



LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY

NEWS

FROM THE VALLEYS OF BRIDGEPORT,
NEW HAVEN, AND WATERBURY
OLDEST CONSISTORY IN THE NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION

Issue No. 24

SPRING 2020



GRAND MASTER AND MEMBER OF THE VALLEY OF BRIDGEPORT, STEPHEN PETRI
RELAXED WITH SCOTTISH RITE BROTHERS AT A RECENT CIGAR NIGHT IN STAMFORD



LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY NEWS

FROM THE VALLEYS OF BRIDGEPORT, NEW HAVEN, AND WATERBURY



LafayetteConsistoryNewsistheofficialpublicationoftheValleyofBridgeportandLafayetteConsistory,Ancient AcceptedScottishRiteNorthernMasonicJurisdiction, USA©TheBoardofTrusteesoftheValleyofBridgeport
ALLEGIANCE

The Bodies of the Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Bridgeport, State of Connecticut, acknowledge and yield allegiance to the Supreme Council, 33°, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America whose Grand East is in Lexington, Massachusetts.

ILL.: DAVID A. GLATTLY, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander
ILL.: BRUCE T. WORK, 33°
Deputy for Connecticut

ILL.: KEVIN J. HECHT, 33°
Active for Connecticut
ILL.: A. NORMAN JOHNSON, 33°
Active Emeritus for Connecticut

ILL.: RICHARD V. TRAVIS, 33°
Active Emeritus for Connecticut
ILL.: JAMES R. SPENCER Jr., MSA, 33°
Active Emeritus for Connecticut

ILL.: DAVID L. SHARKIS, 33°
Active Emeritus for Connecticut
ILL.: GAIL N. SMITH, 33°
Active Emeritus for Connecticut

Attest: ILL.: JACK J. S. FARKAS, MSA, 33°
Secretary for the Valley of Bridgeport
THOMAS E. BECK, MSA, 32°
Assoc. Secretary for the Valley of Bridgeport
GARY D. SHEPARD, MSA, 32°
Asst. Secretary for the Valley of Bridgeport

Lafayette Consistory

Ill.: Joseph B. Cyr, MSA, 33° - Commander-in-Chief
Ill.: Paul L. Chello, 33° - 1st Lt. Commander
Robert J. Furce, MSA, 32° - 2nd Lt. Commander
Harold A. Elwell, MSA, 32° - Orator
Daniel Galloza, MSA, 32° - Chancellor
Ill.: Steven P. Schreck, MSA, 33° - Master of Ceremonies
Erik P. Meyer, MSA, 32° - Engineer & Seneschal
Willis E. Copeland Jr., MSA, 32° - Organist



Irving Lieff, MSA, 32°, is awarded a pocket medal by Illustrious Bruce T. Work, 33°, for having completed his Gold Passport on February 3rd, 2020. Irving, not only completed one, but two Gold Passports and was the first in the Valley to garner his pocket jewel.

Dewitt Clinton Lodge of Perfection

David H. Cooper, 32° - Thrice Potent Master
Victor D. Ojeda, 32° - Deputy Master
Raymond J. Savoy, 32° - Junior Warden
Jeff E. Feinson, 32° - Orator

Tyrene M. T. Bird, 32° - Master of Ceremonies
Stephen S. Elliott, 32° - Captain of the Guard
Gary Ecsedi, 32° - Master of Entrances

Washington Council Princes of Jerusalem

Christopher Jennings, 32° - Sovereign Prince
Jack J. Baril Jr., 32° - High Priest
Barry S. Ronner, 32° - Senior Warden
David Rugar, 32° - Junior Warden
Benito Vazquez, MSA, 32° - Orator
Rovshan Mammadov, 32° - Master of Ceremonies
Jerry Gruenbaum, 32° - Captain of the Guard
Jonathan G. DeBaun, 32° - Master of Entrances

