

May 2025



Connecticut FREEMASONS



In This Issue:

236th Session of the Grand Lodge AF&AM of Connecticut

Brother Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr., Installed as 179th Grand Master

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

2025- 2026 Officers of the
Grand Lodge Af & AM
of Connecticut



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Most Worshipful Grand Master

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RW Deputy Grand Master

Bro. F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr.
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Bro. Mark H. Hawkins
RW Grand Junior Warden

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RW Grand Treasurer

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Bro. Matthew F. Griffin
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Bro. Gregory K. Whitehouse
Deputy Grand Secretary

Bro. Jonathan E. Wilson,
Assistant to the Grand Master

Not just a man. A Mason.

236th Annual
Communication Photos



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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.



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236th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge AF&AM of Connecticut *by Francis G. Way*

On Friday evening, April 5, MWB Edward C. Page hosted the traditional banquet on the evening before the Annual Session. Stepping a short distance away from the sometimes-dry tradition of these banquets, the Grand Master hosted an evening of fun and fellowship in keeping with who he is as a man and a Mason.

The Grand Lodge officers entered the banquet as they were introduced, but with the addition of “walk up” music being played as each officer and his lady entered (similar to a baseball player walking up to the plate). The Grand Master entered to “Kashmir” by Led Zeppelin. The evening featured sing-alongs and a game of Name That Tune. The evening combined the Grand Master’s emphasis on fellowship with his passion for music and baseball.

On Saturday morning, April 6, MWB Page presided over the 236th Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge AF&AM of Connecticut. The Grand Lodge was congregated by DGM Rinaldo Magliano, Jr. and the Grand Master was escorted in by the Grand Marshal, RWB Matthew Griffin. After Grand Honors, MWB Page was presented the gavel, and he opened Grand Lodge.

After the usual housekeeping business, the Grand Lodge was raised for the Necrology. Following a prayer for the departed brothers, the Grand Marshall presented and introduced the distinguished guests of the Appendant Masonic Bodies of Connecticut. This was followed by recognitions of the District Deputies, Associate Grand Marshals, Associate Grand Almoners and District Lecturers who served in the past year.

Having called the Grand Lodge from labor to refreshment, the Grand Master then invited in the members of DeMolay who presented the colors and led the salute to the flag and the pledge of allegiance.

The representatives of Masonicare, DeMolay, International Order of Rainbow for Girls, the Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star, Grand Court Order of the Amaranth and the Daughters of the Nile were escorted in and brought their greetings before the lunch break.

After returning to labor, more business followed lunch, and after the Grand Master’s closing remarks, MWB Page again called the Grand Lodge from labor to refreshment for the purposes of the installation.

Brother Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr., after receiving his obligation from RWB Christopher Earle, was installed as the 179th Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge AF&AM of Masons in Connecticut.

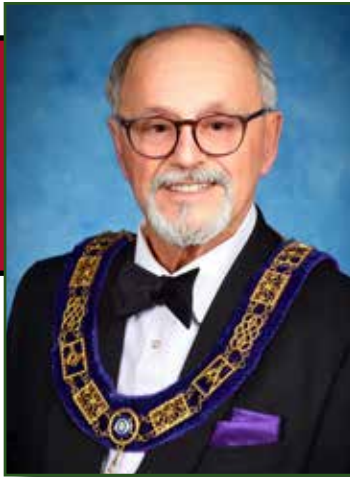


*236th Annual
Communication Photos*



236th Annual Communication Photos





Grand Master's Message

by MWB Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr.

My brothers,

I can't tell you enough how much I appreciate your faith and confidence in me to run this jurisdiction for the coming year. I offer you my heartfelt thank you.

I have three objectives that we will address; first, and the most important, is **Membership**.

Membership must be number one, as without new members no organization can survive. In 2023, the Grand Master introduced a marketing program that worked and is still working today. It taught us that we can process Masons in large numbers. We had mass degrees throughout the state. We had brothers from many lodges performing the work and it all worked. We have in place one of the most powerful tools to promote membership and it is working. We receive thousands of requests monthly. I will keep on working Blue Wave throughout my year and build up membership.

Objective No. 2 is **Mentoring**; mentoring is the first thing we do with a new candidate.

Teaching him all about the basics of Masonry, we start building a relationship with him that could lead to a life-long connection. We all need to be mentors. We have a section on mentoring in Grand View. Part of my plan is to have a class on mentoring in all 9 districts on a Saturday over a couple of months.

Objective No. 3 is **Retention**; we lose brothers every year due to loss of interest, financial and relocation. And though there's nothing we can do if a brother moves out of our jurisdiction, we can try to set him up to continue to thrive by providing him with an introduction to his new locale. We all could do a better job of keeping in touch with brothers who are behind in their dues or losing interest and just not coming to lodge. Where have we failed those brothers? Waiting until the end of the year and sending him an NPD is usually too late to keep this brother. We have some guidelines that have helped in the past and might help your lodge. Don't wait until the annual meeting to vote them out. This should start as soon as the brother doesn't pay his dues. Retention starts at the first sign of losing interest. Just think if every lodge saved one brother a year that would be 86 more brothers still on our rolls.

We need access to programs; all types of programs are needed. I am working on a database of brothers that would be willing to do some traveling and share some of their knowledge with other brothers. It can be Masonic or not. The Grand Lodge library is full of materials. Also Grand View has two years of MSA short talk bulletins with access to all brothers and they can be printed off and they can be a program or Masonic education piece.

Join me in making 2025 and 2026 a year of growth. With a little help and work from all our lodges we can make this the year of Connecticut Ancient Free and Accepted Masons growth.

Thank you, my brothers, and may God bless.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW BROTHERS!

Union Lodge No. 5

Ayaj Payak
Luis Antonio Ramos-Cruz
William Tracey

Hiram Lodge No. 18

Philip Joseph Cruz
Lucas Fritsche
Brenton Michael Vaughan

Temple Lodge No. 65

Jonathan Achar
Brian Clay
Ernesto Cruz
Ryan Duff

Gregory Mason
John Mountain

Washington Lodge No. 70

Matthew Mocko
Jermaine Wint

Madison Lodge Lodge No. 87

Henry Mac Abbott
Jonathan Cahoon
Michael Donohue

Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125

Manuel Camacho
Judah Ezekiel LaRose

Unity Lodge No. 148

Brian Thomas Dennis



Grand Chaplain's Message

Bro. John A. Garcia

As I stand at the beginning of this journey in my first month as Grand Chaplain, I find myself filled with both a sense of humility and deep gratitude. The

role of Grand Chaplain, while carrying the solemn duty of offering spiritual support to our brothers, also comes with the profound privilege of walking beside each of you as we navigate the challenges and joys of life together.

This first month has already shown me the depth of the bond we share as Masons—a bond that transcends the rituals and symbols we hold dear, reaching into the very core of what it means to be a brother. I've had the opportunity to visit different lodges, meet new faces, and reconnect with familiar ones. In every conversation and handshake, I have felt the warmth and camaraderie that defines our Craft.

Being new to this role, I have quickly realized that being a chaplain is not about having all the answers, nor is it about delivering perfect prayers or speeches. Instead, it is about being present—truly present—when a brother is in need. Whether it is offering an attentive ear, a shoulder to lean on, or simply a word of encouragement, this role is about standing beside our brothers in both their triumphs and their struggles, to remind them that they are not alone.

In these early days, I have been reminded that life in the lodge, much like life itself, is full of transitions. Some brothers are taking their first steps into Masonry, filled with excitement and curiosity about what lies ahead. Others are seasoned veterans, wise with years of experience, who offer their guidance and support to those who are just beginning. Still others are facing personal challenges—illness, loss, or hardship—and it is here that the role of the Chaplain becomes most vital.

