

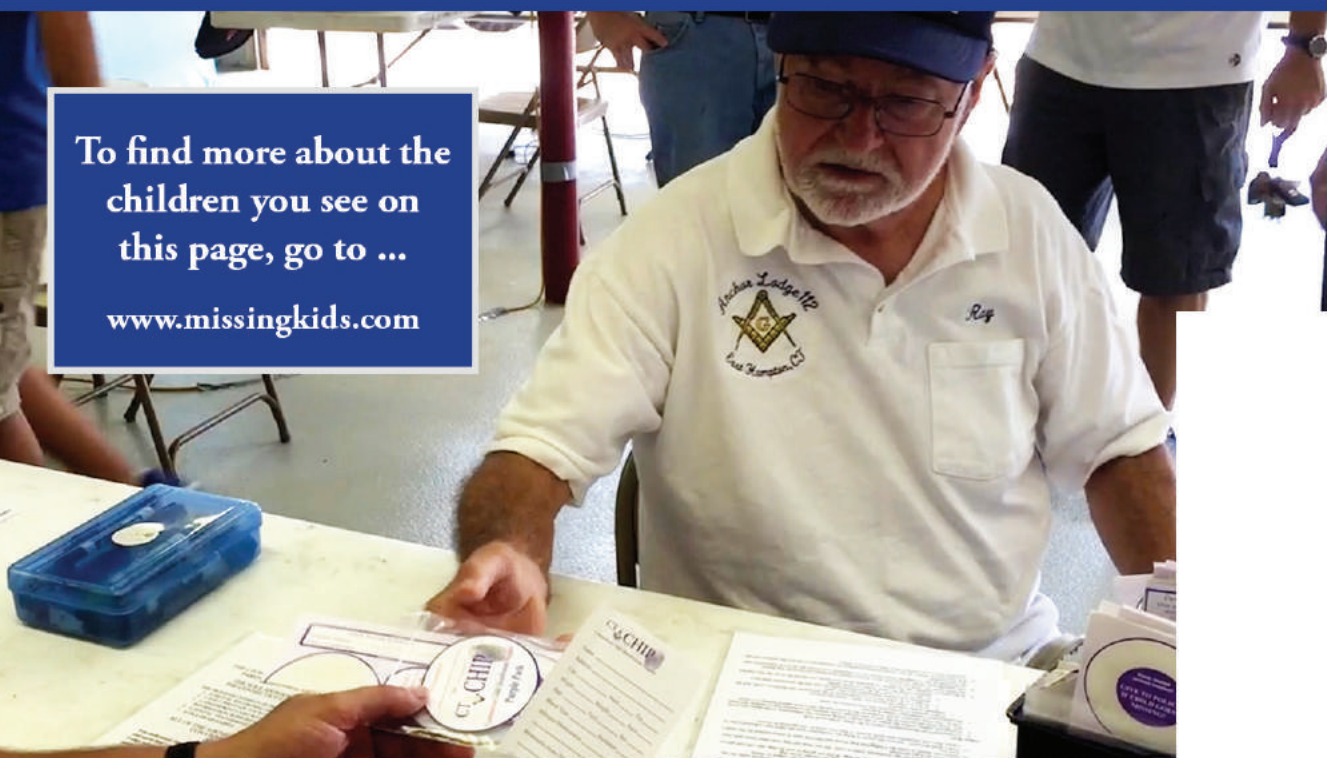
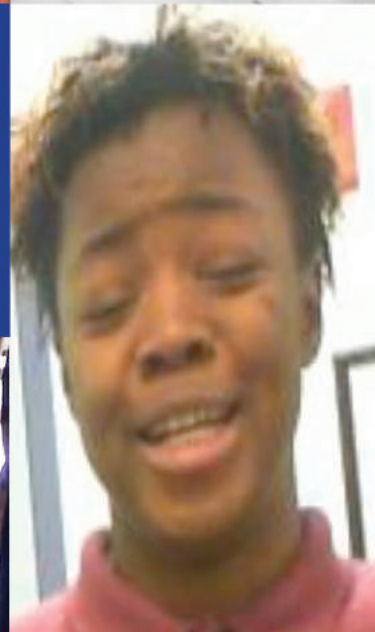


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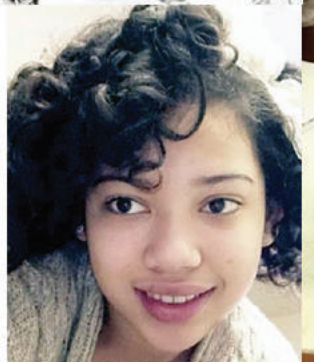
March 2016



CTCHIP
Fifteen Years and 63,000 Kids Later...
HELP US KEEP YOUR KIDS SAFE



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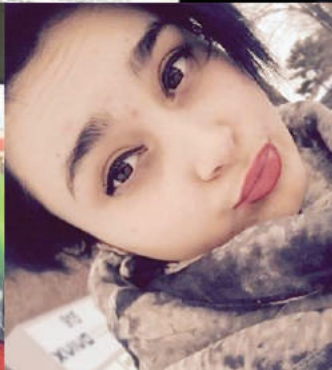
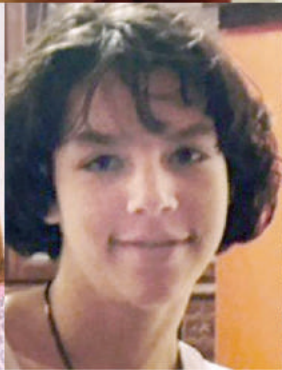


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CTCHIP: Fifteen Years and 63,000 Kids Later...

by Francis G. Way

Most Freemasons in Connecticut, when asked if they know about the CTCHIP program, would probably answer, "Yeah, that's the program that provides identity packets for kids." While they would not necessarily be wrong, there is so much more to the program a teacher might be tempted to give only partial credit for their answer.

The concept of the Connecticut Childhood Identification Program was first brought up in 2001, a program proposed by then RWB Clifford F. "Chip" Stamm, to be implemented in his year as Most Worshipful Grand Master, and part of the initial presentation to the Craft was an excellent talk by Dr. David Harte, DMD, a brother and dentist from Milton, MA. Dr. Harte has spoken often on the topic of lost and missing children, and he was instrumental in creating the Massachusetts Comprehensive Childhood ID program. He has also served as its director.

Dr. Harte's presentation was riveting, and the Connecticut brothers in attendance heard for the first time what it is like for a parent who suddenly realizes that their child has gone missing. Parents must scramble to find information about their child. They need to find a recent photo. Their minds, shifted into overdrive by adrenalin and fear, race to try to remember where their child might like to go, how they get home from school and who they come home from school with, and a dozen other questions that the police might ask.

The solution to that immediate problem, explained Dr. Harte, was the Childhood Identification Program and the packet provided to parents.

The packet would contain everything police might need - a card with vital information, fingerprints, and most importantly, a videotaped interview with the child, an interview that asks very specific questions that law enforcement can make use of in those very important first few hours after a child goes missing.

Dr. Harte related that parents often take the packets on vacation with them. One family, at Disney World, got separated from one of the children. They provided the packet to park security, and though the facial recognition software at the time was not nearly as extensive as it is today,

they were able to use the videotape and software to obtain a location on the child in the park, and all ended well.

Officially, over the years packets provided by the Massachusetts program have resulted in one recovery (sadly, the child was deceased when found) and one rescue. In the case of the rescue, a key piece of information from the interview ("where do you like to go when you want to be alone?") provided law enforcement the clue they needed and the child was found in that place.

Such a powerful presentation
Continued on next page



CTCHIP

Continued from previous page

cemented the idea in the minds of the Connecticut brethren and the program was approved. Funds were appropriated and donated to get the program off the ground and purchase the equipment needed to begin putting the program together. Money was generated from the Grand Masters Appeal and from individual lodges. One lodge, Level Lodge No. 137 of West Hartford, just prior to its merger with Sequin Lodge No. 140 of Newington, donated \$10,000 at the Grand Lodge Annual Session to support the program. Funds also came from individual donors.

In January, 2003, under the chairmanship of RWB Peter Boychuck, the CTCHIP program kicked off in Connecticut. Brothers volunteered, and many returned time and again to help. As RWB Ted Hasty, former CTCHIP program chairman, says, "If a brother does one event, often he will be hooked and keep coming back."

The Connecticut program began by providing a vital information card, fingerprints, dental imprints, and a VHS videotape of an interview. The dental imprints provide dental information that is as unique to each individual as a fingerprint, and also provides enough saliva that DNA can be obtained and search dogs can get enough scent information to begin tracking.

The interview is conducted with the parents standing by, but it is important that the child give his or her own answers. "Where do you go when you want to be alone?" the question that found the child in Massachusetts, is an example of this. The parent may well think one thing, but the child's answer is the one that holds the key.

Over the years, Connecticut's equipment has been upgraded. Videotapes no longer exist for all practical purposes, and mini-DVDs, used for the interviews after the program stopped using VHS tapes, have come and gone, phased out because they never really caught on in the wider world of technology. Now the information is put onto a CD, along

with the relevant software, so that all a police officer has to do is insert it into his or her laptop in the police cruiser. Ultimately, the plan is to replace CDs with USB "thumb drives," an even more convenient solution.

The packets are provided to parents free of charge. Because it is free, and because children grow so quickly, parents are encouraged update the packets each year by attending another CTCHIP event. To date, more than 63,000 children, and even some adults, have been processed at CTCHIP events. Parents have been given the peace of mind that, should the worst ever occur, they are at least equipped with information that can quickly and efficiently begin the process of finding their child. The information contains everything needed to make an Amber Alert, and all the facts that will help law enforcement mount a search. Fortunately, the information has never needed to be used for any child processed through the CTCHIP program.

When CTCHIP began in 2003, it was the only program of its kind, along with Massachusetts of course. It has spread to over thirty states, largely through the efforts of MWB Chip Stamm. But as with any good idea, others have seen the benefits and have implemented their own version. Currently two other major childhood identification programs exist. Amber Alert provides a card with a magnetic strip to families with enough information to create an Amber Alert. Nationwide Insurance has a program that provides ID packets, but, in the minds of some, it is also used as a sales tool, capitalizing on information provided during the identification process. Unlike CTCHIP, neither provide dental imprints, one of the most important parts of the CTCHIP packet.

As with any program that has run so successfully for so long, the CTCHIP program has begun to be taken for granted. Some brothers may think it is an expensive program, but it is not. The packet contents cost a mere \$2.87

per packet. Equipment is upgraded as technology improves, but that is not necessarily every year. And dental imprints are still done the old fashioned way because the cost of the new digital technology is still very high.

The detrimental aspect of this complacency, however, is the lack of volunteers for current CTCHIP events. When the program was new, and brothers were curious, many more brothers came out to help than do today. While the number of events has not lessened over the years, and some events are so popular they recur every year at the same fairs, festivals and expos, the number of Connecticut Freemasons who volunteer to help is much less than in those early years. RWB Ted Hasty explained that often he is the only Mason at an event, and volunteers have to be recruited from whatever group that requested the event - firefighters, police, teachers. And while RWB Ted has had regular volunteers from those groups, and even some volunteers who will drive an hour or more to help, it is disappointing that more Connecticut Freemasons are not helping.

While RWB Ted, current program

Continued on page 28

Upcoming CTCHIP Events

March 19, 2016:

North Haven, CT, Town of North Haven Extravaganza 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. 7 Linsley St, North Haven CT

June 14, 2016:

Vernon Rockille, Family Development Center Health & Safety Fair, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 57 Hartford Tpke, Vernon, CT

Grand Master's Message

As I write this, winter has finally announced its presence in the Northwest corner of Connecticut through several snow storms and cold temperatures. As you read this, I will have just a few days more than a month left in my term of office. As another Grand Lodge year draws to a close, I offer to you my sincerest gratitude for a most memorable and constructive year. It is my sincere hope that I have left Connecticut Masonry better than I found it. Certainly, your Grand Lodge has not been able to solve all the problems that our Fraternity faces, but we've laid a groundwork for moving forward. Just remember, each of you hold the key to Freemasonry's future.

I am enthused by the many good things that are happening under the direction and guidance of the Worshipful Masters of our constituent Lodges. There is much good going on throughout the jurisdiction. Many Lodges have answered the call to establish mentoring programs, and a fair number of Lodges have either created an almoner's position or are attending to their members needs in similar ways. On the Grand Lodge level, the Grand Almoner has been able to render assistance to no less than five members who were in need. Brothers, the joy that comes from relieving a family's worries during times of need far outweighs the money spent to bring relief and a ray of hope into their lives. This is a program that was long overdue and one I hope you will continue to support in the coming years.

As we prepare for the Grand Lodge annual communication, I urge each of you to consider attending the activities at the Cromwell Radisson Hotel on April 10 and 11. Although there will be some business to transact, such as receiving committee reports and voting on several changes to our Rules and Regulations, for the most part this will be a session to celebrate Connecticut Masonry and reward those who have worked so hard in the past year to improve their Lodges, themselves, and the image of our great Fraternity. Each of us owe a debt of thanks to our ladies for supporting us and tolerating the days and nights that we put our efforts into Masonry. So, why not show your appreciation by bringing your wife to the Radisson on Sunday afternoon to attend the program "Cathedrals Built by

the Masons" and then treat her to dinner at the Grand Lodge banquet (tickets in advance only)? Attire for the Brothers is business suit or tuxedo, and for the ladies, cocktail dress or gown. There will be a short, entertaining program and the presentation of a few, well deserved awards and then Brothers and ladies will be free to circulate among the hospitality rooms as they wish. Remember, this is your Grand Lodge and your Grand Lodge session. Enjoy it!

