

OCTOBER 2024



Connecticut FREEMASONS



2024 2025 Officers of the Grand Lodge Af & AM of Connecticut



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Deputy Grand Secretary

Bro. Christopher T. Carrott
Assistant to the Grand Master



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

Not just a man. A Mason.



Connecticut
FREEMASONS

Volume 20 Number 1

Publisher

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

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Halloween, Indian Summer, Fall Chill...

by Francis G. Way

*"It's Halloween, it's Halloween
It's time for scares, it's time for screams
It's Halloween, it's Halloween"*

—The Shaggs

October has rolled around again, and the tenth month marks an important time in both the Masonic year and the profane year. While everyone but retailers (who are already putting out Christmas merchandise and decorations) thinks of Halloween when the calendar flips to October, there are some important times earlier in the month.

October 19 is the SemiAnnual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut. All Masters and Wardens, or their proxies, are required to attend. Permanent members of Grand Lodge and standing committee members also have a vote, as do all current Associate Grand Marshals (and a few others, no doubt, that I have not mentioned). As indicated elsewhere in this edition of *Connecticut Freemasons* there are important votes relating to Masonicare's merger with United Methodist Homes, and of course, the election of Grand Lodge officers for next year. Aside from that, there's always the social aspect of seeing brothers whom you may not have seen since the Annual Communication last April.

In our lodges, the "second half" of most lodges' year is well underway, and indeed, most Worshipful Masters are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. There is a good mix of degrees being portrayed (see *Craft At Labor*), and with the recent state-level degrees there are no doubt many new brothers in need of mentoring. Traveling with these new brothers to take in a degree at another lodge is a great way to introduce them to the variety of traditions, and also the fellowship, that exist in our fraternity.

Most years, October will see a few days of warmup, what we always called Indian Summer, before the mercury in the thermometer says, "That's enough, thank you very much" and nose dives toward December. And of course, throughout the state, fall foliage should peak sometime during the month. Take some time to be outdoors and see the beauty of fall in New England. By the time early January rolls around, you'll be glad you did.

Finally, on the last day of month is All Hallows Eve, a date anticipated by most kids who wait all year for trick or treat. While we know that Linus will be awaiting the arrival of the Great Pumpkin in the pumpkin patch, it is wonderful to see that some of our lodges are being community minded and making an evening of it by hosting "trunk or treats" or opening the lodge to trick or treaters.

Finally, like the aforementioned retailers, due to publication deadlines and the need to always be a month ahead of real time, Grand Lodge Publications is already beginning to plan the December holiday issue, and before you know it, the articles on lodge officer installations will be rolling in. *Tempus fugit*, as always, but hopefully not before we can all enjoy a little "Trick or Treat!"



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



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REGULAR SEMIANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL
GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. of CONNECTICUT
October 19, 2024

The 2024 Regular SemiAnnual 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% smokefree 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.

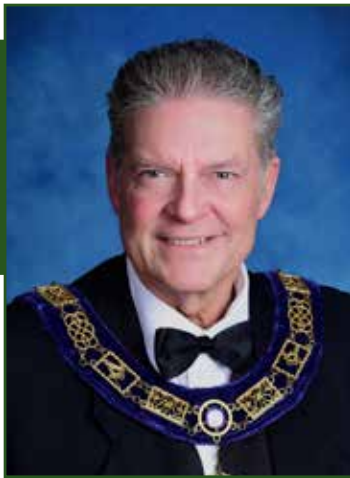
Should you not be able to attend in person as a principal officer of your Lodge or should you wish to proxy your vote representing your Lodge so you can vote on your own behalf, if eligible, please fill out a proxy form that will be mailed to you under separate cover. If your proxy form is not properly 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

As we have returned to labor after a wonderful and full summer, I am reminded of my youth and of returning to school with both excitement and apprehension. Summer was a time to play, enjoy my friends in the neighborhood, enjoy long sunny days, swim in the lake, ride our bikes, and partake in many, many more memorable activities.

As time eased into the future, my summers turned to working on my Uncle Stanley's family farm. It was hard work but oh so enjoyable. My mom, Mary, would work hard in the farmhouse keeping things in order. My Uncle Stanley, Uncle Harry and I would be out in the fields, cutting hay, running tractors to bale the hay, driving horses to pick up the bales, stack them on the wagon, and finally place them on the conveyer to the barn to be stacked inside for feeding the cows and horses all winter long. It was hard work but the relationships and conversations were oh so memorable and enjoyable. Those days have long since passed, as have both my uncles. I love and miss them and the memories they gave me.

With fall on the horizon, returning to school, reuniting with friends, making new ones, studying and learning took center stage. Sports was a welcome diversion to balance the mind/body improvement of youth. Who we are and what we do as children help to define who we will become as adults, and the character of our person. I am so thankful for the blessing I was fortunate to have in my youth of being surrounded by such fine character role models to admire and emulate. Even now to be surrounded by all the Freemasons we all know and love, all men of great character, is truly a blessing.

Looking back on our now finished summer break, it was both enjoyable and somber. There were too many Masonic funerals we all attended to support our brother's families, our craft and to honor the Great Architect of the Universe for sharing our brothers with us for as long as we had. But summer also provided an opportunity to recharge our batteries by enjoying cookouts with friends, family and brothers, by feeling the warmth of the sun as we enjoyed the outdoors, and by cheering on our favorite teams of America's greatest pastime, baseball. Masonically, work continued throughout the summer by many lodges. Degrees continued as many new Master Masons joined us and will undoubtedly pitch in and have an immediate impact as we all work to grow our grand jurisdiction.

