



Connecticut FREEMASONS

MARCH 2012



**MW Jim and Bonnie,
*A Toast to You!***

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM
69 Masonic Avenue
P.O. Box 250
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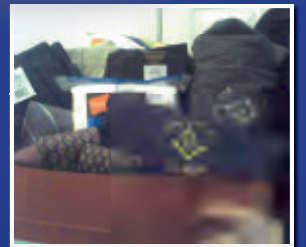
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Firewood for a
Masonic Widow**



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**When Bad Things
Happen,
Masons Help**

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GRAND MASTER'S TRESTLE BOARD

James T. McWain - March 2012

DATE	EVENT	PUBLIC	DINNER	ATTIRE
Friday, March 2	Return from Florida Nutmeggers Reunion			
Saturday, March 3, 6:00 p.m.	Deputy Grand Master's reception, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	Y	Y	S
Monday, March 5, 1:00 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Tuesday March 6, 7:00	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, March 7, 5:30 p.m.	Unity meeting, Ashlar Village, Wallingford	N	Y	C
Thursday, March 8, 2:00 p.m.	Office hours, Grand Lodge office, Wallingford	Y	N	C
Friday, March 9-10	Masonic Medical Research Laboratory visit, Utica, New York			
Monday, March 12, 7:00 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Tuesday March 13, 7:00	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, March 14, 7:00 p.m.	Installation of officers, Hospitality Lodge No. 128, Wethersfield	Y	N	F
Thursday, March 15, 2:00 p.m.	Office hours, Grand Lodge office, Wallingford	Y	N	C
Thursday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.	Landmarks Committee, Boardroom, MHC, Wallingford	N	N	C
Friday, March 16, 7:00 p.m.	Winter Gathering, Masoniccare at Newtown,	Y	N	S
Monday, March 19, 1:00 p.m.	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Tuesday March 20, 7:00	Fraternal visit	N	N	F
Wednesday, March 21, 5:30 p.m.	Grand Lodge officers meeting, Wallingford	N	Y	C
Thursday, March 22, 4:30 p.m.	Masonicare Board of Trustees, Wallingford	N	N	S
Sunday, March 25, 6:00 p.m.	Grand Lodge Banquet, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell	Y	Y	F
Monday, March 26	Annual Communication	N	Y	F
	Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell			

Gary W. Arseneau - March 2012

Thursday, March 29, 6:30 p.m.	4th District Blue Lodge Council, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford	Y	Y	S
Thursday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.	Informal Opening, Grand Court of Connecticut,	Y	N	F
	Order of the Amaranth, Hartford Plaza Hotel, East Hartford			
Saturday, March 31, 7:00 p.m.	Installation of Officers, Grand Court of Connecticut,	Y	N	F
	Order of the Amaranth, Hartford Plaza Hotel, East Hartford			

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MW Richard Stewart Receives Pierpont Edwards Medal in Silver

by Michael L. Castrol

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut first presented Pierpont Edwards Medals in celebration of our sesquicentennial in 1939. MW Thomas W. Desmond was the first to present our Grand Lodge's highest award. Since then, the crème de la crème of our craft have been decorated with this distinguished honor. Our recently honored neighboring Grand Master, MW Richard J. Stewart, is certainly no exception.

A native of the Green Mountain State (as is our own MW McWain), Brother Richard James Stewart has been toiling in Masonry since being raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason in 1966, in Athelstan, (now Guiding Lights Lodge, Auburn, Massachusetts) Lodge, in Worcester, Massachusetts. Before becoming the 87th Grand Master of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2010, Brother Stewart served his lodge as Worshipful Master in 1974. Brother Stewart has also served in the Oriental Chair of Winslow Lewis Lodge, Rose of Sharon Lodge, and The Masters Lodge, all located within a twenty-five mile stretch from Worcester to Boston. In addition, Brother Stewart is a member of Mount Lebanon, Norumbega Fraternity, Mount Holyoke, Columbian, The Independence, and The

Scouters Lodges. (Massachusetts Lodges have no numbers.)

Grand Master Stewart began his service with the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts 30 years ago when he was invited to participate on the Grand Lodge service committee, and progressed through a number of Grand Lodge positions. Two of them are familiar to us: Grand Tyler and Junior Grand Deacon.

Brother Stewart also served as Grand Sword Bearer, a position which has a history all its own with regards to being a Grand Lodge office. Brother Stewart then served as Grand Pursuivant, another office we don't have in Connecticut. The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has two Pursuivants, who act similarly to our Associate Grand Marshals, but instead for the Grand Wardens. He was also appointed as Grand Representative for Denmark.

In 1990, he was appointed Deputy Grand Master by MW Edward W. Darling, and became a permanent member of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. He was awarded the Henry Price Medal, Massachusetts' highest Masonic decoration, later that same year.

In 2004, he began serving on the Grand Lodge's board of directors, and served for the maximum six years permitted. He is perhaps best known for his most recent role from 2007 to 2010, when he served as Grand Marshal during the term of MW Roger W. Pageau.

Brother Stewart's thirst for further light has led him to be active in several of the appendant bodies. He is a member of the York and Scottish Rite bodies. But, Richard Stewart doesn't just join, he does.

Brother Stewart is a member of the Scottish Rite bodies in the Valley or Worcester, and a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33^o, in the Scottish Rite Northern Jurisdiction.

Within the York Rite, he is a Companion of Saint Andrew's Royal

Arch Chapter, Boston Council of Royal & Select Masters, and is a Past Commander of Saint Bernard's Commandery, Knights Templar. He is a Companion-Knight of King Philip York Rite Sovereign College in Springfield. He has also been invited to be a Sovereign Knight of the Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, and Societas Rosicruciana in Civitibus Foederatis.

This past October, the DeMolay Supreme Council conferred its Legion of Honor on Brother Stewart for meritorious service on behalf of DeMolay.

Brother Stewart was born in Burlington, Vermont. He began his career as a salesman for the Charles P. Lauman Company in Westborough, Massachusetts, and also served for 10 years in the United States Coast Guard Reserve. He later purchased the Lauman company, and currently serves as Chairman of the Board. Brother Stewart is the father of two daughters, and the proud grandfather of four granddaughters and a grandson.

How does someone as much on the go as he is burn off any unspent energy? Grand Master Stewart is also an auto enthusiast. He is well known for his national award winning 1957 Thunderbird, and is often seen on his 2004 Harley Davidson when four wheels just seem too tame.

Grand Master Stewart became a friend of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut early in 2010, and struck up an immediate friendship with Grand Master James McWain following our Grand Session in 2011. Following his installation in December of 2010, MW Stewart established the third Saturday in October as the date for the Massachusetts Open House for the next three years. This enabled the surrounding New England Grand Lodges to coordinate their open houses and benefit from Massachusetts media and communications support.

Grand Master Stewart further extended himself by inviting our Grand Lodge officers and committee heads to Boston, opening the many educational and membership programs offered by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge. Thus, we have instituted in Connecticut the coordinated Open House, the Traveling Man Masonic Passport, the Perfect Ashlar Program for new Masons, as well as others.

When MW James T. McWain attended the recent session of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts he was very pleased and proud to present Most Worshipful Brother Richard James Stewart with the Pierpont Edward Medal in Silver for Eminent Masonic Service.



At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, Connecticut Grand Master James T. McWain, left, presented the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Silver to MW Richard Stewart as RW Michael B. Dodge looked on.

Grand Master's Message



This year has certainly gone by quickly. I am writing this while attending the Conference of Grand Masters of North America in Atlanta, Georgia. There have been an amazing group of presentations on subjects of interest to all Masons in general and to Connecticut Masons in particular. It is a wonderful opportunity to compare and exchange ideas with Masons from all over the world who are facing the same challenges and are learning from their experiences.

The old adage of 'time passing quickly when you are having fun' is quite accurate. I have had fun; meeting Masons from around the state and around the world has been a real pleasure. Visiting lodges, seeing the good work in degrees, and being able to provide observations regarding the significance of the degrees to new candidates, has been equally pleasurable.

At the communication in October 2010, after the election, I expressed my belief that the Grand Lodge officers have four principal duties: 1) to manage the Grand Lodge business and that of the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation; 2) to meet the expectations of the members of the fraternity; 3) to meet the desires of new members of the fraternity who are seeking Masonic knowledge and education; and 4) to insure the Grand Lodge of Connecticut is in harmony with other Grand Lodges about us in the United States and also in the world.

To accomplish these tasks the Grand Lodge officers must focus on the fraternity: its direction in the next ten years, and a method for overseeing various distinct tasks that require attention for the Grand Lodge to function properly. This required a refocus of the District Deputies; they actually had to oversee their districts. This has been a continuing education process. Some District Deputies took the ball and ran, others required time to realize that the buck stopped with them. The Grand Lodge officers were available for advice but decisions to be made were for the Deputies, unless they wanted to call me.

Many did call me, and I enjoyed the discussions, but the bottom line was the Deputies directed their districts. I believe the District Deputies and Associate Grand Marshals have done well and the system is now in place, as it was years ago, for the District Deputies to be, in fact, District Deputy Grand Masters, responsible for their districts and reporting directly to the Grand Master. This system solidifies the concept that the District Deputy works for the Grand Master and it allows the Grand Lodge officers to concentrate on managing the Grand Lodge, overseeing the many staff areas requiring attention, and working with the committees to provide assistance to the District Deputies and lodges.

With this refocus of the Grand Lodge officers, the first order of business was to determine all the areas that required oversight. The list amounted to three typewritten pages and included membership, education, lodge status, strategic planning, and budget. Other areas, such as youth and Grand Lodge representatives, had been dormant, with minimal oversight for years.

These tasks were divided into groups by the Deputy Grand Master and myself, and were assigned to each Grand Lodge officer. This was a new concept for them, and required a change of thinking from "directing a district" to:

- a. What is the status of each area, education for example, in the lodges in the state?
- b. How do we determine the status?

- c. What is the required level in that area (education) for the lodges?
- d. What committees are involved in this area? (education and ritual)
- e. How do we help the lodges achieve that standard /level of education?

I must say that the Grand Lodge officers performed well. We now have an assessment of the status in each of the areas we determined important last spring at the first Grand Lodge officer meeting.

An additional benefit was the ability to assign officers with special talents to specific tasks. For example, when Eureka Lodge No. 83, Bethel, encountered difficulty, the District Deputy requested assistance and I assigned RW Brad Cooney, Grand Junior Steward, WB Bud Buckner, chairman, legal matters committee, and RW Russ McClelland, Grand Secretary Emeritus, to assist the process of determining how to best accommodate the lodge and help the lodge members confront the complicated task of declining membership and interest.

They, with the District Deputy and Associate Grand Marshal, performed admirably. The only instructions I gave them were that they assist the lodge in determining what the lodge members wanted to do. The lodge officers and members stayed focused on the task of what was best for the lodge and Masonry. The District Deputy and Associate Grand Marshal did a great deal of work with regard to the paperwork to accomplish the lodge's desires, and the Grand Lodge representatives guided and assisted. Everyone performed in a well-coordinated manner and a resulting merger of the lodge was approved by the lodge members.

The refocus also included many of the committees. We began with a meeting of all the committee chairmen last spring. I wanted to explain to them the refocus of the District Deputies and Grand Lodge officers and how the committees would be helping the District Deputies and Worshipful Masters. The meeting went well and one of comments was that it was the first time they had ever met together. Consequently, we have been having quarterly meetings of the committee chairs. The committees have embraced the mission of helping the lodges and I feel we have a much-improved system in place for providing assistance to the Worshipful Masters.

I am particularly pleased with the Education Committee and the Committee on Community Action. The Education Committee has done a huge amount of work by providing a comprehensive plan and system to support lodges in their education efforts. This supported my edict requiring a Masonic educational moment at every lodge meeting.

The Committee on Community Action had an equally difficult task in organizing Connecticut's participation in the New England Lodge Open Houses. I visited a number of lodges on October 15 and was impressed by their effort and cooperation. I am equally impressed by the results of the Open House.

Another awareness success story was two cornerstone ceremonies, one in New Britain with Unity Lodge No. 148 for the new city police building, and the other in Salisbury in cooperation with Montgomery Lodge No. 13 in the dedication and recognition

of their assistance in the rebuilding of a nationally recognized ski jump in their community. These public efforts have resulted in an invitation for another public cornerstone ceremony in Montville and one in Norwich this spring.

I have previously voiced my concern regarding new Masons being recruited too early by our appendant bodies. These bodies complain that the new members are not necessarily well-versed Masons. The truth is that if there is not adequate time for mentoring and instruction following the third degree, the new Mason certainly will not be well versed in the skills required to be a proficient Master Mason. I had seriously considered issuing an edict that the appendant bodies could not recruit a new Mason until he had been a member for one year.

As I reflected on this dilemma — the requirement for instruction and information for new Master Masons and the membership requirements of the York and Scottish Rites, and Shrines — the words of RW Ken Greenhill again came to mind — “We must keep Masonry in front of us.”

These organizations know that they need Masons in order to operate, just as our lodges do. They would agree that having a pool of skilled, proficient Master Masons as potential recruits would be ideal. If we were to abide by Brother Greenhill’s axiom, then lodges mentoring, instructing, and educating proficient Masons and appendant bodies recruiting skilled and proficient Masons would be the natural order and beneficial to Masonry.

