

September 2024



# Connecticut FREEMASONS



## In This Issue

- Call to the Regular Semi-Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F.&A.M. of Connecticut
- Official Notice of the Annual Meeting of Masonicare
- Historic Uniting of Masonicare, United Methodist Homes  
*Delegates to Semi-Annual Meeting Will Vote to Amend Masonicare Bylaws*



# 2024- 2025 Officers of the Grand Lodge Af & Am of Connecticut



Bro. Edward C. Page  
Most Worshipful Grand Master

Bro. Rinaldo F. Magliano  
RW Deputy Grand Master

Bro. Shane Dufresne  
RW Grand Senior Warden

Bro. F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr.  
RW Grand Junior Warden

Bro. Thomas Gondok  
RW Grand Treasurer

Bro. James M. Anderson  
RW Grand Secretary

Bro. Mark H. Hawkins  
RW Grand Senior Deacon

Bro. James Anthony Moran, Jr.  
RW Grand Junior Deacon

Bro. Matthew F. Griffin  
RW Grand Marshal

Bro. Nicholas H. Ives  
RW Grand Senior Steward

Bro. James A. Saraceni  
RW Grand Junior Steward

Rev. and Bro. Bruce R. Bellmore, PGM  
RW Grand Chaplain

Rev. and Bro. Carl H. Anderson  
RW Grand Almoner

Bro. David J. Stewart  
RW Grand Historian

Bro. Gary Graham  
RW Grand Organist

Bro. Richard C. Memmott, Jr.  
RW Grand Tiler

Bro. Michael Abrahamson  
Associate Grand Tiler

Bro. Frederick A. Marotti  
Associate Grand Tiler

Bro. Daniel W. Nichols  
Associate Grand Tiler

Bro. Charles A. Miller, III  
Associate Grand Tiler

Bro. Brian E. Beals  
Deputy Grand Treasurer

Bro. Gregory K. Whitehouse  
Deputy Grand Secretary

Bro. Christopher T. Carrott  
Assistant to the Grand Master



# Table of Contents

And We're Back, in 3... 2... 1... ..... 3

Blue Wave Fellowcraft Degree ..... 3

Call to the Regular Semi-Annual Communcation, Grand Lodge of CT ..... 4

Grand Master's Message - Edward C. Page..... 5

Official Notice of the Annual Membership Meeting of Masonicare ..... 6

"Historic" Uniting of Masonicare, United Methodist Homes Enters Next Phase..... 7

..... 7

Welcome to Our New Brothers!..... 8

Directions to Ashlar Village ..... 8

Oklahoma Indian Masonic Degree Team Flyer ..... 9

Connecticut Freemasons Foundation Letter ..... 10

Grand Chaplain's Pulpit ..... 11

Congratulations to Our 50-year Brothers! ..... 11

Grand Historian's Corner ..... 12

Called by The Grand Architect..... 13

From the Desk of Jon-Paul Venoit..... 14

Knights Templar Eye Foundatin Grand Master's Sword of Merit Presented to Alan J, Carlson ..... 15

Lafayette Consistory ..... 16

Grand Lodge Welcomes Lynnmarie Evans..... 17

Statewide Entered Apprentice Degree in New Britain Intitates Fourteen Brothers ..... 17-18

Connecticut Masonic Scouters Recognizes New Eagle Scouts..... 19

Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Coming to CT..... 19

RWB Shane Dufresne Receives Pierpont Edwards Medal In Bronze..... 20

An All-Star MM Degree in Colchester..... 21

Brothers March and Nobles Drive to Honor Fallen Heroes ..... 22

Officers of th Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF&AM , 2024-25..... 23

The Broadway Masonic Temple, Norwich CT ..... 24

An Open Letter to all Connecticut Masons..... 25

District 8, 6, 5, 4, 2, 3 ..... :25-32

Boosters ..... 33

Craft At Refreshment/Craft At Labor ..... 34

Valley Lodge 36 Simsbury Freemasons 4th Annual Charity Golf Event..... 35

Masonicare..... 36

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.**



# Connecticut FREEMASONS

Volume 20 - Number 1

**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

Pat Kalinauskas, Creative/Layout

**CONTRIBUTORS**

John Amarilios

Rev. Bruce R. Bellmore

David Cole

Vincent Cowie

Shane Dufresne

Ray Geer

Jonathan Glassman

Matthew F. Griffin

Grant Gould

Annette Ham

Nicholas H. Ives

Nate Jillette

Patrick Jones

Steve Lewis

Fred Marottii

Ted Nelson

Edward C. Page

David J. Stewart

Colin Souney

Jon-Paul Venoit

Greg Webster

**Photos**

William L. & Sandie Greene

Edward C. Page

# And we're back, in 3...2...1...

by Francis G. Way

**A**fter a month's hiatus, we're back with the September issue of *Connecticut Freemasons*. The September issue is always an interesting issue to put together, mainly because we don't publish in August.

July is filled with Grand Masters Day photos and lodges, and brothers are scurrying to submit news items from their late spring activities. September is different in its own way – we see articles that never made it in time for the July issue and submissions about upcoming September and October events. And, as in this issue, the (somewhat fewer) happenings over the summer.

The weatherman often says, "Memorial Day is the unofficial start of summer, and Labor Day is the unofficial end." Remember that September is always warmer than May, and spending Father's Day on the beach this year required a hoodie. In this issue, we have one last article about a Memorial Day parade (it rained on Memorial Day weekend if you can remember that far back) and an article about the big event of the summer, the statewide Entered Apprentice degree put on by the 5th and 6th districts. And what would summer be like in Connecticut without a strawberry festival?

Growing up, at least through middle school, we were often required to write a "What I Did on My Summer Vacation" essay upon our return to school. My disdain for that type of essay is only matched by my absolute hatred of the "summer math packets" my daughters' teachers would require to be completed and handed in during the first few days of their school year (try getting a kid to think fractions when there's those last few days of beach and pool and outdoor fun to be had!). Thankfully, in this position, I don't have to do that (writing an essay or assisting with math packets) because we have more than enough stories of summer happenings, both labor and refreshment.

By the time this hits your mailbox, we'll be back at labor (for those lodges that break in July and August). Good luck with your degrees, and may your non-degree Stateds be interesting.



## Blue Wave Fellowcraft Degree

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST  
LODGE OPENS AT 9:30AM

Brainard Lodge No. 102  
32 Society Rd. Niantic, CT

Join us for a Fellowcraft Degree like no other! There is no limit to the number of EAs that can be passed to the second degree. This is a great chance to get caught up on your lodge's degree work. Expect some special surprises and a fantastic presentation of the Middle Chamber!



Register Here!

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

69 Masonic Avenue • Wallingford, CT 06492

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

1:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

203-679-5903

Fax: 203-679-5996

email: [grandlodge@ctfreemasons.net](mailto:grandlodge@ctfreemasons.net)

web: [www.ctfreemasons.net](http://www.ctfreemasons.net)

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

GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. of CONNECTICUT  
October 19, 2024

The 2024 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 19, 2024.** 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 2025. In addition, we will receive certain committee reports, act on any legislative changes which may be for consideration and other issues, time permitting, as directed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Brother Edward C. Page. 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 2024 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 2024) 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 2024 paper or virtual 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,

*James M. Anderson*

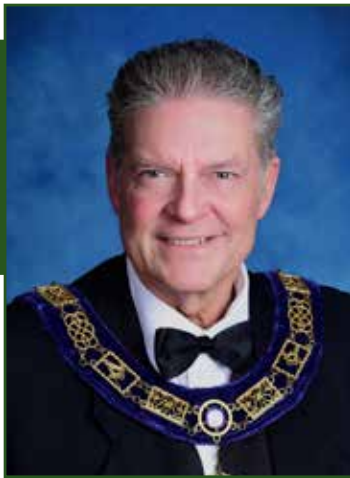
James M. Anderson  
Right Worshipful Grand Secretary

Wallingford, Connecticut  
September 1, 2024



**Directions to Ashlar Village on page 8.**





# Grand Master's Message

by MWB Edward C. Page

## Leadership

First, I want to welcome every brother back who took the July and August break to labor. It is a great time to refresh our spirits and enjoy the awesome weather. To those brothers who continued with Masonic activities, thank you for your continued support of our Craft.

We do a tremendous job of identifying leadership among our Craft, seeing talent, and providing opportunities for the talent to grow. However, we could better understand and articulate what leadership means, and it is no surprise that leadership often means many things to many people. There are many different kinds of leadership styles: Transactional Leadership, Transformational Leadership, Situational Leadership, Democratic Leadership, Autocratic Leadership, Bureaucratic Leadership, and Laissez-Faire Leadership. Coaching Leadership... to name a few. Servant Leadership prioritizes serving others and elevating their needs.

I want to share some of the quotes I have encountered to shape my leadership style:

*"Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power."*  
– Abraham Lincoln

*"Positions are temporary. Ranks and titles are limited. But the way you treat people will always be remembered."* – Simon Sinek

*"There is no limit to the amount of good you can do if you don't care who gets the credit."*  
– Ronald Reagan

*"Leaders do not motivate people. They inspire people to motivate themselves."*  
– John C. Maxwell

*"You can tell a bully from a leader by how they treat people who disagree with them."* – Miles K. Davis

*"When I talk to managers, I get the feeling they are important. When I talk to leaders, I get the feeling I am important."* – Alexander Den Heijer

*"I start with the premise that the function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers."* – Ralph Nader

*"The most powerful leadership tool you have is your example."* – John Wooden

*"A leader does not deserve the name unless he is willing to stand-alone."* – Henry Kissinger

*"Leadership is an education, and the best leaders think of themselves as students, not the teachers."*  
– Simon Sinek

*"Great leaders don't set out to be a leader; they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role, it's about the goal."* – Lisa Haisha

*"True Leadership isn't about pointing fingers when things go wrong; It's about wholeheartedly taking responsibility when they do."* – Tony Gareri

*"Leadership is a series of behaviors rather than a role for heroes."* – Margaret Whentley

*"Inspire your people, exceed the expectations of your customers, and let servant leadership lead the way."* – Howard Schultz

*As a leader, you should never be too busy to listen because it's the ultimate form of respect any leader can give to their team."* – Gifford Thomas

*"Leadership is not a license to do less. It's a responsibility to do more."* – Simon Sinek

*"The quality of a leader is reflected in the standards they set for themselves."* – Ray Kroc

*"You don't lead by hitting people over the head. That's assault. You lead by inspiring people."*  
– Bertrand Russell

*"At the heart of great leadership is a curious mind, heart, and spirit."* – Chip Conley

*"The three most important ways to lead people are: By example... By example... By example..."*  
– Albert Schweitzer

*"Leadership is not about being in charge. Leadership is about taking care of those in your charge."* – Simon Sinek

*"If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you."* – Zig Ziglar

*"A leader is not an administrator who loves to run others, but someone who carries water for his people so that they can get on with their job."*  
– Robert Townsend

*"A good leader inspires people to have confidence in the leader. A great leader inspires people to have confidence in themselves."* – Eleanor Roosevelt

*"A good leader sees everything, overlooks a great deal, and corrects a little."* – Pope John Paul, II

*"Leaders are the ones who are willing to give up something of their own for us. Their time, energy, money, or even the food off their plate. When it matters, leaders choose to eat last."* – Simon Sinek

I have a clear understanding of who I am, who I want to be as a leader, and my strengths and weaknesses. I try to learn and grow at every opportunity. As a District Deputy, I said, "I don't know what kind of DD I will be, but I will always do my best." I have tried to continue that mindset. Far from it, I am not perfect, but I continue to do my best. I will let others and history determine whether I am a good or poor leader. I have been so fortunate to have so many great mentors, and I have learned so much from all of them.

