

September 2023



Connecticut FREEMASONS

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Call to the Regular Semi-Annual Communication
of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M.

Official Notice of the Annual Meeting
of Masonicars

"First It's The 'Ber' Months,
Then It's the 'Brrrr' Months"



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

2023- 2024 Officers of the Grand Lodge Af & AM of Connecticut



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Most Worshipful Grand Master

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RW Grand Senior Warden

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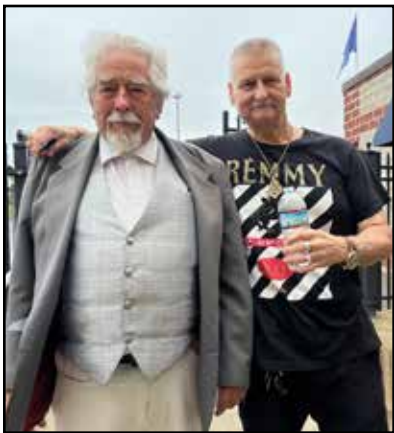


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Letters, articles, and advertisements may
be sent to the Editor Frank Way
at **submissions@ctfreemasons.net**
and are due on the 10th of the month prior
to the next issue.

Not just a man. A Mason.



Volume 19 - Number 1

Publisher

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

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First It's The 'Ber' Months, Then It's the 'Brrrr' Months *by Francis G. Way*

By the time the September issue of *Connecticut Freemasons* arrives in mailboxes, real or virtual, summer will be over. Never mind that, on average, September is warmer than May, never mind that there are still plenty of outdoor activities to enjoy before the leaves start to change and a light autumn chill descends, never mind that the young school-aged kids in the neighborhoods will be playing outside before doing homework, there's a definite change when the calendar page flips from August to September.

Many, if not most, lodges don't meet in July or August except socially. Some lodge rooms (like my lodge) have no air conditioning, and many lodges understand the need to rest and recharge. But when September rolls around, labor resumes with a vengeance... I've heard more than one brother refer to September starting the mad dash to the end of the year. No wonder the brothers need to be rested and recharged.

With the Blue Wave making an impact, I would guess that more lodges will be doing more degree work through the fall. This is hardly a bad thing. If nothing else, it will hone skills and remind officers in line that, if they haven't started learning that next chair's part for next year, they'd better get on it. Ideally, it will make a great impression of the fraternity of new men who will begin their journey of self-improvement.

On social media, I often see brothers who long for the months that end in "ber," as they just don't like the summer heat. I see other brothers who seem to squeeze every drop of daylight out of every summer day with traditional summer activities like swimming, boating, and cooking out. And then there's the Shriners, who seem to be constantly going with their little cars, clown noses, and bagpipes. But once the calendar flips, it's as if there's an old-fashioned school marm is standing by each lodge, ringing a bell, calling the brothers back to labor.

So, take a deep breath, strap in, crack that ritual book, make sure the kitchen is in good order, and let's get back to it when our Worshipful Masters congregate at our lodges.

Your Masonic Record is Now Online!

To access your record:

- Visit the Grand Lodge of Connecticut website at <https://ctfreemasons.net> and select "Member Portal". This will bring you to the Grandview sign in page, select "Member Registration" at the top right and follow the directions.
- If you have any problems, please call the Grand Lodge office at 203-679-5903 or email at grandlodge@ctfreemasons.net for person-to-person help.

Once you are signed on you will have access to Masonic information, i.e. Rules and Regulations, Official Directory, Master Path Program, etc. To reach general Masonic information go to "My Portal" then "Resources" and check things out.

Also under "My Portal" you will find "Seminars" and you will see a number of informational Masonic lectures that you may view at your leisure.

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

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REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL
GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. of CONNECTICUT
October 21, 2023

The 2023 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 21, 2023.** You will need to follow the instructions of the Security Staff for parking. You may enter from either Cheshire Road or 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 8:00 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 2024. In addition, we will receive certain committee reports, act on any legislation changes which may be in order for consideration and other issues, time permitting, as directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Joseph J. Porco. Section 8203 of our Masonic Law does permit action on changes to the Rules and Regulations that 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 2023 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 2023) 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 2023 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.**

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, 2023

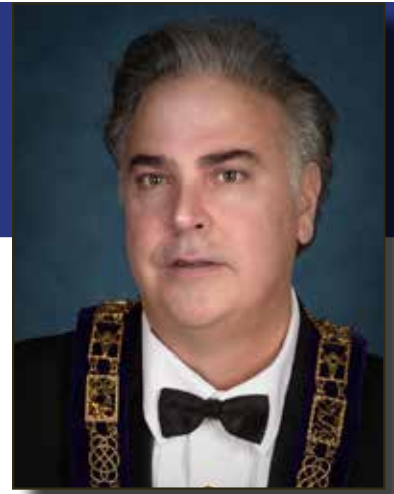
TO BE READ AT THE NEXT STATED COMMUNICATION UPON RECEIPT

DIRECTIONS TO ASHLAR VILLAGE ARE ON PAGE 9 OF THIS PUBLICATION.



Grand Master's Message

by MWB Joseph J. Porco



A warm greeting to all. Although summer does not officially end until the last week of September, most of it has come and gone. For some of us, life worked overtime to ensure it brought forward everything under the sun, happening all at once with gatherings, projects, and charitable events. We all had plans and expectations and hoped to carve out time for rest and vacation. Some experiences were expected and heartwarming, while others were unanticipated and heartbreaking.

In regard to the latter, the sudden loss of our Grand Senior Warden, RWB Les B. King, was a shock to all of us, especially for those closest to him in District 8. The news of his passing was preceded by the unexpected discovery of a terminal condition, and the progression of his illness was rapid. Although Heaven's gain is certain, our loss remains. We were blessed to have known and shared time with Bro. Les. We will miss him. Bro. Les possessed a generous spirit and a sharp intellect and was long devoted to professionally helping those less fortunate find their way forward. Bro. Les will long be remembered as a "Friend to All." Helping people find their way and settle into a better circumstance was part of RWB Les B. King's vocation, avocation, and legacy.

All Masons are called to be actively engaged in helping others. Established long ago was the charge that Masons are to be upright in character, uniting together with others for the wellbeing of their communities, advancing their own personal etiquette and conduct, placing civility, morality, and politeness at the heart of personal behavior for the good of society as a whole. RWB Les B. King exemplified all of these things, and he took his Masonic Charge seriously, evidenced by his continuous effort to promote the happiness of others. Bro. Les was one the finest examples of a just and upright Mason.

As Masons, how often do we review the Masonic Charges we promised to uphold? Are we familiar with the history and process from which the Charges came about and why they are similar in modern Freemasonry from jurisdiction to jurisdiction?

Do we know where these Charges originated from? A review of the 1723 Constitutions will provide an understanding of the original Charges and how it was revised.

In regard to the 1723 Constitutions and its impact upon America, history records that it was later, through the leadership of Bro. George Washington and others, that the virtues of our Craft became a creed for America as a nation. The establishment of our government, the 'Great Experiment' aimed at promoting human happiness by a reasonable compact. It centered around civility, liberty, and the election of leaders. Lodges were to be schools of thinkers and teachers where, through instruction, men would learn to govern themselves rather than to be governed over. The origins of the 1723 Constitutions explain the enlightenment principles embedded in Freemasonry as a universal brotherhood and the context in which these principles came about during a period when the world was characterized by religious conflict, a time when only birth, wealth or the decree of a Monarch or Pontiff determined liberty and success. The Constitutions also provided a legal framework for Freemasonry accompanied by an ideology (principles) based on meritocracy and egalitarianism (equality or classlessness) among men. Such thinking and the proclamation of it by brothers who preceded us was a risky affair, one that could cost a man his life.

Knowledge of the social, political, and religious atmosphere that existed in 1723 provides an understanding of how wholly radical

the new ideas of the age were, inclusive of religious toleration, scientific literacy, and intellect rather than birth as the criterion of excellence. Freemasonry championed aspiration, governing within due bounds, and opposed absolutism. Masons formed societies of thought (lodges), not only a society of brothers. The preceding point will hopefully continue to be brought forward, emphasized, and shared by the Craft. We should pause and reflect not only upon the 'Great Experiment' aimed at promoting

human happiness but also on the role of Masons in that cause by

Continued on page 6



The Grand Master's Message continued from page 5

remembering those who risked their lives to promote it. Our role today continues as we welcome in good men who desire to join in our labor and our privileges. While we should and do enjoy the privileges of our brotherhood, we should equally recognize that the labor assigned to our role is an important trust and serious matter.

The aim has always been high standards of commitment and effort. Kindness, putting others first, interpersonal civility, mentoring, education, and societal and personal self-improvement are central to our purpose. These attributes were to distinguish Masons from others and to be the cement that unites men of diverse backgrounds. Lodges were to be a place to “invent the future by developing a cultural vector for the transmission of secular and scientific thought, and fostering an environment where universal brotherhood, sociability, tolerance, and benevolence could flourish. “The aim of our Lodges was to be gathering places for moral vision and discourse.

A conscious return to this understanding and the inclusion of it in our mentoring process is the central reason why Grand Masters were called to Washington, D.C., on June 23, 2023. I was honored to represent The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Connecticut. This event celebrated the 300th Anniversary of the 1723 Constitutions, to reaffirm its principles and to further proclaim these teachings as an essential part of the mentoring process of all new brothers. Present were the current Grand Masters of the jurisdictions representing the original 13 Colonies of the United States, a delegation from The United Grand Lodge of England led by Pro Grand Master Jonathan Spence, and representation from many Grand Lodges from abroad.