There are those who equate Masonry's decline to the rise of television, and perhaps they are correct. Why? Because human beings love to be entertained. For years, in many of our Lodges, attending was not entertaining. Who wants to come listen to poorly performed ritual, the reading of minutes and the paying of bills and then go home? It's no wonder that attendance dropped off and we failed to continue to attract new members who would remain on our rolls. The biggest industry in America, bar none, is the entertainment industry - and that includes not only Hollywood, but professional and college sports. Why did 113 million people tune in to the Super Bowl? Because they wanted to be entertained. Even the ads, at a whopping \$5 million for 30 seconds, were, for the most part, designed to entertain. So the question is this: "What is my Lodge doing that is entertaining and makes attendance fun?" UCONN women's basketball coach, Geno Auriemma asserts that no one wants to purchase tickets to watch the games if they aren't fun. And he's correct. Why are virtually every one of their games televised? Because they provide entertainment value. What's their secret? They work hard in practice, they are all consummate team players, and they truly have fun in games. What about your Lodge? Are your team members well practiced and prepared? Are your members all team players? Are you doing fun things in your Lodge (and things that include the ladies as well)? The Lodges that are following those simple steps are seeing growth and success. They are enjoyable to attend and it shows in their attendance and participation rates. My philosophy has been that it is not Grand Lodge's place to dictate to the Lodges, but Grand Lodge provides a myriad of support throughout the year in seminars,



materials, and programs designed to help each Lodge improve. Is your Lodge taking advantage of them? If not, why not?

As I said at the beginning of this message, I am truly humbled by the honor that you, the Craft bestowed on me by electing me to serve as your Grand Master once again. It has been an incredible journey and there have been some pitfalls along the way. But the sincere warmth and hospitality that has been shown to Barbara and me throughout the jurisdiction has been second to none. One of the things that I will miss is the monthly opportunity to share with you through these ramblings. But who knows, maybe there will be space in the CT Freemasons from time to time that I can utilize. There are many positive changes occurring within this Grand Lodge and unfortunately, we sometimes fail to adequately communicate that to you. I don't know if communication will ever be perfect, but what I do know is that I am leaving this Grand Lodge leadership in very capable hands. I look forward to the coming years, for greatness is waiting in Masonry's wings and you hold the key to its success!

Remember: Work smart! Work hard in practice and behind the scenes! And above all, have FUN! Show your community the value of Masonry. Work to make your Lodge an organization in which good men want to be members. **YOU HOLD THE KEY!**

Fraternally,
Charles W. Yohe, MWGM

Grand Master's Trestleboard

Tuesday, Mar 1, Nutmeggers Reunion, Naples, FL
Wednesday, Mar 2, Nutmeggers Reunion, Sarasota, FL
Thursday, Mar 3, Nuttmeggers Reunion, Ocala, FL
Friday, Mar 4, Nutmeggers Reunion, New Port Richey, FL
Tuesday, Mar 15, 50-Year Lunch, Wallingford, CT 11 a.m.
Saturday, March 19, Roast for Deputy Grand Master, 6 p.m.
Monday, March 21, 50-Year Lunch, Mystic, CT 11 a.m.

Tuesday, March 22, 50-Year Lunch, Windham, CT 11 a.m.
Wednesday, March 23, 50-Year Lunch, Newtown, CT 11 a.m.
Saturday, March 26, Moosup Table Lodge, 5 p.m.
Monday, March 28, Annawon Lodge Awards Night, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, April 6, St. Andrews Lodge, Winstead, 6:30 p.m.
Sunday April 9 - Monday April 10, Grand Lodge Annual Session, Cromwell

Letter To The Editor

Ed Note: While the CT Freemason paper does not (yet) have a Letters to the Editor column, we did receive the following in response to the "Whatever Became of the Masonry I Once Knew" (Feb 2016) by Kenneth Baril. The author of the letter, Roger L. Crouse, is a Past Grand

Master from Vermont.

Dear Frank,
I read with interest the article in your Feb 2016 issue entitled "Whatever Became of the Masonry I Once Knew," by Bro. Kenneth Baril. I feel the same way, and see the same trends in Vermont. When I was elected as Grand Master

of Vermont in 2013, I put out a General Order that, among other things, addressed three points: dress, ritual and electronic devices. I received complaints about all three.

I have been a Freemason in Vermont since 1969. During that time, dress had degraded from suit or sports jackets and ties to jeans and T-shirts.

I wanted to state in the General Order that Brothers would be expected to wear jackets and ties. I got push back about Brothers coming from work who would not be dressed that way. "It's more important to have Brothers in attendance than to harp on dress." My question is pride in the fraternity. And every Lodge building has a place where a Brother can change. I finally worded it as collared shirt and dress pants. Even then, I got push back.

I have also noticed degradation in ritual to the point that many Brothers, even District Deputies, read their parts. If a candidate sees that, no wonder we lose him. Some argued, "which is better; reading it or stumbling through it and needing several prompts?" My answer: learn it so you don't stumble. An occasional prompt is OK. Yes, it takes time to learn it, but if you are dedicated to the fraternity and want to impress the

candidate, you will find the time. If you do not have the ability to learn ritual, there are many other ways you can contribute to the Lodge.

In today's society, electronic devices are, apparently, a necessity. The Lodge room is no place to be glued to a cell phone. It's distracting to others, anti-social, and can take pictures of the inner workings of the Temple. Complaint: "But I need to use it to check my calendar." Fine. That's during the business portion of the meeting. And the units need to be off or in silent mode. Any calls are taken outside the room. Computers? Secretary and Treasurer only unless approved by the Worshipful Master, like for a presentation.

Obviously, times change, but some things in Freemasonry must remain the same: respect for the fraternity and the Brothers, focus on the happenings, impressing the candidate to name a few. As Bro. Baril states, "Every brother in this great fraternity is an example of Masonry." Being respectful, showing pride in the Fraternity, and being part of the meeting are necessary steps in the right direction.

Fraternally,
Roger L. Crouse, PGM
Vermont

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The Masonicare Experience

Inspiring stories from throughout the Masonicare continuum

WB Harry Bartlett Proud to Support Mission of Masonicare

by Adam Raider

Worshipful Brother Harry Bartlett has lived through some tough times. And in those tough times, he saw how much a helping hand can mean to those in need.

Nonprofit healthcare organizations like Masonicare depend upon the generosity of donors like Harry to continue their work. His recent legacy gift to The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut will help sustain the Masonicare mission beyond his lifetime.

"I had some funds to give, and I wanted to help," Harry explained. "Masonicare takes care of a lot of residents in financial need, and I wanted to do my part to help. I know my gift to The Foundation will help residents who have no funds of their own."

A World War II veteran who celebrated his 100th birthday in 2015, Harry is a Past Master of Federal Lodge No. 17 in Watertown.

"My father was a Mason, so I knew a little something going in," he recalled. "Once I was old enough, I thought I'd join and see what it was all about. I know dad was very happy about it, though he wasn't able to be present when I was raised due to a family commitment."

Fifty-eight years later, Harry credits Masonry for helping make him a better man.

"Whether you're the Master of your lodge or someone who just goes to the occasional meeting," he said, "you can get something out of it. And Masons are the nicest bunch of guys. Good friends. My brothers from Federal Lodge still come to Wallingford to visit me. In fact, 12 of them showed up at our house to move Dot and me to Ashlar Village. They did it all in three hours."

Born in Springfield, Massachusetts, Harry relocated with his family to Connecticut when he was still a child. His father owned a business that produced printing plates,

and it managed to stay afloat - barely - as so many others were forced to close. When money was really tight, Harry's mother sent him and his siblings out into the neighborhood to sell homemade bread, cakes and pies.

"What we earned didn't amount to a hill of beans," he said, "but it taught us the value of things."

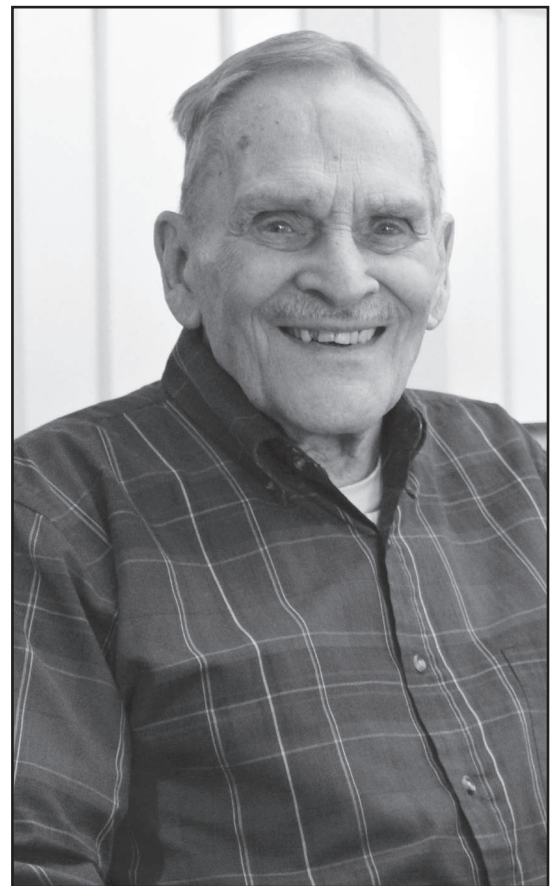
Because they always had a roof over their heads, the Bartletts were relatively lucky. So many other families were not.

"I saw people living in cars or houses made of old cardboard boxes," Harry remembers. "My brother and I would talk to them about what their lives had been like before the Depression. They showed us how they lived. These were intelligent people who had no money, no food, no home, nothing. Sometimes, they'd come around where we lived looking for work or food. Somehow, we knew to trust them. We knew they weren't any threat to us or our property. They were just in trouble, so we helped them."

Harry wondered what it would be like to live, even for just a little while, like those folks he saw huddled around stoves fashioned from old tin cans. So, at 20, he made up his mind to hit the road with little more than his wits and the pack on his back.

"I spent two summers living off the land," he said. "I had no money, so I hitchhiked across the United States with a sleeping bag my mother had made me out of lightweight canvas. It had four zippers on it so I could also use it as a raincoat or a small tent. I slept in hayfields and barns. People would give me rides and put me up for the night. Folks trusted me, and that impressed me. You couldn't do that today."

Harry has been a resident of Masonicare at Ashlar Village for seven years. The spry centenarian credits much of his good health to years of competitive swimming. The home office in his apartment is filled with medals, ribbons and other awards, all



Harry Bartlett

won after the age of 70.

In the same room are prints of the aircraft he serviced (as a crew chief) and flew on (as an engineer) during World War II, along with a jar full of flak from German anti-aircraft guns that ripped through the fuselage of his bomber.

After the war, Harry and his late wife, Dorothea, bought a 20-acre wooded plot in Woodbury, CT. There, they built a house with their own hands. "We did it all," he recalls proudly, "the wiring, the heating, the plumbing, everything. We made sure it was all up to code."

So when Federal Lodge needed a new kitchen, a fire escape, a back door, new wiring, and other updates, you can guess who volunteered his skills.

What Once Was Lost, Now Is Found...

by Francis G. Way, Hospitality
Lodge No. 128

When word came down that the new lodge in Wethersfield would be granted the name of the previous lodge in town, Hospitality Lodge No. 128, the brethren began cataloging the lodge properties from the old Hospitality Lodge in hopes of finding some that would make beginning a brand new lodge a bit easier. Perhaps most coveted by the brethren were the lodge officer aprons and jewels. To a man, the brethren felt that having and using the aprons and jewels would provide a strong link to that lodge that existed in Wethersfield for over 70 years. Much discussion took place as to where they might be and who might have tucked them away, because they were not with the other lodge property. Sadly, the aprons were never found.

The brothers made strict search, even going so far as to make arrangements to search the attic of York Masons Hall in East Hartford, where Silas Deane Lodge No. 147 (formed from Hospitality Lodge No. 128 and Stepney Lodge No. 133) had briefly met after moving out of Wethersfield in 2000. They followed up the more obvious lead of tracking down what happened to any Masonic property of the late Brother Bill Gilman, former Secretary of Hospitality Lodge No. 128. The word on the street was that anything he might have had was in his barn, but his barn had been torn down, and anything in it had probably been carted off for scrap.

When Hospitality Lodge No. 128 was chartered on March 14, 2012, the charter officers, all Past Masters, Past AGMs, or Past District Deputies, had no lack of aprons, and the mix of color and form from that night has persisted throughout the life of the young lodge.

Now entering its fifth year of existence, Hospitality Lodge has discussed, from time to time, purchasing a set of officer aprons. For whatever reasons, the discussions never progressed much farther than a brother getting price



Worshipful Master Lawrence S. Elsner, Treasurer Larry S. Baker, and Senior Deacon Francis G. Way pose in their Hospitality 128 officer aprons.

quotes. For whatever reasons? Or perhaps fate was just waiting to deal its hand.