We all are leaders, either in our lodge, district, state, or personal lives, but the most important leadership role one can have is over oneself: mentally, spiritually, personally, professionally, and in one's health.

As a leader, I have always tried to be respectful of all who I serve and who are in my care as your Grand Master.



**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIFTH  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
MASONICARE CORPORATION**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024  
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 for all Voting Members of Masonicare. Please make every effort to attend.

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

- Approval of the 134th Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
  - Approval of Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Masonicare Corporation
  - Approval of Amended and Restated Bylaws of Masonicare Corporation
  - Election of Trustees
1. Bro. Kevin J. Hecht – Friendship Lodge No. 33
  2. Bro. Theodore J. Nelson – Brainard Lodge No. 102
  3. Bro. Mark D. Winne – Composite Lodge No. 28
  4. Laura S. Michnowski – Order of Eastern Star Representative, Ashlar Chapter 116
  5. Jay S. Nickse – Strategic Trustee\*\*
  6. Matthew L. O'Connor - Strategic Trustee\*\*

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Christopher J. Earle*  
Christopher J. Earle  
Chairman, Masonicare Corporation Board of Trustees

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

\*\* Contingent upon the approval of changes to the Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

# **“Historic” Uniting of Masonicare, United Methodist Homes Enters Next Phase**

## **Delegates to Semi-Annual Meeting Will Vote to Amend Masonicare Bylaws**

In May, Masonicare announced that it was forming a strategic alliance with United Methodist Homes (UMH) with the goal of merging two legacy, nonprofit providers of senior healthcare and retirement living.

Founded in 1874, 21 years before the Masonic Home (now Masonicare Health Center) opened in Wallingford, UMH provides independent living, assisted living, short-term rehab, and skilled nursing services. In addition to its campuses in Newington, Shelton, and Farmington, UMH also has its own consulting company that works with senior living communities across the U.S.

Under the terms of this agreement, UMH and all of its locations and business lines will become part of Masonicare, strengthening the delivery of care and services for thousands of residents and patients.

“This represents a historic expansion of Masonicare’s healthcare and residential services,” said RWB Christopher J. Earle, Chairman of Masonicare’s Board of Trustees, “while creating exciting growth opportunities for our home and community-based services. It also better positions Masonicare for long-term sustainability, which, for a nonprofit healthcare provider, is absolutely essential.”

“In United Methodist Homes, Masonicare has truly found a ‘kindred spirit’ that considers it a privilege to care for seniors with dignity and compassion,” said Bro. Edward C. Page, Most Worshipful Grand Master. “The entire Masonic Family should be delighted that Masonicare’s important work will continue in a manner that stays true to its mission and values.”

Masonicare’s President and CEO, WB Jon-Paul Venoit, visited all the Masonic Districts in the state with RWB Earle and other key members of Masonicare’s Board of Trustees and senior management team to share details about the alliance and planned merger with UMH and how it will benefit all those in our care.

“The feedback I’ve received so far has been overwhelmingly positive,” he said. “The Masonic Family has heard me say for years that the key to weathering changes in our industry rests in Masonicare’s ability to adapt and grow. Bringing an organization of the caliber of United Methodist Homes under the umbrella of Masonicare certainly accomplishes that.”

The next step in this process will require some changes to Masonicare’s corporate bylaws. At the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut in October, delegates will be asked to vote on four proposed amendments:

1. Masonicare’s Board of Trustees would increase from 15 to 17 members.
2. The two new board members would be “Strategic Trustees” specific to the UMH merger for a maximum of nine years.
3. These Strategic Trustees would serve three consecutive three-year terms, just like all other Trustees.
4. The Strategic Trustees would not be replaced if their seats are vacated due to death, resignation, or other causes.

All delegates will receive a copy of the proposed changes to review before a vote is taken. Pending all necessary approvals, the merger will be completed in early 2025.

Should any member of the Masonic family have any questions, please feel free to contact Bro. Venoit at [jvenoit@masonicare.org](mailto:jvenoit@masonicare.org).

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!

## Hiram Lodge No. 1

Brian J. Glenn  
John Justin Glynn

## King Solomons Lodge No. 7

Raffaele Fasulo  
Charles David Forber  
Dennis Huebner

## Wooster Lodge No. 10

Thomas Michael Lawton  
Marc Edward Massicotte

## Valley Lodge No. 36

Syed AliZafar  
Stephen Paul Bryan  
Robert L Burke  
Michael Carl Koonz  
Micah Andrew Rousey

## St. Alban's Lodge No. 38

Steven C. Yurt

## Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

Murat Basar

## Evening Star Lodge No. 101

Xavier Khamena Amos  
Robert Roy Telfer

## Anchor Lodge No. 112

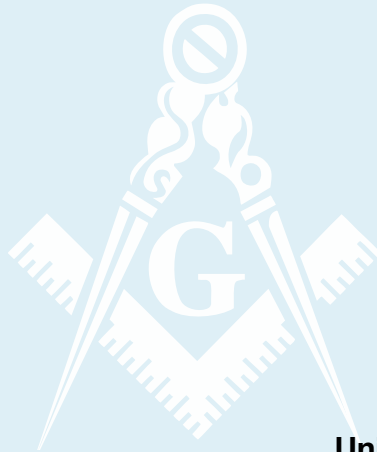
Richard T Getutua

## Sequin Level Lodge No. 140

Jeffrey Opong  
Jesus M. Soto Rivera  
Andres E. Santome

## Universal Fraternity Lodge No. 149

Jean Darllendsky Bourdeau  
Andy Dumay  
Cebastien Guirand  
Saint Gerard Occius  
Pierre Wilbert Orelus  
Erlens PointduJour



## 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 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





TOMORROW  
IS THE MOST  
IMPORTANT  
THING IN LIFE.  
COMES INTO  
US AT MID-  
NIGHT VERY  
CLEAN. IT'S  
PERFECT WHEN  
IT ARRIVES  
AND IT PUTS  
ITSELF IN OUR  
HANDS. IT  
HOPES WE'VE  
LEARNED  
SOMETHING  
FROM YESTER-  
DAY.

- BROTHER  
JOHN WAYNE

Frederick Franklin Lodge 14 & Unity Lodge 148  
are proud to present

# OKLAHOMA INDIAN MASONIC DEGREE TEAM



Master Mason Degree  
Saturday November 2, 2024

New Haven Masonic Temple  
285 Whitney Ave., New Haven, CT 06511

Doors Open 9:00am, Degree Begins at 10:00am  
\$100/person - Includes Degree & Lunch

[ctindiandegree.eventbrite.com](https://ctindiandegree.eventbrite.com)

ONLY 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE

THIS DEGREE IS FOR MASTER MASONS ONLY





# 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



PO Box 69  
Wallingford, CT 06492

**Edward C. Page**  
Grand Master

July 1, 2024

Dear Brothers, Friends, and Family,

The Grand Master Appeal is a wonderful opportunity to support all the ongoing efforts of so many across the state to **Help, Aide and Assist** so many in need. As many of you know, the Theme of my year is:

**“God – Unity – Service” GUS** - God, as we are all God’s children.

By uniting together, we can continue to make a difference and reach so many throughout our beloved Fraternity and all its families. As a Servant Leader, it is my honor this year to appeal to you to join with me in support of our Foundation by making a tax-deductible contribution.

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, Inc. a (501 (c) 3) is the charitable portion of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut. Your generous contributions will continue to help those both everywhere, from local need to that of brother across the globe through the Masonic Services Association. Please give what you can without injury to yourself or your family. Like so many of us, I would much rather give help, than ask for help; but I am asking for your help and support so that so many can obtain your assistance through your generosity.

Fraternally,

Brother Edward C. Page  
M.W. Grand Master 2024

*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 2023 totaling \$152,585 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
- Masonic Medical Research Institute
- Masonic Model Student Assist Program
- Masonic Service Association
- Masonic Organ DOnor Pogram "Donate Life"
- Shriners Hospital: Boston Burns Unit/Hospital for Children, Springfield

**The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation Inc.**  
**Board of Directors:**  
 Christopher J. Earle, Chairman, Trumbull No. 22  
 Paul L. Watson, Secretary/Treasurer, Uriel No. 24  
 Rinaldo F. Magliao Jr., Anchor No. 112  
 Edward C. Page, Moriah No. 15  
 Joseph J. Porco, Hiram No. 1 8  
 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](http://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:

- \_\_\_\_\_ CT International Order of Rainbow  
for Girls
- \_\_\_\_\_ CT DeMolay
- \_\_\_\_\_ General Endowment (unrestricted)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other-please note in the mem  
section of your check

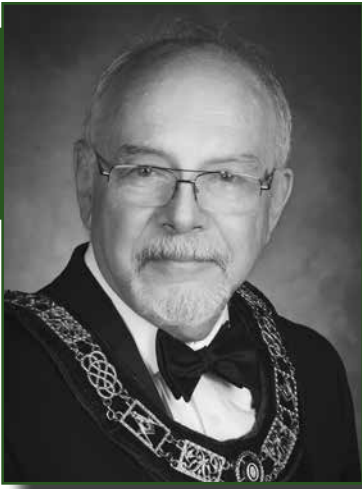
If your donation is **“in honor of,”** or **“in memory of,”** (circle one) a loved one, please include their name below:

\_\_\_\_\_

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. \_\_\_\_\_



# Grand Chaplain's Pulpit

by The Rev. Bruce R. Bellmore, PGM

## “Diversity of opinion; unity of purpose”

This past summer, I visited Abbott Hall in Marblehead, Massachusetts, and saw the well-known painting called “The Spirit of ‘76.” This magnificent painting, which is approximately 10 feet tall, has become a part of the fabric of American lore. While most of us think of it as a Revolutionary War painting, it is actually a Civil War-themed painting. It was commissioned for the Centennial in 1876. It depicts a wounded Union Soldier in the foreground, praying that the spirit of 1776 that founded this country reunite it after the schism and division of the War Between the States. The three prominent figures, the drummer, fifer, and flag bearer, are depicted as spirits with their feet not touching the ground—an ode to unity after great separation.

Recently, the Supreme Court of the United States completed its session for this year, and, as always, there is considerable diversity of opinion on the rulings. The most controversial ruling during this past session was undeniably the Presidential Immunity ruling. Social media was ablaze after this ruling was announced, with opinions both pro and con regarding the decision.