Documents were signed during the visit, which were to be later displayed in the museum at Mount Vernon. A large replica carved in bronze is now a permanent fixture in the House of the Temple in Washington D.C. Our jurisdiction's presence was recorded and



engraved, and our acknowledgment of the “invaluable contributions of the 1723 Constitutions which enabled Masonic Lodges throughout the American Colonies to foster a moral and civic culture that sustained America, the Great Experiment,”² was re-confirmed. A copy of these documents will be framed and placed in our Grand Lodge Office for visiting brothers to see.

Reflecting upon all that has transpired over the summer, it was my hope as I composed this message that I might weave together and

illuminate the connection that exists between the life RWB Les B. King lived and the principles contained in the 1723 Constitutions, principles which Bro. Les embraced.

Sometimes, there are no explicit answers to circumstances. When there is tragedy, the best we can do is move forward in a positive way. We remember those who have shared their time with us, how they made us feel, and the love we have for them. We remember what they cared about, what they nurtured, and the relationship they had with each of us. The memory of their efforts can have an enduring impact on our own lives and goals.

The true spirit of promoting human happiness is what I believe RWB Les cared most about. Let us remember that as part of his legacy and pay it forward by sharing that sentiment with every new Mason who joins our ranks. Remember that real meaning can only be found when we remain present, and the greatest meaning in our life is the people who are and were in it.

References, Credits:

1. 1723constitutions.com
2. June 23, 2023, DEUS MEUMQUE JUS; Plaque located in the House of the Temple, Washington D.C.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 75-YEAR BROTHERS!

George E. Thomson
Composite Lodge No. 28

George L. Wald
Sequin Level Lodge No. 140

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*Remembering Right Worshipful
Brother Les Brent King*



Les Brent King was born on August 31, 1957, in Lamar, Colorado, and served in the U.S. Navy Submarine Force beginning in 1977 and retiring in 1997.

Les served on several boards within the city of Norwich, was Vice President of the Norwich Property Owners Association since 1997 and was the owner of his investment company since 1984.

Brother King was initiated on September 1, 2010, Passed on October 20, 2010, and Raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on November 3, 2010, in Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34 and served as Worshipful Master of Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34 in 2015 and 2016.

W.B Les joined the Grand Lodge line as Grand Senior Steward 2018, Grand Marshal 2019, Grand Junior Deacon 2020, Grand Senior Deacon 2021, Grand Junior Warden 2022, and Grand Senior Warden 2023.

R.W. King was a member of many Grand Lodge Committees, including Legal Matters, EMR Committee, Committee on Community Action (COCA), Budget and Finance, Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc., and the Masonicare Board of Trustees.

R.W. King was a member of the Scottish Rite, Valley of Norwich. Les was honored by the Scottish Rite to receive the Ill. Frederick H. Lorenson, 33°, Meritorious Service Award on September 17, 2016, and then his 33rd Degree with the Scottish Rite on August 30, 2021.

Brother Les B. King, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, passed away on Saturday, July 22, 2023, after a short illness.

May he rest in peace.

*A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life for Right Worshipful Brother Les Brent King will be held
on Sunday, September 24, 2023 at the Holiday Inn, 10 Laura Boulevard, Norwich, CT.*

Gathering ~ 2:00 pm

Memorial Service and Masonic Service ~ 3:00 pm.

The Masonic Service will be performed by Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34. Dress for the service is dark business suit.

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Richard C. Memmott Sr. was born in New Haven on August 15, 1944; he was the son of the late Charles J. Memmott, Jr. and Ruth (Smith) Memmott. Richard is survived by his wife Wendy (Dockery) Memmott; his sons, Richard C. Memmott Jr. and his wife Cheryl of Branford, and Michael Memmott and his wife, Jessica of Bristol; stepdaughters Julianna and Marissa deNicolo of West Haven; grandchildren Sarah, Ashley, Paige, James and Mikayla Memmott and nephew Raymond Memmott and his wife Jodi and children Arlyn and Rachael of West Haven. He was predeceased by his sister, Linda R. Memmott.

Richard attended the public schools in West Haven, Connecticut, graduating from West Haven High School in 1962. While in high school, he worked part-time at the Second National Bank. He first worked as an electrician's helper, with his eye towards a master electrician's license. A severe storm hit Connecticut in 1968, and West Haven in particular, tearing down electric and telephone lines, including lines between the West Haven Fire Department and their call boxes around the town. As a volunteer firefighter with some electrical knowledge, he offered to assist in restringing the lines. Unfortunately (at the time) fortunately (for his career), he had an accident and broke his foot.

While recovering, he decided that he would take the necessary fire department tests, placed second, and was appointed to the West Haven Fire Department, where he spent 26 years, retiring in 1994. While in the fire department, he took an arson investigation course at the University of New Haven and seminars through the State Fire Marshal's Office.

When Richard was a firefighter, he worked part-time at Sears, Gebauer's True Value Hardware, and Armored Car. He also worked part-time from 1985 to 1993 at the Beecher & Bennett Funeral Home and continued with them per diem for many years.



Remembering Brother Richard C. Memmott. Sr.

Dick retired after 26 years with the West Haven Fire Department, and in May of 1995, he went on with a second career at Masonicare in Wallingford for over 20 years as the Director of Community Services.

Richard was a member of the First and Wesley United Methodist Church in West Haven, where he grew up from childhood. He served as Church Council Leader and participated in many men's group activities.

Richard was a director and past Vice-president of the West Haven Public Library Board, and in 1979, he served on the Committee

for the Bicentennial of West Haven and was responsible for the overall logistics of the entire event, including the movement and feeding of over 300 participants. In 1994, Mayor Richard H. Borer appointed him to the Water Pollution Control Commission, which is responsible for the Water Pollution Plant in West Haven.

Brother Memmott was raised in Annawon Lodge No. 115 in West Haven on February 24, 1967, and was elected Worshipful Master in 1982 and again in 1998. He served as Secretary of the Lodge from 1991 to 1995 and again in 2015. He was a member of the Annawon Fellowcraft Club and has served as its Treasurer. He has served as both Chairman and Treasurer of the Temple Building Association.

Richard was a Senior member of West Haven (now Robert H. Heller) Chapter, Order of DeMolay, and a Past Master Councilor of that Chapter. He was awarded the Degree of Chevalier, the DeMolay Legion of Honor, and was a holder of the Medal of Appreciation. He has been a member of the Robert H. Heller Chapter Advisory Council for over 28 years and has served as its chairman. In addition, he has served as the Director of the International Supreme Council Awards in Connecticut, State Instructor

Continued on page 9

Richard C. Memmott, Sr. continued from page 8

for Advisors, and as a State Deputy.

Brother Memmott was a member of Joseph Andrews Chapter No. 46, R.A.M., the Scottish Rite Bodies of the Lafayette Consistory of Bridgeport, and the Valley of New Haven, where he was Treasurer Emeritus. Brother Richard was honored to receive his 33rd Degree with the A.A.S.R. on August 26, 2008. He also was a member and Past Patron of Golden Rod Chapter No. 34, Order of the Eastern Star. Brother Memmott was also a charter member of Ashlar Lodge No. 332.

R.W.B. Memmott has served on the Grand Lodge Committee on Masonic Culture and Public Relations, the Grand Lodge Library and Cataloging and Museum Committee, the Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations Final Revisions Committee, the Grand Lodge Custodians of the Work Committee, and the Grand Lodge Secretaries Committee. He also served many years as Coordinator for the Grand Lodge Sessions, acting as the liaison between the Grand Lodge and the hotel, ensuring that the sessions ran smoothly for various Grand Masters and that the visiting dignitaries were warmly welcomed and accommodated.

Additionally, Brother Memmott served as Associate Grand Marshal for District 4A for the years 1984-1985 and as District Deputy for District 4B in 1990 and 1991.

In October 1995, he accepted the position of State Chairman for the George Washington Masonic National Memorial for Connecticut.

Outside of work and his Masonic activities, Richard spent much

time pursuing his genealogy hobby and has been researching his family tree for the past 30 years. He was a member of the West Haven Historical Society, The Connecticut Society of Genealogists, The Genealogical Society of New Jersey, The National Genealogical Society, and the Sheffield, England Family History Society. He did research in the National Archives and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and in the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. He completed a Genealogy course through the National Genealogical Society. He also worked on a history of the Charter Members and Past Masters of Annawon Lodge No. 115 and served as Historian of the Lodge.

R.W.B. Richard was installed as an Associate Grand Tiler of the M.W. Grand Lodge of Connecticut by M.W. Grand Master Gail N. Smith in 1990 and held that position until the April 1998 Grand Lodge Session, where he was installed as Grand Tiler until 2016. M.W. Grand Master Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr. appointed Richard as Deputy Grand Secretary in 1994. He served in this capacity until 1996. Brother Memmott was elected as Grand Secretary in 2016 and 2017.

In October of 1990, he was appointed by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut as a Representative to the Grand Lodge of Utah. On April 7, 1998, was honored with the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.

Brother Richard C. Memmott, Sr., Right Worshipful Past Grand Secretary and Right Worshipful Grand Tiler Emeritus, passed away on Monday, July 3, 2023.

May he rest in peace.

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 traffic 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 the 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 traffic 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



TO: All Voting Members of Masonicare Corporation

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

OFFICIAL NOTICE

**ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MASONICARE CORPORATION
•SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023
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 133rd Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
- Election of Trustees
 1. Bro. Bruce R. Bellmore, P.G.M., - Hiram Lodge No.1
 2. Bro. Shelby P. Jackson P.D.D., - Compass Lodge No. 9
 3. Sister Bonnie Shulz McWain, - Frederica Chapter No. 110, Order of the Eastern Star
 4. Honored Lady Susan Koty, P.G.R.M., - Eliza McCoy Court No. 1, Order of Amaranth Representative

Board of Trustees,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Polito", is written over a faint, circular official stamp.