As we embark towards our SemiAnnual Communication, we have many topics to take up, one of which is the integration of United Methodist Hospital into Masonicare. There have been and continue to be many town hall style meetings to provide the craft with complete information to make a sound decision. Masonicare is to be commended for this tremendous effort, and outreach initiative. Another significant event will be the election of the 2025/2026 Grand Lodge officers.

At this midpoint in my term as your Grand Master, I have tried to be at as many functions, meet with as many brothers and families as possible, show my brotherly love and affection and support, in everything that is Connecticut Freemasonry, and represent this Grand Jurisdiction to the best of my ability to all our sister jurisdiction. This is both a time of reflection on the past, and optimism for the future, a future I see as a glorious one.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!

Temple Lodge No. 16
Kevin Dwyer
Roy Edward Ketchum
Michael Joseph Wright





OFFICIAL NOTICE

**ONE HUNDRED THIRTYFIFTH
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 SemiAnnual 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 SemiAnnual 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, shortterm 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 communitybased services. It also better positions Masonicare for longterm 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 JonPaul 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 SemiAnnual 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 threeyear 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.

ASHLAR VILLAGE DIRECTIONS

From Hartford, Connecticut

- I91 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 (I91 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 I91

- I91 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



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 75 YEAR BROTHER!

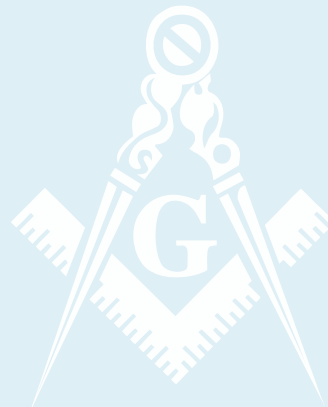
Maxwell Stock
Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50 YEAR BROTHERS!

Richard G. Claing
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145

James Henderson
Montgomery Lodge No. 13

Herbert G. Horne, Jr.
Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34



Lyndall Lee Miller
St. Peters Lodge No. 21

Salvatore J. Santopietro
Wolcott Lodge No. 146

Bruce I. Silverstein
Ansantawae Lodge No. 89



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 Program "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
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

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

When I first heard these words during my youth as a newly minted Mason, the message of this verse was lost on me. Now, almost five decades later, these profound words have a very deep meaning and speak to my heart.

The inexorable passage of time and the wisdom which, we hope, one acquires as we age, put a new perspective on many things: even life itself.

My thoughts today turn to those brothers who touched my Masonic career and my life in ways I could not have foreseen. Men of character and devotion. Men who practiced every day the sublime principles of our order. Brotherly love, relief, and truth were not simply words from ritual, but the foundation upon which they lived their lives. There are many whom I could name but most would be unknown to you. Though they have left this mortal life, they still live on in the hearts of those who knew them.

My dear brothers, there is no greater achievement in life than to be remembered in death as one who was loved and respected. Each of us has the opportunity every day to live our Masonic obligations to their fullest. Let us not hesitate to give to our brothers comfort in their sorrows and aid in their misfortunes. Let us always remember our brothers in our applications to deity. Let us set aside our differences in politics, religion, and all those things that drive men apart, and let us stand united as brothers, respecting each other's differences and opinions and remembering that we are members of the universal Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God.

Our legacy of service is the measure of our character and determines how we will be remembered. May the measure of our lives be one of kindness, sympathy, understanding, and love for our fellow man.

Then and only then, can we survive when the evil days shall come and "when we shall take no pleasure in them." Then shall we live respected and die regretted.

Blessings!



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

**Temple Lodge No. 16
Kenneth Edward Neumann**

**Federal Lodge No. 17
Ronald Thomas Delaney, Jr.**

**Uriel Lodge No. 24
David C. Rappe**

**Columbia Lodge No. 25
Gerald Franklin Thompson**

**Composite Lodge No. 28
William C. Fredericksen**

**Composite Lodge No. 28
Robert F. Slack, Sr.**

**Valley Lodge No. 36
Charles K. Lovejoy**

**Corinthian Lodge No. 63
Alfred J. Chapman**

**Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88
Raymond John Zaugg**

**Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145
Richmond G. Shuttleworth**



Grand Historian's Corner

Bro. David J. Stewart

In The Beginning

His wife directed me to the woodworking shop in his backyard. He was sitting on a tall stool, bent over his woodturning

lathe, creating a Master's gavel from a portion of an old plum tree stump his neighbor had given him. I would discover in the coming months that his work was as precise as his memory and as beautiful as his heart. He was to be my first friend in Masonry, and he graciously shared his knowledge with me, knowing what I had to do to strive for the higher degrees in Masonry. I called him "Coach," and that is the way he wanted it.

To him it was a warm and friendly nickname, but to me it was far more than that. I spoke it with a warm, friendly, enthusiastic, and often a reverent tone of voice. Although he taught others, I still referred to him as "my coach." He was dedicated to coaching, and it was obvious to me that he was fully engaged and dedicated to getting me through my degree work in the most efficient yet friendly manner possible.

I was greatly impressed back then as an Entered Apprentice, but this soon evolved into a very sincere gratitude when, after a wordperfect proficiency I was passed to the Degree of Fellowcraft. I was never one to get involved in memory work, so I had to ask in prayer for help in memorizing my proficiency work. My prayers were answered through the friendly encouragement and hard work of my coach.

I was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in October 1971. I felt then, and even more so now, that it was an honor and a privilege to be a Mason and sit in my lodge with my brothers in Masonry, especially when I sat next to my coach. It was one of the greatest moments of my life. I worked hard for that day, but so did he; he was always there for me.

