



FEBRUARY 2025

VIEW FROM THE EAST



My Brothers,

I wanted to give us a bit of a break from January to recover from the holidays and also have a bit of freedom to participate in Installation season. But now that it's February, time for some fun events! In addition to detailing them here and in future articles, you can also request viewing access to my calendar posted in Google Sheets. Just follow the link and request viewing access.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19XOK_0n7W7oMHx4GKsjHdva4kdTMtVh3cpV750cHC7I/edit?usp=sharing

On February 8th we will be having our annual Valentine's Day Ladies Night. More details on this in JW Michael S. Abrahamson's message below.

We will be having a Master Mason degree at our meeting on the 19th, so we will have ritual practices both before our meeting on the 5th and at the Temple on the 15th from 3-5pm. Immediately following this will be the first Game Night I'd like to hold! Bring any board or card games you'd like to offer for use, it is expected that there will be multiple games happening all at the same time. While the ritual practice is obviously limited to Master Masons involved with the degree, the Game Night is open to all brothers, ladies, children, and prospective members. Pizza will be ordered.

This is just the first Game Night I plan to hold this year, so this will serve as a trial run for the concept, and it will be improved upon for next time. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Fraternally,

Benjamin G. Stern

Worshipful Master

VIEW FROM THE WEST



Brothers,

As we move forward into February, I want to take a moment to reflect on an essential part of our Masonic journey—ritual. Our ritual is more than just words spoken in a lodge room; it is a living tradition, passed down through generations, that strengthens our bond as brothers and deepens our understanding of the craft. That being said, let's also remember an important message from our Worshipful Master: ***This year, we are here to have fun!***

Ritual should never feel like a burden—it can and should be enjoyable. The process of learning, practicing, and performing ritual together is an opportunity to build friendships, share laughter, and strengthen the camaraderie that makes our lodge a home. When we approach ritual with a sense of enjoyment and brotherhood, we create a welcoming and engaging experience for everyone involved.

I encourage each of you to take the time to review your work, to practice with your brothers, and to support one another in our shared goal of delivering the best ritual possible. Whether you are new to a role or have performed it many times, there is always an opportunity to refine, improve, and grow—all while having a great time doing it.

As we continue through the year, I look forward to working alongside all of you to ensure that our ritual remains strong, engaging, and enjoyable. If you ever need assistance, guidance, or simply a brother to practice with, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can uphold the excellence of our lodge while embracing the fun and fellowship that makes Masonry truly special.

Fraternally,

Bro. Joe

Joseph K. Fried

Senior Warden

COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125 – UPCOMING EVENTS

February 5, 2025	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin G. Stern in the East. Officer Attire Tie and Jacket for all who attend. Refreshments to follow.
February 8, 2025	Valentine's Day Celebration at Biagetti's Restaurant in West Haven at 6 pm. Reservation's a must and they are needed no later than February 5 th with WB Michael S. Abrahamson at 203-395-2402 email at mabrahamson@earthlink.net .
February 15, 2025	Our first game night at 3-5 pm at the Social Hall of the Lodge building. We will have Pizza for refreshments. Please RSVP to WB Michael S. Abrahamson at 203-395-2402 email at mabrahamson@earthlink.net .
February 19, 2025	Stated Communication with our Worshipful Master Benjamin G. Stern in the East. Dinner at 6:30 pm. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm. Please RSVP to WB Michael S. Abrahamson at 203-395-2402 email at mabrahamson@earthlink.net . Attire for officers is Tux and all others Tie & Jacket.
February 23, 2025	Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen – We are scheduled from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM to do prep only. Please let RW Gary E. Cohen know if you can help. 203-530-6222 or email at: garyec39@gmail.com
February 26, 2025	Fellowship Dinner will be announced at a later date.
	<i>For further information of our lodge activities and events please go to our website at www.cosmopolitan125.org</i>

VIEW FROM THE SOUTH



My Brothers,

I want to thank all of you for the honor and privilege of serving Cosmopolitan Lodge as your 2025 Junior Warden. The installation was a wonderful event with the installation team of RWB Gary E. Cohen, RWB Gary Matican and RWB David E. Berger doing their always outstanding job as Installing Master, Marshal and Chaplain respectively. We even had the privilege of MWGM Edward Page in attendance.