However, our situation is not ideal. It seems that some lodges and appendant bodies are more concerned about their own organizations than about Masonry. We should remember that our fraternity began with groups of men who believed strongly in joining together to solidify important beliefs, values, and attitudes to form a way of life. Freemasonry will continue because men with these ideals will continue to gather together.

We will initiate officers of a new lodge on March 14 because the charter members want to do great ritual work, educate new Masons, help other lodges, and make an impact on their local community. We CANNOT continue to be anxious about members and lodges. We need to find men and Masons who want to “keep Masonry in front of them,” raise their standards, and, if necessary, form new lodges and continue to raise the standards of Masonry throughout Connecticut.

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation board has been

reorganized and its mission, vision, and values established. The Foundation will be the charitable arm of the Grand Lodge. There is much work yet to be done and the board will be busy determining what charitable efforts are to be supported and the means of developing funds to support these charities. There is a need for Masons to serve on committees of the Foundation. The Grand Lodge officers and District Deputies will be identifying worthy brothers to serve this new endeavor of the Grand Lodge.

The Masonic Medical Research Laboratory and its Cardiac Research Institute have been supported for the past two years. Bonnie and I had an opportunity to visit the laboratory in Utica, New York, to see first hand the wonderful work they are doing to solve the dreaded heart disease problem. Heart disease affects practically every Masonic family, either in the immediate family, an extended family, or a close friend. It has been one of the top five leading causes of death in the United States for over one hundred years. The lab is on the cutting edge of research to solve this disease and have a positive affect on humanity. I think its importance is sufficient reason to warrant our support. We have wonderful charities that reach individuals. Solving heart disease will affect humanity.

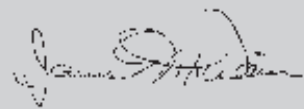
I would be remiss if I did not thank Marje and Debbi for their wonderful work in the Grand Lodge office and their assistance in keeping me out of trouble. I must also thank Bob Fitzgerald and Charlie Maxson, the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, for their guidance and assistance during the past years.

Lastly I must thank every Connecticut Mason, their wives, and especially my wife Bonnie for making this a most memorable year. Bonnie and I have enjoyed the experience, the warm welcomes, and feelings of friendship.

Masonry’s core mission is to make Masons and built strong relationships.

Computers and technology cannot do that—only you can; and you have.

Thank you.



James T. McWain
Grand Master



223rd ANNUAL COMMUNICATION OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE A.F. & A.M. OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The 223rd Annual Communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge A.F. & A. M. of Connecticut will be held at the Crowne Plaza, 100 Berlin Road (Route 372), Cromwell, Connecticut on **Monday, March 26, 2012**. The formal opening of Grand Lodge will be at 9:00 a.m., preceeded by a lodge of Master Masons by the Grand Master’s lodges at 8:30 a.m. A 2012 dues card must be presented to gain admission.

Registration will start at 7:30 a.m. Please note: **All voting delegates must register** at the registration table and present their 2012 dues card. Registration will be by lodge number as designated by posted signs in the area.

Your attendance at this Annual Communication is important. We will address legislation changes to the Rules & Regulations. Changes in Rules and Regulations can be made by adoption of motions from the floor or as proposed by the Committee on Legal Matters.

"The Ancient Landmarks"

I was recently asked a question about the Landmarks of Masonry in Connecticut, often referred to as "The Ancient Landmarks." The question concerned the first of the landmarks:

"Belief in the existence of a Supreme Being, in some revelation of his will, in the Resurrection of the Body and in the immortality of the Soul."

Luke A. Lockwood was a prominent attorney and authority on Masonic jurisprudence. He was one of the charter members of Acacia Lodge No. 85, Greenwich, and served as its first Worshipful Master. He was also the first president of the board of directors of what would eventually become Masonicare. His *Masonic Law and Practice* is still considered the preeminent volume on Masonic jurisprudence. During his Masonic career, Brother Lockwood is credited with codifying the Landmarks of Freemasonry as recognized by Connecticut. He was also a prominent Episcopalian, a founder of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Riverside, and a noted authority on the Canon Law of the Episcopal Church. This begs the question, was this first "Landmark" a universal concept or a sectarian concept shaped by Lockwood's background in the Episcopal Church?

In answer to this question, I pointed out to the brother that the concept of the resurrection was not a purely Christian concept. During the time of Christ, one of the major differences between the Pharisees and the Sadducees was over the belief in the

resurrection. The Pharisees believed in the resurrection while the Sadducees did not. The Jewish belief in the resurrection was one of the thirteen articles of the beliefs of Judaism set forth by Maimonides, the Jewish rabbi, physician, and philosopher.

Moses ben-Maimon, called Maimonides, was a preeminent medieval Jewish philosopher and one of the greatest Torah scholars and physicians of the Middle Ages. He was born in Córdoba, Spain on Passover Eve, 1135, and died in Egypt on December 12, 1204. (*en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maimonides_-_cite_note-5*) He was one of the foremost rabbinical arbiters and philosophers in Jewish History. His fourteen-volume *Mishneh Torah* still carries canonical authority as a codification of Talmudic law. While I do not know if Lockwood studied his writings, I do know that Trinity College, where Lockwood studied law, offered a curriculum that covered all of the classic scholars including Maimonides.

The thirteen articles of Jewish belief as expressed by Maimonides are:

I believe with a true and perfect faith that G_d is the creator (whose name be blessed), governor, and maker of all creatures; and that he has wrought all things, worketh, and shall work forever.

I believe with perfect faith that the creator (whose name be blessed) is one; that there is no unity like unto his in any way; and that he alone was, is, and will be our G_d.

I believe with a perfect faith that the creator (whose name be blessed) is incorporeal, that he has not any corporeal qualities, and that nothing can be compared unto him.

I believe with a perfect faith that the creator (whose name be blessed) was the first, and will be the last.

I believe with a perfect faith that the creator (whose name be blessed) is to be worshipped and none else.

I believe with perfect faith that all

the words of the prophets are true.

I believe with perfect faith that the prophecies of Moses our master (may he rest in peace) were true; that he was the father and chief of all prophets, both of those before him and those after him.

I believe with perfect faith that the Law, at present in our hands, is the same that was given to our master Moses (peace be with him).

I believe with perfect faith that this Law will not be changed, and that no other Law will be revealed by the creator (blessed be his name).

I believe with a perfect faith that G_d (whose name be blessed) knows all the deeds of the sons of men and all their thoughts; as it is said: "He who hath formed their hearts altogether, he knoweth all their deeds".

I believe with a perfect faith that G_d (whose name be blessed) rewards those who keep his commandments, and punishes those who transgress them.

I believe with a perfect faith that the Messiah will come; and although he tarries I wait nevertheless every day for his coming.

I believe with a perfect faith that there will be a resurrection of the dead, at the time when it shall please the creator (blessed be his name).

It is easy to read our Masonic Landmarks into these thirteen articles and certainly easy to follow our Masonic teachings in the truths herein revealed. I can see not only our Blue Lodge degrees in these writings, but also the York Rite and Scottish Rite degrees. While we may have differences in creed or theology, the basic teachings of Freemasonry are truly universal among the believers of the Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe.

On a personal note, this is my last column as Grand Chaplain. I have enjoyed sharing my thoughts and meditations with you and I truly appreciate the many comments I have received over these last three years. I wish all the best to my successor in office and look forward to reading his thoughts and insights when he steps into the "Grand Chaplain's Pulpit."

God Bless!





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The Masonicare EXPERIENCE

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

by Adam Raider

Throughout our healthcare continuum, Masonicare's volunteer work force is an indispensable resource.

Our volunteers work in offices, provide companionship to frail and elderly residents, help pass out gifts at the holidays, offer bereavement counseling to families of hospice patients, and perform countless other duties that fit with each individual's schedule, abilities, and interests. Some volunteers live in the communities we serve. Others, like Masonicare Health Center volunteer Evelyn Della Rocco, are already part of the Masonicare family.

After living in Hamden all of her life, Evelyn sold her home there and moved to the A. Norman Johnson Apartments on the Wallingford campus of Masonicare in 2009. By then, she had already been volunteering at the Health Center for many years.

"I retired from my job as an aide in the Hamden School System in 1993," Evelyn recalls. "I had been working for five days a week and I couldn't go from that to just sitting around the house. Sure, I had my husband and I cooked and cleaned, but I needed something else to do. Since my mother was living at the Walker Dorm (now part of Masonicare Health Center), and I belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star, it made sense for me to volunteer at Masonicare."

Evelyn brings her organizational skills and attention to detail to her work, always finding ways to streamline procedures and improve processes. Her work at Masonicare is constant, helping in many areas including environmental services, the gift shop, convenience store, as well as the volunteer department, where she maintains records, prices merchandise, and plans ahead for special events and holidays.

She's picked up some new skills along the way.

"When we got the new cash register in the gift shop," Evelyn says, "I refused to use it because I had no computer experience and I'm not one for technical things. It seemed too beyond me. But Carla Young, the volunteer

coordinator, needed extra help in the store during the week. She promised me, 'I'll stand right next to you and show you what to do.' It took time, believe me, but I picked it up eventually."

When she's not working, Evelyn enjoys playing pinocle a few nights a week with friends, spending time with her neighbors, or shopping.

"I don't spend a lot of time in front of the television," she says, "but I do watch sports. I love football. I like the Red Sox, too, though I find baseball a little boring."

A recent recipient of the prestigious Luke Lockwood Award for distinguished service to Masonicare, Evelyn suspects that she gets as much out of her work as Masonicare does ... and she's right. At Masonicare Health Center alone, 450 volunteers contributed nearly 50,000 hours of service in 2011.

By easing the workload of our clinical and administrative staff and making life more comfortable for our residents and patients, Evelyn and her fellow volunteers deserve a sizable share of the credit for Masonicare's success. Their hard work is very much appreciated!

Your gifts to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut will help create "Masonicare Experiences"



Masonicare Volunteer Evelyn Della Rocco

for others. To find out how you can support The Foundation or to make a gift, please call 203-679-5555 or 800-562-3952. You can also donate online at www.masonicare.org/mcf.

We thank our Masonic family for their continued support.

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Histories of individual lodges rarely get published and distributed beyond the membership or those interested in that lodge. One recently published by Karl Van Valkenburgh from St. Mark's Lodge No. 91, Granby, now Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury, is different. While being a chronicle of the history of St. Mark's No. 91, it is interesting reading for lovers of local history. Well written, concise and to the point, *Fraternity in a Small Town* discusses the rise of civic and cultural organizations in small communities and places a special interest on the rise of Freemasonry in Granby.

The author is a Past Master who retired after working for many years at Travelers Insurance. WB Van Valkenburgh is a selectman in Granby. The book can be ordered through www.blurb.com/bookstore for \$6.95.



The next time one is in New London, look down State Street from the courthouse to the railroad station. In 1775, the broad road is wide enough to look out over the Thames River. Picture William Coit (1742-1821) a large man, thirty-three years old, drilling the soldiers with scores of people watching as the news from Lexington and Concord alarms this seaport village.

Joshua Hempsted mentioned in his diary that William, the son of Daniel Coit, was baptized on December 5, 1742. Hempsted mentioned it because Daniel Coit was a prominent citizen of the community. By 1775, Coit was already a Mason and one

of six names on the petition for the charter of American Union Lodge, a traveling military lodge. Coit fought at Bunker Hill and was a Yale graduate. In 1764, he became a Mason at St John's Lodge of Middletown, which, in 1789, received the number 2 when the Grand Lodge of Connecticut was formed.

When MW William Saars wrote his paper on Coit, little could be found of his Masonic participation after signing his name on the petition of American Union Lodge. Historians have failed to uncover any indication that he was involved in the formation of Union Lodge in New London in 1795.

While Coit was prominent during the Revolution, he ran into some unfortunate circumstances in the 1790s. In September of 1781, Benedict Arnold turned against his native state and attacked and burned the town. Later in the skirmish, Coit was taken prisoner and had some health issues.

Coit moved to Norwich for some trade interests had moved his operations there. He and his brother, Thomas, erected stores on the west bank of the Thames, on land used by the Mohegan Indians. By 1792 he was awarded lands in the Western Reserve in what is now Ohio, because of his losses suffered in New London. Then, in 1793, fire



destroyed his stores near what is now Chelsea Parade in Norwich. He had enough of Connecticut and left for the Carolinas in 1797 and died there. We hope that some more Masonic history of William Coit will sometime re-surface.



The town of Colchester is embarking on a project to honor past First Selectmen. William Begg Gerhardt was First Selectman for nearly two decades. Born in Nova

Scotia, he studied at McGill University and UConn, before settling in Colchester. Bro. Gerhardt joined Wooster Lodge No. 10 and became Worshipful Master. Like at least two of our living Past Grand Masters Stan Sheldon and Len D'Amico, he knew how to govern a small town and please its citizens.

In the late 1930's, there was an over-population of foxes in Eastern Connecticut and bounties were created. Gerhardt, to avoid the situation of exuberant hunters taking the bodies to various towns and getting multiple awards (the sum of \$3), decided that the town (Town Clerk) would punch a hole in the ear of the foxes corpse so the bounty could not be collected more than once.

