

October 2022



Connecticut FREEMASONS

IN THIS ISSUE

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

**Call to the Annual Membership
Meeting of Masonicare**

"BRINGING THE HARVEST HOME"

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

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



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Assistant to the Grand Master

Not just a man. A Mason.



*Congratulations to
DISTRICT 1,
the September 2022
recipient of the
Editor's Award!*



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Publisher

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

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Theodore J. Nelson, Chairman

Francis G. Way, Editor

Jeff S. Bartlett

Bud Buckner

Rev. Carl H. Anderson, Masonicare

Adam Raider, Masonicare

CREATIVE/LAYOUT Pat Kalinauskas

CONTRIBUTORS

John Amarilios

Bruce R. Bellmore

David R. Blythe, Sr.

Donald M. Casey, Jr.

Richard F. Denno

Pedro Garcia

Bill Greene & Sandie Greene

Gordon Hurlbert

Charles Jewart

Patrick Jones

Steve Lewis

Martin J. Macary

Roy Nealon

Daniel W. Nichols

Jamie Pearson

Eric Pogg

Bill Roots

Ronald W. Sala

Jon-Paul Venoit

Bringing the Harvest Home

by Francis G. Way

"The only thing that endures over time is the 'Law of the Farm.' You must prepare the ground, plant the seed, cultivate, and water if you expect to reap the harvest."

— Stephen Covey

There is a rhythm to life, and here in New England, that rhythm is firmly delineated by the four seasons. Summer's heat and long hours of daylight are slowly giving way to cooler weather, the end of the growing season, and later sunrises and earlier sunsets. Some surely will be disappointed. But almost as if to say, "Sorry for taking your great summer away," autumn does reward us with one of the most spectacular art shows that nature can produce: fall foliage, the red, gold, and orange leaves painting the land in one last gasp of glory before the cold, ice, and winter snows.

At this time of year, the harvest is nearly done. For years, life centered around the cycle of farming, and harvest time was an event. We still commemorate this, in our own way, with the many fairs that can be found every weekend through September and into October. After the harvest, the bounty of spring and summer's hard work was laid up and preserved for use throughout the winter, and in the spring, plowing and planting would again begin.

While our lodges don't follow that seasonal schedule, we do have our own cycle, where we prepare the ground, plant the seed, cultivate, and water. Petitioning, investigation, Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason outline the 'Law of the Lodge,' as it were. At every step of the way, a lodge must carefully bring their candidates along, nurturing them as a farmer cares for his crops.

After brothers have been raised, as much care must be taken with them, to fully bring them into the life of the lodge as a farmer would take in putting up the bounty of the harvest, so they can sustain the lodge going forward. The work is never done, and the labor is never over.

There are many degrees coming up this fall, as lodges survive and sustain, and hopefully, thrive. Although the farms' harvests are winding down, Connecticut Masonry's are ongoing. From the increasing activity evident in the number of submissions, the *Connecticut Freemasons* newspaper receives, those efforts are producing more bountiful results. Let's bring that harvest home and thrive and grow as those who came before us, both in farming our New England land and building our New England lodges, have done in ages past.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!

Compass Lodge No. 9

Edward Dooling, III

Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14

Marlon A. Zakuri

Unity Lodge No. 148

Daryl James Goucher

John Thomas Marshall

Joshua Scott Roberts

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

69 Masonic Avenue • Wallingford, CT 06492

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

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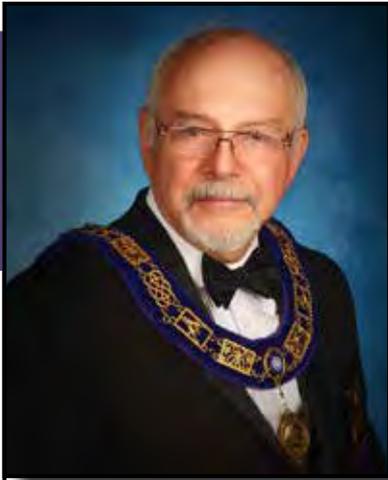
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**FRATERNITY, FAMILY, FOOD, & FUN ~ AUGUST 13, 2022
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Grand Master's Message

by Rev. and MWB Bruce R. Bellmore



My dear brothers,

Friendship, morality, and brotherly love, the tenets of our institution should ever be the focus of our life as Freemasons. Unfortunately, we often push these tenets aside for many reasons. We allow the passions of the world, the profane, to interfere in our actions with our brothers. Indeed, many of the problems which face our world would be solved if the practice of these tenets became the norm instead of the exception. It could change the world.

We, in Connecticut Freemasonry, are fortunate to have had brothers of vision and principle who embraced these tenets and overcame centuries of racism, mistrust, and ignorance in our great fraternity. Most Worshipful Brothers Gail Smith, Kenneth Hawkins, Preston Pope, and Lewis Myrick stood together and ushered in the era of mutual recognition between the Grand Lodges of Connecticut, AF & AM, and PHA. This testimony of brotherly love was met, at first, with great opposition, but standing firm in their beliefs, mutual recognition has spread across the country and around the world. There are still places where Grand Lodges do not recognize their counterparts but, fortunately, that number gets smaller every year.

Later this month, we will take time to celebrate this wonderful heritage. Together with my good friend and Brother Arnold Holmes, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Connecticut, PHA, we will hold a gala to honor this recognition. At the Lewis Myrick, Sr. Unity Gala on October 29, in the Hartog Center at Ashlar Village, we will join with our Prince Hall brethren in an evening of dining, music, dancing, and fellowship. We hope you will join us for this wonderful occasion. Information on reservations can be found elsewhere in this issue.

My dear brothers, as I have often stated, as Freemasons we have the revelation of the thrice given light – that light of the Grand Architect of the Universe – teaching us the great tenets of our institution. That light that shines in the darkness can illuminate the world. We proved that when we stood together in 1989 to overcome the darkness of racism and segregation in our Lodges. The Masonic world saw our light and was forever transformed. Let us shine the light of our teachings on the rest of the world. It, too, shall see our light and be transformed. Fiat Lux!

Yours in Freemasonry,

Rev. & Brother Bruce R. Bellmore
MW Grand Master 2022

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 75-YEAR BROTHERS!

Rev. Eugene H. Haaf
King Hiram Lodge No. 12

Edward C. Hemmann
Granite Lodge No. 119





Spiritual Corner

by Rev. & RWB Carl Anderson

As we consider all that is going on in the world, as well as in our country, many are understandably concerned regarding so many issues that confront us on the news and on social media. As Masons, we turn to the Holy Scriptures in times of uncertainty, as a guide and source of hope. One book that I find very helpful in times of worry is the book of Daniel.

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 and create a plan during times of difficulty, taking time to stop and pray is a Masonic lesson we should apply as we navigate the twists and turns on our 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 which is affirmed 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, I believe we would all be better off if we take time, as Daniel did, to have a conversation with God asking for guidance. God is never too busy to hear our prayers and help us navigate through life.

