



## February 2023 Trestle Board

Brainard No. 102 Connecticut Ancient Free and Accepted Masons





**From the East:**  
**Worshipful Master's Report**  
**WM Richard A. Miller**

Brothers:

This is the second Trestle board of 2023 and I have some really great news to share. The Officers of Brainard Lodge had our Annual Inspection on January 24th. The inspection was on the Entered Apprentice Degree and the Officers did a fine job. Brother Ryan Edwards was our candidate and he received a great degree. Ryan is a fine young man who went to East Lyme High School with two of our members, Junior Deacon Richard Galbo and Brother Dante Simpkins. All of the Officers and Brothers did a fine job.

I'd like to thank the following Officers and Brothers who had various roles during the Degree Work.

Senior Warden -Bro. Seth Beebe also the Junior Stewards part of the Stewards  
Lecture.

Junior Warden – W.B. Tyler Beebe

Treasurer – W.B. John Henry Wadsworth III

Secretary – W.B. James A. Gilstrap

The Secretary and Treasurer worked very hard in getting the 2022 Financials together  
for the Lodge, Temple Association and Trustees so the Financial section of the  
Annual Inspection would be absolutely flawless.

Senior Deacon – Bro. Jonathan Lamas. What more can I say about getting out under  
the gun right off the bat and doing a totally exceptional job on the Entered Apprentice  
Degree.

Junior Deacon - Bro. Richard L. Galbo

Senior Steward – Bro. Mike Bogdan – The Senior Stewards part of the Stewards  
Lecture as well as conducting Brother Ryan.

Junior Steward -Bro. Wilson Scott assisting with conducting Brother Ryan

Marshal – W.B. Gordon Fraser – Conducting the Inspection Suite into the Lodge  
Room and Introducing them as well as the Stika Lecture

Chaplain – M.W.B. Theodore J. Nelson – Apron Presentation as well as the Bible  
Passage for the circumambulation.

Tyler – W.B. Scott Larkham

Guitar – R.W.B. Rob Krawic

Bible Lecture – W.B. Andrew Pedro

Working Tools – W.B. Glen Studwell

Four Cardinal Virtues – W.B. William E. Weisert II

The Inspection Suite

R.W.B. Phil Rathbun, District Deputy 8-B

R.W.B. Rob Krawic, District Deputy 8-A

W.B. John Stogden – AGM 8-A

M.W.B. Ted Nelson Past Grand Master of Connecticut

R.W.B. Jim Moran PDD – 8-B

W.B. John H. Wadsworth III Past A.G.M.8-B

W.B. Glen Studwell – Past A.G.M 8-A

I know I didn't give the new Officers much time to get into their new chairs but I've always liked to get our Annual Inspection out of the way as soon as possible. Despite the fact that there was very little time to prepare, the Brothers didn't let their Lodge down.

In the past when we were performing three classes of candidates each year the officers had plenty of practice, but we haven't had that luxury in several years. That's one of the reasons we are going to be taking our time bringing the new Brothers along. If we take the time to educate the new Brothers and let them set their own pace, I really think that we can keep the Brothers interested and instill a desire to learn more about Masonry, and we will have Brothers who will remain active for years.

To do this it will take a combination of Education, Fellowship, Marketing as well as a willingness to take chances and not being afraid to fail occasionally.

As some of you may know Brainard Lodge is open every Tuesday evening. We have our Stated Communications on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday and the other Tuesdays are used for rehearsals, candidate proficiency and Temple Association meetings, among other things. We are no longer trying to rush a candidate through his degrees in two months. We are taking our time and letting them set their own pace. There is much more to Masonry than ritual and memorization. Don't get me wrong. Those two items are very important, but if we can take our time and help the new Brothers attain the knowledge they are seeking, we believe they will be more apt to remain active. We have to give the Brothers, not only the new Brothers but our Brothers who have been members of this great Fraternity for years, a reason to come to Lodge.

