

MASTER'S MESSAGE

I want to thank all the brothers who have contributed during 2016 to making the lodge one of the best in the State. As Worshipful Master I was pleased on every occasion to see that whenever a need arose there was always a brother to do the job without question or complaint. This was inspiring to me in my daily life, as I often found myself wishing that people I came across in everyday situations could be more like the brothers of the lodge.

The Grand Lodge has expressed a desire to reward any brother who is particularly good at ritual work. I think this is especially important now as it comes at a time when society in general seems to be pushing ritual to the sidelines. The idea of an award acknowledges ritual as being central to the strengthening of the brotherhood and as an essential tool for the perpetuation of our core social and moral beliefs. Our lodge has several brothers who have displayed supreme proficiency in ritual work, and I want to make sure they are recognized during 2017.

We lost some key personnel during the year. Life can be disruptive to lodge continuity in that way. I want to thank all the brothers who filled in the empty chairs, some at the last minute. We didn't raise any new Master Masons during the year, which is unfortunate, but we did welcome new brothers who transferred into the lodge from other areas, and we have a Master Mason degree scheduled for February, so I would expect even more candidates during the remainder of the year. We should always be concerned about numbers, but we should also be concerned about doing the most we can for our existing brothers and making the lodge a vibrant and engaging community.

To that end, we will carry on with the social events, hopefully benefiting from some important lessons learned along the way. I would like to form committees to make some of the work lighter. We are planning to have some speakers talk at lodge meetings to increase our knowledge in Masonry. We will continue with our fund-raising efforts. And I would like to create a committee to explore whether there is any need for technical/electronic improvements or changes to the lodge. It is my understanding that some of the brothers are interested in the issue and I would like to create a friendly forum for their ideas.

Thanks for 2016 and here's to an even better 2017!

Erik E. Roberts, WM

Grape Harvest Wine Festival

October 15, 2016 Images



CALENDAR

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

All Dinners require Reservations

- January 4** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- January 7** **Installation of Officers – 3 PM (Officers Tux)**
- January 18** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- January 25** **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**
Composite #28
150 Bridge St., Suffield
Dinner at 6:30 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM
- January 28** **CT CHIP Event at Pack 158's Pinewood Derby**
12:30 - 2:30 PM – Hebron Avenue School
- February 1** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- February 15** **Master Mason Degree (Officers Tux)**
Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM - Reservations by February 11th Contact JW Jason
- March 1** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- March 15** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
Program: Roger Dock - My Years as a chef in the Nixon White House

Lodge Almoner



The duties of **Almoner** encompass the well-being of lodge members and their families. He is to be a discreet presence in the lives of brothers and widows of past brothers so that the lodge may readily assist them should they find themselves in any particular need. He is the go-to brother for assistance when in sickness or distress.

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



We are saddened by the recent loss of
Fred C. Boyd
Aubrey L. Pharmer, Sr
Arthur M. Rettberg, PM

2016 OFFICERS

ERIK E. ROBERTS (Christina)	Worshipful Master
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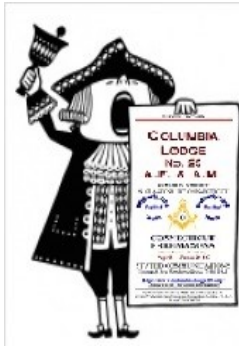
Trustees

Earl Evans – Term expires at end of 2017

Don Wills – Term expires at end of 2018

Gerry Thompson – Term expires at end of 2019

All Due Signs and Summonses



In the obligations of each degree we are admonished to "Answer all due signs and summonses from the lodge if within the length of my cable tow." The Trestleboard is a summons to our meetings and events. When you receive your Trestleboard, please drop our Secretary a

note in answer to this summons. Your brothers would like to hear from you. Periodic correspondence from brothers who we don't see regularly, makes fellowship more real to all.

Grape Harvest Wine Festival

A BIG Thank YOU to all our 2016 sponsors for their support of the Columbia Lodge #25 Wine Fest & Scholarship Fund!

Thank You
To Our Sponsors!

SOUTHSIDE WINE SHOPPE
ONE WATER STREET

October Kitchen LLC

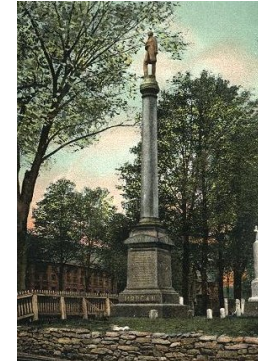
PUROS CIGAR SHOP
Framing by Gordon

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. Sapatoru	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

Historian Corner

The Morgan Affair - gone but not forgotten. William Morgan (1774-1826?) was a resident of Batavia, New York, whose



disappearance and presumed murder in 1826 ignited a powerful movement against the Freemasons, a fraternal society that had become influential in the United States. After Morgan announced his intention to publish a book exposing Freemasonry's secrets, he was arrested on trumped-up

charges. He disappeared soon after, and was believed to have been kidnapped and killed by Masons from western New York. The incident precipitated a widespread anti-Masonic movement that for the decade of the 1830's caused a dramatic decline in the membership and activities of the fraternity in America.

On September 13, 1882, the National Christian Association, a group opposed to secret societies, commissioned and erected a statue in memoriam to William Morgan in the Batavia Cemetery. The ceremony was witnessed by 1,000 people, including representatives from local Masonic lodges.

The monument reads:

"Sacred to the memory of Wm. Morgan, a native of Virginia, a Capt. in the War of 1812, a respectable citizen of Batavia, and a martyr to the freedom of writing, printing and speaking the truth. He was abducted from near this spot in the year 1826, by Freemasons and murdered for revealing the secrets of their order. The court records of Genesee County and the files of the Batavia Advocate, kept in the Records office contain the history of the events that caused the erection of this monument."

TRESTLEBOARD

COLUMBIA LODGE No. 25 A.F. & A.M.

895 MAIN STREET
S. GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



**CONNECTICUT
FREEMASONS**

Masonic Renewal - I hold the key.

January - March 2017

STATED COMMUNICATIONS

1st and 3rd Wednesdays - 7:30 PM

<http://www.columbialodge25.org/>

Check web site for latest information!

Columbia Lodge #25 is on Facebook

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