



CONNECTICUT  
FREEMASONS

Ignite Your Light

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

## September - December 2018

### 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](https://www.facebook.com/columbialodge/?view_public_for=342780670785)

## A MASTER'S PERSPECTIVE

During the summer we each renewed our inner fire from our personal perspective. Your Lodge Officers have also taken this time to shine the light of Freemasonry in meaningful ways for our members to help renew your passion (inner fire) for our craft. This reformatted Trestleboard is the result of our decision to go with an email distribution. *Please email our Secretary Walt Grube to be included on this distribution list.*

Trestleboards can be viewed on our website (<https://lodge025.ctfreemasons.net/>) by clicking on "From the East" in the menu. Then click on the Trestleboard that you want to view from the list under **Our Trestleboards:**

**Those who wish a printed Trestleboard have contacted or may contact our Secretary.**

Electronic distribution allows us to give our brothers frequent updates on changes in programs and include stories and photos of our events soon after they happen. Those on our printed Trestleboard list will receive Trestleboards three times a year as before. All brothers are urged to check our website calendar for updates.

I have enjoyed having two of my grandchildren this summer. At the end of August, I will take them back home to Abu Dhabi. While I'm there, Senior Warden Rodney Spooner will be in the East in September. He will lead two exciting communications. At the first, our Secretary will read at least three petitions, one for affiliation and two, or more, for taking the Degrees. Reports on the petitions will be ready for balloting at the second meeting. We have planned Degrees based on favorable reports and ballots on the candidates.

We raised \$1150, including the \$425 seed money, for the purchase of a defibrillator for the Lodge. Training on using this AED will be at the second meeting. You can contribute to replacing the seed money by sending a check, payable to Columbia Lodge with "AED" in memo, to Walt Grube. The seed money will be given to another Lodge toward their purchase of an AED.

The principle fundraiser for our scholarship fund is our *Annual Grape Harvest Wine Tasting* on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Please join us and bring your friends.

WM Arnie Grot

## CALENDAR

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

**All Dinners require Reservations**

- September 5** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- September 19** **AED Defibrillator Training**  
A representative from *Advantage Emergency Devices, INC* will be on hand to provide us with training in our newly purchased defibrillator. With this training you could save the life of a brother.
- September 27** **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**  
Wyllys-St John Lodge No. 4  
160 South St., West Hartford, CT  
Dinner at 6:30 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM
- October 3** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- October 6** **Grape Harvest Wine Festival** 6-9 PM  
Tickets \$30  
Tickets purchased at the door will be \$35  
Buy your tickets online (\$30)  
[www.GlastWine.com](http://www.GlastWine.com) or at South Side Wine & Spirit Shoppe,  
860-633-2763 Craig Witzke
- October 8** EA° Rehearsal 7 PM
- October 17** **Entered Apprentice Degree (Officers Tux)**  
Dinner 6:30 PM  
Reservations to JW by October 15<sup>th</sup>
- October 20** Grand Lodge Semi-Annual Communication (Ashlar Village) 9AM
- November 7** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- November 12** FC° Rehearsal 7 PM
- November 21** **Fellow Craft Degree (Officers Tux)**  
Dinner 6:30 PM  
Reservations to JW by November 19<sup>th</sup>
- November 29** **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**  
Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145  
24 Golway St., Manchester, CT  
Dinner at 6:30 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM
- December 5** **Annual Business Meeting**
- December 19** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- December 20** **Hartford County Lodge of Actual Past Masters**  
Village Lodge No. 29  
123 River Road, Collinsville 06019  
Dinner: 6:30 PM - Degree: 7:30 PM

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**TBD** 2019 Officers Installation



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## Awards Night



Washington Commandry No. 1



MWGM Marshall K. Robinson



Reverend Dick and Andrea Allen, 2018 Community Service Award



Earl Evans, Daskam Knott



Erik Roberts, Emmerson Reed



25 Years: Earl Evans, Amie Grot



35 Years: Rich Beebe



60 Years: Jim Spencer



A 90<sup>th</sup> birthday Celebration

## Columbia Lodge Scholarship Fund



At the Glastonbury High School annual Awards Night on May 24, Columbia Lodge No. 25, A.F. & A.M. gave its 2018 *Scholarship* to GHS senior Dina Bassette. Growing up on the family farm, Killam & Bassette, Farmstead, LLC on Tyron Street in South Glastonbury, Dina's parents instilled in her the work ethic required in a family business, belief in God and a respect for all God's creatures. The principle fundraiser for our scholarship fund is our Annual Grape Harvest Wine Tasting.

