

Mar-Apr 2023

Electronic Trestleboard

Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145, A. F. & A. M.



Stated Communications

First and Third Thursday - 7:30 P.M.

24 Golway Street - Manchester, CT 06042

<https://lodge145.ctfreemasons.net/>

John DiCioccio, Jr.

Worshipful Master

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Have you paid your 2023 dues?

Have you moved or changed your email address? If yes, please contact our secretary, Eric Hoy, with the change(s).

Rent Our Lodge Hall:

If any lodge brother needs information about hosting a family event at *Friendship Hall* please contact the rental manager at: ftl145rentals@gmail.com.

We need new members! Please speak to your friends, co-workers, sons, nephews, brothers and uncles about our fraternity. If you uncover any interest in learning more, please call me at 860-368-8719. I will be glad to assist with next steps. TY,
WM John



Message from the East

From the Worshipful Master's Desk

By John DiCioccio, Jr.



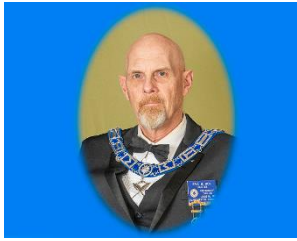
As I write this message, I know we will be holding our first *Fellowship – Invite A Friend Night* in a few days and I am very glad about that. The idea was taken from a recent Blue Lodge Council meeting when the lodges of the sixth masonic district met for dinner and a meeting to share ideas about what works for them and invite area brothers to visit their respective lodges. We spend this time together to learn from each other in our efforts to keep Masonry alive and growing into the future...And, we all know too well that there is an elephant in the room every time we meet. We all know that membership in our lodges continues to decline rapidly and the flow of new candidates moving through the pipeline is minimal and slow. This leads to a much smaller pool of candidates available to step into officer chairs and accept positions of leadership and responsibility. This situation has forced us to turn to the loyal Past Masters, who in our lodge, thankfully, have always been willing to step in and offer their experienced help. Without that valuable support, even our lodge would be in tough shape and may experience some of the difficulties in operation we have seen in other lodges.

The purpose of the *Invite A Friend Night* is to give our brothers the opportunity to introduce the men they know, from 21 to 81, to the value and benefits of the Masonic fraternity. We will offer a relaxed setting for pizza, fellowship and information and maybe later share a drink together at the local social club. Getting to know prospective new members in a social setting is a large part of the 6-step plan offered by the Grand Lodge, so we have accepted the challenge! I am happy to tell you that six non-masonic friends are attending this first event which is a good start...but we need many more, so I am now asking all the brothers of our lodge to participate in making this effort a big success. The next *Invite A Friend Night* is set for Friday, March 24th at 6:30PM at the Friendship Lodge. So, please speak to your friends and relatives about masonry and if they show some interest bring them that night. No strings attached, no hard sales pitch...just some food, fun and information about the oldest and greatest fraternity in the world!

WM John DiCioccio, Jr.

From the Secretary's Desk

By Eric Hoy, Jr.



When I was going through my degrees and as I worked my way up the chairs, I did most of my memorization work while walking my dog, Fang. This was a form of multi-tasking that worked well for me because the tasks of reading, reciting, and memorizing were purely mental, while walking was purely physical; both could be done effectively at the same time. As I think about it, I was getting a third task out of the way, in that Fang needed to get outside twice a day no matter what.

I found that the length of our walks depended on what I was working on. The 1st section lectures were learned during our morning constitucionals of a half hour or so. The Middle Chamber of the Fellowcraft Degree called for progressively longer hikes in the evening as I got through more and more of its various parts. Eventually, I needed a route of at least 2 miles in order to have enough time to go through that from start to finish, requiring a decidedly leisure pace. Fang didn't seem to mind that I was constantly mumbling while on these treks; he was thoroughly occupied in his own doggy business, and he never divulged any of the "secrets" which he heard over and over again (at least as far as I know).

Fang died when I was Junior Warden. I (and possibly he) had just learned the ritual associated with presiding in the East for opening and closing the Lodge and the Entered Apprentice Degree. I had a harder time with the Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degree work as Master, not so much because they are more extensive, but because I abandoned my memorization scheme.

I still walk regularly, a couple of miles every time, usually while listening to music. I also still have memorization work to do, mostly for my appendant body activities. It's become harder for me than I remember, which I attributed to nothing more than getting older.

