



Connecticut FREEMASONS

January 20

Where Good
Men Relate

WHO IS
CHAD BROMLEY?

Table of Contents



Brother Chad Bromley..... 3
 Grand Master's Message 5
 Masonicare Experience..... 7
 New Masons 8
 Grand Historian's Corner 9
 District News 10
 Masonic Appreciation Night..... 10
 Lights of Hope..... 10



Ladies Tea 11
 Raising New Master Masons 12
 DeMolay..... 13
 PDDA Announcement..... 13
 Fraize Pierpont Edwards 14
 The Desk Of Jon-Paul Venoit..... 15
 Called To The Grand Architect ... 15
 Freemasons Lost Word 16
 Masonicare Board..... 17
 'Tis The Season To Be Jolly..... 18
 Shrine Cycle Unit..... 18

Masonicare At Mystic 19
 Prince Hall Recognition 20
 Making A Difference Every Day .. 21
 York Rite 22
 Valley of New Haven 24
 Valley of Hartford 25
 Arseneau Pierpont Edwards 26



We Honor Veterans..... 26
 Scouts Annual Banquet 27
 New Year New Opportunity 28
 Community Awareness 29
 Donate Life 30
 Ashlar Village Veteran 30
 Tree of Life 31
 Craft At Refreshment..... 32
 Craft At Labor..... 33
 Boosters 34
 Breakfast With Santa 35
 Kids' Holiday Party..... 35
 90th Birthday Surprise 35



Volume - 12 Number - 8

Publisher

THE GRAND LODGE
 OF CONNECTICUT AF & AM

Publications Committee

Theodore J. Nelson, Chairman
 Francis G. Way, Editor
 Margaret Steeves, Masonicare
 Jean P. Maheu, Marketing
 Rev. Carl Anderson, Masonicare
 Robert Dorr
 Jeff S. Bartlett

Design

Eric Lopkin
 Jean P. Maheu

Contributors

John A. Amarilios
 Brian Beals
 David R. Blythe, Sr.
 Jack Braddock
 Donald M. Casey, Jr.
 Vincent Cowie
 Richard F. Denno
 Lawrence S. Elsner
 Robert Everest
 Charles B. Fowler, Jr.
 Steve Gorman
 Ryan Howard
 Pat Kalinauskas
 Gary A. Littlefield
 Perne R. Maynard
 Garrett Post
 Adam Raider
 Roger B. Thorin
 Charles Tirrell
 Margaret Steeves
 Jon Paul Venoit
 Charles W. Yohe

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM

69 Masonic Avenue • P.O. Box 250 • Wallingford, Connecticut 06492
 Office hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., 1:15 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Monday through Friday
 First Saturday of the month: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
 203-679-5903 • 800-529-4161 (in-state only) • Fax: 203-679-5996
 e-mail: grandlodge@masonicare.org • www.ctfreemasons.net

Brother Chad Bromley, aka Apathy, Inspires Through Hip-Hop

by Ryan Howard
Photos by Andrew
Henderson

On the shores of the Long Island Sound resides a brother who has inspired many men to take that first step that all brothers have taken in becoming a mason. He has done this through his music and lifestyle. His name is Chad but in the hip hop community he goes by Apathy. His lyrical supremacy had allowed him to travel the world, perfecting his craft and working with countless other well known artists and musicians. Brother Chad was interviewed for *CT Freemasons* by Brother Ryan Howard:

RH - Why don't we start by telling the readers your full name, age, where you're



from and what it is that you do for a living.

CB - Chad Bromley, 37 years old, southeastern Connecticut and I rap, produce music and mix and master

music for a living.

RH - Have you always lived in Connecticut?

CB - Pretty much. I lived in New York City and Los Angeles for short periods of time... but Connecticut has always been the place I gravitate back to. I need to be by the ocean, and I'm particularly obsessed with New England lifestyle.

RH - What is your mother lodge, and how long have you been a member there?

CB - Wooster Lodge No. 10 in Colchester. I've been a Master Mason for 4 years now.

RH - Are you affiliated with any other

Continued on next page

Brother Chad Bromley

Continued from previous page



lodes?

CB - Yes. Brainard Lodge No. 102 in Niantic, CT.

RH - *What drew you towards joining our fraternity?*

CB - I've been studying metaphysics, religion, philosophy, esoteric sciences and conspiracies since about 1993. Freemasonry was always something that kept coming up in the books I read... and I thought I had a firm grasp on the idea of Freemasonry, from the conspiracy theory perspective. In January of 2012 I had severe pancreatitis and almost died. My father died of cancer two days later. I was really looking for something in my life, to explore the depth of the emotions and thoughts I was having. I met a guy in the music industry who surprised me by telling me he was a

Master Mason and shattering my preconceived notions of what I thought Freemasons were all about. I wanted a moral compass, and something to challenge me to "be a better man." Those words, literally. It blew my mind when I found out that it was one of the slogans of the fraternity.

RH - *I understand you are on the Committee For Masonic Education and the Intergenerational Communications and Technology Committee for the Grand Lodge. What was it that caused you to travel down that Masonic path?*

CB - Because of my career, I'm heavily involved in social media. I have a large presence on the Instagram app, which I've been on since its inception... and I've watched the Masonic community blossom on

there. It's connected brothers from Spain, to Canada, to Australia... literally all over the world. It gives brothers a view into all the awesome differences we have from jurisdiction to jurisdiction... Grand Lodge to Grand Lodge... country to country. Social media is such an amazing way to inspire young men to join, or at least look into the frat. I have almost 40,000 followers... and over the years, from posting my pictures of Masonic jewels or in ornate lodges, I've inspired quite a few men to become great Masons. I take my time to communicate with them and answer as many questions I can. That's why I joined the Intergenerational Communications and Technology Committee. I also joined to bridge the gap between the older brothers who may not be as tech savvy, with a newer world of social media and technology.

RH - *How long have you been making music and when did you realize it was what you were going to do for your career?*

CB - I've been making music, professionally, since 1997. But I started recording demos in 1992 or 93. It became my actual career

around 1999 when it became lucrative enough that I could quit my day job.

RH - *What made you choose the name Apathy to represent yourself for your music?*

CB - My father introduced me to the word. I was curious about what it meant, so he told me to look it up. This was way before the word was as popular as it is now. I was profoundly impacted by the depth of the word, and it kinda bothered me. I took on the word to reflect what I saw in the world... and also so young people would ask me what it meant.

RH - *What artists inspired you both in your youth and currently?*

CB - Organized Konfusion, Wu Tang, Rakim, Ice Cube, Public Enemy... and tons of other artists. Honestly there's nothing really new that inspires me. Maybe Jay Electronica.

RH - *Some of your songs contain some pretty strong language, others seem to contain a lot of Masonic references - why is that and where do you get the*

Continued on page 6

Connecticut Freemasons is the official publication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut AF & AM. All original articles are subject to editing. All checks for payments and donations should be made out to Grand Lodge Publications and mailed to the Grand Lodge office at PO Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492.

Letters and advertisements may be sent to the Editor Frank Way at submissions@ctfreemasons.net or 860-659-7416. All submissions are required by the 10th of the

month prior to the next issue. Please note: The Grand Lodge AF & AM of Connecticut, does not endorse any of the products or services contained herein nor imply any warranty of the goods, services, or claims advertised. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of all advertisements, Connecticut Freemasons will only be liable to reprint, at no charge, any correction due to typographical error

ConnecticutFreemasons(USPS 025-514)

is published monthly, except August

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM, 69 Masonic Avenue, P.O. Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492-0250. Periodicals Postage paid at Wallingford, CT and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Connecticut Freemasons, c/o The Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM, P.O. Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492-0250.

The Unmistaken Handshake of a Friend

by Gail N. Smith

Brothers All,

What a pleasure it was in 2016 for me to travel throughout the state and observe the rich diversity of the brethren in our nine districts. It is clearly visible everywhere I have traveled, that interlaced within that diversity can be found that universal kinship and resolute conduct which cements us into one sacred band or society of friends and brothers. Moreover, there is a particular energy resonating this year that I wish to make note of. It has been most inspiring to witness what seems to be a "resurgence of positive lucidity" among the brethren; an awakening of sorts from a mundane awareness into a fuller spiritual mindfulness embracing our virtuous tenets which expound upon who we are to be as Masons. We are brothers with an outstretched hand.

This year, whenever you have the opportunity, make it a point to travel and visit your brothers in different Lodges. Brothers that frequently travel will attest to the fact that they often gain insight into ritual, additional perspective and learn of community involvement opportunities that they may have otherwise overlooked, and when traveling, if they are receptive enough to receive it, they gain further light.

It's difficult to put into words, but there is an invigorating comportment

springing forth throughout the Lodges, a positive energy which has caused your Grand Master's heart to smile. It is the sensing of this positive energy, knowing that such is the prerequisite and the impetus to all regeneration, which assures me that great things are ahead. My reflection on this phenomenon should not be taken lightly. RWB Ted Nelson, DGM, affectionately points out that, given my age, I am among the few who have seen the tide of sentiment ebb and flow since the days of President Calvin Coolidge.

Brethren, it's that time of year; those seated in the various stations and places in our Lodges have changed and with that advancement there is much potential. For those of you that have served in the past and those of you that are serving as officers this year, I thank you for your commitment, dedication and accountability to one another and to your Lodge.

Officers, as you fulfill your duties of your office, reflect upon two special intrinsic traits that will serve you well throughout the year and help ensure that your efforts will bear much fruit. Along with your steadfast commitment and dedication, add an equal measure



of compassion and patience. Each of us must remain cognizant that from time to time, our brothers battle forces daily—pressures at work, home finances and caregiving responsibilities all of which, on occasion, can be overwhelming. We all have experienced those days when the world we live in feels like an insane asylum. For some, an evening at Lodge may be the respite they look forward to, to counterbalance a difficult week.

Brothers ALL, let us each continue to do our part to make our Lodges sanctuaries of enthusiasm, learning and camaraderie. If we do, marvelous things will happen. In closing, I leave you with a particular line that I have always liked from a Masonic poem titled, Tell Him Now: "More than fame and fortune is the comment, kind and sunny, and the unmistakable handshake of a friend." It is but a simple line, yet one worth reflecting upon. Within is that same tone of positive lucidity and invigorating comportment which I have witnessed resonating within the Lodges. I hope that you and your families had a wonderful holiday season and that this year will be filled with God's love, blessings and peace.

Family Owned & Operated Since 1972



174 West Center St.
Manchester, CT

AUTO REPAIR INC.
FOREIGN & DOMESTIC REPAIRS
Phil, Jim & Paul Locicero • Pete Buck

860-646-5036 • Fax 860-646-1552

Phil@P-Pauto@coxatwork.com
www.PP-AutoRepair.com

T. J. NELSON
Home Improvements
860-444-6771



TJNelsonHomes.com



Brother Chad Bromley

Continued from page 4



inspiration for the lyrics that you come up with?

CB - I'm very unapologetic about the profanity and adult material in my music. It's entertainment. It's my career... and I know what I'm doing. I'm a professional at what I do. Some brothers have had issues with my songs that have foul language or violence. But if Robert DeNiro was a Master Mason, those same brothers wouldn't say a thing to him about cursing and violence in his movies. It's the exact same thing. Entertainment and art. The Masonic references in my music is a newer thing, since Freemasonry is relatively new in my life. I go pretty deep with esoteric wisdom.

RH - Do you ever get nervous before a

performance, and what advice can you give someone who might feel nervous before a public speaking event, lodge night, or performance of their own?

CB - Honestly, I get more nervous when I have to speak in a lodge room with a handful of brothers than when I'm on a stage in front of 50,000 people. I feel like the former holds more room for scrutiny. The latter has a kinetic energy that envelops you, and you almost don't have time to be nervous. As far as advice... I'd say focus on slowing and controlling your breathing, and just realize you'll live through it.

RH - Over the years you have worked with a lot of different artists. Who was

the most memorable or your favorite to work with?

CB - Working with DJ Premier was an absolute dream come true. That was one of the top 5 of my bucket list. I worked with Busta Rhymes in studio before, and that was the wildest, craziest studio session I've ever had. Busta is a maniac. He was so excited over the final result of a song... that he shattered a bottle of Patron on the hard wood floor, and picked me up like a rag doll... I'm 6'2 and weigh 225 lbs. Hahaha. He was like working with a crazy pirate.