While town records do not show in any detail if multiple collections were frequent, it was a concern that was carried over to surrounding towns.

Ladies Hospitality Salon

at Grand Lodge Session

For Evening Relaxation for the Ladies in the Garden Room

Sunday evening, March 25 (following the close of the Banquet)

*Light Piano and Light Repast Tea Rings, Scones, Italian Pastries,
Fruit, Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks, Wine, Cheese, et al*

Catered by


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Sponsored by
Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington with
Newington Chapter No. 115,
Order of Eastern Star



For information contact: WB Steve Gorman, 860-916-1162, roughashlar@ctfreemasons.net

Hiram the Builder: for Established Masons

by Michael B. Dodge

Following the Grand Lodge session this March, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut will be initiating a new program called the "Hiram the Builder Award."

When the Perfect Ashlar Award (PAA) for new Masons was introduced, the Grand Lodge received many inquiries from "established Masons" (those with more than a year's service to the fraternity) asking if they could participate in the PAA. While every brother is encouraged to follow the path laid forth in the PAA, it became clear there was interest in a similar program for established Masons.

The program is called the "Hiram the Builder Award" because just as Hiram worked to build the magnificent Temple of Solomon, participants will work to build relationships, expand their Masonic knowledge, and strengthen Connecticut Freemasonry.

The program requires two years to complete, and will not be easy to earn! It is designed to be difficult, and the objective is not to find easy ways to achieve, but to face challenges head on and work to test one's own abilities. When asking about requirements, participants should expect the more difficult option to be the proper course of action.

District Deputies will be briefed and receive information after the session on March 26, but this is an opportunity to view the requirements before the program officially begins. After March 26, the forms will be available on the Grand Lodge website in the awards section.

Membership and Retention (do all)

Connect with an inactive brother and bring him back to lodge*

Sponsor at least one candidate or affiliate into the lodge*

Serve on at least two investigating committees*

Education (do five)

Attend two Grand Lodge sponsored educational programs/seminars*

Present 3 Masonic education programs in open lodge

Mentor a candidate with their proficiency
Mentor a new candidate in their Perfect Ashlar Award

Learn and present in lodge one of the following lectures: Entered Apprentice second section, Entered Apprentice third section, long form Middle Chamber lecture, or Master Mason second section lecture

Learn and present the Charge for all three degrees

Learn and present at least one of the Charges for a lodge installation

Attend at least one meeting of three

different Grand Lodge committees as a visitor/observer (three meetings total)

Travelling (do six)

Visit all the other lodges in your subdistrict*

Attend at least one District Deputy's official visitation/evaluation at another lodge to which you do not belong

Over two years, attend the installation ceremonies at least 50% of the lodges in your district

Visit three lodges to which you do not belong, in at least two other districts (six lodges total, not three)

Visit at least one lodge in another jurisdiction to which you do not belong

Attend all three degrees in lodges other than ones to which you belong

Earn your Traveling Man Masonic Passport lapel pin

Attend a table lodge or Ladies at Table in another district

Attend two public events or fundraisers at a lodge you do not belong to

Leadership, planning, support, and lodge administration (do fifteen)

Attend a DeMolay or Rainbow meeting, event, or installation*

Assist in organizing and running your lodge's annual Open House or some other membership event*

Attend at least 70% of your lodge's stated communications over the course of two years*

Plan and lead at least one lodge social activity, lodge fundraiser, or lodge charitable event*

Take a guided tour of the Masonic facilities in Wallingford or Newtown*

Attend 75% of your district's Blue Lodge Council meetings over a 2-year period

Attend the annual and semi-annual communications of Grand Lodge

Attend a Masonic memorial/funeral service

Participate in a CTCHIP training event

Assist in organizing and running a CTCHIP event or a Blood Drive

Volunteer and serve on a Grand Lodge committee or subcommittee

Submit at least two articles to *Connecticut Freemasons*

Submit content for your lodge website

Submit content for your lodge trestleboard/newsletter

Attend St. John's religious services or visit a worship services at a

CONTEST!

There is no logo or graphic associated with the "Hiram the Builder" award. If you have an idea, the Grand Lodge is interested on receiving your design. Please email your submission as a high quality image to awards@ctfreemasons.net or by mail to the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, ATTN: HTBA Logo Contest, Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492



Masonicare facility

Attend a Masonic seasonal gathering or recognition ceremony

Attend a Grand Lodge corner stone laying, building or monument dedication, or lodge rededication

Attend 50% of your lodge's building corporation meetings over 2 years

Actively serve on at least one lodge committee or subcommittee (including building corporation committees/subcommittees, Fellowcraft club committees/subcommittees, etc.) per year

Be the contact person for a lodge EMR inquiry

* Compulsory Requirements

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147 Charter Oak Ave., Hartford, CT 06106
860.524.4471
www.whopa.com

FROM THE DESK OF:

Bro. Stephen B. McPherson President & CEO of Masonicare



Remember the phrase “things happen in three’s?” In late January, I participated in a panel discussion at Masonicare at Ashlar Village on the importance of planning. Sharing the podium with me were an elder law attorney, a social worker, and a long-term care insurance agent. Many insightful questions were asked and many anecdotal stories shared on how the lack of planning for future healthcare needs can result in extreme stress and, often, bad decisions.

A week or so later, I attended a Blue Lodge Council meeting to talk about Masonicare and the good work we do each day. Afterward, there were similar questions on how and when to access our continuum of services, and when one ought to begin planning. The best response to the planning question is “yesterday!” If that doesn’t apply, try “right now.”

On a more personal note, I received a call from an elderly former neighbor who had fallen. After two weeks, his pain was not getting better and he

wasn’t satisfied with the advice he was getting. He was seeking help on where to turn. After a visit with one of our physicians in Masonicare Primary Care, a pain management program was begun. This was followed by therapy in the rehabilitation department at Masonicare Health Center. Now that my friend is well on the road to recovery, his family is beginning a discussion on independent living options on our Wallingford campus.

My friend is one of the lucky ones. Things seem to have fallen in place in an orderly fashion. Unfortunately, the more typical scenario is a frantic family discussion culminating in a tension-filled decision – and oftentimes, one the senior hasn’t fully participated in.

By the time you read this, I will have joined MW James T. McWain, his wife Bonnie, Masonicare chairman and Bro. Howard Orr and Bro. Carl Anderson for our annual reunion visit with Connecticut Masons who’ve retired to Florida. These “Nutmegger” reunions

are a great opportunity to re-acquaint with friends of Masonicare. At these gatherings, we frequently encounter musings about the best timing to “come back home.” Our message is this: plan, plan, plan. By all means, fill out an application for services and get on our wait list. We hope you will never need us, but if you do, the wait list is your passport.

Have you begun your future health care planning? Is a Masonicare service something you would prefer? Start planning now.

Call Masonicare Community Services at 800-982-3919 or the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997.

Sincerely and fraternally,

We'll take you -
**OUT TO THE
BALL GAME!**

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\$111.00 per person

Includes:

Roundtrip motor coach transportation
Ticket (sections 233B & 234)
Tailgate party on the bus (*subs/chips/beverages*)
Driver gratuity

**Call Lisa Randi to reserve your seat!
203-679-6111**

YOU MUST BE INDEPENDENT OR HAVE ASSISTANCE

Masonicare

Saturday, April 28, 2012 • Yankee Stadium



NY Yankees vs. Detroit Tigers
12:30 p.m. departure
from MHC Lot D & Ashlar Village/Bridgehouse entrance
4:00 p.m. game starts
Return trip — 30 minutes after game conclusion



Chamber of Reflection

by Justin Duffy and Eugene Meltzer

How should a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry be prepared? We are all familiar with the standard method of preparation. One question rarely asked is "what should a candidate's initial experience with the Masonic mysteries be?" Our ritual teaches that the internal, and not the external, qualities of a man are what make him worthy to be made a Mason. That being the case, then why is more attention paid to the externals, the traditional preparations, instead the internal initial experience with Masonry?

A significant amount of time focuses on the candidate's physical preparation, however,

at Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4, West Hartford, there is an attempt to do better by focusing on the initial experience of initiation, the candidate's state of mind, and his overall experience in his first step in Masonry.

In several parts of the world, the first experience with the fraternity would be drastically different. In those places Freemasonry prepares a candidate for initiation in both body and mind, using a Masonic tradition known as the Chamber of Reflection.

The Chamber of Reflection is an allegory-filled ritual that sets a proper and solemn tone for the Masonic steps a candidate is about to take. Picture a candidate

prepared for initiation by being hoodwinked, and, after knocking, conducted into a small, dark room, the Chamber of Reflection. The chamber contains a simple

table covered in a black cloth, a simple wooden chair, and various implements both on the table and lining the walls.

When the candidate's hoodwink is removed, he is either asked a series of questions, handed a piece of paper with the same questions on it, or simply told to reflect on his choice to join the fraternity, as well as ponder the various symbols and implements contained in the Chamber.

The meanings behind these symbols and an expanded description of the Chamber and its uses can be found in the Philosophic Lodge of Research paper *The Chamber of Reflection* by WB Justin A. Duffy. A presentation about the Chamber by Brother Duffy inspired the brethren or Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4 to construct a Chamber of Reflection in their building. They converted a small attic storage room into the dark Chamber. All that was required was black paint, black screens, a small table, a chair, and the various implements, all of which were easily obtained.

The Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4. Chamber of Reflection had its



inaugural use at the January 16 Entered Apprentice degree. Four candidates were brought one individually brought into the Chamber and reflected on the solemnity and importance of the step they were about to take. They were able to clear their minds, and become better mentally prepared for what awaited them. Discussions with the candidates after the degree confirmed the impact the Chamber had in preparing them for their first step in their Masonic journey. It enhanced the tone, importance, and solemnity of the ritual that followed.

It is likely that candidates approaching Freemasonry today have been primed by books like *The Lost Symbol*, movies like *National Treasure*, and documentaries on the History, Discovery, and National Geographic channels. They expect to find an esoteric brotherhood steeped in mystery and symbolism. They truly expect "a course of moral instruction veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols." It is a duty of every Mason to make sure that candidates and brothers going through the degrees do not simply see the craft as a social club, but as an ancient tradition teaching moral and brotherly aptitude veiled in Masonic mysticism and allegory. It is the duty of a lodge to provide the knowledge that new brothers seek. Taking the time to make those first steps more meaningful will enable the ritual of the Entered Apprentice degree to have a profound impact. Steps like these will make for better Masons, who will one day will be the face of our fraternity.

Please join us for the

Masonic Family Winter Gathering

Friday, March 16, 2012
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Masonicare at Newtown
139 Toddy Hill Road, Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Social time, hors d'oeuvres
Recognition Awards
Tours of Masonicare at Newtown

R.S.V.P. to
Bro. Carl H. Anderson
Vice President for Fraternal Relations
at Office 203-679-6917 or Fax 203-679-6600

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Exciting times at Hartford Evergreen No. 88



Brother Harold J. Hallet, center, receives congratulations for 65 years of Masonic service from RW Donald Dean, left, and WM Norman Miller.

by Keith Brown

As every Past Master knows, the clock ticks quickly as his term expires and the new Master awaits his installation. Each seeks the right words to say in thanks to his officers and in welcoming all those in attendance.

However, at Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88, South Windsor, Worshipful Master Norman Miller had a distinct privilege as one of his final acts in the East. Along with Bro. Donald Dean, Right Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon, he presented Brother Harold J. Hallet of Port Richey, Florida, with a certificate of appreciation for 65 years of Masonic dedication.

Brother Hallet was visiting family in Connecticut for the Christmas holiday and was delighted to be back for the officer installation.

The lodge moved in high gear in 2012

with an Entered Apprentice degree being held on Saturday, January 14 in conjunction with Wyllys St. Johns Lodge No. 4, West Hartford, and Composite Lodge No. 28, South Glastonbury.

Shortly afterwards, Hartford Evergreen and Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, combined for a Super Bowl party. A spirited group of brothers and their guests enjoyed several batches of chili, played pool, and watched a fantastic football game! While team allegiances varied, the fellowship was strong and may become an annual event.

On February 20, the lodge held another Entered Apprentice degree and welcomed a new brother, Andrew Pogg, to its membership. Andrew is a fourth generation Mason of Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88. His father, Brother Eric Pogg, was on hand to see his son join the craft.

Sequin-Level Lodge Helps the Hungry

by Chuck Z. Landau

On Sunday, January 29, the brothers of Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, banded together to benefit the Food Bank of Newington Social Services. There are few charitable acts simpler than feeding the hungry.

The Food Bank has a difficult time after the holidays. The spending in December eventually leads to January bills. Many people think of charity in December, but have to concentrate in January and February on paying off their own credit cards.

Junior Deacon Steve Alvarez,

working with WB Larry S. Baker, started the ball rolling with some advance publicity. They placed two signs, one in the center of Newington and one in front of the lodge building. Articles were sent to local papers, but *Connecticut Freemasons* and Facebook were most productive. The lodge offered a hearty pancake, eggs, and sausage breakfast to those who brought a bag of non-perishable food or a cash donation. As the donors joined the lodge in the noble cause of feeding the hungry, they were

asked to celebrate helping others and the spirit of charity and fellowship. A few private tours of the lodge hall were also given to traveling Masons and perspective candidates.