Near the close of their Stated Communication on Wednesday, February 10, Worshipful Master Lawrence S. Elsner indicated to the craft that he had something he wanted to show the lodge. Clearing space on the Secretary's desk, he placed a battered blue suitcase on it, and told the Craft that when Secretary Matt Griffin had attended the Secretary's seminar in December, the suitcase had been there, waiting for him, with a note attached indicating it was for the lodge.

WB Elsner opened the suitcase, and members of the lodge were stunned to see not one, but two sets of Hospitality Lodge No. 128 officer aprons, along with a set of officer jewels on blue cords, and the original imprint seal of the lodge. Truth be told there was a disagreeable effluvia emanating from the case, a musty, almost sickeningly sweet smell one brother later likened to that of pumpkins, bad pumpkins on the verge of rot. But the effluvia did not deter one or two brothers from immediately seeking out and putting on the apron of their office.

The note attached to the suitcase was read to the lodge: "John Green of Rocky

Hill was cleaning out his house and had this suitcase of Masonic aprons in it along with an imprint seal. Items belonged to William and Gertrude Gilman. Lodge: Silas Deane 147."

Hospitality Lodge No. 128 and Stepney Lodge No. 133 surrendered their charters in 1997 to form Silas Deane Lodge No. 147. The Hospitality aprons were hidden from the world for nearly 20 years, and more recently feared lost forever. Now, they are back where they belong.

No brother in attendance was familiar with John Green, and who he might be, or what his connection to Brother Bill Gilman was, but the Lodge would like to extended a heartfelt thanks to him for passing along that battered blue suitcase. It has made many brothers very happy.

The officers of Hospitality Lodge No. 128 will have the aprons cleaned, and as one set is newer, may set aside the older aprons for safekeeping. No matter which set they wear, however, they will cherish the legacy from the past, worn by worthy brothers who have gone before, and will wear them with equal pleasure to themselves, and honor to both incarnations of Hospitality Lodge No. 128.

Grand Historian's Corner

by Gary A. Littlefield

During the Anti-Masonic period in Connecticut, lodges sometime met at homes of Brothers or simply did not have a place to call home. Lodges were often still meeting in taverns. The lodge at South Woodstock, called Putnam Lodge No. 46, met for a time at Bowden's Tavern on Woodstock Hill. It was a convenient place for public activity because the town's stocks and public whipping post were close at hand. The tavern was originally built for Asa Bishop about 1782. An interesting story appeared in a 1951 article in the Connecticut Square and Compasses which stated that Worshipful Brother Rensselaer Child was deputy sheriff and often applied the lash at the whipping post. Students from Woodstock Academy were marched out to witness the punishment which might have served as a lesson to those impressionable students. It is believed that some of the first meetings of Putnam Lodge were held at Bowden's Tavern but they were specials as the lodge was actually chartered in Pomfret. In 1827 the Grand Lodge gave permissions to hold regular communications in Woodstock and the lodge alternated between the two towns. There was a hall built sometime around 1830 which was known as Bowden's Hall and lodge meetings were held there for several years. Woodstock Hill was a hot bed of anti-Masonic feeling during the era known as the Morgan Episode but William Bowden did not falter from his Masonic teachings or divert his allegiance to the fraternity. He taught his son George Bowden to still give use of the hall to the lodge although we do not have any record of George Bowden joining the fraternity.

By the mid-1950s the house was owned by a descendant of William Bowden, Brother Hamilton Holt, who was a retired professor at Rollins College in Florida. In the 1830s it was Putnam Lodge that met at Haskell Stand in Pomfret. Records indicate it was located at the intersection of what is now Route 101 and 93. When Larned Haskell passed away in 1848, the lodge had to find a different place to meet.

Connecticut lodges have given gifts to lodges in other jurisdictions. One such example is chronicled in 1951 when Level Lodge No. 137 presented a set of officers jewels to Dror Lodge in the grand jurisdiction of Israel. Brother Abraham J Feldman, rabbi of Beth Israel Temple in West Hartford, visited Israel in 1950 and visited some lodges there. Dror Lodge had inadequate officer's jewels and Brother Feldman, with the help of Level Lodge, collected contributions from around the area toward a set of officers jewels to be sent to the lodge. The jewels were suitably inscribed on the reverse and this deed of fraternal friendship was something that Level Lodge could be proud of for years. It is also interesting to note that in 1929 when Level Lodge first started, space in the old Hartford Masonic Temple was at a premium and open evenings, the lodge held its first meetings at the Commandery Armory amid swords and other implements and they were forced to use borrowed jewels. Brother Feldman served as Chaplain of the lodge for nearly five decades, probably a record



in Connecticut.

The year was 1782 and Cornwallis had surrendered at Yorktown. The Connecticut companies, along with several other units, started to enjoy some necessary leave. American Union Lodge was showing little activity and often the records show "No business transacted". Some members were advanced but there were few new Masons made. It was stated by RW Jim Case, who looked at some of the old records of American Union Lodge, that the last recorded St John's day observance by the army lodges was a joint meeting of Washington and American Union Lodge at West Point in June of 1782. The attendance was 25. The orator of the day was Colonel John Brooks who went on to become Governor of Massachusetts. There were no minutes of the event, only references, so we can only speculate what was happening on that day. Samuel Holden Parsons, a Past Master of AUL retired from the army and became to embark on a civilian career. The lodges that were so active before the war still remained dark, notably those in New London, Guilford and Norwich. Over the course of the next fifteen years, lodges would become active again in these communities as men returned home for good and wanted something to occupy their time at night after the chores and work was done. They were not men to just sit around. They wanted to be active. Who said history isn't interesting.

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Ark Lodge No. 39 Installation of Officers

On January 13, 2016, Ark Lodge No. 39 in Danbury installed their 2016 officers. This installation was notable in that it was attended by past, current and future Grand Masters.

Incoming Worshipful Master James Saraceni, visibly touched by the support and enthusiasm of brethren friends and family in attendance, commented, "I sincerely want to thank all of you for being here tonight, especially my wife for all of her ongoing support." He continued, "the brothers of Ark 39 feel honored to have MWB Charlie Yohe, MWB Tom Maxwell

and MWB Gail Smith with us."

The colors were presented by a Knights Templar Color Guard commanded by SK Charles McCollum. MWB Yohe served as Installing Master and MWB Maxwell as Installing Marshall.

Ark Lodge No. 39 meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 337 Main Street, Danbury. Visiting brethren are always welcome."

MWB Maxwell, MWB Yohe, WB Saraceni, MWB Smith



St. Peter's Lodge No. 21 Celebrates Robert Burns Night

by Ricky McDonnell

On Friday, January 22, the Freemasons of St. Peter's Lodge No. 21 celebrated Robbie Burns Night, remember Scotland's 18th century poet laureate.

Jeanette McDonnell cooked a succulent haggis, steak or chicken pie, tipsy laird dessert and cheese and crackers. An ample supply of Famous Grouse scotch whisky was available to wash it all down.

The evening was graced with the presence of the Grand Master, several Past Grand Masters, and members of the Grand Lodge line. MWB Charles Yohe gave the Immortal Memory, MWPGM Thomas Maxwell gave the toast to the lassies with his wife Nancy giving the response. MWPGM Roger Read, RWB Ted Nelson, RWB Marshall Robinson, RWB John Simpson and RWB Creighton

English enjoyed the evening as well.

Finally, the evening also served as St. Peter's Lodge's third annual fundraiser

for Loaves and Fishes of Mildford, and \$1,000 was raised for that cause..



Piping in the Haggis

Waterbury Lodges Combine for Winter Clothing Drive

by Chris Martinelli

On Saturday, January 24, Liberty-Continental Lodge No. 76 and Harmony Lodge No. 42 came together to host their second annual Winter

Clothing Drive for Make-A-Home Foundation. The foundation will distribute the clothes directly to homeless residents of Waterbury. Homeless veterans will have priority in gratitude for their service to our country. Any

leftover clothing will be given to a family in Bridgeport who was displaced by a fire in their home.

Donations came to the lodges directly from residents of Waterbury and filled six huge tables. The

event was endorsed by Mayor Neil O'Leary and the City of Waterbury and was featured on NBC30 News by Heidi Voight, herself a former Rainbow Girl of Milford Assembly No. 4.



Widow's Son Lodge No. 66 Holds Ladies Night

by David Cole

To paraphrase a song... "though the weather outside was frightful, inside was so delightful." On Monday February 15, Widow's Son Lodge honored their ladies. The poor weather outside (snow, ice, and rain) did decrease attendance and some plans were scaled back some but the men who

showed up did not skirk from their duties. The intention was to show the women in their lives how important they are. This was done and everyone who came had a great time and enjoyed each other's company. A toast was also given to RWB Roger Cole and his wife, as well as to RWB Len Bucher and his wife who celebrated their wedding anniversary the day before.



RWB Len Bucher and his wife, fresh off celebrating their wedding anniversary.

Point - Counterpoint: Sequin Level Takes on Friendship in Darts



by Steve Gorman

What's the point? Well, actually, many points to be made. Darts. Two dozen brothers of Friendship Lodge No. 33 of Southington and Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140 of Newington met in mortal

combat on Sunday, January 24, in their billionth quasi-annual darts competition: the Willis Schroeder - Robert Tatters Dart tournament. This year's gladiatorial event was hosted by Friendship, Worshipful Master Dave Stribling presiding, as the Southington brethren were

defending their title.

This annual occurrence commemorates the memory of the late Brothers Schroeder and Tatters, both of whom were avid dartists. This is a winter classic challenge cup series; meaning that any lodge may challenge the reigning champion. However, to date, the trophy has only gone back and forth between Sequin-Level and Friendship. This year, the brethren of Friendship were successful in fending off the challenge from Sequin-Level and have retained the championship token until the next challenge.

In addition to the competition, the twenty four brothers enjoyed a feast assembled by the expert culinary teams of

the two lodges; along with ales and spirits sufficient to the enhancement of the day and within due bounds of circumscription. Noble contention served with a victual spread of post-holiday viands and wassail potation.

Pictured here are WB Bob Bailey of Sequin-Level and MWB Gary Arseneau of Friendship, each locked in on their respective targets. Brother Walter Brideaux of Sequin-Level is judging at right while the trophies in the foreground await the results of the engagement. In the center-top of the photo that the darts are caught in mid-flight en route toward prospective bulls-eyes.

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Food, Fellowship, And A Little Bit Of Pork at Village Lodge No. 29

by Jason Black

On Sunday, January 24, RWB Larry Elsner and his longtime friend Joe Grella taught a class to the brothers and their families on how to make sausages. More than 25 people attended the class, and this was the day after the region's first big snow storm of the year!

The class provided a hands-on overview to making four different kinds

of sausage, including mixing ingredients, grinding the meats, stuffing the sausages into casings, and, of course, cooking. Attendees from four area lodges enjoyed a morning of brotherhood, laughter and good food. The sausages that were prepared included breakfast sausage, Italian hot & sweet sausages, and kielbasa.

Everyone who came to the event left totally stuffed!



RWB Larry Elsner (knife in hand) and his fellow cook Joe Grella, demonstrate sausage making to a hungry crowd.

New Lodge Seats Generate CTCHIP Donation

by Arnie Grot

The Brothers of Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 knew where to find theater seats for their new Lodge Building in Manchester. In the 1970's Daskam Lodge No. 86 acquired seats from the Bushnell Theater when their new seats were installed.

Daskam Lodge and

Columbia Lodge No. 25 merged in 1995 and the seats were stored in Columbia's basement after the Daskam Lodge Building at 2639 Main Street in Glastonbury was sold in 1998. Friendship Tuscan Lodge sealed with deal with a \$200 donation to CTCHIP, and moved the seats to their new building at 24 Golway Street in Manchester.



WM Dennis Bellamy of Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 tries one of the newly installed seats. Silver tags with names of Daskam brothers can be found on the arms of many of the seats.

