



# Connecticut FREEMASONS

JAN. 2016

*We Hereby Resolve for 2016*

How Can I  
Help You?

&

Thank You!

Grand Lodge of Connecticut, AF & AM  
69 Masonic Ave.  
P.O. Box 250  
Wallingford, CT 06492

*Where Good Men Relate*

*Masonicare 2015 Annual Report, on Center Pages*

# Table of Contents

We Hereby Resolve .....	3	Reasearch Lodges.....	15
Festival Of Trees.....	5	Mystery Of The Triangle.....	16
Grand Master's Message .....	5	Masonicare Annual Report.....	17
George Wahington Memorial .....	7	New Masons .....	21
Masonicare Experience.....	7	York Rite .....	22
Children's Christmas Party.....	8	Valley of New Haven .....	24
Grand Historian's Corner .....	9	Valley of Hartford.....	24
District News .....	10	Called By The Grand Architect ...	26
St. Alban's Honors Ashtar .....		Donate Life .....	27
Recipient .....	10	Tree Of Life .....	28
Sequin-Level Ladies at .....		Masonic Souters Banquet.....	29
Governor's Mansion.....	11	Sealed With A Kiss.....	30
Hospitality Elects New Officers...	11	Improving The Craft .....	30
Sequin-Level Brother Rises .....		Clowning Around.....	31
In East.....	12	Craft At Refreshment.....	32
Lodge of Masons Join Marines ...	13	Craft At Labor.....	33
Holiday Giving.....	14	Boosters .....	34
Stephem B. McPherson.....	15	Boosters How and Why.....	34



**Volume - 11 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

**Correspondent**

Michael L. Castroll

**Design**

Eric Lopkin  
Jean P. Maheu

**Contributors**

John A. Amarilios  
Lawrence Anvik  
David R. Blythe, Sr.  
John Braddock  
Donald M. Casey  
Ken Coman  
Richard Denno  
David Eisenman  
Charles B. Fowler, Jr.  
Steve Gorman  
William Greene  
Pat Kalinauskas  
Chuck 2.0 Landau  
Gary A. Littlefield  
Stephen B. McPherson  
Sandy Potter  
Adam Raider  
Jim Wilson  
Charles W. Yohe

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 15th 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

Connecticut Freemasons (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.

**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

# We Hereby Resolve...

by Francis G. Way



January 1 is always refreshing. It culminates the holiday season, brings a sense of new beginning, perhaps reminds some of us what a hangover feels like, and is the day that many folks make their resolutions. People everywhere, it seems, resolve to do one thing or another in the New Year - give something up, start a new habit, begin anew.

Resolutions as we know them, historians say, grew out of the practice in the 1700s of traveling around to one's creditors on New Year's Day and making resolution to resolve any debt owed. Over time, this practice was discontinued, but continues on in the form of today's resolutions.

Some resolutions barely survive the month. As a bit of a gym rat, I've joined my fellow workout partners in co-opting a phrase from Game of Thrones, by laughingly stating "Brace yourselves, the January People are coming." And in they come, often in brand new workout clothes, fully determined to recreate themselves in a better image. They look around self-consciously as they try to lift too much weight, or go too fast on the treadmill. Meantime, we regulars count down the days until they leave, when we can stop re-racking the weights they

leave all over the floor, and waiting for the cable crossover machine or squat rack. Within three weeks, usually, they are gone, after having found out that working out is not a magic pill, and that results are built in months and years, with a lot of sweat and hard work, and not merely in days spent in new gym clothes doing "some cardio." The January People are gone in three weeks and so are their resolutions.

January is also a new year in Connecticut Blue Lodges. Annual meetings have been held, new officers elected and appointed, and some even installed before January 1. By the first stated communications in January a new slate of officers is occupying the chairs, and a new Worshipful Master is making designs upon his trestleboard. But has your lodge made any resolutions?

Many Worshipful Masters introduce new events and activities for a lodge, and these are, no doubt, important to the life and growth of a lodge. But what attention is being paid to improving the quarry and the workers?

Does your lodge have a mentoring program? Often, a new Master Mason is raised, and he hears the age old adage, "You get out of it what you put into it," and told to attend lodge. He comes to a few meetings but, sadly, all too often, he stops coming, and in several years he is dropped for non-payment of dues. But a brother, from the time he becomes an Entered Apprentice, can be brought into the fold, and made a part of the fabric of the lodge if he has a good mentor.

A mentor is not just a brother who helps the new Mason learn his lectures. A mentor should take the new brother under his wing, keep in close contact with him, and make sure the brother is included in all facets of lodge life. It is not enough to just make a new brother another Steward, helping serve meals, but he should be cultivated, as one

would cultivate a seedling, and involved in interesting activities too.

Does your lodge participate in the Perfect Ashlar program? If not, your lodge should. The program serves to create habits that can retain new Master Masons. It gets the brother traveling and involved in lodge life. If there is a Perfect Ashlar adviser or mentor, so much the better.

Does your lodge provide solid Masonic education? Many younger brothers yearn to learn the more esoteric aspects of the Craft, and to delve into the meaning of the ritual, and to contemplate the philosophies of our Craft. Is the lodge providing sustenance to them in their quest?

As the New Year begins, the brothers will look forward to the new activities planned by the new Worshipful Master - the outing to a hockey game or basketball game, perhaps a night of playing cards or gathering for a Super Bowl party. These are wonderful and foster good fellowship. Fellowship is a huge part of retention. But cultivating the Craft, and aiding brothers on their journey towards their own perfect ashlar is part of the foundation of a strong lodge.

So it is not too late to make some resolutions...

Just don't be a "January Lodge."





# Annual Silent Auction At MHC Featured Beautiful, One-Of-A-Kind Christmas Trees

by Sandy Potter

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Festival of Trees at Masonicare Health Center took place November 30 through December 18. The very popular event featured a silent auction of 60 unique, beautifully decorated tabletop trees.

The lighted trees were designed and trimmed by teams of Masonicare employees, volunteers, and residents of Masonicare. All proceeds from the auction will be used to support a host of activities for the residents of Masonicare Health Center.

As always, this year's Festival of Trees featured a wide range of unique and imaginative decorations and a variety of themes that appealed to every taste and delighted adults and children of all ages.



**Star Wars by Risk & Compliance**



**Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle by Child Development"**



**Christmas Couture by Accounting, AP, Payroll**



**Vintage Time Clock by Pharmacy**

# Grand Master's Message

This is an appropriate time to talk about Masonic Renewal! During December and January, every Lodge in Connecticut holds an annual installation. In most Lodges, some, if not all, of the officer positions are filled with new Brothers or at least many Brothers progress to new positions. I have been personally honored to install the officers for 2016 in a number of Lodges this year and have been privileged to attend other installations as a guest. Yes, this is a time of renewal in our Lodges. New leaders, new followers and a clean trestleboard provide a perfect opportunity for Freemasonry to be reborn and renewed. I am particularly encouraged by the wonderful good and positive activities that I am seeing and experiencing as I travel in this jurisdiction. Yes, there is much work to be done, and there is certainly room for improvement for all of us. But the simple fact remains that there are many good Lodges and good Brothers in Connecticut who have rolled up their sleeves, taken their obligations seriously, and enthusiastically have given their all to this Fraternity.

Let me repeat what I said when I introduced this year's Grand Master's pin. Each Mason holds the key to Freemasonry's success or failure. There has not been one Grand Master in North America during the past 50 years who has been able to implement a solution to the issue of declining membership, not one! Think about that for a moment. Hundreds of Grand Masters, many of them much more educated and smarter than me, have implemented programs and made changes to reverse the downward trend in membership - all to no avail. Any growth, any positive change, can only occur at the local Lodge level. It all starts and ends with YOU! The Grand Master cannot single-handedly save this great institution of ours. Neither can the Grand Lodge officers. The success or failure, for better or worse, is in each of your hands. So, if you've agreed to take an office in your Lodge or you have agreed to serve on a Lodge committee, please give the tasks associated with that office or duty your utmost effort. If your Lodge experiences

an increase in membership, participation in charitable activities, public relations and community involvement during the next 12 months, the credit goes solely to you and your fellow members. You can make it happen. As the advertisement for Living Hawaii says, "You just have to want it," but then you also need to put the effort in to make it happen.

I attended the XIV World Conference of Regular Grand Lodges that was held in San Francisco November 19-21. This was only the second time that this conference was hosted in the United States. The next conference, 18 months from now, will be in Madagascar and the one after that will be hosted by Panama. There were delegates present from 38 countries and "on the fly" translation services were provided in English, French, Spanish, and Portuguese. In addition to the conference topics, there was ample opportunity for fellowship and dialog at the various social activities that were offered.

MWB Gail N. Smith, RWB Theodore Nelson, MWB Simon R. Laplace, RWB Edward Page, RWB James Verge and I were warmly received at Putnam Lodge No. 46's annual communication on December 5. The delicious oyster stew and homemade apple pie with Vermont cheddar was only exceeded by the warm Brotherly love and excellent hospitality which we were afforded. The following day, Coastal Lodge No. 57 held a Ladies at Table and generously hosted those Grand Lodge officers and their ladies who were able to attend. In addition to Barbara and me, were RWB Theodore Nelson and Grace, RWB Marshall Robinson, RWB Melvin Johnson and Marje, RWB Stephen Petri and Patrice and RWB John Spencer. We were also joined by MWB Roger Read and his wife Barbara. Master-elect, Trad Dart, provided a delicious dinner headlined with bacon wrapped filet mignon. Worshipful Master, James Chianese, exceeded a truly enjoyable afternoon. My sincere thanks and appreciation to all who made the day so wonderful. On Tuesday evening, I returned to Coastal Lodge in the presence of WB Richard McDonnell to attend the installation of



officers, and once again was warmly and cordially received and accommodated. Finally, on December 13, a number of Grand Lodge officers accompanied me to Fayette Lodge No. 69 in Ellington in support of the officers and members of that Lodge. In short, the calendar has been full and the mileage has been piling up, but it has been well worth it. I encourage you to get out and visit other Lodges. Find out what they are doing and talk to them about their successful events. Then take those ideas back to your Lodge for consideration. Don't just talk about making changes, act! Make it happen. Remember, YOU hold the key!

It hardly seems possible, but here we are, planning the Grand Lodge Annual Communication on April 10 and 11. One of the major joys of this year has been the many happy, smiling faces that have greeted me throughout the jurisdiction. It would be extremely gratifying to see many of those same smiling faces at our Annual. As indicated at our semi-annual, this communication will be held at the Radisson Hotel (formerly known as the Crowne Plaza) in Cromwell. My Brothers, I can remember when the Grand Lodge Annual was an event. There were numerous Lodges that came to the banquet, hosted hospitality rooms, stayed over, and had a truly wonderful couple of days of fellowship and camaraderie. The goal

**Continued on next page**



# Grand Master's Message

*Continued from previous page*

this year is to recapture that wonderful and enjoyable experience. Please discuss this in your Lodges or in your Blue Lodge Councils and consider being an active part of this event. Yes, there will be some business to transact on Monday, and yes, we will be receiving various delegations, but the real value is in the sharing of ideas and the

socialization that takes place outside the working session. Last year, there were 3 hospitality rooms. Let's double or triple that this April. We are working with hotel management to correct the issues that were experienced last year with both the banquet and the luncheon meals. New menus are being worked out and I can assure you that the

banquet will conclude early enough so that all can circulate and enjoy the offered hospitality provided in the various rooms. Your Grand Lodge officers are working on putting together several educational opportunities on Sunday afternoon as well as some light and enjoyable entertainment. Hotel rooms are still only \$97 per night

plus taxes, and I assure you we are striving to make it worth your time and money. More details will follow in the CT Freemasons February and March issues, but circle the dates of April 10 and 11 on your calendar, talk it up in your Lodges and Blue Lodge Councils, and plan to come, participate, and enjoy.  
Fraternally,

## Grand Lodge of Connecticut Featured Grand Lodge at George Washington Memorial

*by William Greene, MWPGM 2007*

The Grand Lodge of Connecticut was the featured American Grand Lodge for November at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, VA. The display featured the various awards and recognitions given by our Grand Lodge as well as various pins, medals, photos and publications. Highlighted were articles on how the Grand Lodge and Local Lodges are involved in the community by awarding scholarships, grants, holding blood drives and the organ donor program. Copies of the latest *CT Freemasons* newspaper were available for the public as handouts.