The dining room filled to capacity several times. A menu – ticket system kept each individual order in a chronological queue,

ensuring hot meals to order to those who attended. Ninety five breakfasts were served, and enough food was delivered the next day to the Food Bank to completely fill a van. Under Bro. Steve's direction, fifteen brothers took turns cooking, serving, and cleaning in the spirit of brotherhood.



The brothers of Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, relax after their breakfast to collect non-perishable food for Newington's Food Bank.



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**GOOD FELLOWSHIP
AT ASHLAR VILLAGE**

Dinner Meetings • Second Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

For information contact Secretary Gary Matican,
Membership Chairman at 203 410-9733

COMING IN APRIL AND MAY

FRATERNAL FORUMS

Hosted by the Grand Master across the state
Casual conversation and discussion

Liberty-Continental 76 Honors Past Master

by Mark Anthony Orsini

February 4 marked two years since Liberty-Continental Lodge No. 76's Past Master Lawrence M. Parsons was called to the celestial lodge.

Among his many skills and talents, Brother Larry was an experienced chef who loved preparing many fellowship meals.

In his memory, the brothers of Liberty-Continental Lodge No. 76, Waterbury, held a beef stew dinner in his honor prior to their February 6 stated communication. All contributions collected were donated to a charity he supported, the St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Waterbury, providing relief to the city's homeless and hungry.



photo by Chris Martinelli

Called to the Celestial Lodge

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

Amedeo S. BucciAcacia 85	Fredric P. SeamansEvening Star 101	Lloyd E. Brown Sr Meridian 77
Frederick J. Ramsey IIIAcacia 85	William G. Fenn.....Federal 17	R. Eugene Hallett Meridian 77
Stewart E. Bograd America-St. John's 8	Francis F. Berkley.....Fidelity-St. John's 3	Lyman H. Francis Moosup 113
Rudolf M. Fabian America-St. John's 8	Thomas Daniels JrFidelity-St. John's 3	William M. Bissell..... Old Well 108
Albert S. Metzger.....Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	Louis L. FelixFidelity-St. John's 3	Siebert Glueck Old Well 108
John E. Ready America-St. John's 8	Donald E. Jennings.....Fidelity-St. John's 3	James G. Coclin Orange 143
John K. Sorensen America-St. John's 8	Harold A. MitchellFidelity-St. John's 3	Henry L. Sherwood..... Orange 143
George E. Swanson America-St. John's 8	Charles Bangert Jr Frederick Franklin 14	Harold K. Sorensen..... Orange 143
Jack A. Wallis..... Anchor 112	Donald E. Bottomley.. Frederick Franklin 14	Francis C. Tinker Putnam 46
Ruggiero S. Fico Ansantawae 89	Ernest J. Brackett Frederick Franklin 14	Arthur H. Epstein Sequin-Level 140
Philip G. Zink Ansantawae 89	Roland L. Brown Frederick Franklin 14	Donald C. Murray..... Silas Deane 147
William J. F. Goetjen..... Ark 39	Henry F. Burton..... Frederick Franklin 14	Robert W. HoldenSomerset-St. James 34
Harold C. Notzelmann..... Ark 39	Russell W. AhlquistFriendship 33	Richard H. Hemingson..... St. Andrew's 64
Arthur G. Sonntag..... Ark 39	James P. McMahonFriendship 33	Warren H. Link..... St. John's 6
Theodore B. Bidwell Brainard 102	Donald R. Spencer.....Friendship 33	Robert A. Ewer..... St. Paul's 11
Raymond L. Ellis..... Brainard 102	Lothar F. FrankFriendship Tuscan 145	Robert A. Jefferies..... St. Paul's 11
Ray Pamatian Brainard 102	Andrew J. ReinertsenHarmony 67	Robert A. Duryea..... Temple 16
Gerard J. Scarano Brainard 102	Milton J. PritchardHartford Evergreen 88	John A. DiNapoli..... Temple 65
Marl A. Chase Center 97	Byron C. Brown Jr.....Hiram 1	Warren F. Haven Temple 65
Albert E. C. Manton..... Columbia 25	Robert P. BuskHiram 1	Charles H. Hummel Temple 65
Donald P. Mayo Columbia 25	Frederick C. HelwigHiram 1	Clyde W. Jacobs..... Union 31
Allen R. Elliott..... Compass 9	Edwin EmmonsHousatonic 61	Francis E. Rebmann Jr Union 31
Leslie Bailey..... Composite 28	Clayton A. BurtIvanhoe 107	William F. Sakiewicz..... Union 31
Glenn A. Bogardus..... Composite 28	George W. Arms Jr..... King Hiram 12	Earl M. DuMont..... Unity 148
John A. Hinckley..... Composite 28	George W. Steller..... King Hiram 12	Michael Powell.....Friendship 33
James Mackintosh Jr Composite 28	Edward A. ChmielinskiKing Solomons 7	David L. Shulda Unity 148
William E. Munsell..... Composite 28	Hiram W. Peck Jr..... King Solomons 7	Alfred J. Williamson Unity 148
William A. Pope..... Composite 28	George C. Sturges..... King Solomons 7	Robert Iverson Warren 51
Kenneth R. Berchem Corinthian 104	Howard B. Watts King Solomons 7	Donald Bellinger..... Washington 81
John S. Sansone Corinthian 104	Roger W. Bryson.....Liberty-Continental 76	Douglas J. Partridge Washington 81
Martin W. Slabey..... Corinthian 104	Vincent A. Campisi.....Liberty-Continental 76	Gordon J. Simons Wolcott 146
Gardner C. Bush Jr..... Day Spring 30	Frederick E. Hennick .Liberty-Continental 76	Harold D. Sloat Wooster 79
Louis F. Gosch Day Spring 30	Theodore F. Rozum.....Liberty-Continental 76	Stanley M. Arnold Wyllys-St. John's 4
Theodore A. Shelton..... Day Spring 30	David S. SteeleLiberty-Continental 76	Harold C. Davis Jr..... Wyllys-St. John's 4
Albert S. Metzger..... Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	Robert B. SturgesLiberty-Continental 76	Melvin F. Evarts Wyllys-St. John's 4
Herbert F. Hooper..... Eastern Star 44	J. Alfred SynnettLiberty-Continental 76	Lewis H. Keeney Wyllys-St. John's 4
Edward P. Boyhen Eureka 83	G. Hall WallingLiberty-Continental 76	Zaven C. Kurkjian Wyllys-St. John's 4
Arthur R. Diehr Eureka 83	Robert J. RichmondManchester 73	Bernard P. Mandell Wyllys-St. John's 4
Walker T. Taylor Eureka 83	Samuel J. Robb JrManchester 73	John M. Muir Wyllys-St. John's 4

Valley of Hartford, A.A.S.R. *From the desk of David R. Blythe, Sr., Valley Secretary*

On Friday, January 27, the Valley held its annual graduation night dinner for the members of the 2011 Fall Class, and their ladies. Ill. Bro. David L. Sharkis, 33°, Deputy for the Connecticut, was in attendance and joined Commander-in-Chief Ill. Bro. Francis G. Way, MSA, 33°, and the heads of the other bodies of the Valley of Hartford and their ladies, in presenting the candidates' Scottish Rite 32° certificates. Once again Bro. Frank Dlugoleski, his wife, several members of the valley

and their ladies, and Ill. Bro. Way's daughters, prepared and served the meals and did their usual outstanding job.

On Saturday, February 4, as part of the Valley's Family Life Program, 55 members of the Valley, their ladies, and friends attended the UConn/Rutgers ladies basketball game at Storrs. In the past, the Valley's Family Life programs have included UConn football and basketball games, musicals at the Goodspeed Opera House, an annual picnic/baseball game at the Rock Cats stadium, and also bus trips. The Family Life Committee is currently working on a fall bus trip that we hope will be of interest to all.

As announced in the January/March issue of *View of the Valley*, we are again holding pre-degree buffet-style dinners, starting at 6:00 p.m., at the Sphinx Shrine facility. The price is \$12 per meal and advance reservations are required. Meals scheduled for March are on Thursday, March 8 and Thursday, March 22.

When we wrap up our spring degree schedule on April 21, the newly rewritten 32° will be portrayed. The Valley of Hartford has been selected by the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction to portray this combination of the current 31°

and 32°. Anyone attending will be credited with viewing both the 31° and 32°. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and the degree at 10:00 a.m. A social period and a prime rib luncheon will be held immediately after the session. The price for the luncheon will be \$15 if paid in advance, otherwise \$20 with an advance reservation and paid at the door. A limited number of \$25 dinners are available for last minute walk-ins with no advance reservation. Reservation forms can be found in *View of the Valley*, or at the Valley of Hartford website, www.valleyofhartford.org.

The Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, was formed in 1813, and will be celebrating its 200th anniversary during 2012 and 2013. If you know of a Master Mason who you feel would make a good addition to the Scottish Rite family, or know one who is looking for more light in our Masonic fraternity, mention that the Valley of Hartford will be accepting applications for the spring class up to 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 8.

Petitions are available at the valley website. Information is also available at the Valley office at 860-666-0712 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, or at sect@snet.net.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate this brother who has achieved 75 years of Masonic membership.

Howard Weinz.....*Frederick Franklin 14*

We congratulate these brothers who have achieved 50 years of Masonic membership.

- Herbert I. Ahrens.....*Ansantawae 89*
- Walter E. Hassenmayer.....*Ansantawae 89*
- Thomas R. Richards.....*Ansantawae 89*
- Robert J. Mills.....*Bay View 120*
- Norman D. Davis.....*Brainard 102*
- Jeffrey W. Cummings.....*Columbia 25*
- Ernest J. O'Leary.....*Corner Stone-Quinebaug 122*
- Arnold C. Hinckley.....*Eastern Star 44*
- Milton R. Johnson.....*Eastern Star 44*
- Harry A. Walch.....*Fayette 69*
- Ralph C. Barron Jr.....*Fayette 69*
- Robert S. Kimble.....*Federal 17*
- Robert G. MacQuarrie.....*Fidelity-St. John's 3*
- George M. Reed.....*Friendship 33*
- Robert W. Brummett.....*Friendship 33*
- Walter L. Schreiber.....*Housatonic 61*
- Stephen Omark.....*Manchester 73*
- Roger A. Mahieu.....*Seneca 55*
- Carl A. Magnuson.....*Shepherd-Salem 78*
- Fortunato A. Schiavo.....*St. John's 6*
- Dennis W. Evans.....*Trumbull 22*
- Melvin H. Friedman.....*Union 40*
- Kurt Raillard.....*Union 5*
- David C. Rappe.....*Uriel 24*
- Arthur S. Moore.....*Uriel 24*
- Robert C. Graves.....*Washington 19*
- Leonard H. Bucher.....*Widow's Son 66*
- Kenneth A. Johnson.....*Wyllys-St. John's 4*
- Kenneth R. Milton.....*Wyllys-St. John's 4*



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APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2012 SPRING CLASS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MARCH 8

☞ **MARCH 2012 SPRING SCHEDULE** ☞

Thursday, March 8 • 14° and 15° Portrayals at 7:30 p.m.
New candidates who did not attend the portrayal of the 4° on February 23 need to report to see the 4° portrayal at 7:00 p.m.
Pre-degree dinner at 6:00 p.m. – advance reservations required

Thursday, March 22 • 18° (V) Portrayal at 7:30 p.m.
Pre-degree dinner available at 6:00 p.m. – advance reservations required

If at you would like more information about becoming a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, or would like a copy of Scottish Rite Informational DVD Contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary, at the Valley of Hartford Office 860-666-0712, or sect@snet.net or visit our Valley Website: www.valleyofhartford.org

Grand Master McWain Receives DeMolay Legion of Honor

by Carl G. Ek

Grand Master James T. McWain often relates the story of how he became a Master Mason in his native Vermont while in college, and then leaving home for his military career only 5 days after he was raised. A prequel to that story is that Bro. Jim, while in college, and a number of his classmates also joined the Order of DeMolay at Robert Burns Chapter in Norwich, Vermont. More than five decades have passed since he took his degrees, but on February 21, DeMolay honored Bro. Jim's life of service by creating him a member of the Legion of Honor.

The degree was conferred in the Egyptian Room of the New Haven Masonic Temple before family, friends, and a large contingent of Grand Lodge officers. DeMolay Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III, presided, and the remainder of the team he assembled (all holders of the Legion of Honor) also wore "the purple of the fraternity" along with their DeMolay honors.

Serving as team chaplain was special guest MW Richard J. Stewart, Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts and a close friend of the honoree. (A story on

page 3 of this issue describes how Grand Master McWain honored Grand Master -9*-Stewart with Connecticut's highest Masonic recognition, the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Silver for Eminent Masonic Service.) Also present as a part of the Massachusetts delegation were Executive Officer Brian S. Noble and State Master Councilor Tim Nogueira, who were formally received.

Past Grand Masters Kenneth B. Hawkins and George S. Greytak occupied the West and South, respectively, while the team was completed by RWPDD's and Deputy Executive Officers Brian E. Beals and Carl G. Ek. The public DeMolay opening and closing were exemplified by the State Officers under the direction of State Master Councilor Paul Evangelista.

