

MASTER'S MESSAGE

It is a great honor and unique privilege for me to receive your vote of confidence to serve the lodge as the Worshipful Master for the upcoming 2015 year. I have dreamt of becoming a Freemason since I was a child. I first became aware of Freemasonry when my father told me the amazing stories about the Freemasons in Romania. Freemasonry existed in Romania before the communists were in power. However, once the communist government took over, they banned free association rights and made Freemasonry illegal. As an emigrant from an ex-communist country, I could only hope one day to become one myself.... Humbly I just want to say: Thank you brothers!

The main goal I have for this lodge for this coming year is to spread the word about masonry and our mission, continue to receive new brothers, and promote new young members and officers. As you know Ritual work, fellowship and officer training is a continuous process in our lodge. We should always improve in these areas.

Once again I want to thank WB Brian Berk, the officers of the lodge and every brother for your hard work and for establishing high Masonic standards. I will follow these standards and your great example.

I wish everyone the best of luck for the New Year and Happy Holidays to you and your families.

Radu George Sapatoru, WM

IMPORTANT VIRIDIAN MESSAGE

Our concerns about Viridian have been satisfactorily resolved. We received our residual dividends and are again getting monthly income, thanks to those of you who have chosen Viridian as your energy generation supplier. Their rise in rates turned out to be, as they had stated, simply ahead of the other companies, and they are now competitive with other suppliers. When your renewal letter arrives, you need do nothing, it will automatically renew your fixed rate plan for 12 months. You could also call customer service to get a longer plan, if you wish. Either way, thank you for participating.

Columbia Lodge No. 25's 2015 Officers



WM Radu SW Erick JW Winfried Secretary Walt



Treasurer Rich SD Juan JD Jeff SS Don



JS Wes Chaplain Earl Organist Dave



Tiler Tim Historian Dave



The Annual Wine Tasting Festival on October 11 2014 was full of fellowship and great tastes in wine and food. The Lodge raised over \$4,000 for the Scholarship Fund. The event kitchen staff was lead by Chef Paul Finney (www.octoberkitchen.com). Proprietor Craig Witzke (www.southsidewines.com) coordinated the wine selections for the six tables. Don Wills was the event chairman.



We are saddened by the recent loss of
Leroy W. Spiller

CALENDAR

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

All Dinners require Reservations

- January 7** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
Building Association Directors Meeting (7PM)
- January 21** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- January 24** **CT CHIP Event at Pack 158's Pinewood Derby**
Noon - 3:30 PM – Hebron Avenue School
- January 29** **Tobacco Valley Blue Council Meeting**
Wyllys-Sts. John Lodge No. 4
80 Walsh Avenue, Newington
Dinner at 6:30 PM - Meeting at 7:30 PM
- February 10** EA° 1st Rehearsal 7 PM
- February 14** **Ladies at the Table** (6:00 PM)
Reservations by Feb. 7th (Contact JW Vinny)
- February 18** **Entered Apprentice Degree (Officers Tux)**
Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM - Reservations by Feb 15th (Contact JW Vinny)
- March 4** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- March 18** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- March 24** FC° Rehearsal 7 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 1** **Fellowcraft Degree (Officers Tux)**
Stated Communication
Dinner 6:30 PM - Reservations by March 29th (Contact JW Winfried)
- April 3** Grand Lodge Banquet (Cromwell)
- April 4** Grand Lodge Annual Meeting (Cromwell)
- May 20** **Awards Night (Officers Tux)**
Dinner 6:30 PM Reservations by May 13



On Labor Day (9/1), WB Arnie Grot and Senior Steward Jeff Cote ran the Faxon Law New Haven 20K. The high 70 to low 80's °F and high humidity (dew point 73°) provided a challenging day. Arnie finished in 2:10:26 and Jeff in 2:18:45.