What I found particularly interesting was the wide range of opinions expressed by my brothers on these rulings. Some of my brothers felt that this decision was a vindication of the Constitution, while other brothers thought that this was a very dark day for American jurisprudence. History and experience will be the true judge of the extent and effect of this ruling. I will not comment on the ruling as it is not my place as Chaplain to all my brothers to express an opinion in this column.

I will comment on how interesting it is to see brothers so diametrically opposed on this and other issues united in the principles and purposes

of Freemasonry; brothers from the same lodge who disagree vehemently on social issues working side by side to accomplish any task in and for the lodge.

It is one of the time-honored principles of Freemasonry that sectarian discussions and discussions of a political nature are kept outside the lodge and so it should be. We meet in the lodge on the level of equality and unity in the principles of brotherly love, relief, and truth. We regard each other not based on outward appearances but on inner qualities. We come together not as Republicans, Democrats, Progressives, Liberals, or Conservatives but as a Brotherhood of Men under the Fatherhood of God.

In 1776, a group of men, many of whom were Freemasons, gathered in Philadelphia to discuss the fate of the Colonies. Many of them were British Loyalists; many were Colonists. We now refer to all of them as patriots. These men had diverse opinions on inherent human rights, freedom, liberty, and slavery. They argued and disagreed on nearly every subject. But after discussion and turmoil, they joined together in unity of purpose and ratified the Declaration of Independence. They set aside their personal opinions and stood together to declare their freedom from tyranny and injustice and begin uniting these diverse colonies into the United States of America. A country founded on the belief that despite our differences, we are united. The motto of our country “E Pluribus Unum” which translates “Out of many – One” beautifully illustrates this principle.

We, too, have an opportunity to stand together in unity. Let us agree to disagree, rationally and forthrightly discuss our differences of opinion, and seek to come to a unity of purpose as Freemasons. Let us never forget the obligations we have taken, keep our principles ever before us, and stand united in the bonds of Brotherhood.

God bless!

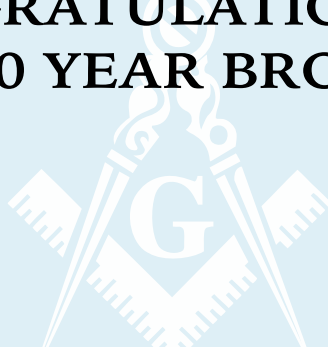


## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50 YEAR BROTHERS!

**Edward Lee Choate**  
Day Spring Lodge No. 30

**Ernest V. Converse**  
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145

**James H. Sundwall, Jr.**  
Corinthian Lodge No. 63







## Grand Historian's Corner

Bro. David J. Stewart

I hope you have enjoyed your summer hiatus with your families, friends and all the fun activities that the summer months usually bring.

I start by relating an event/program I started in my lodge. In 2017-2018, I was searching for more enlightenment and a deeper understanding while striving to strengthen my Masonic foundation. An idea flashed in front of my eyes, and I had my answer. I would develop a program on what I soon called "What is Masonry?" laying the foundation, strengthening it, and making it ready to build my temple.

I started with the following topics: In the beginning, Masonry, when, where, and how; The commandments of ancient sages; The Ancient Landmarks; The constitution of our Grand Lodge; How is the Grand Lodge organized; Statement of principles; The badge of a Mason; Rights, duties, and charges; Proceedings; Protocol when in a lodge assembled—the dos and don'ts along with many other subjects, including the three degrees with their symbolism and the ritual, all which aid in building our Masonic foundation.

I announced to the brothers that the program would be held on the fourth Thursday of each month. A bit apprehensive, I was overwhelmed when 13 brothers arrived that evening. Over the next two years, 22 brothers were involved. Then, the "pandemic" arrived and ended my program.

I learned and reinforced what I already knew. My brothers were most desirous of Masonic education.

Over the last 50 years, many studies have sought data on this subject. Here are the answers to the question in one such solicitation.

A compilation of these men's answers reveals that something is lost or lacking in their lives. They are deeply personal and extraordinarily revealing about the man who decides to come to us as a candidate for the degrees of Masonry. Their answers now need to be heard and carefully listened to.

*Why did you petition and subsequently join the Fraternity of Freemasons?*

- I am searching for enrichment and maturity in my life...
- I want a sense of purpose and belonging to something that is rewarding and exciting...
- I am desirous to meet new people of my own type...
- I want to be a better part of society...
- I wish to be valid and become a better man...

- I am looking for something different...
- I am interested in understanding your history and its symbolism...
- I want something else from all the other stuff that's out there...
- It's a family matter. I'm following my dad...
- It's a question of fulfillment and being part of something historical...
- I don't know why, but I wanted to do it...
- Making it sound serious was good, but I was left with the feeling of wanting much more...
- It meant something to me. I can't quite grasp it, but I now need more...
- I liked the order and surprise aspects...
- The history bit is significant...
- I want to be involved in something older than my country...
- I like the mystery of it all...
- I think it is a window to my soul...

Do any of the answers ring a bell for you? Education can defend the Fraternity from future atrophy. Education, knowledge, and rituals are our best defenses against decay. Knowledge is power. This is why nations and the business world spy upon one another.

Where is our Lodge of Education? Our Grand Lodge CME provides enlightening programs. Are they enough? Education and knowledge, spread out over time, will change into wisdom. Wisdom is more than both—much more—because it embraces behavior action.

Do you have a "Masonic to-do" list? Set some expectations and drive towards the goal of enlightenment. Expect the unexpected. Never quit and refuse excuses. Ask, and it shall be given! We are all on a journey that began with laying that first foundation stone for our Temple. Without a strong foundation, our Temple may fall or crumble and never be completed.

As you saw in the answers referenced above, our brothers are anxious and curious about the Fraternity, and with the level of individual lodge programs generally low, we are creating a void. We do have a large source of reliable knowledge that can be provided to our new (and older) members. When a brother's masonic awareness and education increase, it can only affect the overall health and vitality of our whole institution. Strengthening that foundation and striving for understanding is key.

Until we meet again, Be safe, be happy....

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

**Ervin Lee Betts**  
Old Well St. Johns Lodge No. 6

**Gordon R. Flanigan**  
Montgomery Lodge No. 13

**William A. Reichert**  
Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88

**Robert Leonard Brown II**  
Estuary Lodge No. 43

**John H. Haden, Jr.**  
Moosup Lodge No. 113

**David S. Rowe**  
Wooster Lodge No. 79

**James H. Campbell**  
Wyllys St. Johns Lodge No. 4

**Charles W. Marshall**  
Columbia Lodge No. 25

**George Sayad**  
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145

**Ned Ray Cassady**  
Warren Lodge No. 51

**Kenneth Roland Milton**  
Wyllys St. Johns Lodge No. 4

**George J. Suchyak, Jr.**  
America St. Johns Lodge No. 8

**Raymond Paul Ebert**  
Corinthian Lodge No. 63

**Lauren M. Preston**  
Annawon Lodge No. 115

*Wooster Lodge No. 10  
A.F. & A.M.*

*~ Since 1781 ~*

*Serving the Community for  
more than 240 years*



**ANCIENT ACCEPTED  
SCOTTISH RITE**  
Valley of Hartford

207 Deming Street  
Newington, CT 06111

**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](mailto:office@valleyofhartford.com) [www.valleyofhartford.org](http://www.valleyofhartford.org)

# From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

## President & CEO of Masonicare

Results are in from the 2024 Masonicare Golf & Pickleball Outing, held August 5 at The Farms Country Club in Wallingford, and just over \$225,000 was raised to benefit programs and services of Masonicare!

Along with Carrie McMahon, Executive Director of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, and RW Bro. Christopher J. Earle, Chairman of the Masonicare Board of Trustees, I want to express my sincere thanks to the many sponsors and volunteers who helped make this event a tremendous success, enabling Masonicare to provide high-quality healthcare to our residents and patients across the state. Specifically, I want to acknowledge the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation and the Order of the Eastern Star of Connecticut for their continued support, as well as everyone from the Masonic Family who was able to join us for a fun (but hot!) day of golf and pickleball.

Speaking of pickleball, we followed up a recent meeting of our Masonicare-United Methodist Homes Integration Committee with a barbecue and some friendly games on the pickleball court at Ashlar Village. It was a great opportunity for staff from both organizations to socialize as we continue our journey toward the anticipated merger in early 2025 that will create one of the country's strongest non-profit aging services providers.

Last month, we also hosted a ceremony honoring the 2024 Norma J. Brandt Nursing Scholarship recipients.

Seven of this year's 11 honorees were able to join us, bringing with them friends, family members, and coworkers.

This is always an exciting event on my calendar because it symbolizes the planting of a seed for growth that will hopefully improve our industry. It would not have been possible without the extraordinary generosity of a longtime Freemason and friend of Masonicare.

Norma was a career nurse who devoted much of her free time to the Order of the Eastern Star and the Order of the Amaranth. After her passing in 2005, her husband, Bro. John O. Brandt, Jr. (1943-2019) gave

generous gifts to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut to establish a nursing scholarship in Norma's name at Masonicare.

Although Norma did not work at Masonicare, I sensed from John that his wife embodied our ICARE values of innovation, compassion, accountability, respect, and excellence. Norma's example continues to inspire us and remind us why we do what we do daily.

We are very proud to have helped make it possible for so many individuals to pursue their dream of becoming a nurse, including those receiving new or continuing scholarships for the 2024-25 academic year:



*From left are Lindsey Smith, Vice President of Human Resources at Masonicare and Chair of the Brandt Scholarship Committee, Sarah White, Kayla Kearns, Kimberly Boganski, Marisella Martinez, Richard Marciano, Benjamin Jackson, Christina Walker, and WB Jon-Paul Venoit, President and CEO of Masonicare*

- Danielle Addy (SCSU), daughter of Regina Adubofour, a CNA at Masonicare Health Center

- Kimberly Boganski (University of Saint Joseph), an LPN at Masonicare Health Center

- Britney Diakpieng (SCSU), daughter of Fred Diakpieng, an LPN at Masonicare at Ashlar Village

- Benjamin Jackson (Capella University), son of Alicia Welter, Clinical Manager at Masonicare Home Health

- Kayla Kearns (University of Maine), daughter of Evelyn Kearns, an RCA at Masonicare at Ashlar Village

- Richard Marciano (University of Bridgeport), Massage Therapist, Masonicare Hospice

- 

Continued on page 15



## From the Desk of Jon-Paul Venoit continued from page 14

Avry Marcinczyk (Sacred Heart University), whose grandfather, Bro. Lenny Selander, is a member of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford

- Marisella Martinez (SCSU), whose father, Bro. James Martinez, is a member of Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34, Preston
- Katie Pelletier (Three Rivers Community College), daughter of Nancy Pelletier, an LPN at Masonicare at Mystic
- Christina Walker (Excelsior University), an LPN at Masonicare Behavioral Health Hospital. Christina also received the Margie Gallagher Nursing Scholarship.
- Sarah White (SCSU), an LPN at Masonicare at Ashlar Village

Finally, in case you missed it, we recently received the great news that Ashlar Village has been reaccredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for another five years. Reaccreditation matters because it indicates to potential residents and the rest of our industry of Ashlar Village's commitment to continuous improvement, high-quality care, and dedication to the residents they are so proud to serve. Among their findings, CARF noted that Ashlar Village meets its high standards by providing a beautiful campus with plenty of options for residents in independent living, assisted living, and memory care to stay active and engaged.