I will always remember him using the old push broom to sweep aside the sawdust and plum wood chips on the floor so that we could set up two wooden stools to sit on. When he asked me where I was first made a Mason, it gave me a very warm and comfortable feeling to be able to say, "In my heart." One session, after going through my questions and answers, coach surprised me to the point where my chin hung down to my chest. With the biggest grin I ever saw on him, he shared with me that "just yesterday, the Grand Master sat on the same stool" I was now sitting on. It turned out that Coach and the Grand Master talked about Masonry for quite a long period. It was then that I became aware that Coach did work with the Grand Lodge as well as our own lodge. I wondered where he found the time. Then it dawned on me that he was using his working tools, especially the 24inch gauge. He created eight hours for the Supreme Architect and a distressed worthy brother. Personally, I figured he spent a lot more than eight hours per day.

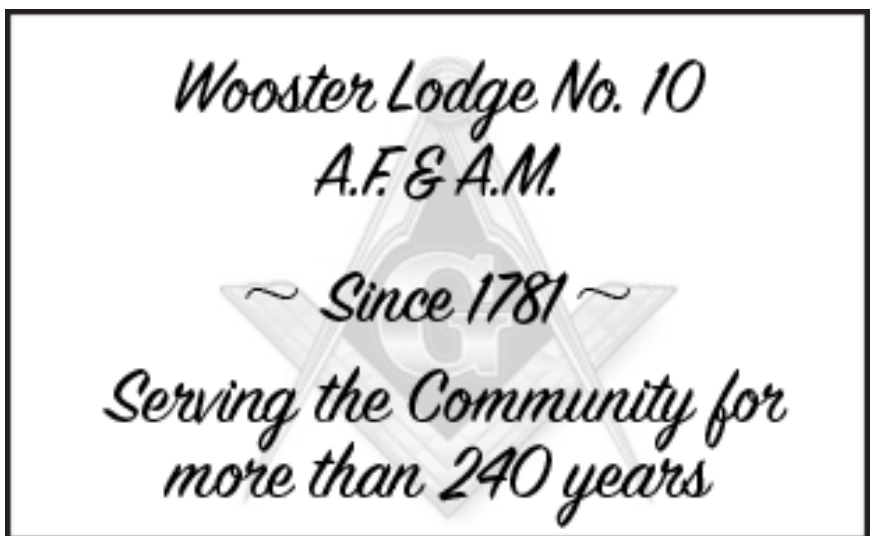
I learned from experience that he did not count the hours, for he happily counted each moment with which he had the opportunity to turn an Entered Apprentice into a Fellowcraft and was delighted in turning that Fellowcraft into a Master Mason. It was like him pondering that old plum wood stump for the right combination of grain, texture, and strength.

My brothers, this is not just a tribute to my coach. It is a tribute to all the coaches in Masonry. Your hard work and sacrifice are a shining example of the use of our working tools, for without their consistent use, no Mason could be called "Coach" in the friendly, enthusiastic, and, yes, reverent tone of voice.

And For This I Thank You

Jumping ahead in time, I recently ran across the celebration report of a lodge's 125th anniversary. It was September 1982, and the Worshipful Master had the following to say in his message; *"Today we are faced with the problem shared by many of our lodges, that of a decrease in attendance. We cannot expect to compete against television and all the other reasons given for staying home unless we can provide good and wholesome Masonic knowledge by providing interesting programs and discussions among our brethren, which will benefit everyone."*

I take leave at this time, but not before I say thank you to WB S. Kenneth Baril who is my friend, my Masonic brother, and yes, my Coach. Your cheerful witticisms, kind words and your prolific writing, and so much more are so much appreciated. So Mote It Be!





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

ONLY 200 TICKETS AVAILABLE - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE

THIS DEGREE IS FOR MASTER MASONS ONLY

Last Call for Oklahoma Degree Tickets

This is the last call to purchase tickets for the Oklahoma Masonic Indian Degree on November 2. Don't miss out on this "Masonic bucket list" event, which will be held at the Masonic Temple in New Haven, 285 Whitney Avenue.

Tickets are \$100, and lunch will be provided.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit <https://ctindiandegree.eventbrite.com> (short URL: <https://bit.ly/4efb7Po>) or click the link on the news post in GrandView. Tickets are limited, so make a reservation as soon as possible!

From the Desk of Bro. JonPaul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

There is a trend in our industry toward building a more accessible, equitable, affordable, connected, and human-centered healthcare system. One of the best ways to make healthcare better and more accessible is through partnerships.

In this era of limited resources and increasing need, partnerships – especially for nonprofits like Masonicare – can offer tremendous value. As I write this column, construction is underway at the Erickson Medical Building in Wallingford in preparation for opening a Yale New Haven Health primary care practice. As with the laboratory and diagnostic services provided by Griffin Health at Masonicare Health Center, this partnership with Yale will allow us to expand the scope of services to our residents, patients, and surrounding communities.

I am pleased to share that Masonicare Health Center is also partnering with two nonprofits dedicated to enabling young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead more independent and fulfilling lives.

As part of a partnership with Project SEARCH and MidState Arc of Meriden, five interns began a nine-month, closely supervised rotation between the Housekeeping, Laundry, and Food Service departments at MHC to gain real-life work experience combined with training in employability and independent living skills. This program is very similar to one that has been in place for some time at Masonicare at Chester Village, which partners with Westbrook-based Vista Life Innovations to help young people with significant disabilities make successful transitions to productive adult life.

Our Students-in-Residence program kicked off its sixth year with the arrival of Quinnipiac University students Grace Maceli and Leigha Scheman. A joint venture with Quinnipiac, the program aims to find common bonds, combat ageism, and introduce the future of senior care to younger generations. Grace, a first-year occupational therapy graduate student, and Leigha, an undergrad majoring in social work, will spend the year living at Masonicare Ashlar Village Assisted Living, interacting with residents and sharing memorable experiences.

