



CONNECTICUT
FREEMASONS

Columbia Lodge No. 25, A.F.&A.M
September-December 2023
Trestleboard

<https://lodgelocator.com/columbia-25>
Check web site for latest information!

Columbia Lodge #25 is on Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/columbialodge/?view_public_for=342780670785

MASTER'S MESSAGE



David LaFargue

Greetings Brothers, families, and friends of Columbia Lodge #25. The summer of 2023 is coming to a close and the cooler air is upon us. However, we cannot complain about our weather in Connecticut with all the damage we have recently witnessed across the country.

There have been fires in Hawaii, July 3 through 6 were the four hottest days on record globally, hurricane Hillary and Canadian wildfires, just to name a few. I hope we will all keep our fellow Americans in our thoughts and prayers and help where you can, as this extreme weather doesn't seem to be letting up.

As many of you may have heard, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut has started a new program called the Blue Wave. Columbia #25 was selected as one of the initial participants. As a result, we have met have been meeting throughout the summer with many new prospects. I would like to thank RW Brother Jeff Flynn for his tireless work as the Lodge prospect manager and Almoner. All these meetings have borne fruit, as we will be portraying an EA degree on September 20, 2023 for three new candidates for Freemasonry. Additionally, we will be portraying the MM degree on October 18, 2023 for two Brothers.

This fall the Lodge will be hosting our annual Wine tasting event on October 7, 2023, to support our Glastonbury High School scholarship program. WB Brian Berk will be looking for help on the day of the event, so please provide any support you can. Tickets can be purchased using the following link: <https://columbialodge25.ticketspice.com/wine-tasting-2023>.

WB Don Wills is organizing a water station for the Hartford Marathon on Saturday October 14, 2023 at his house in E. Hartford. We will be supporting this event and letting the community know we are here by hanging our new Lodge banner by the street.

I look forward to seeing you this fall at our many upcoming events.

Brothers, as I said in an earlier message, take advantage of all that Masonry has to offer. The efforts are rewarded many times over!

Fraternally,

David S. LaFargue, Worshipful Master 2023

Update your Information on Grandview

Help us to stay in touch with you by regularly updating your personal information. Go to the "Masons Only" section of the Grand Lodge website (<https://ctfreemasons.net/>) and click "Member Portal" in the upper right corner. Sign-in using your email ID if already registered. *If not, then go to "Sign Up" lower left, under the login screen and follow the instructions using your Lodge number (25 for Columbia) and member ID (it's on your dues card).* Then go to "My Profile" to update.

CALENDAR

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

All Dinners require Reservations

- September 6** Stated Communication/Business
- September 11** EA Rehearsal 7 PM
- September 18** EA Rehearsal 7 PM
- September 20** **Entered Apprentice Degree (Officers Tux)**
Lemon Chicken Dinner 6:30 PM
RSVP to JW by 9/18
- September 29** **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**
Columbia #25
Chicken Parmesan Dinner at 6:30 PM
- October 4** Stated Communication/ Business
2024 Budget Review
- October 7** **Grape Harvest Wine Festival 6-9 PM**
Buy your tickets online (\$35)
<https://columbialodge25.ticketspice.com/wine-tasting-2023> or
at South Side Wine & Spirit Shoppe,
860-633-2763 Craig Witzke
- October 9** MM Rehearsal 7 PM
- October 16** MM Rehearsal 7 PM
- October 18** **Master Mason Degree (Officers Tux)**
Dinner 6:30 PM *RSVP to JW by 10/16*
- October 21** **Grand Lodge of CT - Semi-Annual Communication**
900 AM - 12:30 PM
Wallingford, CT
- November 1** Stated Communication/Business
- November 6** FC Rehearsal 7 PM
- November 13** FC Rehearsal 7 PM
- November 15** **Fellowcraft Degree (Officers Tux)**
Dinner at 6:30 PM
Reservations to JW by 11/13
- November 29** **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**
Friendship-Tuscan #145
24 Golway St, Manchester, CT 06042
Dinner at 6:30 PM
- December 6** Annual Meeting
- December 20** Stated Communication/Business
- December 21** **Hartford County Actual Past Masters**
Columbia #25
Dinner 6:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