Robert F. Polito
Chairman
Masonicare Corporation

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

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Grand Chaplain's Corner

by Christopher J. Earle, Grand Chaplain



“Self-Evident”

As I write this, we have just experienced Independence Day and have reason to recall what has been called the most profound sentence ever written in the English language:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

These words written by Thomas Jefferson (with a world-class edit by Past Grand Master Benjamin Franklin, who suggested “sacred and undeniable” be changed to “self-evident”) have guided our nation since its birth. The word “Self-Evident” is defined in the American Dictionary of the English Language as “Evident without proof or reasoning.”

In our beloved fraternity, we have many instances that follow the definition of “Self-Evident”:

- That we work to display the beauties of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.
- That we receive no one, knowingly, into our Order who is not moral and upright before God and of good repute before the world.
- That the design of the Masonic Institution is to make its votaries wiser, better, and, consequently, happier.
- That such persons, when assembled together, will naturally seek each other's welfare and happiness equally with their own.
- We meet “upon the Level; act by the Plumb; and part upon the Square.”

These are some of the many truths that we, as Freemasons, hold to be evident without proof or reasoning. Self-evident.

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

Jacob Kemler Appell

Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14

Herbert Galvez

America St. Johns Lodge No. 8

John E. Markowski, Jr.

Compass Lodge No. 9

Robert C. Avery

Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88

Anthony Joseph Gesnaldo

Columbia Lodge No. 25

Frank E. Morgan

King Solomons Lodge No. 7

David R. Blythe, Sr.

Compass Lodge No. 9

Sylvester W. Greco

America St. Johns Lodge No. 8

John C. Owings

Ashlar Lodge No. 332

William David Cottle, Sr.

Ashlar Lodge No. 332

Stephen Charles Greenwood

Compass Lodge No. 9

Roger Norman Payne

Federal Lodge No. 17

Robert C. Cushman, Sr.

Coastal Lodge No. 57

Robert G. Hale

Estuary Lodge No. 43

John D. Shane

Fayette Lodge No. 69

Al-Amin Esquilin

Corinthian Lodge No. 104

Irving Lieff

Temple Lodge No. 65

Michael Anthony Tripodina

Temple Lodge No. 16

Rocco Frank, Jr.

Daytime Lodge No. 144

Norman A. Main

Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34

Andrew D. Weaver

Widows Son Lodge No. 66



CONNECTICUT FREEMASONS FOUNDATION, INC.

A 501(c) (3) Tax Exempt Organization

of the GRAND LODGE of ANCIENT FREE & ACCEPTED MASONS
of the STATE of CONNECTICUT



Joseph J. Porco.
Grand Master



PO Box 69
Wallingford, CT 06492

My Brothers, Family, and Friends,

June 15, 2023

We are taught that Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth are the foundational principles that unite us in this great fraternity. These principles are the basis for the formation of the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc., our 501(c)3 charitable arm. It is my honor this year to appeal to you to support the vital charitable activities of our Foundation, by making a tax-deductible contribution to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc.

I have singled out three options for your special consideration. You may split your gift, if desired. Please check choices in the return section and indicate the amount of your gift that you desire to restrict to that category. A gift of any size is meaningful, so please consider contributing whatever is within your means. Thank you for your consideration of this appeal.

- First is our Grand Almoner's Fund. We are reminded continually of the importance of providing for "the relief of poor distressed Master Masons, their widows, and orphans." Our Almoners provide a focus for ensuring this duty is carried out and the fund is an important element of that relief.
- Second is our Matching Grant Program. It is designed to encourage Lodges to actively support charitable causes in their local communities by having the Foundation match the cash gifts made by the Lodges to those 501(c)3 charities. The size and scope of this activity will depend on the support you give to it in this Appeal. The goal is to raise enough to match up to the first \$1,000, on the dollar that Lodges gift to qualifying entities.
- Third is our General Endowment Unrestricted Funds Option which enables the Board of Directors to utilize the funds for any pressing circumstance which arises. In the past we have provided help to relieve human suffering caused by devastating hurricanes, tornadoes, and fires. We are one fraternal body, wherever so dispersed.

Fraternally,

Brother Joseph J. Porco
M.W. Grand Master 2023

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 2022 totaling \$152,416 includes donations to:

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

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation Inc.

Board of Directors:

Christopher J. Earle, Chairman, Trumbull No. 22
Paul L. Watson, Secretary/Treasurer, Uriel No. 24
Robert H. Everest, Valley No. 36
Les. B. King, Somerset St. James No. 34
Edward C. Page, Moriah No. 15
Joseph J. Porco, Hiram No. 18
Garret W. Post, Temple No. 16
O. James Purnell, Fayette No. 69
Marshall K. Robinson, King Hiram No. 12

NOTE: Donations can be made via PayPal on the Grand Lodge website www.CTFreemasons.net
Located under "About Us" "The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation"

XXX-----XXX

Make check payable to: CT Freemasons Foundation – mail to PO Box 69, Wallingford, CT 06492-0069

To assist the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation in their ongoing work, I / we donate to the Grand Master's Appeal as follows:

_____ Grand Almoner's Fund
_____ Matching Grant Program
_____ General Endowment (unrestricted)
_____ Other-please note in the memo section of your check

If your donation is "in honor of," or "in memory of" (circle one) a loved one, please include their name below:

Please send notice of my gift to: _____

Please have someone contact me about how to include the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation as a beneficiary in my will. _____

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



The Proposed amendment to Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations- Revised

Subpart 35 – Finances, Section 3500, currently reads:

Right of Lodge to Assess Its Members. A Lodge has a right to lay a tax, assessment, or dues upon its members. The necessity of funds for its support -- self-preservation -- is the ground upon which this right and power rests.

Change to read:

Right of Lodge to Assess Its Members. A Lodge has a right to lay a tax, assessment, or dues upon its members, *including Entered Apprentices and Fellowcraft*. The necessity of funds for its support -- self-preservation -- is the ground upon which this right and power rests.

Rationale:

There are several hundred Entered Apprentices and Fellowcraft in our jurisdiction who, for whatever reason, have chosen not to advance but still attend Lodge functions and events. These Brothers should be expected to support their Lodge.

This amendment empowers the Lodge to set its dues as it deems best for itself. This change provides clarification of what a Lodge is permitted to do when setting its dues. For Lodges that set their dues by vote, this change will not require a change to the existing bylaws. However, for those Lodges with set dues in their bylaws, a change in the dues structure will cause a need for bylaws change and those bylaws will need to be reviewed by the Committee on Legal Matters. (See GLRR Sec. 3003).

Subpart 47 – Nonpayment of Dues/Unassociated Mason, currently reads:

Method of Striking From Roll Members in Arrears For Dues. A Lodge may, upon compliance with the requirements hereinafter set forth, at its Annual Communication in December, strike from its roll of membership the name of any member who is in arrears of Lodge dues for that calendar year, providing that Proper Notice to pay dues or show cause, in accordance with the requirements of Section 4702, has been served upon such member at least 30 days prior to said Annual Communication. It is declared to be the policy of this Grand Lodge that no member shall be stricken from the roll if he has been unable to pay his dues or assessments because of sickness, financial distress or other involuntary inability.

Before sending the notice required by Section 4702, it shall be necessary that any such Brother in arrears, whose known address is within the State of Connecticut, shall be personally contacted, either by the Master of the Lodge, or some Brother designated by the Master for such purpose. Any vote to strike a Brother from the roll of membership without compliance with the provisions hereof shall be void and of no effect.

The office of the Grand Secretary shall be notified of the names and addresses of any Brothers dropped in accordance with the provisions hereof on a form furnished by the Grand Lodge, signed by the Master, Senior Warden and Secretary of the Lodge, which form shall be filed with the December monthly report.

Change to read:

Method of Striking From Roll Members in Arrears For Dues. A Lodge may, upon compliance with the requirements hereinafter set forth, at its Annual Communication in December, strike from its roll of membership the name of any member, **Entered Apprentice, and/or Fellowcraft**, who is in arrears of Lodge dues for that calendar year, providing that Proper Notice to pay dues or show cause, in accordance with the requirements of Section 4702, has been served upon such member, **Entered Apprentice, and/or Fellowcraft**, at least 30 days prior to said Annual Communication. It is declared to be the policy of this Grand Lodge that no member, **Entered Apprentice, and/or Fellowcraft**, shall be stricken from the roll if he has been unable to pay his dues or assessments because of sickness, financial distress or other involuntary inability.

Before sending the notice required by Section 4702, it shall be necessary that any such Brother in arrears, whose known address is within the State of Connecticut, shall be personally contacted, either by the Master of the Lodge, or some Brother designated by the Master for such purpose. Any vote to strike a Brother from the roll of membership without compliance with the provisions hereof shall be void and of no effect.

The office of the Grand Secretary shall be notified of the names and addresses of any Brothers dropped in accordance with the provisions hereof on a form furnished by the Grand Lodge, signed by the Master, Senior Warden and Secretary of the Lodge, which form shall be filed with the December monthly report.

Rationale:

This change provides clarification for the instance if a Lodge decides to assess dues against Entered Apprentices and/or Fellowcraft. This change will empower such a Lodge to follow the same NPD procedures that currently exist to drop a Brother from the rolls if he fails to meet his financial obligations. This amendment is only appropriate if the prior recommended change to GLRR §3500 passes.