*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

Paul Anthony Hunter

Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88

Richard Arthur Cassada

Sequin Level Lodge No. 140

Duane Albert Meyers

Washington Lodge No. 19

Henry Allen Fetcho

Morning Star Lodge No. 47

Robert Donald Murdock

Manchester Lodge No. 73

John H. Gade

Meridian Lodge No. 77

David F. Putnam

Granite Lodge No. 119

Anthony P. Giunta, Jr.

Temple Lodge No. 65

Robert A. Sinibaldi

Columbia Lodge No. 25

William S. Hall, Jr.

St. Pauls Lodge No. 11

Frank Richard Zemina

Widows Son Lodge No. 66

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

JAMES M. ANDERSON
GRAND SECRETARY
69 Masonic Avenue
Wallingford, CT 06492



BUSINESS PHONE
(203) 679-5903
FAX NUMBER
(203) 679-5996
grandsecretary@ctfreemasons.net

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

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.

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50-YEAR BROTHERS!

Marcello Brighenti, Jr.

Village Lodge No. 29

Reginald Austin Corey

Anchor Lodge No. 112

Bradford Hull Ross

Washington Lodge No. 70

Edward R. Souza

Compass Lodge No. 9



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From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

This month, I'm hitting the road with other members of Masonicare's senior leadership team for another round of "State of Masonicare" employee town halls. It's an opportunity for us to update our employee team members about what's happening at the affiliate level and across our organization. One topic we're sure to discuss: the economy.

The COVID-19 pandemic triggered a prolonged period of disruption to the healthcare industry that's been slow to pass. Masonicare weathered that storm by finding efficiencies, expanding existing partnerships, focusing on areas for potential growth, and, above all, by being able to adapt. But we see another storm on the horizon – one arising from inflation and ongoing labor shortages.

The current economic climate has been tough on all of us: businesses, working families, and individuals. My message to our staff will be that the strategies Masonicare employed to survive and, in some ways, thrive during the pandemic will continue. If we're not willing or able to adapt, we won't survive.

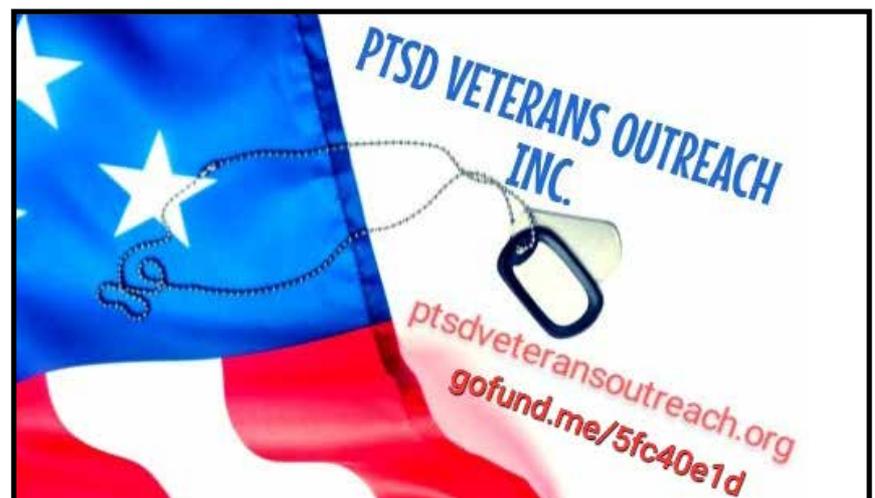
MWGM Bruce Bellmore and RWB Bob Polito, Chair of the Masonicare Board of Trustees, recently joined me at Ashlar Village to film a series of short videos about Masonicare specifically for the Masonic family. We had great fun discussing the important role that the Masonic family has had in making Masonicare what it is

today, the services offered, and some of the incentives available to our brothers and sisters.

Although I've spent countless hours over the years speaking with Bro. Bob, I was still impressed by his ability to tell an engaging story. Our Grand Master, who graciously served as host, came prepared with great questions and a perspective on Masonicare that I know you'll appreciate. He was such a natural that a member of our Marketing team asked if he'd ever worked in broadcasting. He hasn't ... but maybe he should!

I'm looking forward to the Semi-Annual Meeting at Ashlar Village on October 15 and hope to see you there. Until then, thank you for your unwavering support of Masonicare.

Sincerely and fraternally,



“Great Years” Await You at Masonicare



There is a single road connecting the upper and lower Masonicare campuses in Wallingford. It takes a few twists and turns, rises and descends, but is contiguous, like a timeline connecting past and present. A stretch of this road is known as Eastern Star Way - a permanent reminder of the special bond Masonicare shares with the Order of the Eastern Star of Connecticut.

OES has been there for Masonicare since the beginning, paying for the installation of electric lights throughout the entire Masonic Home in 1900 and, later, furnishing every room in the Wells building. The Order has continued to generously support the mission of Masonicare through countless contributions from individual members and larger gifts from the Eastern Star Charity Foundation that help enhance the quality of life for Masonicare residents in need.

Eastern Star members like Worthy Matron **Ottilie Bulakites** (above right), a 16-year resident of Ashlar Village and a founding member of Ashlar Chapter No. 116, continue to play a vibrant role in life at Masonicare. In 2024, she'll celebrate her 75th year with the Order!

“My mother's life greatly improved when she moved onto the Masonicare campus,” said Past Matron **Laura Michnowski** (above left), who serves on both the Masonicare Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors of Grand Chapter, Connecticut OES. “Before passing away while in long-term care at Masonicare Health Center, she had ten great years at the Wright Residence. She was able to live and socialize with people her own age, made many friends, participated in activities, and became a volunteer. She even joined Eastern Star and encouraged me to join, too.”

Masonicare offers a wide range of residential living options, at different price points, with incentives available for members of the Masonic Family. Just as Eastern Star has always been there for us, we're here for you.

We are *your* Masonicare.

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

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VALLEY OF HARTFORD, AASR

by David R. Blythe, Sr.

I would like to congratulate Brother William I. Greene, MSA, and Brother Frederick J. Taft, MSA, on their nominations to receive the 33rd Degree. Both brothers have long served the Valley of Hartford, and Masonry.

This year's class honoree is Bro. Samuel A. Frink, MSA, and this year is dedicated to the memory of Brother Edward Schilke, MSA.

Several Family Life activities took place over the summer months including a deep-sea fishing outing and the Annual 5K Road Race on July 23, under the leadership of Bro. Gorden Hulburt, to support the Children's Dyslexia Centers. In August, the Valley held its Annual Workers Night Dinner and the installation of the newly elected officers for each of the Valley's four bodies. September saw the Valley enjoy its Annual Family Life Picnic, at a new venue in Wickham Park. The events were well attended and enjoyed by all.

September closed out with the Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection presenting the 4th Degree DVD, and a live portrayal of the 9th Degree on September 29. Once again, pre-degree dinners are being held prior to degrees on degree nights, along with the customary social hour after the degrees.