As a reminder, as a benefit to all Connecticut Masons, you receive a 5% discount on your monthly fee for the first six months when you move into Ashlar Village.

Yours sincerely and fraternally,



## Knights Templar Eye Foundation Grand Masters Sword of Merit Presented to Alan J. Carlson

by Vincent Cowie

At the 197th Annual Conclave, during the banquet of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Connecticut, held at the Cromwell Marriot Hotel on Saturday evening, April 13, Sir Knight Alan J. Carlson was presented with Knights Templar Eye Foundation Sword of Merit.

The coveted Grand Masters Sword of Merit is presented in recognition of donations to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation totaling \$25,000 or more, which can be by an individual, organization, foundation, or corporation. The last Sword of Merit presentation in Connecticut was to Sir Knight A. Norman Johnson and was presented at the Asylum of New Haven Commandery No. 2 in 2017.

Sir Knight John D. Barnes, Right Eminent Department Commander, Northeast Department, Grand Encampment Knights Templar of the USA, presented the sword.

Sir Knight Carlson is a member and officer of Cyrene Commandery No. 8, located in Meriden, and is a Past Master of Anchor Lodge No. 112 in East Hampton.



(l-r) SK Alan Carlson, SK John D. Barnes (photo by Michael E. Seamon)

# Transformation and the Attainment of a Higher Consciousness

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

September is upon us again, and the Valley of Bridgeport begins the fall degree season with live presentations of the 4th and 28th Degrees on Monday, September 23, at 7:30 p.m. A video rendition of the 21st Degree follows the two live presentations. As usual, a dinner will precede the degree work at 6 p.m.

On October 7, there will be live presentations of the 7th and 23rd Degrees, followed by a video rendition of the 13th Degree, starting at 7:30 p.m., preceded by dinner at 6 p.m. If you are new to Scottish Rite, you must start with viewing the 4th Degree at 7:00 p.m. Please call the Consistory office for further details on how to register and to make dinner reservations.

In Family life opportunities, September still has availability for the semi-annual fishing trip out of Clinton on the September 15, and a bus trip to the Big E Fair on September 18, on Connecticut Day. Please call the office for further details and to make reservations.- the number to call is (203) 375-0064.



*“Men must be governed by God, or they will be ruled by tyrants.”-- William Penn*

The upcoming 28th Degree on September 23 explains the spiritual modality of alchemy. The degree posits what alchemy is and what it is not. It's an important degree that expounds the Scottish Rite's core value of Personal Integrity. William Penn's quote above pertains not only to tyrants of the political and physical realms but also to the tyrants of our internal passions, which reside within and drive most of humanity to unhappy life events brought on by hate, lust, gluttony, jealousy, and so on.

The French philosopher Pierre de Chardin once asked, “Who are you really?” Bro. Albert Einstein answered the question as follows: “We are slowed down sound and light waves, a walking bundle of frequencies tuned into the cosmos. We are souls dressed up in sacred biochemical garments, and our bodies are the instruments through which our souls play their

music.” The reality is that most of the time, we get caught up in our physical bodies, and we forget who and what we really are. The discovery of who and what we truly are – this great awakening is our primary mission while we traverse the physical plane of existence.

While living in this faulty and imperfect house of clay, our personal mission is to discover and give life to our real selves.

When we undertake this great work, we begin to develop a higher state of awareness where we can consciously and volitionally live in the vibrations of what is termed cosmic consciousness. To still the mind and subdue the passions is a necessary first step. It is expounded in the first two pages of our EA degree and is the cornerstone of Masonic Science. The Blue Lodge degrees hold the keys to immense personal enlightenment. The most significant tool is given to the candidate within minutes of his starting his EA. How many lodges circle back and explain the profound significance of the words “subdue one's passions?” Unless these tyrants are subdued, the kingdom's keys remain out of reach.

This state of higher consciousness was defined by the Buddha, who said, “He who attains this consciousness should be victorious over discontent and lust, over danger and dismay; it would cause them to become the inheritor of the highest heavens; enable them to comprehend their own heart, the hearts of others, and to understand all minds. It would give them the power to recall their different temporary states in times gone by and endow them with clear and heavenly hearing.” The Apostle Paul said that he “heard unspeakable words which it is not possible for a man to

## LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY



**Attention All Master Masons!**

SCOTTISH RITE DEGREES  
Reservations required.  
Call the Consistory Office at 203-375-0064.

**Mon, Sep. 23** - 4th Degree & 28th Degree (live), 21st Degree (video)

**Mon, Oct. 7** - 7th Degree & 23rd Degree (live), 13th Degree (video)

**Mon. Oct. 28** - **At New Haven Temple**, 17th Degree (live) & 22nd Degree (video)

For the latest copy of the  
**Lafayette Consistory News** visit  
<https://ctfreemasons.net/appendant-bodies/lafayette-consistory/>

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

<b>Valley of Bridgeport</b> 2422 Main Street Stratford, CT 06615 Office@LafayetteConsistory.com 203-375-0064	<b>Valley of New Haven</b> 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven, CT 06511 Kirk_Trofater_Jr@yahoo.com 203-269-0336	<b>Valley of Waterbury</b> 529 Highland Avenue Waterbury, CT 06708 cdoneill@snet.net 203-754-8209
--	---	---

**For more information, contact the Valley near you or email [Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com](mailto:Membership@LafayetteConsistory.com).**

utter.” The Nazarene heard the voice of the father declare, “This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.” Clairaudience is just one of the faculties that come with attaining higher consciousness.

What the seething masses enmeshed with their tyrants do not understand is that there are more profound and valuable ways to exist and experience their worldly sojourn. If you are willing to assiduously govern yourself by following the higher law set forth in the Great Light, Masonic science can open the door if you are willing to do the very hard work.



*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.*

# Grand Lodge Welcomes Lynnmarie Evans

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut is proud to welcome Lynnmarie Evans to the Grand Lodge office!

Lynnmarie brings her many skills and enthusiastic spirit to our team.

Lynnmarie will be working on behalf of Grand Secretary RWB James M. Anderson. Along with WB Mark Orsini, the team will work to serve the lodges and brothers of the state.

Welcome, Lynnmarie!



## Statewide Entered Apprentice Degree in New Britain Initiates Fourteen Brothers

by Matthew F. Griffin

On July 20, Unity Lodge No. 148 in New Britain hosted the second state-wide degree, an Entered Apprentice degree, offered under the guidance of Grand Lodge and Project Blue Wave, and jointly produced by brothers of the 5th and 6th Masonic Districts. Fourteen candidates assembled from eight various lodges including Composite Lodge No. 22, a Prince Hall Affiliated Lodge. Candidates and their conductors arrived at 10 Mason Drive early Saturday morning for a simple breakfast and a very extensive degree.

Their initiation into the Craft was accomplished by the efforts of 19 officers and auxiliary ritualists in the lodge room, plus another five or so working as preparation room adjuncts, traffic directors, kitchen crew and registration personnel. Several “backup” brothers covered many parts “just in case.” A lot of preparation, planning and two rehearsals made the morning impressive for the men being welcomed in despite numbers not usually encountered in the lodge, on the floor and on the sidelines. Some 88 brothers congregated for the day’s work on the Trestleboard, and whatever their role, they were witness to a rare event.

A full EA degree was presented, including the individual entrance for every candidate and Sections One, Two and Three were all presented with additional segments for benefit of candidates and brothers both. A Door Lecture recited by WB Roger B. Thorin gave a brief description to those prepared for entrance but not yet summoned into lodge, letting them know they were continuing a tradition only slightly different than their “fellowes” of three centuries past; the explanation of the Three Great Lights was offered in expanded detail by RWB Dwight C. Mertens immediately following the obligation. Music was provided by organist, Bro. Joe LaRosa, who hardly had time to unpack from his return from Florida before sitting at the keyboard. It was also a treat to hear the First Section Lecture rehearsed, by RWB George Frascarelli and FC Bro. Trevor Marinelli for the newest members.

A tip of the coffee pot goes out as well to RWB Larry Elsner for his assistance in provisioning, managing and serving in the kitchen.

A bit of creative thinking, combined with some strategically placed tables, allowed each candidate to take his obligation at the altar in due form.



Accolades went from acting WM Charles M. Jewart to all the officers, especially noting WB Hiram Morales, II, and RWB Gregory Stumpp who gave the Second and Third Section Lectures respectively. The event of the morning was honored by the presence of MWB Edward C. Page, Grand Master, in addition to many of the Grand Lodge line officers who were in attendance throughout the day. Congratulating these newest Brothers with a warm welcome to the fraternity, MWB Page expressed his delight for the quality of the day’s work as well as the ingenuity displayed in overcoming the difficulties of space and numbers in lodge.

Organizers RWB F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr. and RWB Matthew F. Griffin wish to again express their deep appreciation to everyone who labored, supported, cleaned, carried, toted, traveled and helped us make the day the best it could be for those who took their first steps in the Masonic path we all travel. It was the earnest intent of all to welcome these newest brothers with a positive and lasting impression of the Craft we each hold dear.

Continued on page 18





Brothers who received their EA Degree (and their Lodge):

- Bro. Henry P. Juca, Compass Lodge No. 9
- Bro. Fredrick Addai, Trumbull Lodge No. 22
- Thomas Okyere, Trumbull Lodge No. 22
- Olaleye Aina Bagwell, Composite Lodge No. 22 (PHA)
- Bro. Christian Ambrosio, Valley Lodge No. 36
- Bro. William Hosack, Valley Lodge No. 36
- Bro. David Santoro, Valley Lodge No. 36
- Bro. Ivan Arias, Union Lodge No. 40
- Bro. Michael Florio, Union Lodge No. 40
- Bro. Christopher Hidalgo, Meridian Lodge No. 77
- Bro. Jonas Shivers, Meridian Lodge No. 77
- Bro. Joshua Walters, Meridian Lodge No. 77
- Bro. Patrick Mitchell, Hartford-Evergreen Lodge No. 88
- Bro. Pankaj Narayan Shrestha, Friendship-Tuscan Lodge No. 145



*Family Owned & Operated Since 1972*



**AUTO REPAIR INC.**  
Foreign & Domestic Repairs

*Paul Locicero*

860-646-5036 Fax: 860-646-1552  
174 West Center Street • Manchester

www.pp-autorepair.com ppautopaul@yahoo.com



**DEE'S ANTIQUES**  
\$ PAYS \$ TOP DOLLAR • 203-235-8431

*BUYING* Gold, Silver, Jewelry, Coins, Military Items,  
Musical Instruments, Old Advertising Signs & Memorabilia,  
Fishing & Hunting Equipment, Vintage Toys, Comic Books,  
Antique Furniture, Anything Old & Unusual

*Serving Community & Family Respectfully for Over 50 Years*  
Call Thomas Spratta at 203-235-8431  
600 West Main St., Meriden, CT 06451  
TJS600@cox.net



# Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association Recognizes New Eagle Scouts *by Jonathan Glassman*

Congratulations to new Eagle Scouts Katie Harper, Ava Shanbrom and Sarah Harper of Troop 410 in Woodbridge, Greg Hofstatter and Simon Tishkoff of Troop 41 in Woodbridge, and Ethan Farber, Jake Isolda and Max Fink of Troop 15 in Stamford They received the Connecticut Masonic Eagle Scout Commendation from the Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association and Grand Lodge of Connecticut at their respective Courts of Honor.