As I begin this new chapter, I am reminded that the work of a chaplain, and indeed of every Mason, is not limited to what happens within the walls of our lodge buildings. Our duties extend far beyond into our communities, our homes, and our everyday interactions. It is in how we treat the person in need, how we extend kindness to a stranger, and how we offer compassion to those who are suffering. It is about living the virtues of our Craft in every corner of our lives.

As we look to the year ahead, I pray that the Divine Creator grants each newly installed District and Grand Lodge officer the fortitude and conviction to fulfill their duties. May they be blessed with divine wisdom, and may their hearts and actions remain as pure as the lambskin we hope to present before the eternal throne.

I am reminded of David when still only a shepherd, who, when fitted with Saul's armor, chose to go without and went only with faith in the Lord to guard and deliver him from all harm. Likewise, my brothers each newly made officer must be his own man and carry out his duties with gratitude, knowing that the Supreme Architect guides his path. Remember, brothers, in the hands of a master, even small stones can fell giants.

As we look ahead together, I am filled with hope and optimism for the work we will do. The months to come will undoubtedly bring challenges, but they will also bring countless opportunities for us to support one another, to grow in faith, and to deepen our connections as brothers.

I am honored to have been entrusted with the role of Grand Chaplain, and I approach it with a sense of reverence and responsibility. I do not know what every day will bring, but I do know this: I will walk this path with each of you, side by side, ready to offer whatever support, comfort, or guidance may be needed.

Stay well my brothers, stay safe.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50-YEAR MEMBERS!

Harold S. Block
Sequin Level Lodge No. 140

Carl Anthony Cassella, II
Harmony Lodge No. 42

Peter B. Deich
Columbia Lodge No. 25

Joseph A. DeRienzo
Widows Son Lodge No. 66

Ronald M. Green, Esq.
Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14

Herbert H. Hakey
Fayette Lodge No. 69

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Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88

John H. Swanson
Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14



Grand Historian's Corner

Bro. David J. Stewart

In The Personal World as Well as in the Masonic, What Truly Matters?

This month's Grand Historian's Corner speaks on a subject that lies at the heart of Freemasonry yet often escapes the proverbial spotlight. Not the ritual, not symbolism, not history or jurisprudence, but something much closer to home. I'm speaking about what we're really building.

Not in our lodges, but in our lives, in our families, and in our future. In the way we show up, quietly, day after day, when no one is watching. It is about cultivating what matters most.

Today we live in a culture of a speedy world of work, emails, texts, screens, deadlines, obligations, and family activities. We are told that success is measured by output, by how much we can do, how fast we can do it, and how many people applaud us while we do it.

But Freemasonry speaks a different language. It doesn't urge us to move faster, it urges us to go deeper, to learn and explore where we have been and where we are traveling. It doesn't glorify being busy, it teaches us to be still, thoughtful, and to build something lasting. Think for a moment about the cathedrals-built hundreds of years ago that took 30, 40, 50 years or more to complete. Our early "operative" brothers experienced it, and so, we must ask ourselves what are we actually investing in? Where is our energy going? What are we sacrificing in the name of progress?

In the beginning every Mason is a rough ashlar, full of promise and excitement, but imperfect within our Masonic world. And while we're taught to smooth the stone, we are also reminded that no one will do it for us. Not the master nor your brothers, not your mentor, not the ritual book. Think for a minute and visualize this: "The chisel is now in your hands. The maul is in your grip, the stone is your life."

William Preston gives us some of the symbolism of the chisel. From the maul and chisel, you may likewise know and learn what advantages accrue from proper education. The human brain of the new Entered Apprentice with an unpolished mind, like a diamond surrounded with a dense crust, discovers neither its sparkling nor different powers, until the rough external is smoothed off and beauties till then unknown, rise in his field of view. Education, what a chisel does to the stone, is not only an external polishing and smoothing, but the discovery of all the inward beauties latent under the roughest surfaces. By education, our minds are enlarged and polished for all to see along with enabling us to become more enlightened thus helping show the way for our journeys.

You can memorize the ritual perfectly and still let anger get the better of you behind closed doors. This is where Masonry is tested – not under the Square and Compasses, but in the daily details of your life. It is not enough to know the words. The world needs men who live them. So, we ask: are we practicing Freemasonry where it matters most?

We speak often of legacy in this Craft. But legacy isn't forged in titles, offices, or honors. It's forged in memory and our history. We all know, "that what we did today becomes history tomorrow." You don't leave a legacy, you live it, every day, every hour, every decision.

Freemasonry doesn't promise perfection, but it does demand sincerity. It asks you to take the tools into your hands, look at the unshaped parts of your own ashlar and do the work. It is very much needed if you are to succeed, for if you succeed, we all succeed.

Am I living my Masonry, or just attending it? Let the tools guide your conduct, let the work begin where it matters most. Because in the end, the world doesn't need more Masons who can recite the lecture. It needs more Masons who *understand and live it!*



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The Wright Residence at Masonicare



Matthew McGowan was working as an exercise physiologist – someone who provides health education and exercise plans – in the private gym at an insurance company when he met someone that worked part-time in a senior living community who encouraged him to apply for an opening there as a fitness and wellness coordinator.

“Once I got into senior living,” he recalls, “I found I really enjoyed being part of a community and developing relationships with different generations.”

Over a decade later, with a wealth of senior living

experience under his belt, McGowan is now Executive Director of Residential Services at Masonicare Health Center. He was already familiar with our statewide

healthcare continuum when he started in February, in part because his late father-in-law received hospice care through Masonicare Home Health & Hospice.

“When I told my wife I was interviewing at Masonicare,” he said, “she was very happy. The nurses and aides who cared for her father were terrific.”

McGowan’s office is in the Wright Residence, one of four rental communities that comprise the Apartments on Masonic Avenue, is a State of Connecticut-licensed residential care community for individuals aged 55 and older who qualify for the State

Supplemental Cash Assistance Program.

Apartments at Wright come fully furnished and fees include three daily meals in the dining room, housekeeping and laundry services, recreational activities, and health education and wellness programs ... all with the peace of mind that comes from living next-door to a facility with skilled nursing, behavioral health, memory care, and a host of outpatient services.

“In nearly every call I receive from individuals wanting to learn more about Wright,” McGowan said, “the question comes up, ‘What happens if I need more assistance? What happens if I need long-term care?’ For us, having that direct connection to Masonicare Health Center offers a huge appeal.”

For more information or to schedule a tour, please call **203-679-5402**.

We are *your* Masonicare.



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From the Desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

I want to begin by offering my sincere thanks to MWPGM Edward Page for his hospitality and words of support in hosting myself and other members of Masonicare's senior leadership team at last month's Grand Master's Dinner. Bro. Edward has been a great friend to Masonicare before and during his time at the helm of this jurisdiction, and I have every confidence that his successor, MWGM Rinaldo Magliano, Jr., will write his own chapter in the rich history of Connecticut Freemasonry. I look forward to supporting and working with Bro. Rinaldo in the year ahead.

It was a treat getting to see MWPGM Gustaf (Gus) Bodin honored as a Masonic veteran. After flying atop the pole in front of Masonicare Health Center, a special Masonic Veteran flag will be presented to Bro. Gus in recognition of his faithful service to our country in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict. A former Director of Admissions at the Health Center and current resident of Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Bro. Gus and his late wife, Virginia, utilized many of Masonicare's services. He's also been a generous supporter of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut and a great advocate for Masonicare. I was immensely proud and grateful when Bro. Gus told me that coming to work for our organization and then live at Masonicare were among the best decisions he ever made.

I was in California recently to attend Senior Living 100, a conference bringing together healthcare providers and product/service companies to network and share ideas, with the ultimate goal of providing higher quality, lower cost and more coordinated care. A highlight for me was getting to watch colleagues from Masonicare share their experiences and insights on leadership, culture, and strategy. Bro. Ed Dooling, our Chief of Healthcare Services, Ann Collette, Masonicare's Chief of Strategy,

and Stacy Allen, Senior Director of Administrative Services and Masonicare's Privacy Officer, all did an outstanding job delivering remarks to an audience of industry peers. If anyone there was unfamiliar with Masonicare before this conference, they know about us now!