Upcoming in October

A Family Life event is scheduled for Friday, October 8, to watch a Hartford Athletic soccer game. Hartford Athletic is fairly new on the Hartford sports scene but their games are entertaining and fun. Watch your email or contact our Valley Secretary for more details.

On Thursday, October 13, the Hartford Council Princes of Jerusalem will portray a live version of the 15th Degree. New candidates can still start their journey towards becoming a Scottish Rite 32nd Degree Mason. If you know a Master Mason who is interested, please have him get in touch will our secretary so arrangements can be made for him to view the 4th Degree.

Upcoming in November

On Thursday, November 5, the Cyrus Goodell Chapter of Rose Croix will present a live portrayal of the 18th Degree, and on Thursday, December 1, Nathan Hale Consistory will portray the 27th Degree following the showing of the 25th Degree DVD. Don't forget to make your reservations for the pre-degree dinners if you plan to attend.

On Sunday, November 20, a Family Life bus trip to Newport, RI will take place, to tour the Mansions (decorated for Christmas), and enjoy a luncheon.

Upcoming in December

On December 8, another popular Family Life event will be a trip to New York City to Radio City Music Hall to see the Rockettes, also with a luncheon.

Ambassador Program

Any brother interested in becoming a Scottish Rite Ambassador in their lodges and nearby lodges should contact Ill. Bro. Tony Angelica, 33rd, Valley Secretary. He can supply all the information needed to join this program. Ambassadors help not only in the recruitment of new members, but also broaden the knowledge of other Master Masons about who we are and what we do.

Ongoing Valley Projects

Don't forget the ongoing Valley projects: September through January 2023 – winter garment collection for the homeless, and a food drive. September through December – Toys for Tots collection. September through July 2023, donations to the Chikldren's Dyslexia Centers of Connecticut.



**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:

Continuing the Masonic journey
Continuing one's personal journey
Expanding one's fraternal circle
Educational opportunities

~

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**



Sphinx Shrine News

by Eric Pogg



There is important news from Shriners International! Shriners International is excited to announce the new digital membership card. Effective in August 2022, Nobles who pay their 2023 dues will have immediate access to their newly designed membership card. Nobles can access and present their digital membership card, which features the status of their dues in two ways:

- **My FezCard Viewer** is available for download on the Apple App Store or Google Play App Store.

- **Member Center** is located on the new ShrinersInternational.org Website.

For 2023, the two primary methods to determine if a member is current in their dues will include asking the Noble to present their new digital membership card on a mobile device or for the temple, club, or unit to scan the QR code on the Nobles existing hard card. As a result, Shriners International has discontinued the distribution of dues stickers to individual Nobles.

When Nobles pay their 2023 membership dues, they will receive a 5x8 acknowledgment postcard that will announce the new process along with instructions on how to obtain their new digital membership card.

To address some commonly asked questions:

1) *How can a Noble access their digital card if they don't have internet access?*

If internet connectivity is a concern, once the Noble accesses their card via one of the two options above, they can take a phone screenshot of the digital card, which automatically saves to their phone's photo gallery. Thereafter, they can present the card as needed without needing an internet connection.

2) *How can a temple, club, or unit scan a QR code?*

From an operational standpoint, the barrier to entry to utilize the QR code technology is extremely low and simple to use. For the last three years, several Shrine Centers have been scanning the QR code on the existing membership card to determine dues by purchasing a handheld scanner, available for as little as \$30, or a mobile device, like a phone or tablet. Both options connect and communicate with **WebFez**.

3) *Will the digital card display associate temples?*

Currently, only the Noble's home temple will display on the My FezCard Viewer, however, Shriners International expects to add a display featuring

associate temples by the end of 2022.

These changes are in line with many other Masonic bodies that have been using the QR code technology to keep track of dues, meetings, and degrees. Shrine Centers using this technology have been able to clean up databases, including addresses, phone numbers, birthdates, and spouses

as Noble's information may have changed over the years, but was never updated. The result of this effort is designed to directly reduce temple expenses, simplify operations, and increase member engagement.

After visiting other Shrine Centers that use the QR code scanner it was amazing to see Nobles line up to have the cards scanned. Some have monthly attendance rewards and others a year-end reward. The database keeps track of all attendance and can also determine the top prize winner for attending functions. These changes are in addition to the www.BeAShrinerNow.com online membership application

that has streamlined the application process.

Fall is busy with the MidAtlantic Shrine Association in Virginia Beach, VA, the Northeast Shrine Association in Bangor, ME, as well as several balls, visitations, receptions, roasts and ceremonials. Sphinx will start off 2023 with Chief Rabban's Night on Saturday, November 19. As the Imperial Session is in Charlotte, NC, in 2023 a NASCAR theme with Carolina BBQ will be had.

This past summer the Sphinx Motor Patrol had the Annual all-you-can-eat Steak Spectacular. Hundreds of steaks were consumed by the masses. Plenty of raffle prizes were awarded including gift certificates to many establishments, a 55-inch smart tv, and a pellet grill. Photos of the event can be found on the Sphinx Shrine, or the Sphinx Motor Patrol Facebook pages taken by Sphinx photographer Bart Blonstein. Keep your schedule clear for next year's steak dinner as we will be moving to a larger venue to seat four hundred, so we do not have to turn anyone away.

Join us on October 23, for the Annual Boston Haunted Walk at The Gardens at Elm Bank in Wellesley, MA. The Haunted Walk is an event to raise awareness and funds for The Shriners Hospital for Children – Boston. Get into the spooky spirit and run, walk, or ride your broom to support pediatric burn care, reconstructive plastic surgery, and cleft lip and pallet care. Information about the event can be found at www.BostonHauntedWalk.org.

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

The Curse Causeless Shall Not Come

by John A. Amarillos, membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

On October 3rd at 7:30 p.m., the 28th Degree will be presented live followed by a video showing of the 6th Degree. If you miss this live rendition of the 28th, the Valley of Bridgeport, in conjunction with the Supreme Council, will be videotaping the degree on the following weekend for subsequent presentation during one of the “Thursday Night at the Rite” programs on the NMJ Member website later this year!

More light will be available on Monday, October 24, at 7:30 p.m. as the 16th Degree is presented live with a video rendition of the 15th Degree immediately following. As always, brothers desiring to initiate their Scottish Rite program can inform the office so that a video presentation of the 4th Degree can be presented prior to the scheduled degrees on any degree night.

Upcoming family life events for Scottish Rite Masons and their families include a trip to the Essex Steam train and a riverboat cruise on October 1, a “Curling and Cocktails” event on October 8, and a trip to the Goodspeed Opera House on October 22 to watch the musical play “42nd Street.”

For payment information and reservations for each of these activities, please call the Consistory office at 203-375-0064 during normal business hours.