In praise of Masonicare's “full spectrum of care”

Having worked in the insurance industry for many years, **Bro. Joseph J. Porco, MWGM**, knows how important it is to plan ahead before circumstances force you to make a last-minute decision ... especially when it comes to the care of a loved one. He also experienced the challenges that come with being the caregiver for an aging parent, as he and his sister provided care for their late mother, Anne Marie (right). He's glad they turned to Masonicare.

“The long-term-care needs my mother had presented a situation in which I was able to see the full spectrum of care offered by Masonicare,” Bro. Joe said. “My mother lived at our residence and she had a few health issues that required some surgeries. As time progressed, she had extensive limitations. On multiple occasions, she received aftercare from Masonicare Home Health, including nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy, as well as continuous personal care services through Masonicare at Home. The professional staff from Masonicare were reliable. They were flexible with our schedules. They were respectful of the fact that my mom was a woman of deep faith. And, above all, they were compassionate. The services from Masonicare contributed peace of mind to a difficult equation.”



Bro. Joe recalled the time a Masonicare nurse named Charity was taking Anne Marie's vital signs and detected an irregular heartbeat. He was able to quickly get his mother to the hospital where she received life-saving care that likely prolonged her life by several years. “Those years were precious to her,” Bro. Joe said, “because she got to spend more time with her family, including her many grandchildren.”

Masonicare's caregivers also gave Bro. Joe a chance to rest, work, run errands, etc. “There's a reason nurses work in shifts,” he said. “It's impossible for one person to provide around-the-clock care.”

In addition to medical and non-medical care in the home, Anne Marie also briefly utilized in-patient rehabilitation services at Masonicare Health Center. Here, again, Bro. Joe said, Anne Marie received the kind of quality, compassionate care that has been our hallmark for over 125 years.

Whether you or a loved one require care or services now or you're preparing for the future, please call us at **1-800-982-3919**. Our trained professionals can guide you through the process at a pace that's right for you.

We are *your* Masonicare.

Learn more about our ageless commitment to caring at masonicare.org.

Masonicare 
✧ An Ageless Commitment to Caring

From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

I hope everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. It was a wet one, to be sure, as those of you who attended our annual Masonicare Golf Classic last month can attest. Still, despite the rain, we managed to hold another successful fundraiser to benefit the programs and services of Masonicare. My sincere thanks to all of our sponsors, volunteers, and members of the Masonic Family who came out to support the event.

It was the 25th and final tournament for Jennifer King, Executive Director of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, and the first for her successor, Carrie McMahon. Carrie comes to us from Drew Marine, where she served as Senior Vice President of Human Capital, Training, and Development. Prior to that, she spent almost five years as Chief Development Officer for Trinity Health New England and 13 years in various leadership roles with the March of Dimes Foundation. I am confident that Masonicare will benefit from Carrie's experience in the healthcare/nonprofit sectors, and I know she's looking forward to learning more about the Masonic Family and the important role it's played in making Masonicare what it is today.

For all the residents, coworkers, members of the Masonic Family and others who would like to have an opportunity to see Jennifer off, we will be having a retirement party for her in the Hartog Auditorium at Masonicare at Ashlar Village on Friday, September 29 from 3-6 PM. All are welcome!

We recently celebrated the opening of Masonicare Health Center's new short-term rehab unit on 2 Wooster. The fully refurbished unit features 17 beds and will help fill a growing need for rehab services in the community.

And, next time you're on campus, you'll notice the giant square and compass in front of the Health Center has been freshly painted. Erected in the mid-1960s, it includes a carillon and was paid for by lodges around the state. There's a story that a newcomer once asked Masonic Charity Foundation President and MW Past Grand Master Charles J. Ramage what the "G" stood for. Ramage, at the time deeply involved in the campaign to fund our organization's modernization program, replied that it stood for "Give."

I am pleased to report that, once again, Masonicare's credit ratings agency, Fitch, has reaffirmed our "BBB+" rating. In its announcement, Fitch cited our diversified business model, low debt burden, stable operating profile, good demand for services, strong reputation, and geographic presence throughout much of Connecticut as among the reasons why they expect Masonicare's financial profile "to continue to incrementally grow to a level more consistent with a higher rating."

Fitch also noted how, over the past few years, Masonicare has made changes to its business model and instituted cost-control measures that have led to gradual performance improvements since 2019.

What all of this tells us is that our long-term strategy to become more financially stable, adaptable, and positioned for growth is working. As Board Chair Bro. Bob Polito said, "Fitch has validated our strategic

plan, and they know what I have said repeatedly: Masonicare controls our own destiny, and I know we will maintain that discipline and stewardship for decades to come."

On the subject of planning for the future, you may know that late last year, we launched Masonicare Leadership Academy, a training program to help give our future and emerging leaders the tools they'll need to be successful. I have gone through similar programs in the past -- both as a teacher and a learner -- and found them to be very rewarding, both personally and professionally. Our first graduating class of 12 individuals had great things to say about the experience. Masonicare Leadership Academy will continue to grow and evolve over time, but it's off to a great start!

Sincerely and fraternally,

Jon-Paul Venoit



Valley of Hartford, AASR

by Andy Work

Greetings, my brothers! We were all sad to hear of the passing of Illustrious Brother David Blythe, Sr. 33°. I have no doubt we will all miss Dave and reading his articles for the Valley of Hartford each month. I reflect on Dave's service to our Valley as we begin to write a new chapter for our monthly article.

September brings the excitement of a new class starting at our Valley. We will welcome four new candidates on September 14 at 7:30 p.m. A buffet dinner from our caterer with many choices will precede two degrees. We will show the 4th Degree, The Builder, on DVD to start the night, followed by the 13th Degree, Master of the Ninth Arch, live with our Valley of Hartford cast. All Scottish Rite members are welcome to help fill your passports.

Our 2023-2024 class will be named in honor of Dale T. Cunningham 32°, MSA, and will be in memory of Ill. Brother David R. Blythe, Sr., 33° (July 9, 1933 – June 7, 2023)

On August 6, we hosted our annual Family Picnic and Scholarship Awards. Forty-five brothers and their families attended this year at the Valley of Hartford in Newington. There were plenty of food and drinks, along with a cornhole tournament. A big thank you goes out to Frank Dlugoleski and his team for coordinating, setting up, preparing food and sides, and cleaning up for this event.

We awarded two Abbot Scholarships and 11 Illustrious Sterling M. Viets 33° Valley of Hartford Scholarships this year. Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients, and we wish them good luck in their academic careers for the ensuing year.

Abbot Scholarship recipients: Lisa J. Flynn and Kate M. Hurlburt

Ill. Sterling M. Viets 33° Scholarship recipients: Matt C. Anderson, Evan W. Grube, Genevieve C. Grube, Vivienne M. Grube, Paxton F. Heinrich, Calvin C. Hurlburt, Kelly M. LeDoux, Benjamin A. Lukens, Nicole L. Lukens, Caitlyn E. Sheldrick, and Brett P. Sheldrick.

A hearty congratulations to our newly installed heads of body and their officer lines as well. We held our annual Worker's Dinner to thank all of the Valley members for their dedication and efforts in 2022-2023 at Casa Mia at the Hawthorne in Berlin on August 17. The officers were installed by Deputy Ill. Bro. Kevin J. Hecht, 33° with the assistance of Active, Ill. Bro. Bruce T. Work 33°. Our Heads of Body for 2023-2024 are: Charles M. Jewart 32°, Thrice Potent Master; Thomas A. Duclos 32°, Sovereign Prince; Jeffrey S. Mayer 32°, Most Wise Master; and Walter Grube 32°, MSA, Commander-in-Chief. Congratulations, brothers, and we wish you the best in the ensuing year!

Be on the lookout for announcements regarding family life events and future degrees. In September, the Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection will host a night out at Broad Brook Brewery in Windsor Locks. You can sample their many brews and watch planes land at Bradley Airport from their outdoor seating porch. We also want to remind you that our 2023 Council of Deliberation Session takes place on September 23 at the Courtyard Marriott in Shelton (780 Bridgeport Ave, Shelton, CT 06484). If you have not reserved your spot, please contact the Valley office as soon as possible.

Finally, if your lodge has any brothers interested in joining the Scottish Rite, they can contact us with any questions or help with filling out a petition. We can also come to your lodge and present on the Scottish Rite with our "Rite on the Road" program. Please contact the Valley of Hartford for more details.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE IN MASONRY?

Why not attend the College of Freemasonry where the **CORE Values** of **LIFE** are portrayed in theatrical presentations of the Scottish Rite degrees:

- * Justice * Integrity * Tolerance * Service
- * Reverence to God * Devotion to Country

The Scottish Rite is a Masonic organization where you will find Inspiration – Convenience – and Enjoyment with fellow brethren. We are now 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

District 1

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



Fidelity St. John's Lodge No. 3 Supports 3rd Annual Swim Across the Sound *by Craig Grannan*

On July 29, the brothers of Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3 once again proudly sponsored the St. Vincent's Swim Across the Sound, their third year doing so. Through contributions from the Craft, the lodge contributed \$2,500, surpassing last year's amount of \$2,250.

The Swim Across the Sound Marathon is a one-day event that sees upwards of 160 swimmers and 120 boaters make the 15.5-mile journey from Whitehall Beach, Port Jefferson, NY, to Captain's Cove Seaport, Bridgeport. This event raises approximately \$250,000 to support oncology programs and provide financial assistance to cancer patients and their families so they can focus on their health and healing.