When I became a Mason in 1971 the emphasis was on Ritual and doing Degree work. Most Lodges had a strong group of Past Masters who were the real power in the Lodge. If the Master did good ritual he was considered a good Master. There was no emphasis on Masonic Education. In fact, despite being a Mason for over 50 years many of the younger members have much more knowledge of Esoteric Masonry than I do. That is why we are concentrating so much on Masonic Education.

W.B. Tyler Beebe, our Junior Warden, has stepped up to be our Masonic Education Chairman. If there is a particular program you would be interested in seeing presented or if there is a program you would like to present yourself contact W.B. Tyler and get the program on the calendar.

Speaking of programs, if ritual is not your forte take a look at the committees we have. Maybe you can serve Brainard Lodge by either chairing a committee or being a committee member. Committees are important and the more Brothers we get involved the better it is for all of us.

Congratulations to our Treasurer Worshipful Brother John Henry Wadsworth III. The permanent members of the 8<sup>th</sup> Masonic District UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED Brother John the next District Deputy from Masonic District 8-B.

Also Congratulations to Worshipful Brother John Stogden on his getting unanimously elected District Deputy from Masonic District 8A.

Both Brothers are well deserving of their new titles, "Right Worshipful Brother".

They will receive their aprons, collars, and patents from Grand Master Elect Most Worshipful Grand Master of Mason's in Connecticut Brother Joseph Porco at the Grand Lodge Session.

**Richard Miller, PM**

Worshipful Master

---



## Events Calendar

### February

- **Tuesday February 14, 2023** we will have a Stated Communication and will be finalizing our 2023 Budget as well as discussing plans for Grand Lodge which is Friday, March 31, Saturday April 1 and ends on Sunday April 2. There will be a dinner served at 6:30 pm.
- **Tuesday February 21, 2023** we will be having a Temple Association Meeting beginning at 6:00 and will have an officers meeting and will work with Brother Ryan on his proficiency.

- **Monday February 27, 2023** Blue Lodge Council Union Lodge #31 to host.
  
- **Tuesday February 28, 2023** we will be having a Stated Communication with a program on Brother George Carlton Cook who was a member of Brainard Lodge who was the recipient of two Navy crosses during World War Two. For those of you old enough to remember black and white TV and a show called the "Silent Service", one of the episodes was of the U.S.S Searaven rescuing 32 Australian Soldiers and Aviators from the island of Timor and saving them from becoming Prisoners of War of the Japanese. My father was a MoMM1c on the Searaven, on this war patrol, and was promoted to CMoMM for his work when the sub had a fire in the Maneuvering Room which rendered the sub without power.

### **March**

- **Tuesday March 7, 2023** will be an Officers Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
  
- **Saturday March 11, 2023** Brainard Lodge will host our annual Corned beef & Cabbage Dinner from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
  
- **Tuesday March 14, 2023** will be a Stated Communication with an Educational Program.

- **Tuesday March 21, 2023** will be a Temple Association meeting followed by fellowship and rehearsal for the Fellowcraft Degree.
  - **Tuesday March 28, 2023** will be a Stated Communication with a program to be determined.
- 

## **From the West:**

### **SW Seth Beebe**

Hey Brothers:

It looks like we're going to have a lot of fun and great activities coming up this year. I'm looking forward to serving with each and every one of you again.

When I first stepped into the officer line, I did so passionately for what I was given the opportunity to do. However, the flare faded as the entire discussion in lodge was always about merge.

Last year, I joined Brainard Lodge as the Senior Warden and I was reminded why I joined Masonry and all the great things that come with being a Mason. I am ecstatic with what this Lodge has planned and look forward to probably one of the best years of my journey in the Fraternity.

Fraternally,

**Bro. Seth Beebe**

Senior Warden

---

## Information & Technology Committee

Greetings Brothers,

As a member of the 2023 Information & Technology Committee, I manage our [official website](#) and [Facebook](#) page, as well as our monthly Trestle Board communications. If you have any photos, announcements, or other communications you'd like to share, please contact me at the email below.

