

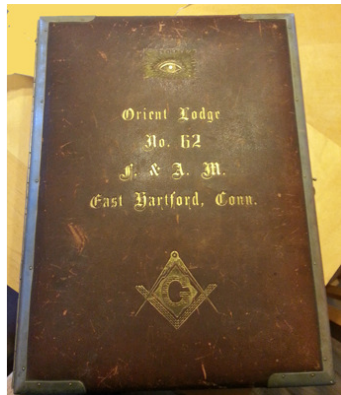
# MASTER'S MESSAGE

*Brothers:* Tidings from the East! It seems like we've hardly begun the year and Spring is already upon us. I hope that everyone has fared well with all of the storms that keep hitting the Northeast. I would also like to remind you that if you need help digging out or getting from place to place because of the snow, please do not hesitate to call an officer. I, like many of you, have a certain amount of pride which would likely prevent me from asking, but please remember that as Freemasons, we are here for each other and it is okay to ask for assistance.

It has been a quiet, yet exciting first few months of 2013. We began the year by initiating SEVEN new members, many of whom will have already become Fellowcrafts by the time you read this. These new members are young and eager to learn about Freemasonry. If you would like to hear more about them or contribute to their Masonic education, please let us know! In February, we held our annual **Ladies at Table** program. It was very well attended, as we were able to have it on a Saturday evening instead of a regular meeting night. A big thanks goes out to Brother Paul Finney (chef), JW Brian Berk (event chairman), and the kitchen staff for a job well done.

There is one particular incident that I would like to highlight. In early February, I received an email from the Grand Secretary and member of Columbia Lodge, Bob Fitzgerald. The message pointed me to an online auction for a seemingly old book with

Orient Lodge #62 F & AM on the cover. As part of his normal explorations on the internet, RWB Michael Dodge (Grand Sr. Deacon) discovered this item and immediately notified us. The book has many photos of Past Masters of Orient Lodge # 62 in East Hartford, which has been part of Columbia



Lodge since 2006. The book was presented to the Lodge in 1896 and the first entry is from 1877. There are names in it such as Brewer and Forbes, very prominent names in East Hartford. Needless to say, the artifact has been returned to its rightful home in our Lodge. The story of how this all came to be is one I'd like to share with you.

The gentleman, who we acquired this book from, got it, rather unintentionally, at an estate auction. He purchased a number of boxes, not knowing their contents, and found it inside. It is a fairly common practice of buying "blind" estate items as a gamble that you could possibly sell the items and make a profit

in the end. What likely occurred is that a brother brought this book to his home, either for safe keeping or research purposes, and forgot he had it. After his passing, it went to auction instead of being returned to the Lodge. It was a piece of our history that was lost until our brother luckily stumbled upon it. In light of this event, I would like to ask all of you to peruse your Masonic belongings and see that they are sufficiently documented, especially if they belong to the Lodge, so they are not lost in the future. Make sure either your family members know what they are, or in the case of items belonging to the Lodge, make sure the items are returned or that our Secretary knows you have them. One of the most valuable things our institution has is the history of its members and of its Lodges. Please help us preserve that history by properly documenting its artifacts.

The highlights of the second quarter of the year will be the Grand Lodge Annual Communication, Awards Night, and the Memorial Day Parade. At the Grand Lodge meeting, RWB Simon LaPlace will ascend to the Grand East. Brother Simon has made many changes to the structure of Freemasonry in the state of CT – too many for me to discuss here. However, I will say that the changes are geared towards future Grand Masters having a 2 year term. **PLEASE NOTE** that the date for **Awards Night** has changed from the previous Trestleboard. Many of our service pin recipients could not attend in April. Please see the enclosed flier for further information and make your reservations soon! Also, May 27th is the date for Glastonbury's **Memorial Day Parade**. We will be marching again this year so please let me know if you are interested.

Be well and safe, my brothers. Fraternaly, Michael

## Support our Lodge and Save on your Electricity Bill

I want to tell you about our partnership with Viridian, a company which generates electricity for residents of CT, MA, NY and several other states. I am asking that you change your electricity SUPPLIER to Viridian. When



you look at your electric bill, there is a charge for the supply of the electricity you use, as well as a charge for the delivery of that energy. For those who use CL&P or United Illuminating as your SUPPLIER, you need to know that they are going to discontinue that service. They will still be DELIVERING the electricity to your house and will continue to be your utility company, but will begin to use a third party to generate the actual energy. If you do not choose an alternate supplier, they will assign one for you. It is free to switch, and you will save money, as Viridian's fixed and variable rates are extremely competitive. Also, if you switch through our website ([viridian.com/columbialodge25](http://viridian.com/columbialodge25)), Columbia Lodge will receive \$2 per month for every month you stay with them & a \$250 bonus for every 25 people who sign up. It is a great program.. it's FREE, you'll SAVE MONEY, and you'll be fundraising for Columbia Lodge. Questions? Contact our Junior Steward, Brother Neal Forte. Thank you, brothers.