As a result of the lodge's contributions, there will be five banners displayed with the lodge's name at several locations throughout the local community. These banners will remain on display throughout the summer months for all to see and learn more about what the lodge does for the community.

Through Masonic strength and unity, brothers from Temple Lodge No. 65 and Corinthian Lodge No. 104 made their own contributions to this great cause. Each lodge will display a banner of its own alongside the Fidelity St. John's Lodge banner at Captain's Cove Seaport, the location of the event.

The collective effort from all three lodges raised a grand total of \$3,600 for the St. Vincent's Medical Center Foundation. By working together as brothers, Masonry can get out into the local community and do good philanthropic work.



(l-r) WB Travis Gerald, RWB Mark Agnew, Bros. Craig Grannan and Craig Scianna.



District 2

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



Montgomery Lodge No. 13 Enjoys Midsummer Fellowship *by Peter Dolce*

Worshipful Master RWB Gary Ross invited the brothers of Montgomery Lodge No. 13 in Lakeville, to the Interlaken Restaurant in Salisbury for a midsummer evening of fellowship. The dinner was to express appreciation for all involved in the lodge's historic lobster sale event, held every 3rd Saturday from May through September.

All shared a wonderful evening.



Brothers of St. Pete's Lodge No. 21 Enjoy Summer Social Activities *by Christopher River*

On Sunday, July 2, the brothers of St. Peters Lodge No. 21 gathered at the Housatonic River Brewery in New Milford, playing several games of cornhole, sharing food, enjoying great music, and many laughs. Blue Wave Event Coordinator for St. Peters Lodge, Bro. River has been setting up a variety of fun events for men interested in joining Freemasonry, giving the public the opportunity to see the brethren, to ask and inquire, and have fun and express brotherly love and friendship.

On Friday, July 7, the brothers threw a surprise birthday party for Bro. Daniel Whelan. The evening started at Scooters Bar and Grill, and then headed upstairs to Bro. Johnny Cavanaugh's Tattoo Culture Club for ice cream cake, pool, fun music, and drinks. It was a very fun night with 12 brothers from the lodge attending.



Ark Lodge No. 39 Hawaiian Shirt Cookout *by Daniel Nichols*

On June 28, Ark Lodge No. 39 held its annual cookout at the lodge. There was only one prerequisite – attendees must wear a Hawaiian shirt. What a fun theme for a cookout.

Obviously, it was a theme that Masons can get behind due to the sheer number of people that attended. The food was outstanding. More importantly, brothers were coming together for a good time. The event was held in the lodge's parking lot, and everyone had a great time. The 50/50 raffle was won by WM Chuck Ruiz, who was more than deserving and for the hecklers present, yes, it was a fair draw!



St. Peter's Lodge No. 21 Strawberry Festival *by Daniel Nichols*

On June 20, St. Peter's Lodge No. 21 held their annual strawberry festival at the lodge. This name refers to the time when farmers harvest strawberries at the beginning of summer. Family, friends, and visiting Masons all gathered to have a good time and some laughs.

Seeing brothers' children run around the building is a reminder that the important thing in life is family. Smiling faces and people asking, "How are you?" never gets old. Catching up with brothers who might not be seen every month is a reminder always to be thinking of how the Craft is doing whether they attend regularly or not.

Lodges should consider holding a strawberry festival to keep in touch with not only brothers but their families.





King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 Recognizes Achievements

by Steve Lewis



(l-r) WB John Stack, Bro. Steven Morrone, Bro. Bruce Morrone and RWB Albin Weber.

On June 27, King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury held their annual Strawberry Festival and Awards Night. Fifteen brothers achieved noteworthy service awards, presented by Past Masters Mark Cohen, Rich Miska, John Stack and Albin Weber.

They were 65 years: George Grandell, 60 years: Arthur Tanner, 55 years: Theodore Tietz Jr., 50 years: Kenneth Schielke and Donald Sharpe, 40 years: Richard Vargoshe Jr., 35 years: Steven Lewis, 30 years: John Stack, 20 years: Benjamin Neal and Robert Gorbett, 15 years: David Rohlfing and Donald Germain III, 10 years: Richard Miska and Kenneth Bolin, and 5 years: Mario Sclafani.

Some brothers were at lodge to accept their awards and others contacted by the lodge secretary and received their pins via mail.

Of special note during the evening, Bro. Bruce Morrone (father) and Bro. Steven Morrone (son), received Lewis Medals. A lewis is an operative mason's tool that

raises a stone without putting a rope or chain around it. The "Lewis" became a symbol of strength in Masonry and connotes the concept of a son following in the Masonic footsteps of his father.

Scholarships were also presented to Nonnewaug High School senior Samantha Conti, who will attend Curry College in Massachusetts, majoring in Business and Communications and Cora Guerin, who attended Pomperaug High School in Southbury and will be going to the University of New Haven to study biology.



(l-r) Bro. Mario Sclafani and WB Mark Cohen.



WB Mark Cohen and WB Richard Miska.



(l-r) Bro. David Rohlfing and WB Mark Cohen.



(l-r) WB Stack and WB Mark Cohen.



(l-r) RWB Albin Weber, WB John Stack, Bro. Don Sharpe, WB Mark Cohen and WB Richard Miska.



(l-r) RWB Albin Weber, WB Mark Cohen, Samantha Conti, Cora Guerin, and WB Richard Miska.

Seneca Lodge No. 55 Enjoys a Cigar Masterclass *by Matt Kuhr*

On Independence Day, at Seneca Lodge No. 55, a very special guest brother delivered a special presentation on cigars.

Bro. Kenneth C. Kuhr, of Federal Lodge No. 17, who now resides in Hollywood, Florida and works for Perdomo Cigars, spoke of the history of cigars, etiquette, and generously gifted brethren with Perdomo 20th Anniversary Sun grown Epicures and 10th Anniversary Champagne Connecticut Robustos.

Seneca Lodge thanks Bro. Kuhr and looks forward to seeing him again soon.



Seneca Lodge No. 55 Honors Brothers for Service *by Robert Namias*

Seneca Lodge No. 55 held its annual awards luncheon on Sunday, June 25. Many visiting brethren and families attended as well. Seneca Lodge takes pride in the many active and driven brothers in its fellowship and recognizes those whose service this past year has gone above and beyond for their lodge.

Bro. Mikey Neslon was awarded “Rookie of the Year” for his determination in study and continued reliability in all the lodge’s great endeavors.

Bro. Jason Mendez was awarded “Steward of the Year” for his tireless service in both the kitchen and the lodge room to create an inviting lodge. His initiative in cleaning up the Fellowship Room has created a place of repose in the lodge and offers a comfortable place for guests to sit and enjoy the company of their brothers.

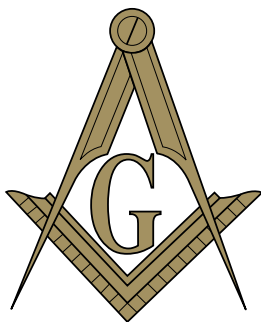


WM Robert Naimas, to show his sincerest appreciation for WB Daniel

Reeve’s guidance and counsel, named WB Reeve “Mentor of the Year” and

thanked him for always being there and supporting the lodge in every way.

Last but not least, Seneca Lodge’s Mason of the Year is Bro. Matthew Kuhr. His humble service in many areas has not only brought prosperity and direction to Seneca Lodge but also to the 3rd District as a whole. Seneca Lodge thanks Bro. Kuhr for his continued service to the Craft.



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WELCOME TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!

St. Johns Lodge No. 2

Timothy Russell Buteau
Andy Garcia

Fidelity St. John's Lodge No. 3

Alex Jon Bahary
William Carl Brooks
Vadim (Vlad) Smirnov

America St. Johns Lodge No. 8

Robert Kenneth Cummings

Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14

Monuhar William Melendez
David J Taber

Hiram Lodge No. 18

David Michael DelGiudice
Robert Mark Silver

St. Peters Lodge No. 21

Matthew Wolk

Day Spring Lodge No. 30

Michael Dixon
Andrew Porter

Friendship Lodge No. 33

Eric A. Vargas

Valley Lodge No. 36

Gregory William Maine
Christopher A. Warren

Putnam Lodge No. 46

Craig Robert Chatwin

Jerusalem Lodge No. 49

Mario Francesco Baggio
James Thomas Cockerille
Robert James Tunney, III

Coastal Lodge No. 57

Jeffrey Ryan Jordan
Daniel Christian Korponai
Timothy E. Pelland
Michael J. Spellman

Washington Lodge No. 70

James F Durant

Meridian Lodge No. 77

Kenneth Lee Brooks

Moosup Lodge No. 113|

Trevor Nelson
Edward Sullivan
Todd Wilcox

Ashlar Aspetuck Lodge No. 142

Alexander Michael Holms
Anthony Michal Nunes

Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145

Bismark Ottovon Amedzro
Jesse J Chadwick

Unity Lodge No. 148

Edwin A. Pimentel
Michael Howard Wilcox

Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149

Ganthier Rokenny Jeff
Oscar Woodjerry Noreston
Ethyre Osias
Bouston Pierre

Ouroboros Lodge No. 151

Michael Chace Tyrrell

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50-YEAR BROTHERS!

Nelson L. North

Old Well St. JohnsLodge No. 6

Kenneth G. Schielke

King Solomons Lodge No. 7

Nicholas P. Caracciolo, Jr.

Frank A. Diamond, Jr.

