

MAY JUNE 2024

# 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/>

**Joseph P. Grieco, Jr.**

Worshipful Master

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### **Have you paid your 2024 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](mailto: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) 716-2788. I will be glad to assist with next steps. TY, WM Joe

Are you on Facebook? So are we!! Search for Friendship Tuscan Lodge #145 and request to join us there.



MAY JUNE 2024

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## Message from the East

From the Worshipful Master's Desk

By Joseph P. Grieco, Jr.



As you read this, we are looking at May Day. With the exception of the United States, this is also International Labor Day – a day of celebration of those who work with their hands. What does that teach us as Speculative Masons? Are our labors on the house not made with hands any less than what others make with theirs?

We talk about our "Spiritual Labor" as Speculative Masons. So, ask yourself, what work have you done on your own Temple? Will it meet what the Supreme Architect has planned out on the Tracing Board that was set up for each of us? We are human. Perfection is not in our nature. All we can do is put our best efforts forward on ourselves and be honest with ourselves in how we are doing. Also, nothing says we cannot ask a Brother for help. Masonic Charity and Relief isn't just limited to funds. It can, and should, include helping a Brother in any way we can.

At the end of June, we go dark – as always. Just because we will not be meeting in Lodge, we will still have opportunities to continue our work, and I encourage you to do so. Even during the summer months, ask yourself at the end of the day, "What have I done to complete my Temple?"

We have a lot of activities coming up over the next couple of months. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, we'll be having the Reception for RWB John DiCioccio and WB Brad Young as District Deputy and Associate Grand Marshal for District 6A. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, our Past Masters will be presenting the Fellow Craft Degree to our Candidates. On June 20<sup>th</sup> we will be having our annual Awards Night, then we go dark for the summer.

I am putting out a call for a new Prospect Manager. Due to his increased responsibilities as DD, RWB John DiCioccio needs to step aside from this position. What does it entail? You receive emails from Grand Lodge identifying Prospects who live in the area of our Lodge (generally Manchester, East Hartford, Bolton). You contact them and present more information about Masonry to them. Gauge their interest and qualifications, and if interested, assist them in preparing a petition. Then you log into Grandview to update their status. Some will move to applicant. Some will be dropped. Ideally, I would like two or more brothers to step up for this.

Tentative Masonic opportunities after we go dark: Mid July – is there any interest in a Lodge Picnic? We haven't had much luck with this since returning from Covid. A lot due to weather. We have had scheduled days when it rained incessantly, and days when it was too hot to move. If anyone is interested in running this, please see me.

Saturday, 17 August - Combined Tall Cedars and Grotto Degree Festival. This will be held at the Scottish Rite center in Newington, CT. The plan is for Nutmeg Forest no. 116, Tall Cedars of Lebanon International, to host a live Prologue and Royal Court in the morning for conferring Tall Cedars membership on candidates. In the afternoon, Syria Grotto, M.O.V.P.A.R., will present their ritual for conferring Grotto membership on candidates. This will be the first time that either ceremony will be presented by a live cast in Connecticut in close to 50 years. If you are interested in either, please see me for more information. When we return to Labor on 5 September, I plan on maintaining our tradition of Hawai'ian shirt night. So, break out your Hawai'ian shirt, and enjoy our Lodge tradition.

Fraternally,

WM Joe

## From the Secretary's Desk

By Eric H. Hoy



A couple of months ago, a guided discussion occurred at a Commandery meeting on the subject of "Suggestions for Patriotic and Civic Activities of a Commandery". These suggestions were presented without much discussion (other than everyone thinking "it'd be great to do this if we only had the manpower") until near the end, where it was suggested that every Sir Knight (indeed, every Mason) should accept the Bill of Responsibilities as well as the Bill of Rights.

Now, we are all familiar with the Bill of Rights as the 1<sup>st</sup> 10 amendments to the Constitution, but what is the Bill of Responsibilities? Nobody present had heard of it. We discussed this at some length, until someone (yours truly) was assigned to research and report.