I was very surprised and humbled to be among *Hartford Business*

Journal's 2024 CSuite Honorees. It's always gratifying to be recognized by a publication as widely respected as HBJ. But what pleases me most about this particular honor is that it helps elevate the profile of Masonicare and our fantastic team by allowing me to talk about all the great things we're up to. That includes a planned merger with United Methodist Homes that will enhance and expand access to our services.



On that subject, on October 19, delegates to the SemiAnnual Meeting of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut will be asked to vote on four proposed amendments to Masonicare's bylaws necessary for the merger to move forward:

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 like all other Trustees.
4. The Strategic Trustees will not be replaced if their seats are vacated due to death, resignation, or other causes.

In recent weeks, key staff from Masonicare and UMH have continued to share notes on policies and processes to facilitate a smooth integration. Because it's up to the leadership teams of both companies to build a successful culture, we held the first of several planned meet-and-greets for leaders to start building lasting connections and develop a shared language to complement our similar missions.

Until next month, thank you for your ongoing support of Masonicare!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon-Paul Venoit". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Masonicare 
An Ageless Commitment to Caring

Grand Master's 2024 Class for DeMolay and International Order of Rainbow for Girls by Aiden Nielsen

On Saturday, September 7, the Grand Master's Class for Connecticut International Order of Rainbow for Girls, and DeMolay was held in honor of Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons in Connecticut, Bro. Edward C. Page.

A light lunch was served by both members of IORG and DeMolay. After lunch, everyone gathered in the lodge room to witness a combined opening ceremony. MWB Edward C. Page, his officer line, and those taking part in the degrees were introduced. DeMolay presented the flag, and a prayer was offered by Samantha Affricano, IORG Grand Chaplain.

DeMolay retired downstairs, while IORG set up for their initiation ceremony. The Grand Officers were happy to welcome three initiates, which increases the number of new sisters this year to fifteen. Abby Darling, Grand Recorder, filled in as Worthy Advisor and Taylor Batterton delivered the Rose Lecture to the new sisters.

Lillian Daniels, Grand Drill Leader, was selected as the Connecticut Jurisdictional Representative to the Junior Supreme Executive Board. Ashley Memmott, Grand Service, and Taylor Batterton, Grand Charity, announced the new Kindness Coins Initiative which awards active IORG members recognition for the acts of kindness they perform. This is in support of the Change the World with Connecticut IORG service project for Ben's Bells. Also, as part of this initiative, Mom L was awarded the Kindest Adult Award by the Connecticut Grand Officers for her incredible acts of kindness and caring for all of Connecticut.

Mom Needham remarked on the close ties between all members of the Connecticut Masonic Family. MWB Edward Page spoke about the importance of character. Good character comes from the way you approach positive and negative events in your life. IORG took pictures with the Grand Master and cleared the room while DeMolay got ready for their degree.

DeMolay prepared their two prospects, as well as seven Master Masons that would become members of the Auvergne Honorary Chapter. Passing through the degrees DeMolay showcased their talented youth within the state, having many people in parts for the first time. The flower talk was given by Kristian Lozada, State Master Councilor.

After the degrees concluded many gave their congratulations to the degree team on a wonderful performance and to the new members, wishing them a happy journey through the organization.

Before closing, MWB Edward Page gave remarks about the flower talk that was performed and discussed the importance of valuing the time you have with loved ones.

All in all, Grand Master's Class 2024 was a beautiful way to honor the Grand Master and representative of how connected our Masonic family is!



District 9

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



“Going Dark? Rather, Going Dim” by D. Raymond Chouinard

During their dark summer months, Fayette Lodge No. 69 and its officers were characterized as having gone “dim.” The brothers remained occupied by ongoing subcommittee meetings in anticipation of their upcoming 200th anniversary in 2025, and they have been engaged in exceptional work!

Additionally, the lodge hosted a Family & Friends BBQ on July 27. Many brothers, their spouses, family members, and Blue Wave inquirers spent some time with delectable food and even better fellowship! A group of brothers and spouses met in August at nearby Cassidy Hills Vineyard to enjoy an evening of live music and vino.

Sights are now set in the latter half of the year and continue with the spirited labor that consumed Fayette Lodge in 2024.

All brothers are invited to the Stated Communications every second Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. and the Master Mason Degree, to be performed with Uriel Lodge No. 24 on Saturday, November 9, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch served at intermission. Please RSVP to the MM Degree by contacting WM Ray Chouinard at: ChouinardD8@gmail.com



District 8

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



Union Lodge No. 31 Hosts Potluck Dinner by Ray Geer

Union Lodge No. 31 in Niantic hosted a potluck Dinner on August 29 at the Bayview Temple. One of the highlights was WB Lee Kusterer showing off his new Grumpy Old Past Master shirt that he received for his birthday.

The dinner, organized by RWB Bill Perkins, Sr., included a delicious spread of food. Approximately 30 brothers, their ladies, and guests attended. Union Lodge plans to continue having potluck dinners every fourth Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Bring a dish and join in the good fellowship!



District 7

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



St. John's Lodge No. 2 Holds Final Table Lodge in Middletown Lodge Building by Jerry Nero

On June 22, St. John's Lodge No. 2 in Middletown hosted a memorable table lodge, marking a significant and sentimental occasion for all who attended. Filled with fellowship and tradition, the evening was highlighted by an outstanding surf and turf meal expertly prepared by SW Jerry Nero. The delicious feast, featuring prime rib and shrimp, with other delicious sides, set the tone for an evening of camaraderie and reflection.