# CALENDAR

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

- April 3** Stated Communication/Business Meeting  
*Review Grand Lodge Legislation*
- April 7** Grand Lodge Banquet (Cromwell)
- April 8** Grand Lodge Annual Meeting (Cromwell)
- April 17** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- May 1** Stated Communication/Business Meeting
- May 15**  **Awards Night (Officers Tax)**  
**Open Lodge at 6:00 PM**  
Dinner 6:30 PM Reservations by May 8  
MM° Rehearsal (1<sup>st</sup> Part) 7 PM
- May 22** MM° Rehearsal (Tragedy) 7 PM
- May 29** MM° Rehearsal (Tragedy) 7 PM
- May 27** **Memorial Day Parade (Suits)** 9 AM  
Assemble at 8:30 AM on Welles St behind St Paul Church
- May 30** **331th Meeting of the 6th District BL Council**  
Friendship-Tuscan #145  
25 E. Center St, Manchester  
Dinner at 6:30 PM Meeting at 7:30 PM
- June 5** **Master Mason Degree (Officers Tax)**  
Stated Communication *Dinner 6:30 PM*  
*Reservations by June. 3<sup>rd</sup> (Contact JW Brian)*
- June 19** **Picnic**  
Stated Communication
- June 23**  **Saints John Sunday (10:00 AM)**  
Meet at 9:30 AM  
First Congregational Church  
837 Main Street, East Hartford

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 6** **Wine Tasting Festival**



We are saddened by the recent loss of  
*William J. Stephens*  
*Leon W. Turner, PM, PDD*



# 2013 OFFICERS

<b>MICHAEL E. HUDSON</b> (Amy)	Worshipful Master
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## Flag Presentation at Officer Installation

### Washington Commandery No. 1, Knights Templar



On December 19, Sir Knights Richard Sawyers, George Zack, Bob Nordstrom, Arnie Grot and Mike Seamon of Washington Commandery #1 presented the colors prior to the installation of our 2013 Officers.



At **Ladies At Table** on February 16, 2013, brothers, wives and friends assembled to enjoy fellowship at a seven course dinner with a toast preceding each course. Masons understand and recognize the support that they receive from their ladies. Ladies At Table is just one of many ways in which we show them our gratitude. Chef Paul Finney ([www.octoberkitchen.com](http://www.octoberkitchen.com)) prepared the meal.



On January 26, 2013, brothers (left to right: Don, Dave, Travis, Tony, Juan, Rich and Michael) of Columbia Lodge No. 25 prepared and served the courses for **Pythagoras Chapter No. 17, R.A.M.'s Table Chapter** in East Hartford.

## 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
Winthrop Jensen	1967
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
Dwight W. Nickerson	1982, 83
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
Allen E. Acker (Hospitality # 128)	1971
Robert F. LeDoux (Friendship #145)	1981
Anthony F. Keegan PAGM 6C 1993 DD 6A 2009	
(Wyllys-St. John's No. 4)	1982
Burton F. Turner (Somerset-St James #34)	2007

## Columbia Lodge No. 25's 2013 Officers



Seated: Worshipful Master Michael Hudson

From left standing: David Söderberg, Organist; Richard Beebe, Treasurer; Erik Roberts, Senior Deacon; David Lockard, Historian; George Zack, Tiler; Gerald Thompson, Chaplain; Jaun Diaz, Senior Steward; Brian Berk, Junior Warden; Walter Grube, Secretary; Radu Sapatoru, Senior Warden; Winfried Quast, Junior Deacon; Jim Caulfield, Marshall; Neal Forte, Junior Steward

*Cleanup Day find – a boon to the Lodge*



WB Don Wills found a **Masonic flask** in an open safe in our basement at the end of clean up day last summer. It was a beautiful yellow green and of a good heft when picked up. Upon further examination, it was estimated to date back to 1815. The decision was made to try and sell the artifact, as it had no ascertainable connection to Columbia Lodge or Connecticut Freemasonry. A friend of the Lodge and antiques dealer gladly purchased it from us and subsequently sold it at auction. The auction house was thrilled with its excellent condition and the Lodge received a very fair sum for 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.*

**April - June 2013**

**STATED COMMUNICATIONS**

1st and 3rd Wednesdays - 7:30 PM

TEL. 860-633-9698

(Phone in Temple)

<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