



DECEMBER 2019

VIEW FROM THE EAST



Welcome my Brothers!

At this holiday season we have much to be thankful for. For me I am certainly thankful for the officers and brothers of Cosmopolitan Lodge. While it may have become colder outside, in our lodge we share the warmth of brotherly love with our Masonic family.

We have just had a wonderful example of friendship and fellowship at our last degree. On November 20th we presented the Entered Apprentice degree to our latest brother. Yes, you may recall that was not the plan as we were scheduled to have a Fellowcraft degree that evening. Our plans changed at the last minute and it was truly a pleasure to our team work so well in presenting this introduction to Masonry so successfully to our newest brother.

Going forward we have plenty to do upon our Trestleboard:

- Our next stated communication will be on December 4th when we will be having our annual meeting. This includes our Lodge elections as well as the annual committee reports. I hope that you will all be there to participate in shaping the future of our lodge.
- On Wednesday, December 18th, we are having our step-up Fellow Craft degree with our Junior Warden Benjamin Stern taking the East. Please make your reservations with brother Ben to join us for dinner before the degree.
- On the last Sunday of each month our lodge volunteers at the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen. The 29th of December is the fifth Sunday of the month so we will be both preparing and serving dinner. We will be at D.E.S.K from 2:00 to 5:30. Please contact Brother Gary E. Cohen if you can help.
- This year we are having a combined holiday party with Hiram Lodge on December 15th at *Woodwinds 29 Schoolground Road in Branford*. It will be a wonderful night to share with our brothers and ladies and we are looking forward to everyone being there. The cost is only \$40 per person for a wonderful meal including an open bar. Please make your reservations with brother Ben so we can hold your place.
- We will not have a Stated communication on the first Wednesday in January as it is New Year's Day.
- We will be installing our new slate of Officers on Sunday January 5th at 3 PM. Please plan on joining in this wonderful event.
- Our annual paid up member dinner will be held on January 15th.

While we do not serve alcohol at any of our lodge functions, the brothers of our lodge have voted to form a "*Bottle Club*". By having this provision in place, we are now able to bring our own bottle to lodge events. Each member of the club is held responsible for the alcohol that they bring and agree to indemnify our lodge from any liability. There is no requirement to join the club and no cost to our members. Each bottle must be identified with the owner's name and may be left in our locked closet at lodge if the owner chooses. Please see our Secretary if you would like to become a member of the *Cosmopolitan Lodge #125 Bottle Club*.

It is always fitting at this time of the year, to pause and reflect on our personal good fortune and to thank the Great Architect of the Universe for our many blessings. We are grateful for the right to practice our craft, and the many blessings of family life and love.

On behalf of myself and my wife Pam, and all of our Officers I wish to extend our warmest wishes to you and all of those you cherish for all the joys of the season. May all of you according to your faith and traditions enjoy these holidays... *Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Lights, a very Merry Christmas and a beautiful Kwanzaa.* At the same time we send our best wishes for the New Year 2020.

I look forward to seeing you, my brothers, in our lodge. The place where it is good and pleasant for brothers to dwell together in unity.

In Masonry,

Respectfully and Fraternaly,

Michael S. Abrahamson

Worshipful Master

VIEW FROM THE WEST



Brothers,

The year is almost over and again we have to decide who our officers will be for the coming year. Remember, as I said when I was running for Senior Warden, no way do I want to be Master of our Lodge again.

There are a few Brothers that have stated their interest. First, to be elected Master for any lodge they have to have been a Warden somewhere. Second, find out who is interested and make sure you feel they will do a good job. Third, please support them.

This year has been a very interesting one due to the changes that the lower officers had to make throughout the year. They have done a fantastic job and I want to commend them for their performance.

Fraternaly,

Kenneth L. Dworkin

Kenneth L. Dworkin

Senior Warden

DONATIONS: These donations were made to the Saul S. Cohen Memorial Scholarship Fund in Memory of Bunnie Cohen.