Joseph L. Steinfeld

Zoltan A. Toman

America St. Johns Lodge No. 8

James G. Weyant

Compass Lodge No. 9

Frederic Wilcox Wilson, III

Temple Lodge No. 16

Gary S. Adams

Washington Lodge No. 19

James C. Hoffmann, Jr.

Village Lodge No. 29

Kenneth M. Norris

Union Lodge No. 31

Robert L. Burton, Jr.

Somerset St. JamesLodge No. 34

David I. Barton

Valley Lodge No. 36

Arthur W. Longley, III

Corinthian Lodge No. 63

Orrin G. Hakey, Jr

Fayette Lodge No. 69

James L. Mills

Bernard F. Trott

Manchester Lodge No. 73

Theodore C. Jones

William Ernest Mellow

Evening Star Lodge No. 101

David A. Peck

Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145

Frederick A. Norton

Wolcott Lodge No. 146

Robert Harold McNeil

Ashlar Lodge No. 332

The Lodge of Perfection

by John A. Amarilios, membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

Fall has returned, and with it, the Valley of Bridgeport begins its labors once again. Degrees for the next month will include live performances of the 4th and 31st Degrees on September 18. This will be followed by the 22nd Degree and 24th Degree on October 2 and the 25th and 29th Degrees on October 23.

New candidates on October 2 and October 23 will be shown a video rendition of the 4th Degree prior to the live degree that evening. Please contact the Valley offices to make arrangements if you are starting on your Scottish Rite path those evenings.

The Valley is also sponsoring two very popular Family Life events this next month: The semi-annual fishing trip out of Clinton Harbor is on Sunday, September 17, and the trip on the Essex Clipper Dinner Train is on Saturday, October 7. For more details, reservations, and costs, please call the Valley Office at (203) 375-0064. Space is very limited, so act now.



The Lodge of Perfection consists of 11 degrees, which impart the various aspects of deity in practice within historical settings. These degrees build on the candidates' knowledge of the working tools previously explained in the Blue Lodge degrees and are designed to expose the candidate to historical situations that emphasize the importance of these concepts in daily life and illustrate the pitfalls and successes of ignoring or following the laws. The awareness of the law and its practical expression in these degrees is designed to uplift the candidate and instill within him a slow, nascent awakening of the existence and perhaps even the primacy of one's soul. Masonic science works alchemically. Like a series of chemical reactions that must take their time in order to evolve into a finished product, the exposure to this type of degree work works on the consciousness of the candidate to desire and strive for a state of enlightened perfection.

I recently had the opportunity to see again a mid-1960s movie titled *A Man for All Seasons* that illustrates in action what perfection is all about. The movie is a biographical history of Sir Thomas More, who was a successful and prosperous cleric during the Tudor era in England. Here is a historical person who was truly soul-aware and who did not compromise himself on the altar of political expediency. Here was a man who understood the corrupt nature of the physical world and who chose to honor and maintain his adherence to that which is right rather than prostitute his soul for some transient material benefit. It's an inspiring story that illustrates how difficult the attainment of perfection and its subsequent

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Attention All Master Masons!
SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES
Mon., Sept. 18, 7:30 p.m.
4th Degree and 31st Degrees (Live)
Mon., Oct. 2nd, 7:30 p.m.
22nd and 24th Degrees (Live)
Mon., Oct 23, 7:30 p.m.
25th and 29th Degrees (Live)
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.

maintenance is and why this work is sometimes referred to as "The Great Work." Developing soul consciousness enables us to keep the proper perspective and to cast aside the pressures, fears, and transient desires that lead humanity, en masse, astray. As seekers of light, developing this awareness enables us to easily discern the futility and damage that the nets of materialism can cause us and, with impunity and no remorse, stand aside when confronted by errant demands or desires that entangle the masses of humanity. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world yet forfeit their soul? Thomas More made an easy choice – one that masses of humanity would find untenable – but one that More found easy to make, knowing that having attained perfection, the fallacy of death, that fear, which imprisons and imposes wretched servitude amongst the undeveloped masses, becomes apparent.



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.



Sphinx & Pyramid Shrines

by Eric Pogg



What a summer it has been. Sphinx and Pyramid Shrines have kept busy with many social events that had kept the Nobles busy. Both Shrines attended the 149th Annual Imperial Session in Charlotte, NC, joining 200 other Shrines across the globe. The week started off with all sorts of competitions. In the Motor Corps, the Sphinx Shrine Motor Patrol repeated its performance by winning first place in Inspection and Drill, first place in Team Obstacle, and Past Potentate Weston Bedore won first place in Individual Obstacle. Competitions were held at the zMAX Dragway across from the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Congratulations to Potentate Eric Pogg, Past Potentate Weston Bedore, Chief Rabban, Nicholas DiRenzo, and Chief Aide Charles Jewart. They hope to take home the honors next year in Reno, NV.

The Pyramid Shrine Pipes and Drums always come through with stellar performances during the Imperial Session, often leading Imperial Officers in and out of meetings and events during the session. Nobles, ladies, and guests alike were treated to well-coordinated pomp and circumstance, patient presentations, luncheons, dinners, a concert by country music star Joe Nichols, brewfest competition (and sampling) of Shrine-made beer across the world, the marketplace, cornhole, the Imperial Parade, and so much more. One thing that stands out more than most is how Shrine patients can bring an entire convention center to tears with their stories of struggle and recovery.

Pyramid and Sphinx Shrines teamed up with Shriners from Aleppo, (Wilmington, MA), Melha, (Chicopee, MA), and Mt. Sinai, (Barre, VT) in taking over the Hilton Garden Inn, Downtown Charlotte. Nobody left the hotel hungry, thirsty, or down in spirits. Next door to the hotel was the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Several Nobles, ladies, and families visited the museum and even tried the virtual racing (sometimes repeatedly). There's nothing like the feeling of being in a real race car.

The Northeast Shrine Association held its Annual Field Days in Concord, New Hampshire, in August. The NSA comprises Shrine Centers from New England, New York, Maritime Provinces, Quebec, and Ontario. Motor Corps and clown competitions were well attended. The parade in downtown Concord delighted the crowds that lined the streets. Bektash Shriners was the host this year and, as expected, did an excellent job of keeping hundreds of Shriners and families busy and entertained.

Pyramid Shrine held its Scotch and Eggs – World Pipe Band Championships viewing party. Live streamed from Glasgow,

Scotland, everyone enjoyed breakfast and lunch that included not only scotch and eggs but bloody marys, haggis, bridies, meat pies, and whatever else goes with scotch.

The Naugatuck Shrine Club was re-instituted. They meet on the second Wednesday at different locations. Visit the Naugatuck Shrine Club Facebook page for details. The dress is casual. The fun and Fellowship are plentiful.

Sphinx Shrine held its annual picnic at a different location this year, Sunrise Park in West Suffield, overlooking White's Pond. Everyone enjoyed swimming, fishing, great food, great weather, and views. Many family dogs attended, and they all enjoyed the dog swimming area. This event was held in conjunction with Composite Lodge No. 28 and Hartford Evergreen No. 88. It was especially great to see WB Eugene Jones, a 65-year member, attend.

Potentate Kyle Dougherty made the trek to Boumi Shriners in Rosedale, Maryland, for their Annual Crabfest. Many Potentates joined him, and ladies from the Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association cracking Maryland crabs that are graciously dumped in the center of the table for all to enjoy.

Sphinx Shriners partnered with Jimmy's Tire and Auto and the Old Well Tavern in Simsbury for its first Annual Topless Car Show. Proceeds from the event go to Shriners Children's New England in Springfield, MA. "Topless" refers to jeeps and convertibles. The Sphinx Motor Patrol delighted the crowd by showing off its 1955 Jeeps. Special thanks to all the members of Valley Lodge No. 36 in Simsbury for their efforts. We look forward to next year.

As this publication goes out, both Pyramid and Sphinx Shrines will be in Virginia Beach for the Mid-Atlantic Shrine Association Session. We look forward to some great sun, surf, fun, and fellowship with our fellow Nobles, ladies, and families.

The biggest change in years at the Imperial Session is the \$20.00 per member per capita tax increase for 2024. The increase had been brought to the floor of the membership for many years and did pass overwhelmingly this year. Increased costs in utilities and healthcare are the main reasons for the increase. If you have any questions about your 2024 dues, please contact the Recorder's office.



You and your family are invited to a **Masonic Family Picnic** with hot dogs and hamburgers, vegetarian options, and assorted salads on **Saturday, September 30, 2023, 11:30 am – 3 pm**, at the Ashlar Village Pavilion (on Winding Bridge Road), 74 Cheshire Road • Wallingford, CT.

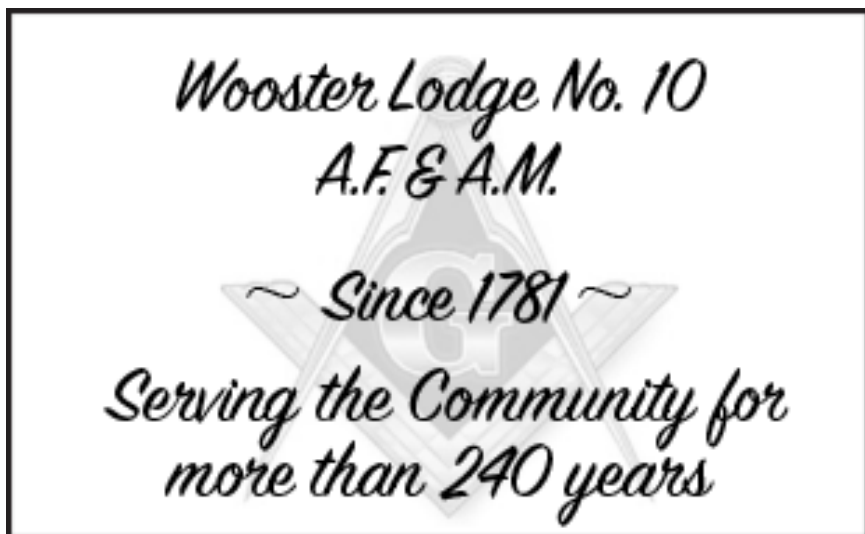
Admission is free!!