If you have never witnessed a Masonic cornerstone ceremony, a ritual dating back to at least the 1700s, you'll have two more opportunities to see it live:

- Masonicare at Middlewoods of Newington (2125 Main Street, Newington, CT): Thursday, May 8, 4 p.m.
- Masonicare at Middlewoods of Farmington (509 Middle Road, Farmington, CT): Thursday, May 15, 2 p.m.

All are welcome!

Yours sincerely and fraternally,



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

Frank L. Blaze
King Hiram Lodge No. 12

Orville Campbell, Jr.
Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34

Nickolos Peter Daniolos
Anchor Lodge No. 112

Robert Bruce Fagan
Anchor Lodge No. 112

David R. Gaston
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Putnam Lodge No. 46

William Sekulski
Seneca Lodge No. 55

Donald R. Skinner
Valley Lodge No. 36

Robert L. Stewart
Widows Son Lodge No. 66

John Francis Warton, Jr.
Ark Lodge No. 39

Evan M. Winters
Ansantawae Lodge No. 89

George Ronald Zack
Columbia Lodge No. 25

A Conversation with A Masonic Organ Recipient

Recently, WB Kyle Podpolucha interviewed WB Jerry Calabritto, a brother Mason who has received an organ transplant.

Q: Can you introduce yourself?

A: My name is Jerry Calabritto and I am a 25-year member of Annawon Lodge No. 115 where I am an honorary Past Master. I am also the current Right Eminent Grand Principal Sojourner of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Connecticut.

Q: What do you know about Donate Life?

A: I was familiar with the link between Donate Life and the Freemasons of Connecticut, but I was more involved elsewhere. I was a representative at the dialysis center and went to hemodialysis support groups. I knew the organization existed, but I was always a registered organ donor.

Q: When did you find out that you needed an organ?

A: I went to my semi-annual doctors visit and when I took my blood and urine test, I found out that my levels were high. It was most likely caused by high blood pressure and diabetes. My advice to all the brothers is to take care of yourself and to start NOW! I didn't have any symptoms even though I was at stage 4. I was starting to get some confusion. One day I was driving and got lost in my hometown. I ended up going septic and had to go on hemodialysis immediately.

Q: Can you explain the process?

A: I received my transplant three years ago which was one kidney. I spent six years on hemodialysis. Hemo was four hours a day, three days a week. If at any point in those six years, if there was a donor, it would have ended the

process. I ended up receiving a kidney at age 70. I received my kidney from a cadaver; it is generally better to get it from a living donor. The kidney was considered high risk because it was from a prisoner with high blood pressure. When they got it, they tested it for diseases. Then they assigned it a grade using a grading index. I received a lower grade organ because of my age.

Q: What was post-treatment like?

A: I went to Hartford Health Care which was phenomenal. I was originally listed with Yale but was encouraged to sign up to as many places as possible. I met with the doctor, and he said, "Wow, five years, I'll get you an offer in a few months." When they call you, you get one hour to be there. They immediately gave me one last dialysis and he showed me my kidney which was working inside of a cooler. Afterward, the only pain I felt was from the incision. I was only in the hospital for five days. First you take more medications like anti-rejection and antibiotics, but you slowly take less. I do have to take anti-rejection medication for the rest of my life. They monitored me every week for a year and then every two weeks, which turned to once a month and now every eight weeks.

Q: What are some misconceptions about being an organ recipient?

A: It's not that hard to donate. If more did, more lives would be saved, and less people would have to suffer. There are organizations that will cover all costs including your time, loss of work, etc. Should you donate, if you ever need an organ yourself, you go straight to the top of the list. You don't even have to be a direct match for the person you want to donate to. They will do what they call a paired exchange where they will get the organ they need, and they will trade it for the one you

have. It's known as the United Network of Organ Sharing.

Q: What was the hardest part?

A: Without a doubt the hardest part was hemodialysis. It is incredibly difficult and takes a major toll on the body. It wears you down very quickly.

Q: What would you say to someone who needs an organ?

A: The most important thing to do is to get the word out. There have been stories of strangers who have helped each other. The mayor of East Haven even gave a kidney. Some people even advertise their need using bumper stickers. I have even seen people walking around Disney with shirts saying they need an organ. Make sure you talk to people because your chance of success is much higher from a living donor than a cadaver.

Q: Any regrets?

A: I have nothing but gratitude. There were so many times I wanted to give up because of the hemodialysis but I had amazing support. I guess my only regret is that I didn't sign up sooner. I didn't know that I could have signed up before I even started the treatment.

Q: Is there anything else that you want to say?

A: There should be a program in Masonry nationwide called Brother to Brother. It would specifically be for brothers who need organs. We are a fraternity of brothers, an indissoluble chain of sincere affection. If other states are doing this, we should be too. Just remember that the hardest part is the wait.



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*SM



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One in four older adults experiences a fall every year, and falling once doubles the risk of falling again. In fact, falls are the leading cause of injury and deaths among older adults.¹

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That's why Masonicare has partnered with **Medical Guardian**, the nation's leading provider of Personal Emergency Response Systems, to offer a selection of affordable and reliable medical alert systems and accessories, from voice-activated devices mounted on the wall to wearable pendants like the MGMobile (above) or the small and lightweight MGMini (right), which comes in four colors!

If you would like to learn more about Masonicare's medical alert systems program, please call us at **203-679-6099** or visit **masonicare.org** and select Services > Medical Alert Devices.

Mention you saw our ad in Connecticut Freemasons to receive a promotional discount!

1: Per the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

“

The unexpected can happen anytime, anyplace. Living an active lifestyle at Ashlar Village, I have peace of mind whether I'm in my apartment, around campus, or out in the community ... even when visiting family or friends. My MGMove (below right), a medical alert smartwatch, can be activated for that unexpected medical incident. For the price of a daily cup of coffee, this reassurance is well worth it.”

Chris Smith

Resident, Masonicare at Ashlar Village



Masonicare
An Ageless Commitment to Caring

**MEDICAL
GUARDIAN**
OFFICIAL PARTNER

WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY?

by John A. Amarillos, membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

The degree season wraps up this year with 32nd Degree on Monday, May 5. Due to the heavy demand for seating, there will be three dinner seatings, at 5 p.m., 5:45 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. Reservations are a must. Please call the Consistory office by Thursday before the event to make yours.

Family life affairs include another Greater Connecticut Youth Concert at the Klein Auditorium on May 18, marching in the Stratford Memorial Day Parade on May 26, our semi-annual Fishing trip out of Clinton on June 1, and a Yankees-Red Sox game on June 6, where we board the Yankee Clipper and head to the stadium.

There is also expected to be a lighthouse cruise sometime in the June/ July time frame so keep your eye out in the next issue. We will hold the semi-annual Scotch and Cigar night at the Stamford Cigar Bar on the evening of August 8 and will be attending a performance of the Johann Strauss II operetta *Die Fledermaus* on the afternoon of Sunday, August 10, at the Andrews Memorial Theater in Clinton followed by dinner at the Café Allegre in Madison.

The last family event of the season will be the Annual Clambake Picnic, at the Orange Fairgrounds on Saturday, August 16. Again, please call the office with questions on availability, reservations and payment for individual events. Contact the Consistory Office at (203) 375-0064.

The second section lecture of the Entered Apprentice degree reveals many Masonic verities that bear examination, not only by new Entered Apprentices, but by all brothers who have moved well past that point. I would suggest your review the lecture in your ritual book, or if you have not attained the degree of Master Mason, one of your lodge brothers to read it to you. It reveals significant underlying concepts that will explain your path and make clear what is being revealed during the EA degree.



LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY

Attention All Master Masons!

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

Monday, May 5 - 32nd Degree
Reservations for dinner seatings should be made for 5:00, 5:45, or 6:30 p.m. by calling the Consistory office.

For the latest copy of the Lafayette Consistory News 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.

Why were you divested of all metals when you first entered the lodge room? Upon entering the site of the construction of this munificent structure there was no sound emanating from any tool used to fit together the various structural parts of the temple. Such fine work assembled with such exactitude could only be the handiwork of the GAOTU and impossible for human hands to assemble. Thus, we surmise the edifice that is being built is spiritual and not material in nature.

Why was the candidate admitted into the lodge neither clad nor shod? Masonry is concerned with the internal qualities of the candidate, and the materialistic externalities which play a prominent part of mundane life have no place here. In the Book of Ruth we see that the practice of removing one's shoe and giving it to a neighbor was a sign of one's changing, thus this is done to establish the seriousness of candidate's intentions.

Why was he hoodwinked and made to bear a cable tow? The hoodwink symbolizes the need for secrecy, that your heart should be taught to control and conceal the beauty of the system to be shortly revealed to the candidate, and the cable tow is there to assist the attending brothers to remove him from the lodge should he refuse to submit to the forms and ceremonies to which are about to be revealed to him.

Why three distinct knocks? They serve to alarm the lodge that he you are ready to be introduced to the lodge and to give a practical application to the scriptural passage: "Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened to you." This passage is illustrated by the candidate's request for a petition and a recommendation, by which he sought initiation, and by knocking on the door of the preparation room, the lodge was opened to him.

Why the sharp edge upon entry? The candidate was received on the point of a sharp instrument so as to make it clear to his consciousness that revealing the secrets would be associated with an unpleasant pain.

Why prayer? Kneeling and attending prayer ensures that the candidate professes a belief in deity, as no atheist can be made a Freemason.

After being conducted about the lodge and encountering a number of obstructions, he was made to kneel on his naked left knee. Why the left knee? The left part of the body is thought of as the weaker hemisphere of the mortal vehicle and it was to serve as a reminder that he was entering the "weaker part of Masonry" – that of the Entered Apprentice degree.

Why was the right hand placed in the Great Light? Anciently the right hand was seen as the "seat of fidelity" and in the context of one's EA oath it is seen as a token of sincerity and a pledge of fidelity in the oath that the candidate is undertaking.

Why an apron of lamb skin? The Lamb Skin Apron is a reminder that lifelong purity of life and appropriate conduct is a prerequisite to admission to the Celestial Lodge.

The deposit of an item of a metallic kind is designed to impress upon the candidate that if he someday encounters someone, especially

Continued on page 13

What Happened and Why?

continued from page 12

a brother, who finds himself similarly situated, that he will assist as liberally as possible without doing injury to himself.

Lastly, why is the new Entered Apprentice placed in the northeast corner of the lodge? Because in operative masonry the first stone of a building is placed in the northeast corner. The new brother is placed there in order to obtain instruction on how to build his own "Moral and Masonic edifice."

This lecture reveals why things are happening during an EA degree. When put together with the first lecture, a much more thorough understanding of the EA degree can be obtained by the candidate. It might be fun, as well as instructive, for the lodge to review these together during a Masonic Education program, as I suspect a number of us grizzly types may have forgotten some of these explanations...

Fiat Lux!

As always, the Valley of Bridgeport, stands ready to help further your understanding of the three degrees of Freemasonry. Should you have questions about the Scottish Rite, please feel free to contact me at the email address membership@lafayetteconsistory.com, or call the Consistory office at (203) 375-0064.



Do You Know A Hero?

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut is proud to re-introduce the Hometown Hero Award. If there is a brother or a member of your community you feel is a Hometown Hero, we encourage you to nominate him or her for this special award to service. Whether a first responder or someone who has made a difference in your hometown, we want to pay them special recognition for their achievements.

The application can be found in the Resources section on GrandView. We look forward to recognizing YOUR Hometown Hero in the near future!



Masonicare 
An Ageless Commitment to Caring

NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Application deadline: **Friday, May 23, 2025**

The late Bro. John Brandt established the Norma Brandt Nursing Scholarship at Masonicare in loving memory of his wife, Norma, a Registered Nurse who dedicated her life and career to helping others.

Masonicare proudly awards this scholarship to qualified individuals enrolled in an accredited nursing program (Associate Degree, BSN, or RN) who are benefit-eligible Masonicare employees with at least one year of service **or** the children/grandchildren of Masonicare employees **or** affiliated with a Masonic organization, either as a member or child/grandchild of a member.

For more information or to receive an application, please contact Lindsey Smith at **203-679-6166** or lsmith@masonicare.org.

Statewide Master Mason Degree Sees Nine New Master Masons by Shane Dufresne

On Saturday, March 22, nine brothers were raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason at the New Haven Masonic Temple. A cast of many brothers from throughout the state performed the degree to perfection, with no rehearsals!

RWB Shane Dufresne, Deputy Grand Master, wishes to thank all of those brothers who stepped up to take a role, especially those who did so at the last minute due to some late cancellations. Other brothers stepped aside to let someone fill a role that they never had an opportunity to perform at one of the state-wide degrees.



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) 6660712
Email: office@valleyofhartford.com www.valleyofhartford.org

Syria Grotto St. Patrick's Day Master Mason Night by Charles Jewart

On Saturday, March 15, Syria Grotto hosted its first Master Mason night. The prophets, ladies, and candidates enjoyed an Irish dinner of bangers and mash, corned beef and cabbage, roasted carrots, peas, and appropriate beverages. After the dinner, five new prophets were brought into the Enchanted Realm and then retired for a continuing night of fellowship.

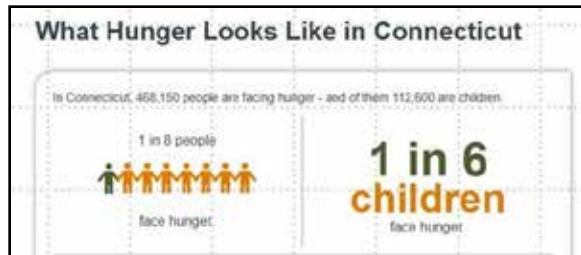
Syria Grotto meets the fourth Thursday of the month (except July, August and November) at 150 Bridge St., Suffield. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m., with the meeting at 7:30 p.m. and fellowship commencing at 7:45 p.m. All are welcome for fellowship (Entered Apprentices and Fellowcrafts included).



Connecticut Masons Addressing Food Insecurity

by Andy Engels and Steve Lewis

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis lists Connecticut number one in per capita income in the United States. US News and World Report consistently ranks Connecticut in the top ten. Yet according to the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity & Opportunity (CWCSEO), one in eight Connecticut citizens suffers from food insecurity and one in six children goes to bed hungry.



Statistics from CWCSEO



Brothers from Hiram Lodge No. 18
in Sandy Hook

Most Worshipful Grand Master Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr., has made addressing food insecurity within Connecticut a priority. As a result of this passion, he has formed a committee to work with individual lodges to assist with addressing their local food pantry's specific needs.

This food bank/pantry initiative is one of the many organizations under the auspices of the Grand Lodge Committee on Community Action (COCA). This initiative is specifically aimed at supporting Connecticut's Masonic Lodges in work with their local food banks/pantries to identify needs and help fill gaps in the food security network.

We intend to do this by becoming engaged with our local food distribution networks, working closely with them to provide support with both donated food and financial contributions. Not only will we as Masons provide aid where needed, but we will also publicly promote awareness of the fraternity.

Several lodges are already involved and hold annual food drives in their communities. Others conduct ongoing food and necessity collections, whether at their lodges or at other locations throughout their neighborhoods.