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

James H. Alley	Acacia Lodge No. 85	James E. Jordan Jr.....	Coastal Lodge No. 57
Everett J. Anderson	St. Alban's Lodge No. 38	Harold D. Keeler.....	St. Andrew's Lodge No. 64
Wesley R. Anderson Jr	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11	William F. Kent.....	Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4
Byron B. Aubrey	Union Lodge No. 5	John Leonard.....	Madison Lodge No. 87
Charles S. Beach.....	St. Andrew's Lodge No. 64	George F. Loomis.....	Federal Lodge No. 17
John W. Beebe	Madison Lodge No. 87	Elmer F. Manley	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89
Samuel I. Bernstein	Union Lodge No. 31	Paul D. McGinnis Jr.....	King Solomons Lodge No. 7
Robert A. Brayton Sr.	Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4	Donald T. McGinniss.....	Union Lodge No. 40
Bennett R. Burke	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14	Thomas S. McGrath	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140
Robert P. Castriciano	Wolcott Lodge No. 146	John E. Mills.....	King Hiram Lodge No. 12
Albert A. Church Jr.....	Unity Lodge No. 148	George Moskowitz.....	Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14
Raymond T. Clouse	Madison Lodge No. 87	Kenneth J. Mulcahy.....	King Solomons Lodge No. 7
Henry M. Cooney Sr.....	Madison Lodge No. 87	Michael P. Mullin.....	Brainard Lodge No. 102
Warren F. Crofoot III..	America-St. John's Lodge No. 8	Eugene J. Radliff	Union Lodge No. 31
William L. Cruise.....	Widow's Son Lodge No. 66	Charles R. Root.....	Village Lodge No. 29
Robert E. Currier.....	Composite Lodge No. 28	Edward F. Ruff.....	Columbia Lodge No. 25
William A. Daniels	Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145	William G. Schaen	Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116
Thomas E. Dennis	Washington Lodge No. 81	Samuel Schulman.....	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140
James F. Dewolf	Brainard Lodge No. 102	George E. Shoemaker	Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3
Robert W. Flavell	Columbia Lodge No. 25	Joseph Simone.....	Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3
Wilfred Fletcher.....	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89	Edward H. Singly.....	Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107
Albert Gabor.....	America-St. John's Lodge No. 8	Robert A. Songhurst.....	Ansantawae Lodge No. 89
Harold N. Geer	Wooster Lodge No. 10	Charles W. Squires Jr.....	King Solomons Lodge No. 7
Harold Greenberg	Wooster Lodge No. 10	Richard M. Stebbins Jr.....	St. Peter's Lodge No. 21
Hayden L. Griswold Jr	Manchester Lodge No. 73	Donald G. Steiner.....	Compass Lodge No. 9
Sergei M. Guden	Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3	Stephen M. Straight.....	St. Peter's Lodge No. 21
Everett L. Gyngell Jr	Ionic Lodge No. 110	Benjamin M. Tashjian	Valley Lodge No. 36
Everton W. Haines Jr	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140	Frederic P. Tozzoli.....	Manchester Lodge No. 73
Charles W. Hill Jr	Ionic Lodge No. 110	Johannes E. Von Mecklenburg	Union Lodge No. 5
James W. Hopper.....	St. Paul's Lodge No. 11	Ransom L. Wright.....	King Solomons Lodge No. 7
Charles J. Innes	Unity Lodge No. 148	Paul Zieky	Sequin-Level Lodge No. 140

Tax Return Assistance Offered at Masonicare Health Center

by Sandy Potter

Masonicare is hosting a site sponsored by the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), which offers free tax help to households earning \$53,000 or less or who cannot prepare their own tax return.

Tax returns are prepared by IRS-certified volunteers. The service is open to the public. Tax returns will be prepared by appointment only. The site is open on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (last appointment) and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (last appointment).

The service runs through Friday, April 9, 2016. The site is located in the Walker Dorm conference room at Masonicare Health Center. Please call the Masonicare helpline at (888) 679-9997 to schedule an appointment.



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From the desk of Bro. Stephen B. McPherson

President & CEO of Masonicare

Like him or not, Bernie Sanders has made the subject of "single payer" or "Medicare for all" an issue in the race for the White House. This is not a Republican or Democrat issue; as history shows, the first national health proposal was put forth by President Theodore Roosevelt. Other Presidents who have raised the public debate include Nixon, Carter and Clinton. President Obama compromised by passing the Affordable Care Act, which many feel is a first step towards national health care.

The real debate should be over what health insurance covers and how. Ironically, what we really have today is a system of "sickness coverage," not health coverage. Comparatively speaking, precious few dollars are spent on preventative care.

For example, you may have heard of "Money Follows The Person" - a Federal program designed to provide incentives and care for nursing home patient to

leave the nursing home and go back to their community. While well-intentioned, this misses the larger point: we should be spending our dollars on providing social, health and other services in the community to delay or prevent altogether the need for a nursing home stay.

Almost since our beginning, Masonicare has been in the forefront of this effort. How? Our full continuum of care is designed to keep residents and patients in the setting that maximizes their potential. Through our assisted living services, our licensed home care company as well as Masonicare at Home and our physician practices, we are working to keep people safe wherever they live.

All in Connecticut Freemasonry



should take pride in this. While some of our services are paid for by "health" insurance, and some by self-paying residents, others are made possible through the generosity of giving to The Masonic Charity Foundation. The Foundation's bi-annual Quality of Life Walk is scheduled for Saturday, May 14 at Great River Park in East Hartford. The back page of this issue of Connecticut Freemasons has more information. I invite you and your friends to participate. The Walk raises important dollars that help Masonicare provide care and services to those in need. Walking is also good for us and helps us stay healthy!

Sincerely and fraternally,

A blue ink handwritten signature that reads "Steve".

St. Alban's Lodge No. 38 Senior Deacon Goes All In

by Lawrence Anvik

St. Alban's Lodge No. 38 in Branford has a "secret weapon" in the form of John Kelley, the Senior Deacon in 2016. Brother John brings some special skills to bear that amaze and impress those who see his work. He is a craftsman in the original sense of the word and he utilizes his technical skills and his design talents to craft various items for the lodge.

His first contribution came in 2013 when he noticed that the lodge didn't have a proper Marshal's baton. Without asking anyone, or being asked, he designed one from scratch

and presented it at lodge one evening without fanfare. It is a beautiful addition to the lodge regalia. In 2014 he was asked by the WM to design a lodge pin. The result was a truly beautiful design incorporating King Solomon's Temple. In 2015 he designed and built a magnificent pyramid-shaped cigar humidor with masonic symbology and phrases on all sides, several drawers and a hygrometer.

However this year John went all in. He designed and constructed a magnificent, large and original Fellowcraft degree mat. He drew it from the perspective of a candidate in the center of King Solomon's Temple.



In fact to truly appreciate the work one has to stand in the middle of the mat and look around. The effect is quite dramatic.

The Fellowcraft mat project took

Continued on page 18

18° Knight of the Rose Croix - Love Is The Law

by John A. Amarilios,
Membership Chairman,
membership@lafayetteconsistory.com

On Monday April 25, the Pequonnock Chapter of the Rose Croix will present the 18°, "Knight of the Rose Croix" at the Leo Lohrman Scottish Rite Theatre in Stratford. This is a profound degree which adds to the lessons of the 17°, and which should be studied carefully for it alludes to the ways and means of accomplishing the awakening and transformation of the Master Mason, so that a Brother can effectuate real change in his environment and in those who he comes into contact with..

We live in a very materialistic society, one in which the ordinary man is constantly bombarded by messages exalting pleasure, luxury, self gratification, material goods and wealth. Indeed, men in general are judged by their attainments in such realms. Furthermore, well placed and

financed commercial interests make sure that men desire to solely keep their eye on such matters, and that they judge others in light of such transitory fashions. As a result of this never ending bombardment of such messages and the vacuous values which derive therefrom, the true Light has dimmed for most of today's humanity. All men must rediscover, if they are to awaken to their greater human potentials strengths and abilities, how to rise above this stultified mass of pseudo values.

Some men come through the doors of our Blue Lodges, professing the desire to improve themselves in Masonry. How many succeed in remembering this erstwhile lifetime goal? How often are we so self absorbed with our mundane lives, ignoring or even resenting the need of others whose existences we suspect of delaying or sidetracking us? How many times have we seen the proverbial trail of emotional and physical wreckage left behind by those who consider nothing

but their own selfish desires? Assuredly, all such behavior leads to consequences - none of it good..

The degree reminds the candidate to practice virtue, to labor unselfishly and to unceasingly help humanity rise above the morass of vices, and to help purify it.

It teaches the Law that must be applied to every circumstance and situation in Life: namely - The Law of Love.

This is the Law which the Nazarene promulgated to all of humanity. It is the law that must be applied by any individual, but more so a Freemason who seeks to truly improve himself by awakening the "Master Within." Diety works in amazing ways, and most every day of our mundane existence allows us opportunities to express and implement this law in our perhaps, seemingly tiny and uncelebrated existences.

The law expresses itself through the virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity. I would contend that Tolerance is a form of expression of the law as well. When we further graft all these values on to the uniquely Masonic virtues of brotherly love, relief and truth, as we previously taught in our Symbolic Lodges, we have a lifestyle template which is assured to have beneficial and

positive consequences for us, and for those around us, if we assiduously apply to it.

The degree is embedded with symbolism which is explained during the degree. It is a masterful exposition of a very simple Law, which unfortunately humanity has had immense trouble abiding by. If we are to collectively effectuate change to a society lost in the thrall of dark self centered materialism and egotism, we must awaken to the Law, implement the law in our daily lives, and act as models to others. This is the mission and opportunity that each Knight of the Rose Croix takes to heart and attempts to execute on a daily basis, in order to influence the people who fall within his penumbra. Think globally, work locally - this is important work that every Knight should take to heart and struggle to make second nature every day.

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



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Committee on Legal Matters

Amendment to Section 2113 - Duties of the Grand Secretary.
April 2016

Discussion:

The proposed amendment would reduce the required hardbound copies and eliminate the distribution of paper bound copies to the permanent members, committees and lodges given the proceedings will be published in searchable PDF format within the member section of our GL and within the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Library archives where all of our other proceedings have been digitized. The objective is to reduce operating costs of GL which include considerable staffing time, printing and shipping costs associated with publishing and distributing the proceedings. The proposed amendment would add a publication deadline.

Current provision - in part:

After each annual communication, he shall prepare and cause to be printed the proceedings thereof, including the previous Semi-Annual and all special communications, in sufficient quantity to enable distribution to each of the Lodges, and to the officers, standing committees, permanent members, Sister Grand Lodges, and others as directed by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. Distribution to Sister Grand Lodges will utilize appropriate electronic format and medium. They will be available to others in this format on request. The Grand Secretary shall have bound and preserved not less than four (4) copies in hard cover format and two (2) copies in electronic format each year for archival and library purposes. The Proceedings may also be posted on the Grand Lodge website in electronic format (such as .pdf) for access by parties of interest.

Change to read as follows:

Subsequent to the Annual Communication, but prior to December 31st of the same year, he shall prepare and

cause to be published the proceedings thereof, including the proceedings of the previous Semi-Annual and all Special Communications of Grand Lodge occurring subsequent to the Annual Communication of the preceding year and ending with the current Annual Communication of Grand Lodge. The Grand Secretary shall have printed and

bound three (3) copies of the proceedings in hard cover for the library, the Grand Master for the year of the proceedings and archive. The Proceedings shall be posted on the Grand Lodge website in searchable electronic format (such as .pdf) for access by parties of interest.

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\$20.00 in advance; \$25.00 at the door – Tickets will be available on April 1st, see subsequent notices for details.

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Deacon Goes All In

Continued from page 15

nearly a year to design and construct, with several starts and re-tracements along the way. The work was drawn first on tracing paper, then transferred onto a large 15 foot by 12 foot piece of blank canvass using a slide projector to assist the hand tracing. Due to the large size of the mat, and the intricate nature of the artwork, only 1/4 of the design could be projected at once. After the artwork was successfully transferred, John hand painted every square inch. The project required two gallons of white paint, one gallon of black paint and several black sharpies to finish.

The final product was revealed to the lodge by surprise at the 2016 Installation of Officers in January. Everyone was suitably impressed with the quality of the work and grateful for the time and skill John brought to bear on this project. The mat was first used for a Fellowcraft degree on February 16, and will undoubtedly be used for years to come.

When John is not working on blue lodge projects, he is active in York Rite, Scottish Rite and the Seekers of the Light Masonic motorcycle club. He also looks after his two young children, John and Elizabeth, and is the Laboratory Supervisor at the University of New Haven's Tagliatela College of Engineering where he teaches manufacturing techniques to young

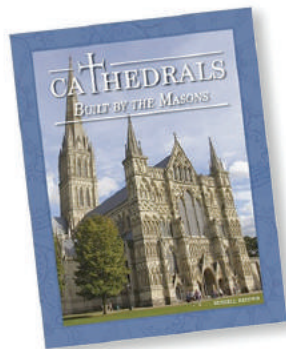
engineers. St. Alban's to have John Kelley as a lodge can't wait for his next Lodge No. 38 is very lucky member and officer. The surprise!

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on April 10, 2016

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3 PM to 4 PM:

Presentation on Cathedrals Built by the Masons by Brother Russell Herner, Grand Lodge of Ohio

4 PM to 5:30 PM:

Free time to visit hospitality suites and prepare for Grand Lodge Banquet

6 PM:

Grand Lodge Banquet (Stuffed Chicken Breast), Entertainment by Carnac, Awards (Business Suit or Tuxedo for men. Dinner Dress for ladies)



9 PM: Hospitality suites and Fellowship/Camaraderie

For Hotel Accommodations, contact the Radisson Hotel at 806-635-2000 and reference the Grand Lodge of Connecticut to receive the special rate.

I/We will attend the Grand Lodge Banquet on April 10, 2016. Please reserve _____ meals at \$35.00 each. Please make checks payable to Grand Lodge of CT and send to address below. (Vegetarian meal available upon special request.) _____

_____ dinners @ \$35.00 = \$ _____ enclosed.

Name(s): _____

Return with payment by March 18, 2016 to:

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Grand Lodge Session Coordinator
P.O. Box 250
Wallingford, CT 06492**

An Epic Table Lodge

by Patrick G. Trainor

Not since 1996 had Brainard Lodge No. 102 held a tiled Table Lodge, and never for District 8 had all Masters, Officers and Brothers representing all Lodge attended such a Table Lodge. Every officer station was manned by a sitting Master, and in a few cases their Warden. Worshipful Brother Jim Moran developed the idea, it was shared with the other Masters in the district, and together they brought the Craft elbow to elbow with all of the elected Grand Line Officers, and the Grand Senior Deacon.