RH - Have you visited any lodges while traveling on tour performing? If yes, was there one that stood out among the others and if so what was it that made it so memorable to you?

CB - I haven't sat in lodge while on tour, because of schedule restrictions and I don't wanna travel with a suit for that long... but I got to see some beautiful lodges. Banff in Alberta, Canada had a gorgeous old lodge that I got a tour of, and it had incredible history.

RH - Do you have any upcoming releases that you are excited about?

CB - Instrumental album dropping early 2017, titled "Dive Medicine : Chapter One" that is just instrumental music I produced. A group named Perestroika with the legendary artist O.C. And then my next solo album titled "The Widow's Son" which should be dropping in

the summer or fall.

RH - What about and shows or performances?

CB - I have a big Canadian tour planned for April, and a big European tour next fall. Locally though... I have a show in Hamden, CT on January 14th, and a show in Pawtucket, RI on January 20th.

RH - Do you have any advice to give our newly admitted brothers as they start their own masonic journeys?

CB - Freemasonry isn't a fast food, microwaved experience. You don't join a lodge, and they hand you over some ancient book of secret esoteric wisdom and hidden truths. That book doesn't exist. Freemasonry is completely what YOU make it. If you joined because you read a Dan Brown novel, or saw a crazy YouTube video... you'll probably be bored after the first year, and end up not coming back to lodge. You have to make connections with like minded brothers... travel. Fall in love with the words, lectures, ideals, morality and work of the craft. Don't be stagnant, just showing up to business meetings and degree after degree and wonder why you're bored. There's so much to learn and see. It just takes a lot of work. But it's worth it.

RH - Thank you Brother Chad for allowing us to get to know you on the Level.

The Masonicare Experience

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

Meeting the Unique Needs of Veterans on Hospice



By Adam Raider

Masonicare considers it an honor and a privilege to care for men and women who served in America's Armed Forces. By creating a veteran-centric culture of care, and partnering in campaigns like We Honor Veterans, Masonicare can more effectively address the unique needs of this population in the final stage of life.

We Honor Veterans is a cooperative venture between the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that is designed to help improve the care veterans receive from hospice and palliative care providers. The program recognizes the unique needs of our nation's veterans who are facing a life-limiting illness. In cases where there might be some specific needs related to the veteran's military service, combat

experience or other traumatic events, We Honor Veterans also provides tools and resources to help support those they are caring for.

Masonicare is proud to be a part of this important project, and of having achieved a Level Four rating - We Honor Veterans' highest level of recognition - as a home and community-based hospice partner.

"Each level has different requirements," explained Marie Roman, Supervisor of Counseling and Social Work Services at Masonicare Partners, "but includes a combination of community outreach, educating staff so that they can better serve veterans on hospice, assistance navigating the VA and understanding veterans' benefits, and building connections with other veteran service organizations."

"We're constantly trying to raise awareness of veterans' needs and maintain cultural sensitivity

for the veterans because military life is really a culture unto its own," explained Sharman French, Regional Supervisor, Counseling and Complimentary Therapies at Masonicare Home Health & Hospice. "What people learn in the military, they don't necessarily forget just because they are no longer active. Having once been a military wife, I can tell you that it's something that becomes ingrained in them."

Which is why, sometimes, it takes a vet to understand a vet.

As valued members of the interdisciplinary hospice team - one that also includes nurses, social workers, spiritual care counselors, CNAs and bereavement counselors - Masonicare's veteran volunteers play an important role in addressing the emotional and psychological needs of the vets on hospice.

Understanding military culture

Continued on next page

Veterans on Hospice *Continued from previous page*

- one that values stoicism, honor, and sacrifice - they can create a rapport with terminally ill veterans.

Long before he became a hospice volunteer with Masonicare Partners, Newington's Mike Menta was a postal carrier who took a particular interest in the veterans on his route.

"Being a veteran myself," he said, "when I saw someone in need, I'd go out of my way to help them. I also had a few neighbors who were veterans - people who were lonely and didn't have much in terms of family. I'd do things for them as well, bring them things. And just be present for them."

Through his daughter's mother-in-law, Laura Holzhauer, a hospice specialty nurse at Masonicare Partners, Menta learned about

Masonicare's Veteran-to-Veteran volunteer program.

"On a typical visit," he said, "I just walk in and ask the person about their background in the military. I fit right in because I try to look at them as if they're still young soldiers, not older people sitting in a wheelchair or lying in bed. I'll ask them what rank they were and then call them by their rank. I validate them in that way, and they seem to like it. Then, I just try to get them to smile. For one guy, it was just getting him the newspaper. For another, it was bringing him a special veterans' medal from the State of Connecticut and pinning it on his shirt. He was so happy, so surprised. Two days later, he was gone."

"Our veteran volunteers," said Masonicare's Roman, "tell me that they feel like they get more out of these visits than the patients."

"That's absolutely true," said Menta, a Gulf War vet whose military service included stints in the Navy, Naval Reserve, Army National Guard and Air Force Reserve. "It's kind of hard to describe, and sometimes makes me feel a bit selfish. As bad a day as I might be having, when I think about what these patients are going through, I guess it makes me feel a little better about myself. And making someone happy in the little time they have left and validating their service - which may have been forgotten - is very rewarding."

In addition to those patients cared for by our home health and hospice services, many of Masonicare's long-term care residents in Wallingford and Newtown are veterans who receive government assistance. In supporting the work of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut,

Veteran Volunteers Needed

Masonicare is actively recruiting volunteers for its Veteran-to-Veteran hospice program. For more information or to locate a convenient training class, please call the Masonicare Volunteer Coordinator closest to you:

WESTERN CT

Newtown: 203-775-0675

Norwalk: 203-831-8882

EASTERN CT

East Lyme: 860-691-4630

Danielson: 860-774-1366

CENTRAL CT

Wallingford: 203-679-5300

East Hartford: 860-528-5195

donors are helping Masonicare provide quality, compassionate care to those who sacrificed so much to serve our country.

In particular, gifts to The Foundation pay for complementary therapies for hospice patients including therapeutic massage, expressive arts, and music therapy.

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 masonicare.org/mcf.

**DO YOU HAVE SHIPPING NEEDS?
WE CAN HELP**

Ivanhoe Maritime Brokers

Shipbrokers specializing in:

Energy • Metals • Livestock • Agricultural



www.ivanhoemaritime.com

Call Us: 203-945-8758

info@ivanhoemaritime.com

WBro. Prav Sambamurti, Bro. Silas Mante
& Bro. Rovshan Mammadov

Grand Historian's Corner

by Gary A. Littlefield

Ashlar Lodge No. 117 was chartered in Rocky Hill. The year was 1876 and the first meeting was February 7, 1876. The officers were installed by Grand Secretary Joseph K Wheeler. Brother Charles H Webster was the only Worshipful Master of the lodge. Sixteen regular meetings and six special meetings were held and five brothers had degrees conferred upon them. The last recorded meeting was October 17, 1876. The records of 1877 show that Grand Treasurer George Lee had charges preferred against the lodge, for the affairs were being conducted in a "loose and irregular manner." The Committee of Investigation suggested that the charter be revoked and it was on June 2, 1877. Beside Worshipful Master Webster, six brothers who were charter members affiliated with Columbia Lodge No. 25 and one with Hartford Lodge No. 88. Four of the five Brothers raised also affiliated with those lodges. This is the lodge that holds the record for the shortest time in existence lodge.

For almost fifty years there was a lodge in Brookfield known as Federal

Lodge No. 41. On October 18, 1797, Eli Perry was named the first Master by Grand Master William Judd. The charter was signed by Judd and John Mix as Grand Secretary. The lodge met at the home of Asa Northrup (1799) and moved around to other homes in Brookfield occupied by Colbe Chamberlain, Smith Wheeler and Daniel Holly. In 1826, a dispute arose as to the location of the lodge, Brookfield Center or the Ironworks and a recorded vote was that the proposed building should be within eighty rods of the Meeting House and an amendment was that the building should not cost over three hundred dollars. In 1803, the Master was authorized to summon those members who had not appeared in "a season" to show cause why they were absent. A subsequent meeting placed a fine of nine pence for multiple non-attendance. The lodge incorporated itself in 1826 but the charter was revoked in 1844.

At the 1884 Grand Lodge session, delegates were in the evening treated to the exemplification of the Master



Mason degree by the seven District Deputies. The estimated crowd was around six hundred. The minutes conclude with the statement, "The exercises were concluded at a late hour, when the lodge was closed in due form." The minutes did not record the start time or the ending time.

We wonder if we could get a six hundred brother attendance today at the conclusion of a long Grand Lodge session day for a Master Mason degree by the presiding District Deputies.

This ode was sung at the opening of the 1884 Grand Lodge session.

"Brothers! Again we meet, old and tried friends to greet, vows to renew. Here, in a bond of love. By word and deed to prove, that by the Plumb we move, upright and true. Here on the Level met, in mystic oneness yet, a kindred band - Plight we our troth again, Weld we the golden chain, burnished and free from stain, hand grasping hand."

We Welcome Our New Brothers to the Fraternity

Vincenzo Altieri	Hiram	Lodge	No. 1	Timothy J. Elgin	Temple	Lodge	No. 65	
Roy K. Hickok Jr	Hiram	Lodge	No. 1	Thomas M. Grant.....	Temple	Lodge	No. 65	
Howard R. Smith.....	Hiram	Lodge	No. 1	Thomas W. Hittle.....	Temple	Lodge	No. 65	
Thomas W. Wallace.....	Hiram	Lodge	No. 1	Gary M. Sandler.....	Temple	Lodge	No. 65	
Ashante R. McPherson	Old Well-St.	John's Lodge	No. 6	Mark L. Yurkin	Temple	Lodge	No. 65	
Johnson McPherson II	Old Well-St.	John's Lodge	No. 6	Brian C. Anyafulu.....	Widow's Son	Lodge	No. 66	
Eric Montgomery	Old Well-St.	John's Lodge	No. 6	Albert F. Banks III.....	Ansantawae	Lodge	No. 89	
Thomas M. DeChello	Trumbull	Lodge	No. 22	Raymond J. Cruciani.....	Ansantawae	Lodge	No. 89	
Hipolito P. Hernandez.....	Trumbull	Lodge	No. 22	Gregory C. D'Andrea.....	Ansantawae	Lodge	No. 89	
Jesse A. Gerlitz.....	Union	Lodge	No. 40	Joseph D. Morgan	Ansantawae	Lodge	No. 89	
Nasi Hani	Union	Lodge	No. 40	Paul J. Kiczuk Jr.	Brainard	Lodge	No. 102	
James E. Laverty	Union	Lodge	No. 40	Anthony Naveja.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck	Lodge	No. 142	
Gregory H. Szymczak	Union	Lodge	No. 40	Richard M. Balboni Jr..	Friendship	Tuscan	Lodge	No. 145
Wesley Underhill	Union	Lodge	No. 40	Henry Claudio.....	Friendship	Tuscan	Lodge	No. 145
Leonel L. Villavicencio	Union	Lodge	No. 40	Jeffrey S. Mayer.....	Friendship	Tuscan	Lodge	No. 145
Bruce A. Duff	Temple	Lodge	No. 65					

District 3

St. Paul's Lodge No. 11 Hosts Masonic Appreciation Night

The brothers of St. Paul's Lodge No. 11 hosted their third annual Masonic Appreciation Night featuring a dinner and entertainment program. The event is to honor and reward the brothers of St. Paul's Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Connecticut for their devotion and commitment to the precepts of Freemasonry, as well as to provide an opportunity to enjoy an evening of fellowship and celebration. This year's dinner was held at La Cupola Ristorante in Bantam, CT, and was followed by performance of the "Nutcracker" by the

Nutmeg Ballet Company at the Warner Theatre in Torrington.

Several brothers of St. Paul's Lodge and neighboring lodges, along with their guests, participated in the enjoyable event. Honored Guests in attendance included MWPGM Thomas Maxwell, MWPGM Charles Yohe, RW Deputy Grand Master Theodore Nelson, RW Senior Grand Warden Marshall Robinson, RW Junior Grand Warden Melvin Johnson, and RW District Deputy Albin Weber.



