

Sept- Oct 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). If you need to speak with Eric, please call 860-202-1154.

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.



Quite a bit has happened since my last message. The Lodge trip to Queensbury Lodge in Lake George, New York was a huge success. Our first trip since 2018 included 25 brothers and their wives/friends for the three-day weekend for Masonic fellowship and some fun too. We performed the EA degree, Connecticut style, on Friday evening, a 3-hour Paddleboat Cruise on Lake George on Saturday and a picnic at WB Steve Spencer's home in Saratoga Springs on Sunday. Also, we had two great dinners and two classic hospitality parties all in an effort to keep our Fraternal Lodge Trip traditions alive. The first lodge trip travelled to Alexandria, VA and Washington DC in 1966...a whopping 57 years ago!

Awards Night in June honored many brothers with service pins, including 50-year pins to PM Stephen Penny and also myself...how about that? PM's Al & Scott Reid celebrated 100 years of masonic service together...Al 65 years and Scott 35 years

As I write this message, I am happy to report that the Grand Lodge new candidate campaign called BLUE WAVE is proving to be a huge success. In the last two weeks I have interviewed and signed four new petitions for membership. In October we should have a class of five candidates to help them begin their Masonic journey. Add this success to our Invite A Friend Nights and we will have a very good year for new members...the best in several years.

Over the summer the LLC Board has been working to replace our crumbling front steps and add precast stairs with three new railings to assist our older members as they enter our building. Thanks to the many brothers who have labored to make it all happen and a special thanks to WB Scott Reid for assuming management of the project. The stairs are now in, the front porch has been repaired and properly supported, and new sidewalks out front will soon be poured. Come to the lodge this fall and check out all the good work!

There are two special events this fall you will not want to miss. A Testimonial Banquet will be held honoring Andy & Shirley Zeidler², and Dwight & Claudette Mertens on Sat., Sep. 23 at Georgina's in Bolton. This will be our collective opportunity to say thank you to these four dedicated people for 50 years of continuous service to our Lodge. Please plan to attend...flyer will be out soon.

The second unique event is the Military Mess Night. A night to honor our veterans and others will be held on Fri., Oct 20th at the Army Navy Club. Great Dinner, Drinks, Fellowship, Pipers, Drummers, Wine with many toasts and a special ritual, raising Money for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV)...what more are you looking for? Make sure you are there and support your lodge!

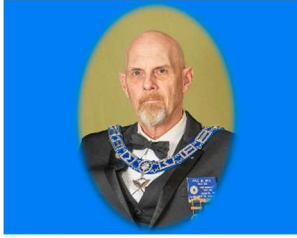
One more thing...if you have not been in Lodge for a while be sure to attend 'RUSTY MASON NIGHT' on September 21st. WB Richard Berson will help you brush up your masonic skills.

As always, I look forward to seeing many of you in Lodge this fall.

WM John DiCioccio

From the Secretary's Desk

By Eric Hoy, Jr.



No Pain, No Gain?

Athletes of all descriptions have used this phrase since “time immemorial” to encourage themselves, their training partners and their teammates to work through moments of physical discomfort knowing that on the other end of the pain will be improved performance. The same phrase works for students preparing and going through final exams or thesis defense: the pain has a positive payoff. Or the young person who scrimps on present comfort by saving money to ensure a more secure old age.

But every time I hear it, my - admittedly contrarian – mind argues that there’s a lot of pains that don’t have an upside; they’re just pointless suffering and should be avoided or relieved.

Three times in the last week I’ve had conversations around pain, some of the methods people use to deal with it, and the risks/benefits to those methods. In each case the discussion concluded that every person and situation is different and that there’s no “one size fits all” approach to effective pain management. But we also agreed that pain is ALWAYS easier to handle when it’s shared. Or to put it another way – If you’re treating yourself, you’re doing it wrong!

Sometimes, pain means something is wrong for which there is a clear treatment. If you don’t talk about the pain, you’ll miss out on the treatment. Physical pains probably aren’t lessened, but discussing them with someone else can open new avenues to possible solutions, and simply getting acknowledgement that a pain is real helps the mind and spirit cope. Who among us hasn’t felt better by simply going to the Doctor – even if they didn’t actually do anything? Sometimes, the pain means something is wrong for which there is a clear treatment. Psychologists, Therapists and Clergy basically make their living by talking to people who suffer, and those folks usually get better.

As Masons, we owe it to each other to be good listeners and wise counsellors when someone shares with us their pain. We also owe it to each other to be the one who shares when we are in pain – why deny your Brother the opportunity to be helpful?

Eric Hoy
Secretary

Sept- Oct 2023

CALENDAR

- Sep 7** **Business Meeting**
Stated Communication
- Sep 21** **Business Meeting**
Stated Communication
"Rusty Mason" Night
- Sep 23** **Testimonial Banquet**
D Mertens & A Zeidler
Georgina's Rest, Bolton, CT
- Sep 29** **Blue Lodge Council**
6:30PM Columbia #25
- Oct 5** **EA Degree (F)**
Stated Communication
- Oct 19** **EA Degree (F)**
Stated Communication
- Oct 20** **Military Mess Night Dinner**
Fundraiser for DAV
Army-Navy Club Manchester, 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.



