

May-June 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

Table of Contents

Message from the East	- 1 -
From the Secretary's Desk	- 2 -
Calendar	- 3 -
2023 Lodge Officers	- 4 -
Active Past Masters	- 5 -

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*, then 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 the next steps.

TY, WM John



Message from the East

From the Worshipful Master's Desk

By John DiCioccio, Jr.



It is hard to believe that when we hold our Annual It is hard to believe that when we hold our Annual Awards Night Dinner on June 15th that I am one of three brothers who will receive their 50 Year Membership Pins at that event. Two of my long time and dear friends, WB Stephen Penny and WB Dustin Wood, will be celebrating with me. Dustin and I, along with WB Bill Strickland, took our MM degree in 1973 on the lodge trip to Union Lodge on Nantucket, and WB Steve, who was also on that trip, took his degree two weeks later. In fact, Steve and Dustin both served as ushers when I married Ann in 1979 just two months prior to being installed as WM of our lodge the first time in 1980. This is the blessing that Freemasonry brings to all members who stay active...lifelong friends and lots of fond memories we can share each time we get together for fellowship. Dustin Wood and I met in kindergarten 65 years ago, served as officers in DeMolay in John Mather Chapter, joined Masonry together along with WB Bill, and were called the Three Amigos by the WM that year, the unforgettable RWB Bobby Haugh. The many memories over the years are Priceless!

The second half of the lodge year will offer two unique and special events I hope you will all plan to enjoy. On Saturday, September 23rd the Lodge will host Andy & Shirley Zeidler and Dwight & Claudette Mertens at Georgina's in Bolton for a testimonial dinner in their honor. It will be our golden opportunity to say thank you to the four of them for the countless years of loyal and dedicated service they have given to our lodge in many different capacities. Please hold this date on your calendar...details will be announced soon.

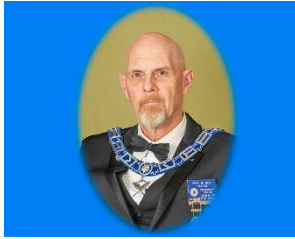
The second 'not to miss' event is the Military Mess Night Ceremony and Dinner. Similar to a Table Lodge, this event will honor our veterans using a special ritual created by the British Army and is often used by the Marine Corp. Looking for a unique night full of fellowship and fun then you must keep this date open. It will be held at the Army & Navy Club in Manchester on Friday, October 20th. We will also be raising funds to support the Disabled American Veterans. Pipers & Vets should wear their uniforms or Kilts while the rest of us wear tux or dark suits. Cost for dinner and wine is \$50. Flyers will be out very soon as only 60 will be able to attend.

I am looking forward to shaking your hand at lodge or at one of these events...

WM John DiCioccio.

From the Secretary's Desk

By Eric Hoy, Jr.



One of the many benefits I enjoy for serving as Secretary is that I get a free subscription for the Masonic Service Association (MSA) of North America, and therefore receive both their monthly “Short Talk Bulletin” and “Emessay Notes”. (Emessay is simply the phonetic for MSA – no masonic secrets there!).

I always keep several back issues handy in case we need an emergency education topic at a communication, but also read them both every month. It doesn't take long: the Emessay Notes are printed on both sides of a colored sheet of 8 ½” x 11” paper, while the Short Talk Bulletin is on both sides of a white sheet of 8 ½” x 14”, and they come together in a single envelope.

The Short Talk Bulletins fall into several headings: Leadership, Symbols and Symbolism, the 3 Degrees, History, and several others. They are always informative and thought provoking. The Emessay Notes tend toward MSA news, Appeal for Reliefs, and very short general articles.

MSA was founded near the end of World War I to provide aid to military servicemen. The War Department refused to work with 49 different grand jurisdictions, so several of the Grand Masters of the day (certainly not all, as travel was different 100 years ago) formed MSA to work at a national level for masonic relief and education, providing services that individual Grand Lodges could not.

Why am I bringing this up? Well, MSA is finding the effort required to maintain accurate mailing lists isn't cost effective anymore and the subscription price (\$12/year) is probably not covering the costs of printing and mailing like it used to either. So, they are making plans to go “all electronic” in the near future (which I suspect will be next year). I think this is a good thing. Even if they maintain a subscription fee, it will still be cheap, and easier to reach a wider audience. The plan is to make their publications available through the Grand Lodge websites (ours being Grandview). I'll keep you updated here, but in the meantime, I encourage all to visit their website: www.msana.com.

We, too, at Friendship Tuscan Lodge are looking to do away with Trestleboard mailings. The amount of effort it takes by the Postmaster is immense (and the work over the years by RWB Dwight and Lady Claudette Mertens must here be gratefully acknowledged), and postage rates have climbed a lot recently: it's just getting to be too much.

Please let me or WM John know what you think – we are striving to reach our whole masonic family and need your help to ensure that.

Eric Hoy
Secretary

Calendar

- May 4** **“Martin & Max”. MMs only (C)**
Stated Communication
- May 18** **Master Mason Degree (F)**
Stated Communication
Full Hiramic Legend
- May 29** **Blue Lodge Council Meeting (C)**
Washington Lodge #70
Windsor, CT
- Jun 1** **EA Degree (F)**
Stated Communication
Lodge Trip Officers
- Jun 9-11** **Fraternal Lodge Trip to**
Queensbury Lodge #121
Lake George, NY
EA Degree
- Jun 15** **Annual Awards Night Dinner**
Stated Communication

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



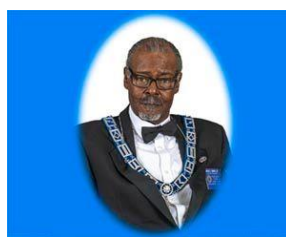
Jr. Steward
Juan M. Villalobos-Ulloa



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 ^o	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 ^o 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