TBD Installation of 2024 Lodge Officers



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April-June 2023 Trestleboard

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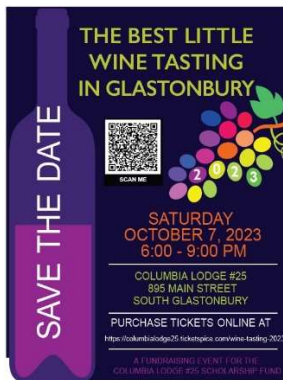
https://www.facebook.com/columbialodge/?view_public_for=342780670785

Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, A.A.S.R.



Walter Grube was coronated a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, A.A.S.R., on Tuesday August 29, 2023, in Louisville, KY at the 211th annual meeting of the Supreme Council, 33°, NMJ.

Grape Harvest Wine Festival



Join us on Saturday October 7, 2023, from 6-9 PM for The Best Little Wine Tasting in Glastonbury. <https://columbialodge25.ticketspice.com/wine-tasting-2023>.

Fellowcraft Degree June 7, 2023



On June 7, 2023, Columbia Lodge No. 25, A.F. & A.M. passed two Fellowcrafts. Shown in the photo, from the left are RW PDD Arnie Grot, FC Tushar Meshram, RW DD6B Tom Duclos, SW Juan Diaz, WM Dave LaFargue, FC Saint Patrick and RW Jeff Flynn.

Necrology



Sadly, in the past few months, four of our brothers have been called to the Grand Lodge on High.

Brother John P. Kennedy passed away on Wednesday August 24, 2022. John was born in 1942. John's father-in-law (his first wife) was Elmer Gardiner, PM of Columbia Lodge in 1948. John's brother-in-law Leon Gardiner, PM of Columbia Lodge in 1965 recommended John to become a Mason. He was raised in Columbia #25 on June 5, 1968, with Bob Flint as Worshipful Master. John graduated from Cheney Tech in Manchester and joined the Navy where he served on a ship as part of the Cuba blockade in late October 1962. He took some ribbing from his shipmates during this tense time as he and the President (no relation) had the same name. He had been living in Mims, FL for some time.

Brother Anthony Gesaldo passed away on Thursday June 1, 2023. Anthony was born in Hartford on March 6, 1947. Tony was raised in Daskam-Columbia #25 on November 6, 1996. He was a member of Pythagoras Chapter #17, Royal Arch Masons and the Valley of Hartford A.A.S.R.. He was a retired barber who was proud of his civic contributions, enjoyed time with his family, and indulging in a beautiful meal with a fine glass of wine and a cigar to follow.

Right Worshipful Brother Anthony F. Keegen passed away on Friday, August 18, 2023. He was born in June 1940. Tony was raised in Saint John's Lodge No. 4 of West Hartford on June 22, 1977. He served as Worshipful Master of Saint John's in 1982. Saint John's consolidated with Wyllys in 1988. Tony served Wyllys-St. John's Lodge No. 4 as Trustee. Tony affiliated with Daskam Lodge No. 86 in the north end of Glastonbury. Daskam Lodge, through two consolidations became part of Columbia Lodge No. 25 in 2006. Tony served Columbia Lodge No. 25 as Trustee as well as ritual director for the Master Mason Degree for many years. He served as Worshipful Master in 2020. In 1993, RW Gerald F. Thompson asked Tony to serve as Associate Grand Marshall with him in District 6C. They served together in 1994 as well. In 2009, MWGM Arthur H. Carlstrom appointed Tony as District Deputy in District 6A. He was reappointed by MWGM Charles A. Buck, Jr. in 2010.

Tony was coronated a Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33°, A.A.S.R. in 2003. He served as Commander-in-Chief of Nathan Hale Consistory in 2005-6. He served as Treasurer of the Valley of Hartford, A.A.S.R. for many years.