WB Charles Harrell looks on with great anticipation as RWB Theodore Nelson cuts the cake in commemoration of St. Paul's Lodge recent Mason Appreciation Night..

District 4

Temple Lodge No. 16 Participates in Lights of Hope 2016



by Garrett Post

On Saturday afternoon November 12, Brothers, family and friends of Temple Lodge No. 16 came together to set out 250 luminaria as part of the 12th Annual Lights of Hope Event.

It has been a long tradition of Temple Lodge to participate in this event. It took on special significance in Cheshire in 2007, after the Petit family tragedy on July 23 of that year, claiming the lives of Jennifer, Hayley and Michaela Petit.

Each year, hundreds of volunteer Street Captains and corporate and individual sponsors raise funds for a variety of worthy organizations and social service providers. In 2016, over \$70,000 was raised and

donated.

A full "Mile of Hope" was illuminated along Route 10 in the middle of Cheshire. Temple Lodge annually lights up the intersection of Route 10 and Country Club Road, as well as the entrance to the Masonic Temple. For the past few years the luminaria have also formed the Square and Compasses prominently on the lawn of the Temple that faces Route 10.

For an incredible view of the Cheshire Lights of Hope 2016 go to: <http://cheshireslightsofhope.com/event-day-drone-video-lights-of-hope-2016/>

The Temple Lodge scene is the 5:06 mark, and was photographed by Brother Steve Greenwood of Compass Lodge No. 9.

Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 Ladies Tea

by Steve Gorman

The ladies of Sequin-Level Lodge in Newington opened the holiday season on December 3 with their 6th Annual Ladies Tea and Tour program; this 2016 event being a tour of the Harriet Beecher Stowe house, the Katherine Day mansion and the Stowe Center, followed by a Tea prepared for the ladies by the brothers of the Lodge.

The docent-led tour included a look back into the social mores of the Victorian era, including the place of women in society and the pro-slavery versus anti-slavery views of the times. The Beecher family was very prominent in Congregational ministry and in the abolitionist movement. Many historical artifacts are on display reflecting that period of social upheaval which framed the family's socio-political activism and Harriet Beecher Stowe's writings of Uncle Tom's Cabin and other works.

The mansion is furnished with many period pieces, some of which belonged to the Stowe family, and was



(l-r) Rosemary Papoosha, Sally Chan, Ruth Faasen, Lois Campanelli, Linda Bailey, Steve Gorman, Lori Doll, Rose Mitchell, Katherine Doll, Elizabeth Doll, Carolyn Begoche, and Pam Gorman.

decked out in 19th century Christmas décor. The Stowe House itself is currently undergoing a historical preservation project to restore it to an accurate representation of how it was when Harriet was in residence. The ladies were given a behind the scenes tour

of the preservation project in progress; something not usually done for the general public.

After the tour, the ladies were treated to a semi-formal Tea, hosted by Lady Pamela Gorman and with china provided by Sue Bailey. They were greeted with a spread

of tea sandwiches, desserts and other delicacies by the Brothers in the kitchen, under the leadership of WB Jim Bailey and including Brothers John Chan and Chris Jones, plus an assortment of specialty and exotic teas.

Porter's

FUNERAL SERVICE Inc.

111 Chamberlain Highway
Kensington, Connecticut 06037

Christopher H. Porter

6 Generations of Family to Family Service

Established 1869
(860)223-0981

www.portersfuneral.com

DEE'S ANTIQUES

Experienced Antiques Dealer Will Buy

*Collectibles, China, Old Furniture, Paintings, Silver
Coins, Jewelry, Clocks, Books and Picture Frame*

Estates Liquidated and Purchased Outright

Estate and Insurance Appraisals

Over 40 years Experience

Call Thomas Spratta 203-235-8431

600 West Main St., Meriden, CT 06450

District 5

Evening Star Lodge No. 101 Raises New Master Masons

After a well-rehearsed performance of the Tragedy, Brothers James Astarita, Brian Bergin, Timothy McCarty, Daniel Ray, and John Reaves received the Third Degree from WM Gary Jensen. The brethren of Evening Star are proud to welcome these new brothers into their Lodge.



District 7

Anchor Lodge No. 112 Supports CT DeMolay



(l-r): RWB William Field, Devon Verma, Dad Brian Beals, Deputy Executive Officer

by Brian Beals

On Saturday October 15, Anchor Lodge No. 112 presented a very generous donation to CT DeMolay in recognition of the recent DeMolay presentation by CT State Junior Councilor Devon Verma at Anchor Lodge. The presentation was made by RWB William Field to Devon

Verma and Dad Brian Beals Deputy Executive Officer during their annual Brotherhood Weekend for DeMolay at Camp Hazen in Chester, CT. Anchor Lodge has issued a challenge for all Lodges in CT to invite the DeMolay Brothers to a meeting, learn what DeMolay is all about and support all the Chapters in CT whenever possible.

Past District Deputy Association Announcements

by Lawrence S. Elsner

By the time this article is printed, the snow will be on the ground, the temperatures will be below 30 degrees, and we will be paying up our holiday debts. I am happy to report that the District Deputies Association will once again be sponsoring the luncheon at the Grand Lodge Session in April. It should be known that this luncheon is open to anyone that would like to have lunch there without the hassles of going off the property for such a short period of time. The menu should be the same as last year, but that will be confirmed in several months.

The officers would like to see more District Deputies, current and


past participate in the Association's few meetings and get-togethers, both to meet other District Deputies and to toss some ideas around to make the Association YOUR association. We all know 20% of the people do 80% of the work so you would think with over 300 DD's at least 60 could participate or interact. We also would like to invite the Associate Grand Marshals to our meetings and gatherings as a way of thanking them for their service with the District Deputies.

Now...dues: I have spent countless hours going through the books to bring them up to date and to collect the dues. It is only \$5 per year. Last year the Association instituted

bi-annual billing and that seems to have been semi-successful. But some brothers still need to be chased. I have sent notices by electronic mail, physical mail, and instant messages. The bottom line is if you do not wish to be notified of the programs and events just let me know and I'll take you off the mailing list. The Association donates to charity, mainly from dues. If you do not want to be part of

that then please let me know. I spent hours at the Grand Lodge Session collecting dues. It is not something I want to do in the future.

Your suggestions are always welcome and the Association is here for you. Happy New Year and "Let's make Masonry Great Again."




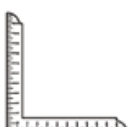

Eastbound Woodworks

Craftsmanship for the Craft

Masonic themed custom woodworking. Setting Mauls, Gavel, Columns, furniture, etc. of the highest quality crafted by a Brother. Engraving available.

Jason E. Morse
203-414-6968
jason@eastboundwoodworks.com



Real Accountants Real Solutions It's An Art

Providing innovative services and consulting
to Closely Held Business

Real Estate • Financial Institutions
Health care • Nonprofits



Accounting • Auditing • Tax Planning
Business Advisory Services
Technology Consulting

Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C.
Hartford, CT www.whcpa.com

William Thomas Fraize, Jr. Awarded Pierpont Edwards in Bronze

William Thomas Fraize, Jr. was born on July 27, 1947 in Hartford, CT. His parents, Lucy Andross and William Thomas Fraize, Sr., resided in East Hartford at the time. When "Bill" was three years old, his parents and two older sisters moved into a new house on Ellington Road, South Windsor, which became the family homestead.

Bill attended Pleasant Valley Grammar School, and graduated from South Windsor High School in 1965. He enlisted in the Air Force, but was honorably discharged during basic training due to allergies causing asthma.

Bill became interested in the field of computers immediately upon being employed by Pratt and Whitney Aircraft. This interest provided employment in that field for the rest of his career. He left Pratt and Whitney for Arrow Hart

Manufacturing, and then moved into the medical computer field at Hartford Hospital, and Saint Francis Medical Center. After serving the hospitals, Bill started his own computer business, subcontracting to businesses across the United States. Soon he saw the growing need for computer security systems. His expertise in this area benefitted several area banks until his retirement.

During his career, he strongly supported and participated in continuing education. Bill is a member of the United States Government Security System, FBI Infragard, the Information Systems Security Association, as well as a graduate of Electronic Computer Programming Institute at Manchester Community College. When his career started, computers were the size of refrigerators. Computers have now

evolved into hand held devices.

Bill and Ingrid Swanson Virr married in June of 1980. Thus was created a blended family consisting of Thomas Russell Fraize, Eric Michael Fraize, Jeffrey Todd Virr, and Katherine Jane Virr. All four children are married and live in Connecticut. This enables Bill to watch the growth and changes in all six of the grandchildren: two high school grads down to the 1 ½ year old little charmer. He finds each and every one of them so very special, and takes pride in helping one of his grandsons in his bid to become an Eagle Scout.

Retirement did not find Bill sitting in an easy chair. He is very creative, building birdhouses from slate, doing woodworking, repairs around the house and at Hartford Evergreen Lodge. In the past, he did "fused glass" work, and forging metal. Bill is passionate about bike riding as well.

And he has another passion. William Fraize became an Entered Apprentice on November 4, 1982. He took his Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees on June 3, 1983. Bill has served in all of the lodge offices. He was Master of Evergreen Lodge No. 114 five times: 1988, 1989, 1994, 1995, and 1996. He also was Master of

Oriental Evergreen Lodge No. 114 four times: 2000, 2003, 2006, and 2007. Bill served as a District Deputy in District 6B. He belongs to the Past District Deputy Association, is a Shriner, and is a Knight Templar. The Lodge's Building Corporation has seen Bill as member-at-large, as well as chairman. A unique accomplishment, with Grand Lodge blessing, was WM Bill Fraize in the East at a "first": an outdoor Master Masons Degree at the 4-H Camp in Marlborough.

Bill has been, and is, sexton of his lodge. Because he lives directly across the street from the lodge building, the lodge has become an extension of his property, to be watched over and maintained on a daily basis. Be it a 3 a.m. security alarm call, or a blizzard that needs to be cleared from the parking lot, he is there: Welcoming, Dependable, Caring.

After marriage to Ingrid, Bill became very active in the 4-H Club organization. He started the first 4-H computer club in Connecticut as its leader. Several of his former club members went on to employment by international companies in the computer field. He is involved up to the present day, assisting with computer maintenance



RWB Fraize, MWB Gail N. Smith, and MW Jason Elkhay

Continued on page 21

From the desk of Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit

President & CEO of Masonicare

A very happy New Year to all. We had another busy but wonderful holiday season throughout Masonicare. This year's Tree of Life programs of The Masonic Charity Foundation were particularly meaningful. Events honoring the memory of those who have passed on were held in Meriden, Stamford, West Hartford and Mystic. Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who worked hard to ensure a moving and inclusive program at each location.

Our Mystic community is now open! As of the first of the year, twenty-nine residents have moved into Independent Living apartments in the brand new building. Many more move-ins are coming up and

our Assisted Living wings will soon be finished as well. I invite you to come and see for yourself what a welcoming place Masonicare at Mystic is.

If you are one of our Connecticut Masons who lives in Florida or "snowbirds" there, don't forget our "Nutmegger Reunions" coming up at the end of next month. These are an enjoyable and informative way to re-connect with fellow Masons. Bro. Gail N. Smith, Most Worshipful



Grand Master, will join Rev. Carl Anderson, Bro. Bob Polito and I as we travel around the Sunshine State. Detailed information is on the back cover of this issue of Connecticut Freemasons.

With the winter upon us, please remember your elderly friends or neighbors who may be shut in during the harsh weather. For ideas or resources on how to help, you can always call the Masonicare HelpLine at 888-679-9997. Thank you and best wishes for a happy, healthy 2017!