Pequonnock Chapter Rose Croix

John A. Amarillos, MSA, 32° - Most Wise Master
Michael J. Kaczynski, 32° - Senior Warden
Silas Mante, 32° - Junior Warden
David H. Cooper 32° - Orator
David J. Millington, 32° - Master of Ceremonies
Raymond J. Savoy, 32° - Captain of the Guard

Valley Officers for all Bodies

Ill.: Edward R. Ham, 33° - Treasurer
Ill.: Jack J.S. Farkas, MSA, 33° - Secretary
Thomas E. Beck, MSA, 32° - Associate Secretary
Gary D. Shepard, MSA, 32° - Assistant Secretary
Ill.: David B. Urban, MSA, 33° - Hospitaler
Harvey J. Hartin, MSA, 32° - Tyler

Ill.: Raymond J. Dolyak, MSA, 33° - Manager, Stage & Properties
John A. Amarillos, MSA, 32° - Membership Chairman
Gary D. Shepard, MSA, 32° - Family Life Chairman
John A. Amarillos, MSA, 32° - Newsletter Editor

Valley of New Haven

Ill.: Randy S. Stevens, 33° - Thrice Potent Master
Scott B. Bumps, 32° - Sovereign Prince
Ill.: Bradley K. Cooney, 33° - Most Wise Master
Ill.: Richard C. Memmott, Sr., 33° - Treasurer
Ill.: Charles D. O'Neill, MSA, 33° - Secretary

Valley of Waterbury

Marty Macary, 32° - Thrice Potent Master
Raymond J. Savoy, 32° - Sovereign Prince
Manuel Tirado, III - Most Wise Master
Ill.: Charles A. McCollum, MSA, 33° - Treasurer
Ill.: Charles D. O'Neill, MSA, 33° - Secretary



NOTABLES OF VALLEY OF BRIDGEPORT LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY

*A series of articles reviewing the accomplishments of the
Valley's members in various facets of life in bygone eras ~ Claudia Farkas*

Artists and Architects: Part 5

In this fifth article in the series of notable Masons who were part of Lafayette Consistory, we meet artists and architects who became famous far beyond their respective Valleys.

Their stories are based on information found in their archived petitions, membership cards and obituaries.

Charles Theodore Beardsley, Jr. (1859-1937) was an architect born in Birmingham (now Derby), Connecticut.



He designed the old Masonic Temple on Broad Street Bridgeport, Plumb Memorial Library in Shelton, the Wakeman Memorial Building in Southport, and Garfield, Bryant and Lafayette schools in Bridgeport. Many of his works are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Active in Masonry, he was Master of Corinthian Lodge No. 104 Bridgeport, was Eminent Commander of

Hamilton Commandery No. 5 in 1897, and was a member of Jerusalem Chapter No. 13, Royal Arch Masons, Jerusalem Council No. 16 Royal and Select Masters, Pyramid Shrine and Lafayette Consistory. He became a 33rd Degree Mason in 1909.

Edwin Leslie Fletcher (1878-1936) established a practice in Bridgeport in 1907 that specialized in engineering. When Charles L. Thompson joined the business two years later, the firm incorporated as Fletcher-Thompson, which continues today as builders of schools, government and corporate buildings, as well as hospitals and medical facilities. Edwin Fletcher was raised in St. John's Lodge No. 3, Bridgeport. He was a member of Hamilton Commandery No. 5 and Lafayette Consistory, where he received the 32nd Degree in 1920.

William Fowler Hopson (1849-1935). Born in Watertown, Connecticut, William F. Hopson was best known for his

bookplate art during the late 19th and early 20th century's Golden Age of bookplate design, and worked as a painter, engraver, etcher and illustrator. Hopson's works are in collections at Yale and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. Fowler was Master of Hiram Lodge No. 1 in New Haven and was a member of the Valley of New Haven, Franklin Chapter No. 2 Royal Arch, and Lafayette Consistory where he received the 32nd Degree in 1898.