MWB Magliano is asking you to help him fulfill his vision by actively participating with your local food bank/pantry this year. He has appointed two brothers with extensive experience who will work with



Brothers from King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury



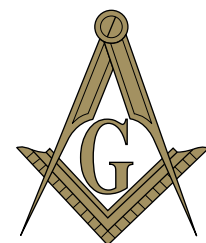
Brothers from Ashlar Aspetuck Lodge No. 142 in Easton

you, step-by-step, to establish and conduct this necessary engagement. They are here to support your efforts from the ground up or to enhance what you already have in place. They will meet with your lodge brothers in person, via Zoom, or phone.

To start your involvement and charitable engagement, please contact these brothers:

Bro. Andy Engels (Hiram Lodge No. 18), (716) 390-340, ajengels66@gmail.com

Steve Lewis (King Solomon's Lodge No. 7), (203) 982-3356, lewis.steve@earthlink.net



236th Annual Communication Photos



236th Annual Communication Photos

100 YEARS LATER

JOIN UNION LODGE #40 AF & AM AS WE CELEBRATE 100 YEARS SINCE THE LAYING OF OUR CORNERSTONE AND UNVEIL A CENTURY-OLD TIME CAPSULE IN A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EVENT.



DATE: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2025

LOCATIONS:

- REDEDICATION @ 3:30PM: 337 MAIN ST. DANBURY CT
 - COCKTAIL & GALA @ 5PM: AMBER ROOMCOLONNADE,
1 STACEY RD. DANBURY CT
- TICKETS: \$75 PER PERSON

SCAN ME FOR
TICKETS & INFO



COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

DON'T MISS THIS INCREDIBLE NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

CONTACT: WB JOHN ARIZZI, JJARIZZI@YAHOO.COM



Brother and Prophet from Mexico Visits Composite Lodge No. 28 and Syria Grotto M.O.V.P.E.R. by Charles Jewart

On Sunday, April 6, Brother and Prophet Alejendro of Jaffa Grotto in Mexico visited Composite Lodge No. 28 and Syria Grotto after seeing if anyone in Connecticut would be available. Bro. Alejendro was traveling for work.

He presented a guest apron from his lodge as well as several pins for members. While it was just a short visit on a rainy April morning, brotherhood prevailed.



District 1

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



Washington Lodge No. 19 News by Roy Nealon

Brother Dante Burnett of Washington Lodge No. 19 in Monroe received his Fellowcraft Degree on Monday, May 10. Congratulations to him from the brothers of the lodge.

Also in March, Washington Lodge held its pin presentation. Congratulations to all the brothers who attended and received their pins: Bro. Harry Whicher, WB Anthony Agosto, WB Tommy Delmastro, WB Roy Nealon, Bro. John Reed, and Bro. Dean Gwazda,

March concluded with Ladies At Table, the lodge's table lodge to honor the wives, widows, and important women in the lives of the brothers.



Union Lodge No. 5 Passes Three Brothers to Degree of Fellowcraft by Stephen Petri

On April 2, Union Lodge No. 5 in Stamford, marked a significant milestone by passing three Entered Apprentices to the degree of Fellowcraft. This special evening saw Bros. Ybsen Grey and Kirk Matefy of Union Lodge, along with Bro. Nathaniel Hawthorne Speights of Harmony Lodge No. 67 in New Canaan, advance in their Masonic journey.

The degree work was a true testament to the power of Masonic brotherhood, as the ceremony was conducted with the assistance of brothers from multiple lodges. Union Lodge was honored to welcome brethren from Old Well-St. John's No. 6, Harmony Lodge No. 67, Acacia Lodge No. 85, Fidelity-St. Johns Lodge No. 3, and Corinthian Lodge No. 104. Their participation exemplified the strength of Masonic unity and the commitment to fostering growth within the fraternity.

The evening was filled with camaraderie, dedication, and the shared goal of guiding these brothers through their Masonic education. The combined efforts of all involved ensured a memorable and meaningful experience for the candidates.

Union Lodge No. 5 extends its heartfelt gratitude to all the visiting brethren who contributed their time and effort to making this degree work a success. Their support reinforces the core Masonic values of fraternity, enlightenment, and mutual aid.

As these newly passed Fellowcrafts continue their journey, they do so with the knowledge that they are part of a larger Masonic family committed to their development and success. We look forward to witnessing their continued growth and contributions to the craft.



236th Annual
Communication Photos



District 3

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



Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78 Spring Cleanup Assistance by Miguel Thompson

On March 16, brothers of Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78 in Naugatuck embarked on a community service mission, with the assistance of RWB Shane Dufresne, then Grand Senior Warden.

The brothers contributed time and effort to assist Ms. Meghan Schofield in conducting a spring cleanup at her new residence. This mission was very close to the brother's hearts as Ms. Schofield is the daughter of the late brother RWB Charles "Chip" Schofield.

*(l-r) JW M. Thompson, Steward A. Forbes,
RWB Dufresne, JD B. Burke, and
SW M. Poulin.*



Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78 Donates for Easter

by Miguel Thompson

On Friday, April 11, Bro. Miguel Thompson, RWB Steve Nevins, and RWB Al Rollinson of Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78 in Naugatuck once again spread brotherly love and friendship by donating three food baskets to three families from Hop Brook Elementary School. This gesture of generosity will bring smiles and hope during their Easter celebration.



l-r) Bro. Miguel Thompson, RWB Steve Nevins, RWB Al Rollinson



72 Years a Mason by Steve Lewis

For three quarters of his life, Brother Howard A. Hicock, III, has been a Mason. He was born in 1930 at Waterbury Hospital. His father became a Mason in 1928 and in 1952 sponsored his son. Howard's Masonic dues card is number 3264, which is a low number compared to those of today.

On December 3, 1952, he was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason at King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 in Woodbury and has been actively involved ever since. His family obligations and late-night shift work kept him from becoming an officer, however he was always available to lend a helping hand around the lodge. At age 85, Bro. Howard was on the scene daily to participate in the restoration of the temple in preparation for its 250th anniversary. His background in mechanics and construction was invaluable.

Howard was a Navy man in a Construction Battalion and was honorably discharged with the rank MCB4. His first job was working at Platt Farm in Southbury, where the farm manager was also a Mason, and he subsequently worked in the surrounding towns, primarily in manufacturing.

Until recently Bro. Howard lived in the house that his father built, and he helped his father build the house next door for his sister and brother-in-law.

Staying connected with the lodge is important to him for friendship and support although it is becoming more difficult now that he is not as mobile. Shortly, he will be moving to Masonicare in Wallingford permanently.

On Sunday, March 16, in commemoration of Bro. Hicock's years of service, the brothers of King Solomon's Lodge presented him with a Masonic blanket, hat, and current worshipful Master's pin. Representing the Grand Lodge was then Grand Senior Warden RWB Shane Dufresne who presented Howard with a Grand Lodge pin.

The officers and brothers of King Solomon's Lodge wish their esteemed brother an easy transition from Southbury to Wallingford and will continue to support him and his family.



(rear) Bro. John Stack, RWB Shane Dufresne, Bro. Mitchell Goldburgh, Bro. Rich Miska, Bro. Mark Cohen, and (front) Bro. Howard A. Hicock III



(rear) Lauren Alibozek, Leah Alibozek, and (front) Bro. Howard A. Hicock III



Masonic blanket, Grand Lodge pin, and King Solomon's hat and pin.



236th Annual Communication Photos

District 4

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



Widows Son Lodge No. 66 Holds Bread Making Class

by David Cole

For the last two years WB Jeff Knapp has been donating homemade sourdough bread that uses a 400-year-old starter to the lodge's annual Robert Burns Night. With everyone enjoying the bread, he offered to hold a bread making class at the lodge. On Saturday, March 29, the lodge opened their doors to a master class in bread making.