The Lodge was opened on the Entered Apprentice Degree, with the Altar in its rightful position and the Lesser Lights all set in the center of the dining hall. For mood, nothing beats candlelight, and coupled with the language of old, the ceremonies were somehow more profound and more inspiring.

While the traditional guide called for



The chef and stewards.

a single speaker, WB Jim decided to let each Master address the Craft after his delivered toast. He led the charge by pointing out Brainard's own Secretary Emeritus, WB Ken Wade, congratulating him on the golden anniversary of his term as Worshipful Master in 1966 and gave him a hand carved a wooden plaque in his honor.

The Niantic Masonic Hall was at capacity with two long rows of tables with brothers on one side facing in, capped by the Grand Line's head table, and with the entire hall lit solely by candles and wall lights. While originally scheduled for eight Toasts (with a hidden one at the end for the kitchen & wait staff), there were several "counter toasts" in addition, and even so the cannons were never dry. The wait staff gave quick, immediate attention to the guests, and equipment to serve such a large event was donated by the Lodges, as was most of the food.

Speaking of food, even with Grand Master Charlie Yohe and his Grand Line officers in attendance, the eight fantastic courses were the stars of the evening. The kitchen was organized and guided by a professional chef, Bro. Maurice Cruz and the wait staff, led by Bros. Timothy Padua and James Gilstrap with the support of the Stewards of the other seven lodges, was totally efficient.

No course was served cold with the exception of the ice cream. When the festivities were taking longer than expected, the chowder was returned to

Continued on page 21



Wine cannon



WB James Moran, Jr. Brainard Lodge No. 102



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD SERVICE

March 1, 2016

To Prospective Board Members:

By this notice, the Board of Trustees of Masonicare hereby issues a Call for Nominations of candidates for election to the Board of Trustees of Masonicare. In addition, Masonicare requests nominations for candidates for its appointment to the boards of its affiliates: Masonicare at Ashlar Village, Masonicare at Home, Masonicare at Newtown, Masonicare Health Center, Masonicare Home Health & Hospice, Masonic Management Services, and The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut. Nominees need not specify in which board they are interested in order to be considered for service. Interested individuals can request a Nomination Application by completing and returning the attached questionnaire.

Applications should be submitted and post-marked to me no later than May 15, 2016. Applicants will be contacted to schedule interviews.

Nominees should have qualifications in business, corporate leadership, finance, law or medicine, which qualify them for board service. Candidates should be aware that board members assume fiduciary duties with respect to their service, and that violation of these duties can entail personal liability. Service on our boards requires a considerable time commitment, varying with the needs of each corporation. While Masonicare's board is comprised of those who are specifically members of the Masonic fraternity or related appendant bodies, affiliate board membership may also contain qualified members of the local community.

MASONICARE is the Parent Corporation of our system, and all nominees must be members in good standing of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, with the exception of three who shall be members in good standing, and appointed one each

from The Grand Chapter of Connecticut, Order of the Eastern Star; the Order of the Amaranth, State of Connecticut; and Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F. & A.M. of Connecticut. The Board of Trustees is composed of no less than twelve but no more than fifteen members. Three seats must be filled annually by members in good standing of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, through the nomination and election process. The term of service on this board is three years, commencing in November 2016.

The term of service for each of the following affiliates of Masonicare is one year, commencing in November 2016.

MASONICARE AT ASHLAR VILLAGE has a board of at least seven, but no more than fourteen, members and governs Masonicare at Ashlar Village, our continuing care retirement community and assisted living facility, Pond Ridge.

MASONICARE AT HOME is a provider of personal care and companion services, mobile health technology and continuing care retirement services to Connecticut residents in their homes. A board of at least three, but no more than nine, governs Masonicare at Home.

MASONICARE AT NEWTOWN, our skilled nursing facility in Fairfield County, complete with rehabilitation services and Lockwood Lodge, an assisted living facility, is governed by a board of at least twelve, but no more than sixteen, members.

MASONICARE HEALTH CENTER provides a full continuum of services including skilled nursing, rehabilitation, acute hospital unit, psychiatric services, independent living as well as various outpatient services. The board is composed of at least twelve, but no more than sixteen, members.

MASONICARE HOME HEALTH & HOSPICE, our home healthcare provider is the largest provider of

home health care services in the State. Masonicare Home Health & Hospice is governed by a board composed of at least seven, but no more than fourteen, members.

MASONIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES provides management services and consultation to healthcare providers in various areas of operation, and includes management of independent medical practices and psychiatric services to long-term care facilities. A board of at least three, but no more than six, members governs Masonic Management Services.

THE MASONIC CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT safeguards and nurtures the system's assets, including the Endowment Fund, and houses our planned giving and development efforts. A board of at least seven, but no more than nineteen, members governs the Foundation.

The board seats which are not filled through this nomination process will be filled through the appointment of cross-directors from the parent corporation board, through the appointment of the corporation's Senior Administrator to the board, through the appointment of residents to the board, and/or through the appointment of an officer of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Connecticut, to the board. Please feel free to address any questions you may have regarding this process to Stephen B. McPherson, President and CEO, 203-679-5000.

Thank you for your assistance and participation.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Howard W. Orr, Chairman
Nominating Committee

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION FOR BOARD SERVICE

Requests for a Nomination Application can be completed by returning the attached request. Once completed, the form can be sent to Howard W. Orr, Chairman of the Masonicare Nominating Committee, via U.S. Postal Service to the address listed below; by Facsimile to 203-679-5001; or you may send the information electronically to DRoemmele@masonicare.org. A Nomination Application will be sent to all applicants for completion. The Nomination Application may be returned via U.S. Postal Service, Facsimile, or electronically. Please indicate your preference.

Howard W. Orr, Chairman
Masonicare Nominating Committee
Masonicare
22 Masonic Avenue, P.O. Box 70
Wallingford, CT 06492

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Day Phone Number: _____

Evening Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: _____

I would prefer the application to be sent to me via: _____

We Welcome Our New Brothers to the Fraternity

Daniel M. Levine.....Frederick Franklin Lodge No. 14	Ryan O. WarnerShepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78
Nelson C. Leon.....Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34	Kerry C. BrownMadison Lodge No. 87
John J. Wisniewski Jr...Somerset-St. James Lodge No. 34	David J. MillingtonAnsantawae Lodge No. 89
Gary Graha.....Valley Lodge No. 36	Mauricio E. CruzBrainard Lodge No. 102
David WoodsValley Lodge No. 36	Steven FrancoBrainard Lodge No. 102
John D'Aversa.....Harmony Lodge No. 42	Richard L. Feld.....CornerStone-QuinebaugLodgeNo.122
Johnnie K. Tolson.....Harmony Lodge No. 42	Jon FaasenSequin-Level Lodge No. 140

Thomas Gutner Named Administrator at Masonicare Health Center

by Margaret Steeves

Masonicare is pleased to announce that Thomas M. Gutner has assumed the position of Administrator at Masonicare Health Center, the 375-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation center in Wallingford. The campus also includes an outpatient rehabilitation suite, two hospital units specializing in the care of seniors, GI and endoscopy services, a hearing center, a residential care home and 93 over-55 rental apartments.

A licensed nursing home administrator, Mr. Gutner has been with Masonicare since the 1980s, serving for many years as Administrator of their Newtown campus.

The announcement was made by Jon-Paul Venoit, Chief Operating

Officer of Masonicare, who noted, "Tom is passionate about senior care and collaborative leadership. He has seamlessly stepped in after nearly two years in a Masonicare consulting arrangement with Evergreen Health Care Center in Stafford Springs."

Mr. Gutner has his undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University, master's from George Washington University, and his long-term care administration certification from the University of Connecticut.

A West Hartford resident, Mr. Gutner is serving his second term on the Connecticut Commission on Aging. He has held officerships in the Connecticut Assisted Living Association and the Institute for Senior Living Education. He is currently serving as Secretary on the Board of the Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce.




Table Lodge

Continued from page 19

the pot to ensure it was hot at each table.

The memories of the evening, however, aren't of the food, who said what toast, or how good the chili was. The memories are those of having a served, sit down service with real implements, napkins, and smiling Brothers. For most, it was the first time they had witnessed an actual Masonic Feast, the kind that used to be commonplace.

Three cheers goes out to all who attended and a heartfelt thanks to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and other Grand Lodge officers for their support and fellowship. If you haven't been to a Table Lodge in a while keep an eye out for one in your lodge, district or around the state. The concept of a Masonic Feast, is alive and well among the Craft.


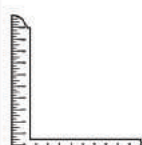
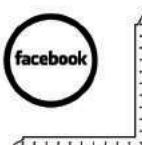


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Jason E. Morse
203-414-6968
jason@eastboundwoodworks.com



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

MARCH 2016

01	ME		F	Keystone 27 RA, Meriden. PM & MEM deg, 7 pm
01		MP	U	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford
03-04	ME		F	Grand Chapter RA of NY
04-05	ME	MP	F	Grand York Rite of NJ
08		MP		Wolcott 01 SM, East Hartford
08			F	Franklin 02 RA, New Haven. Past & Most Excellent Master degs
09		MP		Pythagoras 17 RA, East Hartford
10	ME		F	Joseph Andrews 46 RA, West Haven. Royal Arch Mason deg
11-12	ME	MP	F	Grand York Rite of DE
15		MP	U	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford
15	ME		U	St Elmo 09 KT, Meriden. Order of Temple. Dinner 6:15 p
18	ME		U	New Haven 02 KT, New Haven. Order of Malta (full). Dinner
19		MP		RWDGM Roast, Hartog Center
22		MP	F	Montgomery 02 SM, North Windham
23		MP		Pythagoras 17 RA, East Hartford
23	ME		F	Crawford 19 SM, Branford. Royal Master deg
25	ME	MP	U	New Haven 02 KT, GOOD FRIDAY, Order Temple, 12 m. Lunch
25			U	Washington 01 KT, East Hartford. Order of the Temple, 2 pm
27	ME	MP	RE	HAPPY EASTER !!!
27	ME	MP	U	Grand Cdry KT of CT. EASTER Service, MHC Chapel, 8 am

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

COMING UP

1-3 APR Grand Commandery KT of CT. Sheraton Hartford South, Rocky Hill
 10-11 APR Grand Lodge AF&AM of CT. Cromwell
 3-4 JUN Grand Chapter RAM of CT & Grand Council R&SM of CT. Meriden



ELECTIONS REMINDER

With Annual Meetings coming up in Chapters and Councils, the Companions are reminded that dispensations will be needed for a High Priest or Thrice Illustrious Master to serve a third consecutive year in office. This is new for Chapters, enacted at the last Grand Session, but unchanged for Councils. Word to the wise!

DEADLINE HAS CHANGED

Note that the deadline for submission of items for inclusion in Opportunities has moved up to the 8th of the preceding month. This is necessary because the Connecticut Freemasons newspaper has changed its deadline to the 10th 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.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE

Committee Chairman James McNeely has revised the Educational Assistance applications for 2016, and they are now posted on our website (see below). Copies have also

been sent to every Chapter HP and Secretary.

FROM MEGHP EPPLER

The Holy Royal Arch is the principal degree of the Chapter, where the goal of receiving the long lost Master's Word is achieved. There are two challenges in conferring this degree. First, setting up the veils and other equipment, and using them properly, requires a lodge room of substantial size. The second challenge arises from the fact that there are three substantial parts to be filled - High Priest, Captain of the Host, Principal Sojourner, plus the lecture.

I am pleased to see Chapters successfully addressing these challenges. In December Rittenhouse Chapter moved to Danbury Masonic Hall, which has the proper sized room. In March Pulaski Chapter is working to confer the Holy Royal Arch at Joseph Andrews Chapter, which has a suitable lodge room, and with some help from Joseph Andrews and Halleck Chapters. On January 22nd, Columbia Chapter conferred the Holy Royal Arch, with the help of a couple Companions from Pythagoras Chapter.

Thus my Companions, if we work together, all Chapters can participate in conferring the Holy

Royal Arch degree!

FROM MPGM SEAMON

Greetings, my Companions; It looks like the last part of my term as Most Puissant Grand Master will be a sprint to the finish. March and especially April will be very busy with all the Grand Sessions coming up. Our own Grand Lodge Session will be April 11th, please be there if you can and greet our own Companion and Sir Knight Gail N. Smith who will be installed as our Most Worshipful Grand Master. Lets also not forget Most Worshipful Grand Master Charles W. Yohe for the leadership he has displayed this year. Our Grand Master has been there all year to support York Rite. I wish all the incoming Council Officers the best for this Cryptic year! May your terms be productive and fruitful.