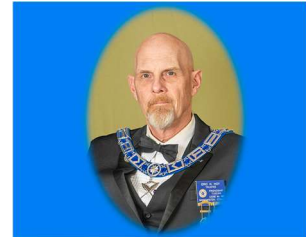
Sr. Warden
Joseph P. Grieco, Jr.



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



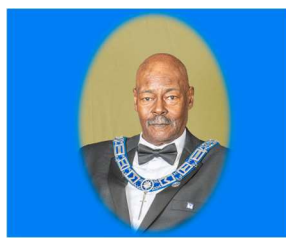
Jr. Steward
Juan M. Villalobos-Ulloa



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

All Brethren, Family & Friends are cordially invited
to attend a testimonial banquet when

FRIENDSHIP TUSCAN LODGE NO. 145

extends our

HEARTFELT APPRECIATION TO

ANDY & SHIRLEY ZEIDLER

and

DWIGHT & CLAUDETTE MERTENS

for their many years of dedicated service to our Lodge!

Please Join Us on

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Georgina's Restaurant in Bolton

Cocktail Hour 6:00 - Formal Sit-Down Dinner 7:00

\$50. per person includes tax and gratuity

RSVP by 9/10/23 is required so please text 860-368-8719 with
your name, number of attendees and your dinner choices.

Please mail your check to John DiCioccio at 28 Phillips Farm Road
East Hartford, CT 06118

Or you can use Venmo or PayPal to Eric Hoy's accounts.

Dinner Choices are:

*Sliced Sirloin *Chicken Cordon Bleu *Baked Stuffed Sole

Sept- Oct 2023

Mess Dinner

Note Veterans and non-veterans are invited to attend this Table Lodge like event to honor our Veterans plus raise funds for the Disabled American Veterans - CT Chapter! You will enjoy many Uniforms, Tuxedos, Kilts, Pipers and lots of Toasts and a very unique ceremony. Don't miss this special event last held here in 2018. Please contact Dustin Wood today...WM John



*The Honor of Your Presence
Is Requested at a Mess Dinner
To Celebrate and Pay Tribute to all Veterans
Proceeds will go to the Disabled American Veterans Charitable Service Trust*

*Former US Army Staff Sergeant Dee AC Smith
Will address the mess on*

- The Vietnam Helicopter War -

*Hosted by Friendship Tuscan Lodge No. 145
Friday Evening, October 20, 2023
at
Army Navy Club
1090 Main Street
Manchester, CT 06040*

*Reception: 1800 hours
Dinner: 1900 hours
Carriages after 2200 hours*

*(R/V/S/P) by October 13, 2023
To*

*Mr. Dustin Wood
325 Kelly Road - M45, Vernon, CT 06066
Email: vittler@comcast.net
860-212-5084*

*Dress: Black-tie or Military Equivalent with Decorations. Scarlet if convenient.
Mess Assessment \$50.00, obligatory with Acceptance. Seating limited to 60 gentlemen.
Advance ticket sales only. Please make checks payable to: Dustin Wood*

GUEST SPEAKER

Former US Army Staff Sergeant Dee AC Smith

SSG Smith served in the United States Army during the Vietnam war. He enlisted February 23, 1968 and was honorably discharged on February 22, 1971. Dee was deployed to RVN on March 18, 1969 and was assigned to the 1st Aviation Brigade, 268th Combat Aviation Battalion, 61st Assault Helicopter Company at Lane Army Heliport An Son, RVN. He was then assigned as a crew chief and door gunner on a UH-1B gunship in support of the 173rd Airborne Brigade at LZ English, Bong Son, RVN. His decorations include the Air Crewman Badge, the Air Medal with the numeral 15 (over 400 combat flight hours), the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with the 60 device and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation. Dee is a privileged member of Fayette Lodge No. 69 in Ellington and served as Worshipful Master in 1993 and District Deputy from 1995-97. Dee is retired from the Department of Defense at duty station Pratt & Whitney as a management Quality Assurance Specialist. Friendship Tuscan is pleased and privileged to have Dee as our guest speaker at the mess.

BIOGRAPHY

Roy B. Pywell was born in Callander Scotland. He joined the British Army in 1990 at the age of eighteen and after completing his training as an Infantry soldier he attended the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming.

In 1991 Pipe Major Pywell was posted to the 1st Battalion the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. In April 2002 Pipe Major Pywell attended and successfully passed the Army School of Piping, Pipe Majors Course. He was appointed Pipe Major of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders 5th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland during operations in Helmand Province Afghanistan in 2008.

In his capacity as Pipe Major, he organized and ran 2 overseas musical tours including the 2010 Columbia Artists North American Tour along side the band of The Irish Guards.

Over his entire career he has been involved in Pipe Band musical deployments to more than 20 countries. He has played at numerous high-profile events, such as State Banquets, Royal Ceremonies and Head of State visits.

He has also served operationally as part of the Machine Gun Platoon in Northern Ireland, Iraq, Bosnia and Afghanistan.

Pipe Major Pywell holds the Army School of Bagpipe Music and Highland Drumming Pipe Majors Certificate, The Institute of Piping Graduates Certificate as well as the PDQB, Level 6 Certificate in Piping. Pipe Major Pywell retired after 22 years of service in April 2012.

He now lives in Frankestown, New Hampshire with his wife Kimri and two daughters.

Roy is now serving as a Police Officer in New Hampshire.