

MASTER'S MESSAGE

I'd like to ask everyone's help spreading the word for the May 6 Derby Dinner. We are welcoming back the band that did such a fabulous job last year: Grass Routes. I think everyone was blown away by the amazing level of performance of the 5-member group. The blue grass harmonies of the 5 voices and the various instruments was a joy to listen to. The event is open to Masons and non-Masons, and we promise that everyone will enjoy the evening along with the casual dinner before the music starts. Be sure to bring your own beverages.

While we enjoy the music, we also hope to raise much needed funds for the lodge. And along the lines of fund raising, we plan to add some fund-raising elements to the lodge picnic before the summer break. Look ahead for details on the fund-raising activities for the picnic. The event will be sponsored by the lodge building committee to raise additional money for the scholarship fund.

In other areas of the lodge we have been working on putting together a booklet of officer duties, which is designed to fill in any gaps in officer knowledge concerning their positions, as well as reinforce expectations and serve as a tool for discussions between officers and their mentors. While a group of people have worked on the project, I'd like to thank Michael Hudson and Walt Grube for their especially focused attention and labor in putting it together.

As we exit the worst weather of the year and enter the long sunny warm days of Spring, I'm hoping for an especially lively season at the lodge. Please attend meetings when you can, bring your ideas and energy and enjoy the fellowship!

Erik E. Roberts, WM

KENTUCKY DERBY DINNER

Saturday, May 6, 2017

5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

\$30 Per Person

RSVP to Erik Roberts by April 29



2017 OFFICERS



WM

SW

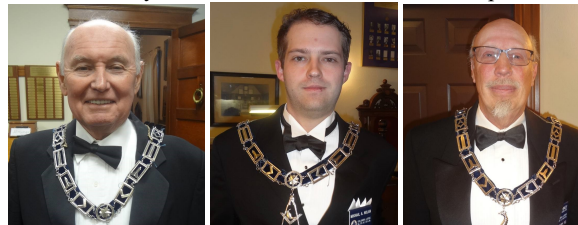
JW



Secretary

Treasurer

Chaplain



SD

JD

SS



Marshal

Tiler

Historian



Organist

Almoner

Lodge Almoner



RW Tony Keegan serves as the **Almoner of Columbia Lodge No. 25**. If you need help, contact Tony by phone at 860-895-9500 or by email at longtimeshoreman@aol.com.

CALENDAR

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

All Dinners require Reservations

- March 29** Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting
Wyllys-St. John's No. 4
160 South St., West Hartford
Dinner at 6:30 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM
- April 2** Grand Lodge Banquet (Cromwell) 6 PM
- April 3** Grand Lodge Annual Meeting (Cromwell) 9 AM
- April 5** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- April 19** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- May 3** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- May 6** Derby Day: Bourbon & Bluegrass
- May 17** Awards Night (*Officers Tax*)
Dinner 6:30 PM
Reservations by May 10 (see flyer)
- May 29** Glastonbury Memorial Day Parade 9 AM
Assemble at 8:30 AM on
Welles St behind St. Paul's Church
- May 31** Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting
Friendship Tuscan No. 145
24 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042
Dinner at 6:30 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM
- June 7** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- June 10** Grand Masters Day (10:00 AM)
Masonicare Campus, Wallingford
- June 21** Summer Picnic (6:00 PM)
Stated Communication
RSVP by June 18th (Contact JW Jason)

By-laws Update

Our lodge by-laws need to be updated to add the chairs of Historian and Almoner, and to incorporate language that the Grand Lodge recommends for all lodges. The proposed by-laws, with updates in red, can be found on our Lodge website at <https://lodge025.ctfreemasons.net/>.

You can also request that the Secretary send you a copy. Please advise him on any comments you may have. We hope to vote on the new by-laws at the stated communication on May 3.