In his remarks, Bro. McWain noted how he had kept involved with his fraternal activities wherever his nearly three-decade military career had taken him. He thanked EO Needham and DeMolay, his corps of Grand Lodge officers, and especially his wife and best friend Bonnie for helping to make the event one of the highlights of his term.



Dignitaries gather after the DeMolay Legion of Honor for Grand Master James T. McWain. From left: Massachusetts Executive Officer Brian S. Noble; presiding officer and Connecticut Executive Officer Harry E. Needham, III; MWM Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr.; the honoree; and RW Brian E. Beals; State Master Councilor Paul Evangelista; MW George S. Greytak; Massachusetts MW Richard J. Stewart; and Massachusetts State Master Councilor Tim Nogueira. Behind the camera is RW Carl G. Ek.

Project Warmth Benefits

by Roy Nealon

The Fellowcraft club of Washington Lodge No. 19, Monroe, held a fundraiser for Project Warmth for the town of Monroe. Project Warmth is a program in town that directly helps folks in need of assistance when they run out of heat. The Fellowcraft Club of the lodge put on a bourbon, beer, and cigar fundraiser to raise money for the cause.



The money raised was presented to the director of Project Warmth, Barbara Beard, and Monroe First Selectman Steve Vavrak. Also in the picture is WM David Cline, Anthony Agosto (Fellowcraft Club President), Roy Nealon (Fellowcraft Club Secretary).

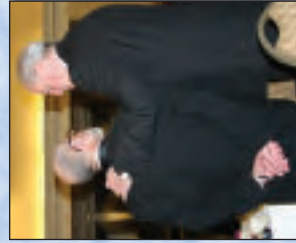
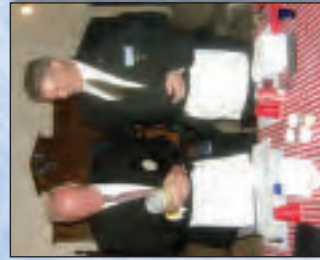
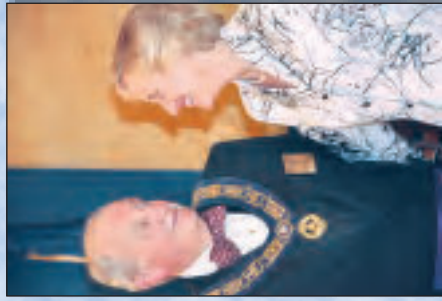
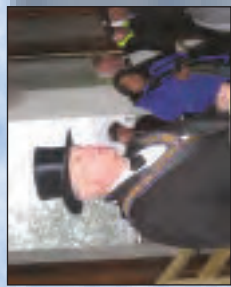
2012 DeMolay Foundation Officers

The officers and directors of the Connecticut DeMolay Foundation, Inc., were elected for the coming year at the recent annual meeting. The Foundation's next fund raiser is the 4th Annual Connecticut DeMolay Golf Tournament, to be held at The Farms Country Club, Wallingford, on June 12 and open to all.



The officers of Connecticut DeMolay Foundation are, front from left, Christopher J.M. Buck, secretary; Howard W. Orr, vice president; Christopher J. Earle, president; and Scott A. Bishel, treasurer. Back row, from left, are directors Carl G. Ek; Harry E. Needham, III; John F. Martin; Russell W. George, also secretary-emeritus; and Eric J. Pogg.

A Salute to MW Jim McWain!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Because of the support given to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation's initiative to raise funds earmarked for the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory, Grand Master McWain and Deputy Grand Master Arsenau were able to present a substantial check to Bro. Ron Kemp, director of development, at the February Grand Master's Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

The Cardiac Research Institute is conducting important ground breaking research studying the causes of heart arrhythmias. The institute has not only become recognized as a world-class cardiac research center, but also is being recognized for what Freemasonry does for humanity.

The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation's donation was a direct result of the Grand Master's Appeal and the popular choice of supporting the Cardiac Research Institute at the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory.



Brothers Cut Firewood for a Widow

by Charlie Yohe

RW Robert L. Thompson, Sr. was made aware of a Masonic widow in distress on Monday, January 23. A Masonic widow in Norfolk who relies on a woodstove for her primary heat source had exhausted her supply of wood.

RW Bobby had a large supply of tree length wood that was "free for the taking," and just needed to be cut and split.

Through "Call 'em All" and personal contact, a plea was made to the brothers of Montgomery Lodge No. 13, Lakeville, and Housatonic Lodge No. 61, Canaan, to assemble at RW Thompson's property in Millerton, New York, where a mountain of logs was waiting. Eighteen would be loggers assembled on a

Saturday morning, chainsaws and logsplitters at the ready and the work began. In addition to the brothers from the two lodges, several non-Masons who had heard about the effort also participated.

Initially, five pickup trucks were loaded and convoyed to Norfolk. By late Saturday afternoon, a total of five cords had been cut, split, hauled, and stacked for the widow. She was overcome by emotion at what the Masonic community did for her in a day's time. For the brothers' part, they received some much needed exercise and the satisfaction that comes with knowing that they helped in some small way to make a widow's life a little better.

MW Charlie Yohe's gas powered splitter was not

transportable due to a tire issue, so he took his 22 pound Monster Maul and split a half of cord

of wood by hand while other brothers manned the two gas powered splitters.



A mountain of wood was waiting for an army of Masons to come cut, split, and deliver it to a widow in distress in Norfolk.



Columbia's Ladies at Table

by Arnie Grot

Brothers, wives, and friends assembled to enjoy fellowship at Ladies at Table at Columbia Lodge No. 25, South Glastonbury, on February 15. The seven course dinner included a toast preceding each serving

Masons understand and recognize the support they receive from their ladies. Ladies At Table is just one of many ways to show gratitude, and was a very enjoyable night.

The first toast of the Ladies at Table was to everyone's mother. After the toast everyone saluted with "shovels." The head table included MW James T. McWain, Worshipful Master Michael Hudson, District Deputy Andy Zeidler, Shirley Zeidler, and Associated Grand Marshal Richard Claing.

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Busy Again

by Frank W. Bauer

MW George or "Dad" Greytak attended the installation of Hope Assembly No. 46 International Order of the Rainbow for Girls on January 29. Mom Watts was installed as Mother Advisor and Erica B. Sullivan as Worthy Advisor. The installation was held at St. Paul's Lodge No. 11, Litchfield.

Never one to rest while recuperating from his accident, "Dad" George Greytak was busy in Litchfield attending the installation of Hope Assembly.



Valley of New Haven, A.A.S.R. by Michael L. Castroll

March comes roaring in like a lion. On Monday evening, March 5, we gather for the presentation and conferral of the Rose Croix Degree. This 18° presentation brings to light the ancient quest for fulfillment, when the lost

word was discovered, and a new law adopted for the fulfillment of all mankind. Using Jesus of Nazareth as its exemplar the Rose Croix Degree concludes those Scottish Rite Degrees and illustrates most profoundly how

Scottish Rite Masonry, built upon ancient craft Freemasonry, is equitable for all who seek its light. It is most poignant and enlightening.

Our first recorded Most Wise Master, Illustrious Brother Horatio Gates Bronson was raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason in Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven. He affiliated with Trumbull Lodge No. 22 later in his Masonic career. He is listed as the charter master of a lodge in Fort Pierce, Florida. He served as head of all three bodies. The records indicate Illustrious Brother Bronson served as our first Most Wise Master from 1885 to 1888. He was created an Illustrious 33° by our Northern Jurisdiction's Supreme Council in 1887. He was summoned to the right hand of the Great Architect on November 21, 1909.

A more recent Past Most Wise Master, Joseph Paul Fagan was taken by the Grand Architect on

January 16, after a short illness. He was 77. Joe was a friend to all of us. His easy mannerisms and perfection in his ritual were always an example to be followed. Joe was a native of the hamlet of Richibucto Village, Brunswick, Canada, to whose environs his remains were returned.

Last month's Winter Picnic was our sixth. This year's picnic chairman, Jim Kleinkauf really put out a spread. With around 100 in attendance no one on the inside ever noticed the dreariness of winter outside.

Visit our Special Learning Center in Waterbury, and consider becoming a volunteer. Take a ride to our Supreme Council Headquarters some time, and take a tour of the Van Goorden-Williams Library, and the Museum of Our National History, right within the complex. You'll be glad you did.

See you in the Valley...

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Rose Croix Degree

For further information, please contact
Valley Secretary Ill. Vernon K. Cleaves, 33° at 203-269-0336
or any member of the Valley.

Masonicare Helps Make Buying or Selling a Home Trouble-Free

During these tough economic times, buying or selling a home can be a difficult – and often frustrating – proposition. Masonicare is pleased to announce they're now offering an exciting new program that can help you successfully manage the sale of your present home and/or purchase a new home.

The Masonicare Real Estate Advantage Program (REAP), is currently being offered to members of the Masonic fraternity and their families and is also available as an added benefit to Masonicare employees and their families. In addition, individuals who are planning to sell a home and move to one of Masonicare's retirement living communities can take advantage of this great opportunity to make the sale and transition go as smoothly as possible.


If you're planning to sell your home, the program will give you access to the services of a REAP consultant, who will assist with the coordination of the home sale. He or she will work with you to select a qualified listing agent to market your home and refer you to service providers who can assist with any pre-sale home preparation needed. Your consultant will receive bi-

weekly updates from your agent so you can be sure your home listing is receiving the attention and exposure needed to attract qualified buyers.

For those planning to purchase a home, including first-time home buyers, a consultant will give you the guidance and support needed to help you buy smart in today's real estate market.


As an added benefit, you'll receive a non-taxable cash rebate* two to three weeks after the home purchase or sale closes. In order to receive the cash rebate, however, you must register and use the program's referred real estate agent. This free, no-obligation nationwide program is offered through Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Relocation Services.

Whether you're buying or selling a home, you can be confident that with the Masonicare Real Estate Advantage Program, you'll have peace of mind knowing that an experienced and caring team of professionals is behind you all the way. If you'd like to learn more about the program, please contact Lisa Randi, Masonic Management Services Coordinator, at 203-679-6111.




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Stephen Hill — International Kiwanis Leader

by Carl G. Ek

We all know Masons who are involved in organizations that seek to do good for others. These may be fraternal groups that are a part of the Masonic family, religious communities, or even youth sports. Often, they are the various service clubs that are part of most cities and towns in Connecticut. These Masons frequently advance to leadership roles in these groups because they are dedicated and hard-working.

Into that latter category falls Worshipful Brother Stephen T. Hill, a Past Master of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford. Bro. Steve is the first-ever Connecticut member of Kiwanis International to serve as one of its 15 International Trustees. These Trustees, together with two elected officers, set policy for the worldwide 97-year-old service organization.

Steve joined Kiwanis International in 1992, and he has served three separate terms as president of the Norwalk Kiwanis Club. In 2001, Steve was chosen as governor of the New England District, which not only includes the traditional six states, but also Bermuda. During his one-year term, Steve visited close to two-thirds of the Kiwanis Clubs in his district, and was only the

sixth recipient in 96 years of the "Distinguished Governor" award. Although the Hills had lived in Milford for more than 20 years, he realized he knew few people in his local community. Stopping one evening at the Milford Masonic building, Steve met WB John D. Williams, Jr., the lodge's 1987 Master. Soon, Steve's Masonic journey was under way, and he was raised a Master Mason on February 20, 2004.

Steve immediately became a pro-tem Steward, only to become the pro-tem Junior Deacon, then Installed as Junior Deacon for 2005, but moved across the room due to the departure of the Senior Deacon. In 2006, he was elected Junior Warden, and became Worshipful Master in 2008. His work earned him recognition as Ansantawae's "Mason of the Year" for 2008.

Steve took an interest in the work of Milford Assembly No. 4, International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and was elected chairman of the advisory board. He has also served Milford Masonry as president of the Fellowcraft Club and in multiple terms as Thrice Illustrious Master of Adam Sattig Council, Royal & Select Masters.

In 2011, Steve decided to run for the position of International

Trustee for the Kiwanis organization. He was elected to a three-year term at the convention in Geneva, Switzerland, and credits his Masonic training with helping him to be elected.

"There were 7,000 people in the auditorium," Steve recalled of the election process. I was the only candidate who had memorized my speech. It was like delivering a Masonic lecture. I felt very comfortable.

In his position, Steve attends quarterly five-day trustee meetings around the world, most recently in New Orleans, and in May, will "have to go to Barbados." Of course, Michelle will "have to go with him" on that trip. Steve's professional expertise made him an ideal candidate for the Trustees' finance committee, and each Trustee serves as a counselor to three of the 47 Kiwanis districts worldwide. For this term, his districts include several of the Rocky Mountain states and Eastern Canada.

Steve will attend annual conventions in New Orleans, Vancouver, British Columbia, and Macao, Hong Kong as an International Trustee. At that last convention in 2014, Steve will either retire from international service or possibly run for vice



Stephen Hill

president — a position that could lead to the international presidency of the Kiwanis organization.

Does he find similarities between Masonry and Kiwanis? Steve notes, "Both have a fraternal and brotherhood aspect, certainly. Masonry does some limited community service, while Kiwanis is all about community service." Most importantly, suggests Steve, stepping into leadership positions in either or both groups help in "gaining confidence and being more comfortable" in every phase of life.

When it comes to serving others, there can be no doubt that Bro. Steve Hill is both comfortable and confident — and clearly capable.