YORK RITE WEBSITES

Grand Chapter RAM of CT:
<http://yorkrite.org/gcramct/>
Grand Council R&SM of CT:
<http://yorkrite.org/gcrsmct/>
Grand Commandery KT of CT:
www.knightstemplar.org/gckt/ct
Common to all three YR bodies:
www.yorkrite.com/ct

Masonicare participates in American Legion Mid-Winter Conference



The group from Masonicare; Sharmon French, Marie Roman, and Mike Menta (Vet to Vet Volunteer for Masonicare Partners Home Health & Hospice)

information about our home health and hospice services, especially those supporting veterans at end of life. In addition, Marie Roman, Supervisor of Counseling Services for Masonicare Partners Home Health & Hospice, gave an informative presentation to the group about our involvement in the 'We Honor Veterans' program. And, one of our Vet to Vet Volunteers, Mike Menta, provided invaluable Veteran Volunteer outreach.

For more information about Masonicare's Home Health & Hospice services and programs, please call 800-528-6664. If you're interested in becoming a volunteer at Masonicare, please visit our website at: <https://www.masonicare.org/about-masonicare/Pages/Volunteer-Opportunities.aspx>



Marie Roman presenting We Honor Veterans at the American Legion winter conference.

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

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING MORE IN MASONRY?

Applications for the upcoming Scottish Rite Class are now being accepted...

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

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

by Sandy Potter

Masonicare's Home Health & Hospice recently attended the Connecticut American Legion's Mid-Winter Conference. The event, open to local veterans, attracted nearly 300 people. The American Legion is the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization. It's a nonpartisan, not for profit group chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

Masonicare staff was on-site providing

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



Couples enjoy dancing at the Pre-Valentine's Day Dinner Dance.

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

On January 18, 2016, the Valley was saddened to learn of the passing of Treasurer Emeritus Ill. Brother Allan E. Acker, 33°. His devotion to our Fraternity, as well as his personal help to me as Secretary, and his friendship over the past 12 years will be deeply missed. Ill. Brother Al also served as Treasurer for the Scottish Rite Foundation.

The Valley's Scottish Rite calendar resumed on January 30, with a joint Family Life event with the members of the Sphinx Shrine. Those that attended the Pre-Valentine Dinner Dance, although not a sell-out crowd as had been hoped, enjoyed the meal, and the music of *Sapphire*. The event was attended by member of Sphinx Shrine, the Valley of Hartford, members of Lafayette Consistory as well as the Valley of Norwich. It truly demonstrated that brotherhood is alive and thriving.

The degree schedule resumed in February as casts and crews returned to labor. The Charter Oak Lodge of Perfection, under the direction of Brother Frank Dlugoleski, M.S.A., portrayed the 4th and 12th degrees. The Hartford Council Princes of Jerusalem, under the

direction of Bro. Walter Grube, M.S.A., portrayed the 16th degree in a banquet format.

The spring schedule concludes on Thursday, March 10 with the portrayal of the 18th degree by the members of the Cyrus Goodell Chapter of Rose Croix. All are invited to a pre-degree dinner at the Shrine facility at 6 p.m. for an All-You-Can-Eat Buffet dinner. Advance reservations are, of course, required. The cost of the meal is \$12, when paid in advance; \$14 with a reservation not paid in advance; and \$16 at the door without a reservation. If you are not sending in a check, e-mail or call the valley office since the reservation deadline is Tuesday, March 8.

The Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, NMJ, has designated November 12, 2016 to be an all jurisdictional Consistory Day. On that date all Valleys in the jurisdiction will hold special events that commemorate the day, including, but not limited to portraying the 32nd degree. Deputy for Connecticut, Ill. Brother Bruce T. Work, 33° has selected Lafayette Consistory to be the host Valley. While still somewhat tentative, the plans are to hold a special program for the ladies during the portrayal of the degrees followed by



dinner and dancing at a nearby hotel.

Save Thursday June 2, for the Valley of Hartford's Family Picnic. Details will be forthcoming. All who attended last year had a great time with awesome food and fun entertainment.

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

**Our 2016
Spring Schedule**

Thursday, March 10
18° @ 7:30 p.m.
Pre-degree dinner available @ 6 p.m.
advance reservations required

Thursday, March 31
Submission Deadline
Scholarship Applications,
both Abbott and Valley

*For more information about becoming a member
of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite,
or to receive a copy of a Scottish Rite
informational DVD....*

Contact David Blythe Sr., 33°, Valley Secretary,
Valley of Hartford AASR
(860) 666-0712 Email: sect@snet.net
www.valleyofhartford.org

Fifty Year Masons - 2016

Bryan Fowler - Jephtha 95.....	March 8, 1966	Louis Thavenet Jr. - Coastal 57.....	June 9, 1966
Ernest R. Norman - Moosup 113.....	May 22, 1966	J. Lawrence Tanenbaum - Day Spring 30	June 11, 1966
Richmond G. Shuttleworth - Friendship Tuscan 145..	January 6, 1966	Richard E. Blake - Corner Stone-Quinebaug 122	June 11, 1966
Laurence R. Smith Jr. - Village 29	January 11, 1966	Richard E. Backe - Washington 81	June 13, 1966
Paul R. Fleisher - Union 31.....	January 13, 1966	Frederick H. Cook Jr. - Friendship 33.....	June 13, 1966
Walter G. Wyllie Jr. - Corinthian 63.....	February 7, 1966	Ronald J. Erickson - Manchester 73.....	June 21, 1966
John J. Clarke Jr. - Somerset-St. James 34	February 16, 1966	Jack G. Fuller Jr. - Unity 148.....	June 21, 1966
George W. Starkweather - Friendship Tuscan 145.....	February 21, 1966	Robert S. Zimmer - Hiram 1.....	June 23, 1966
Robert G. Palifka - Washington 70.....	February 22, 1966	George E. McPherson Sr. - Coastal 57	June 24, 1966
Robert C. Jones - Composite 28.....	March 1, 1966	Richard A. Levitsky - Fayette 69	June 27, 1966
Robert S. Gardner - Corinthian 63.....	March 2, 1966	Frank E. Penny - Coastal 57.....	June 29, 1966
Jimmy A. Waters Sr. - Union 31	March 3, 1966	Norman E. Holiman - Union 31	July 7, 1966
Robert D. Hayes - Moriah 15.....	March 9, 1966	William F. Mayr II - Jerusalem 49.....	July 22, 1966
Kenneth D. Rockefeller - Unity 148	March 15, 1966	Donald L. Smith - Federal 17	September 17, 1966
John N. Clark - Ansantawae 89	March 15, 1966	R. Dennis Gray - Manchester 73.....	September 20, 1966
Charles L. Clapper - Columbia 25.....	March 16, 1966	Charles T. Curtis - Composite 28	September 22, 1966
Donald L. Disbrow - Day Spring 30	March 16, 1966	Gerald A. Chase - Center 97.....	September 28, 1966
Tord R. Johnson - Widow's Son 66	March 16, 1966	Kermitt M. Miller - Evening Star 101	October 10, 1966
Arthur A. Peterson - Friendship Tuscan 145.....	March 18, 1966	Robert L. Hirtle Jr. - Sequin-Level 140.....	October 12, 1966
Robert L. Tygart - Seneca 55.....	March 19, 1966	Richard T. Rolfe - Annawon 115	October 14, 1966
Franklin R. Daigle - Frederick Franklin 14	March 21, 1966	Silvio J. Zanni Jr. - Solar 131	October 17, 1966
Gerald D. Shearer - Washington 19	March 21, 1966	Charles R. Johnson - Compass 9	October 17, 1966
Franklin U. Heffelfinger - Washington 19.....	March 21, 1966	James V. Cesario - Corinthian 63.....	October 18, 1966
David G. Cheney - Composite 28	March 21, 1966	Peter G. Taylor - Harmony 42.....	October 20, 1966
Joseph W. Tabarrini - Corinthian 104.....	March 22, 1966	Edward P. Sanderson - Coastal 57	October 21, 1966
James E. Lathrop - Shepherd-Salem 78.....	March 24, 1966	Allen J. Strauss - Trumbull 22	October 22, 1966
William Senk Jr. - Fayette 69.....	March 26, 1966	Robert E. Greaves Jr. - Wolcott 60.....	October 22, 1966
Victor R. Plagge - Manchester 73.....	March 26, 1966	George A. Falk - Meridian 77.....	October 24, 1966
Paul Gianaris - Friendship 33.....	March 28, 1966	James R. Spencer Jr. - Center 97	October 26, 1966
William G. Ober - Washington 19	March 30, 1966	Allan A. Newton - Friendship Tuscan 145.....	October 27, 1966
Robert A. Cannon - Ansantawae 89	March 30, 1966	John V. Bottass - Housatonic 61	October 27, 1966
Norman C. Anderson - Hartford Evergreen 88	April 11, 1966	Robert B. Burdon - Granite 119	October 29, 1966
Thomas J. Tatoian - Shepherd-Salem 78	April 12, 1966	Walter R. Driggs - Village 29.....	November 8, 1966
Richard E. Ruot - Fidelity-St. John's 3	April 13, 1966	John R. Franklin - Corinthian 104.....	November 8, 1966
Frank K. Forster - Union 40	April 19, 1966	Nils C.I. Hokansson - Valley 36	November 9, 1966
William F. Bennett - Uriel 24.....	April 23, 1966	Richard W. O'Brien - Ashlar-Aspetuck 142	November 9, 1966
Carlton R. Csiki - Uriel 24.....	April 23, 1966	Lee J. Loftus - Ansantawae 89	November 11, 1966
J. David Paulsen - Wyllys-St. John's 4.....	April 25, 1966	Joseph Csiki Jr. - Uriel 24	November 12, 1966
Thomas C. Hofstetter - Temple 65.....	April 28, 1966	Henry Barrachina - Washington 19.....	November 14, 1966
Richard H. Nicol - King Solomons 7.....	May 9, 1966	Charles A. Van Horn Jr. - Frederick Franklin 14	November 14, 1966
David A. Hosmer - Putnam 46	May 12, 1966	Ernest A. Frey - Washington 70.....	November 14, 1966
Roger D. Larson - Washington 81	May 12, 1966	Raymond D. Whitten - Anchor 112	November 14, 1966
James R. Shaw - St. Andrew's 64.....	May 13, 1966	Gail N. Smith - Ionic 110.....	November 16, 1966
Arthur F. Butzgy - Wyllys-St. John's 4	May 16, 1966	Donald A. Hammar - Meridian 77	November 17, 1966
Harold E. Jones - Montgomery 13.....	May 18, 1966	Karl J. Van Valkenburgh - Valley 36.....	November 19, 1966
Robert O. Anderson - Warren 51	May 19, 1966	David J. Levine - Sequin-Level 140	November 21, 1966
Stuart M. Smith - Cosmopolitan 125.....	May 20, 1966	Oliver W. Nash Sr - Estuary 43.....	November 21, 1966
Charlie W. Bozeman - Brainard 102.....	May 21, 1966	Richard J. Urso - Madison 87	November 22, 1966
Gordon E. Harmon - Village 29	May 24, 1966	Gregory Topalis - Somerset-St. James 34	November 22, 1966
Roger M. Daboll Jr. - Brainard 102.....	May 24, 1966	George N. Lewis - Frederick Franklin 14.....	November 22, 1966
Charles E. Autry - Ionic 110	May 25, 1966	Kent S. Lloyd Jr - Hiram 1	November 22, 1966
Allan T. Sagraves - Sequin-Level 140.....	May 26, 1966	Arthur A. Goto - Day Spring 30.....	November 23, 1966
Lowell H. Cantor - Annawon 115	May 27, 1966	Herbert H. Case - Village 29	November 23, 1966
Harry O. Amberg Jr. - Putnam 46.....	May 28, 1966	Laurence E. Hangland - Washington 81.....	November 28, 1966
Cartwright P. Spencer II - Day Spring 30.....	June 1, 1966	Stanley M. McFarland - Manchester 73.....	November 29, 1966
Joseph H. Golembiewski - Hiram 1	June 2, 1966	David R. Gaston - Columbia 25	November 30, 1966
Kenneth E. Block - Harmony 42.....	June 2, 1966	Frank R. Matthews - Ansantawae 89.....	December 2, 1966
Michael E. Herman - Sequin-Level 140	June 2, 1966	Richard Storm Jr. - Ark 39.....	December 7, 1966
Vern F. Capen - Composite 28	June 3, 1966	Alan S. Chamberlin - St. Andrew's 64.....	December 7, 1966
Robert B. Banks - Estuary 43.....	June 6, 1966	Ferd E. White - Compass 9.....	December 19, 1966
Walter S. Risso - Union 40	June 7, 1966	Stewart M. Yontef - Cosmopolitan 125.....	December 21, 1966
Charles Baldis - Valley 36	June 8, 1966	William F. Lott - Ashlar 332.....	December 30, 1966
George C. Fatsy - Fidelity-St. John's 3	June 8, 1966		

The Master of Memory

by Chuck 2.0 Landau

Brother Jeremy Ladd Cross was born to working poor parents, in Haverhill New Hampshire in 1783. Receiving only a minimum of education, he apprenticed to a hat maker and learned his trade in cloth and felt. These skills would become valuable when he started his Masonic apron and regalia business in New Haven in 1818. But his major contribution to the Craft was not in sewing cloth together, but in unifying the Masonic Rituals of his day into the present Preston-Webb ritual used in Connecticut and most states, other than Louisiana. Both through his illustrated The True Masonic Chart or Hieroglyphic Monitor, 1819, his The Templars Chart, 1820, and frequent Lodges of Instruction held throughout the young United States, his influence is present in modern Lodges and ritual. The images he created with his partner, Brother Amos Doolittle, remain a cherished part of our heritage and often displayed in our Temples.