The table lodge drew visitors from across the state, making it a truly special gathering. Brothers from various lodges shared fellowship, strengthening the bonds that unite us Masons. The laughter and stories shared around the table exemplified the spirit of brotherhood that defines the Craft.

The evening was particularly poignant as it was the last table lodge to be held in the lodge's historic building, which is set to be sold. The building has been a cornerstone of the lodge's history, and it was with mixed emotions that the brethren gathered for this final celebration. However, St. John's Lodge was grateful to have so many brethren in attendance to bid a fond farewell to a place that has held countless memories.

Special thanks go to the District 7 brothers, who are always willing to help and make the event more enjoyable.

As the lodge moves forward, we carry with us the spirit of this table lodge, confident that the bonds forged will endure wherever the lodge may meet in the future. Thank you to all who attended and made this event one to remember.



District 6

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



A Successful Summer at Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 by Pat Jones

Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 did not stay idle during the summer. Community service was recognized by the brothers as a continuing priority of the lodge. Highlights of Award's Night 2024, held in mid-June, included more than 35 brothers receiving Masonic service pins. Six brothers received 50-year pins: WB Stephen Niemitz, Bro. Bruce Davies III, RWB F. Matt Heinrich, Jr., Bro. William Spector, Bro. Stephen Antoniou, and Bro. James Forney. Presentations were made by the MWB Edward C. Page.

Also, in June, the lodge supported the local high school and the local fire department. The brothers unanimously approved a proposal to support South Windsor High School's "Operation Graduation," which was held between 9:30 p.m. and 3 a.m. on graduation night. The South Windsor Fire Department received some much-needed equipment.

WM Alex Prague made it a priority for the brothers to improve their command of Masonic rituals and performance with degree ceremonies. To that end, numerous rehearsals were held over the summer. The brothers improved their ritual and bonded into a cohesive unit while having some fun in the process. It was obvious that their efforts were worthwhile, as a Fellowcraft Degree was held in August when three new brothers, Jonathan Schinkoeth, Mario Graham, and Jonathan Hayes, passed.

Brothers have since been preparing for a Master Mason Degree to be held this fall. The brothers who passed over the summer are slated to be raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason.

A new venture for Hartford Evergreen Lodge was inaugurated this year, with the lodge taking a significant role with the Wapping Fair in South Windsor, which has been held each September for more than 130 years. In its 132nd year, the fair has long been popular with residents and many individuals from around the region and beyond. Leadership roles by WB Dave Prior and WB Brian Warren, along with some help from various brothers, enabled the longstanding fair to continue. It was a great example of Masons working with community leaders to save and improve a popular community event.



Washington Lodge No. 70 Hosts Annual Family Picnic

The officers of Washington Lodge No. 70 hosted a family picnic in Northwest Park in Windsor. The fellowship and friendship were shared by all. Besides the picnic fare, cornhole and badminton brought out the competitive spirit.

Senior Steward Sam Caligiuri newly raised Bro. Matt Mocko tended the Grill.

The lodge was honored to have RWB Matt Heinrich, Grand Junior Warden, and his wife attend the picnic, as well as MWB Chuck Fowler.





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 News

Thanks to their Junior Warden, Quinta Essentia Lodge No. 500 brothers, and their families enjoyed a summer barbeque of homesmoked brisket and pulled pork. It was a beautiful day to be outside, full of fun and fellowship!

The brothers also enjoyed a night out with great music as their newest Entered Apprentice, Brother Dan Burns, debuted with his new band, Governor Gravy. Good tunes and an allaround great time!





Widows Son Lodge No. 66 Passes a Fellowcraft by David Cole

Widows Son Lodge No. 66 in Branford portrayed a Fellowcraft Degree on September 4. Congratulations to Bro. Leo Calonico on being passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. The evening was a stepup night, where all officers advanced except the Secretary and Chaplain. Senior Warden Randy Frazier sat in the East. The Middle Chamber lecture was performed for only the second time by WB Charlie Miller, and the Stewards Lecture by two Fellowcraft Bros. George Zinycz and Isaiah Simmons. It was an evening of new offices and ritual, fitting for the first meeting back to labor as a night of fresh beginnings.



District 3

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



King Solomon's Lodge No.7 Holds 11th Annual Food Drive

by Steve Lewis

On Saturday, August 31, King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 of Woodbury conducted a food drive in front of LaBonne's Market on behalf of Woodbury Community Services. This is the 11th year King Solomon's Lodge has held the food collection at LaBonne's Market. The brothers are continually humbled by the kindness and graciousness of LaBonne's employees, customers and the generosity of the residents of Woodbury.

Customers approaching the entrance were handed a list of critical needs and invited to support those in need. Woodbury's generous neighbors not only provided an enormous quantity of food and household items to help restock the Food Bank's shelves after the summer months but also dug deeply into their pockets and donated a considerable amount of cash, which Jeff McKenna, the President of Woodbury Community Services will use to purchase additional necessities and to fund the Fuel Bank.

The Woodbury Food Bank provides weekly access to 166 families and seniors in need, totaling over 300 people in the community who require our assistance. This program supports proper nutrition and enables client families to conserve scarce financial resources for other household requirements.



Deirdre Bologna, Jeff McKenna, , directors of Woodbury Community Services and Food Bank; Bros. Ken Bolin, Albin Weber, Jeff Leavenworth, and Rich Miska.



Bros. Ken Bolin, Albin Weber, Jeff Leavenworth, Rich Miska, Colin Harley, and David Forber.