Please sign up (RSVP) on Event Bright by Friday, September 22 on the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-lodge-of-ct-masonic-family-picnic-tickets-699625959077>

Due to the limited parking, please carpool with your fellow brothers and sisters and we invite you to bring your own lawn chairs as seating is limited. Parking will be in lot No. 5 at Ashlar Village. Overparking will be in parking area "D" across from the A. Norman Johnson building. A shuttle will be provided from parking area "D" to the pavilion.

This event is made possible by The Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M of Connecticut, Scottish Rite Valley of New Haven and Valley of Hartford.



Pyramid Shriners Golf Tournament

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

Blackhawk Country Club
385 Oronoque Lane, Stratford, CT 06614

\$140 per person - 4 Person Scramble

Entry Fee Includes- 18 holes of golf w/cart, lunch & 2 drink tickets

TEE TIME: 8:30AM SHARP- Shotgun Start

Prizes For 1st, 2nd & 3rd place teams
50/50 Raffle, Closest to the Pin & Longest Drive

GOLD SPONSOR	SILVER SPONSOR	BRONZE SPONSOR	TEE SPONSOR
Includes one foursome & signage on tee	Includes one twosome & signage on tee	Includes one person & signage on tee	Signage on tee
\$850	\$425	\$225	\$125



For more information about tournament and sponsor information please contact Bill Russo 203-994-9455

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Please make checks payable to:
Pyramid Shriners Golf Club

Mail to:

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2428 Main St., Stratford, CT 06615

Valley of Norwich Supports Dyslexia Centers at Fair

by Jeffrey Blayman

In July each year, the North Stonington Agricultural Fair attracts families from far and wide. There are tractor pulls, quilting contests, pony pulls, baled hay toss, and contests of all types. In addition, the fair is a mecca of home arts and crafts and concessions. For nearly 20 years, the brothers of the Valley of Norwich Scottish Rite have maintained one of the more popular booths, selling clam fritters, chowder, French fries, and beverages.

This purely volunteer operation has been spearheaded by Illustrious Brother Ted J Nelson, 33rd, who manages to keep the massive staffing needs filled nightly. This concerted effort is to raise money for the Children's Dyslexia Center. Over the last 18 years, the Valley's Fair Committee has been chaired by many brothers, including Bro. John Sasser, Ill. Bro. Howard Turner, 33rd, and presently Bro. Frank Saviano.



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District 4

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



Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 Awards Ceremony

Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 held their spring awards ceremony, awarding service awards and scholarships.

WB John Hanson (35 years), Bro. Dean Manley (20 years), Bro. Julio Calvao (10 years) and Bro. Nick Staurovsky (10 years) received their service pins.

The lodge recognized Pauline Manley, widow of WB Elmer Manley, for her work establishing and administering the WB Elmer Manley Memorial Scholarships. Other scholarships and grants were also presented that evening.



Pauline Manley, receives a special accolade for her efforts administering the Manley Scholarship and grant programs. Her sons, RWB Greg Manley (left) and Bro. Dean Manley.



WB John Hanson receives his 35-year pin from WM Ryan Elblein.



WB David Manley and his daughter accept a scholarship for her daughter and his granddaughter, Sharon Brenton.



A Manley scholarship was presented to Sydney Sherrick.



Bro. Dean Manley receives his 20-year pin from his wife, Kathleen, and WM Ryan Elblein.



SW Denis McNamara and wife, Sonia, accept a scholarship for daughter, Stephanaie.



Bro. Dean Manley receives his 20-year Bro Nick Staurovsky receives his 10-year pin from WB and Secretary Kevin Field.



JW Julio Calvao received his 10-year pin from WB and Secretary Kevin Field.



The Brother Robert E. Hall and Family Scholarships were presented to, (from left) Melanie Sherrick, Sydney Sherrick, WB David Manley (accepted for granddaughter, Alexandra Brendon), Bro. Patrick McNamara (accepted for sister, Stephanie), and Jeffrey D. Holton. Bro. Robert Hall and wife, Donna, right, accepted for granddaughters Elise Hall, Elena Hall, and Emma Hall. Second row, from left: RWB Scott Sherrick, and WM Ryan Elblein.



Town of Orange, Police Detective Knepper receives a grant for the D.A.R.E. Youth Program.



Bro. Dean Manley presents a grant to the Town of Orange Volunteer Fire Department Chief Dumas.

District 6

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



Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 Awards Night 2023 *by Joe Grieco*

On June 15, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 held its annual awards ceremony. The evening began with two special awards. RWB Shane Dufresne, Grand Senior Deacon, presented the Public Service Recognition award to Lt. Robert Turkington, of the Manchester Fire Department, along with a check for the Firefighters Relief Fund. Then WM John DiCioccio presented the Craftsman of the Year Award to Bro. Kenneth Nelson, who served the lodge for many years as Asst. Treasurer and accountant.

The following brothers received Service Awards:

5-years: Steven T. M. Austin, Tessifya E. Dickenson, and James J. Spillman. **10-years:** Steven M. Austin, WB Marcos G. Garcia, WB Gabriel A Garmendia, Robert L. Green, Donald A. Janelle, James P. Sutton, and Jeffrey P. Sweet. **15-years:** James J. Carroll, Max R. Covell, Ryan N. Jones, Kevin C. McCrewell, Jr., Matthew C. Montgomery, WB Scott D. Pierce, and WB Madhu M. Renduchintala. **20-years:** Steven C. Aldi, Anthony J. Bartley, Edward J. Slegeski, and Thomas E. Till. **25-years:** Herman N. Cohen, Peter Giammarco, and Jeffrey S. Jorczak. **35-years:** Gregory A. Kapura, Jeffrey M. Knickerbocker, and James R. Tedford. **40-years:** Lawrence T. Botting and Donald N. Sweet. **45-years:** WB Richard E. Berson, Clayton R. Hodgkins, and Norman K. Jones. **55-years:** George Sayad, Jon H. Morhardt, and RWB Anderson H. Zeidler, Jr. **60-years:** Geronimo S. Mamaclay. **70 years:** George J. Stirmaitis.

RWB F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., Grand Junior Deacon and RWB Gregory J. Stump, District Deputy of Masonic District 6A presented WM John DiCioccio, Jr. and WB Steven T. Penny with their **50-year** service awards. Also receiving 50-year awards but not present were WB Paul A. Edberg, Bro. David A. Peck and WB Dustin C. Wood.

The final presentation was very special. WB Albert J. Reid and his son, WB Scott T. Reid presented each other with their **65- and 35-year** awards. These brothers are a father and son with 100 years of combined service to the Craft and the lodge.



(l-r) RWB Shane Dufresne, Lt Robert Turkington, WM DiCioccio, and Asst. Chief Josh Beaulieu.



Bro. Ken Nelson with WM DiCioccio.



WB Al Reid, and WB Scott Reid.



RWB Heinrich presents WM DiCioccio and WB Steve Penny their 50-year awards.



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Washington Lodge No. 70 Saint John's Day Memorial Service

by Robert Dodge

On Sunday, June 25, officers, and brethren of Washington Lodge No. 70 in Windsor gathered at the grave of MWB James McCormick in honor of Saint John's Day. WM Robert Dodge led the memorial service to honor those brothers who had passed during the previous year. Chaplin Carlton Stidsen lead the brothers in prayer. Worshipful Brother Richard Incorvati carried the portable altar.

After the graveside service, the brethren attended Sunday Mass at Grace Episcopal Church in Windsor Center. It has been a long-standing tradition that the brothers visit a local Windsor church. The Pastor of Grace Episcopal Church is WB Harry "Chip" Elliott, a member of Washington Lodge. It was a special day and a little sad as this was Father Chip's final service as he is officially retiring. The lodge wishes WB Chip and his wife, Sue, all the absolute best.





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Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 Votes to Merge With Manchester Lodge No. 73 *by Pat Jones*

In early June, Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 of South Windsor and Manchester Lodge No. 73 agreed to merge. The formal meetings began in March. WM Brian Warren of Hartford Evergreen Lodge captured the spirit of this in a letter to the members:

“Fraternal greetings! I am writing to inform all of you that over the last month, we have been in discussions with Manchester Lodge No. 73 on merging or consolidating our two lodges. [...] I am very happy with the results of these talks and believe this is a great way for us to continue our Masonic journey, increase our lodge numbers, and continue towards a bright future.”

On June 5, the vote was completed by Hartford Evergreen Lodge with the merger approved and, by a close margin, retaining the name Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88.

The next day, the brothers of Manchester Lodge also approved the merger. As one of their members said, Manchester Lodge is “looking for a home, having a voice and being welcomed.” Members of Hartford Evergreen Lodge eagerly await the addition of the new brothers.

Soon after the voting, it the funds and property of the two lodges began to be consolidated. Members of both lodges started the daunting task of moving, transferring, and storing artifacts collected over a hundred years. Disposition of excess property included memorabilia, historic artworks, plaques, photos, and furniture that Manchester Lodge would like to have at Hartford Evergreen Lodge.