Brother Cross was raised June 6, 1806 in St. John's Lodge No. 1, Portsmouth, NH. He found the ritual there fragmented, with frequent disagreements among the Past Masters as to ritual and interpretation. Frustrated, he raised enough money from the Brethren to travel to Providence and study with the American expert in William Preston's Masonic ritual work, Thomas Smith Webb. Imagine his despair when he arrived, and Brother Webb was too busy! Limiting his Lodges to less than ten Brothers at a time, Webb had too many students. After great efforts, Cross convinced the great lecturer to include him among his students, including such famous Masons as Benjamin Gleason, Henry Fowle and John Barney. His amazing memory allowed him to repeat verbatim anything he

heard, and like a human tape recorder, he never varied. Thus, he was the ideal teacher to bring uniformity to the rituals being practiced in the various Lodges of the various United States.

Some Lodges had evolved from the English Modern Lodges, some from the British Ancient Lodges, some from Ireland, Scotland, French and German Lodges. Some had mixed in "High Degrees" now

removed to the York Rite and Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. Others were mixing in religious elements or politics, especially around the time of the Civil War. Many of these issues would not be resolved until the Baltimore Convention of 1843. But that resolution would have been impossible without the ground work laid by Jeremy Ladd Cross.

Having been certified in

Masonic Ritual by Webb, he became the Grand Lecturer of New Hampshire. He moved to Connecticut and affiliated with Hiram Lodge No. 1 on Nov 5, 1818. In Connecticut he was authorized to instruct Brethren in ritual and appointed Grand Lecturer from 1820-1823. Brother Cross was honored as Acting Grand Junior Deacon at

Continued on page 34

Come On Out and Enjoy Roasting Our R.W. Deputy Grand Master, M.W. Gail N. Smith!

Saturday, March 19, 2016
Ashlar Village
Hartog Activity Center
Cheshire Road
Wallingford, CT

Social Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.
Dinner ~ 7:00 p.m.
\$35.00 per person

Ladies and non-Masons are invited.

Those who may wish to "roast" Gail, please
contact Bill Greene at 860-989-4240.



~ Menu ~

Choice of One Entree:

- ~ Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon
w/Citrus Lemon Butter
- ~ Filet Mignon w/Fried Leeks
& Burgundy Sauce
- ~ Stuffed Breast of Chicken
w/Red Wine Sauce
- ~ Grilled Vegetable Ravioli
w/Pesto Cream Sauce

Served with:

Garden Salad ~ Bread & Butter
Coffee/Tea

Twice Baked Potatoes
Roasted Baby Carrots

Dessert: Chocolate Cake w/Raspberries

Cash bar available.

RESERVATION FORM. Please enclose a self addressed envelope for return of tickets.

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Select entree and enter quantity for each reservation.

_____ Atlantic Salmom _____ Filet Mignon

_____ Breast of Chicken _____ Vegetable Ravioli

_____ x \$35.00 ea = Total Enclosed \$ _____

RESERVATIONS BY MARCH 14, 2016.

No tickets sold at the door

Make checks to **Ionic Lodge No. 110**
and mail this form with your check to:

William L. Greene, M.W.P.G.M.

**1726 South Street
Coventry, CT 06238-3224**

Tel: 860-989-4240

CTCHIP

Continued from page 4

chairman RWB Peter Boychuck (back for another stint as Chairman), and other brothers who promote and run the CTCHIP program might be disappointed, it should be the concern of every Freemason reading this that such lack of volunteer effort could be hurting the image of the fraternity. It is not hard to imagine one of those firefighters, police or other volunteers wondering why, if the Freemasons are sponsoring the program, there are so few there to help out? That might not be the message that the fraternity wants to send.

It is hoped that the inclusion

of volunteering at a CTCHIP event as one of the activities available to complete the Perfect Ashlar program will serve to increase the number of volunteers at events. It is also hoped that raising general awareness of this quiet program that just hums along successfully will help as well. It takes no training to participate. Everything a volunteer needs to know is taught in a few minutes, on the spot, at an event. The only station at a CTCHIP event requiring trained personnel is the dental imprint station. Brethren must take a short course, but often a registered dental hygienist is available

and, of course, they require no training.

When a program is successful for so long brethren naturally assume that other brothers must be taking care of it, and keeping it running. In the case of CTCHIP, that is not the case. A few dedicated brothers are keeping it running, but with huge personal effort on their part. It is time for all Connecticut Freemasons to step up and help these brothers with this great program.

Fifteen years ago the Freemasons of this state decided to make a difference and help families should one of the worst possible real life

nightmares ever befall them. While the CTCHIP program may have fallen off many brothers' personal radar a bit, it is still going strong, still doing its job, and it still needs the help of every Connecticut Freemason. The next time you hear about a program near you, take an hour or two of your time to go down and help. The kids are fun, their parents are grateful, and you really will get a great satisfaction from having helped. And oh, they often have pizza and donuts too!

Garibaldi Club News

by Bruce Padula

At the regular stated dinner communication of the Garibaldi Masonic Club held in February, several brothers were initiated and became members of the Club. One of the newly elected members, Brother Joseph Pisani of Harmony Lodge No. 42 in Waterbury, presented the Club with

the flag of the Grand Orient of Italy. The membership was truly surprised and thoroughly delighted to receive such a great gift. It will be displayed at all future meetings.

The Garibaldi Club has been in existence since 1932. It is possibly one of the oldest, if not the oldest Masonic Club in continuous existence in our

Grand Jurisdiction.

The Club is open to Master Masons. It meets on the first Wednesday of each month for good food, beverages and fellowship.

If you are interested in attending please call me for more details (203-228-4447). You will certainly not regret it and certainly not go home hungry. Hope to see you there.

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Book Review Robert's Rules of Order, Masonic Edition

by Charles B. Fowler, Jr.

Robert's Rules of Order - Masonic Edition, by Michael R. Poll, copyright 2005
Cornerstone Book Publishers,
Charlottesville VA, ISBN 1-887560-07-6

For those Masons who love the intricacies of parliamentary law, this book will be of significant interest. For most Worshipful Masters and Lodge Officers, however, it is far too complicated to be of much use. Few Lodges operate on such a formal basis as is described in excruciating detail in this work. Indeed, Connecticut Grand Lodge Rules and Regulations, Section 3217, specifically states that the Master is NOT bound by parliamentary rules, but that they are useful as guides for governing a Masonic Lodge. Reading this book will, however, serve as a refresher to the basics of parliamentary procedure. It is probably most useful as a guide to the phraseology which the Worshipful Master should use to state the question, put the question and to handle amendments and debate. The section on voting is also valuable.

To avoid encroaching on the current revision of Colonel Robert's seminal work, the author has reverted to an early edition which is now in the public domain, and has modified it for use in a Masonic Lodge. In addition to 150 pages of discussions on main, incidental, privileged and subsidiary motions, rules of debate, order of business, etc., there is appended a listing of the Prerogatives of the Worshipful Master, a suggested Order of Business, a listing of Mackey's 25 Landmarks and Roscoe Pound's comments thereon.

What I found to be missing, although it is incorporated throughout the book, is a concise listing of those of the original Robert's Rules which do NOT apply in a Masonic Lodge, such as the motion to adjourn or motions which encroach upon the prerogatives of the Master such as naming the membership of a committee or to limit debate or to change the order of business.

Lodge Officers should familiarize themselves with the basic principles of parliamentary procedure so that they can efficiently preside over their Lodge

without getting into trouble. Too many do not appreciate the power and authority of the Worshipful Master and acquiesce when other "authorities" in the Lodge tell them what to do. Once that happens, the Master has lost control of his Lodge and should probably close it so he can go home and brush up on his knowledge of his prerogatives as well as parliamentary procedure. Lacking any other Masonic edition, this book will serve that purpose.

No matter how complicated things seem to get, it is well to remember that the Master has the authority to put a question

before the Lodge without waiting for a motion, that he may restate or reword a motion if he deems it necessary to make it clearer to the brethren, and that his principal responsibility is to preserve order and dignity while ensuring that the brethren at all times understand that on which they are voting. Frequent use of the "General Consent" method will expedite matters immensely - i.e. ask if there are any objections, and if none, declare the measure to have been adopted.

Widowers Support Group

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

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the Month

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

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

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

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

Cost: No charge.

Availability: Open to the public.

Registration/Information:

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

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

www.masonicare.org

Masonicare
Home Health & Hospice



Connecticut Freemasons Have the Power to *DONATE LIFE*SM



Why Do We Do The Things We Do? - And Other Organ Donor 'Stuff'

by Richard F. Denno

The question comes from a line in the award winning musical, Man of LaMancha. After more than seven years, your Masonic Organ & Tissue Donor Awareness Program has found some of the answers.

A few years ago, my beautiful wife, Midge, and I ate breakfast at Lottie's Restaurant, a popular Glastonbury eatery. Seeing my Donate Life pin (don't leave home without one,) a mother and daughter who work there told us of their experience with Donate Life.

"My son was working with a road crew on a state highway. A man with a history of seizures, who had no business behind the wheel of a car, had a seizure, jumped a guard rail and killed my son," she said.

Being a registered organ/tissue donor, his organs were recovered so that others may live. A woman received his heart. In some cases, either the transplant recipient of the donor's family may reach out to the other. The organ recipient writes a letter to the donor family, omitting their name.

It is sent to the local organ procurement organization The organ procurement organization then forwards the letter to the donor family. If the donor family wishes to correspond or meet the recipient, arrangements are made.

When the recipient of her son's heart walked into the restaurant, she asked the mother to extend her open palm. The woman then placed it on her chest and said, "Do feel this? It's your son's heart, beating in my body. Without his kindness, I probably wouldn't be here today. Thank you so much."

One question we often hear at lodge presentations is how old or young someone can be and still be an organ/tissue donor? In Connecticut, someone as young as 16 years old may register as a donor, without parental consent. However, if death occurs before age 18, parental consent is required for organ recovery and transplant. After age 18, the permission of parents is not required. This requirement varies from state to state. Regarding registration of older individuals, there is not an age

limit. People in their 70's and above, provided they are in excellent health, have been donors. Our late MWPGM Bob Stika was an organ donor later in life. Our committee was formed and started during his year as Grand Master. For his kindness, we are eternally grateful.

Donor registration at the DMV is still the most popular method of registration. It is done when you apply for or renew your driver's license. You can also register online at www.newengland.org. This allows you to register in memory of a loved one. It also provides a box to check off how you heard of the program. Be sure to check off the Freemason box! By going to the website, you will find answers to many of your questions. There is also a telephone listed, should you need further assistance.

April is Donate Life Month. What is your lodge doing to help save lives? To find out more, email me at toursone@comcast.com.

Remember, 'Don't Take Your Organ to Heaven - Heaven Knows We Need Them Here!'

*Wishing a
Happy
Birthday*

To our March Birthday Brothers

- Harold A. Elwell
- Avery J. Gaddis
- Joel T. Grenier
- Paul B. Iltchenko
- Eric J. Malafrente
- Harry E. Needham III
- Bruce Padula
- Angelo P. Russo
- Walter H. Sherman III

Harmony Lodge No. 42

531 Highland Ave, Waterbury Ct.

Thursday, March 17, 2016

St Patrick's Day

Master Mason Degree

Join us as we raise
Brother Eric Bogert
&

Brother Michael Palmerie Jr.

*Traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage
Dinner at 6:30*



Recent Events

*M.W. Brother Tom Maxwell
discusses the Connecticut Masonic
Scouters Association with his lodge
Brothers.*



Harmony Masonic Trivia from Historian, Brother Bob Dorr

In January, 1909, Harmony 42 Brother George L. Libbey submitted his resignation from the office of Congressman to the recently elected Governor - Himself!!!

Masons Helping Children at Connecticut Kids Fair

by Donald M. Casey, Jr.

Masons from Pyramid Shrine Temple and Tuscan Lodge No. 17 F&AM, PHA, participated in the 12th annual Connecticut Kids Fair in Hartford, CT. The Pyramid Shrine Temple Clowns dazzled patrons at the fair with balloon artistry, while collecting donations to assist needy children receiving medical care at the Shrine Hospital.

Brothers from Tuscan Lodge No. 17 also ran a Connecticut Child Identification (CTCHIP) Program at the fair.



Clowns from Pyramid Shrine and Brothers from Tuscan Lodge No. 17 combined to help kids attending the fair and in the Shrine Hospitals.

Seventy-Five Year Masons in 2016

William Ledewitz.....	Cosmopolitan 125.....	December 2, 1936
Frederick G. Raymond	America-St. John's 8	March 14, 1939
Charles H. Toifl.....	Center 97.....	April 9, 1941
Ward E. Wiltse Jr.....	Sequin-Level 140.....	October 29, 1941
James H. Murphy.....	King Hiram 12	November 4, 1941



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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.

