



CONNECTICUT
FREEMASONS

Keep the line moving

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

January - March 2020

Trestleboard

<https://lodge025.ctfreemasons.net/>
Check web site for latest information!

Columbia Lodge #25 is on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/columbialodge/?view_public_for=342780670785

TWO MASTERS' PERSPECTIVE



Rodney A. Spooner

As 2019 ends, I thank all the brothers who have helped throughout the year filling the chairs when needed and keeping the line moving. I am looking forward to next year. Hopefully our new brothers will pick up where we left off *and* keep the line moving for years to come. Thus, ensuring to keep our Lodge active and attracting new members.

In the words of General George S. Patton: "If everyone is thinking the same thing, then someone is not thinking."

Please note that the first Wednesday in the next year is New Year's Day. *As this is a holiday, we will not hold a meeting on January 1, 2020.* Our first Stated Communication in the next decade will be on January 15. After the meeting, we will hold a rehearsal for the Installations of our 2020 Lodge Officers. The list of 2020 Officers is in the "Electronic Trestleboard Officer-Past Master List 2020" file. Installation will be at 2:00 PM on Saturday 18, 2020. You are invited to attend for the fellowship and in support of our new Officers.

Respectively submitted,
WM Rodney Spooner

It was back in 1982 that I was Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge No. 4. In 2020 I am *back again*, this time to serve as your Worshipful Master. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our Lodge in this way.



Tony Keegan

I would ask all the brothers to reach out to someone from lodge, just to say hello and see how they are doing or if they may need assistance in any way. At our meetings, there will be a time to report any such communications to the Lodge.

Our goal is for all brothers to feel welcomed as part of Columbia Lodge No. 25. Just as the prodigal son's return home was a cause for celebration, each coming *back again*, whether to the Lodge room or through media and your contacts, will be a homecoming to celebrate.

Thanks, RW Tony Keegan

CALENDAR

Unless specifically stated, all meetings start at 7:30 PM

All Dinners require Reservations

- January 1** No Stated Communication
New Year's Day
- January 15** Building Association Directors Meeting
6:30 PM
- January 15** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
Rehearsal for Installation of Officers
following meeting
- January 18** **2020 Officers Installation**
2:00 PM
Refreshments to follow
- January 25** **Junior Officer's Seminar**
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Ashlar Village Auditorium, Wallingford
- January 30** **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**
Friendship Tuscan #145
24 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042
Dinner at 6:30 - Meeting at 7:30
- February 5** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- February 10** EA° Rehearsal 7 PM
- February 19** **Entered Apprentice Degree (Officers Tux)**
Dinner 6:30 PM
Reservations to JW Jeff by February 16th
- March 4** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- March 18** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- March 27** Grand Lodge Banquet - Cromwell - 6PM
- March 28** Grand Lodge Annual Meeting
Cromwell - 9:30 AM

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 2** **Derby Night: Dinner & Bluegrass**
5 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Reservations by April 25th
- May 20** **Awards Night**
Dinner 6:30 PM
Reservations by May 13th
- May 25** **Glastonbury Memorial Day Parade** 9 AM



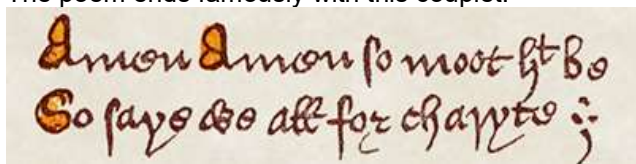
We are saddened by the recent loss of
Richard P. Barker
Donald I. Kilgore

Historian Corner



Why do Freemasons end their prayers with the “So mote it be”?

It is customary in contemporary English to end prayers with a hearty “Amen,” a word meaning “So be it.” It is a Latin word derived from the Hebrew word אמן meaning “certainly.” Thus, a congregation saying “Amen” is literally saying “So be it.” The word mote is an archaic verb that means “may” or “might,” and traces back to Old English. The phrase “So mote it be” means “So may it be,” which is the same as “So be it.” Now that we’ve established the equivalence of “Amen” and “So mote it be,” the question remains, “Why do Masons end their prayers with ‘So mote it be’?” The answer goes back to the Regius Poem of about 1390 AD, the oldest known Masonic document (now housed in the British Museum, London). It is one of the Old Charges or Gothic Constitution used by early Freemasons to regulate their trade. It has a legendary history, regulations to guide the Mason trade and rules of manners and moral conduct. The poem ends famously with this couplet:



Caption: A detail from a facsimile depicting the closing couplet of *The Regius Poem* (Masonic Book Club, 1970) Amen! Amen! So mote it be! So say we all for charity. Thus, Freemasons today end their prayers the same way they did in 1390. The next time you’re in lodge and say “So mote it be” after the chaplain finishes a prayer, remember that you are continuing a 600-year-old Masonic tradition.

New Master Masons



Worshipful Master Rodney Spooner of Columbia Lodge No. 25 raised two Master Masons on Wednesday November 19, 2019: Oliver J. Lipman (left) and Alexander F. Gagnon (right).

Veterans Honored at Columbia Lodge

On December 2, 2019, Jan Roberta and Cheryl, representing the Quilts of Valor Foundation, presented quilts to seven Brothers who served in the Army:



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|------------------------|-----------|
| Gerald F. Thompson – | 1950-1952 |
| Anthony F. Keegan - | 1958-1961 |
| George R. Zack - | 1960-1964 |
| Donald A. Wills – | 1961-1964 |
| John A. Nave – | 1966-1968 |
| John R. Ranney – | 1971-1979 |
| Christopher E. Smith – | 1983-1991 |



If you are a veteran, please let our Secretary know.



Each Brother was wrapped in a personal quilt and given a hug by Jan Roberto and Cheryl. The Veterans of Korea & Vietnam and Saudi Wars provided a wholesome Italian dinner from Melilli Caffè & Grill of Portland. Br. Sam Ranno presented a check of a handsome sum from the group to Columbia Lodge No. 25 A.F. & A.M. in recognition of the service of Freemasons to Veterans and the community.