Also on display was the trowel, with mortar stains still on it, that was used by MWB Arthur M. Brown, Grand Master



**The Grand Lodge of Connecticut Display**

of Masons in Connecticut, at the cornerstone laying of the Memorial on November 1, 1923. MWB Brown was a member of Mount Vernon Lodge No. 75, F&AM, in Jewett City. This trowel is usually on display in the Grand Lodge Case in the Masonic Health Care Center Lobby. An additional display was a collection of Grand Lodge of Connecticut anniversary items. The Grand Lodge of Connecticut was organized July 8, 1789. Displayed were an 1889 Silver Medal for the 100th anniversary; a 1939 Bronze Coin for the 150th anniversary; a 1964 Bronze Medal from the 175th anniversary; and a 1989 Gold and Silver Coin Set to commemorate the 200th anniversary.

The Memorial is in the process of a multi-year restoration and re-grouting of the building. Notice the scaffolding around the upper tower of the memorial. The lapse of time and weather has deteriorated the mortar joints in the memorial's granite blocks. The work is being done by skilled operative masons to ensure that the building will stand for hundreds of years to come.

If you have not recently visited the memorial, you will enjoy the new displays of the Masonic Family and the fresh painting and lighting of the rooms.

All Masons are urged to visit the George Washington Masonic National Memorial with their families and friends.



**The scaffolding on the upper tower used by operative Masons to re-grout the granite blocks.**

Also tell your neighbors and co-workers about the memorial and have them visit it when traveling in the Washington, DC and Alexandria area.

# The Masonicare Experience

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

## A Tale of Two Donors

by Adam Raider

The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, the philanthropic affiliate of Masonicare, is fortunate to receive so much support from the Masonic family. Its members are among The Foundation's most generous and enthusiastic donors. Through their giving, they make it possible for Masonicare to cover the cost of items and services that enhance the quality of life for residents and patients in need.

Masonicare at Ashlar Village resident WB Frank Engel funded a charitable gift annuity with The Foundation in 2013. Like other planned gifts, gift annuities offer Foundation benefactors like Frank a means of sustaining the Masonicare mission beyond their lifetimes.

"Being here at Ashlar Village, attending the various informational programs of The Foundation, and seeing how other residents were contributing to the cause motivated me to make a gift of my own," Frank said. "Fortunately, I was in a position where I had a little money that could do some good for others."

By funding a charitable gift annuity, Frank will receive fixed payments at a competitive rate for the rest of his lifetime. Charitable gift annuities may be funded with cash or securities and qualify for a charitable income tax deduction.

A West Virginia native, Frank graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in physics and engineering and later received a graduate degree in mathematics. He had an interest in computers and in the early 1950's, went to work for the Atomic Power Division of Westinghouse Electric Company. At the time, the firm was developing

the power plant for the world's first operational nuclear-powered submarine, the USS Nautilus.

Bro. Frank was raised as a Mason in 1947 at Guthrie Lodge No. 759 in Pittsburgh. In 1962, after moving with his late wife, Erma, to the Boston area for a new job at Harvard University, Frank joined Belmont-Beaver Lodge and twice served as its Worshipful Master. He is also a Past Master of Ashlar Lodge No. 332 in Wallingford.

Interestingly, Frank's long affiliation with the fraternity had little influence on the Engels' decision to move to Ashlar Village eight years ago. Rather, they wanted to be closer to their daughter, Peggy, who lives in Hamden.

"She suggested we might be more comfortable living closer to her," Frank said. "It turned out to be a good suggestion. Erma and I were glad we were able to move to Ashlar Village on our own schedule."

Suffield's Carol Gladden-Nielson, Past Worthy Matron of Hesper Chapter No. 71, Order of the Eastern Star, has

been giving to The Masonic Charity Foundation's Annual Appeal for years in appreciation for the way Masonicare treated her parents, the late Bro. Arlton and Joan Porter. Her gifts also continue a legacy of support: Carol was executrix of her mother's estate, which included a generous bequest to The Foundation. Arlton was a resident of the Health Center when it was still known as the Masonic Home and Hospital.

"We loved how the staff there encouraged my father to participate in activities," Carol said, "even if he needed help getting around. He joined the bell choir and was in a singing group. Music seems to reach most people and it certainly reached my father. It was wonderful."

Indeed, recreation therapists at Masonicare Health Center (as well as at Masonicare at Newtown) see the transformative power that music can have on residents and patients in their care. Donations to The

**Continued on next page**



**Frank Engel**



# A Tale of Two Donors *Continued from previous page*

Foundation help subsidize indoor and outdoor concerts as well as visits by strolling musicians to the long-term care, short-term rehab and memory enhancement (dementia care) units.

"When my dad first arrived at the Health Center," Carol said, "his doctors didn't think he'd live 30 days. He was there for eight years. He received such excellent care. I also remember how kind the staff were to my mother. (Deputy Grand Master) Gail N. Smith, who used to work for The Masonic Charity Foundation, helped my mother tremendously during the process of getting dad admitted to the Health Center and stayed in contact with her after my father died. I know my mom

treasured her friendship with Gail."

Carol remembers visiting the Health Center as a child when she belonged to the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Her mother was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star for over 50 years. Her father was a longtime Mason, as was her late husband, Bro. Ernest Gladden, Past Grand Patron of OES for the State of Connecticut (1999-2000). Carol feels a sense of pride in knowing that her gifts to The Foundation are supporting an organization that was founded on the principles of Freemasonry.

"Masonry has been very important in our lives," she said, "and Masonicare is a very special organization."



**Carol Gladden-Nielson**

## Children's Christmas Party

by *Sandy Potter*

The annual Children's Christmas Party was held on December 6 at Masonicare Health Center. The event, sponsored by

the Employee Activity Committee, was attended by 35 children and grandchildren of Masonicare Employees and featured a silly sing-a-long, toys, treats, and the highlight...a visit with Santa

(Randy Watts, husband of Bethanne Watts, HR Manager)! A wonderful holiday time was had by all!



**Children line up to visit with Santa**



**Stacy Bizzario, LPN 5 Ramage, and her daughter Isabella with Santa**



# Grand Historian's Corner

by Gary A. Littlefield

The outer guard of a Masonic Lodge room is called a "tiler." There are at least two theories to origin of the word. Albert Mackey believes that since tilers covered the buildings where Freemasons met and shut it off from the outside world, the symbolic name of tiler was given to the Brother who guards the outer door. Another theory is that in England around 1700, men's hats were sometime called "tiles" and the doorkeeper of clubs, fraternities and societies was called a "tiler" because he took care of the tiles. This theory has a flaw since some clubs called their "doorkeeper" a beadle.

\* \* \* \* \*

The year was 1803 and Masons that resided in a settlement on the river Sciota were granted a charter to be called New England Lodge No. 48. This was made official at the semi-annual session of the Grand Lodge held in New Haven in October 1803. The town was later called Worthington, Ohio. When the Grand Lodge of Ohio was formed, the lodge took their new charter from Ohio and the number 48 dropped from the rolls. It was used again when St Luke's Lodge in Kent was chartered. The emissary from Scioto to New Haven in 1803 was James Kilbourne, who was to be named the first Master of the Lodge and held that office until 1812, and then, according to historical records, from 1834 to 1835. Brother Kilbourne was born in Farmington in 1770, in the section of town that is now New Britain. He was a farmer, miller and merchant in Granby and married a daughter of John Fitch (inventor of the steam propelled vessel.)

He was an organizer of the Sciota Land Company in 1802 and spent a year on the tract and later went to what is now known as Columbus, Ohio. His education was begun under Alexander Viets Griswold who was to become the bishop of the Episcopal church in Providence. Kilbourne was ordained by Bishop Abraham Jarvis, also a Mason but who was never granted a parish in Connecticut. In Ohio, Kilbourne was the head of the first Episcopal parish there, published the first newspaper, became president of Worthington Academy (now Worthington College) and was a trustee of Ohio University. His biography states he was long time Justice of the Peace, member of the Ohio state legislature and served in Congress for four terms. He went from being a Democrat to a Whig and was commissioned an officer (militia captain) in 1804 and was promoted to colonel with the Ohio troops during the War of 1812. Historian, James Royal Case believes he became a Mason in Berlin Lodge No. 20 but affiliated with St Marks No. 36 in 1796. When he left Connecticut for Ohio, he was active in the Royal Arch. He served as Grand Junior Warden of Ohio (1810-1811) and Deputy Grand Master (1813-14), but his absence from the state while in Congress prevented his rise to the Grand East. In 1839 he was president of the Masonic convention and laid the cornerstone of the capitol building in Columbus, Ohio. When he died in 1850, he was buried in the churchyard at Worthington. He assisted



in bringing Masonic light from Connecticut to Ohio.

\* \* \* \* \*

David Bostwick was a physician who was born in 1821 in New Milford. He moved to Morris with his parents at an early age. After regular education he studied under Dr Reuben M. Woodruff of Litchfield and attended Albany Medical College and graduated in 1846. He hung a shingle out in Morris and later in Litchfield as a physician. He was an ardent politician as well, as he served in the state legislature. He was raised in St Paul's Lodge No. 11 in 1850 and was Master four years later. It was to be a twelve-year term. In 1857, while serving as Master he was Grand Junior Deacon and presided in the Grand East in 1864 as Grand Master. He was a member of Darius Chapter RAM and Buel Council RSM but never took any office. He died in 1872 and his picture is included in the proceedings of 1905.

\* \* \* \* \*

If your lodge has a Historian, make sure the Historian presents a report on 2015. If you don't have a Historian, ask the Worshipful Master to appoint a Brother. It is an important, although not required, position in our lodges. Some Grand jurisdictions require lodges to submit annual histories to the Grand Lodge from the Lodge Historian but Connecticut has no such requirement. It is good practice to present some sort of history so that future ages will find out the right.

**T. J. NELSON**  
Home Improvements  
860-444-6771  
TJNelsonHomes.com

**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](mailto:mjk@pathwayslegal.com)  
[www.pathwayslegal.com](http://www.pathwayslegal.com) | All major credit cards accepted

District 4

# St. Alban's Lodge Honors Perfect Ashlar Recipients

by Lawrence Anvik

St. Alban's Lodge No. 38 of Branford, continued its tradition of honoring Perfect Ashlar recipients at their annual awards night on December 1. New names are added each year to a perpetual plaque that hangs in the lodge banquet room. Since this award was introduced by MWPGM James T. McWain, new Master Masons have been encouraged to pursue this prestigious honor.

Brother Michael Ganci, the lodge's first Perfect Ashlar recipient, now serves as a mentor and coordinator to new Master Masons seeking to satisfy the requirements for the award. Mike helps track the paperwork and explain the award requirements. He also knows that candidates usually need the company of a familiar lodge Brother when visiting other lodges, Grand Lodge, Blue Lodge Council or other Masonic gatherings like parades or funerals. By the time the



**Brother Rob Back, holding the plaque. Others are (L to R) Jason Caruso, WM Lou Fappiano and Bro. Michael Ganci, Bro. Peter Cianelli and Bro. John Celotto.**

Brother has met the requirements, he has usually made a few friends outside of his Mother Lodge and is on his way to becoming an active Mason – both at

home and while traveling.

This year's recipient is Brother Rob Back.

# Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 Aids Widow

by David Eisenman

Masonic ritual teaches the craft to contribute to the relief of poor distressed Master Masons, their widows and orphans.