The core values that this month’s degree presentations will inculcate are Integrity (28th), Reverence (6th), Reverence (16th), and Integrity (15th). All these core values are expounded in the Great Light that lays open before all of the brothers in an open lodge. Unfortunately, very few lodge masters undertake an examination of the Great Light during blue lodge meetings, and it is relegated to the role of ritualistic adornment during the opening and closing ritual. This oversight adversely and tragically affects the fraternity and its members in countless ways. Great familiarity exists with the laws of the physical, measurable world, however, the laws that affect us individually, and society, in general, are overlooked and unknown. For example, everyone is cognizant of the law of gravity and would not jump off a great height since they recognize that this would lead to injury or death. How many of our fraternity however, suffer the ravages of chronic sickness due to violations of the laws of health, which entail sufficient exercise and sleep, and a healthy diet? If a marriage ends up in divorce, it can also be attributed to any of a number of causes such as poor communication, financial problems, unhappiness with a vocation, sexual issues, or even a death of a child. If one is pulled over for a DUI, we know well what the cause of the arrest emanates from.

Most people never seriously understand or care to think about the law of cause and effect. The Great Light instructs “As you sow, so

LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY



Attention All Master Masons!

SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES

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

Mon Oct. 24 - 7:30 p.m.
16th Degree (live), 15th Degree (digital)

Mon., Nov. 14 - 7:30 p.m.
22nd Degree (live), 17th 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.

shall you reap,” Galatians 6:7. The Great Light further explains that “The curse causeless shall not come,” Proverbs 26:2. The Eastern Faiths refer to Karma. Every unhappy and sad reaping stems from a cause – drug addiction, crime, bankruptcy, unwanted pregnancies. The Great Light instructs the Light Seeker that every difficulty is preceded by a reason – There is a cause for every effect. If all the people on Earth subscribed to the laws as set forth in the Great Light you would not have armies, wars, death, devastation, or the displacement of peoples. There would be no famine and resources available for everyone. No self-induced gluttony-related illness. The need for hospitals would be reduced to accident wards. Universal abundance, prosperity, and peace would be found everywhere.

All this arises from the tragic oversight practiced by much of humanity—the self-directed ignorance of the laws that can steer us away from personal and societal disasters. In my 28 years of lodge attendance, I have never seen or heard of one master who directed his lodge to the Great Light, that font of light and wisdom that lies open before us in lodge and is wholly ignored otherwise.

The Scottish Rite degrees attempt to address this by presenting lavish degrees that illustrate and expound the concepts inherent in the Great Light. A better investment in yourself cannot be found.

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, 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.

Scottish Rite Valley of New Haven

celebrates the beginning of

2023

New Year's Eve Extravaganza Formal Masquerade Ball



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for more information contact: Office@ValleyofNH.com

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**FRATERNITY, FAMILY, FOOD, & FUN ~ AUGUST 13, 2022
OLD-FASHIONED MASONIC FAMILY PICNIC
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Pyramid Shriners March for Needy Children *by Donald M. Casey, Jr.*

Nobles from Pyramid Shrine Temple in Stratford celebrated Labor Day by marching in the 60th Annual Newtown Parade. Shriners from the Motor Patrol, Legion of Honor, and Clown Units marched. Pyramid Shriners were able to share their mission of providing assistance to needy children receiving excellent medical care at Shriners Hospital.



Pyramid Shriner Clowns Putt for Needy Children *by Donald M. Casey, Jr.*

Nobles from the Pyramid Shrine Temple Clown Unit participated at the Shriners Hospital in Springfield, Massachusetts, inaugural Putting for a Purpose mini-golf tournament. This family-friendly fundraiser helped raise money to assist needy children receiving excellent medical care at Shriners Hospital



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of the STATE of CONNECTICUT



Bruce R. Bellmore
Grand Master



PO Box 69
Wallingford, CT 06492

June 1, 2022

Dear friends and brothers,

The past year has seen many instances of human suffering:

- Hurricane Ida destroyed hundreds of homes and Masonic buildings in Louisiana.
- Tornadoes in Kentucky left a 220-mile-long path of devastation in their wake.
- Fire swept through the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Rhode Island in Providence, one of the oldest Masonic structures in the United States.
- The Coronavirus Pandemic left brothers in dire financial situations.

In all these terrible situations, the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation has been there to help. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization, coordinating with other non-profits to ensure that these funds go directly to those who need help.

Your generous tax-deductible donations to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation make it possible for us to reach out and assist our brothers and their families throughout Connecticut and around the world. It also enables us to support worthy endeavors in our local communities on a case-by-case basis. Our support of the Grand Almoner and the Child Identification Program make a positive difference in the lives of those we service.

Please join with me and make your donation today. In this way, we can truly fulfill our Masonic obligation to "...help, aid, and assist our brothers." *Thank you for your support as we continue the good work of Freemasonry.*

Fraternally,

Rev. and Brother Bruce R. Bellmore
M.W. Grand Master 2022

The CT Freemasons Foundation is a 501(c)(3) corporation organized to accept tax deductible contributions. Your gift may be restricted by designating your specific charitable choice from the above list in the memo section of your check.

Your support for 2021 totaling \$128,800 includes donations to:

- Grand Almoner's Fund
- Grand Lodge Matching Grant Program
- CT DeMolay
- International Order of Rainbow for Girls
- CIP (Child Identification Program)
- The Masonic Charity Foundation/ Quality of Life
- CT Freemasons Foundation General Endowment
- 32nd Degree Children's Dyslexia Center of CT
- George Washington National Masonic Memorial
- Medical Research Lab
- Masonic Model Student Assist Program
- Masonic Service Association
- Organ Donor Project
- Shriners Hospital: Boston Burns Unit/Hospital for Children, Springfield

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NOTE: Donations can be made via PayPal on the Grand Lodge Website www.CTFreemasons.net

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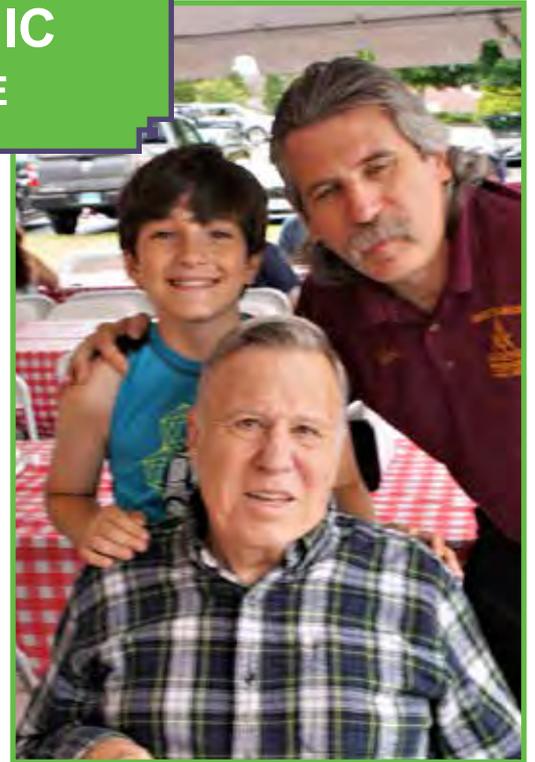
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FRATERNITY, FAMILY, FOOD, & FUN ~ AUGUST 13, 2022
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SPONSORED BY GRAND LODGE AND MASONICARE



District 1

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



Washington Lodge No. 19 Annual Summer Picnic *by Roy Nealon*

On August 21, Washington Lodge No. 19 held its annual lodge picnic. This year's picnic featured a pig roast and thanks go out to Brother Lou for cooking the pig. A great time was had by all with quite the turnout! The lodge hopes to see everyone next year.



