



Columbia Lodge No. 25, A.F.&A.M

September-December 2025

<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



Deenak Saluru

To the Esteemed Brethren, Families, and Friends of Columbia Lodge No. 25:

As the golden hues of a New England summer yield to the subtle heralds of Autumn—shortening days and leaves kissed with the promise of change—I extend my warmest fraternal greetings.

Since my last correspondence at the vernal equinox, our Lodge has labored with steadfast devotion. Our principal officers represented our sacred institution at the Grand Lodge of Connecticut's Annual Communication, offering congratulations to the outgoing Grand Master and extending a hearty welcome to his successor. We have diligently pursued the work of the Craft, conducting a Lodge of Instruction on the Fellowcraft degree, raising three worthy Brothers to the sublime degree of Master Mason, and welcoming three new Entered Apprentices into our mystic circle. Our Lodge has also shone a light on the noble endeavors of our Brethren in erecting the third temple (making ourselves better Masons) and recognized the selfless contributions of community members. In the spirit of our Patron Saints, we convened a Table Lodge, graced by the presence of the Grand Master, and paid solemn tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our cherished Republic by marching in the Glastonbury Memorial Day Parade and tending to the flags at Hillside Cemetery, East Hartford. Furthermore, our commitment to charity was exemplified through our support for the Protectors of Animals in East Hartford and our service at the Valley of Hartford 5K Road Race, raising funds for the Children's Dyslexia Centers.

What lies ahead on our trowel's edge? By year's end, we shall guide our three Entered Apprentices to the light of further degrees, host a distinguished wine tasting event, and lend our strength to the Hartford Marathon water station. Two endeavors close to my heart also beckon: the prudent restructuring of our Lodge's investments to ensure enduring prosperity, and the renewal of the G light above the Oriental Chair, a beacon of wisdom and truth. I entreat you to continue gathering non-perishable offerings for our food drive, so that we may extend relief to those in need.

As the seasons turn, may you embrace the splendor of Autumn, the gratitude of Thanksgiving, and the sacred joy of Christmas. Let us continue to labor together, bound by the mystic tie, in service to our Craft and community.

Deepak Saluru, Worshipful Master 2025

CALENDAR

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

All Dinners require Reservations.

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| September 3 | Stated Communication / Business Meeting
<i>Entered Apprentice Education</i> |
| September 8 | FC Rehearsal 7 PM |
| September 15 | FC Rehearsal 7 PM |
| September 17 | Fellowcraft Degree (Officers Tux)
Dinner at 6:30
RSVP by 9/15 to JW Spooner |
| September 20 | Master Mason Degree with HE#88 – 9 AM
Hartford County 4H Camp
www.hartfordcounty4hcamp.org
Hartford County 4-H Camp
247 South Rd, Marlborough, CT 06447 |
| September 30 | Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting
Columbia #25
Dinner at 6:30 PM |
| October 1 | Stated Communication / Business
2026 Budget Review |
| October 4 | Wine Tasting Festival 6-9 PM
5 PM - 10 PM
Tickets https://glastwine.com/ |
| October 11 | Hartford Marathon Water Station #12
142 King Street, EH 7:30-11:30 AM |
| October 15 | Master Mason Degree (Officers Tux)
Dinner at 6:30
RSVP by 10/13 to JW Spooner |
| October 18 | Grand Lodge Semiannual 9AM-12:30 PM
Hartog Center
Wallingford, CT 06492 |
| November 5 | Stated Communication/Business Meeting |
| November 19 | Stated Communication/Business Meeting
Officers Step up Night |
| November 21 | Tobacco Valley Blue Lodge Council Meeting
Friendship-Tuscan #145
29 Golway Street, Manchester, CT 06042
Dinner at 6:30 PM |
| December 3 | Stated Communication / Annual Meeting |
| December 17 | Stated Communication / Business Meeting |
| December 18 | Actual Past Masters Meeting at
Composite #28
155 Bridge Street, Suffield, CT 06078
Dinner at 6:30PM |

Upcoming Events

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| January 7 | Installation Rehearsal, Officer Step up |
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Historian Corner



David Lockard

The Gift of Traveling Masonically

Travelling Masonically is to discover that the Craft is larger and smaller than you imagined. Larger, because each Lodge you visit has its own character, its own customs, its own rhythm of work. Smaller, because no matter how far you journey, you find yourself among Brothers who feel like home.

Visiting other Lodges is one of the richest experiences a Mason can have. It takes you out of routine. It shows you new ways of approaching ritual. It opens conversations with men whose paths you might never have crossed otherwise. You begin to see that while the landmarks are constant, the expression of Freemasonry is as diverse as the men who practice it.

Travel also teaches humility. You are a guest in another man's Lodge. You stand, observe, and learn. And in return, you are welcomed, often with a generosity that reminds you what the fraternity truly means.

The benefit is not just exposure to different traditions, but a reminder that the Light you seek is not confined to your own walls.

A Mason who travels becomes a Mason who grows. So, go. Knock on a door you have never entered. You may be surprised how wide the Craft really is.

District 6B Lodges Placed flags at East Hartford Hillside Cemetery.



Brothers from District 6B devoted time to honor veterans by placing American flags on their graves in the East Hartford Hillside Cemetery in the morning of Saturday May 17, 2025. VW Don Wills (a member of all three D6B Lodges) recruited brothers from Columbia #25 and Hartford Evergreen #88. Three Brothers brought their children to teach them this civic lesson. Shown from the left are VW Don Wills, WB Brian Warren (HE#88) and his three children, SS Philip Crump and his daughter (C#25), WM Deepak Saluru (C#25), Mike Kebayas holding the flag (HE88), Mike McClellan (HE#88), SW Chris Gness and his son (C#25).

Entered Apprentice Degree-July 16, 2025



On a mid-summer night, 33 Brothers gathered at Columbia Lodge No. 25 on Wednesday July 16, 2025 to initiate four Entered Apprentices: Paul Gacek, Cesar Echeverri, Vijay Pachamuthu, and Patrick Nelis, Jr. (from WL#70). As if creating a mid-summer dream, the Officers and supporting cast performed with excellence having subdued their passions into enlivening their roles.

Master Mason Degree-May 7, 2025.



The three new Master Masons and WM Saluru are in the center of the front row. They are surrounded by the cast of Brothers from Columbia Lodge and visiting brethren. (Photo is courtesy of Phillip D. Crump, and was taken by John Forlenza-Bailey)

Wine Tasting Funraiser



Date: Oct 4 2025

Time: 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Price \$35 per ticket

<https://glastwine.com/>