Recently members of Ansantawae Lodge No. 89 in Milford, with several family members, got together to rake leaves and clean the yard for one of their widows, Pat List. Pat is the widow of WB George List, who was always willing to lend a hand and help others.



**WB Kevin Field, his nephew, KJ Pokornowski (DeMolay), Brothers Mike Southmayd, Noel Smith, Bill Roots, Rob Womack, Rob's son Noel (DeMolay), and daughter Ashley. Photo by WB David Eisenman**

## Sequin-Level Ladies at Governor's Mansion

by Steve Gorman

The ladies of Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 of Newington enjoyed their annual winter tea and tour program on Saturday, December 5. This year's tour venue was the Governor's Mansion in Hartford, which was all decked out for the holiday season. They were graciously received and greeted by Governor Dannel Malloy, who hosted the day along with the real star of the mansion that day, Santa Claus.

Following the tour, the

ladies returned to the lodge and were feted with a holiday tea comprising a range of tea sandwiches, soup, desserts and more prepared and served by a kitchen crew headed by WB Jim Bailey. A wide assortment of teas were served for the ladies. Organizing and hosting the event were the lodge's First Lady, Rosemary Papoosha, and Pam Gorman. Next year's holiday tea and tour is tentatively scheduled to be held at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House.



**L-R Nancy Bailey, Lois Campanelli, Mary Ferris, Sue Bailey, Sue Van Ness, Pam Gorman, Linda Bailey, Governor Malloy, Carolyn Begoche, Rosemary Papoosha, Karolyn Bailey, and Sue Yucha**

## Hospitality Lodge No. 128 Elects New Officers

by Francis G. Way

On Wednesday, December 9, at the Annual Meeting of Hospitality Lodge No. 128, a new slate of officers was elected for 2016.

Worshipful Master-elect RWB Lawrence S. Elsner has been a Mason for 30 years, and served as Worshipful Master of Level Lodge No. 137 in 1985. More recently, in 2010-2012, RWB Larry served as District Deputy of Masonic District 5A.

RWB Theodore Hasty remains as Senior Warden in the West. RWB Hasty is the current District Deputy of District 5A and postponed his travels

to the East to complete his term.

WB Robert Everest was elected Junior Warden. WB Bob has served in several chairs since the chartering of Hospitality Lodge No. 128 and is currently the Associate Grand Marshal for District 5A, working with RWB Hasty.

WB Larry Baker was again elected treasurer. His attention to detail and financial care have served the lodge well, and the brethren were strong in their desire to see him remain in that office.

WB Matthew Griffin will be serving a second term as lodge Secretary. WB Matt is also attentive to detail,

carefully maintains the lodge records, and brings his own brand of humor to the office, often turning stodgy lodge details into items that bring a chuckle.

WB Francis G. Way will again serve as Senior Deacon. Brother Alberto Dieguez will serve as Junior Deacon. Stewards are Brothers Doug Malesiewski and Karl Manner.

The remaining vacancies will be filled pro-tem.

Installation of officers will take place at the lodge's January stated communication on January 13, 2016.



District 5

# In The Far West A Sequin-Level Brother Rises In The East

by Steve Gorman

Brother Bill Van Cleave, Marshal Emeritus of Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 in Newington has been living a double life as a bi-coastal Mason here in Connecticut and also, for the past several years, in Washington state. He was made a Mason in Sequin-Level Lodge, Newington, in 2006 and soon was serving in various officer positions about the lodge, starting as Secretary and then as Marshal. Brother Bill has been a fixture in the lodge, performing the Charges of the various degrees with a Trumanesque delivery which is yearly looked forward to by the brethren.

In more recent years, Bill and his wife Patti moved their primary home to Seattle,



**Outgoing WM Martin Monk presents the Alki Lodge charter to WB Bill Van Cleave.**

near their daughter and grandchildren, while maintaining their Connecticut home as well; a two-coast existence. In addition to his active passion in ritual at Sequin-Level and in helping with the lodge's CT-CHIP

programs in the Summer at Newington's annual Mill Pond Extravaganza, Brother Bill fell in with a second band of brothers from Alki Lodge No. 152 in West Seattle, Washington. Since 2008, Bill has enjoyed dual

membership, both the camaraderie and the expense, in his two lodges on opposite coasts. Early on, he actually served simultaneously in line positions on both coasts; settling to focus his official duties with Alki. On Saturday, December 12, Brother Bill Van Cleave of Sequin-Level Lodge, in the presence of a large gathering of Washingtonian and British Columbian Masons, was duly installed as Worshipful Master of Alki Lodge of West Seattle.

Sequin-Level surprised the new Master by sending, unbeknownst to Bill, its incoming Worshipful Master Steve Gorman via Red-eye to Seattle to surprise Brother Bill. Extremely popular and well-liked by the brethren

**Continued on next page**



**BEECHER & BENNETT**  
FUNERAL SERVICE  
*Serving South Central Connecticut Since 1894*

**2300 Whitney Avenue, Hamden**  
**48 Cook Avenue, Hamden**  
**410 Cambell Avenue, West Haven**

Arthur L. Erickson - Carleton V. Ericson  
*Helping families provide a meaningful tribute while celebrating the life of their loved one. Providing options for every budget*

**(203) 288-0800**

For Information, give us a call or visit our website:  
[www.beecherandbennett.com](http://www.beecherandbennett.com)



**grillie** HAND MADE IN THE USA

**ORDER YOURS TODAY AT [www.grillie.com/collections/symbolic](http://www.grillie.com/collections/symbolic)**  
**or Call 855-447-4554**

## Sequin-Level *Continued from previous page*

of Alki, Bill had a most charming installation ceremony. In his address to the brethren, one of the emphases he committed Alki Lodge to pursue was the rebuilding, through the assistance from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Washington, of the Child Development Programs in Seattle. To his West Coast brethren, he cited Connecticut's (and Newington's) long and strong history

of success with its CHIP programs. He also expressed the desire to keep inter-coastal communications alive by sharing TrestleBoards and email news distributions between the leaders and brethren of the two lodges.

Duly installed in the East in that outpost lodge in America's Far West, now-Worshipful Master Bill continues his bi-coastal brotherliness. When

in Newington each July and August, while Alki is dark, he adds the charm of performing the Closing Charge from the Washington State ritual. WB Bill accepted the invitation of Sequin-Level, and looks forward to, sitting in the East in his Mother Lodge on his next trip to the east from the far west.

## Lodge of Masons Join the Marines!

By Jim Wilson

On a beautiful Saturday morning, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 in Manchester opened the doors of the Masonic building at 25 East Center Street, and with little fanfare set up a collection station for the "Toys for Tots" program with a representative from the Marine Corps.

Brian Garrity, a member of the Lodge was joined by a contingent of brethren and their families to receive any and all gifts and toys that were suitable for younger children. Brethren, as well as the general public, were more than generous with their giving spirit. Some stopped by the collection station and donated gifts of cash. The day ended with four large collection boxes full of wonderful individual toys, games, dolls. There were also four twenty inch bicycles, and three tricycles donated by a member of the Lodge.

Brian, and WB Dennis Bellamy, Master of the Lodge, also supplied a hearty supply of homemade cookies and hot coffee, to the delight of donors and members.

Sgt. Timothy D. Dallas of Fox Company,



**WB Dennis Bellamy and Sgt. Timothy D. Dallas at Toys for Tots collection day in Manchester**

2nd BN, 25th MAR., Plainville, CT was a delightful host to the program. So many stopped by to say hello, thank him for his service, and just chat about the Corps.

Many Friendship-Tuscan brethren have served in the Corps, and other branches of the military.



# Holiday For Giving Program 2015

by Sandy Potter

The elves at Masonicare Health Center (better known as MHC's residents, staff, and visitors) once again joined with the Town of Wallingford's Social Services Department to support the Holiday for Giving Toy and Food Drive. Masonicare has contributed to this drive for over 20 years now.

Together we collected

6 large boxes full of toys and also a few hand-knitted throws to be given to families with newborns. When 'Santa' arrived to pick up the donations, we filled his entire sleigh (car)! Special kudos goes to the staff of 4 Ramage for leading this effort.

Many thanks for all of your generous donations! Your gifts will surely spread the magic of the season to many families in our community.





# From the desk of Bro. Stephen B. McPherson

*President & CEO of Masonicare*

Happy New Year. We had another wonderful holiday season at Masonicare last month. Highlights were our traditional Festival of Trees at Masonicare Health Center, Wreath Festival at Masonicare at Newtown, outreach programs from employees at Masonicare Home Health & Hospice and our Tree of Life programs coordinated by The Masonic Charity Foundation. The Grand Master made his traditional visit to our nursing home residents and many Masonically affiliated volunteers help bring cheer as well.

Enclosed within this issue of Connecticut Freemasons is our 2015 Annual Report, covering the fiscal year October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. I hope you can take a

few minutes to look it over. In our cover letter, Chairman Howard Orr and I note the changing world of healthcare amidst the need to make quality "priority one."

As in the past, the Masonicare Annual Report includes a listing of each of our Boards and the individuals who serve on them. Our directors donate hundreds of hours to Masonicare, and we are most grateful for their dedication and service.

The numbers in our annual report give a factual reporting of our financial

status as of the end of the fiscal year. Behind those numbers are some others which are just as important: more than 4,500 patients in our care each day; 2,500 dedicated Masonicare employees statewide; 3,474 donors to The Masonic Charity Foundation; and more than 800 volunteers in our facilities and in our hospice program.

Thank you for another year of your support.

Sincerely and fraternally,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steve".

## Research Lodges Across State Lines

*by Chuck 2.0 Landau*

The year 2015 ended with two fraternal visitations in November by the Philosophic Lodge of Research of Connecticut to fellow scholars at the Massachusetts Lodge of Research and the Rhode Island Lodge of Research. Both states recently chartered Research Lodges and their members have attended Connecticut lectures, meetings and events to observe PLR as it nears celebrating 75 years, and the Masonic Lodge of Research which is celebrating 50 years of contributions to the Craft. All the Research Lodges attended the various Grand Lodge Esoteric Summer seminars and between emails and Facebook, fast fraternal ties have been established.

On November 14, Worshipful Master Frank Kautz and the brethren of the Massachusetts Lodge of Research gave WB Chuck 2.0 Landau's

slide presentation "Secrets of a Master Mason" a standing ovation, and there was a great discussion afterward. The discussion ranged from the subject matter, to what new Masons want, and how to foster original Research papers. Copies of WB Landau's papers were entrusted

to their Librarian and later supplemented by a "Fraternal Sampler" of papers for inspiration. For this special occasion, they brought out from the vault the Masonic Jewels crafted by MWPGM Paul Revere, and all viewed

***Continued on page 26***



**Massachusetts Lodge of Research, L-R: WM Frank Kautz, WB Chuck 2.0 Landau**

# The Mystery of the Triangle and the Secret Master

by John A. Amarilios, MSA, membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

It is one of the byproducts of a rich and erudite tradition that Freemasonry has accrued and laid aside over its scores of decades of instructive excellence, a wide ranging body of degrees, rites and presentations which impart interesting and enlightening details to their once intended audiences. Hundreds of degrees from now defunct Masonic Rites and related bodies, along with other presentations no longer actively performed, have been collected and bound in volumes by the Grand College of Rites ([www.grandcollegeofrites.org](http://www.grandcollegeofrites.org)). These make for a body of instructive and reflective literature which belong in any serious Masonic library..

A historical presentation of what was once called the SECRET MASTER can now be viewed in person without traveling much further than Stratford. This year, this special presentation will be made twice, at the Valley of Bridgeport's Stated Meetings on February 1 and October 3. I hope you can make this delightful historical presentation as it propounds and

illustrates some very critical hallmarks of Freemasonic Philosophy which may no longer be as actively or consciously promulgated to its current votaries.