Jeff graciously gave his time and supplied all attendants with the supplies to make their own bread. Proceeds from the class will benefit Widows Son Lodge's 200th anniversary celebration on May 17.

Everyone had a great time, and for the next few days, text messages were sent around showing off everyone's bread making skills.



Compass Lodge No. 9 Initiates Two Brothers

On Monday, March 17, after a hearty meal of corned beef and cabbage, WM Mike Santillo and the officers of Compass Lodge initiated two Entered Apprentices. Bros. Dave Lawlor and Noah Cutler were welcomed to the Craft while 50 brothers watched.

RWB F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr. and his suite were received by the Worshipful Master.

The officers of Compass Lodge conducted a well-performed degree.



District 5

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

Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 Hosts Blood Drive by Brian Sprouse

On Saturday March 8, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 in Newton held their second blood drive of the year for the American Red Cross.

The day began with WB Tom Lindsay and Bro. Joseph Zarella getting the kitchen ready for the pancake breakfast that each donor is entitled to after giving blood. The rest of the brothers arrived early to help with unloading the van and bringing the equipment into the lodge.

There were 35 donors signed up to donate. They were made up of brothers of the lodge and members of the community. Many of the donors are regulars and say that the lodge is their favorite place to donate because of the hospitality and the pancakes and sausage afterwards.

For anyone who is interested, Sequin-Level Lodge will be hosting another blood drive on July 12. Appointments can be scheduled at redcross.org.



Cinco de Mayo
May 5, 2025



Friendship Lodge No. 33 Hosts St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser by Rudy Cabata

On Sunday, March 16, Friendship Lodge No. 33 in Southington and the Cabata family sponsored a St. Patrick's Day dinner at the lodge. There was a no charge for the dinner of corned beef, potatoes, colcannon, candied carrots, cabbage, Irish soda bread, and dessert. It was served by the young men of Marcus Holcomb Chapter of DeMolay.

There was raffle for a hand quilted Irish wall hanging. A free will offering was also available and 100 percent of the proceeds went to the American Cancer Society.

This event was open to the public and over 100 people attended. Over \$3,000 was raised for cancer research.



Hospitality Lodge No. 128 Passes a Fellowcraft

On Wednesday, March 26, with dispensation and charter in hand, Hospitality Lodge No. 128 of Wethersfield passed Bro. Jeffery Gazso to the degree of Fellowcraft at Unity Lodge No. 148 in New Britain.

Worshipful Master RWB Theodore L. Hasty opened the lodge at 7:30 p.m. and with no business to conduct proceeded directly into the degree. WB Alberto Dieguez taught the candidate how to wear his apron as a Fellowcraft, Bro. Joe Distin presented the Working Tools, RWB Frank Dlugoleski, District Deputy of Masonic District 5B performed a flawless Middle Chamber. RWB Brian Beals presented the letter "G." RWB Rich Jones and WB Keath Romano presented the Steward's Lecture and RWB Matthew Griffin, Grand Marshall, presented the charge.

The lodge enjoyed a fine dinner before the degree, and labor was closed at 9:45 p.m.





17TH ANNUAL BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT

Tuesday, June 3, 2025
The Geoffrey Cornish-designed
The Farms Country Club

180 Cheshire Road, Wallingford, CT 06492

Registration and Raffle Ticket Sales starting at 10:30 a.m.; Noon Lunch;
Shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. in a 4-player scramble. Dinner, silent auction,
and raffle prize awards following tournament. Prizes for 1st and 2nd low
gross and low net, longest drive and closest to the pin, men and women.

Sponsorship levels:

\$3,000 - Tournament Sponsor (includes 8 golfers)

\$1,700 - Gold Sponsor (includes 4 golfers)

\$1,400 - Silver Sponsor (includes 4 golfers)

\$850 - Bronze Sponsor (includes 2 golfers)

\$500 - Beverage Sponsor

\$250 - Longest drive sponsor

\$2,000 - Cart Sponsor

\$1,000 - Lunch Sponsor

\$750 - Golf Ball Sponsor

\$250 - Closest to the pin sponsor

\$175 - Tee sponsor

\$1,000 - Foursome and tee sponsor

\$500 - Twosome and tee sponsor

\$225 - Individual player

\$60 - Non-golfing social

All sponsorships include acknowledgement in the Connecticut DeMolay Journal.

For registration flyer, please contact:

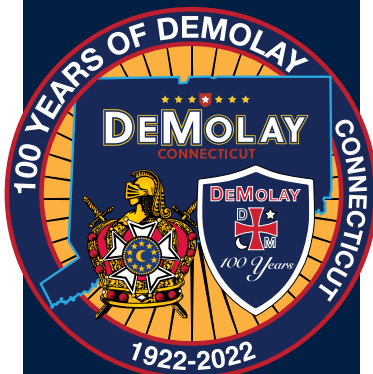
**Chris Earle, The Campaign for
Connecticut DeMolay**

P.O. Box 8832, New Haven, CT 06532
(203) 915-1229 or cearle@comcast.net

or

David O. Stern

(203) 444-2077 or dsternct@gmail.com



REGISTRATION WITH PAYMENT DUE BY MAY 26, 2025

REGISTRATION FORM

17th Annual Connecticut DeMolay Golf Tournament – Tuesday, June 5, 2025 The Farms Country Club, 180 Cheshire Road, Wallingford, CT 06492

To benefit Connecticut DeMolay and The Connecticut DeMolay Foundation, Inc. (a 501(c)3 charitable organization)

Please **PRINT** all information on all lines.

Please **PRINT** all information on all lines.

Company/Individual Sponsor Name		
Name and Title of Person Authorizing Sponsorship		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone number:	Cell number:	Email Address:

Please check desired level of participation.

Sponsorships

- ☐ \$3,000 Tournament Sponsor - includes 8 players
- ☐ \$1,700 Gold Sponsor - includes 4 players
- ☐ \$1,400 Silver Sponsor - includes 4 players
- ☐ \$850 Bronze Sponsor - includes 2 players
- ☐ \$2,000 Cart Sponsor - includes name on carts
- ☐ \$1,000 Lunch Sponsor
- ☐ \$750 Golf Ball Sponsor
- ☐ \$500 Beverage Sponsor

- ☐ \$250 Closet to Hole Sponsor
- ☐ \$250 Longest Drive Sponsor
- ☐ \$175 Tee Sponsor

Players/Guest

- ☐ \$1,000 Foursome & Tee Sponsor
- ☐ \$500 Twosome & Tee Sponsor
- ☐ \$225 Individual player
- ☐ \$60 Non-golfing Social

Note: The dress code at The Farms Country Club requires collared shirts and no cut-off shorts.

Player/Guest 1	Cell phone:
Address:	Handicap:
Email:	
Player/Guest 2	Cell phone:
Address:	Handicap:
Email:	
Player/Guest 3	Cell phone:
Address:	Handicap:
Email:	
Player/Guest 4	Cell phone:
Address:	Handicap:
Email:	

Please complete and return with payment by May 26, 2025

Make check payable to "The Connecticut DeMolay Foundation, Inc." — P.O. Box 8832, New Haven, CT 06532 • 203-915-1229

For additional information contact: Chris Earle, (203) 915-1229 or cearle@comcast.net • David O. Stern, (203) 444-2077 or dsternct@gmail.com

District 6

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



Washington Lodge No. 70 News by Patrick J.W. Chagnon

On March 24, Washington Lodge No. 70 held its annual table lodge, meticulously organized under the supervision of WB Ken Roach II. The event was well-attended, including several visiting brothers, reflecting the lodge's robust sense of community and camaraderie.