Email: [jonathanplamas@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanplamas@gmail.com)

Fraternally,

**Bro. Jonathan Lamas**

Senior Deacon

---

# 2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES

## Reminder: 2023 Blue Lodge Dues

As a reminder, membership fees are currently due for the 2023 calendar year. If you've already submitted yours, thank you! Please contact our lodge secretary, [James Gilstrap](#), with any questions.

---



# 2023 Officers

*Worshipful Master*

**Richard Arnold Miller**

E: [brainard102sec@icloud.com](mailto:brainard102sec@icloud.com)

C: [\(860\) 460-8683](tel:(860)460-8683)

*Senior Warden*

**Seth Harrison Beebe "Seth"**

E: [sethbeebe27@gmail.com](mailto:sethbeebe27@gmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 984-2703](tel:(860)984-2703)

*Junior Warden*

**Tyler Patrick Beebe**

E: [typatbee@aol.com](mailto:typatbee@aol.com)

C: [\(860\) 389-0111](tel:(860)389-0111)

*Treasurer*

**John H. Wadsworth III**

E: [wads.j.h@gmail.com](mailto:wads.j.h@gmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 460-5135](tel:(860)460-5135)

*Secretary*

**James Alton Gilstrap**

E: [jamesgilstrap4@live.com](mailto:jamesgilstrap4@live.com)

C: [\(619\) 600-8799](tel:(619)600-8799)

*Chaplain*

**Theodore James Nelson**

E: [ted@tjnelsonhomes.com](mailto:ted@tjnelsonhomes.com)

C: [\(860\) 235-0770](tel:(860)235-0770)

*Senior Deacon*

**Jonathan Patrick Lamas**

E: [jonathanplamas@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanplamas@gmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 415-1121](tel:(860)415-1121)

*Junior Deacon*

**Richard Lawrence Galbo**

E: [richard.galbo8@gmail.com](mailto:richard.galbo8@gmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 287-4359](tel:(860)287-4359)

*Senior Steward*

**Michael Edward Bogdan**

E: [meb2289@aol.com](mailto:meb2289@aol.com)

C: [\(203\) 988-0027](tel:(203)988-0027)

*Junior Steward*

**Wilson Scott**

E: [wilsonscottlandscape@hotmail.com](mailto:wilsonscottlandscape@hotmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 639-8129](tel:(860)639-8129)

*Marshal*

**Gordon Harold Fraser Jr**

E: [gfraser592@gmail.com](mailto:gfraser592@gmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 882-8404](tel:(860)882-8404)

*Tiler*

**Scott Allen Larkham**

E: [slarkham@aol.com](mailto:slarkham@aol.com)

C: [\(860\) 861-0158](tel:(860)861-0158)

*Almoner*

**Theodore James Nelson**

E: [ted@tjnelsonhomes.com](mailto:ted@tjnelsonhomes.com)

C: [\(860\) 235-0770](tel:(860)235-0770)

*Assistant Secretary*

**Glenn Edward Studwell**

E: [gstudwell@aol.com](mailto:gstudwell@aol.com)

C: [\(860\) 912-6679](tel:(860)912-6679)

*Assistant Treasurer*

**Joshua Alan Rehrig**

E: [JAREHRIG@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JAREHRIG@GMAIL.COM)

C: [\(860\) 501-8165](tel:(860)501-8165)

*Trustee 2*

**Scott Allen Larkham**

E: [slarkham@aol.com](mailto:slarkham@aol.com)

C: [\(860\) 861-0158](tel:(860)861-0158)

*Trustee 1*

**Theodore James Nelson**

E: [ted@tjnelsonhomes.com](mailto:ted@tjnelsonhomes.com)

C: [\(860\) 235-0770](tel:(860)235-0770)

*Trustee 3*

**Tyler Patrick Beebe**

E: [typatbee@aol.com](mailto:typatbee@aol.com)

C: [\(860\) 389-0111](tel:(860)389-0111)

*Historian*

**Theodore James Nelson**

E: [ted@tjnelsonhomes.com](mailto:ted@tjnelsonhomes.com)

C: [\(860\) 235-0770](tel:(860)235-0770)