Corinthian Lodge No. 104 Labor Day Picnic *by Pedro Garcia*

On the Friday night of Labor Day Weekend, with perfect weather, good food, and drink to partake with the wonderful fellowship of brothers and families, Corinthian Lodge No. 104 enjoyed a Labor Day picnic.

With more than nine lodges and well over 70 people in attendance, it was an awesome turnout. Corinthian Lodge wishes to say “Thank you” to all who attended, supported, and helped. It was a great time to spend with brothers and their families before going back to labor!



Union Lodge No. 5 Helps Widow Move *by Ronald W. Sala*

For nearly a quarter century, Mr. C’s Fix-Up Shop was a part of daily life in Stamford. Residents relied on Ed “Mr. C” and his wife Lidia Ceceres to repair furniture, windows, appliances, and more. Ed was a member of Union Lodge No. 5, where he was known as a charismatic storyteller, motorcycle enthusiast, and lover of quality beef, which he had come to appreciate in his native Argentina.

When the couple retired in 2015, Union Lodge helped them close the shop. Two years after Ed’s passing from cancer in 2020, their daughter, Lisa Benson, contacted the lodge asking for help again, this time to move Lidia to Midland, TX, to be with her.

On August 19, WM David Cooper, brothers Jim Freebairn, Aldrin Dautz, and I filled a dumpster with glass, lumber, and metal Ed had accumulated over the years as part of his many projects.

Then, on September 4, brothers, including Cooper, Adam Ellyson, Evan Delman, and MWPGM Stephen Petri, along with Michael Coco (a coworker of Bro. Andre Aflalo) gathered in intense heat to load the moving van. Due to their dedicated labor, the loading was done in about two hours. The brothers of the lodge wish Lidia all the best in her new home in Texas.



Union Lodge No. 5 Moving to Darien

by Ronald W. Sala

Union Lodge No. 5 held its last stated communication at 47 Kirkham Place, Stamford on September 7. The lodge occupied the former Boy Scouts headquarters at that address since the 1980s. Declining membership and high property taxes prompted a move to sell the building, which is awaiting closure.

The brothers of Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107 generously offered the use of their building at 345 Post Road, Darien, while Union Lodge explores its future. Meeting times will be the same, with stated communications on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 p.m.



District 2

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



District 2 Grand Lodge Officers Having Fun

by Daniel W. Nichols

Summer is a time for family, friends, and fun. In Masonry it is a great time to strengthen bonds and build brotherhood. In District 2, Deputy Grand Master RWB Joe Porco invited his purple aprons to a day of fun and a cookout on Saturday, August 27.

This was important in many ways. Through all their travels and nights out, getting everyone in the same place rarely happens. It helped them to remember that they are all one team and working together for the same goals. It was also a great opportunity for some competitive trash talk.

A 9-hole golf outing at Pomperaug Golf Course started the day. The rivalry was District 2A versus District 2B. District 2B crushed District 2A, if crush can be defined as winning by one stroke. But, as the late Dale Earnhardt used to say in NASCAR, "Second place is the first loser." The morning was fun, and that little bit of competition helped strengthen bonds.

The day continued with a cookout lunch at RWB Joe's house. He had said that steak was on the menu. The brothers were not aware, though, that he would pull out "the old 69er" (see the John Candy/Dan Ackroyd movie *The Great Outdoors* from 1988), in other words, a steak that is legendary. Everyone laughed and joked and had a great time.

These are moments that brothers all want as Masons. If it has been a while that your brothers have been able to enjoy such fellowship, plan a get together soon. It makes Masonry what we all cherish.



(l-r) RWB Peter Dolce DD 2A, WB David McClain AGM 2B, WB David McClain AGM 2B, RWB Rinaldo Magliano, WB Nathan Schoonover AGM 2A, and WB Joe Porco.



RWB Rinaldo Magliano, Grand Senior Deacon, our ringer in golf.



WB Nathan Schoonover AGM 2A, showing off his cooking skills with "the old 69er's."

District 3

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



Harmony Lodge No. 42 Celebrates 225 years!

by Martin J. Macary All photos by WB Gary Rosengrant

On Saturday evening, August 21, Very Reverend and MWB Bruce Bellmore, the brethren of Harmony Lodge No. 42, and ladies and friends gathered at the Mattatuck Museum in downtown Waterbury to celebrate the lodge's 225th Anniversary.

Harmony Lodge was chartered on November 7, 1797, by MWB William Judd, with its first Worshipful Master being WB Jared Byington. The lodge has had many homes throughout its 225 years. From 1914 until 1984, home was the Waterbury Masonic Temple, 144 West Main Street, Waterbury, the current home of the Mattatuck Museum. The location was the home of four blue lodges: Harmony Lodge No. 42, Continental Lodge No. 76, Liberty Lodge No. 123, and Euclid Lodge No. 135. There were also the Valley of Waterbury, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, and three York Rite bodies: Eureka Chapter No. 22 RAM, Waterbury Council No. 21 R&SM, and Clark Commandery No. 7 KT.

Brothers, friends, and ladies were given tours of the museum and of the Mystery & Benevolence Exhibit, concerning Freemasonry and other fraternal orders, by the staff. The Mattatuck Museum still displays many Masonic emblems throughout the building in the form of cornerstones, stained glass windows, exterior carvings, and doorknobs.

After the tours, the Knights of St. Elmo's Commandery No. 9 presented the colors followed by the singing of the National Anthem. WB Joseph Pisani, Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, greeted his guests and explained

Continued on page 23



MWB Tom Maxwell, MWGM Bruce Bellmore, and MWB Marshall Robinson.



Brothers attending the celebration.



Knights of St. Elmo's Commandery No. 9, Meriden, marching in with the colors.



Knights of St. Elmo's conducting the flag ceremony.

the emblem of the beehive, which has special significance to the lodge. MWB Bruce Bellmore then gave the invocation and some remarks about attending meetings in the building and the fond memories that he had. Brother Michael Forino gave a history of Harmony Lodge and the building since he had previously been employed by the Mattatuck Museum. Finally, a biography of MWPGM Robert S. Walker was read, as it was through his efforts that the Waterbury Masonic Temple came to being.

Brothers who attended were given a 225th Anniversary Coin, struck especially for the occasion by OGS Industries of Cheshire, a 225th Anniversary lapel pin, and a history of Harmony Lodge from 1797 to 1997 by WB Daniel Sharkis, and WB Kenneth Tarwood brought red roses to the ladies during dinner.

