently taken into custody without injury to any persons involved in the incident. It was later determined that the incident was choreographed by the suspect to ambush and execute the officer.

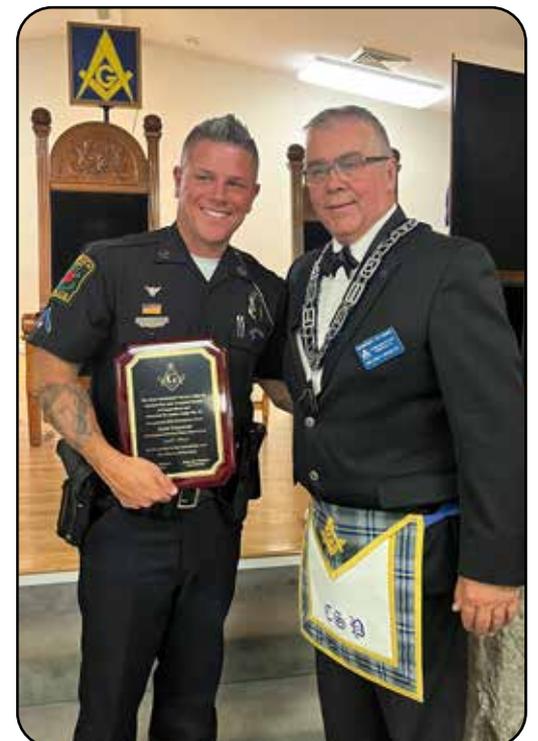
Investigator Dupointe came to the Norwich Police Department by way of the Groton Town Police Department where he served for four years. In 12 years at the Norwich Police Department, he has climbed the ranks and has served in various capacities, most notably as an Investigator, Field Training Officer, Motorcycle Officer, boat operator and gang specialist. He has been awarded a Lifesaving Award as well as two Meritorious Service Awards. RWB King presented Investigator Dupointe with a plaque from the Grand Lodge State of Connecticut and

a \$100 donation to the Norwich Patrolman’s Benevolent Association (PBA) in his honor.

The officers and brothers of Somerset-St. James Lodge offer their sincere congratulations to those recognized. Thank you to all first responders everywhere for their sacrifice and dedication to their communities.



RWB Les King making presentation to Inv. Scott Dupointe.



Inv. Dupointe and WM Bill Bundy



(l-r) Lt. Thomas Lazzaro, Norwich PD; Chief Patrick Daly, Norwich PD; RWB Les King; Inv. Scott Dupointe, Norwich PD; WM Bill Bundy; WB Mike McKinney; WB Gordon Fraser; Bro. John Moore; Heidi Webster, and Bro Greg Webster.

Celebrating the Saints John at Wooster Lodge No. 10

by Jeffrey Blayman



On a perfect day in June, brothers gathered to honor a 241-year-old tradition by celebrating St. John's Day at Wooster Lodge No. 10 in Colchester. WM Christopher LaGrange welcomed brothers from far and wide to march from the lodge and assemble at Colchester Federated Church on Main Street.

Freemasons historically celebrate two feasts of saints.... The feast of John the Baptist falls on June 24, and that of John the Evangelist on December 27, roughly marking the summer and winter solstices. "The Holy Saints John," very different men

with different religious practices denote balance. St. John the Baptist, with a strict rigid moral code, compliments the more philosophical and esoteric work of St. John the Evangelist. They are symbolic of balance or equilibrium in Masonic thought and ritual.

The oratory provided by numerous distinguished brothers was inspiring as readings from the Koran, Old and New Testaments, the Torah, the Rig Veda and more, blessed the listeners with Light from many sources of spiritual wisdom. The final message delivered by MWGM Rev. Bruce R. Bellmore was poignant and uplifting as always.

Thank you to the brothers of Wooster Lodge for hosting the Craft. Please consider joining the lodge next June for this memorable and festive occasion.



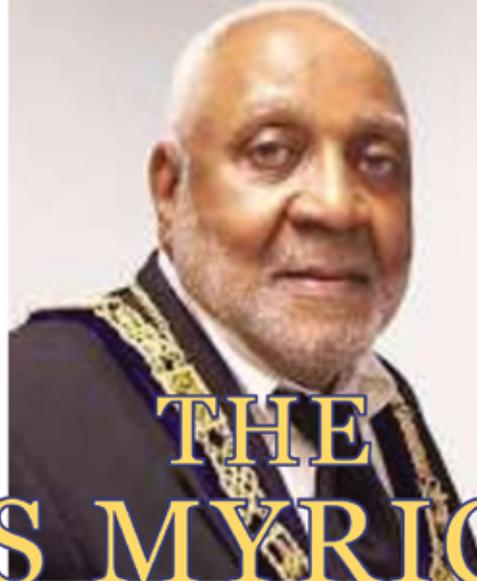
SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 29, 2022

HARTOG CENTER - ASHLAR VILLAGE

74 CHESHIRE ROAD, WALLINGFORD 06492

5:30 to 10 p.m.



THE LEWIS MYRICK, SR. UNITY GALA

ENJOY AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP,
FINE DINING, FOND MEMORIES, AND
GREAT MUSIC

\$50 DONATION PER PERSON

Appetizers • Three-Course Meal • Dessert Table • Cash Bar

EIGHT TO THE BAR

FOR YOUR DANCING AND LISTENING PLEASURE

Eight to the Bar is an American band founded in 1975 in New Haven, Connecticut. They have released 12 albums and toured both nationally and internationally.

THIS IS A FORMAL EVENT - BLACK  OR DARK SUIT

OUR WEB PAGE WILL BE UP SHORTLY WITH FULL MENU
SELECTION AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

THIS EVENT WILL SELL OUT!

The Concentric Circle is Growing

We are giving Masons and fraternal family members even more reason to choose Masonicare. With benefits developed exclusively for Masons, you can be sure you are receiving the best-in-class care and service you deserve from the provider you trust.



More benefits for you in 2022!

NEW! Effective May 1 for new move-ins: Masonicare is offering Masons, Masonic widows, and the rest of the Masonic Family a six-month, 5% discount on base monthly fees (excluding healthcare charges) in our Independent Living and Assisted Living communities! These include Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Pond Ridge Assisted Living, Masonicare at Chester Village, Masonicare at Mystic, and the Apartments on Masonic Avenue in Wallingford – A. Norman Johnson Apartments, Hawkins Apartments, and Wells Apartments – all of which offer convenient access to Masonicare Health Center.

Additional Concentric Circle Benefits include:

- **PRIORITY ADMISSION / ACCESS** to Masonicare following the “Concentric Circle” guidelines for Connecticut Freemasons, relatives, and appendant bodies
- **REDUCED PRICING** on applications for our residential communities
- **FREE HEARING SCREENINGS** in the Masonicare Hearing Center
- **FREE BALANCE ASSESSMENTS** in the Masonicare Health Center Outpatient Rehabilitation Department
- **WAIVED ADVANCE PAYMENTS** on Masonicare at Home (in-home, non-medical homemaker-companion services)

Masonicare 
An Ageless Commitment to Caring

[Masonicare.org](https://www.masonicare.org)



Masonicare Community Services **800.982.3919**