The Historical Secret Master presentation sets forth a number of Masonic concepts and outlined the developmental steps which must be understood by any aspirant on the path to genuine Masonic initiation. The Gnosis imparted in this program outlines the steps which one must take to truly develop into a fully realized Master Mason. Many matters are covered among which are:

The allusion to the Hebraic character "Z" or Zayin which further alludes to the password formerly employed in the original presentation. This matter then alludes to a certain Kabbalistic concept, and is related to the number 7.

Another, perhaps less arcane matter, is that the first and most profound virtue is that of Duty. Duty is the one Great Imperative of Freemasonry. "Duty is inflexible as fate and exacting as necessity." Duty entails the practice of silence, strict obedience and fidelity. Sadly most choose to impatiently leapfrog this type of difficult

development as they charge through life, ego bound, self absorbed and believing that life is but a stage to played on and upon which to display their mercurial abilities. Rarely do men stop to think on how they might effectively command others, if they themselves do not know how to obey. The unwillingness to effect patient painstaking change and to cheerfully encounter and work through the vicissitudes of life means that the aspirant denies himself the opportunity to develop the skills necessary to properly employ the key of ivory which is explained below.

Another concept is that of Secrecy. This is illustrated by investing the candidate with its sign. This is a very practical matter, one which might be questioned by naïve and shallow thinkers, but which is as relevant today (perhaps even more so) as when Albert Pike wrote: " Secrecy is indispensable in a Mason of whatever degree..how profound a folly it would be to betray our secrets to those who, bound to us by no tie of common obligation might, by obtaining them, call on us in their extremity, when the urgency of the occasion should allow us no time for inquiry, and the peremptory mandate of our obligation compel us to do a brother's duty to a base impostor." - *Morals and Dogma* p. 109. While our culture has experienced an era of seemingly unabated tranquil security, conditions in the future might prove perhaps more unstable, and the

*Continued on page 21*



**ATTENTION ALL MASTER MASONS!  
LAFAYETTE CONSISTORY  
ANNOUNCES  
THE WINTER/SPRING SEASON  
CLASSES START WITH THE 4th  
DEGREE IN FEBRUARY 2016**

Now is the time to increase and further your appreciation and understanding of the light imparted in your Blue Lodge Degrees!  
Start your journey in the Scottish Rite and Become a 32<sup>nd</sup> degree Freemason in

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

**Valley of Bridgeport**  
2422 Main Street  
Stratford, CT  
consistory@sbcglobal.net  
203-375-0064

**Valley of New Haven**  
265 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, CT  
sphinx97@juno.com  
203-269-0336

**Valley of Waterbury**  
531 Highland Avenue  
Waterbury, CT  
cwk@juno.com  
203-754-8209

**Or simply contact: MEMBERSHIP@LAFAYETTECONSISTORY.com**

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](http://www.PP-AutoRepair.com)





Howard W. Orr and  
Stephen B. McPherson

Dear *Brother*,

To open this Annual Report message, we'd like to share two stories from 2015 which say so much about the people behind the numbers. At the beginning of the year, Masonicare hosted a screening of the documentary, *Glen Campbell - I'll Be Me*, which chronicles the singer's final tour as his Alzheimer's advances. More than 300 people gathered on our Ashlar Village campus to view it and then participate in a heartfelt discussion.

More recently, as the holidays approached, the Danielson Office of Masonicare Home Health & Hospice – for the 19th year in a row – made a difference for its clients in need. They collected \$400 and put together 15 food baskets, including donated turkeys

and their own \$15 Stop & Shop gift cards, to distribute.

Stories like these are daily occurrences throughout the Masonicare continuum. Yet, our mission-based endeavor faces relentless pressure. While Masonicare continues to expand services not dependent on governmental sources of funding, Medicaid and Medicare still represent more than 70% of our revenue in long-term care. Unlike most business models, recipients of Medicare and Medicaid dollars do not set the price for the services we deliver – our state and federal governments do, and at a loss to us.

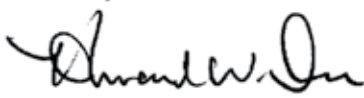
Concurrently, against the demographic backdrop of the Silver Tsunami, the transformation in healthcare continues. Quality is emerging as the paramount driver of success. Both Medicare and those providers with whom we want to partner will be basing payment and referrals respectively on quality. Masonicare needs to get out in front of this with metrics and transparency. As an example, we have a new clickable feature on our home page which illustrates quality measures specific to our continuum against state and national standards. We have also centralized our quality management oversight into a corporate function.

Here is more Masonicare news from the year:

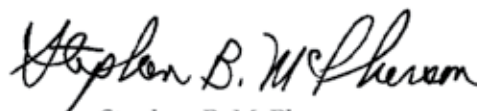
- Construction on Masonicare at Mystic resumed in June. We expect to welcome our first move-ins in early Fall.
- Both of our homecare companies were recognized by the VA as *We Honor Veterans* partners who provide special end-of-life care to veterans.
- Masonicare at Newtown and Masonicare Health Center underwent renovations to provide a more home-like and patient-centered environment for those in our care. At Newtown in particular, we were able to dramatically increase the number of private rooms.
- Masonicare at Ashlar Village celebrated its 30th anniversary on September 25. Two of our original residents from 1985 were with us to participate in the festivities.
- Following CDC recommendations and most other healthcare providers, we instituted a mandatory flu vaccine policy for all employees.
- Health care providers must classify patient encounters into groupings according to "International Statistical Classification of Diseases" or ICD. The U.S. has been on Version 9 (with 13,000 classifications) while the rest of the industrialized world is on Version 10. After a year-long preparation, we upgraded to ICD-10 – a major and successful undertaking that expands the number of classifications to 70,000.
- We continue to pursue partnerships that both complement and leverage our strengths and better position us to meet federal and state expectations.
- We are most grateful for the continued generosity of our donors. The Masonic Charity Foundation received almost \$2.6 million in restricted and unrestricted giving in 2015.

As someone once said, "May you live in interesting times." We most certainly do. To that end, we are very grateful for your support and stewardship to "help, aid and assist" those in our care today and tomorrow.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Howard W. Orr  
Chairman, Board of Trustees



Stephen B. McPherson  
President and Chief Executive Officer

#### MASONICARE BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2015-16

Howard W. Orr  
*Chairman*

Francis X. Conlon  
*Vice Chairman*

J. Arthur Carbonaro  
*Secretary*

Robert A. Simon  
*Treasurer*

Janet S. Berry

Sherwin M. Borsuk, MD

William R. Deickler

David A. Gessert

Geoffrey L. Ice

Barbara F. Lott

Theodore J. Nelson

Robert F. Polito, Jr.

Gail N. Smith

Ronald A. Thomas

Charles W. Yohe

Stephen B. McPherson

*President and Chief Executive Officer*

#### *Emeriti*

Leonard F. D'Amico

Carleton V. Erickson

Kenneth B. Hawkins, Sr.

David P. Hocking

Thomas C. Hofstetter

A. Norman Johnson

Charles C. Maxson

Duane G. Roberts



# Financial Statement as of September 30, 2015 (\$000 omitted)

## BOARDS OF DIRECTORS 2015-2016

### MASONICARE AT HOME

Janet S. Berry  
Chairman  
Howard W. Orr  
Vice Chairman  
Francine A. Bailey  
Secretary  
Susan Koty  
Treasurer  
Jay M. Brown  
Richard C. Memmott, Sr.  
Kimberly Magalhaes  
Executive Director  
Stephen B. McPherson  
President and Chief Executive Officer

### MASONICARE AT NEWTOWN

Robert A. Simon  
Chairman  
William R. Deickler  
Vice Chairman  
Mark D. Winne  
Secretary  
Albert H. Cheng  
Treasurer  
Sherwin M. Borsuk, MD  
Paul L. Chello  
Robert J. Furce  
Sidney Hardee  
Melvin E. Johnson  
William Morrow  
Howard W. Orr  
Gwen M. Rochette  
Richard Ruggiano  
Elyse O. Dent  
Administrator  
Stephen B. McPherson  
President and Chief Executive Officer

### Emeritus

Harmon Andrews

### MASONICARE HEALTH CENTER

Robert A. Simon  
Chairman  
William R. Deickler  
Vice Chairman  
Mark D. Winne  
Secretary  
Albert H. Cheng  
Treasurer  
Sherwin M. Borsuk, MD  
Paul L. Chello  
Robert J. Furce  
Sidney Hardee  
Grant S. Gould  
William Morrow  
Howard W. Orr  
Gwen M. Rochette  
Richard Ruggiano  
Stephen B. McPherson  
President and Chief Executive Officer

The financial summary is presented on a consolidated basis to include Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Masonicare at Newtown, Masonicare at Home, Masonicare at Mystic, Masonicare Home Health & Hospice, Corporate Services, Masonicare Health Center, Masonic Management Services and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. A complete copy of the audited consolidated financial statement is available upon request.

## 2015 Financial Performance

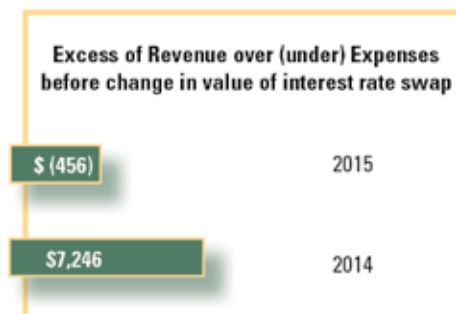
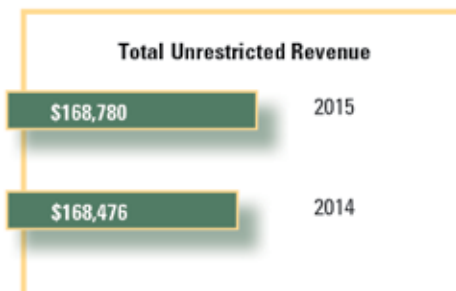
Results of operations at Masonicare for fiscal 2015 reflect operating revenues and operating expenses consistent with prior year levels, with excess of revenues over (under) expenses reflecting lower levels of both unrestricted contributions (\$1,143) and realized investment income (\$6,326) than in fiscal 2014.

Revenues from patient services are at similar levels as the prior year, reflecting modest reductions in utilization levels primarily in the skilled nursing operations of Masonicare at Newtown (beds out of service for a good portion of the fiscal year with a major facility renovation) and the home health and hospice operations of Masonicare Home Health & Hospice. The renovations at Masonicare at Newtown have been completed with improved availability of private rooms for rehabilitation patients and volumes have recently increased at Masonicare Home Health & Hospice.

Operating expense levels are also at similar levels as the prior year. Supplies and other services expenses increased as a result of contractor changes at our Mystic site.

Unrestricted contributions and realized investment income reflect volatility in the financial markets, particularly during the last quarter of the fiscal year.

The financial position of Masonicare reflects the impact of losses from operations as well as financial markets volatility during the last quarter of the fiscal year, with unrestricted investments declining by \$17.3 million and net assets (accumulated equity of the organization) declining by \$20.3 million since the prior year-end. Days cash on hand declined to 208 days in 2015 from 233 days in 2014, with days revenue in patient accounts receivable reduced to 41 days in 2015 from 48 days in 2014.