A wonderful time was had by all who attended and much thanks and appreciation to the staff of the Mattatuck Museum who made it happen.



Stained glass in the Mattatuck Museum.



Bro. Michael Forino presents a history of Harmony Lodge.



Cornerstone of the Mattatuck Museum.



WM Joseph Pisani with an artifact from a previous anniversary.

King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 Holds 9th Annual Food Drive

by Steve Lewis

On Saturday, September 3, the Masons of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 7 in Woodbury conducted their ninth annual food drive on behalf of the Community Services Council of Woodbury. In addition to much-needed food items used to re-stock the Woodbury Food Bank's shelves, the generosity of the community provided cash donations to those in need.

This food drive was the most successful to date. While no exact count of the food items donated is kept, it was easily equal to or better than last year's banner haul. The cash donations exceeded \$2,000, \$700 more than last year's high-water mark. This is especially welcome news since at this time of year the Food Bank is nearly depleted.



Jason and Rich Miska

Continued on page 25

It was a great joy having the brothers' children participate. Not only was it terrific seeing families active in a community project, but they were the best "salespeople." They were a huge benefit and added a whole new fresh dimension to the cause. Watching them interact with the donors was fascinating and a learning experience for the brothers. Without a doubt, they deserve the credit for the increase in donations.

Also this year, members of the Order of the Eastern Star participated in the event. This was a further benefit to the collection efforts as their connections to the community expanded those of the lodge. It makes a huge difference in the willingness of those coming to shop when they are greeted by name and asked for support.

The Woodbury Food Bank provides weekly access to 125 local families and seniors in need. This program serves both to support proper nutrition and to enable client families to conserve scarce financial resources for other household necessities. In addition, to drop-off points around town, deliveries are also accepted at the Woodbury Food Bank, located at the rear of LaBonne's Woodbury, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Information on the programs of the Community Services Council may be obtained from CSCW President Robert Taylor at community.services.council@gmail.com or (203) 263-3869.



WM Douglas Barry, Jr., and Worthy Matron Judi Kiessling.



Matthew Brouillard, Jason Miska, and WM Douglas Barry.



Woodbury Community Services Director Bob Taylor, Wayne Anderson, Steve Lewis, Matthew Brouillard, Jeff Leavenworth, Jason Miska, Rich Miska, and WM Douglas Barry.



Mario Sclafani, Matthew Brouillard, and Wayne Anderson.



Steve, Adriana, and Gianna Saxton.



Steve Lewis, Steve Saxton, Adriana Saxton, Gianna Saxton, Wayne Anderson, Matthew Brouillard, Jason Miska, and WM Douglas Barry.

District 4

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



Temple Lodge No. 16 Enjoys Annual Summer Picnic

by Gordon Hurlbert

Worshipful Master Phil Sharkey gathered the brothers and families of Temple Lodge No. 16 to enjoy renewed friendship and great food at their annual summer picnic. Brother Dave Rochford and his lovely wife Jamie were wonderful hosts.

WM Sharkey (front, sunglasses), Bro. Dave Rochford (front, right), Jamie Rochford (2nd row, 3rd from left)



Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 Celebrates 400 Years of Masonic Service

by Bill Roots

At its Homecoming Communication on September 2, Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 in Milford recognized the Masonic milestones of eight members. Collectively, their service represents 400 years of Freemasonry service.

MWGM Bruce Bellmore presented 60-year pins to Bro. Donald Baldwin and Bro. Franklin Rogers; 55-year pins to Bro. Evan Winters and Bro. John Nelson; 45-year pins to Bro. Moe Knox and WB James McCormack; and 40-year pins to Bro. William Schrader and WB Paul Edelen.

MWGM Bruce Bellmore with Bro. Don Baldwin and Alice Baldwin



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District 7

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



Anchor Lodge No. 112 Holds Philippines Relief Dinner

by Richard Denno

On December 16, 2021, a massive typhoon named Odette, like an F4 tornado, landed in the Philippines bringing havoc with strong winds and flash floods, particularly in the provinces and the islands of Cebu and Negros Oriental.

“Thank God our families were safe,” said Brother Rey Francis Millares, Anchor Lodge’s Senior Deacon. “Unfortunately, some or most of our townsmen lost their homes, properties, livelihood, and worst, some lost their lives.”

Damaged infrastructure (power lines, bridges, and telecommunications) is being restored. But to date, some still have lost their homes and need building materials to rebuild. School buildings also need roofs, desks, cement, lumber, nails, paint, other building materials, and labor to rebuild. Students also need books, backpacks, and other school supplies.

On Saturday, August 20, Anchor Lodge No. 112 held a Philippines Disaster Relief fundraising dinner at VFW Post No. 5095 in East Hampton. It was an evening of fun, authentic Filipino food, and music. Impress Valencia, daughter of Anchor Lodge Senior Steward Martin Valencia, put together a presentation on the affected neighborhoods of Anchor Lodge’s Filipino brothers: Valencia, Rene Villano, and Rey Francis Millares. Friends, family, brothers, and guests enjoyed the evening. Chances were sold and exciting prizes were won by many. The evening’s festivities raised over \$3,000 to assist in rebuilding island neighborhoods.





How Masonic Lodges Are Like Navy SEAL Teams

by Jamie Pearson

Both Masonic lodges and Navy SEAL teams operate on the established concept of brotherhood. While it might be a stretch, brothers found in Masonic lodges and SEAL teams are the same type of brothers, who stand out in their communities as leaders.

Freemasonry is built upon three basic tenets or principles: Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth. Brotherly Love is the practice of the golden rule. Relief embodies charity for all mankind. Truth is honesty, fair play, and adherence to the cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice.

The ethos of modern Freemasonry is respect, friendship, integrity, and charity, and where possible support for international, national, and local charities, helping those less fortunate than oneself, in one's own communities.

The SEAL team ethos is to voluntarily accept the inherent hazards of their profession, placing the welfare and security of others before their own. Serving with honor on and off the battlefield. The ability to control their emotions and their actions, regardless of circumstance, setting themselves apart from others. Uncompromising integrity is their standard.

SEALs rise to the call of brotherhood when it counts most. Just like Masons do. Brothers may not be facing jihadists in the mountains of Afghanistan or in the streets of Iraq, however just as SEALs depend on each other to complete successful missions and safe passages home, Masonic brothers count on each other.

For a Masonic lodge and a Navy SEAL team, attitude and integrity are closely related qualities of the brothers. No matter how strong and determined, few accomplishments in life are successful without many men working together.

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THE UNCLE SAM LEGEND GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. CONNECTICUT



Uncle Sam as a personification of the United States, whose bicentennial we mark this year, was "born" during the War of 1812.

His name and form were derived from an actual person, a Troy, N.Y. meatpacker named Samuel Wilson who with his brother Ebenezer helped supply and inspect meat for the 6,000 army troops encamped at nearby Greenbush.