WB Mike Scheidel, Bro. Greg Wentworth, JS Dwight Bolton (praised for his exceptional French onion soup), and newly made Master Mason Brother Jermain Wint, contributed significantly to the event's success. Notable guests were RWB Matt Heinrich and RWB John DiCioccio, District Deputy of Masonic District 6A.

The lodge also blitzed Columbia Lodge No. 25 in South Glastonbury on April 2. Bro. Dave Lockard shared a topic he discovered online, which focused on the memorization of ritual. These insights into mastering ritual memorization were invaluable, and worthy of sharing:

“Memorization in Freemasonry is more than a test of recall; it is a path to deeper understanding, discipline, and personal transformation.

First, committing ritual to memory strengthens our connection to it.

When we engrave the words in our minds, they cease to be something external. We internalize them, allowing their meaning to take root. We do not simply recite them; we live them.

The lessons embedded within the ritual become clearer, revealing truths that would remain hidden if we only read or heard them without reflection.

Second, memorization builds discipline and character.

Freemasonry is a journey of self-improvement, and training the mind to retain and recall information strengthens patience, focus, and perseverance.

The struggle to master ritual mirrors the broader Masonic work of refining the self. Just as the working tools smooth the rough ashlar, so too does memorization sharpen the mind, transforming effort into mastery.

The ritual is not meant to be performed mechanically; it is meant to be understood, felt and embodied. By committing it to memory, we do more than preserve tradition, we make its wisdom a part of who we are.”



Brothers of Washington Lodge with WM Deepak Saluru.

Columbia Lodge No. 25 Blitzed by Washington Lodge No. 70 by Arnie Grot

On April 2, eleven brothers from Washington Lodge No. 70 in Windsor blitzed Columbia Lodge No. 25 at their stated communication. After the typical business, education, and information exchange, Washington Lodge's WM Kenneth Roach, Jr., presented WM Deepak Saluru, SW Chris Gness, and JW Jeff Spooner with forget me not pins and Washington Lodge No. 70 Bicentennial pins. He also presented a Washington Lodge Bicentennial coin to WM Deepak.

After closing the lodge, brothers retired to the Fellowship room for refreshment and fellowship.



Forget Me Not pin, Bicentennial pin, and Bicentennial coin.



JW Jeff Spooner, SW Chris Gness, WM Kenneth Roach, Jr., and WM Deepak Saluru.

Hartford Evergreen No. 88 News by Pat Jones

Thirty brothers from Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 and their significant others went on a bus tour of three local breweries in Manchester, Colchester, and South Glastonbury on a Saturday in March. The bus boarded at noon and returned by 5 p.m. Everyone enjoyed food, spirits, and conversation. WM Khamp Phimvongsa and his wife Tara did an outstanding job organizing this event. The brothers agreed that it should be an event that the lodge do at least annually.

The lodge celebrated St. Patrick's Day on March 17, with a large turnout of brothers, wives, and significant others. More than 60 enjoyed a delicious, corned beef dinner with all the fixings which helped to keep spirits up. The lodge has some outstanding cooks: WB Dave Larsen, WB Bob Malt, WB Tad Bistor, WM Khamp Phimvongsa, and Brother Duane Mason. While it is undoubtedly true that the cooks deserve much credit for some great meals, it is equally true that Hartford Evergreen Lodge's stewards, Bros. Jonathan Hood and Kirk Montstream, are recognized for their tireless efforts in keeping the kitchen and dining area clean, safe, and in good order.

At the end of March, the lodge hosted the 388th meeting of the Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council. Close to 50 brothers from six 6th District lodges attended. Christopher Gness of Hartford Evergreen Lodge serves as the council's Chaplain. The highlight of the evening was an interesting and informative program on the Tall Cedars of Lebanon presented by WB Eric Pogg, a member of Composite Lodge No. 28 as well as Hartford Evergreen Lodge. The local chapter of Tall Cedars, Nutmeg Forest No. 116, was formed almost one hundred years ago and has raised over a million dollars to help support muscular dystrophy research.

In April the brothers attended the Grand Lodge Banquet and Annual Communication. Bro. Eliad Johnson, Assistant Secretary, earned a Perfect Ashlar Award and the lodge received the Trestleboard of Excellence. The lodge was also recognized for three brothers completing the Perfect Ashlar program in a single year as Bros. Jonathan Hood and Kirk Montstream completed the requirements in Fall 2024. Also, RWB F. Matthew Heinrich, Jr., was installed as Grand Senior Warden.

The lodge welcomed Bro. Wayne Hare and RWB John Dicioccio as affiliate members.



Bro. Kirk Montstream



Bro. Eliad Johnson



Bro. Jonathan Hood

District 7

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



Anchor Lodge No. 112 and Granite Lodge No. 119 Combine for Master Mason Degree *by Dan Alexander*

On March 10, WM Rey Francis Millares of Anchor Lodge No. 112 in East Hampton, raised two Master Masons. Bro. Zachary Merrill from Granite Lodge No. 119 in Deep River and Bro. Daniel Boggs from Anchor Lodge. Anchor Lodge hosted the degree with Granite Lodge WM Michael Cooley and a contingent of Granite Lodge brothers attending.

Only two months into his year in the East, WB Francis labored long and well to prepare for the sublime degree and its extensive obligation. He is the first of Anchor Lodge's Filipino brothers to ascend to the Oriental Chair. Born in the Philippines and now American citizens, they have overcome the unique multi-lingual challenge of first learning their native tongue, English as a second language, and Masonic Old English words and phrasing as a third language.

Kudos also to the rest of the degree team, most of whom were in new roles for the very first time. More especially, kudos to Chaplin and WB Chip Seagrave who was amazing in the role of King Solomon. It was his first time in this critical role, and he rose to the occasion like the excellent ritualist he is.

This model of lodges in a district working together to pool ritual resources and candidates for degree work just makes sense. It is one that should be more actively exploited now and in the future. District level degrees are also a model RWB Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr., said he will promote during his tenure in the Grand East for the ensuing year.

More hands make for lighter work and creates a larger group of Brothers from which to choose "who best can work." Pooling candidates also should reduce the total number of degrees required to be held in a district and better allow candidates to progress through the first three degrees at their own pace, rather than having to wait until their individual lodge is ready to perform the next degree.

This is not a criticism of any lodge. The fact is it takes time, effort, and patience to perform high-level degree work, which all Masons love to see and hear. Brothers should ever remember, in this world, we are always stronger together.



(center, l-r) Bro. Zachary Merrill, WB Rey Francis Millares, and Bro. Daniel Boggs.

7th Masonic District Festive Board *by Jeffrey A. Blayman*

The Brothers from eight of the nine District 7 lodges gathered to raise a glass and share in a communal meal recently. Under the leadership of BLC President Daniel P Alexander and WB Mitch Kostich plans were made Washington Lodge No. 81 in Cromwell graciously hosted all who could attend.

The kitchen buzzed with the diligence and dedication of Bros. Richard Gorman and Eric Nims who kept the evening's momentum constant as brothers moved from toasts and courses throughout. In



Continued on page 30

7th District continued from page 29

addition to all the worthy brothers who attended, there was the additional pleasure of welcoming the incoming Grand Master Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr., to the head table.

The night was light on business, but it was indeed full of revelry and camaraderie. At the close of the evening, after the final toast to all Freemasons wheresoever dispersed, the lodge commenced with a rendition of Auld Lang Syne sung with fervor.

It was indeed a fine evening of brotherhood and thanks go out to our gracious hosts for the courtesies and the feast.

If you are a member of the 7th Masonic District please mark your calendars for May 30, at Anchor Lodge No. 112 in East Hampton. We look forward to seeing you there.



The Gift of Knowledge by Jeffrey A. Blayman

The weather was temperate for the March meeting of Warren Lodge No. 51. The brothers enjoyed a fine meal at the Portland Ale House and a brisk walk back to the lodge to enjoy the thoughtful discussion by WB Kyle Podpolucha AGM of Masonic District 4A.