	2015	2014	% Change
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			
Net patient service revenue	\$ 136,119	\$ 137,303	-1%
Resident fees	19,156	18,761	2%
Other revenue	16,315	16,913	-4%
Provision for bad debts	(2,810)	(4,501)	-38%
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>168,780</b>	<b>168,476</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	124,701	125,362	-1%
Supplies and other services	26,297	23,754	11%
Professional fees	18,290	18,765	-3%
Depreciation and amortization	9,431	9,368	1%
Interest	4,392	4,846	-9%
Minority interest	(564)	(85)	NM
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>182,547</b>	<b>182,010</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING INCOME (EXPENSE)</b>			
Contributions (unrestricted funds)	1,728	2,871	-40%
Investment income	11,583	17,909	-35%
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES before change in value of interest rate swap</b>	<b>(456)</b>	<b>7,246</b>	
Changes in value of interest rate swap	(2,994)	(987)	
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES</b>	<b>(3,450)</b>	<b>6,259</b>	
Other changes in net assets	(16,839)	(4,508)	
<b>TOTAL INCREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(20,289)</b>	<b>1,751</b>	
Total net assets at beginning of year	156,692	154,941	
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 136,403</b>	<b>\$ 156,692</b>	

## Financial Statement, continued

	2015	2014	% Change
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,143	\$ 6,559	-37%
Restricted cash	767	766	0%
Patient accounts receivable	18,727	22,038	-15%
Other	8,968	8,978	0%
Assets whose use is limited or restricted	3,583	3,626	-1%
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>36,188</b>	<b>41,967</b>	<b>-14%</b>
INVESTMENTS - UNRESTRICTED	88,813	106,125	-16%
INVESTMENTS - SELF INSURANCE LIABILITIES	13,461	13,887	-3%
INVESTMENTS - TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	3,577	3,686	-3%
INVESTMENTS - ENDOWMENT FUNDS	54,200	55,384	-2%
LESS current portion investments	(3,583)	(3,626)	-1%
OTHER ASSETS	3,151	3,179	-1%
PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	156,646	149,857	5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 352,453</b>	<b>\$ 370,459</b>	<b>-5%</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 34,757	\$ 32,949	5%
LONG-TERM DEBT	96,082	98,869	-3%
OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	85,211	81,949	4%
NET ASSETS	136,403	156,692	-13%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 352,453</b>	<b>\$ 370,459</b>	<b>-5%</b>

### Days Cash on Hand



### Days Revenue in Patient Accounts Receivable



## MASONICARE AT ASHLAR VILLAGE

David A. Gessert  
*Chairman*

Chester R. Miller  
*Vice Chairman*

Loise Hazelwood  
*Secretary*

John Amarilios  
*Treasurer*

Marc A. Ciociola

Richard G. Claing

Jeff Flynn

Roy Hucke

Carol Isaacs

Robert Lisenko

Barbara F. Lott

Stephen W. Petri

Hilde Sager  
*Executive Director*

Stephen B. McPherson  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

### *Emeritus*

Charles C. Maxson

## MASONICARE HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

Francis X. Conlon  
*Chairman*

Steven Abati  
*Vice Chairman*

Geoffrey L. Ice  
*Secretary*

Newton (Bud) Buckner  
*Treasurer*

Francine A. Bailey

William E. Bohman

Arthur W. Davies, MD

Donald Gladding

Alexander Jarvis

Susan Koty

Jonathan E. Raymond

Patricia A. Sweet

Jennifer Rich  
*Executive Director*

Stephen B. McPherson  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

### *Emeriti*

Frank C. Collins, Jr.

Carleton V. Erickson

Martha A. Partridge

## MASONICARE PARTNERS HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE

Jon-Paul Venoit  
*Chairman*

Adam Silverman, MD  
*Vice Chairman*

Cynthia Gibbons  
*Secretary*

Jennifer Schneider  
*Treasurer*

Kinsha Williams-Davis  
*Executive Director*

Stephen B. McPherson (alt.)  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

# Summary of Activity

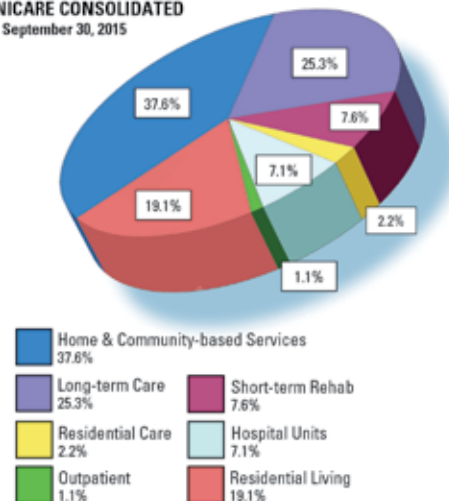
## STAFFED OCCUPANCY

	2015	2014
<b>Masonicare Health Center (Licensed beds)</b>		
Skilled nursing beds (375)	98.1%	97.3%
Rehabilitation beds (included above)	91.5%	84.9%
Acute medical beds (30)	25.9%	30.3%
Acute psychiatric beds (29)	89.3%	96.2%
Residential care apartments (86)	92.1%	96.7%
Independent apartments (93)	96.2%	97.8%
<b>Masonicare at Ashlar Village</b>		
Independent living units (360)	95.3%	93.3%
Assisted living apartments (137)	82.5%	77.9%
<b>Masonicare at Newtown</b>		
Skilled nursing beds (122)	77.1%	87.7%
Rehabilitation beds (32)	55.0%	57.7%
Assisted living apartments (56)	87.5%	92.6%

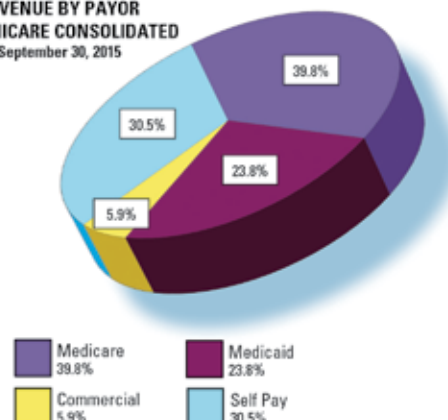
## VISITS

	2015	2014
<b>Masonicare Home Health &amp; Hospice</b>		
Skilled nursing care	128,088	128,529
Physical, occupational and speech therapy	58,995	55,100
Home health aides	84,679	86,368
All other	22,441	23,372
<b>Total</b>	<b>294,203</b>	<b>293,369</b>
Hospice and Palliative Care (measured in days)	123,129	130,192
<b>Masonic Management Services</b>		
Physician visits	48,542	52,479

## REVENUE BY TYPE OF SERVICE MASONICARE CONSOLIDATED September 30, 2015



## REVENUE BY PAYOR MASONICARE CONSOLIDATED September 30, 2015





# The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut

During fiscal year 2015, the fundraising efforts of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut secured \$2,584,633 in support of the programs and services of Masonicare and its affiliates.

Between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2015, unrestricted contributions totaling \$2,388,861 were received as well as \$195,772 in restricted gifts. These gifts came in many forms, including bequests, trust distributions, beneficiary designations, and charitable gift annuities, as well as donations to the Masonicare Annual Appeal and to The Foundation's special events. Of particular significance was the very generous gift of \$392,000 from The Eastern Star Charity Foundation of Connecticut.

## Fiscal Year 2015 Contributions

Bequests	\$ 263,500
Trusts	867,722
Major Gifts	493,196
Gift Annuity Residuals	128,994
Masonicare Annual Appeal	368,363
Holiday Appeal	24,705
Gifts to Masonicare's Hospice Program	100,582
Tree of Life Program	78,355
Masonicare Golf Classic	222,170
Tribute Gifts (Memorial and Honorarium)	11,650
Other Gifts	25,396
<b>Total Funds Raised</b>	<b>\$2,584,633</b>

### MASONICARE AT MYSTIC

David A. Gessert  
*Chairman*  
Chester R. Miller  
*Vice Chairman*  
Eloise Hazelwood  
*Secretary*  
John Amarillos  
*Treasurer*  
Marc A. Ciociola  
Richard G. Claing  
Jeff Flynn  
Roy Hucke  
Carol Isaacs  
Robert Lisenko  
Barbara F. Lott  
Stephen W. Petri  
Hilde Sager  
*Executive Director*  
Stephen B. McPherson  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

### THE MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT

J. Arthur Carbonaro  
*Chairman*  
Robert F. Polito, Jr.  
*Vice Chairman*  
Martin L. Rudnick  
*Secretary*  
Benjamin A. Isaacson  
*Treasurer*  
Janet S. Berry  
Robert G. Dunbar  
Christopher J. Earle  
William L. Greene  
Bethany F. Haslam  
Gordon C. Hurlbert, III  
Thomas Knowlton  
Bonnie S. McWain  
Marshall K. Robinson  
Charles A. Rogers  
Grant Ulrick  
Gregory J. Wentworth  
Gregory K. Whitehouse  
Jennifer A. King  
*Executive Director*  
Stephen B. McPherson  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
Assistant Secretary

### Emeriti

Carleton V. Erickson  
A. Norman Johnson  
Gail N. Smith

### MASONIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES

(Masonicare Behavioral Health and Masonicare Primary Care Physicians)

Barbara F. Lott  
*Chairman*  
Howard W. Orr  
*Vice Chairman*  
Joseph M. Tobin, Jr.  
*Secretary*  
Francis X. Conlon  
*Treasurer*  
Steven Angelo, MD  
*Vice President, Medical Affairs*  
Stephen B. McPherson  
*President and Chief Executive Officer*

## Masonicare ~ An Ageless Commitment to Caring.





# We Welcome Our New Brothers to the Fraternity

Michael A. Allegretto..... Ark	39	Francisco E. Rivera..... Manchester	73
Erin M. Hensen..... Ark	39	Christopher J. Veness..... Manchester	73
Matthew C. Stoller..... Ark	39	Christopher G. Malde..... Harmony	67
Park P. Zarate..... Ark	39	Brian G. Doddona..... Ansantawae	89
William V. Coleman..... Union	40	Richard P. Smeland Jr..... Ansantawae	89
Alan P. Donnelly..... Union	40	Shyam L. Trivedi..... Ansantawae	89
Glovanny T. Luna..... Union	40	Wesley A. Lozada..... Brainard	102
Luciano P. Paschoalini..... Union	40	Gabriel A. Rosario..... Brainard	102
Flavio Ribeiro..... Union	40	Andrew J. Stino..... Brainard	102
Perry J. Bartovic..... Morning Star	47	Charles P. Jenney..... Ivnahoe	107
Stephen T. Saxton..... Morning Star	47	John P. Healy III..... Daytime	144
Gary A. Tuccio..... Morning Star	47	Joseph P. Grieco Jr..... Friendship Tuscan	145
Joshua M. Cloutier..... Manchester	73	Joseph Sabo Jr..... Friendship Tuscan	145
Michael J. Cloutier..... Manchester	73	Makerno D. Grant..... Universal Fraternity	149

## Lafaayette Consistory

*Continued from page 16*

extreme validity of this concept might then become once more self evident.

The Key of Ivory is a central theme and a pinnacle of importance in this presentation. This key, a symbol of fidelity and prudence, is symbolic of a true comprehension and adoption of Freemasonic principles. By effectively utilizing this key, by ordering our existence in accordance with these wise and invaluable principles, we begin to attain to a consciousness which will more fully reveal the purpose of our existences and that of the cosmos. Thus we see that possession of this key, along with the previously developed ability to properly utilize it, is vital if we are to successfully attain entry into the proverbial Sanctum Santorum. Completion of the Sanctum is indeed the essence of True Initiation, the one which is unheralded by Man, uncelebrated by jewels and never acclaimed from without. Like physical birth and death it is something only the individual can experience and as the guardian of the gate will never permit us entry thereto unless we are truly prepared and immersed in Masonic Light.

Finally, the feature in this presentation which brings a great revelation about this plane of existence and

our individual roles in it, is the explanation of the Mystery of the Triangle. If the massive import of this moment is properly digested and understood, one will instantly comprehend, the tragic mass error that has plagued humanity for aeons, and the need for an age of Universal Brotherhood, one which our Institution has labored for centuries to help materialize, will become self evident.

It is thus in this one brief historical program that most every profound concept related to the entire cause and reason for existence, the need for every aspirant to undertake the entire arduous alchemical process of attaining inner perfection, and the need to understand the nature of Diety is laid out and alluded to, albeit in the briefest of manners.