The Wilson brothers' firm was known as E. & S. Wilson and Samuel, a friendly and well-liked individual, was affectionately called Uncle Sam up and down the Hudson Valley.

The brothers' meat for the army was purchased through a contractor named Elbert Anderson and each cask and package prepared by them was marked with a large "E.A.-U.S."

An authentic great-nephew of Uncle Sam, Lucius Wilson, ascribes the origin of the Uncle Sam story to an Irish freight watchman who, when asked by a stranger as to the ownership of a particularly large consignment, replied that it belonged to Mr. Anderson and Uncle Sam.

"Uncle Sam who?" he was asked. "Why, Uncle Sam Wilson. It is he who is feeding the army."

In the army the soldiers began to call the beef and pork Uncle Sam's and said that Uncle Sam was caring for them. Thus the legend began and spread throughout the land.

Uncle Sam remained a largely oral tradition, with occasional references in print, until the era of the Civil War. During that period, political cartoons were becoming popular both here and abroad and cartoonists began

drawing Uncle Sam as an Abraham Lincoln type.

Originally clean shaven, Uncle Sam — like Lincoln — later grew a beard, largely through the efforts of the American cartoonists Thomas Nast and Joseph Keppler just after the Civil War. During the war, hostile British publications had also helped fix the bearded image of the United States with their cartoons of a bearded Lincoln as a sinister and saturnine character.

The earliest drawn versions were widely different and did not begin to assume the present form, dressed in striped trousers, frock coat and top hat, until the Civil War.

Uncle Sam is usually the visible embodiment of problems and protests, squarely in the center of the yeasty ferment of the democratic process at work. He has been in plenty of tight spots. He was born in one and ever since has met others head on.

Freedom remains his philosophy, and all the wordy dialecticians of the left and right will never sway him from this.

Uncle Sam is above all human and as the living symbol of individual freedom demonstrates an adaptability and a fertility of resource which auger well for him and his principles in the space age

— reproduced in part through the courtesy of Hammervill Paper Co. at the request of Grand Junior Deacon Morris Budkofsky, Grand Lodge bicentennial committee chairman.

NOTE: Grand Junior Deacon Morris Budkofsky became Grand Master in 1980.

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Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*SM



Jim Gleason – The Legacy Lives On – And So Can Yours!

by Richard F. Denno



In an earlier column, we told the story of James ‘Jim’ Gleason, President and co-founder of Transplant Recipients International Organization (TRIO). Jim’s goal, after receiving a diagnosis of terminal pancreatic cancer, was to make it until the 28th anniversary of his heart transplant. Sadly, he fell short of that goal by a few months. His life expectancy of six months ended after only five weeks. Those in the transplant community are deeply mourning his passing.

Jim Gleason’s death is the quintessential example of just how the “Precious Moments” concept works. From his heart transplant in October 1994, until his passing in August, through his tireless efforts and dedication, he advanced donor awareness so much while keeping in mind the ULTIMATE goal of having as many people as possible register as donors.

Many potential donors ask, “why do you need so many signups?” The answer is simple mathematics. Out of every 20,000 registrants, only 5-10% will be eligible to donate, or 500 people. This is attributed to a variety of circumstances, such as a donor’s current health issues, when a donor’s organs can be recovered (timeliness is of utmost importance,) and

many other pertinent questions. Age is not a consideration. When Midge passed away, the donor recovery team asked me many questions to assess her viability as a cornea donor. Having 20/20 vision, her corneas were recovered and transplanted in two patients, thus vastly improving their vision and quality of life.

All of Jim Gleason’s accomplishments would not have been possible had he not received his heart transplant 28 years ago. Just as every positive act of Jim can be traced back to his donor, every accomplishment of his “downline” can be traced back to Jim’s selfless donation. That, my brothers, is what Jim Gleason’s legacy will be. What will your legacy be?

Jim Gleason, like Midge, had a 20/20 vision. Like Midge, he was able to “pay it forward” by donating both of his corneas and his eyeballs will be used for research purposes.

Remember: Don’t Take Your Organs to Heaven – Heaven Knows We Need Them Here.

To see how much Jim Gleason impacted the lives of so many, go to. If you would like to honor Jim’s great works, visit <https://www.trioweb.org>. The site has “everything you ever wanted to know about transplantation and donation but were afraid to ask.” Then you may, in the future, possibly provide others with their own Precious Moments.



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285 Whitney Avenue * New Haven, CT

(Parking in lot across the street from building)

**We again gather to share in the bounty of our labors.
We gather to share our time, blessings and
family harvest feast traditions with each other.**

**16th Annual
WB Steven Canada
Fall Harvest Dinner**

NOVEMBER

12

Saturday

6 – 9 p.m.

Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving side dish.
My family and I will provide the turkey, several homemade pies, water, coffee, and tea.
Dress for the event is "Cookout Casual" and, of course, there will be a table for the children!!

Please bring with you non-perishable food items, so that we may help fill the shelves of our neighbors in need. Our goal this year is to reach 500lbs of food!

Additional information about the event:

FallHarvestDinner@Outlook.com

RSVP by October 31, 2022

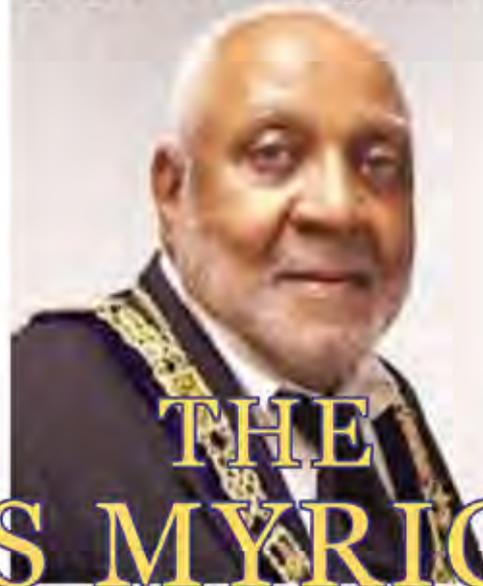
SAVE THE DATE

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 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

FOR TICKET PURCHASE PLEASE GO TO

<https://lodgelocator.com/sequin-level-140/page/lewis-myrick-sr-unity-gala>

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, Darien, 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., Oct. 1, 9 a.m., Meridian Lodge No. 77 Meriden,
Graveyard Cleanup

Sat., Oct. 1, 6 p.m., Columbia Lodge No. 25, South Glastonbury, Grape
Harvest Wine Festival *Buy tickets online (\$35) or at South Side Wine &
Spirit Shoppe, (860) 633-2763*

Sat., Oct. 8, 7 a.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury,
Community Tag Sale, *Hollow Park, Hollow Rd, Woodbury*

Sat., Oct. 29, 6 p.m., Putnam Lodge No. 46, Woodstock,
The Halloween Table Lodge

Mon Oct. 31, 6 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury,
Trunk-Or-Treat

Fri., Nov. 11, 6:30 p.m., Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford,
Table Lodge

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., Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury

Fellowcraft Degrees

Mon., Oct. 3, 6 p.m., Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, Dinner

Mon., Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m., Meridian Lodge No. 77, Meriden

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

Tue., Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m., America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford,
Dinner

Fri., Oct. 21, 7:45 p.m., Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford

Tue., Nov. 1, 6:30 p.m., America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford,
Dinner

Master Mason Degrees

Thu., Oct. 13, 6:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, Dinner

Fri., Nov. 4, 7 p.m., Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford

Mon., Nov. 7, 6 p.m., Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, Dinner

Thu., Nov. 10, 6:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, Dinner

District 6

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



Bears, Ladies at Table, and Mark Twain Highlight June at Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 *by Pat Jones*

June was very busy at Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88. Three different and exciting programs were offered to the brothers and their significant others. Worshipful Master Dave Prior believes that the lodge should offer as many family programs as possible. Much cheer and fellowship highlighted the various events.

