



CONNECTICUT
FREEMASONS

Columbia Lodge No. 25, A.F.&A.M September-December 2024 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



Juan Carlos Diaz



Let us return to the
Quarries.

Brothers!

Welcome back!

I would like to welcome the craft back to labor. Our Trestleboard is full of exciting events, including the wine tasting, esoteric dinner and two degrees. I highly appreciate all for your hard work. May Brotherly love prevail and the Grand Architect bless our endeavors this autumn.

I would like to remember and dedicate the rest of 2024 to Gerald Thompson. Brother Gerald was a pillar of our

institution and his memory will be in our hearts and with our lodge for many years to come.

Juan Carlos Diaz, Worshipful Master 2024

Wine Tasting Fundraiser



Tickets:

<https://tinyurl.com/gburyfundraiser>

Annual event to raise scholarship funds for the Columbia Lodge #25 Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are awarded to graduating student(s) to help toward college expenses at the Glastonbury High School Awards Ceremony in May. Patrons can sample and enjoy wines from several regions of the world known for their grape cultivation. Hors d'oeuvres are served to pair alongside your favorite wine. Patrons also have the chance to place a bulk order of wines at a discount.

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 4 Stated Communication/ Business
- September 18 Stated Communication/ Business
- September 30 **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**
Wyllys-St. John's #4
160 South St., West Hartford, CT 06127
Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM
- October 2 2025 Budget Review & EA Rehearsal
- October 5 **Wine Tasting Fundraiser**
6:00-9:00 PM
Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/gburyfundraiser>
- October 14 EA Rehearsal 7 PM
- October 16 EA Degree (**Officers Tux**)
Dinner at 6:30 PM
RSVP to JW Chris Gness by October 14
- TBA **Esoteric Masonry**
Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM
- October 19 **Semi-Annual Grand Lodge Communication**
22 Masonic Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492
9:00AM- 12:30 PM
- November 6 Stated Communication/ Business
- November 20 Stated Communication/ Business
- November 22 **Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting**
Friendship-Tuscan #145
24 Golway St., Manchester, CT 06040
Dinner at 6:30 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM
- December 4 Annual Meeting
- December 9 Fellowcraft Rehearsal 7 PM
- December 16 Fellowcraft Rehearsal 7PM
- December 18 **Fellowcraft Degree (Officers Tux)**
Dinner at 6:30 PM
RSVP to JW Chris Gness by December 16
- December 19 **Actual Past Masters Meeting**
Composite #28
150 Bridge St., Suffield, CT 06078
- January 8 **Installation of 2025 Officers**

Necrology



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

Brother Charles W. Marshall

passed away on Monday May 7, 2024. Brother Charles was born July 26, 1933 in Cleveland, Ohio. He grew up in Albion, Pennsylvania, where he graduated from Albion Area High School in the class of 1952. In November of that year, during the Korean War, he joined the U. S. Navy. He served aboard the Aircraft Carrier U.S.S Carol Sea. He later attended Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut and served aboard the U.S.S. Sea Robin # 407. He was discharged from the Navy on November 5, 1956 and reported for work at the Connecticut Power Company in Manchester, Connecticut the following day. He worked in the Line Department for 35 years, and after two mergers he retired from the Connecticut Light & Power Company in 1991. He lived in the Manchester/Vernon area since 1956, and wintered in Venice, Florida for ten years.

Charles sought light in Masonry and was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on April 18, 1962 in Orient Lodge No. 62, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with Worshipful Brother Alexander W. Grimshaw presiding Master, and has been a true and faithful Brother since then. He became a member of Columbia Lodge No. 25 when the two lodges consolidated in 2006. He was a member of the Craft for 62 years.

Brother Gerald F. Thompson passed away on Wednesday July 24, 2024. Gerry was born July 15, 1928, in Hartford to the late Lester Gordon and Elsie (Franklin) Thompson. He met Betty Thompson (same last name!) in high school and they were married for 71 years. They were blessed with two children, Daine and Stacey, along with four grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Gerry was a Korean War U.S. Army veteran and a graduate of the University of Connecticut. He spent his career as a civil engineer for Northeast Utilities, retiring in 1993.

Gerry was raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason on January 11, 1984 in Daskam Lodge #86 (now Columbia #25), with Worshipful Brother George N. Seely presiding Master, and has been a true and faithful Brother since then. He was a member of the Craft for over 40 years. Gerry served as Worshipful Master of Daskam #86 in 1989. He also served as Chaplain for 19 years. Gerry served the Grand Lodge as District Deputy of Masonic District 6B in 1994 and 1995. In 2002 Gerry received the Pierpont Edwards Award in Bronze for Distinguished Masonic Service. Gerry was

also a member of the Scottish Rite and served as Most Wise Master of the Cyrus Goodell Chapter of Rose Croix in 2000-2001. In 2004 Gerry was Coroneted a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason in Minneapolis. He was a member of Good Intent Chapter #17, serving as Worthy Patron numerous times. He was an active member in his church, New Covenant United Methodist Church (formerly Burnside United Methodist Church).

Historian Corner



David Lockard



You are my brother, and I am yours

This concept transcends the ceremonial and the symbolic to strike at the very heart of our fraternity.

It is not just a sentiment; it is the foundation upon which all Masonic teachings and actions rest.

At its core, this principle champions the ideal of universal brotherhood.

It reminds us that beyond our individual experiences and identities, we share a common humanity.

This recognition demands more than acknowledgment.

It calls for active engagement in the welfare of our fellows, advocating for support, understanding, and compassion in both word and deed.

The commitment to see and treat each other as brothers is a call to action.

It challenges us to embody the virtues of integrity, empathy, and benevolence and to reflect these in our interactions both within the Lodge and beyond its walls.

By doing so, we uphold Freemasonry's highest ideals and contribute to the creation of a better world.

This principle should not remain confined within the Lodge either.

Instead, it should resonate through our lives, influencing how we interact with the world.

It is a beacon guiding us toward extraordinary kindness, honesty, and honor in all our endeavors.

By embracing and living by the truth that each of us is a Brother to the other, we actualize the very essence of Freemasonry.

Master Mason Degree – June 5, 2024



Eight brothers from Composite Lodge No. 28 traveled to Columbia Lodge No. 25 in South Glastonbury with their Fellowcraft for a Master Mason Degree on June 5, 2024. A total of 37 brothers, including 3 from Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145 and one from Hartford Evergreen Lodge No. 88 were present.

In the photo, from the left are WB Brad Young (AGM6A), RWB John DiCioccio, Jr. (DD 6A), VWB Don Wills (DGL6), WM Derek Bensley (CL28), Saint Patrick (MM CL25), WM Juan Diaz (CL25), Godsway Attipoe (MM CL28), RWB Thomas A. Duclos (DD 6B), WB John H. LeDoux, Jr. (AGM6B) and WB Walt Grube (CL25).

65 Year Pin Presented – May 7, 2024



On May 7, 2024, Walt Grube traveled to The Hearth at Glastonbury and gave Ward Edgerton his 65-year service pin as Don Wills snapped the p