*Troop 41*



*Troop 410*



*Troop 15*

## Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team Coming to CT

Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14 and Unity Lodge No. 148 are proud to announce that the **Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree Team** will be returning to Connecticut this fall. This renowned team will be conferring a Master Mason degree while incorporating Native American rituals as well. It's truly a "Masonic bucket list" item!

The degree will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at the New Haven Masonic Temple. Tickets are \$100 and include a catered lunch. Doors open at 9 a.m., and the degree starts at 10 a.m. Tickets can be purchased online at

**[ctindiandegree.eventbrite.com](https://ctindiandegree.eventbrite.com)** and are going fast. Don't miss out on this rare opportunity!







# RWB Shane Dufresne Receives Pierpont Edwards Medal In Bronze

RWB Shane Dufresne was born on February 7, 1968, to Robert and Marylene (Dube) Dufresne. He has one sister, Nicole Dufresne, and a son, Drew Dufresne. He also has two nieces, four nephews, one grand niece, and one grand nephew. He was educated in Waterbury and graduated from Sacred Heart High School in 1986.

Shane started working as a Foreman for the City of Waterbury Parks Department on July 25, 1988. He was hired by the Waterbury Police Department on December 12, 1997. After graduating from the Connecticut Police Academy on April 14, 1998, Shane was assigned to the midnight shift in the Patrol Division. In June 2003, he transferred from Patrol to the Community Relations Division, where he worked until March 9, 2005. The police department received letters of

thanks and appreciation from the community for Shane's work in the Bunker Hill section of Waterbury. He was then reassigned to a special assignment attached to the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration, New England Field Division, as an undercover narcotics officer. In March 2006, Shane was promoted to the rank of Detective. As a Detective, he first ran the department's Police Athletic League (PAL). After a short time, he was reassigned to the main Detective Division. In September 2008, he was assigned to the Youth Bureau before retiring from the Waterbury Police Department in 2009. During his career at the Waterbury Police Department, he received numerous commendation awards. After retiring, Shane immediately began a new career with Western Connecticut State University Police Department, where he worked until he joined the Plainville Police Department on November 23, 2015. He is currently assigned as the School Resource Officer (SRO) for the Middle School of Plainville.



Brother Shane held several community roles in Waterbury. He was President of the Bunker Hill Sports Association for five years, where he coached several teams. He was also a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader for Pack 20 and Troop 40 at Blessed Sacrament School, where he coached the baseball team for six years.

For the last seven years, Shane has shared his life and made his home with his longtime girlfriend Michelle Suttentberg and their two Labrador Retrievers, Raven and Max.

Shane began his Masonic career upon being initiated as an Entered Apprentice in Harmony Lodge No. 42 in Waterbury on April 18, 2002. He was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on May 16, 2002, and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on June 20, 2002, both at Harmony Lodge No. 42. He entered the officer line at Harmony as Senior Steward in 2004, progressing to the East where he served as Harmony's Worshipful Master in 2009. WB Shane also served Harmony Lodge No. 42 as Treasurer from 2012 to 2014 and Almoner in 2017. Brother Shane was awarded the Robert S. Walker MWPGM Award as the Mason of the Year for Harmony Lodge No. 42 on November 7, 2013. He received the P.M. Jeter Hines Community Service Award from Kellogg No. 5 Prince Hall in April 2010. Brother Shane served as President of the 3rd District Blue Lodge Council for three years. He has been active as an organizer and participant in numerous events, both Masonic and non-Masonic, to assist those in need.

Shane was commissioned as Right Worshipful District Deputy of the Grand Lodge AF & AM of Connecticut for District 3A in 2010-2011 and reappointed for 2011-2012. He was appointed Grand Marshal for 2014-2015 and Grand Almoner from 2015 through 2019. In 2019, he was appointed Grand Junior Steward and has served in the progressive Grand Lodge line since then, being elected as Grand Senior Warden for the 2024-2025 Masonic year. He has also served on various Grand Lodge committees, namely Action Programs from 2005 through 2007, Community Action from April 2019-April 2023, EMR Committee 2019 to present, Ritual and Ceremonies Committee from 2023 to present, and Budget and Finance from July 2023 to present.

Apart from Blue Lodge, Shane has been a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Valley of Waterbury, and the Lafayette Consistory in Stratford since June 2003. He has attended all of the 29 AASR degrees. He is also a member of Pyramid Shrine No. 9, AAONMS in Stratford. He is a member of the York Rite bodies in Meriden, Keystone Chapter No. 6 of Royal Arch Masons, Hamilton Council No. 9 Royal and Select Masters of Connecticut, and of St. Elmo Commandery No. 9, Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Connecticut, having been knighted on May 22, 2009. He is also a member of the Zindah Grotto in Waterbury.

In recognition of his service to our fraternity, his lodge and his community, the most worshipful grand lodge, ancient free and accepted masons of the state of Connecticut is pleased to present right worshipful brother Shane Dufresne, the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.



# An All-Star MM Degree in Colchester

by Ted Nelson

Many in the 8th District, as well as around the state, remember the State Police Degree Team. Two notable members of that group are still active ritualists even though the team hasn't been fully manned in many years now. MWB Marshall Robinson presided as Worshipful Master and Past Grand Secretary, RWB Grant Gould served as Senior Deacon to help to portray a fine Master Mason Degree for Bro. David Smith, a Navy Corpsman of Purity Lodge No. 150 and Wooster Lodge No. 10's returning USMC Cadet, had just days earlier been commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant, Bro. Jeffery Stober.



Wooster Lodge's Worshipful Master, RWB Jerry Cross, was notified by Br.

Cody Stober that his son Jeff would be getting his commission on August 3 and on leave for one week. Could Wooster Lodge raise him to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason while he was on leave? RWB Cross asked MWB Ted Nelson if he could assemble a team in less than three weeks. MWB Ted knew if his dear friends MWB Marshall and RWB Grant were available, he had a great chance of backfilling behind their leadership once others knew they were on board.

Current Grand Master, MWB Edward Page, said he would lead the Sideliners. MWB Ted's 33° classmate, MWB Bruce Bellmore, agreed to be the Chaplain. An "All-Star" cast was formed from this nucleus, and there was no time for a rehearsal. RWB Michael Schaefer served as SW, WB William Weisert as JW, RWB Frank Rich as JD, Bro. Glen Hansen as SS, WB James Locicero JS & Secretary, RWB John Stogden as Marshal, Craftsmen were RWB Rob Krawic 1st, Bro: Auguste Estriplet 2nd, and WB Bruce Pendleton 3rd. The Ruffians were MWB Ted Nelson, RWB Frank Rich, and RWB Bill Perkins. WB Glenn Studwell portrayed the Seafaring Man & Wayfaring Man, RWB Richard Miller performed a solo Steward's lecture, and RWB Richard Allen delivered the Charge.



During the break, Bro. Jeff Creighton and members of Oxoboxo Lodge No 116 served a fine prime rib dinner with all the trimmings.

WB Bruce Pendleton raised Bro. Smith, but the highlight of the evening came when Brothers Cody Stober and Jeff L. Stober raised their respective son & grandson, 2nd Lt Bro. Jeff to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

RWB Rob Krawic entertained everyone during the meeting with his guitar. Bro. Dan Frechette was the photographer.

After the festivities, MWB Robinson noted how much he enjoyed serving and playing the part of King Solomon and working with RWB Grant Gould.

MWGM Edward Page delivered the final words. He met the new Master Masons on the level and shared his words of wisdom with them and all assembled.





# Brothers March and Nobles Drive to Honor Fallen Heroes

by Annette Ham

Despite threatening inclement weather, brothers of Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3 made their annual appearance at the Fairfield Memorial Day Parade.

Shriners drove their vans and motor patrol cars.

The Legion of Honor vans were driven by Nobles Raymond J. Dolyak and Jonathan G. DeBaun.

Pyramid Shriners Motor Patrol "ride so that children may walk" entertained parade spectators.





# Officers of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF&AM ~ 2024-25



Front Row: L-R: Thomas J. Gondek, R.W. Grand Treasurer; F. Matthew Heinrich Jr., R.W. Grand Junior Warden; Rinaldo F. Magliano Jr., R.W. Deputy Grand Master; Edward C. Page, Most Worshipful Grand Master; Shane Dufresne, R.W. Grand Senior Warden; Mark H. Hawkins, RW Grand Senior Deacon; James M. Anderson, R.W. Grand Secretary.

Row 2 L-R: R.W. Gregory K. Whitehouse, Deputy Grand Secretary; Daniel W. Michols, Associate Grand Tiler; Frederick A. Marotti, Associate Grand Tiler; James A. Saracenic, E.W. Grand Junior Steward; Rev. Bruce Bellmore, PGM, R.W. Grand Chaplain; Gary Graham, R.W. Grand Organist; James A. Moran, W. Grand Junior Deacon; R.W. Brian E. Beals, Deputy Grand Treasurer.

Row 3 L-R: Charles A. Miller, III, Associate Grand Tiler; Richard C. Memmott Jr., R.W. Grand Tiler; Christopher T. Carrott, Assistant to the Grand Master; Nicholas H. Ives, R.W. Grand Senior Steward; Michael Abrahamson, Associate Grand Tiler; Rev. Carl H. Anderson, R.W. Grand Almoner. Matthew F. Griffin, R.W. Grand Marshal.





# The Broadway Masonic Temple, Norwich CT by Greg Webster

The idea of a home for the Masonic bodies of Norwich originated in December, 1881, when Somerset Lodge No. 34 and St. James Lodge No. 23 directed their trustees to invest \$300 for that purpose.

In 1890 a large building, the Shannon building, was under construction at the corner of Shetucket and Main Streets. The feeling that Masonry should have a more convenient place for its meetings than the Masonic hall on Water Street seemed to have a chance of fulfillment. The several York Rite bodies also appointed committees to consider the subject.