I hope you can join us at one of these upcoming Historical Secret Master presentations! Feel free to contact me at the address above should you have any questions about any of the above. If you are planning your winter degree calendar - Here is your Consistory's upcoming schedule:

Date Location Degree(s)  
\*4th Degree video as needed for

new candidates	Mon 02.01.2016	Stratford	Stated Meeting & Historical Secret Master
Degree	Mon 02.08.2016	Stratford	4th
Degree	Wed 02.17.2016	Waterbury	6th
Degree	Mon 02.29.2016	Stratford	15th
Degree	Mon 03.07.2016	New Haven	10th
Degree	Wed 03.16.2016	Waterbury	7th
Degree	Mon 03.21.2016	Stratford	30th
Degree	Mon 03.28.2016	New Haven	14th
Degree	Mon 04.11.2016	New Haven	16th
Degree	Wed 04.13.2016	Waterbury	26th
Degree	Mon 04.18.2016	New Haven	20th
Degree	Mon 04.25.2016	Stratford	18th
Degree	Mon 05.02.2016	Stratford	New 31st & 12th Degree (BR)
Degree & 32nd Degree	Sat 05.07.2016	New Haven	27th
Degree	Sat 07.16.2016	Stratford	29th



# 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 [ctramrsm@gmail.com](mailto:ctramrsm@gmail.com). NOTE: All dates and visitations are subject to change without notice.

## JANUARY 2016

01	HAPPY NEW YEAR 2016 !!!
05	Keystone 27 RA, Meriden. 7 pm
05	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford
09	Grand RA Officers Meeting, Ashlar 332, Wallingford. 9 am
12	Hamilton 08 SM, Meriden. Royal & Select Master degrees
12	Wolcott 01 SM, East Hartford
13	Pythagoras 17 RA, East Hartford
14	Washington 06 SM, Darien. Royal & Select Master degrees
15	New Haven 02 KT, New Haven
16	CT York Rite College 17. 10 am
19	St Elmo 09 KT, Meriden. Red Cross & Short Malta. Dinner 6:15
19	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford
27	Pulaski 26 RA, Branford. Most Excellent Master deg
27	Pythagoras 17 RA, East Hartford
28	Trinity 03 KT, Darien. Order of Red Cross
29	CT Priory 28 KYCH. Dinner 6:15 p

When dinner precedes a meeting, reservations are usually req'd.

indicates attendance by the ME Grand High Priest

indicates attendance by the MP Grand Master

indicates attendance by the RE Grand Commander

## DEADLINE HAS CHANGED

Note that the deadline for submission of items for inclusion in Opportunities has moved up to the 8<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. This is necessary because the Connecticut Freemasons newspaper has changed its deadline to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. When submitting items, please include the time, place, and dress code. Local Presiding Officers, Secretaries and Recorders are encouraged to get into the habit of sending in items.





### FROM MEGHP EPPLER

Companions, with the start of the New Year, it is time to resume our work. In particular, let us work together to bring all our ritual work up to the highest standards of quality. This begins by taking the time to become familiar with the degrees and to memorize our parts. Remember, no part is too small to be not worth doing well! As a degree director, I find one of my hardest tasks is convincing the small parts of the importance of what they do. PLEASE, no matter how small your part, it is important to the success of the degree that it be done well!

### FROM MPGM SEAMON

My Companions as we enter the New Year, let us reflect on the last year, and what we did, or did not do, to make our Councils grow and thrive! Let us "Renew" our efforts to promote York Rite at every opportunity! Lets get out to our Blue Lodge Installations, Let York Rite shed its light to our Brothers in every corner of our Fraternity and beyond. "That they may see our good works". Don't forget or neglect to pay those dues! We can do nothing to help our Fraternity grow, if we are Struck NPD! Don't forget if you have an event, Let me know! I want to be there!

### 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/gkct/ct](http://www.knightstemplar.org/gkct/ct)  
Common to all three YR bodies: [www.yorkrite.com/ct](http://www.yorkrite.com/ct)



#### To our January Birthday Brothers

Dr. Alexander Alvarez  
William Cuttler  
John Ferrucci  
Vincent Guisto  
John Hychko Jr.  
Michael Kenausis  
Robert Koenemund  
Joseph Magaraci  
Gerry Matthews  
Geoffrey Stowell  
Manuel Tirado

## Harmony Lodge No. 42

531 Highland Ave, Waterbury Ct.

### Trestle Board – January 2016

Sunday Jan. 3 – 2:00 PM  
Installation of Officers  
Refreshments to follow

Thursday Jan. 7 – 7:30 PM  
Program to be announced

Thursday Jan. 21 – 7:30 PM  
EA Degree - Bro. Hal Elwell in the East

Dinner before every meeting at 6:30 PM  
Reservations to [melwell98@hotmail.com](mailto:melwell98@hotmail.com)  
by 8:00 PM the night before!



#### Recent Events

#### Election of officers for 2016

WM - WB Daniel Sharkis  
SW - Bro. Donald Wismann  
JW - Bro. Hal Elwell  
Treasurer - Bro. Michael Kenausis  
Secretary – WB Martin Macary  
Sr. Deacon – Bro. Ken Tarwood  
Jr. Deacon – Bro. Christopher Poulin  
Sr. Steward – Bro. Matthew Elwell  
Jr. Steward – Bro. Eric Blalock  
Chaplain – RW Bro. David Sharkis  
Marshal – Bro. Joseph Pisani  
Historian – Bro. Robert Dorr  
Tiler – Bro. Lou Santos  
Organist – Bro. Augustus Jayaraj

# Notes From The Valley Of New Haven

by Michael Castroll

Happy New Year, one and all! Our 2016 Spring Reunion is upon us.

As new brothers come in, other brothers have departed from our sight. On December 6, 2015, Illustrious Elmer Manley, 33° was taken to the Celestial Lodge, where the Great Chief Willa-Tonka welcomed

him with open arms. Chief Willa-Tonka is the Native Americans equivalent of what we acknowledge as the Grand Architect of the Universe. The memories we hold in our heart have made Ill. Brother Manley's memory a blessing for all of us.

Getting ready for this Spring Reunion, we start with a Stated Meeting on Monday evening,

January 11, 2016.

On Saturday afternoon, February 20, we will gather for yet another Winter Picnic. By the time we have enjoyed our repast,, fair weather should be upon us.

See you in the Valley...

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

by David R. Blythe, Sr.,  
330, Valley Secretary

It is hard to believe that the holiday season has come and gone and it's already 2016. The Valley finished up

2015 on a high note.

On November 21, the Valley of Norwich portrayed the 260, while the Valley of Hartford portrayed the 320 with participation from the Valley of Bridgeport. Highlights for the day included the presentation of the 330 caps to our two newly coroneted Illustrious Brothers, Melvin E. Johnson and Gordon C. Willoughby Jr., by Ill. Bro. Bruce T. Work, 330, Deputy for Connecticut, and a presentation recognizing 70 years of Scottish Rite membership to Bro. Kenneth E. Duncan, by Commander-in-Chief Ill. Bro. Eric W. Manner, 330. After the morning's program, 114 brothers enjoyed a prime rib luncheon at the Sphinx Shrine facility.

November 29 saw the final Family Life program of the year, a bus trip to Sturbridge, Mass. to see a Christmas

musical "Nuncracker." Everyone enjoyed the show. The Valley tries to offer our brethren and family members a variety of programs over the course of the year..

The Valley's new year begins on Saturday, January 30 with another Family Life Event, a Pre-Valentine's Day Dinner Dance. Music will be provided by Safari. Choice of meals will be either Yankee Pot Roast or Turkey, and the cost is \$65 per couple. The event is open to all Masonic Brethren. Seating will be limited so make your reservations early. For more information see the upcoming issue of View of the Valley, or contact the Valley office at (860) 666-0712 or [sect@snet.net](mailto:sect@snet.net).

The degree schedule resumes in February, providing yet another chance for our Scottish Rite brethren

*Continued on next page*



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

*Seasons Greetings*

**Happy Chanukah  
Merry Christmas**

*From the  
Officers and Members of The*  
**VALLEY OF HARTFORD**

See what we have to offer by visiting our website:  
[www.valleyofhartford.org](http://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](mailto:sect@snet.net)

**To Advertise in the Next Edition  
of CT FreeMason  
Call Jean 860-608-2796 or  
Call Ted 860-235-0770**



# Valley of Hartford *Continued from previous page*

to renew old acquaintances and perhaps see a portrayal of a degree that they may not have previously seen. The degrees start on Thursday, February 11 with the 4th and the 12th Degree, followed by the 16th degree in banquet format on Thursday, February 25, and then the 18th degree on March 10. All degrees start at 7:30 p.m. and are preceded by a buffet dinner at 6 p.m.

So if you know of a fellow

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. For petitions, see the View of the Valley, the Valley website: [www.valleyofhartford.org](http://www.valleyofhartford.org), or contact the Valley office.

Informational DVDs are available upon request from the Valley of Hartford office.



**Brother Kenneth Duncan receives his 70 year certificate from Commander-in-Chief Ill. Brother Eric W. Manner, 33°**

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

***Spring Reunion***

**We start with a Stated Meeting on Monday evening, January 11, 2016.**

**Saturday afternoon, February 20, we will gather for yet another Winter Picnic.**



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

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

Albert J. Adam.....	Temple Lodge No. 16	John H. Kirkman .....	Columbia Lodge No. 25
Robert M. Bantly.....	Manchester Lodge No. 73	Theodore S. Knapp.....	Union Lodge No. 40
Norman H. Barnes Jr.....	St. Alban's Lodge No. 38	Raymond Knees.....	Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142
George A. Bernard.....	Jeptha Lodge No. 95	Louis I. Kuslan.....	Ashlar Lodge No. 332
Richard A. Booth.....	Putnam Lodge No. 46	James J. LaRosa.....	Center Lodge No. 97
Carl H. Brown.....	Union Lodge No. 40	Charles A. Lathrop .....	Coastal Lodge No. 57
Charles P. Chambers.....	Ionic Lodge No. 110	John Libratore.....	Composite Lodge No. 28
George Emr.....	Union Lodge No. 40	Ralph O. Lorenson.....	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14
Rolf A. Florin.....	Washington Lodge No. 81	Herbert C. Nallinger.....	Ashlar Lodge No. 332
Louis Giovanelly Jr .....	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89	Irving F. Oertel.....	Day Spring Lodge No. 30
Derrick J. Greene .....	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14	Irving G. Ogilvie.....	Temple Lodge No. 16
William J. Haines Jr .....	Washington Lodge No. 19	John P. O'Reilly III .....	Temple Lodge No. 16
Rudolph W. Hany .....	Manchester Lodge No. 73	Robert V. Sippin .....	Washington Lodge No. 19
Charles R. Holcomb .....	Composite Lodge No. 28	Arthur F. Steele .....	Manchester Lodge No. 73
William P. Kelley.....	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14	Harry L. Wheeler.....	Composite Lodge No. 28
William L. Kimmich Jr.....	Annawon Lodge No. 115	Harold B. Wright.....	America-St. John's Lodge No. 8
James T. King Jr.....	Manchester Lodge No. 73		

## Research Lodges *Continued from page 15*

in awe those priceless artifacts of Masonic and American history. Several Brothers vowed to attend PLR meetings and one has already fulfilled that promise.

Three weeks later Worshipful Master Jonathan Beatty and Secretary WB Stephen Thal, accompanied by his faithful Guide Keenan, were the guests of the Rhode Island Lodge of Research. On November 30, they were warmly received by PLR's affiliate member Michael Northup, one of the RI organizers of the Research Club, which has now been granted Lodge status. All present were treated to an excellent historical paper on the early history of Jewish settlers and Masonry, "Freemasonry and Religious Accommodation in Rhode Island" by Shai Afsai, a scholar who spent

four years on his research across three continents. In appreciation, and to inspire their members to create original research papers and presentations, WB Jonathan Beatty presented the Rhode Island Lodge of Research with a "Fraternal Sampler" of PLR papers from the 1950s to the present on a variety of subjects and levels of scholarship.