Bros. John Monteleone, Albin Weber, Jeff Leavenworth, and Rich Miska.

Information on the Community Services Council's programs may be obtained from Jeff McKenna or Deirdre Bologna, the food Bank Manager, by calling (203) 2633869 or emailing community.services.council@gmail.com.

King Solomon's Lodge thanks LaBonne's Market, all those who participated, and the volunteers of the Woodbury Food Bank for freely giving with their hearts to those in need.

Brothers who attended are: Ken Bolin, Mark Cohen, David Forber, Mitchell Goldburgh, Colin Harley, Dennis Huebner, Jeff Leavenworth, Steve Lewis, Rich Miska, John Monteleone, John Novak, and Albin Weber.



Bros. Albin Wever, David Forber, Mitchell Goldburgh, and Sam.



Bro. Mitchell Goldburgh, Theo, Bro. Dennis Huebner, and Bro. Mark Cohen.



Bros. Rich Miska and John Novak. The two brothers who have attended all 11 food drives..



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Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association Recognizes Eagle Scout

Congratulations to new Eagle Scout Stephen Pedenski of Troop 907 in Woodbridge, pictured at his Court of Honor receiving the Connecticut Masonic Eagle Scout Commendation from the Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association and Grand Lodge of Connecticut.



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Email: office@valleyofhartford.com www.valleyofhartford.org



Connecticut Office Staff Attends 2024 Grand View Conference in Louisiana *by Mark Orsini*

In August, Grand View Membership Management Systems held its 2024 User's Conference in Bossier City, Louisiana. Office staff from Connecticut had the opportunity to connect with the Grand View staff and its Board of Managers, network with other Grand Lodge administrators from around the country, and learn about new features of the trends designed to best serve the Craft. Grand View CEO Jeff Clarke led the twoday conference, which included thoughtprovoking presentations, informative breakout sessions, and exceptional hospitality.



(lr) Jeffrey Wayand and Arthur Carbonaro of OES, Grand View CEO Jeff Clarke, Lynnmarie Evans and Mark Orsini of Connecticut Grand Lodge.

Northeast Department Shines at Triennial Conclave

by Vincent A. Cowie

At the Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment Knights Templar USA, held from August 17-21 in Salt Lake City, dignitaries from the Northeast Department gathered. Present were three Past NE Department Commanders, the incoming NE Department Commander, and a Past Most Eminent Grand Master.

They were: S.K. Stuart K. Drost, PGC Connecticut, PDC (2018-2021); S.K. John D. Barnes, PGC New Jersey, PDC (2021-2024); S.K. David D. Goodwin, PGC New York, Past Most Eminent Grand Master, PDC (2000-2003); S.K. Vincent A. Cowie, PGC Connecticut, PDC (2009-2012), Grand Recorder Conn.; S.K. Kenneth A. Caldwell, PGC Maine, NE Department Commander serving 2024-2027.



(lr) S.K. Stuart K. Drost, S.K. John D. Barnes, S.K. David D. Goodwin, S.K. Vincent A. Cowie, and S.K. Kenneth A. Caldwell.

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THE RITE OF CIRCUMAMBULATION

by John A. Amarilios, membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

October will be a very busy month at the Valley of Bridgeport as the degree season picks up momentum with live presentations of the 7th and 23rd Degrees on Monday, October 7, with a video presentation of the 13th Degree. On Monday, October 28, the Valley will present a live performance of the 17th Degree followed by a video portrayal of the 22nd Degree. These degrees will be held at the New Haven Temple. Reservations for both evenings are highly recommended. Dinners start at 6 p.m., and the degree work starts at 7:30 p.m. Blue Lodge Masons who desire to embark on the Scottish Rite path must view the 4th Degree before that evening's degree work. Arrangements must be made by contacting the Consistory office at (203) 3750064 well in advance and then completing an online registration process. The office will instruct you on how to do that.

Family life activities are also on tap for the month:

On Saturday, October 5, the Valley will take a train ride on the Essex Clipper Dinner Train in Essex. A bus will depart the parking lot behind the Stratford Theater at 3:30 p.m. Reservation availability is limited.

On Sunday, October 6, the Annual Waterbury Walk will commence starting at 12 p.m. This a comfortable family walk through the residential section surrounding the Dyslexia Center on Highland Ave. in Waterbury. The event starts and ends at the Waterbury Masonic Lodge.

On Sunday, October 20, at 8 a.m., the Valley will take a bus trip to Rhode Island to tour The Breakers and Elms Mansions in Newport. There will be opportunities for lunch and shopping on your own, followed by dinner at the Windham Hotel.

Please call the Consistory Office as soon as possible to make and pay for reservations, to avoid disappointment (203) 3750064.



Mackey, in his *Manual of the Lodge*, instructs us that, amongst the Pagan Nations of the distant past, Circumambulation alluded to Sabaism or the tradition of sun worship. Freemasonry

retains the allusion to this primitive meaning, which it views as an allusion to the sun as the source of light and the incredible and incomprehensible work of the GAOTU. The lodge represents the physical world, while the three principal officers represent the sun in its three principal daily positions, namely rising, at midheaven, and at setting. The circumambulation thus depicts the travels of the sun through these points around our planet.

Pierson, in his *Tradition of Freemasonry*, posits that the Rite of Circumambulation is borrowed from the ancient ceremonies practiced in Ancient Greece. There, when the priests were engaged in certain rites, they and the people always walked three times around the altar singing a sacred hymn, taking great care to move in imitation of the sun, so they always commenced at the east, passing on by way of the south to the west and then to the north (the realm of death) and finally arrived at the east (resurrection). This means that the right hand was always nearest to the altar.