Sincerely and fraternally,

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

Everett C. Baker..... Composite Lodge No. 28	Leonard Paul.....Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4
Kenneth G. Burse..... Friendship Lodge No. 33	Joseph H. Pfaefflin Jr..... St. Andrew's Lodge No. 64
John E. Dougan Sr..... Manchester Lodge No. 73	Warren M. Pomroy Jr.....Village Lodge No. 29
Myles G. DuBay..... St. Alban's Lodge No. 38	Reinhard J. Radka.....Unity Lodge No. 148
Norman R. Esborn..... Widow's Son Lodge No. 66	Madis Raudsepp..... Manchester Lodge No. 73
Charles L. Fields..... Meridian Lodge No. 77	Arthur M. Rettberg..... Columbia Lodge No. 25
Marshall V. Fogelmark..... Warren Lodge No. 51	Theodore W. Rummel.....Wolcott Lodge No. 60
Mark E. Furber.....Union Lodge No. 40	Allan SavitskyKing..... Hiram Lodge No. 12
Eugene N. Girdwood..... Estuary Lodge No. 43	Irving B. Schwartz.....America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
Brian P. Graham..... Meridian Lodge No. 77	Joseph J. Simpson.....St. Peter's Lodge No. 21
Ernest K. Grahn..... Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4	Donald R. Smith.....America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
John B. Hutt.....Uriel Lodge No. 24	James W. Stewart..... Ansantawae Lodge No. 89
Edward M. Joynes..... Coastal Lodge No. 57	Wayne G. Talbot..... Composite Lodge No. 28
Robert T. Miller.....Union Lodge No. 40	Robert E. Traut..... Brainard Lodge No. 102
John H. Mosher..... Ansantawae Lodge No. 89	John Vounatso.....Hartford Evergreen 88
Stephen N. Neborsky..... Ionic Lodge No. 110	Richard C. Werkheiser.....Manchester Lodge No. 73
William L. Pallait.....Hartford Evergreen 88	Ivan A. Ziegler..... Composite Lodge No. 28

Key to Freemasonry's Lost Word

by John A. Amarilios,
membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

The New Year augurs well for those seeking more light in Masonry! Attached to this issue of the Connecticut Freemason you will find Lafayette Consistory's Insert Section with a full schedule, beginning on February 6 and running to the July 22. There will be over 14 different live and recorded degrees to attend in the next 7 months, enabling any current Scottish Rite member to further fill or complete his Scottish Rite Passport. Reservations for meals and locations of the hosting Valleys can be found on the last page of the attached supplement. Remember, you can start your Scottish Rite journey on any of the listed dates by petitioning and requesting a viewing of the 4th degree that very same evening. The three Valleys are looking for brothers with acting talent, as well as sound and lighting backgrounds. Our Valleys

have invested in state of the art computerized lighting and sound systems and the need for talent and know how has never been greater. Please contact the Consistory office or drop me an email at the address above if you are interested or have questions.

On March 18 and 25, at 9 a.m., in Stratford we will have auditions, open to all Master Masons to read for parts in The Last Full Measure, a Masonic Play, which is a tribute to President Lincoln. This will be a very special performance on Saturday, June 24 which will be open to All Master Masons and their ladies. It is also a unique chance for Master Masons to work alongside their Scottish Rite brothers as crew and/or cast members, giving everyone an opportunity to experience the excitement, and camaraderie of participating in a Scottish Rite production. Further details will follow next month.

Freemasonry, is often referred to as a progressive science. One recalls the

Master of the Lodge questioning his Senior Warden: "What are you here to do?", and one further recalls that the response from the West resonates: "To learn to subdue my passions..."

Which leads us to the much alluded to but never clearly delineated issue of the Lost Master's Word. Clearly the Master's Word imbued the holder thereof with certain undeniable capability, highly desirable but dauntingly and almost impossible to obtain without the key which perished along with the Grand Master who possessed it at the hands of the Three Ruffians.

Since Freemasonry is a complete science of allegory and symbolism which is designed to awaken and elevate the Spiritual Master to a level of power enabling it to manifest control over the imperfect and very limited mortal personality, it is constructive to view the panoply of the Hiramic Tragedy in this light. It is the death of the Master within, accomplished by three Ruffians (who - or what - they are is a topic for another day) that terminates the existence of the "Lost Word." Dr. Buck in Mystic Masonry, states: "The tradition of the Master's Word, of the power which its possession gives to the Master; the story of its loss and the search for its recovery; the tradition of the Ineffable Name in connection with the Lost Word, showing that it could not or should not be pronounced, except with bated breath, or as Hindu tradition declares 'with the hand covering the mouth,' the symbol of the three greater and three lesser

lights, and the play made in many places on the word Light itself, in conjunction with the Lost Word; all these references and uses constitute a complicated symbolism working in and towards a common center or glyph, which, taken in conjunction with the building and restoration of the Temple constitute the secret Symbolism of Masonry and illustrate the whole process of Initiation."

Further explanation is required, to at best, scratch at the surface of what Dr. Buck is alluding to however. Accordingly the text in the previous paragraph might be better understood as follows: Master's Word represents Soul Comprehension/Consciousness - Illumination. The loss of the Word represents the loss of the soul's light through abuse of the creative faculty (i.e., The soul that sinneth it shall die - Cast not thy seed upon the ground...lest it become a serpent and rend thee). The search for recovery alludes to the raising and transmutation of the seed into the Light of the Soul. The connection of the Ineffable name in connection with the Lost Word alludes to finding the soul's light and thru the Fire being able to eventually come face to face with the Soul's Creator - Diety - Jehovah Adonai). Bated breath alludes to indrawn or updrawn breath. The mouth references a symbolic orifice that receives and the "hand covering the mouth" symbolizes that which overshadows. Finally, Restoration of the Temple alludes to the regeneration

Continued on page 24



ATTENTION ALL MASTER MASONS!
LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY
ANNOUNCES

The three Valleys are looking for brothers with acting talent, as well as sound and lighting backgrounds.

Our Valleys have invested in state of the art computerized lighting and sound systems, and the need for talent and know how has never been greater. Please contact the Consistory office or drop me, John Amarilios by email at: membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

Contact the Consistory office if you desire to arrange for seating and meals for any of these degree events.

Contact any Scottish Rite Mason or the Valley near you today!

<p>Valley of Bridgeport 2422 Main Street Stratford, CT consistory@sbcglobal.net 203-375-0064</p>	<p>Valley of New Haven 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven, CT sphinx97@juno.com 203-269-0336</p>	<p>Valley of Waterbury 531 Highland Avenue Waterbury, CT cwrk@juno.com 203-754-8209</p>
---	--	---

Or simply contact: MEMBERSHIP@LAFAYETTECONSISTORY.COM

New Board Officers Named at Masonicare

The Board of Trustees of Masonicare has elected the following individuals to fill the executive offices. They are: Chair - Bro. Robert F. Polito, Jr.; Vice-Chair - Bro. William R. Deickler; Secretary - Janet S. Berry and Treasurer - Bro. Geoffrey L. Ice. All are long-serving members of the Board of Trustees.

They succeed Bro. Howard W. Orr who served as Chair for more than thirteen years. Other predecessor officers were Bro. Francis X. Conlon (Vice-Chair), Bro. J. Arthur Carbonaro (Secretary) and Bro. Robert A. Simon (Treasurer).

Bro. Robert Polito is a senior vice president at Webster Bank where he has been a commercial lender for 23 years. He has served on Masonicare's Board for 10 years. He chairs the Investment Committee and the IT Steering Committee and is Vice-Chair of The Masonic Charity Foundation. He chaired this past summer's very successful 24th annual Golf Classic. He is a member of Trumbull Lodge No. 22 and Madison Lodge No. 87.

Bro. William Deickler worked for years in building construction and real estate. He was on the Masonicare at Newtown Board of Directors for many

years and is currently Vice-Chair of the Masonicare Health Center Board. He is active in St. John's Episcopal Church in South Salem, NY. His Masonic affiliations include being a member of Jerusalem Lodge No. 49; both the Scottish and York Rites, Shriners and the Royal Order of Scotland.

Janet Berry is employed with UBS Financial Services in New Haven. She is past Worthy Grand Matron of the Order of Eastern Star and on the Board of the DeMolay Foundation. She is Past Grand Matron of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut. In addition to the Masonicare Board of Trustees, she has served on The Masonic Charity Foundation board and chaired the Masonicare at Home board.

Bro. Geoffrey Ice is retired from the Connecticut State Police, but continues to serve on the Assessor Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. He has a Master's degree in public administration, a certificate in security management and was in the FBI's 187th National Academy. He is a member of America-St. John's Lodge No. 8 and has several affiliations including Baldwin Chapter No. 13, Jerusalem Council No. 16



Janet Berry

and Hamilton Commandery No. 5. "With deep gratitude to Bro. Howard Orr for his years of service, we congratulate the new officers. I look forward to working with them to advance Masonicare's mission," said Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit, Masonicare President & CEO.



William Deickler



Geoffrey Ice



Robert Polito

'Tis The Season To Be Jolly



by Donald M. Casey, Jr.

Masons from Pyramid Shrine Temple in Stratford, CT celebrated the holidays by participating at several events. The clowns entertained spectators at the 45th Annual Seymour, Connecticut Christmas Parade. Sisters from Lady Martha No. 103 Order of the Eastern Star invited the clowns to their Mrs. Claus's Kitchen pancake breakfast. Balloon twisting animals were made and holiday songs sung at the Stepney Green Tree Lighting ceremony in Monroe, Connecticut. The clowns assisted Frosty the Snowman while he illuminated a 50 foot Christmas tree. Brothers from America-St. John's Lodge No. 8 and Day Spring Lodge No. 30 each had holiday parties at their Lodges. The clowns made a bunch of balloon crafts and assisted Santa Claus while he distributed gifts to the children.

Shrine Cycle Unit Gears Up for New Year



On November 19, the Shrine Cycle Unit attended the Chief Rabban's Night in Newington. We look forward to an exciting year.

Masonicare at Mystic is Open!

Masonicare's newest senior community, Masonicare at Mystic, welcomed its first move-ins on Tuesday, November 29. By the New Year, 28 residents had moved in to one of the 81 Independent Living apartments.

"November 29 was a high energy day," said Perry Phillips, Executive Director of Masonicare at Mystic. "In addition to our own staff, we were assisted by a supportive team of Ashlar Village employees and Masonicare executive management. Everyone was happy to pitch in and help out as we opened our doors."

The new community is located at 45 Clara Drive off Coogan Boulevard near the Mystic Aquarium and next door to the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center. In addition to Independent Living, there will be 50 Assisted Living apartments and 48 Memory Care apartments. Like the Independent Living side, they will be a rental model with a residency agreement.

For more information, call 888-502-8859.



Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit, President & CEO of Masonicare, and Hilde Sager, VP for Residential Services, on move-in day.



Perry Phillips welcomes Charles Glaza, Mystic's very first resident.



A poster at the reception area welcoming Mystic's first move-ins.

Unity Lodge No. 148 Presents History of Prince Hall Recognition

by Roger B. Thorin

On November 1, 2016, Unity Lodge No. 148 presented a program about events leading to the recognition of Prince Hall Masonry by the Grand Lodge of CT. A large crowd attended including Brothers from many lodges and their families, Rainbow and Demolay, Prince Hall Brothers and The Sisters of the Eastern Star Chapter (PHA), both of which hold meetings at Unity's lodge. A fine dinner was served before the program and then everyone went upstairs to the lodge room for the evening's program.

Worshipful Master Harry Needham III welcomed everyone and introduced the many dignitaries present, as well as the speakers for the evening. To have this story told by the Brothers who were responsible for this event some 20 years later was quite remarkable. Most Worshipful Brothers Gail N.

Smith Grand Master at the time and Grand Master today, Kenneth B. Hawkins Sr., and Lew Myrick Past Grand Master (PHA) each spoke about the parts they played, and what was involved in getting this process done. During their talks, they interjected numerous stories both historical and humorous, and described how, by working together, they accomplished their goal of being the first state in the nation to recognize Prince Hall Masons. MWB Hawkins did a wonderful job researching and presenting this program.

WB Needham thanked the Grand Masters for presenting the program so everyone could understand the effort to make this all come about. He then introduced MWB Ellis G. Simpson Jr., Grand Master of CT PHA., who spoke the great relationship that exists between both Grand Lodges, and how well they work together.



Grand Masters Myrek, Hawking, Smith and Simpson, with WM Needham (center).



Grand Master Smith speaks while Grand Masters Myrek and Simpson look on.



Thomas Fraize, Jr. *Continued from page 14*

and registration for Hartford County 4-H Camp. Bill serves on the camp's Board of Trustees for over 30 years, as well as the Hartford County 4-H Fair Association.