Case Award Set to Honor Bro. Hodapp on March 31

by Carl G. Ek

Worshipful Brother Chris Hodapp will be the recipient of the Masonic Lodge of Research "James Royal Case Fellowship" on March 31 in public ceremonies at the New Haven Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue. The evening will begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by the 7:30 p.m. conferral of the award and a presentation by Bro. Hodapp.

The Case Fellowship was first presented by MLR in 1971, and the recipient was Bro. Case himself. In his 6+ decades as a Mason, Jim Case served as Grand Historiographer of most of the grand Masonic bodies of Connecticut. He was a Past Master

of American Lodge of Research in New York City and the author of numerous books and articles on Masonic history. Respected for his work worldwide, Bro. Case began the bicentennial history of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut before being called by the Grand Architect of the Universe in 1987.

Chris Hodapp is the twentieth recipient of the Case Fellowship and the second from Indiana. The first was MWPGM Dwight Smith, also the long-serving Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge. Chris was the almost accidental choice to write Freemasons For Dummies, which became one of the biggest sellers in that franchise's catalog. Since that time, he has written several other

Masonic-related works, some in collaboration with his wife, Alice Von Kannon, who will accompany him to the presentation. Chris also writes a popular Masonic blog.

Those desiring to attend the March 31 dinner must make prepaid reservations through WM Martin Ede not later than March 24. The cost of the dinner, to which ladies and guests are most welcome is \$20 per person, and checks payable to MLR may be sent to Bro. Ede at 9 Simpson Court, Bethany, CT 06524. Questions may be directed to Martin at mede@snet.net.

When Bro. Hodapp came to Connecticut in 2008, space was at a premium to hear his address



and chat with him before and after the meeting as he sold his papers. Another large crowd is anticipated for his upcoming visit.



Sphinx Shrine Open for Business!

The Sphinx Shriners have been hard at work renovating their facilities on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington over the past couple of years. This was done in anticipation of opening the doors of their facility to public banquet hall and meeting room rentals.

The interior was most recently updated. New carpeting was installed in the two main meeting rooms, and the interior was completely repainted freshening up the facility. In addition, a new handicap restroom was installed on the main floor.

On the outside, the front parking lot was expanded. Recently new heating and air conditioning units were updated and replaced. A new roof installed

in the past couple of years started the process of renovations.

The 2012 Potentate, Jean Maheu, along with the Sphinx Building Committee, proudly report that the building is not only for use by the Shrine, but they now welcome the public to rent the facility for meetings, banquets, parties, and other social functions. This particularly includes the many Masonic lodges and appendant bodies in the central Connecticut area.

The Sphinx banquet facility is located off the Berlin Turnpike at 3066 Berlin Turnpike, Newington. To make inquiries about renting a meeting room, please contact Taryn Finley, banquet manager, at 860-666-5449.

Ansantawae's Temple Corp. Honorary Member

by Rob Thomas

On February 9, for her dedicated service and support of

the Masonic Temple Corporation of Milford, Mrs. Margerie B. Zurko was awarded the title of

"Honorary Member." The Temple Corporation consists of all of the members of Ansanatawae Lodge

The award was voted by the trustees to acknowledge Marg's dedicated service and support of the corporation. Mrs. Zurko is a Past Worthy Matron of Lucia Charter Order of Eastern Star and a Past Supreme Queen of Pyremus Temple No. 79, Daughters of the Nile.



Brothers of Ansantawae Lodge who congratulated Mrs. Margerie B. Zurko on her honorary membership were, from left, Chris Buck, Jay Lopez, Jim Demko, Al Brown, Mark Wasserman, Dave Eisenman, Jim Tweedie, Mrs. Zurko, Ray Brooks, Bill Roots, Rob Thomas, Mike Basque, John Hanson, Ken Greenhill, Bruce Rumford, and Scott Sherrick.

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Sequin-Level Lodge 'Takes Ownership'

by Richard F. Denno

A Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness 'Salon' took place at Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, on Thursday, February 16. 'A salon is a gathering of people under the roof of an inspiring host, held partly to amuse one another and partly to refine taste and increase their knowledge of the participants through conversation. (Wikipedia)'

The evening's topic was presented in such a way as to more effectively get the evening's topic, Organ & Tissue Awareness, across to the audience. Before the first course of the dinner, Harry Kiernan, founder of the National Living Organ Donors Foundation, spoke about his efforts in the area of organ/tissue donation.

After Mr. Kiernan's wife passed away, he decided to 'make a difference' in a very bold way. In June of 2007, Harry donated his left kidney to Eileen, a woman he had never met before. The life-giving event inspired him to do more. On February 23, 2010, he chose to donate the left lobe of his liver to Arianna, an 11-month old baby girl he had also never met. Finding more needed to be done, Mr. Kiernan founded the National Living Organ Donors Foundation to help promote all organ donations through awareness, education and support. The charitable organization's website is www.nlodf.org.

Between the soup and salad courses, Craig Akerlind, a two time kidney recipient, spoke. Mr. Akerlind is a board member of the National Living Organ Donors Foundation. Craig received his first transplant in 1984, after years of renal problems. That kidney lasted for over 20 years, and was donated by his brother. In 2004, he needed another kidney, as his transplanted one was failing. He received his

second kidney transplant in 2005, and has been working productively ever since.

As the baked chicken dinner was served, WM Chuck 2.0 Landau spoke about the National and Connecticut waiting list for organs. As of the date of the meeting, over 113,000 patients are on the national wait list with 85% waiting for kidneys. Of those, more than 37% are of African American descent. The United Network for Organ Sharing's website, www.unos.org, has more information on waiting lists nationally and by state. WM Chuck 2.0 is a heart transplant recipient who received his second (thus 2.0) heart nine years ago.

Catherine LaForza, wife of WM Landau, spoke about her experience as a spouse and caregiver. She recalled his initial heart attack and subsequent downturn in health. "As happy as I was that Chuck was receiving his new heart, I kept thinking about how our happiness was at the expense of another family's grief," said LaForza. She recalled getting 'The Call,' which resulted in Chuck 2.0 receiving his new 'lease on life.'

Richard F. Denno spoke about ways individual lodges could 'take ownership' of their Grand Lodge's Masonic Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Program by 'coming off the side lines.' One way he suggested was to register online at www.donatelifenewengland.org, even if already signed up through the Registry of Motor Vehicles. He explained the three advantages of registering online. First, registration can be made 'in honor or memory of a loved one.' Second, the donor may exclude individual organs or tissues. Finally, under the question "How did you hear about this?," by clicking on the Freemason line in the next box, you are proudly registering in the name of the Freemasons.

"To become a 'Super Hero' after registering online, ask all of your email contacts to do the same," said Denno. He closed by recounting a story that proves the effectiveness of the Masonic



Speakers at Sequin-Level's "salon" were, seated from left, Richard Denno and Catherine LaForza, and standing from left, Chuck 2.0 Landau, Harry Kiernan, and Craig Akerlind.

Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Program. Last October, Richard received a call from WB Joseph Bonola of Anchor Lodge. "Sue and I are calling you from the Intensive Care Unit of Hartford Hospital. Sue's mother, Hope Evans, was brought here three weeks ago. After being sick for a number of years, she has requested that she be taken off of all life support," said Bonola. She told Joe and Sue she simply wanted to 'go home and be with her mother.' Having previously spoken to Ms. Evans about organ and tissue donation upon her death (and getting her approval), they took the necessary steps to have that occur. "We thought about the message of our program, and went ahead," said Joe. Over four months went by before they heard of the outcome. The Connecticut Eye Bank sent them a letter in February thanking them for their donation. The Eye Bank stated that two people who were suffering from blindness, had their sight restored. This selfless act is the essence of the Masonic Organ and Tissue Donor Awareness Program.

To financially support the Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Program's efforts, you or your lodge may send a tax-deductible donation to the Connecticut Freemasons Foundation, c/o the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, P.O. Box 69, Wallingford, CT 06492.

Remember: "Don't take your organs to heaven - Heaven knows we need them here!"

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.... in all things charity

by Brad Cooney

Our Rules and Regulations in Connecticut contain a phrase most often used when referring to the differences in ritual allowed within our state which says: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty." Our current Grand Senior Warden Simon LaPlace, first pointed out to me that this phrase comes from an ancient source (perhaps as far back as Saint Augustine) and that the phrase, as we now use it, is incomplete. The complete phrase, is: "In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things charity."

Although commonly attributed to Saint Augustine, born in 354 AD, it is now suggested by some scholars that the real author of this phrase was a German theologian writing in the 1600's named Peter Meiderlin. The phrase appears in a publication in which he used a Latin anagram of his name which became: Rupertus Meledinus. The phrase

has since been used by scholars, speakers and theologians as diverse as Pope John XXIII, John Wesley, George H.W. Bush, and Abraham Lincoln.

The reason I am so intrigued by these "lost words" in our Rules and Regulations is that charity, it seems to me, is a core concept of our craft. We've all heard of the considerable donations given by Freemasons to various worthy causes—amounting to more than two million dollars a day. But charity, for us as brothers, is much more than the mere giving of alms. The word is used in its old sense, when people were taught to act charitably towards one another ...to give each other the benefit of the doubt ...to assume the best in someone until their actions no longer merit that assumption. It is how we are supposed to treat each other as brothers.

The word appears prominently in the 18° in the Scottish Rite. There, the passage from

Corinthians is quoted describing the three virtues: Faith, Hope and Charity. Mackey tells us that the word "Charity" in that Bible passage is a translation of the Greek word "agape," which he describes as fraternal love.

The word "agape" is also used to describe the Festive Board in the Traditional, European, or Colonial Concept lodges. This is especially appropriate, I believe, insofar as in our Festive Boards we receive the direct experience of that fellowship which is an essential part of being a Mason.

Quinta Essentia Lodge will be seeking a charter at the next annual Grand Session, in March. We are a Colonial Concept Lodge, now laboring under dispensation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master James T. McWain. We will be hosting a hospitality room at the session on Sunday night, after the banquet. We welcome all who are interested in learning more about our work, here, to come visit.

RW Bill Buick "In Tune" With Masonicare's Mission

by Adam Raider

RW Bill Buick has a simple philosophy about charitable giving: "Give and ye shall receive."

"I've always tried to be a giving person and help those less fortunate," said the native of Dundee, Scotland, who now lives at Masonicare at Ashlar Village. "And it doesn't matter what your background is. We're all human beings."

To that end, Bill has generously made a multi-year pledge to the

Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut in memory of his late wife, Helen Potter Buick. Gifts to The Foundation help ensure that Masonicare can provide the best possible healthcare, programs, and facilities to all the seniors it serves.

"I know that some residents who maybe run out of money and need a helping hand can get it from Masonicare and The Masonic Charity Foundation," Bill said. "I think that's

wonderful."

Right Worshipful Brother Bill is a Past District Deputy and Past Master of Corinthian Lodge No. 103, North Haven. He is currently Junior Warden of Ashlar Lodge No. 332, Wallingford.

Playing music with some of his neighbors is one of Bill's favorite ways to pass the time at Ashlar Village. Music has always figured prominently in his life. As a young man, he played violin in the Junior Symphony of Scotland. Since then, Bill has also learned to play tenor saxophone, harmonica, banjo mandolin, and bagpipe (of course), but the violin remains his first love.

A World War II veteran who served in the British Navy, Bill emigrated to the United States in 1947. It was many years later, during his time as District Deputy, that Bill really developed an appreciation for the work Masonicare does in caring for

older adults.

"When I was District Deputy," Bill recalls, "I used to take tours of the Masonic home on Sundays. I was already familiar with what Masonicare was doing but if I didn't approve of it, I wouldn't be a Mason."

Throughout Bill's many years of service to the fraternity, Helen was always at his side – so much so that she was recognized by Corinthian Lodge with a special award for being so supportive of her husband's Masonic endeavors. It was only fitting that Bill's gift to The Masonic Charity Foundation be made in Helen's memory.

"We had 60 great years together," Bill said, admiring a plaque engraved to Helen. "She was quite a gal."



Masonic Charity Foundation donor RW Bill Buick at home with his Italian banjo mandolin.

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When Bad Things Happen

by Edward C. Page

On January 12 the lives of a brother and his wife were forever altered when they suffered a house fire where there was a total loss. After hearing of this devastating event from RW Russ Davis, Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, Worshipful Master Edward Page, Moriah Lodge No. 15, Brooklyn, got involved.

Over the following weeks, WB Edward, in his visits to area lodges in the 8th and 9th Districts, brought the unfortunate news about WB Claude Hawkins, Ionic Lodge No. 28, Greene, Rhode Island, and his wife Pauline. Mrs. Hawkins suffered 3rd degree burns over 40% of her body and barely survived. RW Bob Sweet of Rhode Island obtained a list of personal items that were needed.

The outpouring of support collected funds that were used to assemble a gift basket to present to the worthy brother. Among the

items were several pairs of pants, t-shirts, socks, dress shirts, neckties, and two shirts embroidered by Lady Christina Page, "Claude-Moriah #15" the other "Claude Ionic #28."