A quick Google search led me to [www.freedomfoundation.org](http://www.freedomfoundation.org) which was founded in 1949 by (among other) Dwight D. Eisenhower and E.F. Hutton (so you'd better listen!). In commemoration of the Bicentennial, they wrote and published this truly excellent statement of what it takes to be a good citizen. I present it here because I think it's good food for thought. I'll save the 2nd half for my next message, to give me something to write about and to give you something to look forward to.

Enjoy.

***Preamble to the Bill of Responsibilities:** Freedom and responsibility are mutual and inseparable; we can ensure enjoyment of the one only by exercising the other. Freedom for all of us depends on responsibility by each of us. To secure and expand our liberties, therefore, we accept these responsibilities as individual members of a free society.*

### **Bill of Responsibilities**

**To be fully responsible for our own actions and for the consequences of those actions.** Freedom to choose carries with it the responsibility for our choices.

**To respect the rights and beliefs of others.** In a free society, diversity flourishes. Courtesy and consideration toward others are measures of a civilized society.

**To give sympathy, understanding, and help to others. As we hope others will help us when we are in need, we should help others when they are in need.**

**To do our best to meet our own and our families' needs.** There is no personal freedom without economic freedom. By helping ourselves and those closest to us to become productive members of society, we contribute to the strength of the nation.

**To respect and obey the laws.** Laws are mutually accepted rules by which, together, we maintain a free society. Liberty itself is built on the foundation of law. That foundation provides an orderly process for changing laws. It also depends on our obeying laws once they have been freely adopted.

To Be Continued...

RWB Eric Hoy  
Secretary

## Calendar

| <b><u>CALENDAR</u></b>  |  |
|---|--|
| <b>May 2</b>  | <b>Business Meeting</b><br><i>Stated Communication</i>   |
| <b>May 4</b>  | <b>DD Reception for RWB John DiCioccio, Jr. and AGM Brad Young</b><br><i>3PM @ FTL #145</i>  |
| <b>May 11</b>   | <b>Masonic Home &amp; Hospital Tour</b><br><i>Meet at lodge 9:00am to shuttle/carpool – Wives are welcome - For more info and/or to register: Richard Berson at 860-573-3066 or bersonfoto@aol.com</i> |
| <b>May 16</b>   | <b>Past Masters Night</b><br><i>FC Degree</i>  |
| <b>June 6</b>   | <b>Business Meeting</b><br><i>Stated Communication</i>   |
| <b>June 8</b>   | <b>Grand Masters Day</b><br><i>10:00am – 3:00pm<br/>                     Masonicare Health Center<br/>                     22 Masonic Ave. – Wallingford, CT</i>                                       |
| <b>June 20</b>  | <b>Awards Ceremony</b><br><i>Stated Communication</i>  |
| <b>June 23</b>  | <b>Masonic Service (tentative)</b><br><i>Holy Trinity PNCC Church<br/>                     Southington, CT</i>   |
| <b><i>All Stated &amp; Special Meetings - Meeting 7:30 pm</i></b><br><b><i>Dinner served at 6:30PM unless stated otherwise</i></b><br><b><i>F = TUX, SF = Suit &amp; Tie, C = Jacket /Tie</i></b> |  |

## 2024 Lodge Officers



**Worshipful Master**  
Joseph P. Grieco, Jr.



**Sr. Warden**  
James B. Young (Brad)



**Jr. Warden**  
Richard E. Berson



**Treasurer**  
Russell L. Scull, II



**Secretary**  
Eric H. Hoy



**Sr. Deacon**  
Jared C. Garthe



**Jr. Deacon**  
Juan M. Villalobos Ulloa



**Sr. Steward**  
Jesse J. Chadwick



**Jr. Steward**  
Bismark O. Amedzro



**Chaplain**  
Scott T. Reid



**Tiler**  
Charles J. Jenkins, Jr.



**Historian**  
Richard E. Berson

**Marshal**  
TBD

## 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                   |
| Eric H. Hoy, PDD 6-A              | 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), AGM 6-A    | 2022                   |
| John DiCioccio, Jr., DD 6-A       | 1980, 2007, 2023       |