**THE BEST LITTLE WINE TASTING IN GLASTONBURY**

TICKETS ONLY \$30

2018

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 6, 2018  
6:00 - 9:00 PM**

COLUMBIA LODGE #25  
895 MAIN STREET  
SOUTH GLASTONBURY

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE AT  
[WWW.GLASTWINE.COM](http://WWW.GLASTWINE.COM)

A FUNDRAISING EVENT FOR THE  
COLUMBIA LODGE #25 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

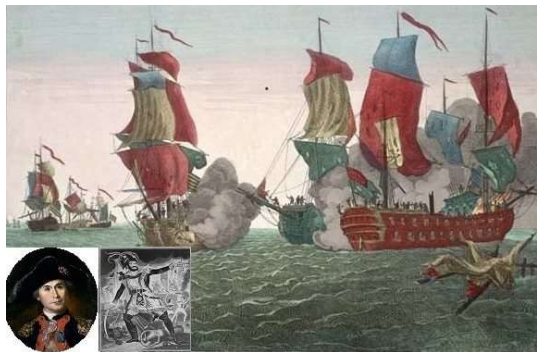
Attend *the best little wine tasting in Glastonbury*, and bring your friends, to both enjoy the fellowship, wine and food and to help raise funds for our 2019 Scholarship Award.



We are saddened by the recent loss of  
*Clarence Norton*  
*Homer Scoville*

## Brothers John and William Nott - Pirates or Patriots

Freemasons have fought for our freedom from the very beginning of our Nation. Two founding fathers of Columbia Lodge are recorded as having served as ship captains in the Connecticut Navy during the Revolutionary War patrolling Long Island Sound.\* The British caricaturized these privateers as pirates. We honor them today as Patriots.



The most famous of these American "pirates" was John Paul Jones. This image portrays "Action Between the *Serapis* and *Bonhomme Richard* (Jone's ship)" on September 23, 1779.

John and William Nott were two of the 12 Freemasons who petitioned the Grand Lodge of Connecticut to charter a Lodge in Stepney Parish in Wethersfield. Columbia Lodge 25's charter was granted on May 18, 1793. During the Revolutionary War John Nott commanded the brig of war *America*. William Nott was commissioned to the Connecticut privateer sloop *Broome* (10 guns, crew 70) on 2 July 1776. William Nott took four very rich prizes in early August 1776, the ship *Charming Sally*, *Snow Ann*, and the brigs *Carolina Packet* and *John*. William Nott returned to Bedford, Massachusetts on 26 August. In early November 1776 he was at sea with

the Massachusetts privateer sloop *Independence* (Commander James Magee). The pair took two schooners (laden with fish and provisions) on 16 November 1776. After this *Broome* was lost to the enemy and Nott was later exchanged. On 5 March 1779 he was commissioned as a Captain in the Connecticut Navy and assigned to Connecticut Navy sloop *Guilford* (2 guns, crew 32). Nott resigned his commission on 2 July 1779.

John and William were sons of John Nott (*born in Wethersfield in 1683 and moved to Fairfield when he married*) and Martha Gray and were born in Fairfield in 1731 and 1739 respectively. Their profession as mariners, brought them to Wethersfield/Glastonbury because of the ship building industry and commerce established here. John later became a ferry driver across the Connecticut River.

John Nott became our first Worshipful Master. Another of the first 12, Captain Selah Francis, became our first Secretary. Three others of the 12 are listed as Captains: Captain Richard Riley, Captain Enos Robbins and Captain Andrew M. Combe.

## New Master Masons

On April 18, 2018 Columbia Lodge raised two new Master Masons, while on June 9, 2018 we traveled to Uriel Lodge to raise another.