The culmination was the spread executed by our now Senior Warden Bro. Joseph K. Fried. It was a perfect culmination for his year as Junior Warden. I would like to say thank you to all that made it such a wonderful occasion.

I am very much looking forward to our new year in our Lodge. Our Master has many exciting programs and events planned. So come in from the cold and enjoy the warmth of fellowship with your brothers at Cosmopolitan Lodge!

Our next opportunity to get together will be February 8th. We will be having our annual Valentine's Day Ladies Night. This will take place at Biagetti's at 77 Campbell Avenue in West Haven. We will be starting at 6pm. This will be an opportunity to order whatever you prefer off of their extensive menu and as each couple will be receiving separate checks, you will simply pay for whatever you order. It is important that we let Biagetti's know how many people are attending so I will ask that you please get your RSVPs to me at Mabrahamson@earthlink.net or 203.395.2402 **no later than** February 5th.

In Masonry,

Fraternally,

Michael S. Abrahamson

Junior Warden

VIEW FROM THE SECRETARY'S CHAIR



My Brothers,

This is going to be the first full month with officers in their new positions and places. Come one and come all to your lodges meetings as the second one is a Master Mason Degree on February 19th with two candidates. Dinner at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7:30 pm.

Also, if you receive the **Trestle Board** by mail and have an email address, please share it with me. You will benefit by being able to view the **Trestle Board** in color and the Lodge can reduce its mailing costs.