Robert Hogg Nisbet (1879-1961) was an internationally known painter who lived in South Kent, Connecticut. His landscape paintings and etchings are housed in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian, Library of Congress, and the National Gallery of Art. He co-founded the Kent Art Association in 1923. He was also an expert rifleman who established a world record at the 1928 Seagirt rifle match by making seventy-two consecutive tens. Raised in St. Luke's Lodge No. 48 in Kent where he became Lodge Master in 1916, he was Connecticut's Grand Master in 1952. His Masonic record included membership in Royal Arch, Hamilton Commandery No.5, Pyramid Temple, the Valley of Bridgeport and Lafayette Consistory. He was awarded the Pierpont Edwards Medal by the Grand Lodge of Connecticut in 1955.



Ernest G. Southey (1874-1945) was an architect from Bridgeport. During his career which spanned almost the entire first half of the twentieth century, he designed Bassick High School, Westport Town Hall, the Bijou Theatre in Bridgeport, City Savings and Mechanics & Farmers banks in Bridgeport, the old St. Vincent's Hospital and many fine Bridgeport homes for his fellow Lafayette Consistory

Artists and Architects continued on page 4



HOSPITALER'S CORNER

Your gifts to the Hospitaller Fund assist David in helping out local Brothers who are members of the Consistory. Unfortunately, there never has been a greater need. If you have experienced good fortune in the past year, why not pass a portion of it forward to help a Brother in need. Many are struggling with age-related debilities, as well as misfortunes of every kind.

Please make your contribution

payable to **Lafayette**

Consistory and mail to

David B. Urban, Hospitaller

P.O. Box 309, Stratford CT

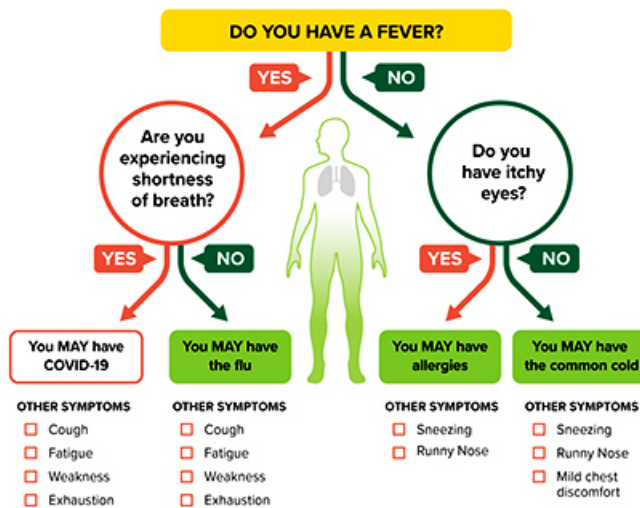
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brothers. At least one of his designs is on the National Register of Historic Places. He was a member of Corinthian Lodge No. 104 in Bridgeport and Hamilton Commandery No. 5. He became a 32nd Degree Mason in Lafayette Consistory in 1910.

Philip Nichols Sunderland (1871-1972) was a third generation Danbury architect who designed several major public buildings in Danbury, Ridgefield and Newtown. Among his designs are Ridgefield Town Hall, Concordia Society in Danbury, Savings Bank of Danbury, St. James Episcopal Church in Danbury, and nearly all the lodge halls of Danbury's fraternal organizations during the first three decades of the twentieth century. Sunderland and his father built Mark Twain's home 'Stormfield' in Redding in 1908. He was raised in Union Lodge No. 40 of Danbury and was a member of Crusader Commandery No.10 in Danbury, the Valley of Bridgeport and Lafayette Consistory, where he became a 32nd Degree Mason in 1906.

DIFFERENCE IN SYMPTOMS. . .

Flu vs. Allergies vs. COVID-19



These are COMMON SYMPTOMS, which may vary from person to person. Only a doctor can give you a diagnosis.

uab.edu/coronavirus



Thomas Jefferson's Rules for Living

Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today.

Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.

Never spend your money before you have it.

Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap.

Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.

We seldom repent having eaten too little.

Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

How much pain the evils have cost us that have never happened!

Take things always by the smooth handle.

When angry, count ten before you speak:

If very angry, a hundred.



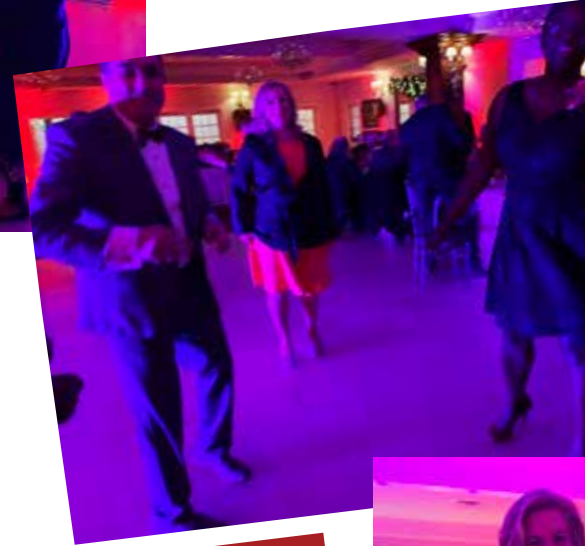
Marty Macary, the Thrice Potent Master of Doric Lodge of Perfection in the Valley of Waterbury, awards Jack Baril Jr., 32°, a certificate of completion for having attended all twenty-nine Scottish Rite Degrees on Wednesday, February 5, 2020.

The cast, crew and candidates of the 31st Degree, Monday, February 24th, at the Leo H. Lohrman, II, Theatre, Stratford.





ALL SMILES
FUN UNDER THE



WOODWINDS SPECIAL
EVENTS VENUE,
BRANFORD, CT



SUPER AUCTION BASKETS



AND
LIGHTS



A SHAVE? WHAT WE WILL
DO FOR CHARITY!



HAVING A
GREAT TIME DANCING!





The Doric Lodge of Perfection, Valley of Waterbury, along with its candidates after a presentation of the new 4th Degree on Wednesday, February 5, 2020.



Valley of Bridgeport and Lafayette Consistory

Scotch and Cigar Night

January 10, 2020





**FUN AT
THE
WINTER
PICNIC**



**VALLEY
OF
NEW
HAVEN**



FEBRUARY 15, 2020



WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A LODGE?

John A. Amarilios, MSA, 32°



The Masonic Lodge, if utilized for its proper purpose, is in essence an incubator for the higher nature of man. One's character is built upon the repetitive nuances which one receives from his environment and the thoughts and words of the people around him. It is these influences which either nudge the soul to develop and strengthen, or keep the soul somnambulant, since what one's attention is oriented to, is what one expends their energies developing. The lodge is designed to provide a proper environment for the great work – namely the awakening of soul awareness and the eventual attainment of soul consciousness. In order to be a proper environment for this work, it must provide an environment free from all the influences which cause stress and strife in our world - which explains our prohibitions against chatter centering around religions and religious sects, creeds, political parties, ideologies and so on. In order for the slow, repetitive and systematic alchemical work to be fruitfully undertaken, these type of matters which generate, in many, base or even volatile reactions, must be kept separate from these type of influences. Thus, we say it must be closed and tiled so that the suitable sphere of work can exist, so that we may “Build our Temple” free from these extraneous and deleterious influences. One must understand that the Lodge is but a workshop where men are slowly shaped, extruded and molded and made fit for the Great Temple which each one is building.

Quite simply, this is the sole purpose of a lodge.