The discussion focused on the symbolism of the Entered Apprentice degree, with WB Kyle breaking down the EA components of the Beehive lecture, as well as the EA 3rd section lecture. He left no stone unturned with his vast amount of Masonic knowledge. The brothers were enthused and excited for another fantastic evening of food and friendship, but before they departed, the lodge wanted to pass on a gift to WB Kyle.



WB Kyle once mentioned that he had a collection of Grand Master pins, multiples of each actually. But one that was missing was from 1990 and he had yet to find one. After the passing of



RWB Richard Washburn, his widow kindly donated his personal Masonic collection of items to the lodge and a 1990 pin was there. It was a pleasure to pass it on to such a worthy brother who was excited to complete his collection.

Additionally, the lodge congratulates SW David L Rutter, Jr. for presiding in the East and running the proceedings with poise and dignity while the Worshipful Master was away.

If you should ever wish to join us, please do not hesitate to reach out to WARENLODGE51@gmail.com

District 8

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



Purity Lodge No. 150 Marches in Irish Day Parade by Bruce Pendleton

Brothers from Purity Lodge No. 150 marched in Mystic's Irish Day Parade on March 23. Brother Chad Vandale, WB Glenn Studwell, WB Graig Rinaldi, and WB Bruce Pendleton were joined by Bro. Marc Debois of Somerset St. James Lodge No. 34 to represent the lodge in the parade.

(l-r) Bro. Chad Vandale, WB Glenn Studwell, WB Graig Rinaldi, WB Bruce Pendleton, and Bro. Marc Debois.



District 9

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



Fayette Lodge No. 69 – 200 Years of Masonic History Early Connecticut Masonic History by Perne R. Maynard

Masonry as we know it can be traced to the foundation of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717. It is clear that Masonry itself dates back further, as the four lodges that united to form the UGLE date to a significantly earlier period. It is historically unclear, even to Masons, when Masonry crossed the Atlantic Ocean. The earliest Masonic records in what became the United States are in Philadelphia.

The first lodge in America was St. John's Lodge, in Boston. It was chartered by the Grand Lodge of England in 1732 and formed in 1733. It was originally called First Lodge, but later merged with Second Lodge in 1783, becoming St. John's Lodge No. 1. It is still active today.

St. John's Provincial Grand Lodge of Boston duly chartered the first lodge in Connecticut on November 12, 1750, as New Haven Lodge.

David Wooster as the first Worshipful Master, who, as a general in the Continental Army later lost his life in the Revolutionary War. That lodge in New Haven is still active today, Hiram Lodge No. 1.

After the United States achieved independence from Great Britain in 1781, lodges in the new



Fayette Lodge No. 69 Miner's Raiders Degree Team

nation had a choice to unite together or to form as independently as the states in which they resided. They chose the latter and formed into the Grand Jurisdictions known today.

The Grand Jurisdiction of Connecticut was formed on July 8, 1789, after a number of meetings confirmed the interest of and necessity for establishing a Grand Lodge separate from Massachusetts and New York, under which the lodges in the former Connecticut colony had been formed. At its founding, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut of Free & Accepted Masons was composed of 14 lodges.

Pierpont Edwards, a Past Master of Hiram Lodge No. 1, was elected Grand Master.

Having previously represented Connecticut in the Congress, Pierpont Edwards was instrumental in organizing what independence looked like, not only for Connecticut and the United States but also for Connecticut Masonry.

Made a Mason in Hiram Lodge in December 1775, and serving as its Master in the war years of 1777-1778, he also participated in two battles of the Revolutionary War. Additionally, after his compatriot and fellow brother of Hiram Lodge, Benedict Arnold, committed treason, Pierpont Edwards served as administrator to his estate. As the first Grand Master, MWB Edwards set the initial direction of the Grand Lodge from 1789 until 1791 and grew the jurisdiction by admitting five new lodges: Moriah Lodge No. 15, Temple Lodge No. 16, Federal Lodge No. 17, Hiram Lodge No. 18 and Washington Lodge No. 19. He also rechartered two Connecticut lodges with his Signature, King Solomon's Lodge No. 7 and St Paul's Lodge No. 11.

The highest award for Masonic Service awarded in Connecticut is named in his honor as the Pierpont Medal in Bronze or Silver, dependent on the services that brother had provided to Masonry.

Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association News

by Jonathan Glassman

Congratulations, to Troop 41's three newest Eagle Scouts, Seth Glassman, Dante Agnello and Logan Turrey! MWB Edward C. Page, Grand Master of Masons in Connecticut, and WB Michael Abrahamson, representing the Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association, presented each the Connecticut Masonic Eagle Scout Commendation at a special Court of Honor on February 2, held to recognize the Scouts and their accomplishments.

Additionally, RWB Christopher Earle and RWB Carl Anderson attended from Masonicare to thank and speak about Seth's working leading his Eagle Scout Project to refurbish and restore all of the stones in the Masonic Cemetery in Wallingford.

Congratulations to Troop 32's newest Eagle Scout, Logan Schmidt, who, at his Court of Honor, was presented the Connecticut Masonic Eagle Scout Commendation on behalf of the Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association and Grand Lodge of Connecticut by Bro. Rick Donovan.



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We're circling back in 2025!



Wine, Beer & Bourbon

Friday, May 16, 2025

Knapp Auditorium at Ashlar Village

Golf & Pickleball Outing

Monday, August 4, 2025

The Farms Country Club, Wallingford



Event proceeds will allow us to enhance spaces within Masonicare Health Center to better serve our patients, residents, staff and visitors.



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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.



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**Union Lodge No. 31, A.F. & A.M.
Celebrates 230 Years
May 1795 – May 2025**

at the
Bayview Masonic Temple
32 Society Road – Niantic, CT

Thursday Evening, May 22, 2025

Social Gathering 6:00 p.m.
Buffet Style Dinner Served @ 6:30 p.m.
Reception of Dignitaries 7:30 p.m.
Celebration Program to Follow

Dinner Tickets \$15 per Person

(Open to Masons and Guests)

Tickets Available from all 8th District Lodges
RSVP – NCTDistrictOne@gmail.com

Evening Dress:

*Business Attire
Lodge Officers – Lodge Attire
(Please - No Blue Jeans)*

Please RSVP

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Motto: Let's Do it for Bill

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 Freemason Newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the lodge's secretary to verify all times and events and inquire about dinner reservations.

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Tue., May 13, 7:30 p.m., Shepherd-S alem Lodge No. 78,
Naugatuck

Fellowcraft Degrees

Wed., May 7, 6:30 p.m., Union Lodge No. 5, Darien, Dinner

Thurs., May 22, 7:30 p.m., Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven

Wed., June 4, 7:30 p.m., Union Lodge No. 5, Darien, Dinner

Master Mason Degrees

Wed., May 7, 6:30 p.m., Columbia Lodge No. 25,
South Glastonbury, Dinner

Mon., May 19, 7 p.m., Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford

MAY 26, 2025



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Start Time - 9:00 am

Cost to Jump - \$265

Raise \$500 and Jump for Free!!!

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Please Contact Kyle Podpolucha at 203-694-4546 or email at kyle.podpolucha@ctfreemasons.net

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Sea Unicorns



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GATES OPEN @ 5:30PM

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Gala Celebration

Dinner, Music, Dancing & More
Details to Follow



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★ Saturday, June 14 ★

A day of fun for all ages.

Masonicare Health Center, 22 Masonic Ave., Wallingford

10:00AM - 3:00PM

- **The Grand Masters**, Daniel L. Blackmon and Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr.
- **10:30am: Parade** featuring motorcycles, antique cars, and marching bands from across the state
- **Festive food** by Masonicare
- **Music** - Strolling Musicians
- **Community Health Fair**
- **Enhanced Free Youth Activities**
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