Ladies at Table on Saturday, June 4, witnessed approximately 30 brothers and their significant others attend a dinner and ceremony to honor women. Such notables as Michelle Obama, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Hedy Lamar were recognized with a series of toasts. The event was organized by Brother Khamp Phimvongsa. The afternoon's festivities included special glasses with the Masonic insignia, which were raised with wine, water, or grape juice.

WB Dave Larsen, AGM 6A, and WB Bob Malt, AGM 8B, commanded the kitchen and created a delicious dinner that included a choice of poultry, fish, or a vegetarian dish. Brother DeShawn Morris served as a host and handled it with skill and aplomb. He had also volunteered to recite a challenging piece of Masonic ritual during a stated communication in May

A Bears of Connecticut program on June 6, was highlighted by an informative and educational lecture on the habits of bears in Connecticut. The brothers and their guests learned about the best ways to respond to the recent increase in bear sightings around the state. Dinner was also featured that night. Brother Duane Mason helped in the kitchen.

On June 20, a Mark Twain impersonator captured the attention of the brothers and their wives. Mr. Kit Webb, who considers himself a "Mark Twain Imposter," delighted the brothers and guests. Mr. Webb regularly performs at the Mark Twain House in Hartford.

Quite noticeable was the participation and efforts of the newest brothers during these events and other Masonic activities. They joined with various significant contributions of time and effort to make these occasions successful.

Brother Christopher Packer-McCarthy recited the charge to the EA Degree in flawless fashion. He is on the lodge Board of Trustees, and the lodge Scholarship



Committee, and has served on an investigation committee.

Brother Jared Simpson brought his financial acumen to the Audit Committee. He is also on the Scholarship Committee. He was joined by Brother Matthew Redding.

Brother Mike McClellan frequently travels to other lodges in Connecticut and beyond. He invites brothers to join him for some very delightful evenings. In what was dubbed the "Trip of the Ages," five brothers ranging in age from 30 to 80 had a wonderful evening filled with fellowship and great food on a recent excursion to a Massachusetts lodge. The Worshipful Master of Elm-Belcher Lodge in Agawam took the brothers on a tour of the lodge and they were duly impressed.

Brother Pietro Cerone regularly travels all the way from Maryland to attend stated communications and has filled in for various officers. A retired educator, he epitomizes the value of Masonic education.

Brother Aaron Alder has had some meaningful contributions to the planning discussions during our Stated Communications.

Brother Eliad Johnson has won us over by his tireless commitment to Masonry characterized by a great sense of humor and a propensity to step up and volunteer.

Capturing the most important moments at events is the responsibility of excellent lodge photographer Bart Blonstein.

It is refreshing to see that the lodge's newest brothers have joined in to take important roles so early in their Masonic careers. Worshipful Master Dave Prior feels confident that Masonry is strong and is delighted that the newest and youngest brothers are showing such leadership. It makes one proud to be a Mason.

Composite Lodge No. 28 at Suffield on the Green

by Charles Jewart

On September 10 and 11, the brethren of Composite Lodge No. 28 participated in the annual Suffield on the Green craft and food fair. The lodge runs two booths, selling fried dough and polish food (golumpki, pierogi, kielbasa and cabbage, and Polish platters). Despite the issues with the fryer and the chance of rain on Sunday, both booths managed to sell out of food.

Overall, the weekend was a success and the brethren had broken everything down and cleaned up by early evening in record time.





The New 988 Lifeline

by John A. Amarillos

This summer, the U.S. transitioned from a complex, difficult-to-remember 10-digit National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to a three-digit number, which is much easier to remember and quicker to dial – **988**.

I recently ran into an amazing statistic that in the U.S., there is one death by suicide every 11 minutes as of 2020 as reported by the CDC. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for young people aged 10-14 and 25-34. From April 1st, 2020, to April 1st, 2021, more than 100,000 people died of drug overdoses. In 2021, Lifeline received more than 3.6 million calls, chats and texts, and the number is expected to double once the easier-to-remember number is widely disseminated.

Studies taken on post-call clients have found that most Lifeline callers are significantly less depressed, less suicidal, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful. The Veterans Crisis Line can now

be accessed through the **988** number with option 1 pressed once it connects.

The suicide epidemic is serious, and its unhappy maw stretches over all communities regardless of demographics. The current administration in Washington, is trying to address the suicide epidemic, especially with the torment visited upon the country with the pandemic and has increased funding 18-fold from \$24 million to \$432 million. The funds are directed to upgrade crisis centers and backup center capacity, as well as to provide a sub-network for those who speak Spanish.

Our community is not immune to the pressures and stresses that life inflicts upon our members, and a vigilant eye on our brothers and their family members who may be exhibiting the onset of such unhappy desires are in order. Educating the brothers to recognize the onset of symptoms might be a good educational program for masters to consider for lodge nights.

The old Lifeline Number 1-800-273-TALK (8255) will continue to function and route calls through the **988** number. Veterans can still access the Veterans Crisis Line thru 1-800-273-8255 and then press 1 or they may continue to text 838255.



Masonic Family Fall Open House At Masonicare at Chester Village

November 3, 2022

317 West Main Street, Chester, Connecticut 06412

11:30am-2:00pm • The STAR Room, 2nd Floor

RSVP: Mike Nesti, Marketing Manager 860-531-1414 by October 24th
Guest Speaker: Dr. Ronald Schwartz, Senior Director of Continuum Services at Masonicare, will speak on “Tips for Healthy Aging”

Join us for an informative educational talk with Dr. Schwartz, a fall themed lunch and tours of our beautiful Chester community.

Masonicare 
An Ageless Commitment to Caring



masonicare.org |     

Save the Dates!

Save the date for one or all of our In-Person Nutmegger Reunions!

Dates:

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 11am

Thursday, March 9, 2023, 11am

Friday, March 10, 2023, 11am

Program will include:

MWB Bruce Bellmore, Most Worshipful Grand Master

Updates about Masonicare from:

RWB Robert Polito, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

WB Jon-Paul Venoit, President and CEO

Invitations will be mailed in early January 2023.

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