WB Edward & Fern Goodstein
RW Gary & Marcia Cohen
RW Gary Matican & Ann Curiale
Bro. Stanley & Eileen Torow
WB Maier & Sonya Fine
RW David & Andrea Berger
Bro. William & Irena Berger
Bro. Martin & Dorie Cobern
MW Gustaf & Ginny Bodin

VIEW FROM THE SOUTH



My Brothers,

Whenever someone who is not part of our Fraternity asks me about Freemasonry, even if they pointedly ask about the Secrets, I always try to be as forthcoming as I can while staying within the bounds of my Obligations, because I firmly believe that knowledge is the only way to combat the fear which springs from ignorance. To that end, I often find myself perfecting such conversations by quoting a line of the Public Ritual I learned while in DeMolay. “While we have secret signs, words, and modes of recognition, we have no secrets from the world so far as our central purposes are concerned.” So, I thought I might take this opportunity to talk about how I think it should be approached.

Let me begin by saying that I might have an unusual take on this, as I’d been attending Public and Semi-Public Masonic events for nearly a decade before I took my first Degree. Having been to see many Installations, there were a number of things I already knew or guessed at before taking my first Degree. Therefore, I consider that information to be fair game in front of the uninitiated, as well as the implications of the phrase “*Freemasonry takes good men and makes them better.*”

When, if the person in question already has a dim view of us, I’m asked about “the Templar Treasure” or how “*Freemasonry secretly runs the world*”, I tend to point to the brethren. “Yes,” I say, “we can count lawyers, doctors, powerful businessmen, and even politicians amongst our present and past members. But those are by no means end-goals or prerequisites for membership. My Lodge counts among its members engineers, carpenters, landscapers, plumbers, teachers, full-time students, and even those who entered who were already retirees.”

Occasionally, someone will ask about why Catholics aren’t allowed membership. To this I say, “That may have been the case way back when, I’m not a great Masonic Historian so I wouldn’t know, but that’s not really the case now. All that’s required is that you have a belief in *some form* of Higher Power – what you call it, what form it takes, whether it’s singular or multiple, that’s all beside the point. In my own Lodge, we actually keep *three* Holy Books on the Alter: a combined Old and New Testament, the Quran, and the Bhagavad Gita. And if you were accepted into my Lodge and found that the Book you follow is not present, you just let us know, we’ll find a way to make it happen. We don’t concern ourselves with *what* you believe, only *that* you believe.”

The Entered Apprentice Charge says that we shouldn’t argue with those who don’t understand the Fraternity and so ridicule it. But should they seek you out and ask questions, I find that this roadmap works well in attempting to turn a naysayer into an acceptor. Or possibly even a friend into a Candidate.

Fraternally,

Benjamin G. Stern

Junior Ward

2019 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS OF THE SAUL S. COHEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



VIEW FROM THE SECRETARY'S CHAIR



My Brothers,

It is that time of year again when we meet on the first Wednesday in December for our Annual Meeting. That night we elect the officers who will lead us in 2020. **We will have annual reports given orally and then hand me their written copy for our records.** We will celebrate the year that is almost over and thank the officers for a job well done.

When we look back at our 100th year of Masonic Service and how our lodge has evolved, we are so proud of what we have accomplished. My brothers let's keep up the good work and be proud of our lodge for many years to come.

Dues bills have gone out my brothers and for those of you who still have not paid their 2019 dues, you only have until the end of the year. We don't want to drop anyone, so if there is a problem please either call me at 203-410-9733 or email me at gmatican@yahoo.com.

Ann and I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Fraternally,

RW Gary Matican

Secretary

GET WELL SOON:

We wish Brother Charles Ehrentraut, Sr. a speedy recovery. Our thoughts are with you my brother.