He goes further with the Romans, who used a similar ritual for the rite of expiation and purification. Virgil describes Corynces as purifying his companions at the funeral of Misenus by passing three times around them while aspersing them with lustral waters, and to do so conveniently, it was necessary that he should have moved with his right hand toward them.

Amongst the Hindus the same rite was practiced. Upon awakening in the morning a Brahmin was required to immediately adore the sun, while directing his face to the east. He then would move toward the west by way of the south, reciting simultaneously, "I follow the course of the Sun." This was explained to the profane as follows: "As the sun in his course

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Reservations required.
Call the Consistory Office at 2033750064.
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Mon, Oct. 28 At New Haven Temple.
17th Degree (live) & 22nd Degree (video)
For the latest copy of the
Lafayette ConsistoryNews visit
<https://ctfreemasons.net/appendantbodies/lafayetteconsistory/>

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

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

moves round the world by way of the south, so do I follow the luminary, to obtain the benefit arising from a journey round the earth by way of the South," (thus symbolizing man's journey and experiences on Earth).

The next time you attend lodge and witness a candidate proceeding through one of his circumambulations, you should reflect on the course of your life and at which stage you currently feel you are. As the sun speeds through its daily course, so do our mortal lives hasten their way through our current existence. We must never forget that that dun always reappears in the east to start a new day, and that the Great Law "As you Sow, So Shall you Reap"

is ever merged in these inalterable machinations.

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) 3750064.

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

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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.,
Hartog Auditorium, Masonicare, Wallingford

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Sun., Oct 6, 5:30 p.m., CSMA Camp Degree, Camp Workcoeman, 169 Camp Workcoeman Rd, New Hartford, Dinner. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE** Reservations must be received at <https://shorturl.at/Kagx4> by October 1. Walkins not permitted.

Wed., Oct 16, 7:30 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodberry

Mon., Oct 21, 6:30 p.m., Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury, Dinner

Wed., Nov 13, 7:30 p.m., Seneca Lodge No. 55, Torrington

Fellowcraft Degrees

Wed., Oct 2, 7:30 p.m., King Solomon's Lodge No. 7, Woodbury, *Colonial Fellowcraft Degree portrayed by Scottish Rite*

Mon., Oct 14, Daytime Lodge No. 144,

Stratford

Thurs., Oct 17, 6:30 p.m., Harmony Lodge No. 42, Waterbury, Dinner

Mon., Oct 21, 7:30 p.m., Meridian Lodge No. 77, Meriden

Master Mason Degrees

Mon. Oct 14, Washington Lodge No. 19, Monroe

Sat. Nov 9, 10 a.m., Fayette Lodge No. 69, Ellington, Lunch served at the break

Thur, Nov 14, 7:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven

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,
WyllysSt. 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,
WyllysSt. 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, SequinLevel Lodge
No. 140, Newington, 7 a.m., *SBA Breakfast
Fundraiser*

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

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

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

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

Events

Sat. Oct 12, 10 a.m., Montomgery Lodge No. 13, Lakeville, Lobster Sale

Sat. Oct 12 6:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1,
Halloween Dinner Theater Cabaret Gala in
support of Life Haven Shelter

Sat. Oct 12, 12:00 p.m., Harmony Lodge No. 42, Waterbury, **Octoberfest Fund Raiser,**
*Cafe Uno 2627 Waterbury Rd Thomaston, CT
\$10/person to attend. Various food trucks and
cash bar will be onsite! Help us raise funds for the
Grand Master Gala!*

Sat. Oct 26, Valley Lodge No. 36,
Simsbury, *Trunk Or Treat*

Thurs. Oct 31, 5:30 p.m., Harmony Lodge
No. 42, Waterbury, Halloween Candy & Cider
Distribution, *Join us to hand out candy and cider
to trick or treaters*

Sat. Nov 9, Washington Lodge No. 19,
Annual Venison Table Lodge

Lafayette Visits Norwich

by Greg Webster

In 1824, President Monroe, the last of the Founding Father presidents, invited Marquis de Lafayette, the last surviving general of the Revolutionary War, to visit the United States as an official “Guest of the Nation.” The president looked to Lafayette, the hero of both France and America, to return and remind Americans of the sacrifices and heroism of the time.

Brother Lafayette’s return to America in 1824 lasted 13 months. During that time, he visited all 24 states, traveled an estimated 5,000 miles, and was hosted by many of the nation’s largest cities and some small towns, too!

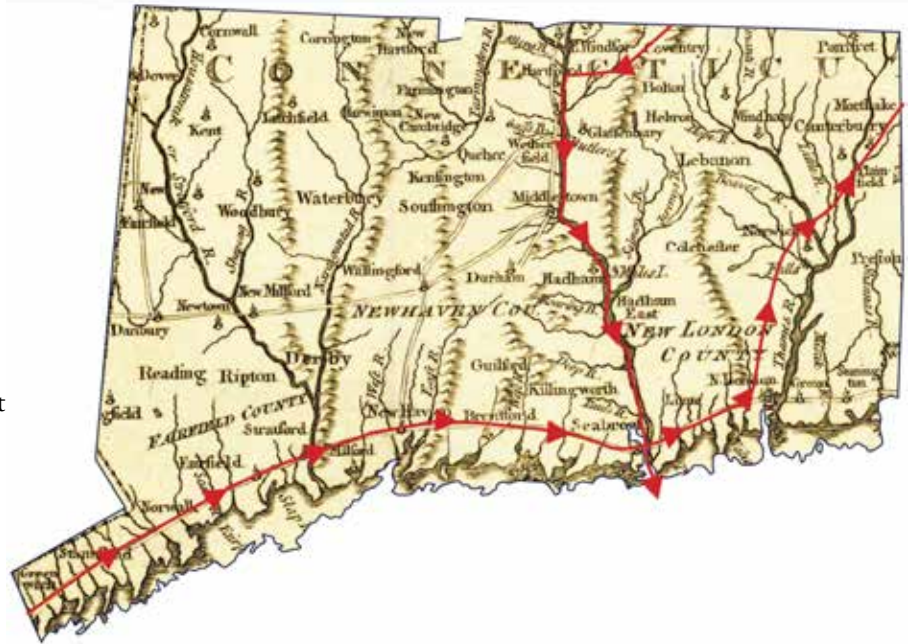
On Sunday, August 22, 1824, the Marquis de Lafayette’s next stop on his journey was Norwich. The previous day, the mayor, alderman, and the common council voted to send a delegation to New London to invite Lafayette to Norwich on his way to Providence and Boston. Lafayette happily accepted the invitation and departed New London at 3 p.m. for Norwich. A delegation met him in Montville and escorted him to Norwich, where he was greeted by a National Salute and exuberant crowds eager to see their “Nation’s Guest.”