On Saturday, February 4, WB Edward was accompanied by WB Michael Wolf, Ionic Lodge No. 110, North Windham, visited Brother Claude's lodge in Rhode Island. WB Edward presented the gift basket on behalf of Moriah Lodge, Wooster Lodge No. 10, Colchester, and the generous brothers who contributed. DDGM Glenn Carlson accepted the generous offering on behalf of Bro. Claude, who was understandably not in attendance.

In addition to the gift basket WB Edward also presented to Bro. Claude through RW Glenn a Moriah Lodge No. 15 lapel pin and this year's Grand Master's pin. The final presentation was a \$300 check. WB Edward closed

the presentation with two quotes; "People are Gods language," said Rabbi Harold Kurshner, "for when we help a friend, more especially a brother in need,

God's works can best be visible." The second quote was "What we are, is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift to God," by Eleanor Powell.



WB Carlton R. Wood Master, Ionic Lodge No. 28, RW Glenn S. Carlson, District Deputy Grand Master-Central District, and WB Scott Alger, Grand Master of Ceremonies- Central District, all of Rhode Island, and WB Edward C. Page.

Alzheimer's Association Training Seminars to be Held at Masonicare at Newtown

The Connecticut Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is currently sponsoring free educational seminars for individuals and families in the community that will provide important information and discuss the skills needed to care for persons with memory loss. Held at Masonicare at Newtown, the four-part training program,

which began in February, has two seminars remaining that will be held in March.

The March seminars will be held on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. A complimentary light supper, provided by Masonicare at Newtown, will be served at 5:30 p.m. Dates and topics for the remaining seminars are as follows:

March 7 - Communication Techniques / Identification of Behavioral Challenges: Patty O'Brien, North Central Regional Director, Alzheimer's Association

March 14 - Legal and Financial Issues, Julia M. Brown, Certified Elder Law Attorney

You may sign up for both seminars or choose to attend the one that is of most interest to you. There is no fee, but seating is limited. Please call the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997 as soon as possible to reserve your space.

Masonicare at Newtown, an affiliate of Masonicare, is located at 139 Toddy Hill Road in Newtown.

For directions to Masonicare at Newtown, please visit www.masonicare.org.

Lodge Sells Chocolate to Support Cardiac Research

by Mark Anthony Orsini

The brothers of Liberty-Continental Lodge No. 76, Waterbury, held a chocolate sale on Valentine's Day. The heart shaped treats brought smiles to many faces and a contribution to The Connecticut Freemasons Foundation earmarked for the Masonic Medical Research Laboratory's Cardiac Research Institute.

"Of all the worthy charities supported by the Masonic community, this one is special to me," stated WM Mark Anthony Orsini. "Some years ago I was diagnosed with heart disease. Thanks to the advances in cardiac research, my health and quality of life have improved tremendously. It is a joy to contribute to helping others with heart related health issues. I am grateful to my brothers in their support for this great cause."



photo by Chris Martinelli

60 Years and Counting

by Robert L. Thomas

Owing to deteriorating health issues, two members of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, were presented with 60 year anniversary pins at their homes on January 28.

WM Robert L. Thomas, accompanied by MW Kenneth B. Hawkins, visited 87 year old Bro. Robert L. Reiss, who presently resides with his daughter Pamela Reiss, in Milford. Also present were Bro. Bob's two grandsons, Bro. Richard L. George, Bro. Robert F. George, his former son-in-law Bro. Richard C. George, WB Alfred E. Dubien and WB James H. Tweedie, all members of Ansantawae Lodge, along with several other family members.

Bro. Reiss, a senior DeMolay, spoke of his love of Masonry and reminisced about how much his teachings in both organizations helped him become successful in his business career. Bro. Bob was raised on May 16, 1952.

Brothers Thomas and Hawkins then traveled to visit 91 year old WB Arthur W. Gimler, who had recently moved from Florida to reside in Milford with his daughter-in-law, Joan Gimler. Arthur was raised on March 14, 1952 and is the lodges' most senior living Past Master, serving in 1963.

In addition, he served as Associate Grand Marshal for then RW Arthur F. Simpson, 1969, later Grand Master in 1977; District Deputy, 1970 and 1971; High Priest of Milford Chapter No. 49, RAM, 1957-58, and Thrice Illustrious Master of Adam Sattig Council No. 35, R&SM, 1959-60.

The group talked about the Ansantawae Lodge and its success during the past and their pride having served as Worshipful Masters.

Bro. Robert L. Reiss received his 60 year pin from WM Robert L. Thomas. WB Arthur W. Gimler with his daughter, Joan, after receiving his 60 year pin.



We welcome our new brothers to the fraternity.

Robert C. Letkowski Jr	<i>Adelphi-Momauguin</i> 63	David P. Sampson.....	<i>Orange</i> 143
Brian G. Marshall.....	<i>Ansantawae</i> 89	James N. Pearson	<i>Oxoboxo</i> 116
Patrick W. Mignault	<i>Ansantawae</i> 89	Lonny J. Barone	<i>Shepherd-Salem</i> 78
Joseph M. Sikorsky	<i>Ansantawae</i> 89	Francis L. Bombardier III.....	<i>Shepherd-Salem</i> 78
John E. Gates.....	<i>Ashlar-Aspetuck</i> 142	Scott T. Moore.....	<i>Shepherd-Salem</i> 78
Ronald Zahacefski Jr.....	<i>Bay View</i> 120	Juan L. Serrano Jr.....	<i>Shepherd-Salem</i> 78
Brian M. Burrell	<i>Brainard</i> 102	David C. Chahanovich	<i>Somerset-St. James</i> 34
Kevin L. Dazey	<i>Brainard</i> 102	Gene A. Frantz Jr.	<i>Somerset-St. James</i> 34
Juan C. Diaz.....	<i>Columbia</i> 25	Hollis W. Kelly	<i>St. Alban's</i> 38
Lancelot D. Robotham	<i>Composite</i> 28	Gordon R. Walters	<i>St. Alban's</i> 38
Michael J. Good.....	<i>Estuary</i> 43	John L. Pagano.....	<i>Temple</i> 16
Ramon A. Hardnett.....	<i>Estuary</i> 43	James G. Urbano.....	<i>Temple</i> 16
Michael P. Benevento	<i>Friendship</i> 33	Andrew Cline	<i>Union</i> 5
Stephen P. Bartis	<i>Meridian</i> 77	Domenico DeCarlo	<i>Union</i> 5
Nicholus M. Withee.....	<i>Meridian</i> 77	Paul M. Proto.....	<i>Widow's Son</i> 66
Kurt A. Collelo	<i>Moosup</i> 113	Kenneth R. Tangredi	<i>Widow's Son</i> 66
Thomas J. Stevens	<i>Moosup</i> 113	Michael A. Ciaburro	<i>Wooster</i> 79
James E. Dunn III	<i>Orange</i> 143	James J. Kottage.....	<i>Wooster</i> 79

Funsters Win the Popular Vote

by Jim Wilson

"I never met a clown I didn't like" was the theme at a benefit for Homeless Women and Children of Hartford at the prestigious Hartford Club last fall in celebration of Thanksgiving.

Three brothers from different Masonic lodges spent the afternoon at the event entertaining the group with their antics. The hats, animals and flowers made from their pockets full of balloons delight every child (and adult).

The Funsters participate in both parades and walk-around/balloon events including the annual Kids Halloween Party at Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester and a Christmas Party for friends of Wolcott Lodge No. 60, Stafford. Their season starts with St. Patrick's Day



Lt. Gov. Nancy Wyman enjoyed the company of three Funsters, from left, "Snickers" (Bro. Steve Aldi), "Cecil" (WB Earl Canfield) and "Buttons" (Bro. Stanley Warner).

parades in March and end with Christmas parties in December. The members of the Funsters are encouraged to attend Northeast Clown Institute (Clown College) held annually

in Plymouth, Massachusetts, during the third week in January. One does not have to be a Shriner or belong to a Shriner Clown unit to attend the program, just have an interest in clowning.

Shriners are a brotherhood of men committed to family, engaged in ongoing personal growth, and dedicated to providing care for children and families in need. Their backgrounds and interests are diverse, but they are bound together by shared values and a desire to have fun, do good, and build relationships that can last a lifetime.

For more information and photos about Sphinx Shriners Funsters, go to www.sphinxshrine.org/funsters.htm or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/#!/Sphinx.Funsters.

Past Master's Dinner Treats WB Jon Ringel

by Thomas A. Burke

The brothers of Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford, gathered at Pellicci's Ristorante for dinner and an evening of festivities to honor most recent Past Master Jon Ringel. Junior Warden Felix Lugo made all the dinner arrangements, and WB Domenic Corbo obtained several gifts on behalf of the brothers which were presented to WB Ringel by current Worshipful Master Tom Burke.

WM Burke welcomed everyone and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The family style dinner included chicken marsala, veal parmigiana, and shrimp Francais. Italian cookies completed the

meal.

WM Tom Burke presented WB Jon Ringel with his new Past Master apron and carrying case, and noted that a \$500 savings bond for WB Ringel's daughter Elisa is being arranged. WM Burke also presented a personal gift of a high quality bottle of scotch as thanks for his wisdom and guidance while WM Burke served him as Senior Warden, and for the upcoming year serving WM Burke as Chaplain.

Dinner was complete with fun stories and anecdotes, with lots of laughter - a terrific evening to celebrate a terrific Past Master.



Jon Ringel, left, tries on his new Past Master's apron as new Master Tom Burke holds his apron case.



Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 New Haven

March 7 • St. Patrick's Day Ladies & Families at Table
Reservations by March 2

March 28 • Lodge Fellowship Night
See our Facebook Page for details

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cosmopolitan-Lodge-No-125-AF-AM/316514150213>

The brothers of Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125 invite all brothers and their families to join us on March 24 at 6:30 p.m. for our annual

PASSOVER LADIES AND FAMILIES AT THE TABLE

Please make all reservations with the Junior Warden, David O. Stern
203-288-4963 by March 16

Connecticut York Rite Opportunities

Information to be included in York Rite Opportunities must be submitted by the 10th of the preceding month to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, Charles B. Fowler, 525 Stillwater, Windsor, CT 06095-3842 or yrctramrsm@yahoo.com.

NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice.



(ME) Most Excellent
Grand High Priest
(MP) Most Puissant
Grand Master
(RE) Right Eminent
Grand Commander
(U) Uniform
(F) Formal
(S) Semi-formal
(C) Casual

Friday, March 2-3 (MP) (F) Grand York Rite of New Jersey
Tuesday, March 6 (RE (U)) Washington Commandery No. 1, East Hartford
Tuesday, March 6 (F) Keystone Chapter No. 27, Meriden, Past Master degree
Thursday, March 8 (ME) (F) Cyrus-Meridian 15 and Buel Council No. 20, Torrington
Friday, March 09 (F) Baldwin Chapter No. 13, Stratford, Mark Master Mason degree
Friday, March 09-10 (MP) (F) Grand York Rite of Delaware
Tuesday, March 13 (F) Hamilton Council No. 22, Meriden, Select & Super Excellent Master degrees
Tuesday, March 13 (F) Milford Chapter No. 49, Milford, Most Excellent Master degree
Tuesday, March 13 (MP) (F) Wolcott Council No. 1, East Hartford
Thursday, March 15 (RE) (U) Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford
Friday, March 16 (RE (U)) New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Red Cross & short form Red Cross of Malta
Friday, March 16-17 (MP) (F) Grand Council of the District of Columbia
Monday, March 19 (RE) (U) St. John's Commandery No. 11, North Windham
Tuesday, March 20 (RE) (U) St. Elmo Commandery No. 9, Meriden, Red Cross and short form Red Cross of Malta
Wednesday, March 21 (MP) (F) Suffield Council No. 23, Suffield
Thursday, March 22 (RE) (U) Palestine Commandery No. 6, Stonington
Thursday, March 22 (ME) (U) Trinity Commandery No. 3, Darien
Friday, March 23 (RE) (U) Grand Assembly, Connecticut Rainbow, Waterbury
Friday, March 23 (F) Jerusalem 16, Stratford, Select & Super Excellent Master
Monday, March 26 (MP) (RE) (F) Grand Lodge AF&AM of Connecticut, Annual Communication, Cromwell, 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, March 28 (F) Pythagoras Chapter No. 17, East Hartford. Past Master and Most Excellent Master degrees
Wednesday, March 28 (F) Crawford Council No. 19, Branford, Royal Master degree
Saturday, March 31 (MP) (F) Tri-State Cryptic Festival, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts

Coming Up

April 3, MPGM at Adam Sattig Council No. 35, Milford
April 4, MPGM at Lee Council No. 25, Collinsville.
April 4-6, MPGM and REGC at New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Order of the Temple, 12:00 noon
April 6, MPGM Hamilton Commandery No. 5, Stratford, Order of the Temple, 3:00 p.m.
April 12, MPGM at Buel Court No. 20, Torrington
April 14, Grand Commandery Knights Temple of Connecticut, Rocky Hill Marriott, annual conclave, 9:00 a.m.
April 20, MPGM at New Haven Commandery No. 2, New Haven, Order of the Temple
April 24, MPGM at Montgomery Court No. 2, North Windham

MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND HIGH PRIEST

On February 25, we once again had a Chapter Festival at the Masonic Temple in Meriden. I want to personally thank MEPGHP Chuck McCollum, RE Grand Principal Sojourner/Grand Governor Robert Knowles, RE Grand Royal Arch Captain Charles O'Neill, RE Grand Secretary Charles Fowler, MEHP Bruce Padula, the High Priests, officers and Companions of Rittenhouse, Pythagoras and Franklin Chapters, Connecticut York Rite College No. 17 and the Companions of Keystone Chapter for their invaluable assistance in putting on this festival. I look forward to continuing this journey of serving the Grand Chapter and you for the remainder of my year as Grand High Priest.