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125 – UPCOMING EVENTS	
DEC. 4 th	Stated Communication – Dinner at 6:30 pm with Reservations to JW Ben Stern at 203-907-9628 or email at bgs888@aol.com . Annual Business Meeting at 7:30 pm. Officer attire is Tie & Jacket.
DEC. 15 th	Holiday Party with Hiram Lodge No. 1 at Woodwinds 29 Schoolground Road, Branford. \$40 per person including open bar. Please make reservations with Jr. Warden Benjamin Stern at 203-907-9628 or email at bgs888@aol.com .
DEC. 18 th	Stated Communication – Fellow Craft Degree at 7:30 pm. Officer attire is Tuxedo. JW Benjamin Stern in the East. Dinner at 6:30 pm. Reservations with JW Benjamin Stern at 203-907-9628 or email at bgs888@aol.com .
DEC. 29 th	DESK will be at 2:00 pm to 5:30 pm for preparation and serving. Please contact RW Gary E. Cohen at 203-530-6222 or email at garymarciacohen@comcast.net .
JAN. 1 st . 2020	<i>NO MEETING DO TO THE NEW YEARS DAY OFF</i>
JAN 5 th	<i>Installation of Officers at 3:00 pm in our lodge room. Officers pictures at 1:00 pm</i>
JAN. 15 th	Stated Communication – PAID UP MEMBERS DINNER at 6:30 pm.

2019 COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125

OFFICERS

COMMITTEES

Michael S. Abrahamson (Pam) 20 Anita Avenue Trumbull, CT 06611	Worshipful Master 203-459-0482 mabrahamson@earthlink.net	AUDITING WB Kenneth L. Dworkin Benjamin G. Stern	203-494-5912 203-907-9628
WB Kenneth L. Dworkin (Ellen) 1 Charles Court North Haven CT 06473-1225	Senior Warden 203-494-5912 Kennethdworkin64@gmail.com	CHARITY (WM, SW, JW, SEC) WM Michael S. Abrahamson WB Kenneth L. Dworkin Benjamin G. Stern	203-395-2402 203-494-5912 203-907-9628
Benjamin G. Stern 30 Darling Street Southington, CT 06489	Junior Warden 203-907-9628 bgs888@aol.com	RWB Gary Matican	203-410-9733
RW Gary E. Cohen (Marcia) 96 Bethmour Road Bethany, CT 06524-3336	Treasurer 203-393-3301 garymarciacohen@comcast.net	COMMUNITY SERVICE Jonathan I. Glassman WB Scott Bumps	203-430-1973 203-401-1199
RW Gary Matican (Ann) 40 Meadow Brook Place Cheshire, CT 06410-4310	Secretary 203-410-9733 gmatican@yahoo.com	DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS WM Michael S. Abrahamson Frederick A. Marotti Ronald Fish (ronf404@aol.com) WB David O. Stern	203-395-2402 203-641-3932 845-361-4320 203-444-2077
Rev & RWB Bruce R. Bellmore (Pat) 41 Michael Drive West Haven, CT 06516	Chaplain 203-430-0043 brbellmore@sbcglobal.net	FINANCE (SW, JW, SD) WB Kenneth L. Dworkin Benjamin G. Stern Michael B. Steinfeld	203-494-5912 203-907-9628 203-943-8114
Michael B. Steinfeld 6-B Landin Street Woodbridge CT 06525	Senior Deacon 203-943-8114 Mikes90@snet.net	MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOC. WB Scott Bumps	203-401-1199
Daniel D. DeVoe II 65 Anderson Avenue West Haven CT 06516	Junior Deacon 203-843-1614 2d.devoe@gmail.com	SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION RWB Gary E. Cohen Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	203-530-6222 203-305-4899
Thomas P. Shaw (Paula) 14 Maple Drive Prospect, CT 06712	Senior Steward 203-410-5843 tom.shaw@trivalleyequipment.com	SICK VISITING (SW +4) WB Kenneth L. Dworkin RWB Gary Matican RWB Gary E. Cohen	203-494-5912 203-410-9733 203-530-6222
Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr. (Deborah) 500 Skokorat Road Beacon Falls, CT 06403	Junior Steward 203-305-4899 cehrentraut@aol.com	SAUL S. COHEN SCHOLARSHIP (WM,SW,Bro Cohen +2) WM Michael S. Abrahamson WB Kenneth L. Dworkin RW Gary E. Cohen WB Randy S. Stevens Rev. & RWB Bruce R. Bellmore	203-395-2402 203-494-5912 203-530-6222 860-395-9600 203-430-0043
Martin E. Cobern (Dorie) 7 Carriage House Way Cheshire, CT 06410	Marshal 860-539-0934 mecobern@cox.net		
Steven S. Shiner 12 Towne House Road Hamden, CT 06514-2104	Tiler 203-530-5940 Steves28@frontier.com	100th Anniversary Committee Rev & RWB Bruce R. Bellmore RWB David E. Berger RWB Gary Matican WB David O. Stern	203-430-0034 203-640-4743 203-410-9733 203-444-2077
Richard A. Werner 15 Elliot Court North Haven, CT 06473	Historian 203-239-4397 sonofalex38@yahoo.com	TRUSTEE (term thru) Sal S. Simsek (Dec 2019) WB Stuart M. Smith (Dec 2020) Martin Cobern (Dec 2021)	860-997-2587 203-397-0646 860-539-0934
Neil E. Matican (Susan) 39 Ives Street #203 Hamden, CT 06518-2237	Assistant Secretary 203-589-4197 nmatican@yahoo.com	Charles G. Ehrentraut, Jr. (Kaylee) 500 Skokorat Road Beacon Falls, CT 06403	Associate Steward 203-305-5685 cehrentrautjr@gmail.com
RW David E. Berger (Andrea) 152 Percival Drive Cheshire, CT 06410-3823	Assistant Treasurer 203-640-4743 david.berger@sbcglobal.net	Mason A. Helm 7 Maple Lane Ext. Shelton, CT 06484	Associate Steward 2032-308-6511 masonhelm1@gmail.com