Today, as I was working through a particularly long part for an upcoming Royal Arch Degree in my easy chair, I found that the words and phrases just weren't sticking the way they should, and I was getting anxious about it. Deciding that I needed to burn some energy, I got dressed and before leaving, decided to take my ritual book with me instead of my earphones.

The old formula worked again for me – keeping my body moving helped my mind absorb the difficult language of the ritual just as it used to, and by the time I got home, I had run through the whole thing without reference to the book. I really feel like I accomplished something good this afternoon, even if it did take 6 ½ miles to get it done. While I don't know that Fang would be proud, I know he'd be tired.

Be Well, and Safe Travels Brothers

Eric Hoy
Secretary

Calendar

- Mar 2** **Business Meeting (C)**
Stated Communication
- Mar 16** **Irish Night Business Meeting (C)**
Stated Communication
Irish Step Dancers
- Mar 24** *Invite A Friend Fellowship Night*
- Mar 29** **Blue Lodge Council Meeting (C)**
Hartford-Evergreen #88, A.F.&A.M.
South Windsor, CT
- Apr 1** **Grand Lodge Annual Session**
Windsor, CT Marriot
- Apr 6** **EA Degree (F)**
Stated Communication
- Apr 20** **Business Meeting (C)**
Stated Communication
- Apr 21** **Fellowship Night with Ladies**
Location TBA
- Apr 27** **FC Degree**
Special Communication
- Apr 29** **Joint Table Lodge**
Georgina's, Bolton, CT

All Stated & Special Meetings - Meeting 7:30 pm
Dinner served at 6:30PM unless stated otherwise
F = TUX, SF = Suit & Tie, C = Jacket /Tie

2023 Lodge Officers



Worshipful Master
John DiCioccio, Jr.



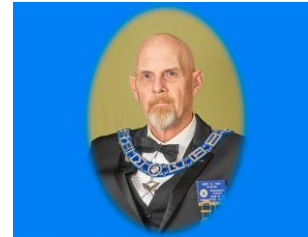
Sr. Warden
Joseph P. Grieco, Jr.



Jr. Warden
Gabriel A. Garmendia



Treasurer
Russell L. Scull, II



Secretary
Eric H. Hoy, Jr.



Sr. Deacon
Richard L. Sawyers



Jr. Deacon
James B. Young (Brad)



Sr. Steward
Peter V. Letteri



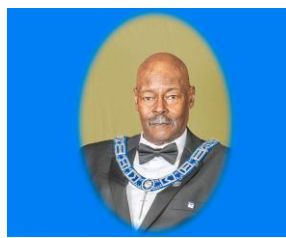
Jr. Steward
Juan M. Villalobos-Ulloa



Marshal
Jared C. Garthe



Chaplain
Scott T. Reid



Tiler
Charles J. Jenkins, Jr.



Historian
Richard E. Berson

Active Past Masters

Richmond G. Shuttleworth	1975
Stephen T. Penny	1979
James H. Wilson, Jr.	1982, 2009
Russell F. Haugh, Jr., 33°	1983
Richard G. Claing, PAGM 6-A	1985
Donald W. Dean, PDD 6-A	1987
Dustin C. Wood, Jr.	1989
Carl E. Benson, II, PDD	1990, 1992
Anderson H. Zeidler, Jr., PDD 6-A	1991
Dwight C. Mertens, PDD 6-B	1993
Albert J. Reid	1993, 1996, 2000
Scott T. Reid	1995, 1998, 1999, 2010
Stanley H. Ostrinsky	1997
Stephen K. Kraft	1997
Paul A. Edberg, PDD	2000
Eugene A. Bacon	2001, 2002
John A. Pierce, Jr.	2004
Christopher D. Ramsey, PAGM 6-A	2005
Stephen K. Spencer, PAGM 6-A	2006
Jose C. Dias	2008
Andrew S. Warren	2011
Eric H. Hoy, PDD	2012
Russell L. Scull, II	2013
Madhu Renduchintala	2014
Scott D. Pierce	2015
Dennis W. Bellamy, Jr.	2016, 2017
David S. LaFargue, 33° PDD 6-A	2018
Gabriel A. Garmendia	2019
Marcos G. Garcia	2020, 2021
James B. Young (Brad)	2022
John DiCioccio, Jr., PAGM 6-B	1980, 2007, 2023