Danny A. Camp

Award Nominations

Nominations for the Grand Chapter Ephraim Kirby award should be submitted to GHP Danny Camp, and nominations for the Grand Council Knight of Ish Sodi award should be submitted to MPGM Bruce Bellmore. They need them before March 15 to enable the Committees on Awards to make their selections.

Tri-state Cryptic Festival

The Tri-State Cryptic Festival will be held in the Masonic Hall, 475 Pine Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts on Saturday, March 31. Registration will open at 8:00 a.m. New York will confer the Royal Master degree at 9:30 a.m., and Massachusetts will confer the Select Master degree at about 10:30 a.m. Their ritual is somewhat different from that used in Connecticut, so it is interesting to see the differences. After lunch, Connecticut will confer the Super Excellent Master degree in amplified form, so all those who have only seen the shorter version should make plans to see it again. Luncheon reservations, \$11, to Richard A. Eppler for forwarding to Massachusetts. Directions: I-91 North to Exit 40 (Route 20). Exit onto CT route 187 north. Just as you cross the line into Massachusetts, the Masonic Hall is the first driveway on your right.

Grand Commandery Annual conclave

The Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Connecticut will be held at the Rocky Hill Marriott 13 to 15 April. There will be an informal buffet dinner Friday evening. Grand Commander Leonard H. Bucher will reconvene the Grand Commandery at 9:00 am on Saturday morning, and it is expected to be adjourned by noon for lunch. The installation of officers is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., and there will be a cash bar reception at 6:00 pm prior to the 7:00 p.m. Grand Banquet. The Knight Crusaders of the Cross will receive present and Past Commanders at 2:00 p.m. On Sunday, divine services at 8:00 a.m. will be followed by a Farewell Breakfast. Reservations are due with the hotel directly at 800-228-9290 by April 6, and for meals by April 6 with SK Paul L. Chello. Recorders have reservation forms.

Craft at Labor...

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Thursday, March 1, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Junior Warden in the East

Tuesday, March 6, St. Alban's No. 38, Branford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 8, Hiram No. 1, New Haven

Thursday, March 8, St. Luke's No. 48, Kent, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 8, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Saturday, March 10, Uriel No. 24, Merrow, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, March 12, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, March 13, Fayette No. 69, Ellington, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 15, Warren No. 51, Portland, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, March 19, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, 6:30 p.m. dinner, SW Mark Stumacher in the East

Tuesday, March 20, Union No. 40, Danbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, SW Roger Roughley in the East

Tuesday, March 20, Seneca No. 55, Torrington, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, March 20, Coastal No. 57, Stonington

Tuesday, March 20, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford. at Orange Lodge No. 143

Wednesday, March 21, Columbia No. 25, South Glastonbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, March 21, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven

Wednesday, March 21, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven

Tuesday, March 27, Wolcott No. 146, Wolcott

Wednesday, March 28, Center No. 97, Meriden, 6:00 p.m. dinner, ladies invited

Fellowcraft Degrees

Thursday, March 1, Union No. 31, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, March 5, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 6:15 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, March 5, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, March 7, Hiram No. 18, Sandy Hook, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Middle Chamber by JD William Dene

Wednesday, March 7, Somerset - St. James No. 34, Preston

Monday, March 12, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, March 13, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 15, Fidelity-St. John's No. 3, Fairfield, 7:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 15, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Friday, March 16, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Saturday, March 17, Universal Fraternity No. 149, Stratford, WM Gary Drice in the East

Monday, March 19, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 6:00 p.m. dinner

Monday, March 19, Federal No. 17, Watertown

Monday, March 19, Meridian No. 77, Meriden, 6:30 PM, corned beef and cabbage night

Monday, March 19, St. John's No. 2, Middletown, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, March 21, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Worshipful Master in the East

Wednesday, March 21, Widow's Son No. 66, Branford

Thursday, March 22, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 6:00 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 22, Hiram No. 1, New Haven

Thursday, March 22, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Monday, March 26, Annawon No. 115, West Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Master Mason Degrees

Saturday, March 3, Putnam No. 46, South Woodstock, 10:00 a.m. breakfast, WM Dean E. Bunnell presiding

Wednesday, March 7, Union No. 5, Stamford, 7:30 p.m. dinner, education topic: Inaugural Masonic Ties

Wednesday, March 14, Ivanhoe No. 107, Darien, 7:00 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 15, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 15, Union No. 31, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Thursday, March 15, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Friday, March 16, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 6:30 p.m., WM Rob Thomas in the East, dinner at the break

Monday, March 19, Oxoboxo No. 116, Montville, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, March 20, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Wednesday, March 21, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston

Thursday, March 22, Harmony No. 42, Waterbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Tuesday, March 27, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 6:30 p.m. dinner

Craft at Refreshment...

Thursday, March 1, Somerset-St. James No. 34, Preston, 9:00 a.m. breakfast, District breakfast at Groton Townhouse Restaurant

Friday, March 2, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, visit to Ansantawae Lodge, Milford

Friday, March 2, Wooster No. 10, Colchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, beer tasting

Friday, March 2, Washington No. 70, Windsor, travel to Mt. Tom, Holyoke, Massachusetts, for Scottish Night

Friday, March 2, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, Carl Ek: Masonic Presidents Quiz

Saturday, March 3, Fidelity-St. John's No. 3, Fairfield, 6:00 a.m., annual pancake festival

Saturday, March 3, Annawon No. 115, West Haven, lodge clean up day

Monday, March 5, Jerusalem No. 49, Ridgefield, Walter Weiland: Masonic Funerals

Monday, March 5, Meridian No. 77, Meriden, 6:30 p.m. 4-lodge table lodge

Tuesday, March 6, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, school of instruction

Tuesday, March 6, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, Masonic education: Our Lodge History by the Worshipful Master

Tuesday, March 6, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction

Wednesday, March 7, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Robert Ritchie: Major Events of King Solomon No. 7, part 3

Wednesday, March 7, Center No. 97, Meriden, lodge of instruction

Wednesday, March 7, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, Martin Ede: Masonic Practices throughout the World

Craft at Refreshment...

Wednesday, March 7, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 6:30 p.m. semi-public Irish whisky sampling

Saturday, March 10, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, 6:30 p.m., widows of our departed brothers

Saturday, March 10, St. Peter's No. 21, New Milford, 6:00 p.m. annual St. Patrick's Day corned beef dinner

Saturday, March 10, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, Milford St. Patrick's Day parade

Saturday, March 10, Moosup No. 113, Moosup, 6:00 p.m. Ye Old Table Lodge

Saturday, March 10, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, dart tournament

Saturday, March 10, Ashlar-Aspetuck No. 142, Easton, 6:30 p.m. annual St. Patrick's Day Table Lodge

Monday, March 12, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 8:00 p.m. lodge book club

Monday, March 12, Jephtha No. 95, Clinton, Masonic Jeopardy

Monday, March 12, Evening Star No. 101, Unionville, 7:30 p.m., Richard Denno: Organ Donor program

Monday, March 12, Annawon No. 115, West Haven, 6:30 p.m. dinner, history of Annawon Lodge

Tuesday, March 13, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, school of instruction

Tuesday, March 13, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction

Wednesday, March 14, Moriah No. 15, Brooklyn, Robert Eubanks: Scottish Rite

Wednesday, March 14, Eastern Star No. 44, North Windham, instruction on Masonic traditions

Wednesday, March 14, Granite No. 119, Haddam, interesting facets of Masonry.

Thursday, March 15, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, 6:30 p.m. Game Dinner Table Lodge

Thursday, March 15, Federal No. 17, Watertown, visit to Morning Star Lodge

Thursday, March 15, Trumbull No. 22, New Haven, 6:45 p.m. Corned Beef Table Lodge

Thursday, March 15, Friendship Tuscan No. 145, Manchester, 5:30 p.m. dinner, Irish night

Friday, March 16, King Hiram No. 12, Shelton, 6:30 p.m. Saint Patrick's Day dinner

Friday, March 16, Frederick-Franklin No. 14, Plainville, 5:30 p.m. St. Patrick's corned beef dinner

Saturday, March 17, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 5:30 p.m., Saint Patrick's Day dinner, awards night

Saturday, March 17, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, 5:00 p.m. corned beef and cabbage dinner

Saturday, March 17, Brainard No. 102, Niantic, 5:00 p.m. dinner, Irish food and spirit

Saturday, March 17, Corinthian No. 103, North Haven, 5:30 p.m. annual St. Patrick's Day corned beef and beer dinner

Sunday, March 18, Washington No. 19, Monroe, 7:00 a.m. country breakfast

Sunday, March 18, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 8:00 a.m., candidate instruction, lunch provided

Sunday, March 18, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 7:00 a.m., all you can eat breakfast

Sunday, March 18, Sequin-Level No. 140, Newington, 12:00 noon, put together Easter baskets for Newington social services

Monday, March 19, Wyllys-St. John's No. 4, West Hartford, 6:30 p.m., Table Lodge

Tuesday, March 20, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, school of instruction

Tuesday, March 20, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction

Tuesday, March 20, Unity No. 148, New Britain, 5:30 p.m. 2nd annual corned beef dinner, ladies night

Wednesday, March 21, Union No. 5, Stamford, 6:30 p.m. dinner, education: History of Union Lodge No. 5

Wednesday, March 21, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, visit to Center Lodge

Friday, March 23, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, 6:00 p.m., wine tasting

Saturday, March 24, Day Spring No. 30, Hamden, Habitat for Humanity Day

Saturday, March 24, Housatonic No. 61, North Canaan, how to whittle a wooden spoon

Saturday, March 24, Corner Stone-Quinebaug No. 122, Thompson, 5:00 p.m. annual corned beef and cabbage dinner

Saturday, March 24, Cosmopolitan No. 125, New Haven, 5:30 p.m. Passover ladies and family at Table

Sunday, March 25, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 11:30 a.m., annual basketball game party at Masonicare Health Center

Sunday, March 25, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, candidate instruction

Sunday, March 25, Annawon No. 115, West Haven, visit at Masonicare

Monday, March 26, Estuary No. 43, Old Saybrook, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Seventh District Blue Lodge Council

Monday, March 26, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 6:30 p.m. Table Lodge

Monday, March 26, Ivanhoe No. 107, Darien, 6:00 p.m. dinner, First District Blue Lodge Council

Tuesday, March 27, King Solomon's No. 7, Woodbury, 6:30 p.m. Fellowcraft dinner, bring a guest to learn about Masonry

Tuesday, March 27, Temple No. 16, Cheshire, school of instruction

Tuesday, March 27, Fayette No. 69, Ellington, review funeral ritual

Tuesday, March 27, Washington No. 81, Cromwell, school of instruction

Thursday, March 29, Compass No. 9, Wallingford, 6:00 p.m. dinner, Fourth District Blue Lodge Council

Thursday, March 29, Village No. 29, Collinsville, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Fifth District Blue Lodge Council

Thursday, March 29, Manchester No. 73, Manchester, 6:30 p.m. dinner, Sixth District Blue Lodge Council

Friday, March 30, St. Paul's No. 11, Litchfield, 6:30 p.m., Third District Blue Lodge Council

Friday, March 30, Unity No. 148, New Britain, Masonic education night

Saturday, March 31, Hiram No. 1, New Haven, 12:00 noon, first annual chili cook-off

Saturday, March 31, Wolcott No. 60, Stafford, 5:00 p.m. annual ham and baked bean dinner

Saturday, March 31, Washington No. 70, Windsor, 8:00 a.m., lodge spring cleaning

Saturday, March 31, Ansantawae No. 89, Milford, 10:00 a.m., children's Easter egg hunt at the Hassenmeyer Farm

Activities for
*Craft at Labor and
Craft at Refreshment* are
taken from calendars on
lodge websites.
Please visit the
lodge websites for
updates and more
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directory of all
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 Anchor No. 112..... East Hampton
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 Grand Commandery Knights Templar.....
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 Harmony No. 67..... New Canaan
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 Jephtha No. 95..... Clinton
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 Morning Star No. 47..... Seymour
 MP Grand Council R&SM.....
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 Putnam No. 46..... South Woodstock
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 Seneca No. 55..... Torrington
 Sequin-Level No. 140..... Newington
 Silas Deane No. 147..... Newington
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 St. Luke's No. 48..... Kent
 St. Paul's No. 11..... Litchfield
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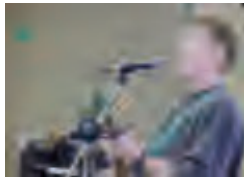
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Children's Easter Party And Pancake Breakfast

April 7, 2012

All-you-can-eat Breakfast
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April 20th

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Proceeds from The Walk will benefit the **Quality of Life Funds of Masonicare Health Center, Masonicare at Newtown, and Masonicare Home Health & Hospice.** These funds provide important support to meet the needs of our residents and patients when no other funding source is available.

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