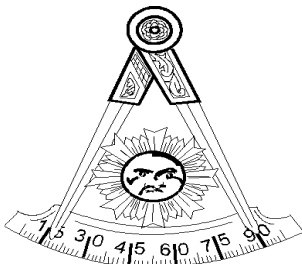
PAST MASTERS OF COSMOPOLITAN LODGE #125

*Jacob Caplan	1919, 1923	*Irving Kegeles	1967
*Joseph E. Levy	1920	*Abraham B. Rosenberg	1968
*Samuel I. Calechman	1921	*Morris Klein	1969
*Benjamin F. Goldman	1922	*William E. Weiner	1970
*Samuel J. White	1924	*Chester M. Katzman	1971
*Nathan Smernoff	1925	*Robert Tombank	1972
*Manuel Kligerman	1926	*Leonard Tombank	1973
*Samuel M. Silver	1927	*Milton A. Hershatter	1974
*Jacob N. Wolodarsky	1928	Richard A. Sugarmann	1975
*Samuel W. Ritch	1929	Michael W. Winess	1976
*Louis R. Hershatter	1930	*Albert R. Blackman	1977
*Julius White	1931	RW Joseph Albert	1978
*RW Irving Alpert	1932	RW Gary E. Cohen	1979
*Andrew N. Friedman	1933	Sidney J. Levine	1980
*RW Samuel Platcow	1934	Ronald M. Dworkin	1981
*RW Alex C. Hershatter	1935	Kenneth L. Dworkin	1982, 2008
*Benjamin D. Levine	1936	Steven A. Ledewitz	1983
*John M. Chapnick	1937	Robert S. Brooks	1984
*Joseph Weiner	1938	Joseph M. Cohen	1985
*Irving Rogers	1939	Jeffrey A. Granoff	1986
*Maurice Osber	1940	Edward I. Goodstein	1987
*Herman Alpert	1941	*Michael L. Castroll	1988
*George J. Evans	1942	RW Martin L. Rudnick	1989, 2002
*RW Joseph Shure	1943, 1944	*Harley O. H. Pretty	1990
*Goodwin D. Wolff	1945	RW Gary Matican	1991, 1995, 2003
*Leon I. Horton	1946	Bruce L. Lebow	1992
*Natt K. Sheinfeld	1947	Richard L. Hecht	1993
*A. Louis Phillips	1948	Bruce M. Backer	1994
*Fredric M. Rosenstein	1949	Gary P. Merwede	1996
*Milton S. Holiner	1950	Gary S. Spanierman	1997
*William Ledewitz	1951	*RW Arnold H. Freedman	1998
*A. Henry Mirel	1952	*Edward S. Eby	1999
*Harold P. Gessner	1953	Maier O. Fein	2000
*Henry G. Smernoff	1954	Phillip E. Cohen	2001
*Martin B. Gant	1955	David O. Stern	2004, 2010
*Simon Burres	1956	RW David E. Berger	2005
*David Cohen	1957	*William E. McGraw, Jr.	2006
*Albert Gurewitz	1958	Stuart M. Smith	2007
*Marshall R. Weiner	1959	Roger Jackson	2009
*Herbert B. Goldberg	1960	Steven J. Elzholz	2011
*Leo Gilden	1961	RW Jason E. Morse	2012, 2013
*Jordan Goldberg	1962	Scott Bumps	2014
*Gerald W. Brownstein	1963	Rev. & RW Bruce R. Bellmore	2015
*Arnold Most	1965	David M. Elkodsi	2016
*A. Robert Sotman	1964	Randy S. Stevens	2017
George Weinstein	1966	Jerry Gruenbaum	2018