Lafayette was escorted to the Kinney (or Kenney) Hotel, where the mayor gave a speech welcoming their “country’s liberator” in a brief ceremony. Lafayette also addressed the crowds gathered there to welcome him. Following the ceremony, Lafayette met with individuals from the crowd and was invited to dinner with the city’s leadership. The delighted crowds lingered during dinner and could be heard cheering from the street. At different times throughout the meal, the Lafayette would go to the window and acknowledge the enthusiastic crowds who roared with pleasure each time.

Lafayette then continued on to Jewett City, and by the time he arrived there at 9 p.m., it was quite dark. But, as the New London Gazette reported, the travelers found the village brightly illuminated. As with every other stop on the route, the streets were crowded with those wishing to greet the general. Lafayette stopped at John Johnson’s Tavern and was received by Captain Fanning. Revolutionary veterans Enoch Baker and Simeon Simons were also on hand to share their memories of the war with the great man.

At 10:30 p.m. on Sunday night, Lafayette and his traveling companions reached the doors of Eaton’s Tavern in Plainfield. After a night of rest, Lafayette and his cavalcade departed for Providence in the early morning hours. After visiting Providence and Boston, Brother Lafayette journeyed back down through central Connecticut.

Thank you to Robert Kelly, Historian of the Casemate Museum, and the lafayettectrail.org for the information for this article.



The Eaton Tavern, where Brother Lafayette stayed overnight on August 22, 1824, in Plainfield. The building once stood at the intersection of Norwich Road (Rt 12) and Gallup Street.

**Scottish Rite
Valley of New
Haven Presents**

2025

NEW YEAR'S EVE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

STARTS 6 PM . TICKETS \$40 P.P. SEMI FORMAL DRESS

CLICK QR CODE FOR EVENT
REGISTRATION



DJ DAVE WITH THE MUSIC

HORS D'OEUVRES - FULL BUFFET DINNER
DESERT - DANCING - CASH BAR

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

136 Marsh Hill Rd, Orange, CT 06477

Overnight stay at \$137.00 per night plus fees

Or email for information office@valleyofnh.com

CLICK QR CODE FOR HOTEL
REGISTRATION



District 1

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



Washington Lodge No. 19 Present Annual Computer Award

Washington Lodge No. 19 in Monroe was proud to host Isaac Da Silva and his family at the lodge. Isaac is the Masuk High School student who received the lodge's computer award.

Washington Lodge works every year with Masuk High School in Monroe to help a worthy student. Congratulations Isaac!



AshlarAspetuck Lodge No. 142 Thanks First Responders on Patriot's Day

On September 11, the brothers of AshlarAspetuck Lodge No. 142 in Easton hosted a few of Easton's dedicated paramedics for a special dinner. It was a small token of appreciation for their selfless service to the small town of Easton, and the brothers were honored to share the evening with them on Patriots' Day.

This gathering served as a reminder of the importance of community and the vital role first responders play in keeping everyone safe. Their unwavering commitment to their work is truly inspiring, and AshlarAspetuck Lodge was grateful for the opportunity to thank them personally for all they do.



AshlarAspetuck Lodge No. 142 Recognizes Two Brothers with Service Pins

On September 11, WM Christopher Holms of AshlarAspetuck Lodge No. 142 in Easton presided over a special and intimate pin ceremony honoring two brothers for their dedication and service to the fraternity. SW Eric Farrell received his 10year pin, and SD Rick Cipot was awarded his 30year pin. Each brother shared personal insights into their Masonic journey and reflected on the deeper meaning of the fraternity. The evening was made even more memorable by the presence of an Entered Apprentice who had just passed his proficiency, offering him a glimpse of his future in Freemasonry. It was indeed a harmonious and inspiring evening for all.

Congratulations to both Bros. Eric and Rick!



AshlarAspetuck Lodge No. 142 Full Moon Saugatuck River Paddle *by Kraig Gray*

On September 17, the brothers of Ashlar Aspetuck Lodge No. 142 gathered for their Full Moon Fellowship Night on the Saugatuck River, enjoying perfect conditions. Warm air, warm water, and smooth glass river conditions under clear skies made for ideal paddling.

Bros. Rick and Eric, both outdoor enthusiasts, were thrilled to return to the water. It marked Eric's first paddle in three years and Rick's first of the season. The presence of Bro. Anthony's child, Indie, added some youthful energy to the group, making for a simple yet memorable experience. The evening concluded with a few tacos and drinks on an outdoor patio, bringing a perfect close to the night.



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