Tuesday, Mar 1, Day Spring, Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments*

Wednesday, Mar 2, Ansantawae, Lodge No. 89, Milford, Mason Night @ OAH, 7 p.m. *Orange Ale House, 517 Boston Post Rd, Orange, CT 06477*

Wednesday, Mar 2, Cosmopolitan, Lodge No. 125, New Haven, 7:30 p.m., *Beer Tasting of English Ales*

Thursday, Mar 3, Brainard, Lodge No. 102, Niantic, 8th District Breakfast, 9 am, *Groton Townhouse Restaurant Rt 12 Groton*

Thursday, Mar 3, Bay View, Lodge No. 120, Niantic, 8th District Breakfast, 9 am, *Groton Townhouse Restaurant Rt 12 Groton*

Friday, Mar 4, Annawon, Lodge No. 115, West Haven, 3/4 Fellowcraft Club, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 5, Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield, Pancake Festival, 7 am

Sunday, Mar 6, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, Masters Round Table & Field Day, 8 am, *Join our Master for breakfast and help clean up our*

home

Monday, Mar 7, Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4, West Hartford, Wyllys-St. John's 2016 Table Lodge, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 8, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments*

Wednesday, Mar 9, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, Hiram's Cafe, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 10, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, Work Detail - 24 Golway St, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 12, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, St. Patricks day Dinner, 6:30 p.m.,

Saturday, Mar 12, Wolcott Lodge No. 60, Stafford, St. Patrick's Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner, 5 p.m. 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. *seatings and take-outs \$12 Adults \$6 Children under 10*

Saturday, Mar 12, Jephtha Lodge No. 95, Clinton, Blue Lodge Council Table Lodge at Washington 81, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 12, Anchor Lodge No. 112, East Hampton, Blue Lodge Council Table Lodge at Washington 81, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 12, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, St Patrick's Day Table Lodge, 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, Mar 13, Hiram Lodge No. 1, New Haven, St. Patrick's Day Parade, 1:15 p.m.

Sunday, Mar 13, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, Compass Lodge Fellowship

Breakfast., 8 a.m.

Tuesday, Mar 15, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments*

Tuesday, Mar 15, Union Lodge No. 40, Danbury, Past Masters Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 15, Corinthian Lodge No. 104, Fairfield, Past Masters Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 17, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, Corned Beef Dinner, 06:30 p.m. *Donation is \$10.00 PP The Best Corned Beef around*

Thursday, Mar 17, Temple Lodge No. 16, Cheshire, Table Lodge, 6 p.m., *Please contact Fred Cargill at korvath0628@gmail.com/203-915-9123.*

Thursday, Mar 17, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, Masonic Information Night, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 17, Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven, St. Patrick's Day Dinner, 6 p.m.,

Saturday, Mar 19, Brainard Lodge No. 102, Niantic, Deputy GM Roast @ Ionic Lodge, 6 p.m. *Ashlar Village Wallingford CT. Social 6 p.m. Dinner 7 p.m. Cost \$35 to Ionic Lodge #10 POC RWB Ted Nelson*

Saturday, Mar 19, Ionic Lodge No. 110, North Windham, RW Deputy Grand Master Gail N. Smith's Roast, 6 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 19, Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116, Montville, Oxoboxo's Easter Egg Hunt, 9 a.m., Camp Oakdale

Sunday, Mar 20, Old Well-St. John's Lodge No. 6, Norwalk,

Pancake Breakfast, 9 a.m.

Sunday, Mar 20, Washington Lodge No. 19, Monroe, Country breakfast, 8 am

Sunday, Mar 20, Friendship Lodge No. 33, Southington, Pancake Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.

Sunday, Mar 20, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, Mar 20, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, Annual Pancake Breakfast, 8 a.m.

Tuesday, Mar 22, Composite Lodge No. 28, Suffield, Craft Beer & Share Night, 7:30 p.m. *Bring your favorite craft or homemade beer to share. Pizza/Wings provided \$5 pp.*

Tuesday, Mar 22, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments*

Wednesday, Mar 23, Jephtha Lodge No. 95, Clinton, Soup Kitchen, 4 p.m. *Soup Kitchen at Clinton United Methodist Church*

Wednesday, Mar 23, Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107, Darien, Fraternal Social Hour, 7:45 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 24, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, Work Detail - 24 Golway St, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 26, Old Well-St. John's Lodge No. 6, Norwalk, Table Lodge, 6:30 p.m. *Attire is formal.*

Saturday, Mar 26, America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford, Easter Pancake Breakfast, 9 a.m.

Saturday, Mar 26, Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury, Easter

Craft At Refreshment

Eve Pancake breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt (Friends and Family Welcome!), 9:30 am

Monday, Mar 28, Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, Table Lodge, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 29, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, BLC Meeting @ Hospitality No. 128, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 29, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments*

Tuesday, Mar 29, Valley Lodge No. 36, Simsbury, BLC Meeting, Hospitality Lodge No. 128, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 29, Evening

Star Lodge No. 101, Unionville, BLC @ Hospitality No. 128, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 31, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, Work Detail - 24 Golway St, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, Apr 3, Frederick-Franklin Lodge No. 14, Plainville, Masters Round Table & Field Day, 8 am, *Join our Master for breakfast and help clean up our home*

Sunday, Apr 3, Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven, Passover Table Lodge, 5 p.m. Business Casual

Tuesday, Apr 5, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern*

Stars. Refreshments

Wednesday, Apr 6, Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, Mason Night @ OAH, 7 p.m. *Orange Ale House, 517 Boston Post Rd, Orange, CT 06477*

Thursday, Apr 7, Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116, Montville, Mason Breakfast, 9 a.m. *Groton Townhouse Restaurant Rt 12 Groton*

Thursday, Apr 7, Bay View Lodge No. 120, Niantic, District Breakfast, 8 am, *Groton Townhouse Restaurant Rt 12 Groton*

Sunday, Apr 10, MW Grand Lodge of Connecticut Cromwell, Hospitality Rooms,

Grand Lodge Banquet, 1 p.m. Banquet 6 p.m.

Sunday, Apr 10, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, Compass Lodge Fellowship Breakfast., 8 a.m.,

Tuesday, Apr 12, Day Spring Lodge No. 30, Hamden, BINGO, 7 p.m., *Open to the public, all Masons and Eastern Stars. Refreshments*

Wednesday, Apr 13, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, Hiram's Cafe, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Apr 14, Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, Manchester, Work Detail - 24 Golway St, 5:30 p.m.

Craft At Labor

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

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

Entered Apprentice Degrees

Tuesday, Mar 1, Union Lodge No. 40, Danbury, Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Entered Apprentice Degree, Yes,

Monday, Mar 14, Washington Lodge No. 70, Windsor, Entered, Dinner, 6:30 p.m., *The ladies are*

welcome to meet in the dining room for games and fellowship during the degree

Wednesday, Apr 13, Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107, Darien, Dinner, 7 p.m.

Fellowcraft Degrees

Monday, Mar 7, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, Dinner, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar 9, Ivanhoe Lodge No. 107, Darien, Dinner, 7 p.m.

Monday, Mar 14, Evening Star Lodge No. 101, Unionville, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Mar 14, Anchor Lodge No. 112, East Hampton, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 15, King Hiram Lodge No. 12, Shelton, Dinner/

Open House 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 17, Old Well-St. John's Lodge No. 6, Norwalk, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.,

Monday, Mar 21, St. John's Lodge No. 2, Middletown, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Mar 21, Federal Lodge No. 17, Watertown, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar 23, Ashlar-Aspetuck Lodge No. 142, Easton, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Apr 6, Cosmopolitan Lodge No. 125, New Haven, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Apr 7, Fidelity-St. John's Lodge No. 3, Fairfield, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Apr 12, Shepherd-Salem Lodge No. 78, Naugatuck,

Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Master Mason Degrees

Tuesday, Mar 15, America-St. John's Lodge No. 8, Stratford, Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, Mar 21, Oxoboxo Lodge No. 116, Montville, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Mar 22, Corinthian Lodge No. 104, Fairfield, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Mar 23, Center Lodge No. 97, Meriden, Dinner, 6 p.m.

Monday, Apr 4, Compass Lodge No. 9, Wallingford, Dinner, 06:00 p.m.

Grand Lodge Annual Communication

Monday, Apr 11, MW Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Cromwell, 8 a.m.

Master of Memory Continued from page 27



The Weeping Virgin

the Connecticut Grand Lodge annual communication on May 10, 1820. Even before his appointment, the Grand Lodge approved his "Masonic Chart or *Hieroglyphic Monitor*" for use in all CT Lodges in 1818.

Brother Jeremy Ladd Cross laid down his Working Tools in 1860 or 1861 after retiring home to Haverhill, New Hampshire. Surely the Weeping Widow watches over him, as his beautiful Monument to Freemasonry has endured the Ages.

He also chartered Chapters throughout America, took the Royal Arch in 1815 at Champlain Chapter No. 2, St. Albans, VT, was a Knight Templar by 1816 and attended their convention with Thomas Smith Webb. In

Connecticut he was IGM (now called Thrice Illustrated Master) of Hamilton Council No. 8, and instrumental in the formation of the Connecticut Grand Council. Grand Lodge Secretary Robert Fitzgerald has pointed out that the Connecticut Grand Council has never joined the General Grand Council, perhaps because they did not want to have to give up the use of the appellation of Most Puissant for Connecticut's State leader.

The illustrations from the True Masonic Chart are well known to us all: the two pillars, the All Seeing Eye, the letter G, compasses and square making a Star, the anchor, ark, Jacob's ladder, beehive, rough and perfect ashlar, hour glass,

point in circle, sword and heart, forty seventh problem, working tools, urn, book of constitutions guarded by the sword, altar and three lighted candles, the three steps which lead to the checkered pavement, spade, coffin and sprig of acacia, and originally, the Broken Pillar image of Time and the Weeping Virgin.

He bragged "When you memorize what I am teaching you, you will know as much about Masonry as I do".

His focus was on the words, rather than their meaning, and he apparently felt rote memorization was more important as a life skill than the contents of the rituals and symbols. One of the first of the ancient Masonic documents, Second Schaw Statutes, 1599, states Freemasons must "*tak tryall of the art of memorie*". In ancient times, literacy and books were rare, so a man was the sum of his memory. There were few libraries, no encyclopedias or dictionaries and neither the Internet nor Google were available in those times. Memory was foundational, and Cross had an excellent auditory memory. This was his great strength, and correspondingly, his greatest weakness. As he could remember words independent of their context and meaning, he emphasized rote repetition over discussion and understanding of the symbolism and furniture of the Lodge. He associated each speech with a single image upon the Master's Carpet, and with a glance at it could recite an entire "catechism" of part of the ritual.

Little remains of his Memory teachings, but he used images like those listed above as "clues" to the ritual speeches. Whether he used Cicero and the poet Simonides method of "Loci", applying it to the Lodge room and furniture to create a Memory Palace or simply repetition, is not clear. He did not use the system of Pierre Hérigone (1580-1643) who developed the "Master

Memory" system of Mnemonics, later adapted by Johann Winkelmann (aka Stanislaus Mink von Wennsshein) and Gregor von Feinaigle.

Perhaps the strength and weakness of Modern Freemasonry can be attributed to Cross' dedication to rote memorization. Many a Mason today can repeat the ritual verbatim, but when asked the simplest question about what they have recited, come up empty. The lack of directed discussion about the contents of the ritual at a banquet afterward has reduced many Lodges to focusing only on the importance of "The Arte of Memorie" to the exclusion of the other gems embedded in Freemasonry. While valuable, is one reason for the exodus of young Brothers who join and are initiated in lovingly rehearsed ceremonies obviously filled with mystery. Despite rarely using memory in their daily life (they own a Smart Phone, after all) they are then driven to commit to memory our Q&A, which neither they nor their mentors comprehend. While it does build the mental memory muscle, without context it might as well be in Latin.

After their Master Mason degree they run into the Forth Meeting Problem. Instead of answers or discussion about their initiations, the focus shifts to parties, charities and keeping the Lodge solvent. Those who came for the Mysteries, or were impressed by their ritual experience, become disappointed and often leave. Masonry is more than memorization. When Candidates knock on our door rather than join the Elks, the Moose, the Rotary or Italian Club they are seeking more than friendship and drinking parties, with a side of Charity. They join Freemasonry specifically for our History and Mystery. Our Fraternity will grow and flourish only when we meet those goals.

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

Boosters *Thank you for contributing \$25*

Mario L. Accornero	Samual M. Dunlop	William E. Lehr	Virginia Scheller
Gary W. Arseneau	William Field	Keith MacDowall	Rebecca & William Schoeck
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James Dobie	George K. Kollitides, II	Fridolf J. Rusgaitis, JT Rev.	

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

Paul F. Blake	David Ferguson	Charles Lizotte	Frederick W. Schmatlz
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Masonicare  **QUALITY OF LIFE WALK**

Saturday, May 14, 2016
Great River Park, East Hartford
Check-In: 8:30-9:45 AM
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The Masonicare Quality of Life Walk, one of the premier fundraising events of The Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, returns in 2016. Proceeds from the Walk benefit the residents and patients of **Masonicare Health Center**, **Masonicare at Newtown** and **Masonicare Home Health & Hospice**.

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