Community means a lot to Bill. He taught computer classes in both Manchester and South Windsor's Adult Evening Education. He participated in the town's Police and Community Together (PACT) classes that shared the workings of the South Windsor Police Department. He became a HAM Radio operator to help in the Community Emergency Response Team. Bill is a member of the Meadowland Preservation Association in South

Windsor. As President of the South Windsor Cemetery Association, he and a committee oversee four of the town owned cemeteries. Previously Bill headed a group that formed the first Manchester History Museum, and opened it to the public. He is a member of the Manchester Historical Society as well. There has not been a winter snow storm that Bill has not plowed at least a half a dozen or more neighbors' driveways as a "neighborly" gesture. If he finds someone in need of help, he seems to be available at the right time. Many of his good deeds involved a request from his wife to help with some of

her community activities as well.

As a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ in South Windsor, Bill has served on numerous committees, and on the Board of Trustees. In the past, Bill was active as an advisor, and a program resource for the First Church youth groups. A unique gift to his church's Tricentennial Anniversary Committee, and First Church Family, was a hand-crafted, fused glass plate with a picture of the church, and its 300th anniversary logo, now displayed in the Church's Memorial Cabinet.

William Fraize is a true Mason. If someone needs

a helping hand, Bill is always available. Without a second thought, he will change his plans to accommodate others. At times, when the lodge was having difficulties, he refused to surrender, and held it together for one more day, till another, and better, time.

In recognition of his service to his country, his family, his community, his neighbors, his church, and the youth organizations he has served, the Grand Lodge AF & A. of Connecticut is pleased and proud to present RWB William Thomas Fraize, Jr. the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze.

"Making a Difference Every Day"

Two Masonic volunteers have been recognized as "Hometown Heroes" by the Hartford Courant. Marie Beaulier of East Hartford was featured earlier in the year in a story about her many years as a Hospice Volunteer among other selfless causes to which she volunteers her time, despite being blind. Mike Menta of Newington was featured in a November story about his participation in the Masonicare Vet-to-Vet volunteer program as a commitment to veterans now nearing the end of life. Mike spent 23 years in the military including three deployments to Iraq and Kuwait.

"We are blessed to have such dedicated individuals helping us bring the best hospice care possible to our patients," notes Marie Roman, supervisor of counseling and social work for Masonicare Partners' hospice team.

(L to r :) Mike Menta, Marie Roman and Marie Beaulier at the Hartford Courant's Hometown Heroes Awards Presentation on December 8 in Hartford.





Connecticut York Rite Opportunities

Information to be included in York Rite Opportunities must be submitted by the 8th of the preceding month to the Grand Secretary/Recorder, Charles B. Fowler, 525 Stillwater, Windsor CT 06095-3842 or HYPERLINK "mailto:yrctramrsm@yahoo.com"ctramrsm@gmail.com. NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice.

JANUARY 2017

01	ME	MP	RE	HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!
03	ME		RE	Franklin 02 RA, New Haven
04			RE	F Halleck 44 RA & Menunketuck 36 SM, Madison
08			RE	U Cyrene 08 KT, Middletown. Inspection, Order of the Temple
09		MP	RE	F Union 07 RAM / Cushing 04 SM, Preston. RM Degree (Inspection), Dinner 6:30pm
10	ME			Harmony 08 SM, New Haven
10		MP		F Hamilton 22 SM, Meriden.
10			RE	U Cyrene 08 KT, Middletown. Inspection, Order of the Temple
11			RE	F Hiram 01 RA, Sandy Hook.
11	ME			F Pythagoras 17 RA, East Hartford
12	ME			F Rittenhouse 11 RA, East Norwalk
12			RE	F Cyrus-Meridian 15 RA & Buel 20 SM, Torrington.
13			RE	F Baldwin 13 RA, Stratford.
13		MP		F Hamilton 22 SM, Meriden
17		MP		F Columbia 9 SM, Middletown. 8:30pm
17			RE	U Saint Elmo 09 KT, Meriden
18		MP		F Suffield 23 SM, Suffield
20	ME		RE	U New Haven 02 KT, New Haven. Red Cross, Dinner 6:15 pm
21	ME		RE	F York Rite College, East Norwalk, 9 am
24				U Wolcott 01 SM, East Hartford. RM & SM deg
25	ME		RE	F Pulaski 26 RA & Crawford 19 SM, Branford. MEM deg
26		MP	RE	U Palestine 06 KT, Preston. Dinner 6:30 pm
28		MP	RE	F Tri-State SM Festival (NY/MA/CT). Poughkeepsie, NY 8:30am. CT to perform SEM at 1 pm.

NOTE >> >> >> When there is a dinner, reservations are usually req'd.
 ME indicates attendance by the ME Grand High Priest
 MP indicates attendance by the MP Grand Master
 RE indicates attendance by the RE Grand Commander

COMING UP

02-03	ME @ New Haven 02 KT, New Haven, Annual Mtg, dinner 615pm
02-03	MP @ Lee 25 SM, Collinsville
02-04	ME @ AMD/SRICF, East Hartford. 9:30am
02-07	ME @ Franklin Chapter 02 RA, New Haven, 730pm
02-09	ME @ Joseph Andrews 46 RA, West Haven
02-09	MP @ Washington 06 SM, East Norwalk
02-13	MP @ Union 07 RA & Cushing 04 SM, Preston. Dinner 6:30 pm
02-14	ME @ Milford 49 RA, Milford
02-17	ME @ New Haven 02 KT, New Haven. Installation
02-20	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford. Installation
02-21	ME @ Burning Bush-Washington 06 RA, Middletown
02-23	MP @ Palestine 06 KT, Preston. Dinner 6:30 pm
02-24	MP @ Jerusalem 16 SM, Stratford.
03-07	ME @ Keystone 27 RA, Meriden
03-09	ME @ Cyrus-Meridian 15 RA, Torrington



DARIEN YORK RITE BODIES NOW IN NORWALK

Starting last September, the York Rite Bodies which were meeting in Darien have relocated to the apartments of Old Well-St. John's Lodge No. 6 at 5 Gregory Boulevard in Norwalk. This includes Rittenhouse Chapter No. 11, Washington Council No. 6 and Trinity Commandery No. 3.

FROM MEGHP MARTIN EDE

Greetings Companions and Brothers,

Given my previous messages promoting education and research, I thought it would be a good idea to provide you with a booklist (most of the books listed are available as e-books as well, and are available in print and e-book through Amazon, Barnes & Noble and Ebay) studying the Royal Arch. This list is not complete and is also a mixture of books dealing with both the American and English versions of the degree (copies of English rituals for the RA degree are available through Macoy and Lewis Masonic as well as Ebay and are well worth the study). So if you have holiday gift certificates left with nothing else to buy, here are some fascinating books on the Royal Arch, in no particular order:

Piers Vaughan: Capitular Development Course, Renaissance Man and Mason

Albert G. Mackey: Book of the Chapter

Rev. Neville Barker Cryer: The Royal Arch Journey, York Mysteries Revealed, Tell Me More About The Mark Degree

Roy A. Wells: Royal Arch Matters, Some Royal Arch Chapter Terms Explained, Understanding Freemasonry

John Sheville & James Gould: Guide to the Royal Arch Chapter
George Steinmetz: The Royal

Arch, Its' Hidden Meaning

George Oliver: Origin of the Royal Arch

Duncan Moore: In Search Of That Which Was Lost

Edward R. Graham: The History and Symbolism of Royal Arch Masonry

Bernard E. Jones: Freemasons Book of the Royal Arch

Kevin L. Gest: Freemasonry Decoded, Rebuilding the Royal Arch

Robert W. Sullivan, IV: The Royal Arch of Enoch

Tim Hogan: The Alchemical Keys to Masonic Ritual, The 32 Secret Paths of Solomon

These books cover the traditional to the historical to the esoteric, and along with the publications of the General Grand Chapter will provide a greater understanding of the Royal Arch as well as, I hope, some food for thought.

I wish you all the best for the New Year and keep the tenets of the Royal Arch in mind, spreading the word amongst your brethren,

FROM MPGM J. ANDREW BIRDSALL

Happy New Year Companions,

My lady, Maryann and I hope that you have had a wonderful holiday season.

A new year, a new beginning, of sorts, a time for renewal... Time to reflect upon those things in life that are important to us, and a time to refocus our efforts to enjoy those things to the fullest, be it family, friends, our Brother Masons, and our York Rite Companions. I hope that each Council can reflect and build upon the good things that have happened for them this year, and rededicate efforts to improve those things that could use improving.

The Tri-State Festival will be on January 28, 2017 in

Poughkeepsie, NY. A blanket dispensation is being issued for any Council wishing to take candidates to the festival, allowing them to receive their degrees as portrayed by our sister jurisdictions. CT has agreed to portray the SEM Degree, this is a spectacular show, one that shouldn't be missed.

A call for all Super Excellent Masters to attend the Tri-State Festival has been requested by TIM McCollum. The Council of Super Excellent Masters, will be holding a special meeting during the Tri-State Festival to approve amending the by-laws to change the Annual Assembly. You are so called.

I am anticipating another portrayal of the Super Excellent Master Degree, along with a Table Council, at some point as we head toward spring - more information will be sent out when it is available.

FROM REGC CLYDE W. KAYSER, II

I am writing this message after returning from the inspection of Washington Commandery No. 1. So far six of the eight Commanderies have had their inspections, and the remaining two will be inspected early in 2017. This year the four Grand dais officers agreed that it was time to experiment with a change in the inspection procedure. Previously an appointed Grand Inspector was used for this purpose. This year we decided to try having the four dais officers conduct a combined inspection. Essentially this means that we have four sets of scores that are combined into a final composite score. This method also has the added benefit that while junior officers observe the work of each of the Commanderies, they are able to see any part of

the ritual that needs change or improvement. This will allow the them to establish ritual improvement programs as they progress through the Grand Line. So far this experiment has proven successful. I might comment the two of the four officers are Past Grand Inspectors who are providing a stabilizing force for the other two inspectors.

As I have attended the inspections, I have been impressed with the number of new Sir Knights that have taken offices in the Commanderies. I am pleased that most of the Commanderies have their own Sir Knights conferring the Order of the Temple. It is not too long ago that in one year I sat as Eminent Commander in the Order of the Temple for five of the eight inspections. Hopefully, those days are long past. Finally, I am pleased with the number of new Knightings we have had this year, and more importantly, at how many of those new Sir Knights are interested in becoming active participants in their Commanderies. Believe me it is a real pleasant situation for a Commandery to have to find more paraphernalia to outfit these knights. Let's keep it going.

YORK RITE WEBSITES

Grand Chapter RAM of CT:
<http://yorkrite.org/gcramct/>

Grand Council R&SM of CT:
<http://yorkrite.org/gcrsmct/>

Grand Commandery KT of CT:
www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/ct

Common to all three YR bodies:
www.yorkrite.com/ct

News From The Valley of New Haven

by Charles Tirrell

This past season at the Scottish Rite Valley of New Haven was packed with exciting activities. The Valley hosted the annual Connecticut Council of Deliberation and held an enjoyable Oktoberfest celebration at Sleeping Giant State Park. We portrayed the 15th and 18th degrees at the New Haven Masonic Temple and several of our members participated in the portrayal of the statewide 32nd Degree on Scottish Rite Day. Our Speakers Bureau presented informative talks at Corinthian Lodge No. 63 and Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125.

Our next season is shaping up to be just as exciting! The Scottish Rite Valley of New Haven is kicking off our

Spring 2017 Class with the 4th and 14th degrees on February 27. If you are interested in starting your Scottish Rite journey in our Spring Class, please contact our Membership Development Chairman, Brother Wayne Murray (203.393.5518 - wmurray2629@gmail.com). Additionally, we'll portray the 11th degree on March 20 and the 16th degree on April 10.

In addition to our degree work, the Membership Committee is hard at work on several enjoyable social events for the spring. We will also hold a few Scottish Rite Masonic Information nights, where we invite knowledgeable brethren to present on the history and philosophy of Freemasonry and the Scottish Rite. Check out our Valley Bulletin and Facebook Page for more details on our

membership events.

Finally, our Valley has created some interesting, esoterically-oriented presentations appropriate for Master Masons and have arranged for knowledgeable brethren of our craft to present the material to local Blue Lodges. If you are interested in furthering the Masonic Education within your Blue Lodge, please contact Brother Charles Tirrell (203.215.5305 or chtirrell@gmail.com) and arrange for the Scottish Rite to give a presentation at one of your stated communications.