These committees, with the presiding officers of the several bodies, met in the St. James Lodge room on Monday, October 6, 1890, electing Arthur H. Brewer chairman and Charles B. Chapman secretary. Several meetings were held, and at one time it seemed almost settled that a lease would be taken on the upper floor of the Shannon building, at an annual rental of \$1500. But as that sum represented a capitalization at 5% of \$30,000.00, it was finally decided, almost unani-mously, that it would be better for the fraternity to erect its own building. At a meeting of the committee held on June 15, 1891, the following was passed:

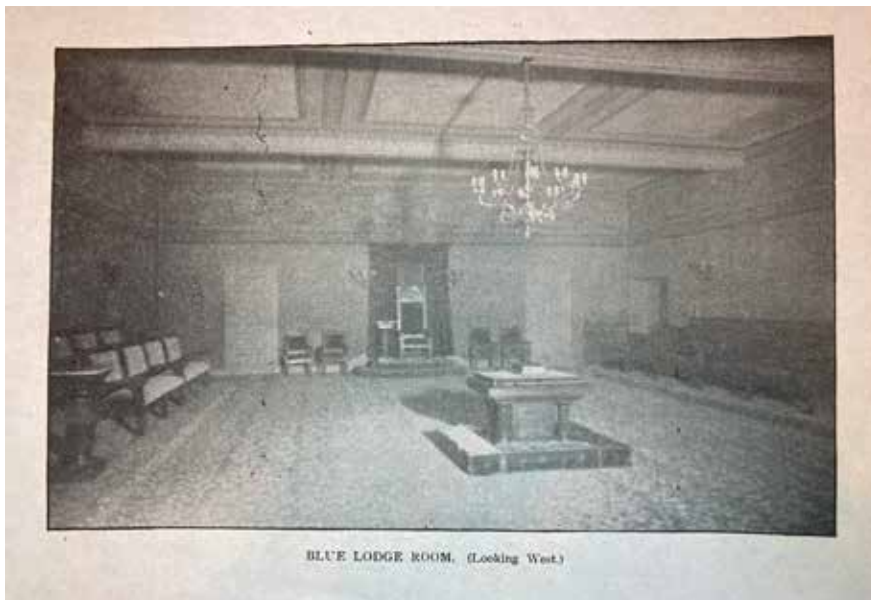
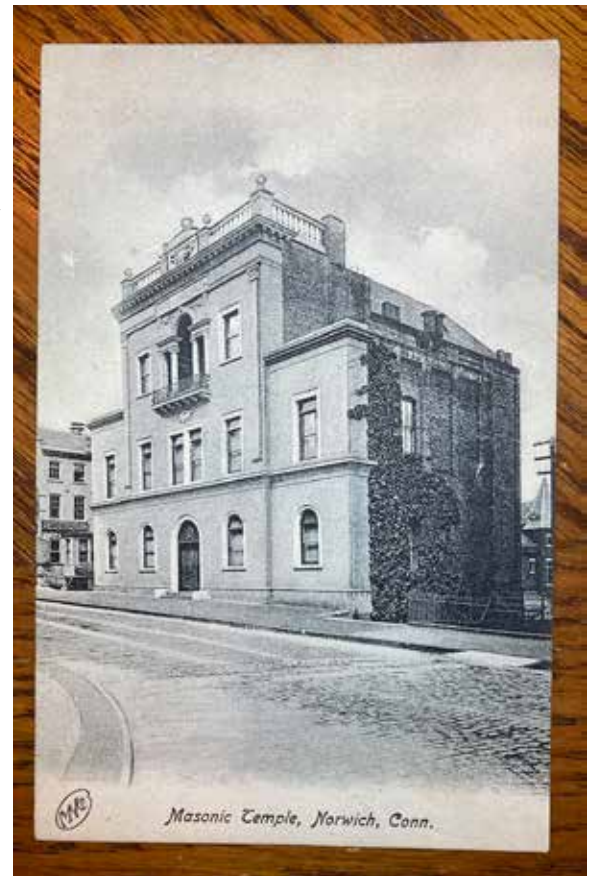
“That the several committees report to their respective bodies that they are of the opinion that the lease of the fifth floor of the Shannon building is not advisable, and would ask for further pow-er to consider the advisability of purchasing and owning property for their purposes.”

The “further power” was granted.

Thus in 1893 the Masonic Temple was built at 95 Broadway across from Norwich City Hall. On April 17, 1893, the Building Committee held a ground breaking ceremony at the site. On March 23, 1894 ,the new temple was completed and handed over formally to the Masonic Temple Corp. Ill. Bro. Arthur H. Brewer, 33rd Degree, was the first President. The Temple was used until the larger temple was built at Washington and Sachem Streets in 1928. The Broadway Temple was sold to the American Legion and was unfortunately destroyed by fire in 1958. It was razed and is now a parking lot.

The Broadway Masonic Temple in Norwich is reputed to be the first building in the world erected by Masons exclusively for Masonry. (Pub. By Masonic Temple Corp., Norwich, CT, 1921.)

*Research compiled from the “Masonic Temple Souvenir”, Ansel Beckwith, Pub. March 27, 1894.*



## An open letter to all Connecticut Masons

June 25, 2024

Brothers all:

Ms. Deb Fowler recently announced her retirement from the Grand Lodge office, effective July 6, her last day to be June 27, so as you read this she will be hopefully relaxing and enjoying her retirement.

Deb and I started out at the Grand Lodge office at virtually the same time in 2017, she replacing a legend in Marge Chick who had been there for a good number of years, and I taking over, initially as Acting Grand Secretary, appointed by then Grand Master Theodore Nelson, to complete the term of my good friend RWB Dick Memmott. Deb and I arrived simultaneously to the advent of Grand View, which at the time was a great step forward in terms of our membership management but was very challenging, particularly initially from a technical standpoint. Deb guided the office through this transition as seamlessly as could be hoped for, overcoming a number of obstacles, not complaining, but rather doubling down on her efforts as each arose. She was also instrumental in helping to get the office through the COVID times.

Working alongside her for some five years, I came to admire her work ethic and trust her completely. She made my job as Grand Secretary much easier, and any accolades I garnered there were probably the result of her making me look good, which is not always an easy task. I want to take this opportunity to simply say congratulations on your retirement Deb and thank you very much for all your hard work. While you did not necessarily always receive proper recognition for your work, rest assured your efforts did not go unnoticed.

RWB Grant Gould

## District 8

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



## Brainard Lodge No. 102 Strawberry Festival Ray Geer, RI

On June 25, Brainard Lodge hosted their annual Strawberry Festival, which approximately 40 Masonic family members attended. Lodges known to have been represented, in addition to Brainard, were Somerset-Saint James No. 34, Union Lodge No. 31, Purity Lodge No. 150, Wooster Lodge No. 10, Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116, Coastal Lodge No. 57, and Franklin Lodge No. 20 of Westerly, RI.

The menu included hamburgers, hot dogs, strawberry chicken, strawberry salad, strawberry punch, strawberries dipped in chocolate, strawberry appetizers, and last but not least, strawberry shortcake!





# District 6

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



## Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 Holds Summer Fellowcraft Degree by Pat Jones

With a dispensation from Grand Lodge, Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 held a Fellowcraft Degree on Saturday, August 3. The ceremonies were a great example of brothers from various lodges working together. Four brothers received the degree: Bros. Jonathan Hayes, Jonathan Schinkoeth, Mario Graham of Hartford Evergreen Lodge, and Johnston Cheong of Wyllys St John's Lodge No. 4.

Brother Khamp Phimvongsa presided in the East with help from brothers from three lodges: Wolcott Lodge No. 60, Wyllys St John's Lodge, and Uriel Lodge No. 24.

The brothers had numerous rehearsals over the summer, and their hard work was evident with masterful performances by all. Bro. Jonathan Hood of Hartford Evergreen Lodge and Bro. John Gorsky of Uriel Lodge recited the First Section Lecture. WB Geoff Holmes of Wolcott Lodge explained the Working Tools, while the Staircase Lecture was handled by RWB Robert Malt District Deputy of Masonic District 9B. RWB Greg Stump, PDD, presented the Charge. It was a pleasure to see brothers from numerous lodges working so well together.

While brothers traveled from numerous lodges to participate, none came farther than Bro. Lou Lamphear, whose home is in North Carolina. He recently bought a home in Vernon, enabling him to attend more meetings in South Windsor as he will spend time in both locations.

Lou has had an interesting journey. Born in Cheyenne, WY, in 1950, his travels included a tour in Vietnam with the Army's Special Forces as a 20-year-old Green Beret and a 24-year career with the United States Postal Service in Connecticut. As a retiree, he has lived in Archdale, North Carolina, for the past three years with his soul mate, Dixie, whom he married in 1995.

Lou's father was a railroad man with the Union Pacific Railroad. His mother was a seamstress, a department store cashier, and an AT&T telephone operator.

Lou has been President of the Lion's Club in East Windsor and a member of the Broad Brook Fire Department. His past heroics included saving a young girl's life during a fire rescue. Lou has been a member of Hartford Evergreen Lodge for approximately eight years, crediting Masonic values that helped him "subdue his passions." He has served as lodge Almoner and enjoys helping people. He believes it helps make both himself and Masonry stronger. He is affiliated with Numa F. Reid Lodge No. 344 in North Carolina. A member of the Widow's Sons, he enjoys riding his motorcycle, woodworking, and building model cars.

While in Connecticut, Lou attended Cheney Technical School in Manchester and became a Level 9 mechanic, acquiring skills in plumbing and HVAC. At the Scottish Rite-sponsored Yard Goats baseball game in June, Lou was designated "Veteran of the Day." He was accompanied by his cousin Duane Mason, who is also a veteran.

His cousins Duane and Roland Mason are members of Hartford Evergreen Lodge and Fayette Lodge No. 69.





# District 5

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



## Paul D. Collier Masonic Scholarships Awarded to Simsbury High School Seniors **by Nate Jillette**

On the evening of June 4, WB Jim Wasz and WB Nate Jillette attended the Senior Awards Night at Simsbury High School to carry on the tradition of honoring a passed brother and recognizing the extraordinary accomplishments of a couple of high school seniors.

Paul D. Collier was the Superintendent of Schools in Simsbury from 1928 to 1931. Mr. Collier served as Worshipful Master of St. Mark's Lodge No. 36 (re-chartered as Valley Lodge No. 36) in Simsbury. Additionally, he served as Most Worshipful Grand Worshipful Master in Connecticut in 1961.

This Masonic scholarship, established in MWB Collier's honor in 1977, is awarded annually to Simsbury High School students based on their scholastic record, participation in school and community activities, and high moral character.

Valley Lodge No. 36 has two extraordinary award recipients this year who exemplify these principles. We wish these two young people well in pursuing their goals and dreams.

On behalf of all the Freemasons of Valley Lodge No. 36, the lodge is pleased to recognize Jayden Desrochers and Mitchell Wallman as the 2024 Paul D. Collier Masonic Scholarship Fund recipients and award them \$2,000 each.



# District 4

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



## Quinta Essentia Lodge No. 500 Initiates New Brother

**by Jonathan Glassman**

Quinta Essentia Lodge No. 500 enjoyed an excellent degree and festive board on June 28 at the Elm City Club in New Haven. Congratulations and welcome to Brother Daniel Burns, Quinta Essentia Lodge No. 500's newest Entered Apprentice!