WM Amie Grot, with Stanley Venoit, left, and Brian Pryor on April 18.



WM Grot, front left, and Richard Bates, left of Grot, at Uriel on June 9.



Columbia Lodge brothers after marching in the Glastonbury Memorial Day Parade May 26, 2018.



RW Mel Johnson, DGM, RW Earl Evans, DD, MWGM Marshall Robinson, and Bro. David Lockard, AGM – June 23, 2018

\* Middlebrook, Lewis F. *Maritime Connecticut During the American Revolution 1775-1783*. Salem, MA, The Essex Institution, 1925 - v1 pp 131-138, 145, v2 p62-63

## Defibrillator Seed Money



WM Bard Teigan (Composite No. 28) and WB Steve Matthews (Washington No. 70) present \$425 seed money to Building Association President Don Wills and WM Grot at our May 2, 2018 communication.



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## View from the West

I was raised a Master Mason in Warren Lodge No. 51 in Portland on December 17, 1987 when Richard Washburn was Worshipful Master. In January 1988, I started through the chairs as Junior Steward. In 1992, I was elected Worshipful Master when the Brother who was to become Master moved out of state. I also served as Worshipful Master in 1993. During the following years, I served my Lodge in various chairs.



Rodney A. Spooner

I affiliated with Center Lodge No. 97 in Meriden in 2006 when Bob Knowles served it as Worshipful Master. When Center Lodge decided to sell their building in 2016, it was unclear where lodge was going to move. Due to its uncertain relocation and the probability of bad weather and resulting poor driving conditions, I decided to join Colombia Lodge No. 25 which is not far from my home.

I was elected Senior Warden of Columbia Lodge at our last Annual Communication and serve as such this year. Through the will of our brothers it is possible that I will be elected Worshipful Master for 2019.

The motto that served us well when Master in Warren Lodge No. 51 was *Keep the Line Moving*. This will again be my motto if I am elected and installed the 2019 Master of Columbia Lodge No. 25. We have a committed line. I look forward to continuing serving you and our Lodge.

### Historian Corner

#### Why Columbia?



During this year Columbia Lodge #25 has been celebrating the 225th anniversary of receiving its charter in 1793. A question that may come to mind is why did the charter group of

masons (sea captains, shipwrights, merchants, and craftsmen) choose to give their new lodge the name "Columbia" rather than some perhaps more "masonic" reference?

A partial answer may be found in the fact that the Americas have often historically been referred to as "Columbia" ever since Columbus returned from his voyage. The term picked up steam again in colonial America where Columbus became a symbol of liberty and inspired our national mythical figure Lady Liberty (formerly Lady Columbia).

In the second half of the 18th century, the American colonists were creating their own identity distinct

from that of their British cousins.

At that time, it was common for European countries to use a Latin name in formal or poetical contexts to confer an additional degree of respectability on the country concerned. In many cases, these nations were personified as pseudo-classical goddesses named with these Latin names. Located on a continent unknown to and unnamed by the Romans, "Columbia" was the closest that the Americans could come to emulating this custom.



By the time of the Revolution, the name Columbia had become established as an alternative, or poetic name for America. The name "Columbia" rapidly came to be applied to a variety of items reflecting American identity.

No serious consideration was given to using the name Columbia as an official name for the independent United States, but with independence the name became popular and was given to many counties, townships, and towns, as well as other institutions, e.g.:

- In 1784, the former King's College in New York City had its name changed to Columbia College, which became the nucleus of the present-day Ivy League Columbia University.
- In 1786, South Carolina gave the name "Columbia" to its new capital city. Columbia is also the name of at least nineteen other towns in the United States.
- In 1791, three commissioners appointed by President George Washington named the area destined for the seat of the U.S. government "the Territory of Columbia"; it was subsequently (1801) organized as the District of Columbia.
- In 1792, the Columbia Rediviva sailing ship gave its name to the Columbia River in the American Northwest (much later, the Rediviva would give its name to the Space Shuttle Columbia)

It would seem then, that at the time of its formation, the new lodge became "Columbia" Lodge as a patriotic embrace of the recently formed nation... something we continue today in the Pledge of Allegiance at the opening of our communications.