Unfortunately, mad ambition, Machiavellian maneuvering, ego aggrandizement, clever (and not-so-clever) larcenies, a variety of passions and every other foulness which emanates from Satan's charnel house find their way into our midst. These agonies which plague the world at large should never be allowed to enter unto our sacred edifices. While we may be keenly aware that vice, crime, poverty and disease thrive about us – they should never be permitted to enter into the lodge. The lodge is the sole place on this plane of existence whose sole *raison d'être* is to provide men of all creeds, colors, philosophies, and nationalities a place where they can meet on the level as brothers and equals. It is in the lodge where we all meet as children of Deity, members of the same human family, and brothers with a mystic tie, and a common goal – that of completing the great work. This is why we should be very careful with our recommendations for membership. Any motivation other than a fervent personal intent, consistent with attainment of more light, threatens to introduce disruptive and damaging influences which diminish the ability of the institution to act in the intended manner. The sanctity of the lodge and its environment must always be preserved, and should never be sacrificed to extraneous interests which dull and reduce its ability to provide the environment and experiences which brother Light-Seekers require to grow and improve themselves.

As of Press Time the Covid-19 virus situation has been developing in an unprecedented manner. This will undoubtedly adversely affect the schedule of events listed in this issue. Please check with the Consistory Office for rescheduling dates for Degrees and Family Life events before leaving your home to attend any of these events

FAMILY LIFE AND FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

MAY - JUNE 2020

Events are open to Scottish Rite and their families, candidates or prospective members. For those brothers who have not started their Scottish Rite journeys yet, you can fill out the petition form online and confirm your candidate status before contacting the office for reservations at <https://scottishritenmj.org/membership-application>, or come to the office to complete your application in person.

May 17, 2020 ~ Sunday, 2 p.m. – Greater Connecticut Youth Orchestras Spring Concert, Klein Auditorium, Bridgeport, CT - CT Free to brothers and their families – RSVP by May 12, 2020.

May 30, 2020 ~ Saturday Evening “ South Pacific”, Goodspeed Opera House, East Haddam, CT. \$ 65.00 per person, RSVP and pay by May 22, 2020.

June 7, 2020 ~ Sunday Afternoon Fishing Trip, Long Island Sound aboard the “Lucky Lady” leaving Clinton Harbor, Clinton CT. \$ 20.00 per person. RSVP now and pay by June 2, 2020. **SOLD OUT!**

June 20, 2020 ~ Saturday, Trip to Bronx Zoo, Ticket and Bus ride \$ 24.00 per person. RSVP and pay by June 12, 2020.

June 27, 2020 ~ Saturday, Trip to Museum at Supreme Council, Lexington, MA, followed by Red Sox vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Fenway Park, Boston. Cost: \$ 95.00 per person. RSVP now and pay by June 19, 2020.

Call the Consistory Office at 203-375-0064 for reservations.



VALLEY OF BRIDGEPORT
SPRING 2020
DEGREE SCHEDULE

New candidates must register one hour before Degree.

4th Degree video is available as needed.

- Date** **Degrees** (held at 2422 Main St., Stratford, unless otherwise noted)
- 4/27** **7:30 p.m.**
6° Video. 22° Live
Dinner is at 6 p.m. Must RSVP.
And 4° if needed at 6:30 p.m. *Note: 22nd Degree is the portrayal of the Live Singing Degree!*

- 5/4** **7:30 p.m.**
32° Live at 7:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6 p.m. Must RSVP.

- 7/18** **11 a.m.**
17° Video. 29° Live
Lunch will follow the Degrees. Must RSVP.
And 4° will be shown at 10 a.m.

Dinners before Monday Bridgeport Degrees are at 6 p.m.

Degrees start at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Degrees are at 11 a.m., followed by lunch in the Shrine building.

\$10/Brother. RSVP Required for dinner or lunch.

Please email Office@LafayetteConsistory.com
or call 203-375-0064.



BROTHERS REMEMBER

Whether traveling from in or out of the state it is easy to get to the Stratford Leo H. Lohrman, II, Scottish Rite Theatre via Metro North. Our Theatre is located right next door to the Stratford Train Station. Avoid I-95 traffic and parking concerns. Consult the Metro North Train Schedule at: <http://www.mta.info/schedules>.

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