# Widow's Son Lodge No. 66 Takes Annual Thimble Island Cruise

by David Cole

Widow's Son Lodge No. 66 enjoyed its 5th annual Thimble Island Cruise on Saturday, May 18. Traditionally, if it's not raining or there is heavy fog, then it is not truly their event. Fortunately, the weather was true, and it rained.

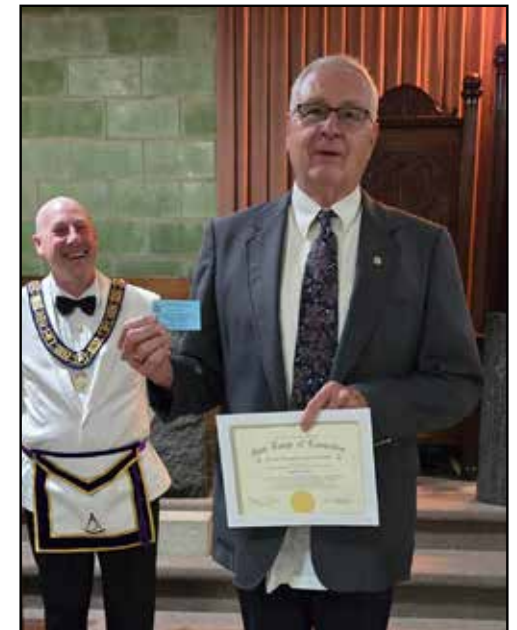
A true mark of the friendship and fellowship of the lodge is that everyone enjoyed a great time. The boat was at capacity. More than enough food (potluck, of course) was available. Feed a Mason, and they will come.





# St. Alban's Lodge No. 38 Presents 50-Year Pin by Colin Souney

On Tuesday, June 4th 2024 RWB Nicholas Ives, Grand Senior Steward presented a 50 year Gold Membership emblem to Bro. Carl Jordan on behalf of the Grand Master at St. Alban's Lodge No. 38 in Branford, CT. Brother Carl was warmly welcomed by Worshipful Master William Wieler and presentations were made by RWB Francis Barnes, District Deputy and WB Kyle Podpolucha, Associate Grand Marshal. Also in attendance was the RW Grand Tiler, Richard Memmot Jr. and WB Philip Sharkey III, Associate Grand Lecturer for the fourth Masonic district.



Bro. Carl shared his thoughts and wisdom with the craft and all benefited from his experiences. The evening was well attended and a delicious meal was served after the ceremony prepared by Junior Warden WB Louis Fappiano

*WB Kyle Podpolucha, WB John Trotta, WB Colin Souney, Bro. Steve Yurt, WB Louis Fappiano, RWB Richard Memmot, Jr., WB David Cole, WB John Kelley, (l-r front) RWB Phil Sharkey, RWB Francis "Nick" Barnes, RWB Nicholas "Nick" Ives, WM William Wieler, Bro. Carl Jordan, WB Richard DiNardo, Bro. Steve Domerod*

## District 2

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



## Hiram Lodge No. 18 News by Fred Marotti

On June 10, at Annawon Lodge No. 115 in West Haven, WM Joseph McVety and WB Kyle Podpolucha surprised MWB Joseph J. Porco with a certificate proclaiming him an honorary member of the lodge. MWB Joseph was extremely honored by the courtesies of the evening.

On June 19, WM Tony Neri and brothers from Hiram Lodge welcomed a visiting brother from Peru -- Venerable Maestro Brother Jorge Renan Salcedo Monasi. He is a member of Lodge Jose Faustino Sanchez Carrion No. 43 from Valle de Chinchu in Oriente Peru. He was Master of his lodge in 2023 and has been a Mason since 1985. Brother Jorge was thrilled to be able to attend a lodge meeting while here to visit his daughter Maria, who lives just up the road from WB Tony.

On June 25, brothers from Hiram Lodge passed Bro. Andy Engels to the degree of Fellowcraft through the courtesy of WM Tim Brackett and the officers of Madison Lodge No. 87 in Madison. There were numerous Grand Line officers also in attendance. Dinner was spectacular and a great time was had by all.





# District 3

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



## King Solomon's Lodge No. 7- A Call to Arms by Steve Lewis

Owning personal property is a never-ending source of repairs, maintenance, and vigilance against the ravages of nature. Dedicated Masons also have the responsibility of their communally owned, fraternal property. Planning for emergencies is essential.

On Thursday, August 1, Litchfield County experienced a violent rainstorm with heavy winds. As he was driving by King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury, Bro. Mitchell Goldburgh noticed that a blowdown had uprooted several trees, dropping them across the driveway and blocking access to the building. He called Bro. John Novak of the Temple Corporation who sent out "A Call to Arms." -- email asking brothers to come to the lodge on Saturday morning with chainsaws, rakes and leaf blowers. It was a modern-day approach to an emergency encroachment.

Fortunately, Bro. Bud Neal is a licensed arborist who is suitably equipped with saws, chippers, a bucket truck, and most importantly the skills to use them all.

Five brothers arrived at the Lodge at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday. Working in unity under Bro. Neal's expert direction, the job was completed in two hours.

King Solomon's Lodge extends their gratitude and thanks to those who answered the call. It was a great example how "many hands make light work!"



(l-r) Bros. John Novak; Jeff Leavenworth; Kevin Brown; Mitchell Goldburgh; Bud Neal



Looking up the driveway to the lodge



Looking up the driveway to the lodge.



Looking down the driveway to the street.



Looking up the driveway to the lodge.

## Adding Three Master Masons to the Fraternity by Steve Lewis

Every evening spent with brothers in the pursuit of wisdom, knowledge and uncovering ways to become better men is a joy but few surpass the excitement of raising Master Masons.

On May 18, Bros. David Forber, Raffaele Fasulo, and Dennis Huebner were raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury.

Bro. David Forber's grandfather Charles was initiated on June 13, 1932. His son Simon is a Mason currently living in France. Two of his lifelong friends in his native UK wanted to sponsor him in a lodge there but a two-year employment contract in the USA in 1976 prevented that. He never returned to the UK as he became a partner in a company in New Jersey and stayed.

In 2021 he visited King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 for the reenactment of the receiving the original charter from the Boston Lodge, which motivated him to inquire more deeply about the fraternity of Masonry. However, Bro. Forber kept protesting that "I am not a young man; in fact, I will be 85 on my next birthday and hence I thought I would be too old."

The Brothers assured him that one is never too old.

Upon his receiving his Master Mason's degree, Bro. Forber spoke eloquently: "I must say that I really didn't understand what Masonry was about. However moving from Entered Apprentice to Master Mason, I found that I should conduct myself as a Mason and ensure that my treatment of my fellow man is always at the highest level of respect and understanding as well as fellow brothers who need assistance."

Bro. Raffaele Fasulo was born in Italy, immigrating to the USA in 1967 when he was eight years old. For most of his life, he's lived in Waterbury, just recently moving to Woodbury. His son-in-law, Stephen Saxton, became a Mason several years ago. Having seen the positive changes in him due to Masonry, Bro. Fasulo decided to ask him about becoming a Mason.

Since he lived in Woodbury and was constantly driving by the building on the rock in the center of town, King Solomon's Lodge No.7 seemed the appropriate lodge to explore. He discovered that the brothers of the lodge were welcoming, eager to help him along the path, and fun to be around.

Brother Fasulo said that "Becoming a Mason is the best decision I have made for myself, and I am looking forward to my continued journey towards the light."

Bro. Dennis Huebner was born in the Midwest, and always enjoyed sports and attending church. He graduated from the University of Illinois in Urbana before going onto the University of Illinois medical school in Chicago. His wife and he moved to western Connecticut over 45 years ago



(center l-r) Bros. Forber, Fasulo, Huebner

where he practiced internal medicine for 40-plus years.

He became interested in Masonry a few years ago when a tree fell from a neighbor's property, landing on the Mason's driveway and onto his fence and property. He told the Masons who showed up to assess the property damage, that the other neighbor was away, but that they could bill him for their time and expenses. Dennis was told: "We don't do that." When he asked: "Why not?", he received the response: "Because that's what we do". Thus began his interest with the underlying principles of our fraternity, culminating in his raising to the sublime degree of Master Mason on May 18.

## King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 Annual Strawberry Festival and Awards Night **by Steve Lewis**

On June 25, King Solomon's Lodge No.7 in Woodbury held their annual Strawberry Festival and Awards Night. There were 13 brothers who achieved noteworthy service achievements, including the father and son combination, the Monteleone's. The awards were presented by WM Lorenzo Gaudio.

The Brothers honored during the evening were:

- 5-year Bro. William A. Hubert
- 10-year Bro. John A. Monteleone, Bro. Matthew B. Monteleone, Bro. Edgar J. Hankel
- 15-year Bro. Richard Scott Silverman, Bro. Daniel P. Wright
- 20-year Bro. Patrick John Roy, Bro. Lee Francis Warner
- 25-year Bro. Colin K. Harley
- 35-year Bro. Donald William Richards
- 40-year Bro. L. Russell Watjen, Bro. Robert W. Harrison, Sr.
- 50-year Bro. J. Dexter Forbes

In addition to presenting Masonic awards, scholarships were presented to two students who will be attending college in the fall.

Juliette Nichols is a senior at Nonnewaug High School. She will be attending Ave Maria University in Florida where she will participate in basketball and track while earning a degree in Health Sciences. She aims to be a registered dietitian for a professional sports team. She has participated in the National Honor Society, Class 2024 Council, was President of the Athletes Council and the high school's CIAC Athletic Advisory Board Representative for the State of Connecticut.

Johnathan Rodgers of Southbury will be attending Western New England University next fall, studying Criminal Justice, Homeland Security and Terrorism. Through his countless hours of community service, he will continue his path of helping others. He was the Pomperaug High School student representative for S.M.A.R.T, a local



: Joe Mangini



drug prevention council and participated in QPR training (Question Persuade and Refer) Suicide Prevention Training. He could not be present at the evening's ceremony; however, he sent a splendid thank you letter which the Worshipful Master read to the gathering.

Capping off the evening was a special event. Joe Mangini, a brother from St. Peter's Lodge No. 21 treated the attendees to a fine bit of fiddling. Brother Joe is an accomplished guitarist and fiddler, having participated in numerous shows, including Roxbury's July Pickin'n Fiddlin Contest. He played several "ole timey" tunes, ending with a fabulous rendition of Jay Ungar & Molly Mason's "Ashokan Farewell", which was the theme song from Ken Burns' eleven part "Civil War" series.

The evening was a typical representation of King Solomon's Lodge No. 7's commitment to community outreach and Masonic camaraderie.



(l-r) Bro. John Monteleone; WM Lorenzo Gaudio; and Bro. Matthew Monteleone.



(l-r) WM Lorenzo Gaudio and Bro. Patrick Roy.



Bro. Robert W. Harrison, Sr.