Always on the Level,


Brother Charles

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite
THE VALLEY OF NEW HAVEN
Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue New Haven

**LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING MORE
IN MASONRY?**

SPRING 2017 CLASS
*4th and 14th degrees
on February 27*
11th degree on March 20
16th degree on April 10.

**See what we have to offer
by visiting our website:
valleyofnewhaven.org**



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

Freemasonry's Lost Word

Continued from page 16

of the physical body.

What is embedded in our three Blue lodge degrees is a magnificent science which requires considerable study and an ability to discern between what is true and what is not. It further requires an unwavering adherence to a difficult but highly rewarding personal path. Awakening a slumbering Master within requires continued and repeated exposure to uplifting and instructive degree work. It requires desire and it requires unceasing attempts to overcome the weaknesses that keep us from attaining the Lost Word for ourselves.

Your local Scottish Rite Valleys can present you with 29 degrees which are designed to uplift, enjoy, socialize, experience, grow, and teach. But do not think that philosophy and degree work are all we are about.. You should

know that your Consistory also directs a very active Family Life program which includes activities that promote social togetherness, brotherhood, companionship, enjoyment of life and a heavy emphasis on Brother to Brother concern and assistance. Like the 24 inch gauge, there are a wide spectrum of activities available to any brother who desires to keep heart, mind and body in balance. Whether it is fishing trips, concerts, picnics, degree work, theater operations or brotherly outreach, there are many nooks and crannies where good work is appreciated - and needed! In return you will garner some very satisfying experiences - and friendships, something that is increasingly difficult to find in today's world.! As usual, if you have any questions about Scottish Rite Freemasonry, feel free to contact me at Membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

News From The Valley of Hartford, A.A.S.R.

David R. Blythe, Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary

Goodbye 2016, hello 2017! That means that our spring degree schedule starts just around the corner, in February, when we will start conferring degrees on a new class of candidates.

The Valley of Hartford would like to welcome those brethren who completed their degrees on Consistory Day, November 12, and are Sublime Princes: Brian E. Beals, John A. Birdsall, Paul J. Bregonzio, Jeffery Lee Davis, Curtis J. Dynak, Thomas H. Garcia, Jason C. Holloway, Billie Ray Keene II, Louis E. Lamphear, William E. Mellow, Danis Mensah, Klamphiou Phimvongsa, and Deepak C. Salutu.

As the Valley gets ready to welcome new candidates, who are seeking more light in Masonry, it brings to mind a quotation from Ill. Bro. Albert Pike, 33°:

"Education is the greatest, yea, the only safeguard of Liberty. When was there ever a country where the common people were uniformly uneducated, in which they were not slaves? ... A community of ignorant and uneducated men is not capable of self-government...

"Masonry is a march and a struggle toward the Light. For the individual as well as the nation, Light is Virtue, Manliness, Intelligence, Liberty, tyranny over the soul or body, is darkness.

"He who does right is better than he who thinks right."

Current Scottish Rite brethren struggle towards that light by watching the degrees and learning the meanings behind them. The spring degree schedule is yet another chance for Scottish Rite brethren to renew old acquaintances and perhaps see the portrayal of a degree that they may have never seen or one that has been updated. It begins on Thursday, February 9 with the portrayal of the 4th and the 14th Degrees followed by the portrayal of

the 16th degree on Thursday, February 23, and on Thursday, March 23 with the portrayal of 17th degree.

Prior to all the Thursday night degrees the Valley will once again hold All-You-Can-Eat buffet dinners at 6 p.m. at the Shrine facility. Degrees begin at 7:30 p.m.

Should any degrees be canceled because of bad weather then the schedule will be adjusted, with March 9 as a snow date.

The degree schedule will conclude on Saturday, April 22 (Consistory Day) with the presentation of a Masonic Historical play and the portrayal of the 32°. The morning starts at 9 a.m., and degrees will be followed by the usual prime rib luncheon. The Valley will be joined by the Valleys of Bridgeport, New Haven and Waterbury.

If you know of a Master Mason who is looking for more light in Masonry and would like to be part of the Valley of Hartford and this great Scottish Rite organization, applications are now being accepted for the upcoming class. They can be found in copies of the View of the Valley or on the valley website: www.valleyofhartford.org, or by contacting the Valley office.

Remember, unlike other fraternal organizations, Masonry is a world wide organization. It is the organization of choice for men. The reason men become Masons is because Masonry is for those men who cultivate genuine friendships with good companions; who are worthwhile citizens and strive to promote the common good by serving God, their country, and their community; and men of faith and honesty, of strength of character through self-mastery, of respect for the Christian family and a lawful authority, and of leadership in the pursuit of good - that is a man who has gone onto becoming a SCOTTISH RITE MAN."



ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE
The Valley of Hartford
207 Denning Street, Newington, CT 06111

**LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING MORE
IN MASONRY?**

**WHY NOT CONSIDER BEING PART
OF THE 2017 SPRING CLASS**

*Applications are now being accepted from
those Masons interested on enhancing
their Masonic Knowledge...*

**Deadline is Thursday,
February 09, 2017
at 7:15 p.m.**

*See what we have to offer by visiting our website:
www.valleyofhartford.org*

For more information about becoming a member of the
Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite,
or to receive a Scottish Rite Informational DVD....
Contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary,
Valley of Hartford AASR
(860) 666-0712 Email: sect@snet.net

MWPGM Gary W. Arseneau Receives Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze



Gary William Arseneau was born in Hartford, Connecticut on February 14, 1950 to Rudolph and Ella Arseneau. The family moved to West Palm Beach Florida where his sister was born in 1952. The family moved to Bristol, CT and lived there until 1958, before moving to Southington into a house his father built.

Gary attended Southington schools. He played Little League baseball and was a Boy Scout. In high school he played baseball and joined the band and the boy's gymnastics team. He graduated in 1968. Upon graduation he attended Connecticut School of Electronics in New Haven, was elected class president and graduated at the top of his class in 1971. This year was a special year because he married his high school sweetheart Christine Martino. They settled in Southington and he began his career in the Electronics Industry. In 1980, they adopted a wonderful girl, and named her Elise. During this time Gary was active in the community by working with the Southington

Southern Little League as a coach and manager for the Indians. Gary and Christine also were active with the Boy Scouts of America as advisors of an Explorer Troop.

In 1975, he began the long task of going to night school obtaining a degree as Electronics Engineer and graduated in 1986 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. He worked for Picker Corporation as an Electronic Technician from 1975 until 1986. This was the year that he joined six other engineers and formed American Lightwave Systems. He worked at American Lightwave Systems as the Sr. Software/Hardware engineer until the company was bought by ADC Video Systems. He then moved on to the access and security control industry at Sensor Engineering as Project manager. In 1996, he joined Greenwald Industries as Engineering Manager.

Gary is a member of Grace United Methodist church and has served as an usher, choir member, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Chairman of the Missions

Continued on next page

GARAVEL
AUTO GROUP

CHRYSLER
 DODGE
 Jeep
 RAM
 SUBARU

NORWALK

PATHWAYS LEGAL GROUP LLP
 INNOVATIVE PATHS. UNIQUE SOLUTIONS.

Divorce & Legal Separations | Business Law | Wills
 Estate Planning | Probate | Real Estate | Criminal Defense

Call Attorney Mike Kaczynski at 203-903-4529 or mjk@pathwayslegal.com
www.pathwayslegal.com | All major credit cards accepted

Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association 5th Annual Banquet

The Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association will be hosting their 5th Annual Banquet at the Hartog Center at Ashlar Village on Sunday January 29, 2017 at 5 p.m. All Masonic brothers, especially those with a scouting background either past or present, and Scouters or other interested persons, are invited to attend. The CMSA will be celebrating another successful year of Scouting and Masonry and honor Marje Chick and W. Bro David Elkodsi for their years of service to the Grand

Lodge and Masonic Scouting. Also being recognized is a Daniel Carter Beard Awardee. All Daniel Carter Beard Awardees are welcome to attend and be recognized.

From 2009 to the present, CMSA has recognized over 300 Eagle Scouts with a congratulatory letter signed by the Grand Master and the Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association Eagle Scout Commendation Award also signed by the Grand Master. The core values of Scouting and Freemasonry are

essentially the same.

There will be stuffed chicken and salmon buffet dinner. The cost is \$30 for each attendee. For further information contact Bro. Jack Braddock at (203) 235-5596. For payment, please make a check payable to Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association and send to WB Seth Strohecker, 51 Stag Lane, Trumbull, Connecticut 06611. Reservations must be received by Friday January 15, 2016.

Arseneau Pierpont *Continued from previous page*

Committee, Chairman of the Missions Citrus sale, and Chairman of the Church Council and has served for three years as the Adult advisor for the Junior Methodist Youth Fellowship.

Gary W. Arseneau joined Friendship Lodge No. 33 and was initiated as an Entered Apprentice on February 15, 1989, passed to the Fellowcraft on March 15, 1989 and raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason on September 18, 1989. He quickly joined the Officer line as Junior Steward on December 31, 1990 then worked his way thru the chairs, becoming Worshipful Master in 1996. He received the Masters Achievement Award and has served as Secretary since 1998. Most Worshipful Brother Arseneau was appointed Grand Junior Steward in 2004 and progressed through the chairs serving as Most Worshipful Grand Master in 2012.

Since that time he has been active in all facets of Masonic life. He has served as president of the Friendship Lodge No. 33 Trowel Club and Treasurer, Chairman of the Apple Harvest Committee, member of the Rainbow Advisory board and served as Chairman of the Rainbow Advisory board, is a member of the DeMolay Advisory board. Brother Gary was just designated by DeMolay International in June to be presented with an Honorary Legion of Honor

for service to humanity. He has also served as Chaplain, Associate Patron, and Worthy Patron, three times, of Frederica Chapter No. 110 Order of Eastern Star and Grand Representative of Washington State Order of the Eastern Star 2003-2004 and Grand Representative to California 2016-2017. He is a member of Westwood's Court No. 5 Order of the Amaranth, He is a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite mason in the Valley of Waterbury, the Consistory of the Valley of Bridgeport, a Knight Templar in St Elmo's Commandery No. 9, a Companion of Hamilton Chapter No. 22 Royal Arch Masons, Keystone Chapter No. 27, York Rite Connecticut York Rite College No. 17, Sphinx Shrine Temple, and member of the Sphinx Shriners cycle Unit. He served the Grand Lodge of Connecticut as District Deputy of District 5B in 1999-2000, Masonic Education Committee, CTCHIP, Committee on Welfare of Lodges and By-laws Committee, Chairman of the Legal Matters Committee, Chairman of the Grand Lodge Session Hospitality Committee.

In recognition of his years of devoted service to his Church, to his Lodge, to the Grand Lodge and to all Masonic Organizations, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons is pleased to present

to Most Worshipful Brother Gary William Arseneau the Pierpont Edwards Medal in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service.

**Thinking of Buying
or Selling?
Think of Stamm Eddy!**



- ❖ SMARTER
- ❖ BOLDER
- ❖ FASTER

**CHIP
STAMM**
Broker/Owner
860-558-8310(c)



39 East Cedar Street
860-666-1449
"on the square"
in Newington Center
www.StammEddyRealty.com



A New Year, A New Opportunity!

by Charles W. Yohe

A new year and a new opportunity! No matter what happened in your Lodge last year, that is over and done. It matters little if your Lodge had a "good" year or a "bad" year, it is in the past. The question is "What are you going to do to make your Lodge better and stronger this year?" for you see, no matter the past, each and every Lodge is starting out with a blank slate.

Over the years (almost 43 of them now), I've observed Lodges go dark, new Lodges form, strong Lodges become weak, weak Lodges become strong, and some Lodges remain pretty much the same. The lesson I hope you would take from that observation is that even if your Lodge seems to be on the brink of going out of business, there is hope for renewal - with the proper leadership. Despite what you may think or what some may tell you, the Grand Lodge, from the Grand Master to the District Grand Lodge officer to the District Deputy, is here to assist in whatever way they can and to provide you the tools to succeed.