Fraternally,

RWB Gary Matican

Secretary

2025 COSMOPOLITAN LODGE NO. 125

OFFICERS

COMMITTEES

Benjamin G. Stern 30 Darling Street Apt. D Southington, CT 06489-2656	Worshipful Master 203-907-9628 bgs888@aol.com	AUDITING (3 Brothers) WB Michael S. Abrahamson WB Jerry Gruenbaum WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	 203-395-2402 203-687-3332 203-694-4546
Joseph K. Fried (Glenna) 189 Shagbark Court Cheshire, CT 06410-4320	Senior Warden 203-927-0003 josephkfried@gmail.com	CHARITY (WM, SW, JW, SEC) Benjamin G. Stern Joseph K. Fried WB Michael S. Abrahamson RW Gary Matican	 203-907-9628 203-927-0003 203-395-2402 203-410-9733
WB Michael S. Abrahamson (Pam) 20 Anita Avenue Trumbull, CT 06611-1710	Junior Warden 203-395-2402 mabrahamson@earthlink.net	COMMUNITY SERVICE WB Jonathan I. Glassman RW Gary E. Cohen RW Gary Matican WB Kyle J. Podpolucha	 203-430-1973 203-530-6222 203-410-9733 203-694-4546
RW Gary E. Cohen (Marcia) 96 Bethmour Road Bethany, CT 06524-3336	Treasurer 203-393-3301 garvec39@gmail.com	WB David O. Stern	203-444-2077
RW Gary Matican (Ann) 40 Meadow Brook Place Cheshire, CT 06410-4310	Secretary 203-410-9733 gmatican@yahoo.com	DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS WB Michael S. Abrahamson WB David O. Stern Bro. Ronald E. Fish WB Frederick A. Marotti	 203-395-2402 203-444-2077 845-988-6705 203-641-3932
WB David O. Stern (Susan) 46 Elizabeth Street Hamden, CT 06514	Chaplain 203-444-2077 dsternct@gmail.com	FINANCE (SW, JW, SD) Joseph K. Fried WB Michael S. Abrahamson Asanish Kalyanasundaram	 203-927-0003 203-395-2402 360-206-8544
Asanish Kalyanasundaram 232 Dwight Street New Haven, CT 06511-5358	Senior Deacon 360-206-8544 Asanish.k@hotmail.com.uk	MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOC. WB Jerry Gruenbaum	 203-687-3332
WB Daniel D. DeVoe II 169 George Street East Haven, CT 06512-4722	Junior Deacon 203-846-1614 2.d.devoe@gmail.com	SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION RW Gary E. Cohen WB Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	 203-530-6222 203-305-4899
Christopher R. Bushy 12 Briarcliffe Trail Old Saybrook, CT 06475-1253	Senior Steward 860-514-2755 c.bush.1@hotmail.com	SICK VISITING (SW +4) Joseph K. Fried RW Gary E. Cohen RW Gary Matican	 203-927-0003 203-530-6222 203-410-9733
Wesley Markman (Jayne) 46 Rolling Ridge Road Orange, CT 06477-3040	Junior Steward 203-209-5293 wjmarkman@gmail.com	SAUL S. COHEN SCHOLARSHIP (WM,SW,RW Cohen +2) Benjamin G. Stern Joseph K. Fried RW Gary E. Cohen WB David O. Stern WB Michael S. Abrahamson	 203-907-9628 203-927-0003 203-530-6222 203-444-2077 203-395-2402
Martin E. Cobern (Dorie) 7 Carriage House Way Cheshire, CT 06410-1879	Marshal 860-539-0934 mecobern@cox.net	TRUSTEE (term thru) Richard A. Werner (Dec. 2025) WB Stuart M. Smith (Dec. 2026) Martin Cobern (Dec. 2027)	 203-804-4645 203-397-0646 860-539-0934
Steven S. Shiner 658 Masonic Ave. Apt. 131 Wallingford, CT 06492-6109	Tiler 203-687-8757 Steves281@comcast.net	RW Gary E. Cohen 96 Bethmour Road Bethany, CT 06524-3336 garvec39@gmail.com	 203-530-6222 203-444-2077 203-393-3301
WB Kyle J. Podpolucha (Pam) 38 Robin Hill Road Meriden, CT 06450-2477	Historian 203-694-4546 Kvle.podpolucha@freemasons.net	Assistant Treasurer 203-444-2077 dsternct@gmail.com	 4th District Almoner 203-393-3301
WB David O. Stern (Susan) 46 Elizabeth Street Hamden, CT 06514	Assistant Secretary 203-687-3332 jgruen3@gmail.com		
WB Jerry Gruenbaum (Bonnie) 1449 Whalley Avenue P. O. Box 3879 New Haven, CT 06515-9994			