(l-r) WM Lorenzo Gaudio and Juliette Nichols.

## King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, 2023 and 2024 Mason of the Year Award by Steve Lewis

WB Lorenzo Gaudio, Worshipful Master of King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, was unable to attend the annual awards ceremony last year so he named his Mason of the Years choices for both 2023 and 2024 at this year's ceremony.

Brother Wayne Anderson spent countless hours nurturing the splendor that is "The Rock." There is not a nail, board, coat of paint, or blade of grass that has not been under Brother Wayne's scrutiny. His most recent labor of love was the resurrection of Drummer's Rock, an historically significant Town of Woodbury landmark which is the promontory upon which the lodge resides.

During 2023, under the cloak of darkness, supplies found their way to the base of Drummer's Rock. One after another, stairs began to appear where once, there were none. Over the span of a year, a stairway replaced weeds, brush, and poison ivy. But with great vision comes clarity, and with great determination comes diligence. While some men leave not mark, others leave a mark that will be enjoyed for decades to come. Additionally Bro. Anderson served many terms as the Lodge Treasurer, President of the Temple Corporation, conducted numerous scholarship fundraisers, assisted with blood drives, was present for every locally sponsored Masonic event, and was instrumental to the successful completion of the Lodge restoration in 2015.



Bro. Wayne Anderson



RWB John Stack

RWB John Stack received this year's Mason of the Year award. He is a Brother's Brother, as stated by the direct words of the Worshipful Master "who...is...always...there". Bro. John has always answered anyone's call for assistance. The word "no" is not in his vocabulary. He has quickly and graciously become the "utility officer," and very few if any meetings have gone by without him filling a chair.

RWB John shows extraordinary commitment to excellence in every project he undertakes. Whether through representing the lodge at the Pinewood Derby, filling a chair, delivering a lecture or his never-ending attention to the Lodge building, he consistently goes above and beyond to deliver results of the highest quality. John is the human personification of Masonry.

Bro. Stack has been Worshipful Master several times as well as serving Grand Lodge as District Deputy.

# BOOSTERS

Thank you for your generous contribution! Update: August 16, 2024.

An asterisk next to your name indicates that your support in the Booster list expires in one month. Please consider renewing your support of the Connecticut Freemasons newspaper at your current rate or at the next level up. *After reviewing all of the receipts for Boosters, the lists are the Boosters who are current (i.e., within the 11 issue window). If your name does not appear and you feel that you should be on the list, please contact us.* Note: Booster support is not deductible as a charitable contribution under IRC Section 170(c).

## Grand Master's Circle \$100 or more.

Roger & Linda Bissell	Lester A. Culver, Jr.	Jim Gillan*	Kurt Maehlenbrock	William J. Strand
Lawrence L. Brandolini	Robert Dodge*	Thomas J. Gondek	Rinaldo & Mary Magliano	Arthur R. Tinsz*
Newton & Bobbi Buckner	Bill Ferguson	Bill & Sandie Greene	James Maxwell	Dean True
Gary A. Byram	John W. Ford	Arnold Grot*	Paul S. Patterson	Edwin B. Tuthill, Jr.
Sam S. F. Caligiuri	Michael & Melinda Fitting	Mark Hawkins	Robert F. Polito, Jr.	Charles W. Yohe, Jr.
Alexander Campana	William H. Flagg	Joseph O. Hoefflinger	Michael Shear*	Andy Zeidler
Lowell H. Cantor	Steve & Keith Franson	Pete Kenyon	DeForest W. Smith	
Roberto Cerrud-Rodriguez	Samuel & Alty Frink	Karl King	Gail N. Smith	
Miles E. Cochran Jr.	Robert J. Furce	Kenneth H. Kirschner	John & Jane Sterry*	
Carlton R. & Susan A. Csiki	Col. John G. Gergulis	Steven W. Lewis	George A. Stickels	

## Grand Boosters (\$50 - \$99.99)

Ken Buckbee	Jonathan Glassman*	David McClain*	Darrel Scribner	Gerry Usher
Donald M. Casey, Jr.	Gordon R. Hallberg	Jesse J. Meeker*	Steven Shapiro*	Jeffrey Wayand
Philip D. Cogle	Gordon C. Hurlbert	Bruce Morrone	Robert J. Shopey, Sr.	Don Wills*
David Cole*	Dana W. Ivey	Robert Nunez	Robert J. Shopey, II	Maroun G. Zoghbi*
Shane Dufresne*	Cliff Kearney	Robert C. Peck	William T. Shopey	In Memory of David A. Bristol
Christopher J. Earle	Roger Knickerbocker	Martin Rudnick	Kenneth Tarwood	In Memory of SW Everett Demers Ionic Lodge No. 110
Ward M. Edgerton	Michael Leser*	George P. Rutherford, Jr.	Ronald Thomas	

## Lodges & Organizations

MASTER MASON LEVEL \$250 +

Annawon Lodge No. 115  
Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88  
Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107  
King Hiram Lodge No. 12

Fellowcraft Level \$150 - \$249

Entered Apprentice Level \$75 - \$149

Columbia Lodge No. 25  
Connecticut Masonic Scouters  
Association  
Corinthian Lodge No. 63

CT Widows Sons Masonic Riders Assn.  
Evening Star Lodge No. 101  
Quinta Essentia Lodge No. 500\*

## Booster (\$25 - \$49.99)

Ken Buckbee	Gordon C. Hurlbert	Robert C. Peck	Ronald Thomas
Donald M. Casey, Jr.	Dana W. Ivey	Martin Rudnick	Gerry Usher
Philip D. Cogle	Cliff Kearney	George P. Rutherford, Jr.	Jeffrey Wayand
David Cole*	Roger Knickerbocker	Darrel Scribner	Don Wills*
Shane Dufresne*	Michael Leser*	Steven Shapiro*	Maroun G. Zoghbi*
Christopher J. Earle	David McClain*	Robert J. Shopey, Sr.	In Memory of John Birdsall
Ward M. Edgerton	Jesse J. Meeker*	Robert J. Shopey, II	Sachem Chapter No. 57 OES
Jonathan Glassman*	Bruce Morrone	William T. Shopey	
Gordon R. Hallberg	Robert Nunez	Kenneth Tarwood	

Now you can support **Connecticut Freemasons** newspaper online! There is a PayPal dropdown *Connecticut Freemasons* Booster form on the Grand Lodge home page ([ctfreemasons.net](http://ctfreemasons.net)) just below the PDF version of the paper. \*\*Use the dropdown to select your level, click the "Pay Now" button and then follow the directions. You can pay with credit or debit cards or a PayPal account.

Or, scan the QR Code on the right with your smartphone to go directly to the Connecticut Freemasons page on the website. Scroll down and follow the instructions indicated \*\* above. The funds are used to help cover the printing and mailing expenses of the paper.





# Craft At Labor

To have your lodge events appear in the newspaper, please update your lodge event in Grand View prior to the 10th of the previous month. If your lodge needs assistance accessing Grand View events, please have the Master or Secretary or Calendar Admin contact the Grand Lodge office.

All times are supplied by the lodges. If there is a dinner, the time in the heading reflects that. The "Connecticut Freemasons" newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the lodge secretary to verify all times and events and to inquire about dinner reservations

## Grand Lodge Annual Session

**Saturday, October 19, 8 a.m.,**  
Masonicare, Wallingford

## Entered Apprentice Degrees

**Thurs., Sept. 19, 6:30 p.m.,** Harmony Lodge  
No. 42, Waterbury, Dinner

## Fellowcraft Degrees

**Tue., Sept. 17, 7:30 p.m.,** Union Lodge No.  
40, Danbury

**Wed., Sept. 18,** Union Lodge No. 5, Darien

**Sat., Sept. 21, 9:30 a.m.** Brainard Lodge No.  
102, Niantic., *Blue Wave Fellowcraft Degree.*

**Wed., Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m.,** King Solomon's  
Lodge No. 7, Woodbury, *performed by the  
Scottish Rite Degree team*

**Wed., Oct. 9, 7:30 p.m.,** Seneca Lodge No. 55,  
Torrington

## Master Mason Degrees

**Sun., Oct. 6,** Seneca Lodge No. 55, Torrington,  
*Camp Degree @ Camp Workcoeman, 169 Camp  
Workcoeman Rd, New Hartford, CT*

# 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 lodge secretary to verify all times and events.

Recurring events and breakfasts may not occur during the summer months – call to check.

## Recurring Events

### **Second Monday of the Month,**

Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4,  
West Hartford, Discussions of Masonic Interest.  
*Open to all brothers (EA, FC incl), short lecture and  
discussions on Masonic subjects.*

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

### **First Sunday of the Month,**

Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4,  
West Hartford, 3 p.m., Noshes & Knowledge,  
*Conversations on subject of Masonic interest, light  
refreshments. ALL are welcome*

**Second, Fourth Wednesday of the Month,** Union

Lodge No. 5, Stamford, 7 p.m., Fellowship  
Night at the Lodge. Open to all brothers, friends.  
Refreshments and discussion. Please call to verify.

## Recurring Breakfasts

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

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

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

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

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

## Events

**Sat., Sept. 14, 2 p.m.,** Putnam Lodge No. 46,  
Putnam, Cigars with Deano,  
*Annual Fundraiser for the educational award and  
to support Silas D. Bunnell 5K Run*

**Sat., Sept. 21, 12:20 p.m.,** Valley Lodge No.  
36, Simsbury, *Golf Tournament., Simsbury Farms  
Golf Course, 100 Old Farms Rd, Simsbury, CT*

**Sat., Oct. 12, 10 a.m.,** Montgomery Lodge No.  
13, Lakeville, *Annual Lobster Sale*

THE SIMSBURY FREEMASONS PROUDLY PRESENT



# 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL Charity Golf Event

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2024**

Simsbury Farms Golf Course, West Simsbury, CT

11:30 AM Registration

12:30 PM Shot-Gun Start (Scramble)

5:00 PM Dinner and Awards

**Foursome:  
\$500**

4 Rounds of  
Golf with Cart  
& Dinner

**Dinner  
Only:  
\$30**

**Single:  
\$150**

1 Round of  
Golf with Cart  
& Dinner

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:



**Dinner Sponsor: \$1,500**

Foursome package, acknowledgement of business at dinner, banner displayed with business name/logo at dinner, on carts, website and social media



**Beverage Sponsor: \$500**

Announcement at tee off, sign with business name/logo displayed on beverage carts, website and social media



**Family or Business Hole/Tee Sponsor: \$100**

Sign with family or business name/logo displayed at tee box and on website and social media

**Reserve your spot today!**

**Visit: [birdease.com/SimsburyCharityGolf](http://birdease.com/SimsburyCharityGolf) or scan QR Code.**

*We look forward to having you join us and thank you for your support in giving back to our local community.*







# Finally, you really can have it all!

Flexible buy-in plans designed to fit your lifestyle.

Call us today to learn more.

**888.332.0033**

**Masonicare**   
at Ashlar Village

masonicare.org | 