Manchester Lodge’s positive influence in the Town of Manchester will not be soon forgotten. The lodge has had a long and successful history of helping many in the community. A fully funded scholarship in the name of Manchester Lodge is awarded and managed annually by the town of Manchester. Plans are that this scholarship will continue to benefit the town’s youth for many years to come.

With both lodges working together as one, the future looks very bright.



WM Brian Warren, WB Dave Prior, Bro. Tim Edwards, and RWB Greg Stump moving a column from Manchester Lodge.



Ed Note: During the summer break we received this quick submission from RWB Bud Buckner, ‘on holiday’ (as the Brits might say) in the U.K. It’s always nice to get a glimpse of how the fraternity is seen in other parts of the world.

Masons on Shetland Island

by Bud Buckner

We are on a cruise around the U.K. Yesterday we stopped in Lerwick, Shetland Islands. While there, we took a guided walking tour of Lerwick, and one stop on the tour was the historic town hall. While walking around the first-floor meeting room, I came across a plaque recognizing several service organizations, one of which was the Masons. Then as I went upstairs, at the mid-landing, there in front of me was a beautiful stained-glass window of a Mason, clothed as such, gifted by the local lodge, Morton Lodge No. 89.

I went to the lodge, but no one answered the door.



Washington Lodge No. 70 Scholarship Awards Dinner

by Robert Dodge

On Monday, June 26, Washington Lodge No. 70 hosted a Scholarship Awards Dinner in honor of the scholarship recipients for 2023. Scholarships are awarded to senior students at Windsor High School or to non-WHS students who have a family relationship with a Washington Lodge brother. JW Kenneth Roach III served a delicious veal parmesan meal.

After dinner, First Lady Stephanie Dodge asked each recipient to tell the audience a little about themselves, their interests, where they would be attending college, and what they would be studying. Their list of achievements and colleges was very impressive.

Then WM Dodge, Scholarship Committee Chairman Patrick Chagnon, and Brother Sam Caligiuri, explained Freemasonry, the history of Washington Lodge, and the importance of the scholarship program to the lodge, and then presented several awards checks. The lodge awarded a total of \$6,000 in scholarships this year. First Lady Stephanie thanked all the families of the recipients for raising such fine upstanding young adults and reminded everyone of the importance of family.

Thanks to the Scholarship Committee (Bro. Patrick Chagnon, WB Jon White, Bro. Sam Caligiuri, Bro. Greg Wentworth, and Bro. John Kelling) for all their hard work and tireless efforts in reviewing almost two hundred applications. Special thanks to Brother Patrick Chagnon for doing such an outstanding job during his first year as chairman.



District 9

Lodges 15, 24, 46, 60, 69, 110, 113, 122,



Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122 Makes Final Presentation

by Brian Keith

In April, Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122 ceased to exist, and its members were absorbed into Putnam Lodge No. 46. But the spirit of Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge lives on!

In June, at Moosup Lodge No. 113's communication, Putnam Lodge's Worshipful Master, WB Evan Perry, approached the East, accompanied by RWB Rick Bruyere, District Deputy of Masonic District 9A, WB Eric Bruyere, AGM of Masonic District 9A, and WB Dave Chapdelaine, current District 9A Mason of the Year. All four brothers were previously members of Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge. They met Moosup Lodge's Worshipful Master WB Ken Stilwell on the level, and WM Perry presented Moosup Lodge a check on behalf of Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge, followed by a very special presentation: Boaz and Jachin. "We know you've admired Cornerstone's pillars for years," said RWB Bruyere. "And rather than wasting away in storage, we'd love to see them used here in Moosup." With that, the pillars' terrestrial and celestial globes were presented to WM Stilwell. The lodge rose as one in thanks, and the Master set the craft at ease so that every brother could shake hands with the four visiting brothers.

The spirit and character of Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge will live on each time someone enters Moosup Lodge and sees those beautifully crafted pillars, representing strength and establishment — the essence of Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge No. 122.



WM Stilwell holds the terrestrial and celestial globes from the pillars presented by Cornerstone-Quinebaug Lodge.
(l-r) WB Dave Chapdelaine, RWB Rick Bruyere, WM Ken Stilwell, WB Eric Bruyere and WM Evan Perry.

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2nd Annual Masonic Family Day Baseball Game Fundraiser *by Jeffrey A. Blayman*

On Friday, June 23, brothers from all over the state made a pilgrimage to Dodd Stadium in Norwich to enjoy the smell of warm peanuts and watch nine innings of America's pastime at the 2nd Annual Masonic Family Day Baseball game.

The event was conceived as a way to bring brothers together for a fun statewide activity, to raise awareness about the fraternity with the general public, and to raise money for Masonicare. Over the course of several months, many organizations and brothers purchased tickets to the event, 500 in all. Mystic Schooners Director of Operations KC Collins and the Schooner Beverage Co. owner Don Benoit graciously agreed to donate 50 percent of the revenue from the pre-sale tickets, raising \$2500 to benefit Masonicare. As the Schooners organization is also a nonprofit, the Freemasons are contributing to helping these young men and their baseball careers by purchasing these tickets.

This year's game featured WB Tim Wilkins singing the National Anthem, RWB Ed Page throwing out the first pitch, and RWB Carl

Andersen as serving as the welcoming committee at the entrance. Many brothers, as well as non-Masons, filled the stands for what was an exciting baseball game and, later, a fireworks extravaganza!!!

In the lead-up to the event, every lodge received a letter and notification from Grand Lodge about the event. Next year, if ten brothers from every lodge make the trip, it will have an even greater impact. It would be wonderful to see brothers from around the state supporting Masonicare and coming together to make it a true Masonic family day, enjoying a baseball game together. Watch for the letter next June!

Special thanks go out to Schooners Director KC Collins for all the support and organizational expertise, to JP Venoit and the Masonicare family, to all friends and Freemasons who bought tickets, and to Deputy Grand Master Edward Page for welcoming brothers at the gate with a smile and a selfie, and finally to the Mystic Schooners for graciously donating \$2500 to Masonicare.



*The welcoming committee: (l-r)
RWB Edward Page, WB Fred Marotti,
WB Jeffrey Blayman, and
RWB Carl Anderson.*



*RWB Nick Ives, his lovely wife
and RWB Edward Page.*



*VWB CA Duke and Bro. Glen Hansen
of Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34.*



Continued on page 34



WB Jeff Blayman and RWB Rob Krawic
of Wooster Lodge No. 10.



RWB Edward Page and MWPGM Ted Nelson chat
while awaiting the first pitch.



Schooners Dir. of Ops. KC Collins and
WB Tim Wilkins of Hiram Lodge No. 1.



Warren Lodge No. 51 brothers Wayne Duff
and Joe Piatti, Jr.



Be a Connecticut Freemasons Booster!

LISTING IS FOR 11 ISSUES

Name or Lodge _____

_____ Individual Booster

\$25-\$49.99

_____ Grand Booster

\$50-\$99.99

_____ Grand Master's Circle

\$100 or more

LODGES & ORGANIZATIONS

_____ Entered Apprentice

\$75-\$149.99

_____ Fellow Craft

\$150-\$249.99

_____ Master Mason

\$250 or more

Address _____

_____ Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Booster appearing as _____

Makes checks payable to: Grand Lodge AF&AM of CT • 69 Masonic Avenue • Wallingford CT 06492
Booster support is not deductible as a charitable contribution under IRC Section 170(c).

District 7

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



Warren Lodge No. 51 Celebrates 212 Years

by Jeffrey A. Blayman

On a perfect cloudless Sunday afternoon, the brothers of Warren Lodge No. 51 celebrated the 212th anniversary of the lodge's chartering on August 1, 1811, with a barbecue behind the lodge with friends and family. The day was full of brothers chatting, children laughing, people playing cornhole, and enjoying various generously prepared dishes while the smell of burgers wafted in the air.

It was also a perfect opportunity to engage with some of the potential inquiries from the Blue Wave Project and build relationships for the future.

Additional guests included some extended family of WB Jack Sterry, Sr., who traveled all the way from Australia for a visit.

As the lodge has been located in the same building in Portland since 1887, this was not the first celebration of its kind and will not be the last! Join the celebration next year for a festive day full of food and fun among the brethren.



Health & Senior Care Decisions Are Not Easy. But You Don't Have To Go It Alone.

Introducing Masonicare's CareConnect Navigator Services, a complimentary program designed to help guide you through the process of acquiring the care and services you need, when you need them.

Who is the CareConnect Navigator?

Audrey Grove, Masonicare's CareConnect Navigator, has dedicated her career to working with older Americans as they transition through retirement and senior living. She facilitates support groups that focus on support for Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, and Long-Term Care Residents and their families. Audrey also coordinates a state-wide educational program for seniors and works with community partners to help craft better resources and opportunities for older Americans.

Who can utilize the Navigator services?

The program was designed specifically to support the fraternal family; however, like all Masonicare services the CareConnect Navigator program is open to all.

Is there a fee for using Navigator services?

No. The program is complimentary and you will not be charged for using Navigator services.

How do I reach the CareConnect Navigator?

1.888.332.0033 or email CareConnect@masonicare.org

What type of things can the Navigator help me with?

From referrals and recommendations to education and support, the CareConnect Navigator is available to assist you with accessing the services, care and support you or your loved one needs.

Will I be referred only to Masonicare services?

No. We strongly promote freedom of choice. You will be given recommendations and options so you can make the most informed decision about where you receive services.

How do I join the CareConnect mailing list where I can receive educational materials on health and wellness and support groups?

Email request to: CareConnect@masonicare.org

CareConnect Navigation Services. *Lighting the Way.*