* = deceased

PAST MASTERS – OTHER LODGES

CURRENT GRAND LODGE
 Rev. & RW Bruce R. Bellmore, Grand Junior Warden
 RWB Jason E. Morse, DD 4A
 WB Scott B. Bumps, AGM 4A



MW Gustaf R. Bodin.....St Alban's #38: 1976
 & Ashlar #332: 2011
 Rev & RW Bruce R. Bellmore.....Olive Branch #84: 1981
 & Hiram #1: 1993
 RW Roger R. Cole.....Meridian #77: 1976
 & Madison #87: 2006
 Steven E. Canada.....Day Spring #30:2016/17 ,Temple #16:2011
 Alan M. Friedman, Jr.....Annawon #115: 2003 & 2013
 & Orange #143: 2009 &2010
 Bruce Liebman.....Masonic Lodge of Research: 1997
 Kevin H. Matsil.....Meridian #77: 2003
 RW Jason R. Rieger.....Compass #9: 2006
 Rabbi Eric Silver.....Temple #16: 2013
 Eric A. Stern.....Pyramid #43 Reno, NV: 2013 & 2014
 Randy S. Stevens.....Adelphi-Momauguin #63: 2002
 & Madison #87: 1985, 1986, & 1992
 Stephen M. Thal.....Level #137: 1990 & 1991
 & Philosophic Lodge of Research: 1996
 Jon-Paul Venoit.....Compass #9: 2005

IT'S TIME TO PARTY
COSMOPOLITAN LODGE
AND
HIRAM LODGE

A festive flyer for a holiday party. The background is white with a gold border. At the top, there's a green garland with gold and white ornaments. The word "HOLIDAY PARTY" is written in a large, stylized, red and white font with a black outline. Below this, the text is centered and reads: "Join us for our Annual Holiday Party at The Woodwinds 29 Schoolground Road Branford, CT On Sunday, December 15, 2019 from 6:00 P.M until 10:00 P.M. Hors D'Oeuvres Buffet Dinner Venitian Desert Table Open Bar Cost \$40.00 per person reserve your seats now! Contact Bro. JW Ben Stern at 203-907-9628 or email bgs888@aol.com". At the bottom, there are two lit candles with red and white stripes, surrounded by pine needles and a red bow. The entire flyer is framed by a gold border with white snowflake patterns.

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE ANNUAL

2019 THANKSGIVING DINNER



EVERYONE THAT ATTENDED HAD A WONDERFUL TIME AND MORE THAN ENOUGH TO EAT. CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CHEF BROTHER MICHAEL STEINFELD ON SPENDING COUNTLESS HOURS IN THE KITCHEN WHICH TURNED OUT A MOST DELICIOUS THANKSGIVING MEAL. THANK YOU ALSO TO THE KITCHEN CREW SUPERVISED BY OUR JUNIOR WARDEN BROTHER BENJAMIN STERN.