Years ago, a supervisor of mine suggested that, in order to thrive in business, one has to be a duck. What she was indicating is that you can't be so 'thin-skinned' that you are emotionally affected by every little thing that comes along. Instead, you need to 'let it roll off your back' and continue forward. I have seen good Brothers drop out of active involvement in

Masonry over seemingly little things like being passed over for a promotion to the next chair in line. We are told that "Masonry is a progressive science," and the same goes for the officer line. It should be obvious that every other position in our progressing officer line is designed with a minimal speaking part. That is by design, and we are so arranged to give each officer the opportunity to study for the next office in line. When the Senior Deacon is installed as the new Junior Warden, he should already have the Junior Warden's part down cold! One of the great advantages for Lodges that have "step up" nights, is that the officers get a chance to "try out their next office," and the Lodge gets an opportunity to observe if the progressing Brother is ready to move up or not.

The problem I've seen too many times and in too many Lodges, is Brothers who fail this test and then, when the Lodge doesn't "promote them to the next office," they become angry and leave the Lodge. Masonry teaches that we are each responsible for our own actions. We each need to heed that lesson.

At the same time, to be successful in a business, the employees need to look out for and take care of the little things. In Masonry, as in business, if you take care of the little things you will find that the big things will take care of themselves. A blurb in the December Emessay Notes from the Masonic Services Association

provides a timely illustration.

A Mason, who always wore his Masonic ring and lapel pin in public, on some occasions rode the bus from his home to the downtown area. On one such trip, when he sat down, he discovered that the driver had mistakenly given him a quarter too much change.

As he considered what to do, he thought, "You'd better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he thought, "It's just a quarter, no one would bother with this small amount. Anyway, the company gets enough fare and they will never miss it. Accept it as a 'gift from God' and stay quiet."

When his stop came, he paused at the door and then handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change."

The driver smiled and said, "I noticed your Masonic ring and lapel pin. I have been thinking lately about asking a Mason how to join. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change. You passed the test. Can you tell me how to become a Mason?"

When the Mason stepped off the bus, he said a silent prayer, "O Grand Architect of the Universe, I almost sold you and my beloved Masons for a mere quarter."

Our actions are the only Masonic creed some will ever see. This story is an example of how people watch us as Masons and may put us to the test without us realizing it.

Remember, whenever you carry the name or a symbol of Masonry in public, you

can never tell who might be watching. (Taken from the Defiance (Ohio) York Rite Bulletin, Nov.-Dec. 2016)

There is a great little book that serves as a Masonic "cookbook" for success. It is called Freemasonry at the Top. That book lays out a great recipe that any Lodge can follow for success. It is really aimed toward the newly installed Junior Warden and provides a 3 year plan for growing a Lodge and making it successful, no matter its size or its current state. Twenty years ago, I purchased a copy for each Connecticut Lodge and distributed them to the Junior Wardens at an educational seminar. Those Lodges that were not represented at the seminar, had the books subsequently hand delivered to them. The book plate inside the cover indicated that this book was property of the Grand Lodge and was to be passed from Junior Warden to Junior Warden through the years. Look around your Lodge in the dusty archives and you just may find a copy. Brothers, it doesn't do any good if it isn't read and utilized. In the event that you can't find the copy that was provided to your Lodge, it is available for purchase from Macoy Masonic Supply or from the Grand Lodge office. I highly recommend it to any Lodge officer who is looking to improve the Lodge to which he belongs. To borrow the tag line from Nike, "Just do it!" May your Lodge have a very successful 2017!

Committee On Community Awareness Seeks Members/Chairmen

by Perne R. Maynard

The Grand Lodge Committees rely upon our website presence to distribute our message to our Brothers and the general community. In 2017, Grand Lodge will roll out a new contemporary media solution for all the committees and Lodges to help complete our mission of "Making A Difference" in our lodge and our community. As Chairman of the Committee on Community Action, COCA, I am looking to find Brothers who are committed to COCA's 2017 goal to make the general public aware of the Masonic fraternity in today's society.

COCA, is a vital Masonic Committee because it provides the conduit for the Masonic Fraternity to allow local lodges to interact with the general public through many Masonic programs. Many of the other Grand Lodge Committees have only one focus or theme. COCA has ten programs to facilitate. As we develop our new social media platform for 2017, I will concentrate my efforts on strengthening the COCA established committees. We will begin a search for new Brothers to organize existing Grand Lodge programs and to help develop new programs that are relevant for today's society.

The following Committees will benefit as COCA begins to provide updated information on the new website COCA tab. The programs that have committed leaders are:

The Masonic Organ and Tissue Awareness Program - A major reason for this committee's success has been that all members have been involved with friends or family members who had organ transplants. RWB Richard Denno will continue as the Chairmen

of this Committee that believes that Masons do "Make A Difference."

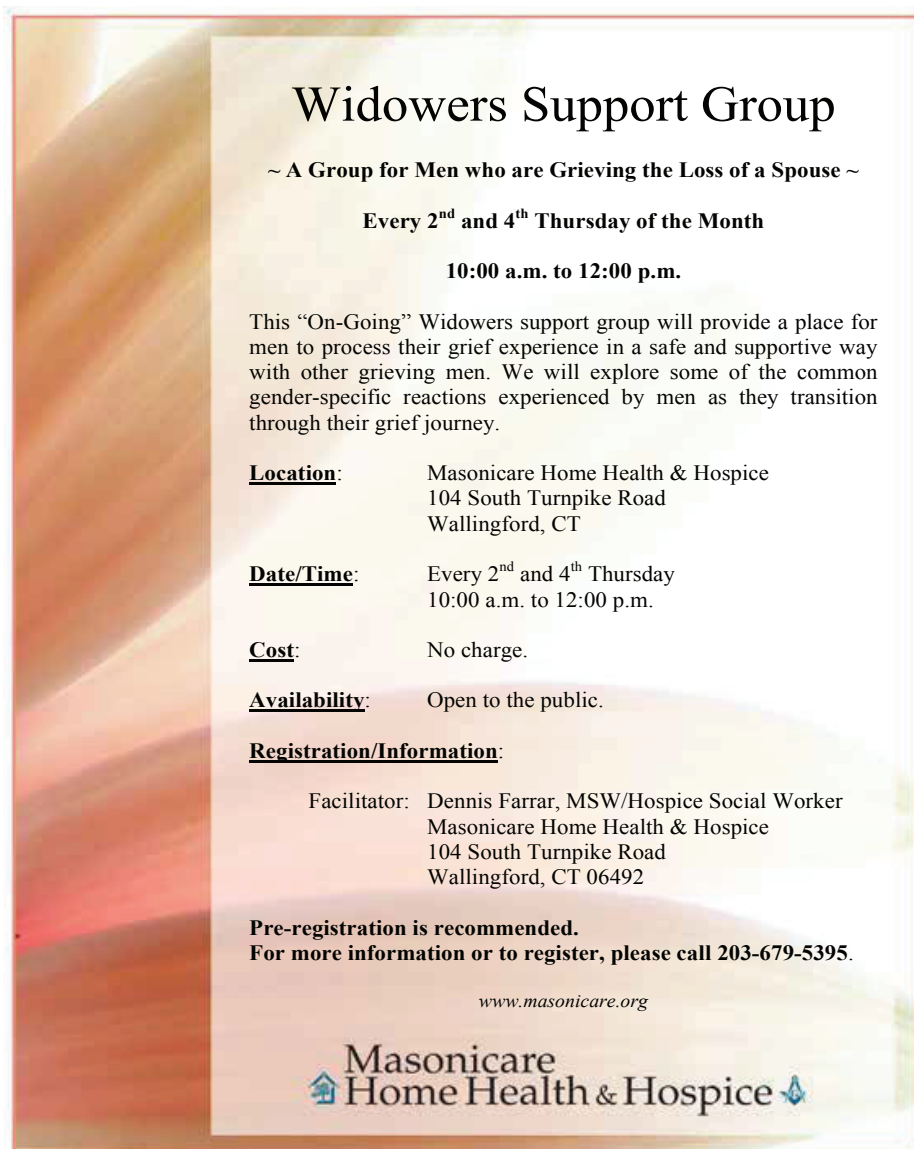
The CTCHIP Program - CTCHIP is chaired by WB Peter Boychuck who is responsible for coordinating the CHIP equipment and supplies for each of the 9 District coordinators. With new social media communication from COCA we will be able to "step it up" as an important program for a Lodge

function or a District event.

The Masonic Veterans Awareness Program - As a veteran, I will take the lead in developing this Committee that will promote lodge participation to honor veterans in Connecticut. We need volunteers to help implement this project. The only requirement is that you are veteran who will have the passion to complete this mission.

OpenHouse,Program-TheMasonic

Continued on next page



Widowers Support Group

~ A Group for Men who are Grieving the Loss of a Spouse ~

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This "On-Going" Widowers support group will provide a place for men to process their grief experience in a safe and supportive way with other grieving men. We will explore some of the common gender-specific reactions experienced by men as they transition through their grief journey.

Location: Masonicare Home Health & Hospice
104 South Turnpike Road
Wallingford, CT

Date/Time: Every 2nd and 4th Thursday
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Cost: No charge.

Availability: Open to the public.

Registration/Information:

Facilitator: Dennis Farrar, MSW/Hospice Social Worker
Masonicare Home Health & Hospice
104 South Turnpike Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

Pre-registration is recommended.
For more information or to register, please call 203-679-5395.

www.masonicare.org

Masonicare Home Health & Hospice



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*™



Happy Holidays

by Richard F. Denno

From the Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Program - HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

This season, we will be giving our loved ones many

gifts. These will be greatly appreciated. How about giving the 'gift of life' by becoming an organ/tissue donor? That is the gift that keeps on giving for years. It is the gift that lets the recipient

experience those family and personal moments, ones that otherwise will be lost.

That's it - short and sweet.

To learn more and register as a donor, go to www.donatelifenewengland.org.

donatelifenewengland.org.

Again, HAPPY HOLIDAYS to you and yours.

Ashlar Village Veteran



A Veterans Day salute to Ashlar Village resident, Brother Ken Duncan, who wore this uniform more than 50 years ago! Here he is at our Veterans Program seen with Grand Master, Gail Smith. Thank you for your service, Ken!

Community Awareness

Continued from previous page

Awareness Committee is responsible for this event and information regarding the craft.

CERT Emergency Shelter Awareness Program - Bro. Don Janelle will meet with any Lodge interested in developing a CERT program. There is a requirement of 20 hours of training for each CERT member. Contact Don if you would like to learn about developing a disaster relief program for your Lodge for storm emergencies.

I need Brothers who have the commitment to be Chairmen for these Committees: The Masonic Blood Drive Program, Tabs for Tots Program, Masonicare Outreach, Community Action Awareness Program and The Masonic Public

Relations Program.

Many lodges have successful community programs and should continue them. Soon they will be able to update lodge websites, and social media communications will be available online for educational COCA programs. I will encourage Brothers who express an interest in joining our cause on how your lodge can become active in your community. I am inviting each Brother to join the movement to build programs in your lodge with assistance from COCA media programs that will be readily available on the Grand Lodge website.

I can be contacted at perne69ctf@gmail.com or 860-993-7931.

Tree of Life Enjoys Another Successful Fundraising Season

Organized by The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, the 2016 Tree of Life raised over \$77,000. Gifts in support of the Tree of Life enable Masonicare to provide quality, compassionate hospice care to our patients and their families in the community.

The Tree of Life is an evening of live music, words of inspiration and remembrance that culminates with a non-denominational tree lighting

ceremony. Tree of Life events were held in November and December in West Hartford, Mystic, Meriden and Stamford.

In recent years, funds raised through the Tree of Life were designated for complementary therapies including therapeutic massage, Expressive Arts therapy, music therapy, and animal assisted therapy, all of which enhance the quality of life for

Masonicare's hospice patients.

The Foundation expresses its gratitude to everyone who supported this year's Tree of Life through generous donations and sponsorships, as well as those who gave of their time as volunteers.

Special thanks to those who helped with tree set-up and breakdown at our ceremonies across the state: RW Bro. Dwight Mertens, Bro. David LaFargue, WB Russell Scull

II, WB Richard Berson, RW Bro. Theodore Nelson, Bro. Kris Dorsett, Bro. Cliff Brann, Bro. John Piper, WB Glenn Studwell, Bro. James Pyskaty, RW Bro. Bruce Padula, and Bro. Anthony Maisano.

Please visit masonicare.org/tree to see more photos from the 2016 Tree of Life season.