On November 30, Senior Warden WB Justin Duffy assembled a portable Chamber of Reflection at Valley Lodge No. 36 for his presentation to the Tobacco Blue Lodge Council, the 27th program the Philosophic Lodge provided in 2015 for the enlightenment of the Fraternity. The Philosophic Lodge of Research and the Masonic Lodge of Research write and present Masonic History and Mystery at their

regular communications, travels to Blue Lodge and open to any Master Mason Blue Lodge Council Stated and the Speaker's Bureau Communications.



**Rhode Island Lodge of Research, L-R: WB Mike Northup, Brother Shai Afsai, WB Steve Thal, Guide Keenan, RWB David Lavery**





# Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*<sup>SM</sup>



## A Happy New Year - For Some of Us!

by Richard F. Denno

Happy 2016! With a new year comes a fresh start and the hope of great things to come - for most of us. This year many important events will occur in our lives - for most of us. Weddings, graduations, the births of children of family and friends, and a myriad of other exciting activities will brighten our lives - for most of us.

But for some of us, the waiting game will continue. For some of us, plans for that great 2016 will be made but never experienced. For some of us, that waiting game will end sadly. For some of us, an organ transplant will not happen in time to save our lives. Over 18 of these patients will die each day, still hoping for the transplant that would make 2016 a

spectacular year.

Among those still hoping are Freemasons, their families and friends, waiting for the waiting to end. How can we as Freemasons make this happen? First and foremost, we can go to [www.donateifenewengland.org](http://www.donateifenewengland.org) and register as organ/tissue donors. Even if you registered as a donor, you can still register online to reaffirm your commitment to make a difference in the lives of others. Another way you can help is, as a lodge, assign a brother to be the 'Donate Life' representative for your lodge. That brother will encourage their lodge brothers to join in our lifesaving efforts. Adding the [www.donatelifenewengland.net](http://www.donatelifenewengland.net) website to your lodge's website would be of great help too. How about your lodge sponsoring an organ donor

registration event? April is Donate Life Month, an excellent time for your lodge to show your community you support saving lives through organ donor registration.

In April 2012, Ernest 'Ernie' Gladden', a brother from Valley Lodge No. 36 passed away. For almost 10 years, Ernie was fortunate to have experienced those 'Precious Moments,' reserved for those fortunate ones able to receive a transplant. How about this April, dedicating your lodge's efforts for organ donation to Brother Gladden?

Why not make a New Year's resolution to become active in your Masonic Organ Donor Awareness Program in 2016?

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



**STAMM EDDY**

39 EAST CEDOR ST. NEWINGTON  
**860.666.1449**

*40 Years of Service to  
Newington*

Buying or Selling YOUR HOME  
Can be Complicated



*Now in Two Locations*

We Educate and Guide YOU  
to Make the Best Decisions



**STAMM NEIL**

532 MAIN STREET, CROMWELL  
**860.635.5974**

*30 Years of Service to  
Cromwell*

# Tree of Life Enjoys Successful Fundraising Season

by Adam Raider

A fundraiser organized by The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, the 2015 Tree of Life has raised over \$73,000 to date. Gifts in support of the Tree of Life enable Masonicare to provide quality, compassionate home health and hospice care to our patients and their families and will benefit residents and patients throughout the Masonicare continuum when no other funding sources are available.

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 Stamford, Mystic and Windsor.

"We are extremely grateful to everyone who supported this year's Tree of Life through generous donations and sponsorships,"

**Continued on page 31**



**United States Navy SubScol Silver Dolphins provide military honors at the Mystic Tree of Life**



**The Greater Hartford Tree of Life**



# Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association to Hold 4th Annual Banquet

by John Braddock

The Connecticut Masonic Scouters Association will be celebrating another successful year of Scouting and Masonry in Connecticut at their 4th Annual Banquet on January 31, 2016. This year the banquet will recognize RWB Robert Fitzgerald, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, for his years of service to Masonic Scouting in Connecticut.

RWB Robert Fitzgerald has been active as a scout, scouter and Mason. He has been a real friend to the Connecticut Masonic Scouter association since CMSA first started.

Since its inception in 2008, the Connecticut Masonic Scouters have worked actively to promote and demonstrate the common values of both organizations. CSMA members have:

Helped organize community service projects that involve members of both organizations.

Assisted at CTCHIP events for Cub Scouts and their families at major Scouting events.

Actively served as Boy Scout Merit Badge counselors and in Scout leadership positions in local Scout Units, their District and Council.

Recognized those Scouts who have obtained the rank of Eagle Scout. The recognition is in the form of a letter and certificate from the Grand Master of Connecticut Free and Accepted Masons. Both are presented to the Eagle Scout at his Eagle Court of Honor. To date over 200 such presentations have been done.

Any Master Mason who was a scout, who is, or, was a registered scout adult volunteer (Scouter), or who has an interest in Scouting, are welcome to become a member of the CMSA. Members have to subscribe to the Scout Oath and Law.

The Banquet is open to the public. A special invite is extended to all of the Connecticut Master Masons who have earned the Daniel Carter Beard Award.

The Daniel Carter Beard Award is

awarded to a Master Mason who is a registered Scouter and active in a Scout unit, district, council, or national affiliate and who has displayed outstanding dedication to the Scouting program. The award is named after Daniel Carter Beard who first created the Society of the Sons of Daniel Boone which later became the Boy Pioneers which later merged with the Boy Scouts of America. Daniel Carter Beard was the first National Commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America. The award program is run by

the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The Banquet will be held at the Hartog Center at Ashlar Village in Wallingford on January 31, 2016 at 6 p.m. The cost is \$30 per person. The buffet dinner includes Stuffed Chicken, Salmon, and Caesar Salad, green beans, rosemary red potatoes and chocolate cake. For additional information, please contact Seth Strohecker (203 816 1683), Tom Transue (860 604 7354) or Jack Braddock (203 235 5596).

## Widowers Support Group

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

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.masonicare.org)

Masonicare  
Home Health & Hospice



# Sealed With a Kiss

by Ken Coman

What makes you a Mason?  
My obligation.

That is what we are taught in our Entered Apprentice degree lecture. Our obligations are serious and weighty, and, once taken, can never be laid aside or repudiated. The penalties of the obligations are also very serious and explicit. Although they are symbolic only and none of us assumes an obligation to administer those penalties, they do impress upon our minds the seriousness of the promises we are making. However, and what I find most fascinating about the obligation, is that after all of that, after solemnly promising and

swearing in the presence of God and our brothers, after promising on the Book of Sacred Law, after binding ourselves under serious penalties that would mean our lives if violated, after all of that, we are only released from our cable tows after we have kissed the Book of Sacred Law.

Why?

Because our lives can be taken from us but our hearts we must freely give and only if we give our hearts to the obligation will we truly keep it.

When we kissed the book, was it only because we were told to? Or did we do it to truly show our sincerity of purpose and love for Truth and love for the cause of Good? After all, isn't that what we have promised to

serve? Truth? Goodness? Justice? Strength? Indeed we have. The road to serve these causes is difficult but if we freely give our hearts to them, we will be able to travel that road until the end.

If you are struggling with your commitment to your obligations or if you are feeling that masonry is a bit of a drag, then you should examine your heart and recommit to the cause of Goodness. Only then, only after your heart is really in it, will you be released from your cable tows. Let us seal our obligations with a kiss and be fully committed to the cause of Truth and Good.

# Improving The Craft

by Charles W. Yohe

Every Grand Master counts on the excellent Brothers of his jurisdiction to make a positive impact during his year. At the XIV World Conference of Regular Grand Lodges and in a number of monthly or bi-monthly magazines from various sister jurisdictions, there has been much discussion regarding membership decline, its causes and possible solutions. A couple of themes are recurrent. First, the realization that Freemasonry will likely never see the same numbers that it had in the 1950's and early 1960's; second, the fact that Masonic dues have not kept up with the times; and finally, the stark realization that we live in a changed society.

The simple truth is that Masonry is not for every man. According to research conducted by the Grand Lodge of British Columbia and the Yukon, through the 1940's, Masonic Lodges were rejecting 20% of those who petitioned. Since 1947, the percentage rejected has dropped to less than 0.1%! Further, they

assert that fully 20% of the adult male population has been or will be arrested during their adult life. Is it any wonder that some of our Lodges have become a revolving door with Brothers being initiated, passed, and raised and then being dropped for non-payment of dues two or three years later? What can you do to reduce this negative trend? For starters, you can employ the Six Steps to Masonry approach. Get to know a potential petitioner by having him participate in a number of Lodge social activities before you even consider offering him a petition. Consider performing a criminal background check. Make sure that the man has a thorough and correct understanding of what Freemasonry is and do your utmost to ascertain that he and your Lodge are a good fit for one another.

Establish a strong mentoring program in your Lodge. A mentor is a member who does much more than assist with learning the basic lectures. He is one who guides and instructs. He is a traveling companion and a confidant who listens,

answers, and helps to mold a candidate through his first half dozen or so years of Masonry. He is there to answer questions and direct the Brother's path in our Fraternity. Additionally, encourage your new members to participate in the Perfect Ashlar program. Information on this program is readily available on the Grand Lodge website.

For your Lodge officers, encourage participation in the Master's Path program. This recently revised and updated tool will help improve the level of knowledge and leadership skills among your Lodge officers - especially your Wardens and Masters.

Once again, I urge Lodges to consider the appointment of a Lodge Almoner. Doing so can have a long lasting, positive influence within your Lodge. Although we generally think of the Lodge having a need to assist its older members or widows, increasingly we find instances where younger members are negatively impacted by loss of employment or medical issues. As Masons, we should do our utmost to help, aid and assist any

**Continued on page 35**

# Tree of Life

*Continued from page 28*

said Patricia L. Morgan, Director of Development at The Masonic Charity Foundation. "As always, we were pleased by the response the Tree of Life received from the Masonic community, which continues to show its support for the work of Masonicare financially and in the form of volunteerism."

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 Dignity Memorial Funeral Homes, Morrison Community Living, Pitney Bowes, Glenmede, Abbey Cremation Services, EGA Architects, Hancock Pharmacy, the Eastern Star Charity Foundation of Connecticut, Acacia Lodge No. 85, Brom Builders, Carmon Community Funeral Homes, the Dance Art Wheel Foundation, the Masonic Club of Darien and all of our sponsors.



**Harpist Allyn Bryson Donath performs at the Greater Hartford Tree of Life**

## Pyramid Shrine Temple Master Masons Clowning Around at Lodges

*by Donald M. Casey*

The Pyramid Shrine Temple Clowns from Stratford, Connecticut, recently celebrated the holidays with fellow Brethren and their families at America-St. John's Lodge No. 8 and Day Spring Lodge No. 30. The Pyramid Shrine Temple Clowns, consisting of Master Masons

from various Lodges in Connecticut, entertained patrons at each event with balloon artistry and face painting. In addition, the Pyramid Shrine Temple Clowns collected donations to assist needy children receiving medical care through the Red Sneaker Fund.



**Pyramid Shrine clowns with Santa Claus**



# 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.*

**Friday, Jan. 01, NEW YEAR'S DAY**

**Sunday, Jan. 03, Moosup** No. 113, Moosup, All You Can Eat Breakfast, 8 a.m. \$8

**Monday, Jan. 04, Compass** No. 9, Wallingford, Memorial Ceremony, 7 p.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 05, Day Spring** No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Good old fashioned BINGO night. Open to public, all Masons and Eastern Stars.

**Thursday, Jan. 07, Putnam** No. 46, South Woodstock, Thursday Night Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays are the time to rehearse, plan events, work on projects. If you are not a member and would like to ask about joining Thursdays are a perfect time.

**Thursday, Jan. 07, Bay View** No. 120, Niantic, District Breakfast, 9 a.m. District Breakfast at Groton Townhouse Restaurant

**Sunday, Jan. 10, Compass**

No. 9, Wallingford, Compass Lodge Fellowship Breakfast, 8 a.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 12, Day Spring** No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Good old fashioned BINGO night. Open to public, all Masons and Eastern Stars.

