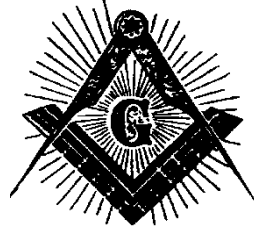


August 13, 2020



Columbia Lodge No. 25 A.F. & A.M.

Columbia Chartered May 18, 1793

Daskam Chartered May 11, 1859

Orient Chartered September 18, 1822

Consolidated April 6, 2006

Brothers,

This is the time when we would normally be publishing our fall Trestleboard. However, with lodge activities still suspended, there are no firm event dates, so a letter seems more appropriate.

In September, we will start having virtual stated communications via Zoom on our regular meeting nights, first and third Wednesdays, at 7:30 PM. We have had some Zoom gatherings, but these will be official meeting where we can conduct business. You will receive email invitations to the Zoom meetings. The Grand Lodge has issued guidelines on how the virtual meetings are to be conducted, including some modified opening and closing ritual. In order to attend a virtual meeting, you must be properly attired (no tee shirts) and wear an apron. For those living locally who do not have an apron, arrangements can be made to pick one up at the lodge.

Most importantly, please be safe, and keep those around you safe. Follow the guidelines recommended by your state and local authorities. Stay home as much as possible, consider ordering groceries through a service such as Instacart, avoid social gatherings, disinfect surfaces frequently, avoid touching your face, and wash your hands regularly. We need to be patient. We will get through this.

Walt Grube, Secretary

TEL: 860-633-9060

Master's Message

Brothers,

I hope this message finds you well and virus free. These are most difficult times for all of us but more especially for masonry. It makes me think of all the hard times that masons have endured, such as the Morgan Affair, the swine flu pandemic and many others over the years, and yet, we are still here. I wonder how long it will be until we can

look back at this time of the Covid-19 virus and say, I remember when it was here and how it affected all of us. Until then, try to stay safe and keep the faith. I hope to be able to meet you all on the level in the near future.

Fraternally yours,
Anthony F. Keegan, Worshipful Master

Necrology:

Sadly, in the past few months, five of our brothers have been called to the Grand Lodge on High.

RWB Steven P. McMahon passed away in his sleep on March 22. Steve joined the fraternity in 1984. He served as Worshipful Master three times, in 1991, 1992, and 2005. Steve was also a member of Wolcott #60 and served that lodge as Worshipful Master in 2011. He also served as a District Deputy for Masonic District 6B for three years, 2014 through 2016. Steve was always willing to lend a hand whenever needed and cooked many dinners for the lodge. He will be missed.

WB Radu Sapatoru passed away on April 10. He contracted Covid-19 while working as a nurse in a nursing home and died within days. Radu joined the fraternity in 2007. He served as Worshipful Master in 2015. Radu was born in Romania and came to the United States in 1999. He had wanted to become a Mason for many years, and realized that dream when he got to the U.S.

Br. Melvin (Bub) Babcock passed away on April 23. Bub was born in Glastonbury in 1928 and joined the fraternity in 1951. He was a veteran of the United States Coast Guard, serving on the ship Algonquin, as a Seaman 1st Class. Bub then became employed by Southern New England Telephone Company, retiring December 31, 1987 after 40 years of service.

Br. and Dr. William Henry passed away on May 8. Our Brother was born August 24th, 1937 in the Bronx, New York. Bill attended Columbia University and Albany Medical College. He served his country as a Major in the Army, stationed at Fort Bragg and in Vietnam. Bill spent 42 years in private practice in Glastonbury. He joined the fraternity in 1983.

WB Paul Garneau passed away on May 24. Paul joined the fraternity in 1969 and served as Worshipful Master in 1976. He had a long and successful career at Quality Name Plate (QNP) in East Glastonbury, which saw him rise from a part time employee to president and co-owner. Over the years, he provided the lodge with plaques for Awards Night at no charge. Paul also supported a variety of local causes ranging from high school sports, to Eagle Scout projects, to financial assistance for families in need.