PAST MASTERS OF COSMOPOLITAN LODGE #125

*Jacob Caplan	1919, 1923	*Harold P. Gessner	1953	Joseph M. Cohen	1985
*Joseph E. Levy	1920	*Henry G. Smernoff	1954	Jeffrey A. Granoff	1986
*Samuel I. Calechman	1921	*Martin B. Gant	1955	Edward L. Goodstein	1987
*Benjamin F. Goldman	1922	*Simon Burres	1956	*Michael L. Castroll	1988
*Samuel J. White	1924	*David Cohen	1957	RW Martin L. Rudnick	1989, 2002
*Nathan Smernoff	1925	*Albert Gurewitz	1958	*Harley O. H. Pretty	1990
*Manuel Kligerman	1926	*Marshall R. Weiner	1959	RW Gary Matican	1991, 1995, 2003
*Samuel M. Silver	1927	*Herbert B. Goldberg	1960	Bruce L. Lebow	1992
*Jacob N. Wolodarsky	1928	*Leo Gilden	1961	*Richard L. Hecht	1993
*Samuel W. Ritsh	1929	*Jordan Goldberg	1962	Bruce M. Backer	1994
*Louis R. Hershatter	1930	*Gerald W. Brownstein	1963	Gary P. Merwede	1996
*Julius White	1931	*Arnold Most	1965	Gary S. Spanierman	1997
*RW Irving Alpert	1932	*A. Robert Sotman	1964	*RW Arnold H. Freedman	1998
*Andrew N. Friedman	1933	George Weinstein	1966	*Edward S. Eby	1999
*RW Samuel Platcow	1934	*Irving Kegeles	1967	Maier O. Fein	2000
*RW Alex C. Hershatter	1935	*Abraham B. Rosenberg	1968	Phillip E. Cohen	2001
*Benjamin D. Levine	1936	*Morris Klein	1969	David O. Stern	2004, 2010
*John M. Chapnick	1937	*William E. Weiner	1970	RW David E. Berger	2005
*Joseph Weiner	1938	*Chester M. Katzman	1971	*William E. McGraw, Jr.	2006
*Irving Rogers	1939	*Robert Tombank	1972	Stuart M. Smith	2007
*Maurice Osber	1940	*Leonard Tombank	1973	Roger Jackson	2009
*Herman Alpert	1941	*Milton A. Hershatter	1974	Steven J. Elzholtz	2011
*George J. Evans	1942	Richard A. Sugarmann	1975	RW Jason E. Morse	2012, 2013
*RW Joseph Shure	1943, 1944	*Michael W. Winess	1976	RW Scott Bumps	2014
*Goodwin D. Wolff	1945	*Albert R. Blackman	1977	Rev. & MWPGM Bruce R. Bellmore	2015
*Leon I. Horton	1946	*RW Joseph Albert	1978	David M. Elkodsi	2016
*Natt K. Sheinfeld	1947	RW Gary E. Cohen	1979	Randy S. Stevens	2017
*A. Louis Phillips	1948	Sidney J. Levine	1980	Jerry Gruenbaum	2018
*Fredric M. Rosenstein	1949	Ronald M. Dworkin	1981	Michael S. Abrahamson	2019, 2020
*Milton S. Holiner	1950	Kenneth L. Dworkin	1982, 2008	Frederick A. Marotti	2021
*William Ledewitz	1951	Steven A. Ledewitz	1983	Daniel D. DeVoe II	2022
*A. Henry Mirel	1952	Robert S. Brooks	1984	Charles G. Ehrentraut, Sr.	2023
				Earl W. Ehrentraut	2024
* = deceased					

CURRENT GRAND LODGE

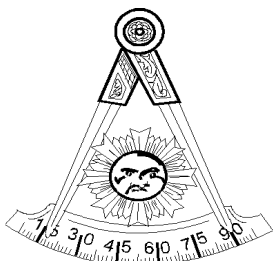
RWB Francis (Nick) Barnes
District Deputy Masonic District 4A

WB Kyle J. Podpoulucha
Associate Grand Marshal

RWB Gary E. Cohen
Associate Grand Almoner for the 4th District

WB Michael S. Abrahamson
Associate Grand Tyler

WB Frederick A. Marotti
Associate Grand Tyler



Past Master's – Other Lodges

Michael S. Abrahamson	Daytime Lodge No. 144: 2024
MWPGM Gustaf R Bodin	St. Alban's #38: 1976 & Ashlar #332: 2011
Rev. & MWPGM Bruce R. Bellmore	Olive Branch #84: 1981 & Hiram #1: 1993
RW Leonard H. Bucher	Widow Sons #66: 1977, Hiram #1: 1995/96, St. Alban's #38: 2007
RW Roger R. Cole	Meriden #77: 1976 & Madison #87: 2006
Steven E. Canada	Temple #16: 2011/13, Day Spring #30: 2016/17
Alan M. Friedman, Jr.	Annawon #115: 2003, 13, Orange #143: 2009/10
Jonathan I. Glassman	Quinta Essentia #500: 2023/2024/2025
Bruce Liebman	Masonic Lodge of Research: 1997
Frederick A. Marotti	Hiram #1: 2020
RW Jason E. Morse	Quinta Essentia #500: 2019/2020/2021
Kevin H. Matsil	Meridian #77: 2003
Kyle J. Podpoulucha	Annawon #115: 2020
Rabbi Eric Silver	Temple #16: 2013
Randy S. Stevens	Adelphi-Momaguin #63: 2002, Madison #87: 1985, 1986, & 1992
Jon-Paul Venoit	Compass #9: 2005
Timothy C.R. Wilkins	Hiram #1: 2015