**Wednesday, Jan. 13, Union** No. 5, Stamford, Fellowship Night, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, Jan. 13, Ashlar-Aspetuck** No. 142, Easton, Hiram's Cafe, 6:30 p.m., Please join us for food and laughs with the brothers!

**Thursday, Jan. 14, Putnam** No. 46, South Woodstock, Thursday Night Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays are the time to rehearse, plan events, work on projects. If you are not a member and would like to ask about joining Thursdays are a perfect time.

**Thursday, Jan. 14, Friendship Tuscan** No. 145, Manchester, Cigar Night, 6 p.m. Crawford's Cigar Shop 435 Hartford Tpke Vernon CT BYOB

**Saturday, Jan. 16, Moosup** No. 113, Moosup, 2016 Shirley Martel Memorial Moosup Lodge 113 Scholarship Banquet, 5 p.m. Pachaug Outdoor Club, 178 Banjo Sullivan Rd Griswold Ct.

**Saturday, Jan. 16, Ashlar-Aspetuck** No. 142, Easton,

Lodge Maintenance, 7 a.m. prices TBD

**Sunday, Jan. 17, Washington** No. 19, Monroe, Country breakfast, 8 a.m.

**Sunday, Jan. 17, Friendship** No. 33, Southington, Pancake Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.

**Tuesday, Jan. 19, Day Spring** No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Good old fashioned BINGO night. Open to public, all Masons and Eastern Stars.

**Thursday, Jan. 21, Putnam** No. 46, South Woodstock, Thursday Night Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays are the time to rehearse, plan events, work on projects. If you are not a member and would like to ask about joining Thursdays are a perfect time.

**Tuesday, Jan. 26, Day Spring** No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Good old fashioned BINGO night. Open to public, all Masons and Eastern Stars.

**Wednesday, Jan. 27, Union** No. 5, Stamford, Fellowship Night, 7 p.m.

**Friday, Jan. 29, Frederick-Franklin** No. 14, Plainville, Friday nite Gathering, 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Jan. 30, Hartford Evergreen** No. 88, South Windsor, Wolfpack Hockey Game, 6 p.m. Hartford Wolfpack vs St. John's Ice Caps Families and Friends welcome. Ticket

**Tuesday, Feb. 02, Day Spring** No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Good old fashioned BINGO night. Open to public, all Masons and Eastern Stars.

**Thursday, Feb. 04, Bay View** No. 120, Niantic, District Breakfast, 9 a.m. District Breakfast at Groton Townhouse Restaurant

**Sunday, Feb. 07, Compass** No. 9, Wallingford, Breakfast, 8 a.m.

**Sunday, Feb. 07, Hartford Evergreen** No. 88, South Windsor, Super Bowl Football Party, 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, Feb. 09, Day Spring** No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m. Good old fashioned BINGO night. Open to public, all Masons and Eastern Stars.

**Tuesday, Feb. 09, Friendship Tuscan** No. 145, Manchester, An Evening of Bowling, 7 p.m. Revolutions 60 Bidwell Rd S. Windsor

**Sunday, Feb. 14, VALENTINE'S DAY**

**Monday, Feb. 15, Hartford Evergreen** No. 88, South Windsor, Ladies at the Table, 7:30 p.m.

**Monday, Feb. 15, PRESIDENTS' 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.

### Entered Degrees

**Monday, Jan. 18,**  
Friendship No. 33,  
Southington, Dinner, 6:30  
p.m.

**Thursday, Jan. 21,**  
Harmony No. 42,  
Waterbury, Dinner, 6:30

p.m.

**Monday, Feb. 01,**  
Compass No. 9,  
Wallingford, Dinner 6 p.m.

### Fellowcraft Degrees

**Thursday, Jan. 21,**  
Friendship Tuscan No. 145,  
Manchester, Dinner, 6:30  
p.m.

**Monday, Feb. 01,**  
Hartford Evergreen No. 88,  
South Windsor, Dinner, 6

p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 10,**  
Hospitality No. 128,  
Wethersfield, 7:30 p.m.

Note: Location TBD

### Master Mason Degrees

**Thursday, Jan. 21,**  
Temple No. 16, Cheshire,  
7:30 p.m.



**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](http://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

## 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](http://www.whcpa.com)



# 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

Lewis Bither	Ernest A. Greenwood, Jr.	Keith MacDowall	John Spencer
David Blackall	Moussa Gueye	Paul R. Marte	Robert C. Thayer
Ray N. Cooley, Jr.	Donald W. Hick, Jr.	Richard C. Memmott, Sr.	Edgar J. Wood
John P. Dilks,	Herbert W. Hope, Jr.	Jon H. Quint	George Zack
James Dobie	Melvin Katzman,	Robert A. Reggiani	
Samual M. Dunlop	Kenneth H. Kirschner	Charles B. Ricker	
William Field	William E. Lehr	Virginia Scheller	

## **Grand Boosters** Thank you for contributing more than \$25

Harmon L. Andrews	Kenneth M. Dellhime	Alan N. Knofla	Richard L. Sawyers
John Blennerhassett	Wilfred G. Douglas	George M. Leaman	Frederick W. Schmatlz
William A. Brinley, Jr.	David Ferguson	Frank H. Lesco	Robert R. Shaw
Newton Buckner III	Leonard W. Finegold	Charles Lizotte	John H. Spencer
Robert B. Burden	George Frascarelli	Robert C. Maclellan	William E. Sunblade
J. Arthur Carbonaro	Robert J. Furce	Geronimo S. Mamaclay	Richard R. Washburn
Miles E. Corcoran, Jr.	Paul Garavel	William R. McDonald	Scott H. Werner
Rev. Robert P. Cornell	Ralph H. Hunt	Arthur J. McKinney	Charles W. Yohe
Lester A. Culver, Jr.	Ryan G. Hunt	Chester Miller	

## **Masonic Family Boosters**

Anchor Lodge No. 112	Corinthian Lodge No. 63	Masonic Club of New London
Robert & Diane Andrews	CT Chapter of DeMolay	Anton & Diane Petras
Brainard Lodge No. 102	Thomas & Janice Delmastro	Albert & Corinne Redway
D.M. & G.D. Chase	Aubrey & Carol Fisher	Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34
Elizabeth Brown	Friendship Lodge No. 33	St. Peters Lodge No. 21
Children's Dyslexia Centers, Inc.	Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88	Union Lodge No. 5
Coastal Lodge No. 57	Hospitality Lodge No. 128	Valley of Hartford, AASR
Composite Lodge No. 28	Ronald & Barri Lapierre	

# Connecticut Freemasons Boosters List - The How & Why

*by Francis G. Way, Editor*

Astute readers may have noticed the three booster lists in the back section of the Connecticut Freemasons newspaper. These are the lists of people and organizations who have donated to the paper to support its on-going publication. Since one of the goals of the current publication team is to eliminate the assessment of every brother in the jurisdiction to pay for the paper's

publication and to make it self-sustaining through advertising, the Boosters are very important.

One of the most difficult aspects of the management transition last year was getting a handle on the Boosters - who was current, who was expired, and who was about to expire. In the interim, some brothers have sent in contributions and have not been listed. However, at this point, the team feels that, given the available

information, and given the processes put in place by our Grand Treasurer, we should have a much better handle on the situation.

There are three levels of Booster support - Individual Booster (\$25 for 11 issues), Grand Booster (more than \$25 for 11 issues) and Masonic Family Boosters (\$60 for 11 issues).

As this New Year begins, please consider a contribution at any level to help support the Connecticut

Freemasons newspaper. It is not only a vehicle for communicating to brethren throughout our jurisdiction, it is a glimpse into Connecticut Masonry for other jurisdictions as well.

Finally, if you have contributed and have not seen your name on the list, do not hesitate to contact me. Our goal is to make the list as accurate as possible.

# Improving The Craft

Continued from page 30

Brother who has need.

The issue of dues is also an important consideration that Lodges need to address. Early on, Lodges met either in a Brother's home or in a room in a tavern or inn. The wisdom in this was that the Lodges minimized the 'carrying costs' associated with their very existence. Any funds that were raised, in excess of what was owed to the Grand Lodge, could be used strictly for providing charity or relief. Later, when Lodges started to build their own separate meeting places, they did so within their economic means. That is, they charged dues that were sufficient to cover the expenses and maintenance of their building. It was not uncommon in the early 20th century for a Brother's dues to be equal to a week's pay. The increasing membership, together with that fact was sufficient to support the building and keep it well maintained. Fast forward to the last 50 years. Not only has our membership declined by 75% or more, but in almost every case, our Lodge dues structure has not kept

up with inflation and is woefully inadequate to support the continued operation and maintenance of our buildings. How successful can we be at attracting new, quality members when our buildings are dilapidated and poorly maintained?

Several jurisdictions, such as Maryland, are undertaking an effort to address this issue by creating Masonic Centers - modern structures of appropriate size and energy efficiency situated in such a way that two or three Lodges and other Masonic bodies can share one attractive, well maintained structure as opposed to each existing in its own costly to own, dilapidated structure. This is an idea that perhaps deserves consideration.

Finally, with regard to the fact that we live in a changed society, one in which incivility is not only tolerated, but in many cases, has become the norm, we need to address how those societal issues impact the Fraternity. In an article that crossed my desk, a Brother offered his opinion that not only has our society

changed in that it is more accepting of rude or crude behavior and dishonesty in dealing with one another, but in similar fashion, we, as Freemasons, have followed in lock step, and are dismissive of such behavior, even though it is contrary to the ideals we espouse. This seems to be even more problematic with regard to the misuse of electronic and social media. It should go without saying that if you would be reluctant to say something to a Brother face to face, you certainly should not be saying the same thing or posting such a thing in emails, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or other social media. Remember that once something is posted electronically, it essentially exists forever.

The ideals of our Fraternity have always provided us with a strong and substantial foundation upon which to build. It is up to each of us to honestly reflect on where we are and what we are doing as Masons in order to keep the superstructure of Masonry strong and attractive to future generations of Brothers.



## Be A Booster!

Name Or Lodge \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**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**





*You and a guest are cordially invited to the*  
**2016 Nutmegger Reunion**

Please join us for a wonderful Nutmegger Reunion luncheon at one of five convenient locations listed below. You will have an opportunity to meet and greet Bro. Charles W. Yohe, Grand Master; Barbara Yohe, Wife of the Grand Master; Bro. Howard W. Orr, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Masonicare; and, Bro. Stephen B. McPherson, President and CEO; and to reconnect with many more old friends. All locations will follow the same time schedule. Please use the enclosed registration card to respond by February 14, 2015.

- 10:30 a.m. Registration
- 11:00 a.m. Masonicare Update
- 12:00 noon Greetings - Bro. Charles W. Yohe,  
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 these locations, please contact Rev. & Bro. Carl Anderson at 800-982-3919. Checks should be made out to Masonicare and mailed to Bro. Anderson.*

Keep in touch with your Connecticut Masonic Brothers in the Connecticut Freemasons or on-line at [www.ctfreemasons.net](http://www.ctfreemasons.net).

For exciting events and news from Masonicare, please visit our site at [www.masonicare.org](http://www.masonicare.org).

**FEBRUARY 29, 2016**

Courtyard by Marriott *(New Location)*  
4800 Main Street  
Jupiter, Florida

**MARCH 1, 2016**

7165 Olde Cypress Club  
Treeline Drive • Naples, Florida  
*Hosts: Bro. David P. and Ann Hocking*

**MARCH 2, 2016**

The Meadows Country Club *(New Location)*  
3101 Long Meadow  
Sarasota, Florida  
*Host: Bro. James Rutushni*

**MARCH 3, 2016**

Marion-Dunn Lodge No. 19  
1846 SE 36th Avenue  
Ocala, Florida  
*Host: MW Bro. Norman L. Getchell, PGM*

**MARCH 4, 2016**

Timber Greens Country Club  
6333 Timber Greens Blvd.  
New Port Richey, Florida  
*Host: RW Bro. John L. Blennerhassett, PDD*

***Please respond by February 14, 2016 • We look forward to seeing you!***