2017 OFFICERS

- ERIK E. ROBERTS** (Christina) Worshipful Master
96 Clark Hill Road (860) 652-8963
South Glastonbury, CT 06073 Shax2020@yahoo.com
- PAUL F. BLAKE, PM** (Nancy) Senior Warden
28 Brookfield Road (860) 646-9670
Bolton, CT 06043 paulfblake@comcast.net
- JASON RUIMERMAN** Junior Warden
128 Conestoga Way (603) 557-7183
Glastonbury, CT 06033 jRuimerman@icloud.com
- WALTER GRUBE, PM** Secretary
149 Overlook Road (860) 633-9060
Glastonbury, CT 06033 waltgrube@cox.net
- RICHARD L. BEEBE, PDD** (Abbie) Treasurer
41 Westview Drive (860) 569-0163
East Hartford, CT 06118 RCHBB51@aol.com
- EARL S. EVANS, PM** Chaplain
40 Crown Ridge, Unit 9 (860) 951-2464
Newington, CT 06111 earlsevans@gmail.com
- ANTHONY F. KEEGAN** Senior Deacon
52 Hockanum Drive (860) 895-9500
East Hartford, CT 06118 LongTimeShoreMan@aol.com
- MIKHAIL A. NOLAN** Junior Deacon
PO Box 1494 (860) 918-7577
Glastonbury, CT 06033 aux.nolan@gmail.com
- JOHN R. RANNEY** (Shelly) Senior Steward
1663 Main Street (860) 289-4285
East Hartford, CT 06108 jsap1663@yahoo.com
- ROBERT P. ULRICH** Marshall
52 Cheyenne Court (860) 295-1633
Marlborough, CT 06447 11gem.ulrich@gmail.com
- GEORGE R. ZACK** Tiler
123 Lydall Road ((860) 895-5007
East Hartford, CT 06118 gzacksr@comcast.net
- DAVID E. SODERBERG** (Carolyn) Organist
12 Founders Road (860) 659-3124
Glastonbury, CT 06033 dsoderberg@sbcglobal.net
- DAVID C. LOCKARD** (Pam) Historian
10 Southgate Drive (860) 659-3806
South Glastonbury, CT 06073 dclockard@gmail.com
- ANTHONY F. KEEGAN** Almoner
52 Hockanum Drive (860) 895-9500
East Hartford, CT 06118 LongTimeShoreMan@aol.com

Trustees

Earl Evans – Term expires at end of 2017

Don Wills – Term expires at end of 2018

Gerry Thompson – Term expires at end of 2019

Historian Corner

Legend of the forget-me-not flower not forgotten.

Following the First World War, Germany was plunged into a terrible



economic crisis. In 1926, at their annual communication, the Grand Lodge of Germany gave its members a forget-me-not pin, to remind the brethren of their charitable obligations. The pin became widely used throughout Germany as a sign to remember the poor and distressed. Thousands of Masons wore this pin in the years before World War 2, performing acts of service and charity to their many destitute fellows. This charity was vital during Germany's depression.

However, that same economic crisis which called those Masons to charitable action also propelled Adolf Hitler into power. By 1934, it was clear that Freemasonry was in danger. Hitler decried it as a conspiracy with the Jews. Hermann Goring stated "In National Socialist Germany, there is no place for Freemasonry." The German Ministry ordered the disbandment of all lodges, and confiscated all lodge property. Masonic brothers were eventually confined to concentration camps, and forced to wear the inverted red triangle of a political prisoner. Similar persecutions took place in Italy and other Nazi states, and Freemasonry was officially outlawed in the Nazi empire. The number of Freemasons executed during World War 2 is unknown, but estimates place anywhere between 80,000 and 200,000.

But Masonic legend tells that during the war, the German Grand Lodge of the Sun adopted that little blue forget-me-not pin, not as an emblem of charity, but as a substitute for the square and compass. The flower was used as a sign of recognition for the brethren, reducing their risk of exposure to the Nazis. During the ensuing decade of Nazi power a little blue forget-me-not flower worn in a Brother's lapel served as one method whereby brethren could identify each other in public and in cities and concentration camps throughout Europe. The forget-me-not distinguished the lapels of countless brethren who staunchly refused



to allow the symbolic Light of Masonry to be completely extinguished, even under penalty of death.