The Madrigal Singers of Stamford High School prepare to perform at the Italian Center of Stamford



At the Augusta Curtis Cultural Center in Meriden, trees are illuminated as Rev. Jean Morris, Lead Spiritual Care and Bereavement Coordinator at Masonicare Home Health & Hospice, delivers words of inspiration



The Bacon Academy Chamber Choir, under the direction of Marianne Cheney, performs "Danny Boy" at the Mystic Tree of Life

**HELP YOUR FRATERNITY
AS IT HELPS YOU**

Would you like to reach the Masonic Family?
or
Have your ad in a distribution of 10,000+?

Call **860-608-2796**

Craft At Refreshment

For more details about any of these events, please contact the Lodge directly. In many cases, reservations are required, and they may or may not be open to the public.

All times are supplied by the lodges. The CT Freemason Newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the Secretary of the lodge to verify all times and events.

For recurring events and breakfasts, they may not take place during the summer months - call to check.

Recurring Events

First Sunday of the Month, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, 8 a.m., Masters Round Table & Field Day

Join our Master for breakfast and help clean up our home

Every Sunday, St. Peter's Lodge No. 21, New Milford, 12 p.m., Build a Brother

Go over and ritual or questions you may have on masonry.

Prospective candidates and new brothers welcome.

Every Tuesday, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, 7 p.m., BINGO

Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments

First Wednesday of the

Month, Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, 7 p.m., Mason Night @ OAH,

Orange Ale House 517 Boston Post Rd Orange CT 06477

Second and Fourth Wednesday of the Month, Union Lodge No. 5, Stamford, 7 p.m., Fellowship Night at the Lodge.

Open to all brothers, friends. Refreshments and discussion. Please call to verify.

Third Thursday of the Month, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, 7:30 p.m., Masonic Information Night

Open to all who may be interested in Masonry, with interesting presentations and discussion.

Every Friday, St. Peter's Lodge No. 21, New Milford, 7 p.m. 3XB in the Chapel

Brothers, Beverages and BS every Friday night at 7p.m.

Second Saturday of the Month, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, 7 p.m., Movie Night

Films, Snacks and beverages will be provided.

Recurring Breakfasts

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

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

Country breakfast

First Thursday of the Month, 8th District Lodges Niantic, 9 a.m., District Breakfast Groton Townhouse, Rt 12, Groton CT

Masonic Youth/ Eastern Star

Sunday, Jan 1, NEW YEARS DAY

Sunday, Jan 1, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, Rainbow Meeting, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan 10, Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock, Betty Putnam Chapter No. 106 OES, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan 11, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, OES No. 110, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan 12, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, Alice Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m.,

Sunday, Jan 15, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, Rainbow Meeting, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan 24, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, DeMolay Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan 25, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, OES No. 110, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan 26, Day

Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, Alice Chapter Order of Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb 5, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, Rainbow Meeting, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb 8, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, OES No. 110, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb 9, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, Alice Chapter Order of Eastern Star, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 14, VALENTINES DAY

Tuesday, Feb 14, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, DeMolay Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 14, Putnam Lodge No. 46, South Woodstock, Betty Putnam Chapter No. 106 OES, 7:30 p.m.

Events

Sunday, Jan 1, NEW YEARS DAY

Saturday, Jan 21, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, Red Cross Blood Drive, 6 a.m.

Sunday, Feb 5, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, Super Bowl Party, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb 14, VALENTINES DAY

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

All times are supplied by the lodges. The CT Freemason Newspaper is not responsible for errors. When traveling, please contact the Secretary of the lodge to verify all times and events and to inquire about dinner reservations.

Installations

Saturday, Jan 7, Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, Installation, 3 p.m.
Dinner served following at approx. 5 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 7, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, Installation, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 7, Columbia Lodge No. 25, South Glastonbury, Installation, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 7, Village Lodge No. 29, Collinsville,

Installation, 2 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 7, Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, Installation, 1 p.m.

Saturday, Jan 7, Evening Star Lodge No. 101, Unionville, Installation, 12 p.m.

Sunday, Jan 8, Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven, Installation, 9 a.m.

Thursday, Jan 12, Bay View Lodge No. 120,

Niantic, Installation, 7 p.m.

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Thursday, Jan 19, Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140, Newington, 6:15.p.m, Dinner

Thursday, Jan 26, Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, 7:30 p.m.

Master Mason Degrees

Thursday, Jan 19, Wyllys-St. Johns Lodge No. 4, West Hartford, 6:30 p.m., Dinner



CT FREEMASONS

Be A Booster!

Name Or Lodge _____

Address _____

Town _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Booster appearing as _____

Masonic Family Booster
\$60 listing for 11 issues

Individual Booster
\$25 Listing for 11 issues

Grand Booster
More Than \$25

Makes Checks Payable to: Grand Lodge Publications • P.O. Box 250 • Wallingford CT 06492

Boosters

After reviewing all of the receipts for Boosters, the following list are the Boosters who are current (i.e., within the 11 issue window). If your name does not appear and you feel that you should be on the list, please contact us. But for now, these are the Boosters we show as valid.

Boosters Thank you for contributing \$25

Mario L. Accornero	Jack Dilks	Kenneth H. Kirschner	Rebecca & William Schoeck
Gary W. Arseneau	Earl Evans	Roger Knickerbocker	Leon F. Smith
Richard L. Beebe	William H. Flagg	George K. Kollitides, II	Rodney A. Spooner
Donald Berry	Irving W. Geno	Frank Lesco	James F. Standish
Kenneth A. Buckbee	Frank J. Godwin, Jr.	Paul R. Marte	Charlie Stark
Allen Bulmer	Sandie Greene	Edna McCraw	Jack H. Stevens
Richard C. Burke	Bill Greene	Andrew H. Moniuk	Dale E. Sweet
Lowell Cantor	Walter Grube	Fred W. Nanamaker, Jr.	Stephen M. Thal
James V. Cesario	Kenneth W. Hartwick	Sandra E. Osten	Gerald F. Usher
Miles E. Cochran, Jr.	Sonny Hendel	James L. Perkins	John M. Van Kirk
George W. Coulston	Donald W. Hick, Jr.	Albert W. Redway, II	William Welsh, Jr.
William H. Craft	Peter J. Hunt	Robert A. Reggiani	Gordon Willoughby, Jr.
James W. Currier	Ralph H. Hunt	Charles A. Rogers	Edgar J. Wood
Harold S. Curtis, Jr.	John C. Ingram, Jr.	Martin Rudnick	
William G. Demetriades	John Kinkade	Fridolf J. Rusgaitis, JT Rev.	

Grand Boosters Thank you for contributing more than \$25

Harmon L. Andrews	Ralph K. Evans	William E. Lehr	Robert F. Polito, Jr.
Robert Andrews	Martin Evenson	Frank H. Lesco	Carleton L. Quint
Anonymous	Fidelity-St Johns #3	Charles Lizotte	Alvin B. Reiner
Ray Barker	Leonard W. Finegold	Alvin J. MacBrien	Bradford H. Ross
Doug Barnard	Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey V. Fisher	Paul E. MacDonald	George P. Rutherford Jr.
Douglas T. Barrett	Michael G. Fitting	Robert C. Maclellan	Wayland N. Sheldon, Jr.
Paul F. Blake	Frederick Franklin Lodge #14	Robert MacQuarrie	John B. Sterry
Gustaf R. Bodin	Paul Garavel	Donald Maehlenbrock	John A. Sturges, Jr.
Lowell Cantor	Rudolph A. Gaydos	Jesse L. Maghan	Gerald Thompson
David G. Cheney	David Gessert	Geronimo S. Mamaclay	Arthur F. Thorsen
George R. Churchill	Quentin Grant	Richard T. Mattson	Arthur R. Tinsz
Ronald C. Christensen	Donald H. Hasbrouck	William R. McDonald	Samuel B. Walker
I. William Clark	David P. Hocking	Arthur J. McKinney	Robert G. Waller
Compass Lodge	Benjaman J. Issacson	George D. Moore	Thomas H. Wells
Ray Cooley	Kenneth H. Johnson	Raymond Moore	Anonymous
Thomas Coons	Albert Kandarian	Raymond Mussen	Charlie & Barbara Yohe
Wilfred G. Douglas	Cliff Kearney	John A. Novak	George Zack
Paul K. Edman	Anthony F. Keegan	Lee Page	
Lawrence S. Elsner	Alan N. Knofla	Lewis W. Pennell	
Clyde Eidson	George M. Leaman	Eric J. Pogg	

Masonic Family Boosters

AnsanawaeLodge No. 89	William F. Hart	Sphinx Shriners, Newington
Ruth & Richard Bell	Hartford Evergreen Lodge #88	Temple Lodge No. 16
Brainard Lodge No. 102	Ionic Lodge No. 110	Union Lodge No. 5
Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc.	Jerusalem Lodge No. 49 A. F. & A. M.	Unity Lodge #148
Coastal Masonic Lodge #57	King Solomon's Lodge No.7	Valley of Hartford, AASR
Columbia Lodge #25	LaFayette Consistory, A.A.S.R.	Valley Lodge No. 36
Composite Lodge No. 28	The Masonic Club of New London, Inc.	Valley of New Haven, AASR
CT Chapter of DeMolay	National Camping Travelers	Warren Lodge #51 AF & AM
Evening Star Lodge #101 A.F. & A.M.	Edward & Joanne Schilke	
Friendship Lodge No. 33	Sequin Level Lodge #140	

Breakfast With Santa



Over 80 employees and their families attended the annual "Breakfast with Santa" at Masonicare at Newtown on Saturday, December 10. There were smiles galore as Santa, Mrs. Claus and "helpers" AKA Santa's Elves greeted the children and gave each one a special gift. All of the ticket sales will benefit the Quality of Life Fund.

Kids' Holiday Party



Children and grandchildren of Masonicare employees enjoyed a fun and festive Christmas Party at Masonicare Health Center on Saturday, December 10. The annual event was sponsored by the Employee Activity Committee and featured a sing-a-long, yummy treats, and of course a visit with Santa!

Sir Knight of Cyrene Commandery No. 8 Surprised on 90th Birthday

A surprise birthday party was held at the home of Jeff Ogilvie, 276 Silver Spring Drive in Higganum, to celebrate his 90th birthday, on Sunday, September 4. The festivities began at 3 p.m. with a house full of friends, family, and of course, Masonic family. Bill's actual birthday was September 28.



Sir Knights Herbert Olson, Alan Carlson, Vincent Cowie, Francis Distefano with Jeff Ogilvie (front).



You and a guest are cordially invited to the
2017 Nutmegger Reunion

Please join us for a wonderful Nutmegger Reunion luncheon at one of five locations listed below. You will have an opportunity to meet and greet Bro. Gail N. Smith, Grand Master; Bro. Jon-Paul Venoit, Masonicare's new President and CEO; and, Bro. Robert F. Polito Jr., new Board of Trustees Chair; and to reconnect with many old friends. All locations will follow the same time schedule.

- 10:30 a.m.** Registration
- 11:00 a.m.** Masonicare Update
- 12:00 noon** Greetings - Bro. Gail N. Smith,
Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand
Lodge A.F. & A.M. of CT
- 12:15 p.m.** Lunch

Cost is \$15 per person.

Fifty-year pin recipients and their guests are invited to attend at no cost.

*If you will be receiving our 50-year pin this year at one of these locations, please contact Rev. & Bro. Carl Anderson at **800-982-3919**. Checks should be made out to Masonicare and mailed to Bro. Anderson. - P.O. Box 70 Wallingford, CT 06492*

Keep in touch with your Connecticut Masonic Brothers in the *Connecticut Freemasons* or on-line at www.ctfreemasons.net.

For exciting events and news from Masonicare, please visit our site at www.masonicare.org.

FEBRUARY 27, 2017
(New Location)

Double Tree By Hilton
4431 PGA Boulevard
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

FEBRUARY 28, 2017

7165 Olde Cypress Club
Treeline Drive
Naples, Florida

MARCH 1, 2017

The Meadows Country Club
3101 Long Meadow
Sarasota, Florida

MARCH 2, 2017

Marion-Dunn Lodge No. 19
1846 SE 36th Avenue
Ocala, Florida

MARCH 3, 2017

Timber Greens Country Club
6333 Timber Greens Blvd.
New Port Richey, Florida

All Reunions Start at 10:30 • We look forward to seeing you!