2015 OFFICERS

- RADU G. SAPATORU** (Tomita) Worshipful Master
104 Deerfield Drive (860) 633-2440; (860) 965-4301 (c)
Glastonbury, CT 06033 sapatoru@gmail.com
- ERIK E. ROBERTS** (Christina) Senior Warden
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- WINFRIED (Vinny) QUAST** (Leyda) Junior Warden
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- WALTER GRUBE, PM** Secretary
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- RICHARD L. BEEBE, PDD** (Abbie) Treasurer
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- EARL S. EVANS, PM** Chaplain
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Newington, CT 06111 earlevans@earthlink.com
- JUAN C. DIAZ** (Ether) Senior Deacon
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- JEFFREY S. COTE** (Nathalie) Junior Deacon
83 Trinity Avenue (860) 803-7842
Glastonbury, CT 06033 jeff@heritagekitchen.com
- DONALD A. WILLS, PDL** (Priscilla) Senior Steward
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- WESLEY R. SMITH** Junior Steward
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- DAVID E. SODERBERG** (Carolyn) Organist
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Glastonbury, CT 06033 dsoderberg@sbcglobal.net
- DAVID C. LOCKARD** (Pam) Historian
10 Southgate Drive (860) 659-3806
South Glastonbury, CT 06073 dclockard@gmail.com

Trustees

- Don Wills** – Term expires at end of 2015
Gerry Thompson – Term expires at end of 2016
Earl Evans – Term expires at end of 2017

Connecticut Child Identification Program

We need your help on Jan 26 and Feb 10.



On January 24, we are conducting a CTCHIP event at Cub Scout Pack 158's Pinewood Derby at Hebron Avenue School. Columbia Lodge is the sponsoring organization for the pack. **We need 6 brothers to work with the scouts on January 24.**

In February, we will be conducting a CTCHIP event at Cub Scout Pack 356's Pinewood Derby at Nayaug

School. **We need 6 brothers to work with the scouts in February (date to be announced).**

Contact Arnie Grot (860-633-5849) to volunteer.



Our Newest Master Masons were raised on October 15, 2014. Shown from the left are, Michael Prisco, RW Rinaldo F. Magliano, Jr. Robert Ulrich, RW Steven P. McMahon, WM Brian Berk, Calin Sapatoru and SW Radu Sapatoru.

2015 Lodge Mission

To spread the word about Freemasonry and our Tenets, to continue to receive new brothers, to promote new young members, to aid and assist brothers who are in need and to grow our officers.

COLUMBIA's Living PAST MASTERS

Mario L. Accornero	1958, 95
Henry L. Killam	1961
Reno L. Ferrando	1962
Leon E. Gardiner	1965
Robert W. Flavell, PDD 6B 1978	1967, 68
Franklin J. Davis Jr., PAGM 6C 2002	1972
William A. Blatchley	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
Arnold B. Waterman	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, AGM 6A 2009	1991, 92, 2005
Leonard E. Whitford Jr.	1992
Walter Grube	1993, 94, 97, 2001
Herbert E. Grommeck	1996
Arthur M. Rettberg	1996
Lawrence A. Miffitt	1997, 98
Arnold S. Grot	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, DL 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
Allen E. Acker (Hospitality # 128)	1971
Robert F. LeDoux (Friendship #145)	1981
Anthony F. Keegan PAGM 6C 1993 DD 6A 2009	
(Wylls-St. John's No. 4)	1982
Burton F. Turner (Somerset-St James #34)	Burton F. Turner
(Somerset-St James #34)	2007

Auvergne Honorary Demoloy Chapter 2014 Class



Brothers Arnie Grot and Bob Fitzgerald were recognized as Honorary DeMolays on September 28.

Historian Corner

Fifty Pounds of Flour

Ruel C. Gridley (1829-1871), Civil War humanitarian and a member of 8 Masonic Lodges in 2 states, was born in Hannibal, Missouri, and was a boyhood friend of Mark Twain. During the Civil War, Brother Gridley bet a friend a 50 pound sack of flour on the outcome of a political race. The loser was to carry the sack 1 1/2 miles from Clifton to Austin, Nevada. Gridley lost and carried the load, followed by a brass band playing "John Brown's Body." At the end of the march Brother Gridley auctioned off the sack with proceeds going to the Sanitary Commission, a charitable organization benefiting sick and wounded soldiers. The buyer made the donation but didn't want the flour. So Brother Gridley shouldered his "sanitary sack of flour" and carried it throughout Nevada and California auctioning it over and over again. Ultimately he raised over \$ 275,000 (\$ 3.9 million in today's dollars) for his organization, which eventually became the primary forerunner to a much more well-known charity — the Red Cross.



From: Freemasons: *Tales From The Craft* by Steven L. Harrison (Twain told the story of the Gridley flour sack in his 1872 book *Roughing It*.)



TRESTLEBOARD

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

895 MAIN STREET
S. GLASTONBURY, CONNECTICUT



CONNECTICUT FREEMASONS

Making a Difference in our Lives and in our Communities.

January - March 2015

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