In 1948, after the war ended, at the first Annual Convention of the new Grand Lodge of Germany, a few hundred forget-me-not pins were made. They began to hand them out as a Masonic symbol wherever they went. The pins exploded in popularity, and became widely used



to remember the sacrifice of Masons during the war. In modern Freemasonry, it is now commonly worn to remember those who have died, as a symbol that while they may be gone, they are not forgotten. We must never forget to persevere through troubled times, as light and life will always spring anew. We must never forget those who have come before us, the sacrifices they made, and the love that they shared with us. We must never forget our duty to honor their memory, and continue their legacy of brotherly love, relief, and truth.

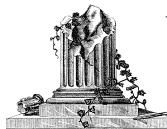
Columbia Lodge's 225th Charter Anniversary on May 18, 2018



Our Lodge received its charter on May 18, 1793 to meet in the Stepney Parish section of Wethersfield, now the town of Rocky Hill. The Grand Lodge granted permission for the Lodge to move to South Glastonbury in October of 1814. On November 9, 1814 Columbia Lodge held its meeting in its

new town. So, ended the first Wethersfield and so began the first Glastonbury Masonic Lodge.

All brothers are encouraged to celebrate with us, by sharing what Freemasonry means to you, and joining our festivities.



We are saddened by the recent loss of

Andrew Barnard

Earnest Elliott

Ulises Toledano

COLUMBIA's Living PAST MASTERS

Mario L. Accornero	1958, 95
Henry L. Killam	1961
Reno L. Ferrando	1962
Leon E. Gardiner	1965
Franklin J. Davis Jr., PAGM 6C 2002	1972
Harold M. Waters Jr.	1973, 93
Michael A. Geoffroy	1974
Kenneth A. Slocum PAGM 6B 1990	1974
Delmar G. Cooke Jr.	1975
Carl L. Edgerton, PDD 6A 1980	1975, 85
Paul H. Garneau	1976
Ralph W. Fish Jr.	1977
Richard T. Chapman	1978
Robert G. Fitzgerald, PDD 6B 1990	1979
Franklin C. Field	1980
John R. Ranney PAGM 6C 1999	1980
Edward A. Portaluppi	1981
Douglas R. Ewen	1984, 2004
Douglas S. Haseltine	1986
Carl R. Falcone	1987
Franklin J. Davis	1988
William C. MacKnight	1988
Richard L. Beebe, PDD 6C 1999	1989, 2007
Richard P. Taylor, PAGM 6C 1996	1989, 90, 91
(Stepney # 133)	1996
Gerald F. Thompson, PDD 6C 1993	1989
Frank J. Decker	1990
Laurence E. Atwell	1991, 2005, 06
Steven P. McMahon, DD 6B 2014-17	1991, 92, 2005
Leonard E. Whitford Jr.	1992
Walter Grube	1993, 94, 97, 2001
Herbert E. Grommeck	1996
Lawrence A. Miffitt	1997, 98
Arnold S. Grot, AGM 6B 2014-17	1998, 2002, 06, 11
Paul F. Blake	1999, 2003
Gilbert E. Wishart	1999
Earl S. Evans	2000, 01
Peter J. Hunt, PDD 6C 2002	2000
Donald A. Wills, PDL 2006	2004
Louis O. House IV (Mosaic #52, ME 1986)	2008
Jeffrey S. Moores	2009, 2010
Michael E. Hudson	2012, 13
Brian J. Berk	2014
Radu G. Sapatouru	2015
Robert F. LeDoux (Friendship #145)	1981
James W. Pike (Hospitality #128)	1981
Anthony F. Keegan PAGM 6C 1993 PDD 6A 2009	
(Wyllys-St. John's No. 4)	1982
Burton F. Turner (Somerset-St James #34	2007
John H. Green (Silas Deane #147)	2008
Rodney A. Spooner (Warren #51)	1992, 93
Jonathan R Beatty (PLR)	2015, 16

TRESTLEBOARD

COLUMBIA

LODGE

No. 25

A.F. & A.M.

895 MAIN STREET

S. GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



CONNECTICUT FREEMASONS

Masonic Renewal – I hold the key.

April - June 2017

STATED COMMUNICATIONS

1st and 3rd Wednesdays - 7:30 PM

<https://lodge025.ctfreemasons.net/>

Check web site for latest information!

Columbia Lodge #25 is on Facebook

www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Columbia-Lodge-25-AF-AM/342780670785