*Assistant Secretary*

**James Alton Gilstrap**

E: [jamesgilstrap4@live.com](mailto:jamesgilstrap4@live.com)

C: [\(619\) 600-8799](tel:(619)600-8799)

*Web Master*

**Jonathan Patrick Lamas**

E: [jonathanplamas@gmail.com](mailto:jonathanplamas@gmail.com)

C: [\(860\) 415-1121](tel:(860)415-1121)

*EMR Coordinator*

**Richard Arnold Miller**

E: [brainard102sec@icloud.com](mailto:brainard102sec@icloud.com)

C: [\(860\) 460-8683](tel:(860)460-8683)



# **Committees**

## **Finance**

TBD

## **Auditing**

WM Richard Miller

Seth Beebe

Tyler Beebe

## **Fund Raising/Philanthropy**

Michael Bogdan

## **By-Laws**

Theodore James Nelson

## **Programs**

TBD

## **Dues and Delinquents**

TBD

## **Membership/Retention**

TBD

## **Scholarship**

Theodore James Nelson

Andrew Ely

**Investigation**

TBD

**Marketing**

Jonathan Lamas

**Information & Technology**

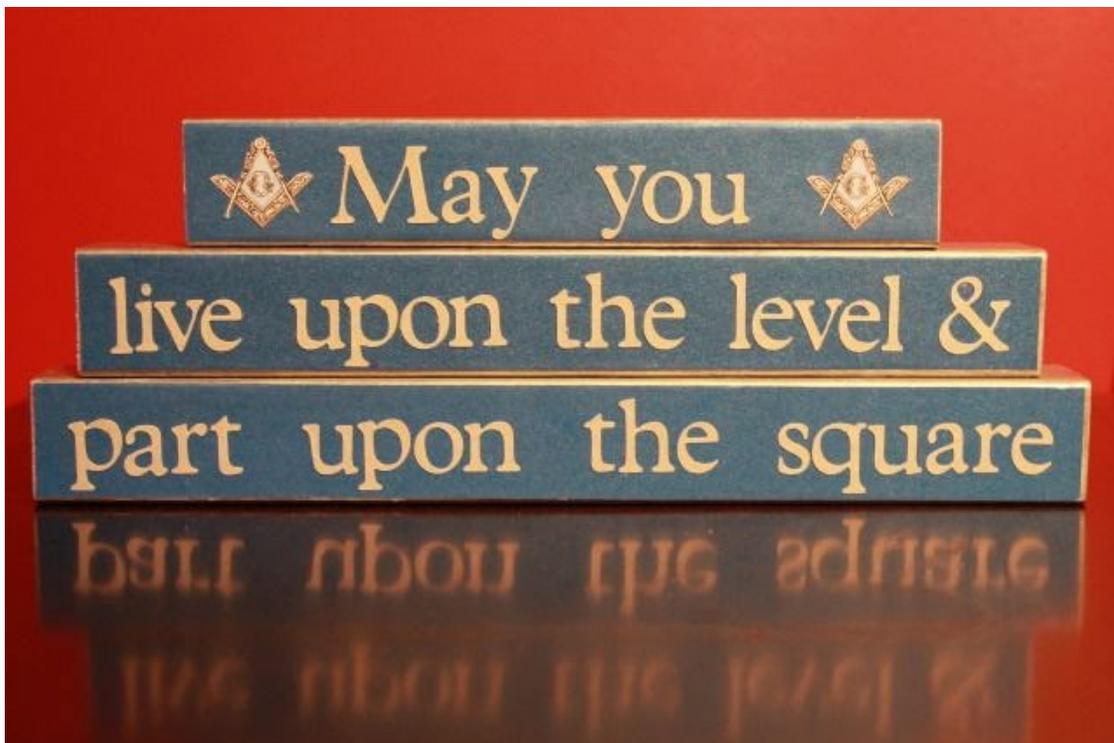
James Gilstrap

Jonathan Lamas

John Wadsworth III

If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact the [WM](#) or [Secretary](#).

---





Brainard No 102 Connecticut Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, P.O. Box 120, Niantic, CT 06357-0120